



**Provincial election:
Calgary-Varsity
candidate interviews**

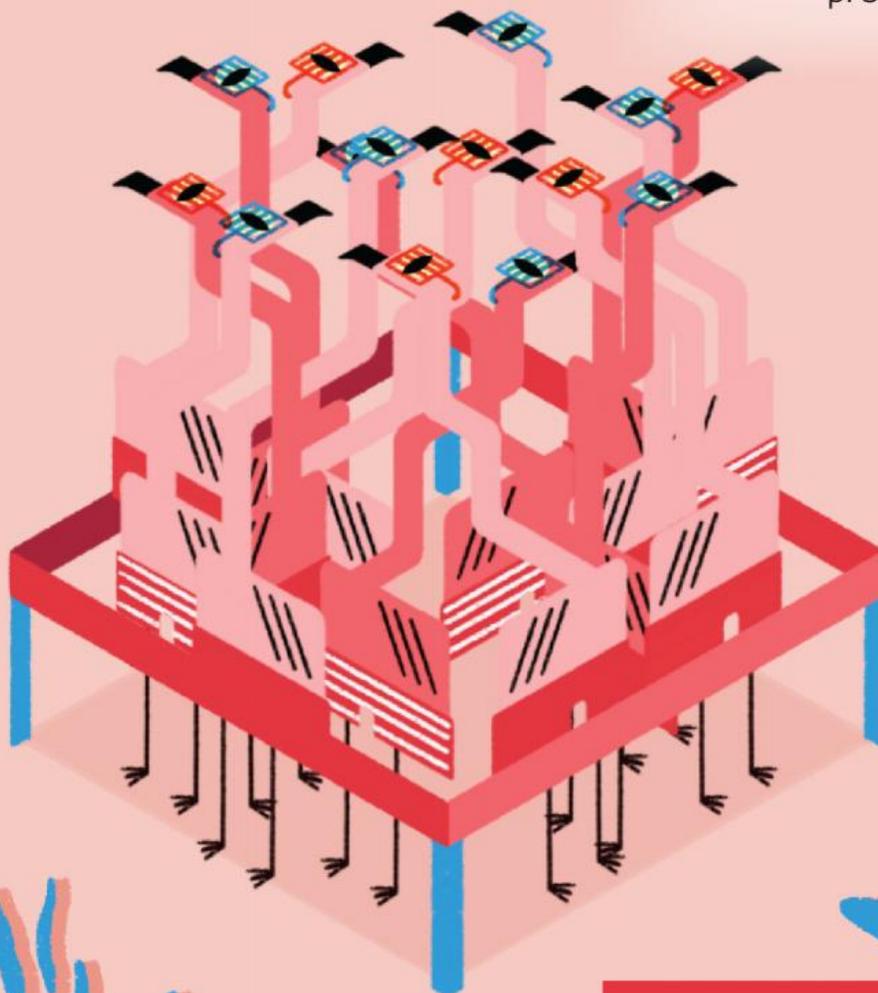
p. 13

**Eight more years? A
look at the Ed McCauley
presidency to come**

p. 18

**Alchemy festival
showcases student work**

p. 30



BSD moves inside p. 6



DJ KAV
BETTER WITH FRIENDS DJS
DJ AL V
DJ NEWBOY

IVAN RANKIC & DJ HEEBZ
DJ JAIRUS
C-SIK
JOASH CHARLES

Bermuda Shorts Day

FRIDAY, APR 12 @ 12 PM
 MACEWAN HALL & THE DEN

KARAOKE **PHOTO BOOTH**

STUDENTS' UNION

SU Social Presents
THE LIVING ROOM

MOVIES & SHOWTIMES

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17
 10am - 11pm @ That Empty Space

STUDENTS' UNION

GREAT JOB,
VALUABLE EXPERIENCE,
TOO LITTLE PAY?

S.U.P.E.R.WORK TO THE RESCUE!

S.U.P.E.R.WORK is a \$1000 wage subsidy award for undergraduate students earning less than a competitive wage at a summer job related to their degree. For eligibility and to apply, visit www.su.ucalgary.ca/super-work

Applications will be accepted Mar. 4 - Sept. 6, 2019

STUDENTS' UNION

Students' Union Program for Education Related Work

Complete listing of student events, concerts and more:
www.su.ucalgary.ca/events





Twitter: @GauntletUofC
www.thegauntlet.ca

Editor-in-Chief:

Jason Herring
eic@thegauntlet.ca
403-819-3453

News:

Ashar Memon
news@thegauntlet.ca

News Assistant:

James Falls

Opinions:

Derek Baker
opinions@thegauntlet.ca

Columnists:

Aymen Sherwani
Kayle Van't Klooster

Arts & Culture:

Troy Hasselman
arts@thegauntlet.ca

Sports & Wellness:

Kristy Koehler
sports@thegauntlet.ca

Humour:

Frankie Hart
humour@thegauntlet.ca

Photo:

Mariah Wilson
photo@thegauntlet.ca

Digital:

Nikayla Goddard
online@thegauntlet.ca

Volunteer Coordinator:

Gurman Sahota
volunteer@thegauntlet.ca

Graphic Artist:

Tricia Lim
graphics@thegauntlet.ca

Video:

Mary Gagarin
video@thegauntlet.ca

Business Manager:

Kate Jacobson
business@thegauntlet.ca

Contributors:

Anton Charpentier, Sam Cheffins, Ian Kinney, Kade Marshall, Shanaz Pasha, Gayathri Peringod, Elena Popovic, Justin Quaintance, Mona Sabzian, Aneeka Sandhu, Tori Taylor, Debbie Wilson

Golden Spatula:

Gayathri Peringod



"Cool."

She started out writing for humour about a year ago. We realized she wrote far too well for the romper room shenanigans of that section. Find in here a piece much more fitting of her writing calibre.



Editorial

- 4 Letter from the Editor: Take the time to cast an informed vote on April 16

News

- 5 March Madness: *Gauntlet* news recap
- 6 Students' Union defends decision to move BSD inside this year
- 8 Legacy garden to be built in memory of Brentwood victims
- 9 U of C approve 2019-20 budget but say provincial election may lead to cuts
- 10 An overview of this year's Quality Money recipients
- 13 Calgary-Varsity interviews: NDP, UCP, Green, Alberta and Liberal candidates

Features

- 18 Ed McCauley, fresh into his term, must define his presidency before it is defined for him

Opinions

- 22 Decline of BSD disappointing for campus culture
- 24 Exorbitant textbook prices lead students to piracy
- 25 Has Thursden lost its mojo?

Arts & Culture

- 30 Student work front and centre at SCPA ALCHEMY festival
- 36 Coming Out Monologues return for four-night 10th anniversary edition

Sports & Wellness

- 38 Bull riding steadily growing as stand-alone sport in Canada
- 44 Canadian Association for Disabled Skiing thankful to U of C student volunteers

Humour

- 46 SU announces BSD to comprise of large ball pit
- 51 The *Gauntlet's* election compass

Furor Arma Ministrat

Room 319, MacEwan Students' Centre
University of Calgary
2500 University Drive NW
Calgary, AB T2N 1N4
General inquiries: 403-220-7750
thegauntlet.ca

The Gauntlet is the official student publication of the University of Calgary, published by the Gauntlet Publications Society, an autonomous, incorporated body. Membership in the society is open to undergraduate students at the U of C, but all members of the university community are encouraged to contribute. Opinions contained herein are those of the individual writers, and do not necessarily represent the views of the entire Gauntlet staff. Editorials are chosen by the majority of the editorial board. The Gauntlet is a forum open to all U of C

students but may refuse any submission judged to be racist, sexist, homophobic, libelous, or containing attacks of a strictly personal nature. We reserve the right to edit for brevity. Grievances regarding the Gauntlet follow a process that requires written decisions from the Editor and the GPS Board of Directors. The complete Grievance Policy is online at thegauntlet.ca. The Gauntlet offices are located on Treaty 7 land.

The Gauntlet is printed on recycled paper and uses an ink made of alcohol and irony. We urge you to recycle/sleep on the roof using the Gauntlet.

Letter Policy

Letters must be typed, double-spaced and must include the author's name, email address and title. Letters will not be printed if they include attacks of a strictly personal nature, statements that discriminate on the

basis of race, sex, or sexual orientation, or libelous or defamatory material. All letters should be addressed to "Editor, the Gauntlet," and be no longer than 400 words. The Gauntlet retains the right to edit submissions. Letters can be delivered or mailed to the Gauntlet office, Room 319 MacEwan Students' Centre, or sent by email to eic@thegauntlet.ca.

The Cover

Illustration by Tricia Lim

Advertising

The Gauntlet's local and national sales are managed by FREE Media, an agency representing the campus press in Canada. View our Ad Sheet online for rates and publication dates. Questions about the Gauntlet's ad policy can be directed to Ron Goldberger at 403-607-4948 or online at yyc@f-media.ca.

Letter from the Editor: Take the time to cast an informed vote on April 16

On April 16, just as students at the University of Calgary start writing their exams, Albertans will go to the polls to vote in the 2019 provincial election.

Jason Kenney's United Conservative Party are hoping to swing Alberta voters back to the right, while Rachel Notley's New Democratic Party wants to hold onto power. Either result is plausible.

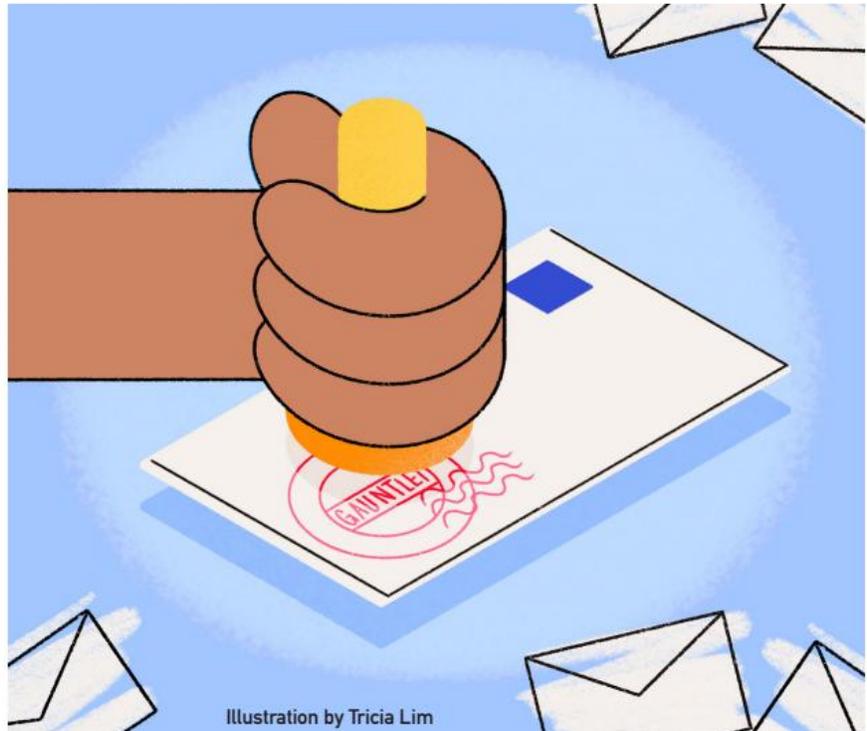
This election is the first since 2015, the year that marked the end of the Alberta Progressive Conservative party's dynastic, 44-year-long span as the head of the provincial government. That streak of 11 election wins was broken up by Notley and the NDP, who won a majority government in one of Canada's most shocking provincial elections ever.

Alberta's political landscape has shifted dramatically since then. The Progressive Conservatives and the opposition Wildrose Party merged to form the UCP to avoid splitting the vote on the right in future elections. Political hot topics over the past four years have typically landed at the intersection of economy and environment — economic diversification, pipeline construction and the carbon tax, to name a few.

Messaging about the election has been nearly impossible to avoid, whether it's in the form of social media posts, attack ads or unsolicited texts from "Mary" from the UCP or "Ryan" from the NDP.

Much of the messaging we've seen so far has been heavily divisive and controversy abounds — particularly within the UCP, who recently dropped a candidate in Calgary for their leaked white nationalist text messages, as just one example. But as political messaging becomes more and more nebulous with each passing election, it's important to make sure that we are critical and discerning about what we consume and why the parties are presenting it to us.

We want to make sure that U of C



students are well-equipped to make an informed vote on April 16. In this issue, we interviewed five of the six candidates running for election in Calgary-Varsity, the riding in which the U of C's main campus is situated. If you live on campus or in the surrounding student-centric communities like University Heights, Banff Trail or Charleswood, these are the candidates who will appear on your ballot.

For each candidate that we talked to, we asked the same prepared slate of questions, focusing on their stances on youth and student issues such as tuition, post-secondary funding for deferred maintenance and a variable minimum wage, as well as the general issues that they believe to be most important in this election. Read these interviews on pages 13–17. Additionally, our interviews with Jason Copping from the UCP and Anne McGrath from the NDP will air at 11 a.m. on CJSW 90.9 FM on Tuesday, April 9.

The Calgary-Varsity candidate who we don't have an interview with in this issue is Christopher McAndrews of the Alberta Independence Party. You can find information about him online at albertaindependence.ca. If you reside outside of Calgary-Varsity, you can find information about your candidates via the official Elections Alberta website.

Beyond our candidate profiles, we have an overview of the election on page 11, where a U of C political scientist provides an overview on what they expect to see from this election.

One common thread in our interviews is that candidates say that this election is monumentally important for the future of this province. They're right.

Be sure to take a little break from studying for your exams to cast an informed vote on April 16.

Jason Herring
Gauntlet editor-in-chief



March madness: *Gauntlet* news recaps

Recap by Ashar Memon
Photo by Mariah Wilson

Results for the **2019 Students' Union General Election** were announced at a party in The Den on March 7. The election capped off a tumultuous, nearly two-week campaign period that saw candidates go head-to-head in debates and forums, and even the disqualification of an incumbent — Anayat Sidhu — who sought re-election as vice-president external. Jessica Revington won the position of SU president. Voter turnout dropped nearly four percentage points from last year to 21.1 per cent. A bye-election will be held later this year for one of the two Haskayne School of Business representative positions, the social work representative position and the veterinary medicine representative positions.

At their March 7 annual general meeting, members of the **Engineering Students' Society approved the expansion of its executive council** by splitting the role of ESS vice-president operations and finance into two executive positions for its respective components. Citing the removal of the ESS mandatory membership fee by the University of Calgary in September, members also approved the addition of a new vice-president corporate relations position.

The U of C released an **update on its Campus Mental Health Strategy**, which was launched in 2015, at a March 5 event that saw keynote speeches from local artists Vivek Shraya and Ian Campeau. Among other things, the U of C said it has hired a full-time harm reduction advisor and received a grant from Alberta Health Services to launch a two-year opioid awareness program.

The **Graduate Students' Association announced the results of their general election** on March 13 after a near month-long campaign period. Results for the most contested position — the role of vice-president student life — were left unannounced for unspecified reasons. Three of the executive positions were acclaimed and voter turnout was seven per cent.

The Faculty of Arts Students Association hosted a **revamped Arts Undergraduate Research Symposium** on March 13. Twenty-two students in fields ranging from political science to Arctic studies presented their research to event attendees and judges. After the research presentations, FASA hosted the Mini Mentorship Conference, bringing in faculty alumni to participate in breakout sessions with attendees.

After an extensive redevelopment, the U of C finally launched its **myUofC Mobile experience** on March 9. For years, students had been seeing the message, "Welcome to the myUofC Mobile experience. More content will be coming soon." The website got a modern redesign, reducing clutter on the mainpage and making its pages accessible from mobile phones.

U of C provost and vice-president academic Dru Marshall raised eyebrows after sending an email to all students on March 6 informing them about **textbook resources on campus** and also said that the U of C has to comply with regulations stipulated in the federal Copyright Act. In a statement to the *Gauntlet*, Marshall said the email was in response to an "increase in student inquiries" about the legitimacy of some online resources.

Students from the U of C walked out of classes (pictured above) on March 15, joining thousands of others from around the world as part of a **'climate strike' to demand more action on climate change**. The international 'Fridays for Future' protest movement, started by 16-year-old Swedish activist Greta Thunberg, saw protests from thousands of students around the world.

SU defends decision to move BSD indoors



Story by Ashar Memon
Photo by Mariah Wilson

The University of Calgary Students' Union is defending its decision to move the annual Bermuda Shorts Day celebration indoors into MacHall after receiving several complaints about the issue.

The SU announced on March 14 this year's BSD will be held in MacHall AB and The Den. The event was previously held on Lot 32 behind Scurfield Hall. It was also announced that there will be no ticket cost to enter, after a \$5–10 cost was implemented last year.

SU vice-president student life Nabila Farid said moving the event indoors would rein in part of the deficit it incurs. The event had a \$98,000-plus deficit in 2018.

"We made the decision that we would like to be a little bit more fiscally responsible with the way that the event is going," Farid said. "Obviously, students pay into Students' Union fees, so we're just looking at switching things up."

BSD was last held indoors in 2008, when poor weather forecasts forced the SU to move it to MacHall.

Commenting on criticism levied to the SU about the new location, Farid said that she felt students had overlooked other changes to the event.

"I think a lot of the responses are reflective of the location change specifically, but I think that students hopefully will become increasingly more informed about the actual changes — not just to the location, but to the event itself — and hopefully that'll be a draw

to them," Farid said.

The event this year will feature karaoke and a photo booth, along with more food and drink options. This year also marks the first year since 2009 that The Den will be open on BSD.

The SU expects the event to hit capacity. Farid said MacHall AB will hold about 1,800 people, while The Den will hold about 800 — bringing the total capacity up to 2,600 people. The SU will hand out 5,000 wristbands, down from the 10,000 it handed out when the event was held outdoors.

The event's overhaul presents significant savings for the SU. The cost of the venue, 11 per cent of last year's expenses, are no longer a factor. Additionally, the SU will only pay security for the MacEwan Student Centre during the event. Last year, they paid for security across campus, which contributed to security costing the SU a total of 34 per cent of their expenses. According to Farid, the SU projects a \$50,000 loss from this year's event.

After releasing details about the event, the SU faced criticism on social media and, according to Farid, over email. A petition was also launched on March 14 urging the SU to reconsider the change.

"This terrible decision represents the destruction of U of C's culture and heritage," the petition's description reads. "Let's bring it back to the great outdoors!"

Farid said that she had been monitoring feedback about the BSD on social media.

"I mean, students are obviously entitled to their own opinions," Farid said when asked for comment on the petition.

BSD traces its roots back to 1961, when a campus freshman bought his first pair of Bermuda shorts and wrote "Everyone wear Bermuda Shorts" on a campus blackboard. In 1989, the U of C asked the SU to host a single event to contain the day's chaos.

In recent years, BSD has faced many upheavals. In 2009, BSD was displaced to Lot 32 from its location in the green space south of MacHall due to the construction of the Taylor Family Digital Library.

Since 2009, the SU has rented Lot 32 from the U of C, which had been charging the SU the value of a day's parking for every stall in the lot on the day of the event, in addition to other services associated with the parking lot. The SU had also been paying for security at the beer gardens, as well as for Campus Security and Calgary Police Service officers to patrol the rest of the campus during the day.

This year, Farid said the SU will only pay for security inside MacHall, while the U of C will pay for security outside the building. She said the SU approached the U of C several months ago and the two parties had been negotiating the event's details for months.

Last year, when the SU charged admission for BSD, they blamed a lack of co-operation from the U of C as one of the factors in making that decision.

"We have brought some proposals forward to the university on ways to work together to decrease the financial burden on the SU and those have always been turned down," former SU vice-president Hilary Jahelka told the *Gauntlet* in an interview last year.



Police to curb D-Block partying this year

Story by Jason Herring
Photo by Mariah Wilson

Police will be making an effort to curb off-campus partying during the last day of classes this year, according to the Students' Union.

The move comes as one result of the Last Day of Classes Neighbourhood Task Force, a group formed last September to address concerns about campus partying spilling into the neighbouring community of University Heights on Bermuda Shorts Day. The neighbourhood contains student-rented housing where revelers celebrate 'D-Block.'

The task force is comprised of members from the University of Calgary, the City of Calgary, Calgary Police Service, the University Heights Community Association, Campus Security, the SU and the Graduate Students' Association.

SU vice-president student life Nabila

Farid says that a police presence will be established at D-Block early.

"The approach that I can give you that I've heard CPS talk about is that they're going to be there early and they're going to try to stop it from growing as early as possible," Farid said. "I don't know what that's going to look like, they haven't actually discussed that. But they're going to be the first ones out there and they're going to stop D-Block from growing."

At last year's D-Block parties, CPS officers established a presence and monitored the partying but did not put an end to the festivities.

Farid said that SU's approach to the task force was making sure that any decisions made prioritized student safety.

"We don't want D-Block to become something that's like what we've seen happen at universities in [Eastern Canada]," Farid said, making reference to unsanctioned events like FOCO at Western

University in London, Ontario. "Basically, we've just expressed our concerns with the growth of D-Block, asked about its popularity and asked CPS what their steps are going to be this year in order to ensure that students are safe."

The SU holds their own end-of-year celebration on Bermuda Shorts Day. This year's BSD event will be held indoors in MacHall and The Den, a move meant to mitigate the event's high price tag.

"I hope that some of the students that would have normally been driven to D-Block this year can look forward to the changes that we've brought to BSD and use it as an alternative for safe drinking and celebration of the last day of classes," Farid said.

Other members of the task force, including U of C administrators, requested to speak to the *Gauntlet* after the final meeting of the task force to be held on April 5. Read our follow-up story at thegauntlet.ca at that time.

Legacy garden to open in memory of Brentwood victims

Story by Kade Marshall

The five families of the victims of the 2014 Brentwood stabbings are coming together to build a memorial garden in South Glenmore Park.

The Quinterra Legacy Garden project was announced on March 12. The project is being built for the five-year anniversary of the tragedy that took the lives of Lawrence Hong, Joshua Hunter, Kaitlan Perras, Jordan Segura and Zackariah Rathwell.

The founders of Quinterra Legacy Garden are family members and friends of the victims.

The five students lost their lives in an attack at a house party in the community of Brentwood on April 15, 2014. The garden is set to open in August 2019.

Shannon Miller, one of the founders of Quinterra and the mother of Perras, says there will be a ceremony upon the opening of the park.

"It would be a ribbon-cutting ceremony ideally," said Miller.

The Quinterra Legacy Garden will be the city's first fully dedicated musical garden and is set to include a 30-foot diameter stage with percussion instruments open for public use. The garden will host yoga sessions and literature events.

The park will have a view of the Glenmore Reservoir and will be built close to the marina.

Reflections of the personalities of the five individuals lost will be subtly represented with elements of the garden.

Miller said the stage is a tribute to Perras, who had a passion for dancing.

"She used to perform for many years," Miller said. "Her dancing holds a place in my heart. I've always supported it and I always will think of Kaiti when I see dancers like her on stage."

Percussion instruments at the park and the overall musical element pay tribute to the musical talents of Hunter and Rathwell, who played in the band Zackariah and The Prophets.

The idea of a garden is a representation

of Segura's love for socializing, the group says, and the planting of the garden represents Hong's major in developmental studies.

Miller says the garden is open to everyone and hopes that people will gather there with their friends, family and loved ones.

"It'll remind me of the kids," she said. "Kaiti and I used to go for coffees in the park and I want people to have the same experiences that we did together."

The garden will also host yoga sessions and literature events. The number five is another recurring theme of the garden. A five-pointed star will be visible on the performance stage and five chairs will be placed in front of five flowering trees. According to Miller, the Legacy Garden hopes to be able to place plaques on each of the chairs — one for each of the five students who were lost.

The project is accepting donations with a goal of raising \$750,000 towards further development of the park. At press time, the project had raised over \$127,500.

**INSPIRED BY:
A CAREER
WITH VARIETY**

You don't need a policing background to become a member of the Edmonton Police Service. Every year we hire people from a wide variety of backgrounds. They were born in different cities, countries and speak a variety of languages. They all have different educational backgrounds, career paths and reasons for joining.

Want to learn more? Text "Gauntlet" to 780-421-2233 to receive a link to watch our online information session.

**EDMONTON
POLICE
SERVICE**

JoinEPS.ca The Province of Alberta is working in partnership with the Government of Canada to provide employment support programs and services. **Canada** *Alberta*

U of C approve 2019–20 budget but say provincial election results may lead to cuts

Story by Jason Herring
Photo by Mariah Wilson

The University of Calgary Board of Governors approved the school's 2019–20 budget at their March 22 meeting.

The school's consolidated budget totals \$1.45 billion and includes expenses like materials and salaries and benefits, the latter of which comprises 57 per cent of the consolidated budget. Its capital budget totals \$264.5 million and contains large-scale projects like the construction of the MacKimmie Complex and Mathison Hall.

The budget is part of the planning document called the Comprehensive Institutional Plan which the U of C submits to the Alberta government every three years. Work on the budget began in June 2018.

According to U of C provost and vice-president academic Dru Marshall, much of the budget hinges on what the university receives from the Campus Alberta Grant, a payment by the provincial government to the U of C the school uses as part of their operating funds. The grant is allocated each year as a percentage increase or decrease of the previous year's grant.

Marshall says that the budget is uncer-

tain due to the upcoming provincial election. She says that the school assumes a two-per-cent increase in the Campus Alberta Grant if the New Democratic Party are re-elected but that a United Conservative Party government doesn't come with the same funding certainty.

"If the NDP were to get in, we're pretty confident that [a two-per-cent increase is] what we'd receive, and likely tuition backfill," Marshall says. "We're not so confident if it's the UCP, and not really sure what would happen if it was UCP, so there is some uncertainty."

Marshall says that since the U of C has already given its units the two-per-cent increase, anything less would necessitate cuts. A stagnant Campus Alberta Grant would be resolved through tactics like delaying new hires, while a decrease to the grant of minus three per cent or more would cause a deficit of more than \$20 million and would result in significant cuts.

Despite the tough situation it would put the institution in, Marshall says the U of C has faced similar cuts in the past and would be able to calmly handle that situation.

"We did go through a separate 7.6-per-cent cut in the 2013–14 year and managed

it with a calm demeanour on our campus, not panicking, making sure everyone understood what would be going to happen," she said. "I anticipated that's what would happen if we were required to do that again."

Frank Finley, the student-at-large representative on the BOG, asked Marshall how the university handled the cuts in 2013–14 and how they would approach a similar situation if it were to happen this year.

"That particular year, we had three strategies. One was to look at the amount that we could bow wave from one year to the next with one-year money so that we didn't have to be really draconian with cuts in a brief time period where you don't really have to think about them. Then we identified what were the major cuts that could be made in a few different ways," Marshall responded. "But probably the biggest strategy was delaying hiring. So if we had vacancies, we didn't hire until the following year. That's one of the things we've identified again that would probably be on the docket this year, rather than cutting people."

The draft of the U of C's 2019–20 budget as approved by the BOG can be viewed on thegauntlet.ca.



Quality Money to fund nine campus upgrades

Story by Kade Marshall
Photo by Mariah Wilson

The University of Calgary Students' Union approved 18 Quality Money projects this year totalling \$1.84 million, many of which cover architectural and digital upgrades around campus.

The Quality Money program is a partnership between the U of C Board of Governors and the SU to distribute about \$1.66 million per year to mostly student-directed projects that "make campus life better." Since 2004, the program has approved over 240 projects totalling \$24 million.

According to SU president Sagar Grewal, students should particularly look forward to one of this year's proposals — an upgrade to computers in the Taylor Family Digital Library. With increases in enrolment and demand for updates to technology, the project plans on giving the outdated computers a facelift.

"We know this is very important for students," said Grewal. "This will help with students that may need to print, as well as help students that can't afford cer-

tain things like a laptop or a textbook or a notepad."

Grewal said the library also received multiple complaints about computers crashing on students, causing inconveniences for those using them.

Outside of the tech upgrades, wash-room renovations on MacHall's west third floor are the most expensive project this year, costing \$346,791.

The project hopes to increase accessibility to the third-floor washrooms. Issues such as wheelchair inaccessibility and a lack of bathrooms inside any of the facilities on that floor — which includes the Wellness Centre, the Native Centre and the Last Defense Lounge — were among the reasons for the upgrade.

"This is a big project and we hope all of our washrooms will be up to code and easy for the public to access," said Grewal.

The SU also has plans to increase the sustainability of the MacHall food court. Tables will be set up in the food court where trained employees will sort waste. The goal is to achieve an 80-per-cent waste diversion rate for the 2019–20 academic year.

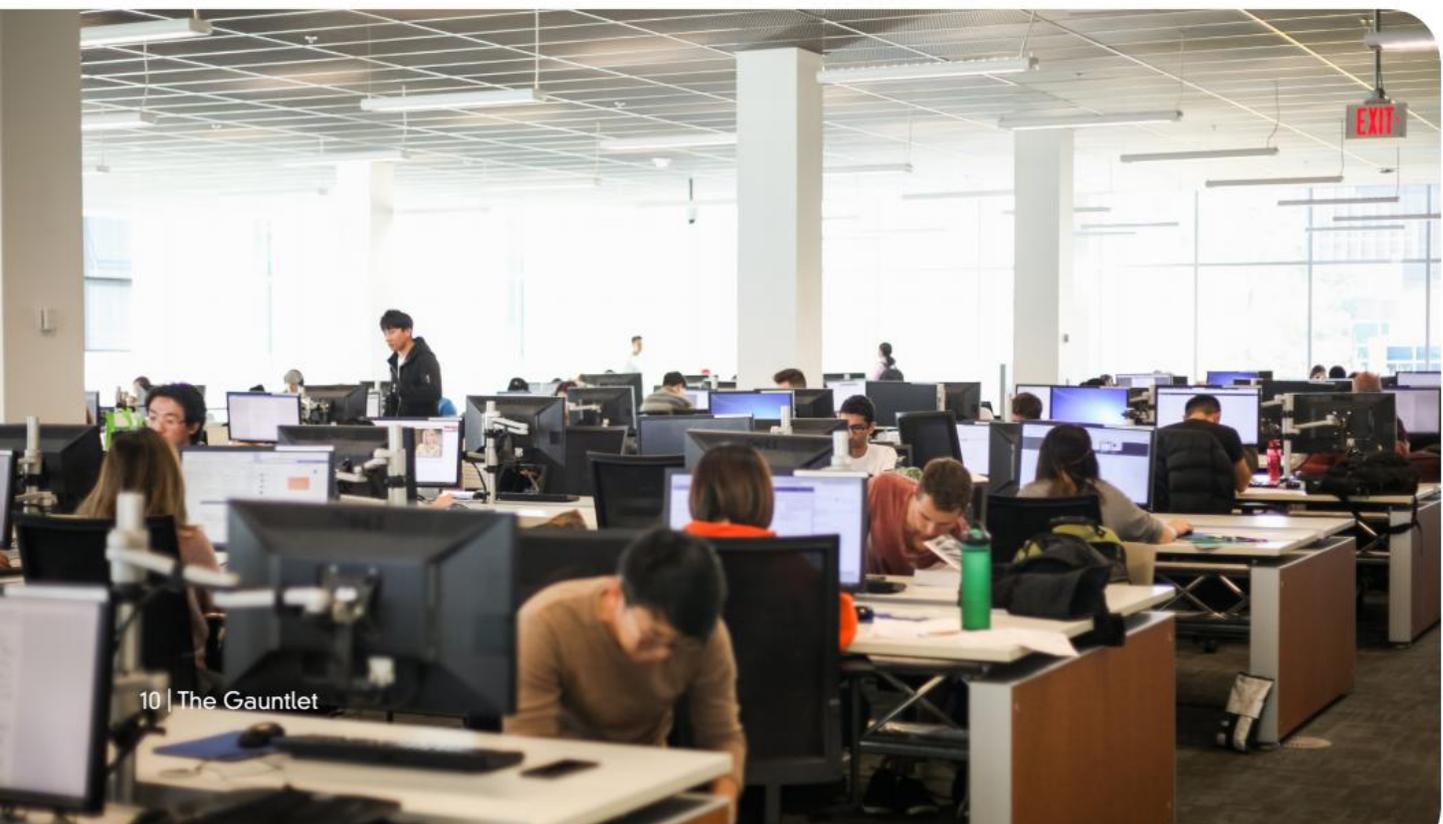
Another project seeks to purchase six new microwaves to reduce wait times for students who bring food from home. Other approved projects involve maintenance upgrades and improving existing programs such as Level Up, which rewards students 'XP' for participating in certain activities, and Ignite, which partners students wanting to get fit with veteran gym-goers.

"We're hoping to continue them for another year as a way for students to engage on campus," said Grewal.

Grewal wants students to keep participating in Quality Money in the future, saying that it's the best way to know what projects the university should put their dollars into.

"It's important we get student-led initiatives and that we get students submitting projects for some of the great ideas they have," Grewal said. "We know that students know this campus best. Nobody knows it better and that's why we want to hear from students directly."

Other projects include locker upgrades in Science Theatres and Craigie Hall, as well as an expansion of study areas in the Math Sciences hallway.





What to expect as election day nears

Story by Ashar Memon
Photo courtesy IQRemix

Provincial election season is upon us. Albertans will head to the polls to vote in the provincial general election on April 16, capping off what is expected to be a raucous month-long campaign period.

There are five major political parties vying for power this election: the Alberta Party, Alberta Liberal Party, Green Party, New Democratic Party and United Conservative Party — the latter being the favourite in most polls.

Most political pundits think the election will come down to two parties: The NDP and the UCP. Asked if she expects any other party to play a considerable role in the election, Melanee Thomas, a political science professor and researcher at the University of Calgary, put it bluntly: “No, this is a two-horse race.”

With the stakes running high for both parties, this campaign period has already proven to be divisive. Amid a slew of attack ads along with texts and calls from local candidates, voters are presented with plenty of information before casting their ballots.

According to Thomas, being informed and open-minded will allow students to discern the information they’re receiving.

“Key background knowledge includes a few things,” she said. “No one is entitled to government; election outcomes aren’t accidents; research shows parties ‘own’ some issues regardless of performance.”

Years after the collapse in global oil prices in 2014, Alberta — and Calgary in particular — still face an unemployment rate higher than the national average, a fact that shows in parties’ campaign materials.

“It’s perhaps a bit cynical of me, but I expect that post-secondary is the issue that will affect *Gauntlet* readers most immediately, and it won’t be discussed much,” Thomas said. “Whenever elections are dominated by the ‘economy,’ unless it’s a context where the economic issue is really clearly tied to a government, then issues that could be more central to youth get drowned out.”

Despite this, post-secondary students will still feel the impact of policies instituted by whichever party gets elected, Thomas says.

“I expect post-secondary to be in the first round of cuts if the UCP wins,” she said. “If the NDP wins, I’d expect the tuition fee freeze to be maintained.”

It’s uncertain what role students will play in deciding this election. According to the Council of Alberta University Students, the population of 18–24 year olds in Alberta was 12 per cent in 2015, but they accounted for only seven per cent of votes in the provin-

cial election that year.

Thomas says that the significance of the youth vote will depend on two things — “engagement and administration.

“Engagement is intuitive. If youth see there are issues or leaders that resonate with them, then they might be more likely to vote,” she said. “At this point, though, it’s not immediately clear to me if the ‘economy’ or some parties’ challenges with candidates holding offside/white nationalist views will do that.

“Administration is all about Elections Alberta: If they can get polling stations on to campus, students will use them,” Thomas added.

Advanced voting stations will be open on campus on April 10 and 11 in MacHall. The U of C Students’ Union says it has collected 4,000 pledges to vote from students so far and expects to collect at least 6,000 pledges by election day.

“My goal really is that as many students as possible go out to these advanced polls and vote,” said SU vice-president external Anayat Sidhu. “If they can’t do that, then they have another chance obviously on April 16. It would be really great to show that the student voice matters, that our generation matters.”

More information on where to vote, how to register and locations of polling stations can be found at elections.ab.ca/voters.

SU expands Refugee Student Board after club dissolution

Story by James Falls

The Students' Union's Refugee Student Board will take on greater responsibilities following the dissolution of a student club and changes to the board's terms of reference passed by the Students' Legislative Council.

The program has existed since 1986, as a partnership with the World University Service of Canada (WUSC) club on campus, sponsoring two refugee students each year.

Vice-president operations and finance Kevin Dang said that WUSC "would take care of a lot of that day-to-day stuff, like helping students register for classes or taking them to appointments."

In the past year, WUSC was dissolved, "Mostly because it didn't meet the criteria for an SU club," Dang said.

"As a result of that, the SU took on a lot of the additional responsibilities that they

would've been doing," he added. "We decided we could actually expand the Refugee Student Board to increase its capacity."

The expanded capacity of the board is reflected in the committee's new terms of reference, which were approved by SLC in November 2018.

"We've increased the actual number

"We decided we could actually expand the Refugee Student Board to increase its capacity."

**— Kevin Dang,
SU vice-president
operations and finance**

of students on the board, so there's more students-at-large, there's another elected official on there," Dang said.

As part of the new terms, the vice-president external will chair the committee, with the vice-president operations and finance co-chairing.

The SU is also continuing to work with members of the now-defunct WUSC club.

"We've included parts of the club constitution, we want to make sure that the support we're offering aligns with what they were doing," Dang said. "A lot of our students-at-large were part of the WUSC club, and we just brought them under."

Dang observed that the changes ensure that the work that was being done by both WUSC and the SU is now more centralized.

"Now that we have this framework of having the board work more directly with the students in that support role, I'm really excited to see what we can do with it," Dang said.

TUNE IN TO

NUTV

**TO SATISFY YOUR
FILM & MEDIA ARTS
TRAINING!**

**JOIN US AT NUTV.CA
3RD FLOOR MACHALL**

Calgary-Varsity Q&As: New Democratic Party candidate Anne McGrath

Anne McGrath is the New Democratic Party candidate in Calgary-Varsity. She is currently the executive director of Premier Rachel Notley's Southern Alberta office.

The Gauntlet: Why should students vote for you?

Anne McGrath: Well, I think students have a very important choice ahead of them. For one thing, students on campus must recognize that if [the NDP] had not won in 2015, there were going to be deep cuts to post-secondary education. As a result of having an NDP government for the last three-and-a-half, four years, there has been not only sustained funding but there has been increased investment in post-secondary education, particularly on this campus. And of course, affordability as well is a big part of who is able to access post-secondary education and this government froze tuition fees so that most students will have realized a savings over the period of the government of about \$2,000.

Gauntlet: You alluded to how post-secondary tuition in Alberta has been tied to the rate of inflation and previously has been frozen, which will extend for another year. Do you think that this is an appropriate end solution for students, and if not, how would you approach post-secondary tuition policy if you were elected?

McGrath: I think over time it would be good to see increases in tuition limited and even decline, because I think it is and can be a barrier for students in attending. It is a small part of the funding formula right now, but a significant thing for many, many students. I'm actually very committed to making sure post-secondary education is accessible to everybody who is able to attend and who wants to attend.

Gauntlet: Have you put much thought into international student tuition, which is not currently regulated for students?

McGrath: International tuition, I have not looked at it recently, to be honest. But I do know that having international students at a university only benefits a university. We should be attracting international students because it not only benefits themselves and the communities they're coming from but they also enrich the student community here and enrich the classroom experience.



Gauntlet: More broadly, can you tell me about the issues you think are facing residents of Calgary-Varsity that are most important in this election?

McGrath: I think the issues in Calgary-Varsity are the same as the issues anywhere. I think it's around jobs and the economy. It's around what kind of programs and services we have as a society. And most fundamentally, the question for residents of Calgary-Varsity and all around the province is, who do you want to be the premier? There's a very stark choice, I believe, in this next election.

We can either have Jason Kenney, who I believe is dedicated to making cuts to things that are important to us, who has questionable attitudes towards vulnerable groups, has been on the record in opposition to basic women's rights, LGBTQ rights, those kinds of things. Who, I think, wants to give very big tax giveaways to the richest and most powerful in our society at the expense of others and who has no plan to diversify the economy and take us out of the boom and bust cycle. The choice is between that kind of leadership and the leadership of Rachel Notley, who

inherited a very difficult situation and has done an excellent job, has invested in some very important programs, is steadily bringing down the deficit and who is taking action on diversifying our economy.

Gauntlet: To move back to a few youth-related and student-related issues, I'm curious about your thoughts on a lower minimum wage for youth workers.

McGrath: Fundamentally, a lower minimum wage for young people means that it's not a minimum wage. A minimum wage is a minimum wage and I don't think there are two classes of citizens. I think it's actually discriminatory to have a lower minimum wage for youth. I think it's absolutely wrong and Rachel Notley is on record saying that will never happen under her watch.

Gauntlet: The two largest universities in Alberta are now reaching deferred maintenance costs over \$1.5 billion. Do you think that this needs to be addressed, and if so, how?

McGrath: Well, we have been addressing it, and you can see it in things like the upgrades to the MacKimmie Complex and other areas on campus. One of the things that we did when we were first forming government in 2015 was, instead of making big cuts we decided to invest and in particular, to invest in capital infrastructure, which is the place where deferred maintenance costs come from. We're very committed to capital infrastructure for a number of reasons. One is that it makes economic sense and the other is that we need those things. But also, in addition to that, when you have capital infrastructure programs, you have to staff them and you have to fund them. In this riding, for instance, we're building a cancer care centre that was promised over and over again by previous governments and was never built. We will build it and we will staff it.

This interview has been edited for clarity and brevity.

Calgary-Varsity Q&As: United Conservative Party candidate Jason Copping

Jason Copping is the United Conservative Party candidate in Calgary-Varsity. He is currently a small business owner and university instructor.

The Gauntlet: Why should students vote for you?

Jason Copping: First and foremost, the United Conservatives have a plan to reignite the economy and create jobs. I've taught as a sessional at Haskayne [School of Business] for over a decade and I also teach at the University of Lethbridge at the Calgary campus, and talking to many students recently, I hear it's really difficult to find work. I had one recent graduate from the Schulich School of Engineering who donated to my campaign give me a call. He graduated in 2016 and said he had actually found his first career job in his field in December 2018. He said he was a lucky one, that many of his classmates were still looking for work.

These stories are borne out in the statistics. The youth unemployment rate is 11.6 per cent. There's over 37,000 youth Albertans who are looking for work. And of all the major cities, Calgary has the highest unemployment rate in the country. Our party has a plan to reignite the economy and create jobs. This includes reducing taxes and eliminating red tape for businesses. These are the job creators. And by reigniting the economy, we can create jobs for students, graduates and all Albertans.

The second reason is about sustainability of public services. The current government has continued to run deficits and the plan for the next four years is to actually get close to \$100 billion in debt. And we can't continue to do this and expect to maintain the public services we all need, including post-secondary education, for the long-term. While this may not be top-of-mind for many young people, if we don't tackle the fiscal problems now, we'll end up in a situation where a large amount of expenditures are on debt, not what we need, regardless of the party in power.

Gauntlet: You'll likely have some similar thoughts here, but what do you think are the biggest issues facing residents of Calgary-Varsity at large, and not just students?

Copping: Talking at the doors, it's very similar. It's the economy and jobs. Door-knocking and spending lots of time in the community, I've chatted with people who are unemployed or underemployed, people who have been laid off in the downturn and can't get back to work. They want to get back to work. This is what we're running for and what it's all about.



Gauntlet: Back to some student-related topics, the current government has tied post-secondary tuition in Alberta to the rate of inflation. Do you think that this is an appropriate solution for students, and if not, how would you approach post-secondary tuition policy if you were elected?

Copping: This is one of those items where we haven't announced our policy yet [as of March 25, the day of this interview]. I know that our platform will be released talking about post-secondary in the next few days, so I'd just ask you to stay tuned. I will say that we absolutely recognize that rising costs for post-secondary students can become a barrier for some. I believe that we need to see sustainability and predictability in post-secondary funding. The government should make efforts to reduce costs for Albertans across the board, including on students, to attend school.

When we do announce our policies, we'll announce them all on our website, which is albertastrongandfree.ca.

Gauntlet: Do you support a lower minimum wage for youth workers?

Copping: First of all, our policy is that we will keep the general minimum wage at \$15 per hour. But we're also looking to introduce a youth job creation wage of \$13 per hour for workers who are 17 years of age or younger in order to incentivize the creation of first-time jobs for unemployed, dependent teenagers. As I indicated before, youth unemployment has skyrocketed over recent years, disproportionate from the rise of unemployment generally. We want to pay Albertans to work but we recognize that a minimum wage of no job is zero and we want to make sure that young Albertans have the ability to enter the workforce.

Gauntlet: The two largest universities in Alberta are now reaching deferred maintenance costs over \$2 billion. Do you think that this needs to be addressed, and if so, how?

Copping: Again, it's difficult for me to respond to the specifics. I did meet with the Students' Union, who raised the same issue and said it was important and I definitely understand that. I can say that we are committed to building the infrastructure needed in the province in a timely and transparent matter that takes the politics out of the decision-making, and the U of C would certainly be a priority, particularly from my point of view. But it would be irresponsible for me to make a firm commitment on projects like this during an election campaign. Any candidate from any party that does make such a commitment, you have to look at closely. But generally, we're supportive of infrastructure that we need.

This interview has been edited for clarity and brevity.

Calgary-Varsity Q&As: Green Party candidate Cheryle Chagnon-Greyeyes

Cheryle Chagnon-Greyeyes is the Green Party candidate in Calgary-Varsity. She is currently leader of the Alberta Green Party.

The Gauntlet: Why should students vote for you?

Cheryle Chagnon-Greyeyes: First off, we're going to fight for the planet and the people and that's very close to the heart of a lot of students. Also, we want to be champions for students. We want to eliminate tuition. In the interim, we want to lower tuition costs and we would like student loans to actually be converted to grants so that students aren't saddled with a lifetime of debt just to pay off their education. That's pretty approachable for students, and I get that — I am a graduate of the U of C myself. I worked at the U of C, I have a grandson who's in first-year engineering — I get this. And, it can keep you from moving forward in a good way.

Another thing we are concerned with is a guaranteed income. That would really help not only students but even workers at the university. I know I was very active in the union, and not everybody is a full-time worker there and making good wages. Some are close to subsistence, depending on what part of the university they work in.

Gauntlet: In your opinion, what are some of the biggest issues facing constituents in Calgary-Varsity?

Chagnon-Greyeyes: Well, I'm going to find out. One thing, I've been living here off and on since 1993. So I've seen the neighbourhood grow and it's kind of neat to see people and families grow. I consider this my neighbourhood so I have a personal invested interest because I live here. And as I said, I was an employee at the university, I was a student at the university, I'm still active at the university.

Gauntlet: The current government has tied post-secondary tuition in Alberta to the rate of inflation. Do you think that this

is an appropriate solution for students, and if not, how would you approach post-secondary tuition policy if you were elected?

Chagnon-Greyeyes: As I said, we're not supportive of that because we believe that tuition costs should be going down, that interest costs on student loans and student funding should be eliminated and/or reduced. And we would like to see an elimination of the loan system all together to be replaced by grants.



Gauntlet: Tuition still isn't regulated for international students. How would you approach the issue of international student tuition if elected?

Chagnon-Greyeyes: I'm not too familiar with that but I have worked with international students and I know that poverty is a real concern for them when they come to our country. Some international students have money, but not all do. I see international students as being not just a source of income and tuition for the university, but as a source of people, of connection — connection to the wider world by their experiences and by their connections to their home country.

Gauntlet: Do you support a lower minimum wage for youth workers?

Chagnon-Greyeyes: No. We want it to stay minimum at \$15, but what we really want is a guaranteed annual income and that would basically help students and other people who are working part-time jobs

to be able to afford to go to school. Poverty is the real issue in Alberta and it's a growing divide. I would like to see more full-time positions instead of part-time positions, and/or an implementation of an equalized system for benefits for people who are working part-time. Because currently, if you work so many hours less, the employer does not have to pay you benefits. You know, there's just better ways we can do it.

Gauntlet: Many are considering this a two-party election between the NDP and the UCP. What are your thoughts on that and how will you convince voters to vote for you?

Chagnon-Greyeyes: Well, I think they have to realize where that thought is coming from — and it's coming from fear. Fear has been promulgated and used as a tool to bash us Albertans for far too long. Albertans are mavericks, we're good at what we do. You know, we can change the world right here in Alberta. I believe that, I really believe that. I know that people, I think, have good hearts and want a positive world, want a clean environment and recognize climate change is real and it's going to affect them and their kids and the future. We've got to champion it now.

One thing that the Green Party is doing is that we want an environmental bill of rights. So I really hope we get into the legislature to be that green voice. Because right now there is no green voice. Right now there's no voice of reason or common sense, there's no voice of balance and moderation. And I don't expect to become the premier but I would really like to get a few seats in the legislature so we can implement change and be that option on the ballot. You don't have to choose between the lesser of two evils. We can choose a better way, so I'm asking people to have courage and have faith in Albertans that we can make the world a better place.

This interview has been edited for clarity and brevity.

Calgary-Varsity Q&As: Alberta Party candidate Beth Barberree

Beth Barberree is the Alberta Party candidate in Calgary-Varsity. She is a small business owner.

The Gauntlet: Why should students vote for you?

Barberree: I think I bring a combination of unique perspectives, experience and education into the legislature. I've been a small business owner and I think that's given me some insights as far as the impact of spending. And as far as the Alberta Party goes, I really am drawn to the party because their values really overlap with mine, in that making choices and making decisions for the sake of it always having been done that way — that doesn't fly for me. I think we need to be more responsive and more forward-thinking and proactive in our decision-making, and I think when you get rooted in ideology, as far as just making a decision because that's a party choice, for example, that's a party philosophy. We need the opportunity to factor in all of the pertinent information related to decision-making.

As far as specifically for students' interest in me, I think there's a couple of things the Alberta Party brings. We want to support students in two ways. One is direct financial benefits for the students and the other is working with the actual post-secondary system to be responsive so that we can evolve as the world economy does. As far as the individuals go, we recognize that we should have an ongoing review of student financing programs and Alberta-funded loans.

Gauntlet: In your opinion, what are some of the biggest issues facing constituents in Calgary-Varsity?

Barberree: In the context of the greater community, certainly folks I've reached out to have mentioned things such as ensuring that we've got affordable housing, and that's not just for young folks, such as students, but also seniors. And we've

got some ideas around having a young person/older person synergy happening, wherein maybe there's an opportunity for some older folks to have student tenants within their space on a lower cost. It would kind of be an exchange on a companionship thing, where you have a trustworthy individual with another trustworthy individual cohabiting. They can help out one another with the things they need attention on such as shoveling the walk.

Certainly, we're concerned about getting people back to work and the Alberta Party wants to bring focus on small and medium sized businesses to bridge the gap a little bit as far as what we're getting as revenues from taxation dollars cause people are working, you know, they're paying taxes regardless of what the amount is.



Gauntlet: The current government has tied post-secondary tuition in Alberta to the rate of inflation. Do you think that this is an appropriate solution for students?

Barberree: I haven't seen so far what the current government is doing on that front. I can speak more to what the Alberta Party would be interested in doing and certainly that is something that we have spoken about being supportive of, is that tying that increase to inflation. So I would say we're fairly aligned that way, but our delivery of how that looks, we may be taking a more proactive approach to those things.

Gauntlet: Do you support a lower minimum wage for youth workers?

Barberree: That's an interesting one — I can certainly see the two sides of that conversation in that one, do we have a lesser wage so that we can drive those jobs to the youth workers? On the other side, they're hard workers too, so you know they deserve pay for the effort they're putting in. What the Alberta Party is proposing is that we work more with the small business owners and business owners in general to make sure that if there's a struggle with that minimum wage, that we can support the businesses in other manners. We will not see a drop in the minimum wage with an Alberta Party government.

Gauntlet: Many are considering this a two-party election between the NDP and the UCP. What are your thoughts on that and how will you convince voters to vote for you?

Barberree: Certainly the two parties that are driving that narrative will have folks believe that it's a two-horse race. You know, certainly, we believe that both of those voices are from fairly opposite ends of the spectrum, I don't think we could argue that. But just a balanced choice in the middle I think is the right way to go, and I say that because it allows us to reflect and respond to where we need to. When we start taking a step back and realizing that we have the power as voters to choose what we want, then we'll start seeing a government that we actually want, rather than voting to save us from what we don't want.

Further on that note, a perfect example is being able to advocate for pipelines but still having solid and sustainable environmental practices. You don't have to have the either/or. You can have the and. We can promote our oil and gas sector and still recognize that we have the need to diversify the economy.

This interview has been edited for clarity and brevity.

Calgary-Varsity Q&As: Liberal Party candidate Ryan Campbell

Ryan Campbell is the Liberal Party candidate in Calgary-Varsity. He is self-employed as an industrial hygienist.

The Gauntlet: Why should students vote for you?

Ryan Campbell: Well, as the Alberta Liberal candidate for the riding, we really want to focus our platform on increasing access to post-secondary education. Here in Calgary-Varsity, obviously that means University of Calgary. And what we want to do is try and make it more accessible to low-income students, as well as helping to ensure the deferred maintenance that's happened at our educational institutions gets corrected. That's what we want to do and we also want to boost by 25 per cent the number of science, technology, engineering and math grads within the next five years, so really we would be looking at expanding post-secondary space to do that.

Gauntlet: What are some of the biggest issues facing constituents, in your opinion, in Calgary-Varsity?

Campbell: The one thing that I found in talking to the people while I've been out and about and knocking on doors is that the economy is first and foremost in people's minds. But what they're also concerned about — especially in Calgary-Varsity — is health care and educational issues. Both health care and education are pretty primary to the folks who live in Calgary-Varsity, so they've been interested in what we would do for health care and education and what that means for the economy. And also there's the issue with oil and gas, as well as the resource economy. Calgary-Varsity I found has been more health care- and education-focused while still worrying about oil and gas.

Gauntlet: The current government has tied post-secondary tuition in Al-

berta to the rate of inflation. Do you think that this is an appropriate solution for students, and if not, how would you approach post-secondary tuition policy if you were elected?

Campbell: With tuition, obviously we need to make it more affordable for people to get post-secondary education, whether that's at the university or the trade-school level. Fundamentally, we need to make sure we have a well-educated workforce. Well-educated folks — I mean that's really what a strong economy is grounded in — is a healthy and well-educated workforce. So what we really want to do is just make sure tuition is affordable and where folks have issues with tuition, we want to try and do what we can to put in place programs that would allow them to attend without being a massive financial burden for them.



Gauntlet: Tuition still isn't regulated for international students. How would you approach the issue of international student tuition if elected?

Campbell: We have a very enviable education system, so while we need to have international students, we also need to make sure that we're looking after some of our local folks as well. In terms of regulating tuition, I don't know that we would necessarily see that there's a need to regulate it. We would probably look towards putting that into the university's hands as opposed to cracking down with government regulation.

Gauntlet: Do you support a lower minimum wage for youth workers?

Campbell: No. I think the minimum wage should be the minimum wage. It's hard to make a go of it, I mean, \$15 an hour? The minimum wage should be the minimum wage. There's other ways that we can support small business to make it so they can afford to pay the \$15 an hour, so no, I would like to see one wage for everyone.

Gauntlet: Many are considering this a two-party election between the NDP and the UCP. How will you convince voters to vote for you?

Campbell: It's actually pretty close to my heart because it's one of the reasons why I got involved, is that I saw that, you know, there's this idea that it's a two-party election, it's black or white. I was frustrated because it just failed to really encompass someone like myself who's in the middle, who believes that we can have a fiscally responsible government while at the same time looking after our environment, health care and education.

That was really why I got involved. And I think there's a lot of people who agree with that — that's certainly what I've found when I get to talk to them, is that there is this middle ground, we can have a strong economy, support oil and gas, while at the same time taking action on climate change, taking action on environmental and health-care issues as well. The two don't need to be mutually exclusive, which is what you see some of the other parties who are running, so that's really what I want to do, to say that there is a centrist option out there — it doesn't have to be a UCP or an NDP election. And I'm realistic about how it is in Alberta right now, but I really do feel like in Calgary-Varsity there's an opportunity for someone with more centrist views to do that.

This interview has been edited for clarity and brevity.

Eight more years?



A look at Ed McCauley's
presidency to come

Story by Gayathri Peringod
Photos by Mariah Wilson

At the front of the room stood a silver-haired man in a royal-blue suit, his back to the audience, fidgeting. It was a Thursday morning in a lecture theatre in Craigie Hall, the room peppered with staff and post-doctoral students chattering away with one another.

Ed McCauley, the freshly minted president of the University of Calgary, was giving students the chance to speak with him, the UCalgary Newsletter announced to students in a February email. "Conversations with the President" invited all students, postdoctoral scholars, faculty and staff to have an "informal conversation" with the man of the hour before his official installation in April. After a general meet-and-greet at the end of January, he would come to each faculty — starting with the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine in March and ending with the Haskayne School of Business in April — to listen to concerns voiced by attendees. This particular event, held on a warm March morning, was for the Faculty of Science.

The "Conversations" series came at a precipitous time in McCauley's presidency, three months preceding his official instalment on April 8. The press around the commencement of his term has been carefully handled. When we reached out to university administration for an interview with McCauley for this piece, the university's strategic communications department emailed back, saying that he wasn't going to make himself available for any media interviews until the day of the installation itself, when he planned to unveil his priorities. A later email pushed back any potential interview to several days after the event.

There are many reasons why the administration's strategic communications team may want to make a strong first impression at the start of this presidency. McCauley moves into his role at an awkward time. In a January 2018 YouTube video, Elizabeth Cannon unexpectedly announced her resignation from the presidency a year and a half before her contract was to expire in June 2020. The UCalgary website delivered the news via a message from the chair of the school's

Board of Governors, who praised Cannon as an inspirational leader that accomplished an array of achievements. The university provided no official reason for her resignation.

Cannon had a contentious presidency. Her resignation came two years after her administration came under fire for allegedly compromising the university's academic freedom. The Enbridge affair, as it is now called, came to light after a 2015 CBC investigation revealed that the energy company Enbridge wielded considerable influence within the Cannon administration in relation to its significant monetary donation to the university. The university and Cannon denied any wrongdoing.

Since then, two separate investigations were launched into the matter. The first was by the Canadian Association of University Teachers, which reported a conflict of interest in Dr. Cannon's paid position as a member on one of Enbridge's boards and her duties as university president. The other was launched by the university itself and cleared the administration of misconduct. The results of the internal investigation were accepted by both BOG and the Students' Union. Still, the controversy led to a slew of media coverage and the departure of multiple professors and culminated in a Town Hall moment in which a frustrated student asked for Cannon's resignation in 2015.

Leaders try hard to shape perceptions of their accomplishments — it's what they'll be remembered for, after all. But they may have less say in shaping their legacies than they would like. Legacies are imposed, not created, and controversies can cast a long shadow over any leader, regardless of how hard they try to fight it. Cannon's controversies haunted her until the end. A CBC report on her resignation dedicated an entire section to her scandals, titled "Recent controversies." Criticized as being detached from her students and prone to corporate influence, Cannon's critics were able to define the latter years of her term for her. McCauley, fresh into his term, now faces the daunting task of defining his own presidency before it is defined for him.

The "Conversations" event began a few minutes past 11 a.m. when the silver-haired man introduced himself as Dr. Ed McCauley. "Of course, I don't need to introduce myself to you all," he joked. "I know each and every one of you. I will be calling you out by name if you don't say something." The crowd laughed — over 4,000 students, faculty and staff from the Faculty of Science had been invited, and yet the audience at the event consisted almost exclusively of faculty and staff.

McCauley welcomed all to the talk, making a lighthearted pun about the name of the event before recapping his career. (Apparently, "Ed Talks" was a big contender for the name before they settled on "Conversations.") He then opened up the floor to a question-and-answer session. "Feel free to ask me anything at all," he said. A long, pregnant pause followed as attendees exchanged glances.

Finally, a woman in the front row raised her hand. "I'm the director of development of the Faculty of Science," she said, before talking about the geophysics department's need for funding and wondering if the administration could allocate more resources to it. McCauley thanked her for her question. He talked about his meetings with donors in events held in Palm Springs before emphasizing that the campus was a big university family and that there was no need to be competitive for funding between faculties. He looked at her and nodded with satisfaction. "Any other questions?" The silence returned.

As the event continued, attendees settled into their chairs. McCauley opined on stage in a talk reminiscent of a lecture, the audience members playing the role of student. There was nothing informal about the event, but faculty members were happy to lament about the lack of funding for their respective departments anyway. McCauley was more than affable in response — he was charismatic, lively and funny, teasing the staff about their obsessions with equations, making greying quantum mechanics professors blush with embarrassment and the room erupt in laughter every so often.

It struck me sometime during the event,

Features

however, that I was finding it difficult to follow many of the points he was making — his long and sometimes-rambling answers never tackled staff concerns head-on, and the words “innovation,” “discovery” and “creativity” were used more times in the hour than I’d ever heard before. Acronyms I didn’t know existed — EPR and CHR and CFI — were tossed around casually to nodding staff members. Esoteric conversations about NSERC funding mechanisms and the provincial government’s policies would likely leave the average person bewildered. I wondered how other students would have fared in this so-called informal conversation, had they attended.

Does he plan on doing anything differently from the previous president, I asked at some point.

“The University of Calgary’s in a great trajectory with Eyes High, and in a large amount that can be attributed to Elizabeth when she became president in 2010,” he replied. “We have Eyes High, we have great academic and research plans, which have been created from the bottom up and endorsed throughout the community.”

McCauley paused for a moment. “So, no deviation in course, but part of this ‘Conversations with the President’ is hearing what the community’s aspirations are, besides some of the issues brought up by the faculty.”

McCauley’s selection as president was announced late last year amid a rigorous global search for a leader. He was chosen by a unanimous recommendation from a pool of 400 candidates. He stepped into the role eight weeks after his selection was announced, leaving his position as vice-president research vacant. Previously, McCauley had worked at the U of C for more than 30 years. As a professor, he taught ecology and evolutionary biology.

McCauley then went on to become the U of C’s vice-president research in 2011, working closely under Cannon during her presidency. Apart from its fair share of controversy, the previous presidency carried the typical characteristics of a young and growing university’s admin-



istration. One key goal separated it from its predecessors, however — to make the U of C a top-five research university by 2016. The now-famous Eyes High vision was launched with the intention of firmly rooting U of C as an anchor institution in the world of research. During Cannon’s term, sponsored research funding went up 48 per cent from 2011, according to the 2018 report on the Eyes High plan. The administration also notably launched an institution-wide Indigenous Strategy,

highlighting current initiatives and recommending future projects, in addition to opening research facilities in multiple programs.

The Eyes High strategy was revived in 2016 after the Research Infosource Inc. metric ranked the university sixth in Canada in terms of research focus. The university’s overall rankings fell over the years of the past presidency, according to certain metrics. One of the world’s most prestigious university rankings, the QS

World Rankings, rated U of C at its all-time low of 229 in Cannon's final year, down from 218 in 2010.

McCauley served on Cannon's executive team and helped develop the Eyes High strategy. Along with U of C provost and vice-president academic Dru Marshall, he led the development of the university's academic and research plans, described as the "roadmaps to the Eyes High vision." It isn't surprising, then, that McCauley wants to continue implementing the "energized" Eyes High strategy as it was developed, which aims for the same top-five goal to be reached by 2022.

The strategy itself is a 13-page poster, with pictures of the city skyline and campus infrastructure dominating each page — phrases like "transformative journey" and "promising future" scatter each paragraph. Its three "foundational commitments" are to sharpen focus on research and scholarship, enrich the quality and breadth of learning and fully integrate the university with the community — all laudable goals for any university. But the strategy, which was launched by Cannon

near the start of her presidency, has become a label synonymous with the Cannon administration. For an administration that appears determined to provide McCauley with a fresh start in terms of public image, the decision to continue naming its strategy Eyes High would be a curious one.

What of this new presidency, then? Should students expect more of the same from the past or will the administration work to encompass a larger list of priorities?

SU president-elect Jessica Revington appeared optimistic for the dawn of a new era in an interview to the *Gauntlet* in March. "There are definitely some things from Dr. Cannon's presidency that we weren't thrilled to see," she said. "That happens in every presidency, though. I think Dr. McCauley is in a very interesting place where he can take what happened during Dr. Cannon's presidency and use it to inform his decisions."

However, if Eyes High were to stay the same, the SU president-elect would work to advocate for other priorities.

"One of the challenges with Eyes High is that there aren't a lot of direct actionable items that can address things like creating student community," Revington said carefully. "I think it's our role as the Students' Union to work with [McCauley] in a collaborative way, but also not be afraid to challenge him if we feel that he's not making enough actionable change."

So will McCauley do anything differently from Cannon during his presidency? Revington is, again, hopeful.

"Based on what I've seen so far with ["Conversations with the President"], those are very promising and positive steps to show that Ed is committed to engaging with the campus community in a different and direct way," she said.

The "Conversations" series certainly is the mark of an administration wanting to appear receptive to student and community feedback and perhaps even a sign of McCauley looking to mould his presidency to accommodate student and faculty concerns. Only time will tell whether this inclination will persist beyond the efforts of his strategic communications team.

Undergrads: Apply for experiential learning funding



The **Shell Experiential Energy Learning (SEEL) Program** provides funding to University of Calgary undergraduates in all disciplines for field trips, conferences, special projects and other activities relating to energy solutions that have positive environmental and societal impact.

The SEEL program supports experiential learning opportunities for individual undergraduates and undergrad student clubs and organizations. Sponsored by Shell Canada, administered by the University of Calgary with applications judged by students.

DEADLINE TO APPLY: May 15, 2019



For more info and an application form, visit:
ucalgary.ca/provost/SEEL





Decline of BSD disappointing for campus culture

By Derek Baker
Illustration by Tricia Lim

Students excited for Bermuda Shorts Day 2019 were met with the news that this year's official event will be hosted indoors.

On March 14, the Students' Union announced that BSD will be held in MacHall AB (the concert hall) and The Den. Before this, the event has been hosted in Lot 32 since 2009.

The SU cites financial concerns as the reason for the venue change. Last year's festivities ran a near-\$100,000 deficit and in 2017 ran an \$88,000 deficit. Understandably, they felt something had to change and moving the event indoors

could help alleviate the financial loss.

Students weren't happy when the change was announced on the Facebook event. About two-thirds of the reactions were negative, as were the vast majority of the comments outside of people just tagging their friends.

Though the SU addressed criticism in an interview with the *Gauntlet*, all of their channels have been silent.

Still, BSD's decline is not entirely the SU's fault. Costs imposed by the University of Calgary, such as hiring security for the entire campus and renting out each parking space for the day, have contributed to BSD's financial woes. It's clear that the U of C administration does not support the event, but that doesn't mean we should let such an impor-

tant part of campus culture die out.

BSD is a staple of U of C campus culture. This school is regularly panned for being a 'commuter campus,' devoid of student engagement outside of just going to classes and heading home. BSD is one time — if not the only time — that a large portion of the student body is brought together to celebrate their student experience. A bunch of students getting drunk in a parking lot might not present a sparkling image of what the 'student experience' is, but BSD has been an essential part of celebrating our time at school since 1961.

Understandably, it's a hard sell to justify spending hundreds of thousands of dollars on a one-day drunkfest. Let's not pretend that's not what it is.

But having a sanctioned space provides other benefits to school, too. It's a harm-reduction mechanism. Security, medical assistance and free water are all provided at the event for the inevitable cases when someone overdoes it. By containing the event to a cordoned-off place on campus, individuals who do not want to participate in the debauchery but come to school that day can be less disturbed by an inebriated student stumbling about campus (not that this doesn't already happen).

But more importantly, for some students, BSD is the only time they ever actively engage an SU program over the course of their degree. Each student pays fees to the SU and deserves to feel they get at least something out of it — even if it's just BSD.

And it's not like the SU is strapped for cash. The organization has run \$1-million surpluses for three out of the past five years (2014, 2016 and 2018) and the surpluses for the other two years were each over half a million dollars.

If other services were being sacrificed due to an inability for the SU to fund them, we'd be having a different discussion. But this isn't the case.

Looking at the history of BSD, it's clear the event can get out of hand. The revelry in 1987 caused between \$25,000–\$30,000 in damages to the university (about \$50,000–\$60,000 in today's dollars) and two students were hospitalized due to injuries they sustained.

The event went dry in 1988 under administration demands, and the university asked the SU to start hosting a single event in 1989 to contain the festivities into one safe environment.

Though a space is still devoted to BSD this year, there's an issue.

The capacity of the indoor venue is too small compared to how many students have attended in the past.

The SU says the combined capacity for MacHall AB and The Den is 2,600 people. Before BSD attendance numbers started to drop over the years, the event would see just shy of 8,000 students pile into Lot 32. Even last year, 4,232 students still attended.

Do the math.

Students are going to party elsewhere, be it on or off campus. It's going to be a mess.

The spirit of BSD is more than just the event itself. Students are going to party, regardless of where the SU hosts their event. Whether that partying can be contained is another thing.

D-Block will be rowdier unless some sort of crackdown happens. A task force made up of members from the city, Calgary Police Service, the community's association, Campus Security, the SU and the Graduate Students' Association has worked on a strategy to deal with the off-campus festivities. It's not yet known what exactly that strategy will entail.

Most disappointingly, I've witnessed the withering away of a campus tradition over my five years here. In my first and second year, I remember dancing the afternoon away in the crowd that stretched to the edge of the parking lot. Smalltown DJs played a remix of Galantis's "Peanut Butter Jelly," one of my happiest memories I have with my friends at school.

Last year, the crowd barely made it past the speakers/trash bins in the middle of the lot.

Yes, it's just a party. But it's also an event that students cross off days in their calendar waiting for. Without sounding too much like a certain '80s hip-hop group, if we want to keep our last day of classes celebrations lit, we need to put up a better fight.

Exorbitant textbook prices lead students to turn to piracy

By Kayle Van't Klooster

Here's a truth that every student knows: Textbooks are expensive, sometimes prohibitively so.

Many students need to pick which textbooks they'll cough up the cash for at the beginning of the semester because buying each one just isn't feasible. Textbook prices have skyrocketed over the past decade, further adding to the financial burden that students face. It's no wonder that students take any opportunity they can to avoid paying the full price. Usually, this means scouring Facebook groups or Bound and Copied for cheaper used copies. If that fails, they turn to piracy.

The University of Calgary sent an email to students last month addressing violations of the school's copyright policy. But there's a reason students resort to piracy.

Nothing stops textbook publishers from endlessly inflating prices, knowing full well that students have little choice but to buy them. On top of that, some textbooks are bundled with an access code for online as-

signments. This forces students to pay ridiculous prices just for the privilege of doing their homework, even if the textbook itself isn't even used. There aren't any rules that prevent this, so students are left footing the bill.

Most students take a look at the textbooks they've been assigned at the beginning of the semester and guess which ones they should actually buy, regardless of whether they're 'required' or not. Some professors assign textbooks that aren't worth buying since the class underutilizes or never use them at all. A class can also have multiple books assigned but only use some for one assignment, so you only crack it open once or twice. You can always sell the book after the course, but it's unlikely the resale value will cover what you spent to purchase it.

It's no wonder that many students avoid buying textbooks altogether. Unless some significant changes are made, piracy will continue to be a go-to solution for many students. If the university is serious about getting people to stop downloading pirated PDFs of their textbooks, they need to provide more

options for students. Even something as simple as putting more textbooks on reserve at the TFDL — and emphasizing that they're there to be used — would help tremendously. Or they could offer more options to rent textbooks at an affordable price, rather than having to buy a book that you won't look at again after the course is over. Likewise, professors need to realize just how difficult it is to obtain all the books they assign. They ought to think twice before throwing three or four books onto their syllabus and consider whether it's really necessary to include them all.

University is expensive enough. It would be nice to get a break every now and again. It's always a huge relief to see that there's an online version of a textbook on the library's site or a copy in the library's reserve readings because that's just one less expense. There are solutions and programs that could be put into place to get students to stop pirating. Sending a threatening email to students about copyright infringement is not one of them. The only way to end piracy is to give students a fairly priced alternative.



CJSW 90.9FM

THE STUDENT'S RADIO

HEAD TO  **CJSW.COM/GET-INVOLVED**
FOR MORE INFORMATION

LISTEN NOW!

Has Thursden lost its mojo?

By Aneeka Sandhu
Illustration by Shanaz Pasha

The thought of a university having its very own nightclub is the most exciting thing for any first-year leaving home for the first time — well, at least it was for me. A space for partying, drinking and general debauchery located in the heart of campus is thrilling.

When I think about the time I've spent over the last three years at the University of Calgary, particularly the more enjoyable parts, Thursden is a big part of that. However, the decline in Thursden's popularity is becoming more and more prominent, especially when I remember how lit Thursden used to be.

Flash back to first-year me at Thursden. It's move-in week for residence and I have no friends. I'm officially a loner. I'm scared and very, very awkward.

It's nearing Thursday evening and everyone is restless. We hear about this party on campus where the campus bar turns into a club. "Thursden." No one really knows what it is or where it is even located on campus. Myself and a group of girls on my floor — they too being loners — decide to see what it's all about.

Like any first-year's night out, we start off by pre-gaming in my room before heading over. The queue to get in is about an hour. This had better be good.

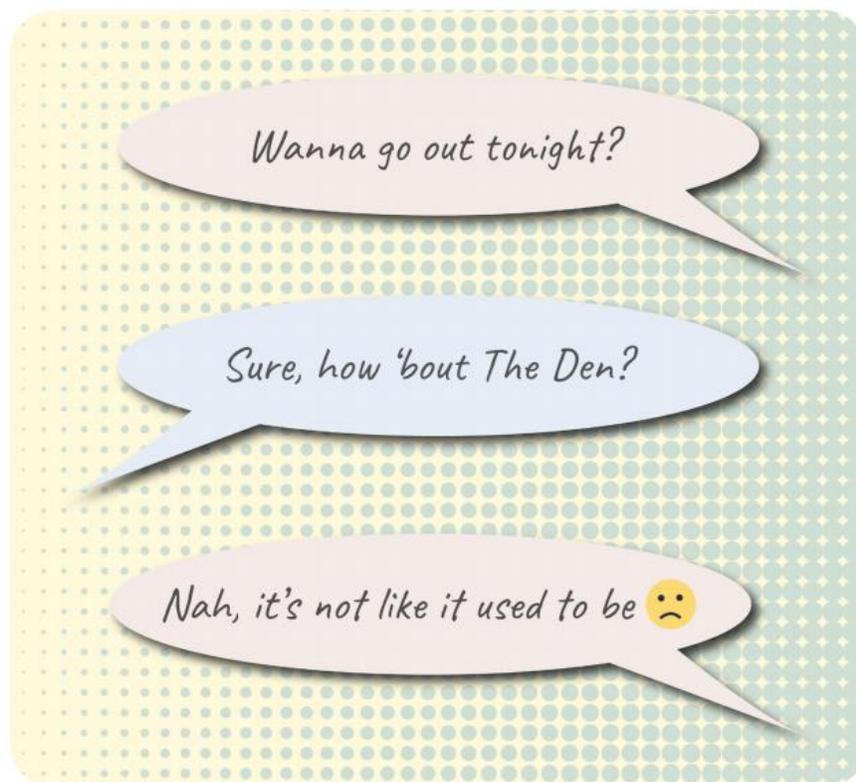
We walk in and it's like nothing I've ever seen. There's booze everywhere. The place is crowded. Everyone is going wild. At first, I was kind of disgusted at the state of everyone. And then I was shocked that this was even allowed to happen on campus.

And then I was amazed.

In awe.

It was one of the best things my 18-year-old eyes had ever seen. It was an epic night of dancing and imbibing.

Now, picture third-year me at Thurs-



den. It's Thursday night, I've had a long day of classes and my head is ringing. I have five assignments, all of which are due next week.

But hey, it's Thursday. I can spare a couple of hours.

The music is blaring, making my head ring ever louder.

I officially have a headache.

The floor is really sticky and I hope it's just from spilt alcohol. The smell is making me nauseous. Aside from the handful of drunk first-years, the dance floor is basically empty. The music bounces off the walls and echoes so loud you can barely hear anyone. I look around and it's just very... sad.

Eventually I get bored and I realize that no amount of alcohol is going to make me enjoy this setting. It's only 10 p.m., but it's time to go home.

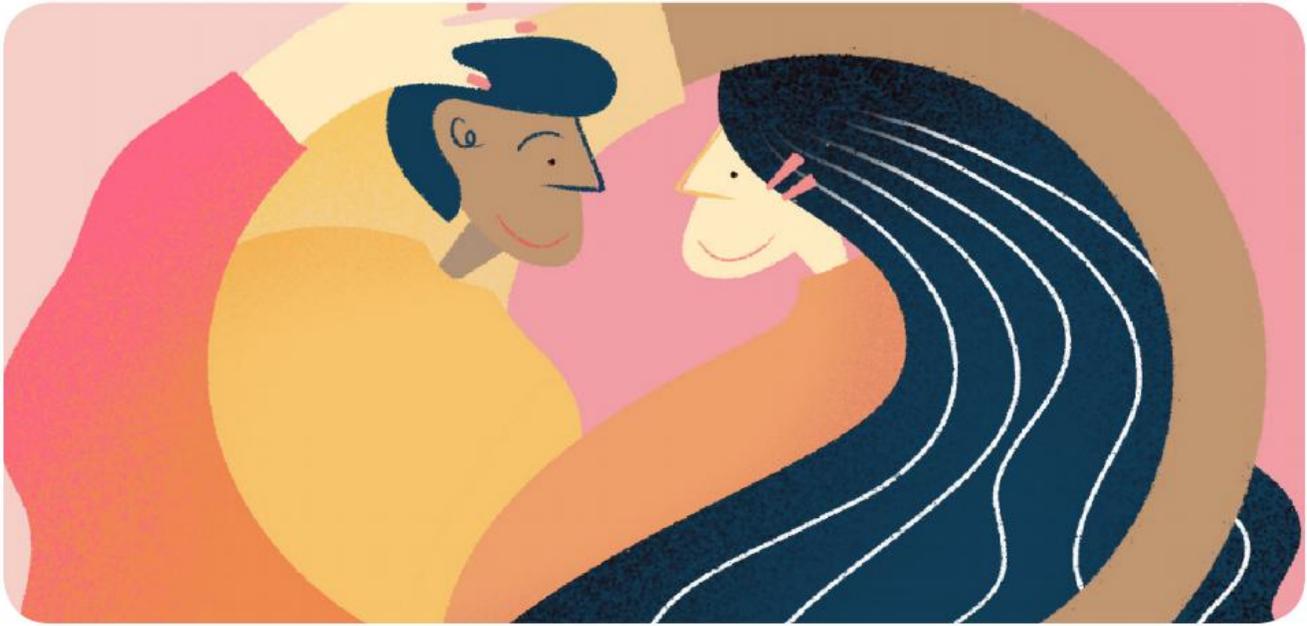
The difference between the atmosphere of Thursden in my first and third years is huge. Although the venue is

pretty small, the decline in its popularity has to be caused by something else. I mean, it has everything you'd need — good music, cheap(ish) drinks, loud music and spotlights.

It all boils down to what else is offered in the city. Thursden is losing its popularity because students are finding different places to party. There are places with more space, more lights, people to mingle with other than U of C students and a spot for a decent group picture against a pretty backdrop.

Today, I enjoy The Den as a restaurant and bar, not a club. It's a place where students can go for some food or a drink for lunch or after class. Thursden was fun while it lasted, but now it's time to move on. If Thursden wants to attract more students as a club, it seriously has to step up its game.

Maybe I just grew out of that first-year phase. But Thursden has lost its mojo.



Recognize unhealthy romantic, friendship and workplace relationships

By Mariah Wilson

Illustration by Tricia Lim

Our 20s seem to be riddled with toxic and unhealthy relationships in every aspect of our lives. Whether it's romantic relationships, friendships or within the workplace, everyone has stories about how they were left feeling anxious, unsafe or disrespected after a relationship went south. People can assume that our lack of life experiences will make us more of a doormat and that we're less likely to speak up against or recognize abusive behaviours.

Quite frankly, I agree with them. But it doesn't have to be this way.

In any relationship, you should feel respected and comfortable enough to be able to express who you are and who you're becoming. If you ever feel demeaned or threatened by abusive behaviours like yelling, name-calling or even isolation from someone you have a relationship with, this is a sign that the relationship is unhealthy and doesn't add value to your life. Communication is the key to any well-functioning, healthy relationship. But unfortunately, not many people are able to articulate what they

need and how they wish to be treated.

Joanna Davila of *Skills for Healthy Relationships* is a clinical psychologist who provides educational programs on interventions for relationship problems, depression and anxiety. Her website, which she shares with Kaycee Lashman, focuses on creating communication patterns and environments that lead to healthy relationships by reducing the things that lead to unhealthy ones. While the site is devoted to romantic relationships, a lot of their guidance can be applied to other relationships, such as between friends and colleagues.

Their interventions primarily focus on being able to recognize and articulate three specific aspects of your relationships.

"I know and like myself."

This means that you know what your needs are and can both respect and meet those needs. Davila and Lashman state that this enables you to "approach relationships from a position of self-confidence and personal strength." More importantly, it allows you to identify the environment you need in order to flourish, as well as recognize when

your environment no longer matches the one you desire. If a relationship starts to become toxic or abusive and you respect your needs, you'll be able to pull yourself away from this environment much sooner and communicate to yourself (and possibly the other individual) why this is no longer a good fit for you. By loving and respecting yourself, you'll enter external relationships with a much better outlook. Having a good internal relationship is very important because some individuals who originally didn't have abusive and unhealthy behaviours can develop them if they feel threatened by their partners, friends or colleagues.

"I know and like my partner (or friend or boss)."

This means that you're confident that the person you're entering a relationship with is somebody you believe will treat you properly and is someone who you can respect. Davila and Lashman highlight that by selecting the right candidate, people can shift from trying to be what the other person wants to realize whether or not they actually want to be with the other person. This is especially important when it comes to how

you want to invest your time, arguably your most valuable commodity, since you don't want to take time away from someone that can add more value to your life.

In your 20s, these decisions become more pronounced when selecting jobs and, sometimes more accurately, bosses and company culture. You want to be able to have a healthy workplace relationship where you can respect the management as well as the company values. Otherwise, you'll resent the hundreds of hours you put into your job. If the management team uses bullying techniques to keep employees in line, find a company that values mutual respect in the workplace and strives to provide a workplace free of harassment, threats and other stress-inducing environmental triggers that inhibit your growth.

"My partner (or friend or boss) knows and likes me."

This means that you're entering a relationship with someone who wants what you have to offer and treats you in a way that shows how they value and respect you. Davila and Lashman mention that this fram-

ing allows individuals to figure out whether the other person wants what you can offer and treats you appropriately. Whether it's a romantic relationship, friendship or workplace, you should be wanted and valued for your personality and skills. If it's your partner or friend, then there should definitely be a mutual caring between both parties. When it comes to workplaces, the management should demonstrate how much value you add to the company culture through mutual respect.

It can be hard to recognize if someone is bullying you or abusing your relationship. That's why it is important to understand that an unhealthy relationship stems from a repeated negative pattern or behaviour that's targeted, such as harassment, discrimination and other forms of psychological abuse. ALIS Alberta outlines bullying as abuses of power that include such things as threats and intimidation, as well as rudeness and hostility that disrespects the person being targeted.

In romantic relationships, that can take form as your partner belittling you, not respecting your opinions or boundaries or even using threats to manipulate you to

get what they want ("If you don't do this, then I'll leave"). In friendships, an abusive party may spread rumours or gossip about you with other close friends, exclude and isolate you from activities or spy on you when you're not with them. At workplaces, this may look like hollow threats of discipline or job loss without appropriate reasoning, discounting your ideas or blocking requests for training or promotion. All forms of abuse and bullying can take a major physical and psychological toll on you, causing a loss of sleep, stress, a loss of focus, lower confidence and general feelings of anger, frustration and shock.

If you're experiencing trauma from current or previous unhealthy relationships and need support, please reach out to resources like the on-campus Wellness Centre, Alberta Health Services or the Distress Centre Calgary, which is a 24-hour support service. If you feel that your rights are being violated by an employer, you can reach out to the Alberta Human Rights Commission to receive help and guidance and learn how to take action against your employer.

great things in Stör!

So much more than chips and chocolate.

Stör is there when you need fresh, gluten-free and locally made snacks.



stör

MacEwan Student Centre, main level

**Fall / Winter semester:
Clean out your locker
by April 27th, 2019**

**Spring / Summer semester:
Clean out your locker
by August 19th, 2019**

\$5 / bag to retrieve any contents left in locker

Items are available for pick up after May 13th (F/W) / September 11th (S/S) at Bound & Copied for up to 60 days.

If your items are not retrieved within this time they will be donated to local charities.

**Bound
AND COPIED**

**SU
STUDENTS
UNION**

Anti-immigrant protester outside Calgary's Genesis Centre indicative of homegrown Islamophobia

By Aymen Sherwani

Photo courtesy the Genesis Centre

Not even a day had passed after 50 Muslims were butchered in their mosques by a gunman in Christchurch, New Zealand when a white man in Calgary verbally harassed and filmed immigrant families at the Genesis Centre.

In a livestream, the unidentified man walked around the community centre, in some instances following children. The man approached families while remarking that their presence was changing the Canadian demographic from "traditional Canadians" to a "UN global village" — implying that the presence of immigrants in Canada is associated with poverty and crises. This simply is not true. The man then posted the 15-minute video livestream on the social media accounts belonging to the National Citizens Alliance (NCA), a fringe federal party in Canada which asserts that it is "founded on its anti-globalist, Pro-Canadian, and Canadian people, and Canada First agenda."

The NCA was founded by Stephen Garvey, a former member of the Worldwide Coalition Against Islam who has been very active in protesting M-103, a federal motion that condemns systemic and religious discrimination rooted from Islamophobia. It's tragic that Garvey, an aspiring politician who failed to obtain a seat in parliament in the 2016 federal election due to his unfounded beliefs, has chosen to dedicate his life to hatred. Immigrants, many of whom have multiple master's degrees, aren't stealing your jobs, Garvey — you're just an extremely incompetent human being who is blinded by his own parochialism.

Canada is a nation founded on immigration. So if the "traditional Canadian" that the NCA is referring to isn't an Indigenous person, then this entire political party is founded on baseless white supremacy.



White supremacists need to embrace the fact that the change in the demographics of Canadian society is an inevitable consequence of the West's involvement in the Middle East and Pakistan. The rising instability in these countries in a post-9/11 world is exactly why highly educated professionals from the Middle East and Pakistan sought to find a home in countries like Canada and New Zealand. This is their home now because you destroyed theirs.

The idea that immigrants are "stealing jobs" is just an excuse many people make because they're in denial about their own inadequacy. In a society where Islamophobia and racism run rampant, no one is willing to give an immigrant a handout. The reason immigrants are known for their hard work and perseverance is because they often have to work twice as hard to get half as far as everyone else.

As a Pakistani-Canadian kid who grew up going to the Genesis Centre, I always considered this community centre to be a safe space for people of colour and immigrant families. It is a place for local South-Asian businesses to promote their products and a source of celebration during Eid prayers, cultural bazaars and dance competitions. It is a place where my own brother tutors and mentors younger immigrant kids in hopes that they have a greater chance of achieving their dreams, too. The fact that this level of discrimination from the NCA against

Muslims has stemmed from the death of 50 of them in New Zealand is unfathomably repulsive. The victims of the New Zealand mosque shootings were massacred in cold blood while they were bent down in prayer, a time of utmost vulnerability, both physically and spiritually.

Did the unidentified white supremacist livestreaming and harassing people at the Genesis Centre, a literal day after the murder of 50 innocent people, expect his actions to be defended in the media as "protectionist"? The pattern here between the incident at the Genesis Centre and the New Zealand mosque shootings is that innocent Muslim immigrants are not the perpetrators of violence but are the most frequent targets of the hate, which stems from the fear of a belief system that many are ignorant about. This is an opportunity for people to get to know their Muslim neighbours and realize they're not the dangerous terrorists that the media has portrayed them as for years. They're your accountants, your doctors, your bus and taxi drivers and your engineers.

Not to sound like a Molson commercial, but you're not Canadian based on the colour of your skin. You are Canadian based on the values you share with the people around you in society, all striving to make the world we live in a safer place for the next generation, regardless of our race and religion.

Humans of UCalgary

The *Gauntlet* has teamed up with Humans of UCalgary, a campus club inspired by Humans of New York, to share University of Calgary students' often-unheard stories. For more, visit facebook.com/HumansofUCalgary.



"I was in Los Angeles on vacation when my first single started blowing up on Spotify. I didn't even know it at the time, but when I went back home to check the stats I saw a crazy amount of streams.

I am a full-time student and I just started writing my own music last year. The music community has allowed me to meet so many interesting people, and I noticed a lot of people are in it for many different reasons than I am.

We have a lot of homegrown talent in Calgary, but most of them want to leave as soon as they get big. I have a friend who got really big in Calgary and moved straight to Toronto. People don't feel a connection to their hometown.

I can see Calgary has the potential for something big. When I perform at places like Koi and the spoken word club, I can see the community is taking off."

"One instance stuck with me — I was with my uncles and we were hanging around a parking lot, just standing around in the shade on a hot day. Here, doing that would be no problem — no one would even think about it. We were just talking about what we wanted to do next and didn't realize at the time that we were next to a big government compound. The side-door opened up and this soldier came out with a big gun and he was looking at us because apparently there's something suspicious about three men just hanging around.

Here in Canada, it's something you wouldn't really think about, but there it's an indication of trouble. I realized that everything that people in this region of China do is watched so closely. In order to get a phone there, my uncle had to give the government his information, so everything I did was tracked back to him. I had to be really careful about everything I was doing — even things as simple as going on social media could come back to my uncle and have negative implications for him."





School of Creative and Performing Arts present ALCHEMY Festival

Story by Troy Hasselman
Illustration by Tricia Lim
Photos by Justin Quaintance,
Mariah Wilson

The University of Calgary's School of Creative and Performing Arts (SCPA) ALCHEMY: Festival of Student Work is returning for another year with performances from various departments and across different artistic mediums.

The festival will include performances that showcase the school's drama, music and dance departments among other creatives from around the university. There's only one constant in the festival programming — it's all student work.

"The ALCHEMY Festival started about two years ago. It used to be the Taking

Flight Festival, which was only focused on drama performances," says Aurelie Maerten, communications and marketing advisor for the SCPA. "When the School of Creative and Performing Arts was started, there was more opportunities for other performances so the festival expanded into not only drama performances, but also dance, music and interdisciplinary performances. All of the productions are student-based so they are either directed by students, performed by students, the entire design is done by students or completely created by students. It's really a festival of student work."

On top of the performance from the music, drama and dance departments, interdisciplinary performances that incorporate technology and aspects from different artistic mediums into their per-

formances are also featured. One such performance is Pierrot's Gender Reveal Party, which incorporates music, explosions and shadow puppetry.

"It is created by music grad students but it's more interdisciplinary," Maerten says. "There's a whole design to it and dramaturgy. The show is about finding the characters their true gender by throwing a gender reveal party for themselves. There are lots of colours and props involved."

The other two interdisciplinary shows are free. *Bury the Wren* is a collaboration between the computer science departments Evolutionary Swarm Lab and the SCPA. Sound Wardrobe is a piece by music students that creates sound through the sonic qualities of garments.

"[*Bury the Wren* is] a one-on-one show

so we ask people to register in advance for a specific time slot, so you'll be the only audience member with a cast member," Maerten says. "There's a process in that show in terms of what you would do as an audience member so instead of just sitting, there's a little bit of participation in that. It uses augmented and virtual reality, mixed with carbon reality technology. *Sound Wardrobe* is created by music students and transforms a little studio into a sound wardrobe where people can come in when they want to and create sound fabrics."

The U of C dance department is represented through the twin performances of *Dance @ Noon* on April 5 and 6 and *Dance @ Night* on April 8 and 9. The performances will showcase work from the students involved, presenting their original dance compositions.

"*Dance @ Noon* presents work by students in their third-year sharing their work for the first time," says Maerten. "*Dance @ Night* is fourth-year students presenting their final choreography and performances before they graduate."

The music department will be represented through performances by the brass and percussion ensemble on April 4 and the world music ensemble on March 29, lead by the music department's Rod T.



Squance. The Use ensembles will include students from the U of C's music department as well as students from different faculties.

"Our music ensemble performances are open to all U of C students," Maerten says. "Most of the students in the ensemble are from the music department and there are students from other degrees as well."

The U of C drama department will also be represented through plays, including *Mauser* by Heiner Muller, which runs from March 28–30. *Mauser* tells the story

of Russian punk group Pussy Riot and explores the role of individuals in a revolution. *The Care and Feeding of Baby Birds* will run from April 1–3 and focus on a male perspective towards mental health. *Fritters in Kandahar* tells the story of a person taking a job with a Canadian coffee chain in Kandahar, Afghanistan.

Maerten also noted differences between the programming from this year and years past with this year having more free and daytime events.

"There are more noon-hour performances this year and more opportunities to catch something for free," says Maerten. "Last year we barely had anything during lunch hour and this year there is quite a bit. There is opportunity to check something during most days in the lunch hour."

Maerten says there is more diversity in the types of work presented, with the interdisciplinary work embodying much of this diversity and with all of the departments in the SCPA being heavily represented.

The ALCHEMY Festival runs from March 28–April 10 at venues across the university. Further information about festival performances can be found on the U of C SCPA website. Tickets are \$13 for adults and \$10 for students and seniors for paid events. Festival passes are \$60 for adults and \$45 for students and seniors. U of C students can gain free entry to any event in the festival with their student ID.



School of Creative
and Performing Arts



APRIL

DANCE • DRAMA • MUSIC

ALCHEMY festival of student work

The ALCHEMY festival continues, presenting a variety of drama and interdisciplinary works, created and presented by undergraduate and graduate students, as well as dance performances and music concerts.

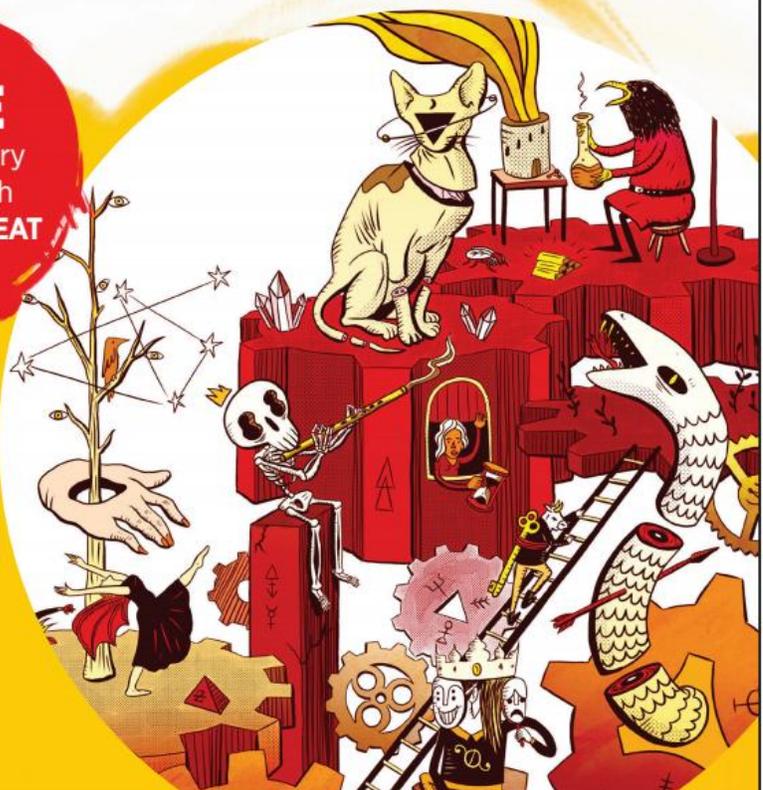
Until April 10, various venues

A Celebration of Bartók

The UCalgary String Quartet finishes Bartók's complete string quartet cycle playing *String Quartet N°5* – a first in Calgary. This evening also includes Schubert's famous *Death and the Maiden*, which inspired much of the thematic material in Canadian composer Dinuk Wijeratne's *Two Pop Songs on Antique Poems*.

April 25 at 8 p.m. in the Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall

FREE
for all UCalgary
students with
CLAIM YOUR SEAT





DIY Theatre presents modern, Albertan adaptation of *A Doll's House*

Story by Troy Hasselman
Photo courtesy DIY Theatre

The characters from Henrik Ibsen's 1879 realist masterpiece *A Doll's House* will trade in their top hats and Victorian garb for plaid and belt buckles for DIY Theatre's presentation of *A Doll's House: Wild Rose*. The production moves the setting of the work from a Norwegian town in the 1870s to modern-day Alberta.

The work uses an Albertan setting and an all-Albertan cast to breathe new life into Ibsen's work.

Speaking to the *Gauntlet*, Kristy Benz, noted how her upbringing in Alberta has helped with her preparation for the role of an updated, Albertan version of Kristine Linde, with the spelling of the character's name being changed to the Anglicized Christine for the play.

"I grew up in Cochrane and, at the time, it was a homogenous environment and pretty conservative. I think being raised there definitely helped me understand where these characters are coming from," Benz says. "Especially knowing how quickly things are changing in Alberta right now."

Benz has spent a considerable amount of time away from the city since being raised here and considers herself a newcomer. She hopes to see arts take a more central role in the city.

"I had about a 10-year period where I was out of province so I really only have about a year and a half experience in the Calgary theatre scene," she says. "I feel there is definitely an appreciation for the arts here, but I also feel we could be doing a lot more to support the arts in our city."

The play's change in time and place also impacts the characters, with Benz noting stark differences in her character.

"Ibsen's original is a widow who is quite destitute, just getting by on the work that she can get," Benz says. "In our adaptation, Christine is now a recent divorcee working in public relations. She's still very industrious and adaptable but I'd say she's not as conservative and timid as the Kristine from the original."

These changes to the script have an impact on Benz' approach towards playing the character.

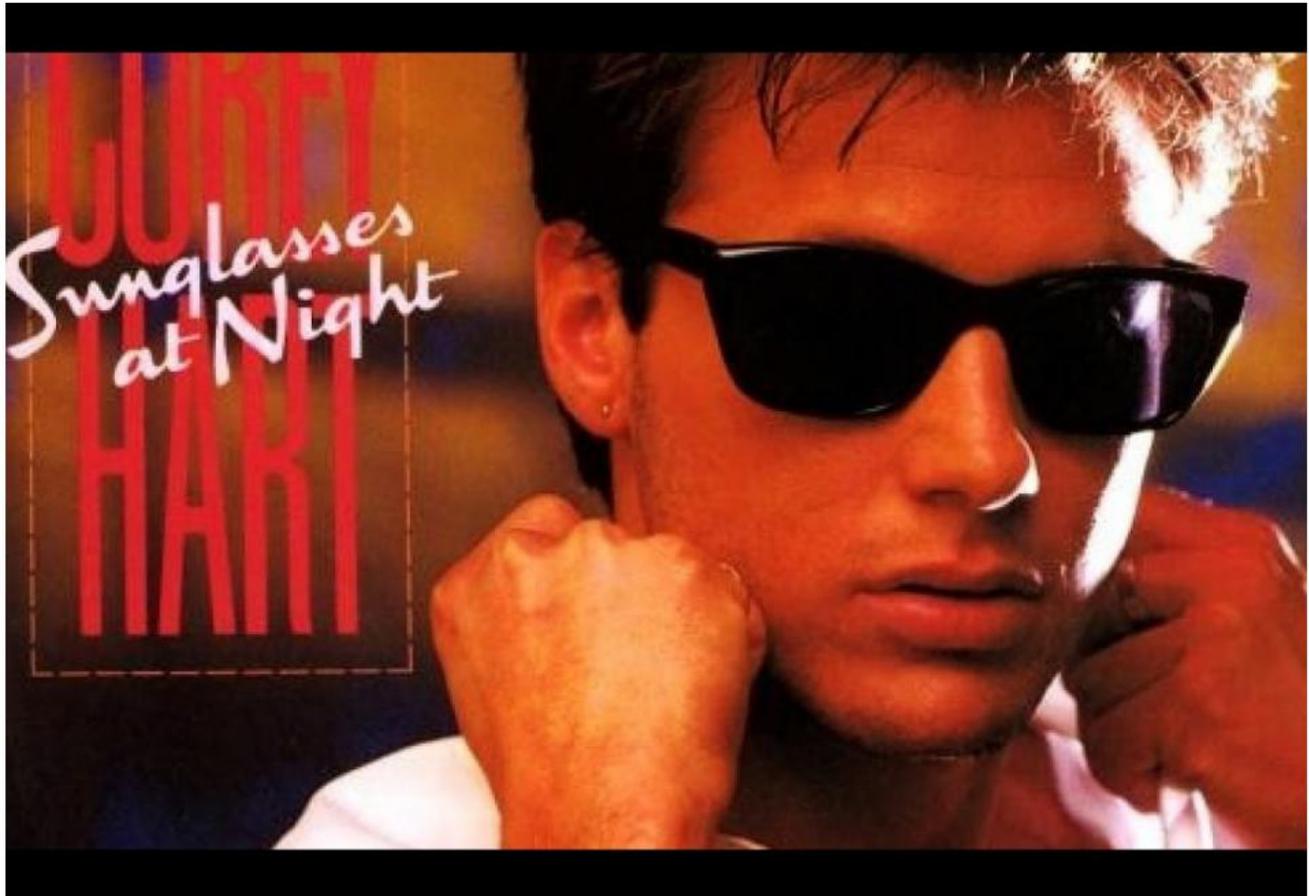
"Part of the adaptation process is that the character's intentions have changed. It's not necessarily the same person we

know from Ibsen's original," she says. "In a sense, I'm trying to forget what I knew about her, and try and bring a new one to life."

Ibsen's original work deals heavily with themes of gender roles and societal expectations for women, which caused a sensation upon its premiere in 1879, in a time where women weren't even allowed the right to vote. Benz notes that there has been progress in women's rights since Ibsen's time but there is still much to the play that is very relevant and there is still a great deal of progress to be made.

"Because we have come so far in terms of women's rights since then, it can be easy to forget that women are still expected to behave in certain ways and maintain certain images," she says. "I think in this adaptation we're holding a mirror up to modern-day gender standards and we're showing that even though we have come far in many ways there are still many areas where women are treated undesirably and put into poisonous situations."

A Doll's House: Wild Rose runs at the Motel Theatre in Arts Commons from April 5–13. Tickets are \$25 per person and available through the DIY Theatre website.



Corey Hart exhibition opens at NMC

Story by Troy Hasselman
Photo via YouTube

Milestones: Corey Hart, a new exhibition by the National Music Centre (NMC), opened on March 22 to honour Hart's recent induction into the Canadian Music Hall of Fame. The exhibition takes a look at the life and career of the musician known for hits such as "Sunglasses at Night" and "Never Surrender."

The exhibition is unique in its use of interactive decoder technology where visitors wear glasses like the ones used in the "Sunglasses at Night" video and can see hidden messages placed in the event by Hart himself.

"We have quite a unique team and we had some meetings with CARAS, the people that host the Junos and do the inductions. There were some discussions about,

"How do we incorporate the glasses?" says Jesse Moffatt, NMC director of collections and exhibitions. "I brought the idea back to our team and it was actually

"If you read some of the notes from fans to Corey, they talk about calling him at the studio when they were teenagers and he was recording and he'd actually answer the phone."

— NMC director of collections and exhibits Jesse Moffatt

our collections manager and head of conservation that said, "What do you think of using decoder technology?" We did a little more research on that and lo-and-behold, we were able to take that technology and give it to our designer and the designer said, 'I think we can toss up this experience a bit and start flipping the images when you look through the glasses.' It started with an idea and the team ran with it, so we had a lot of fun with this exhibition."

The exhibition was put together quickly by the NMC, working closely with Hart, his wife Julie Masse and his first wife, Erika Gagnon.

"We knew in December who the artist was gonna be, so it's been very fast for us," says Moffatt. "We really enjoyed the experience because we worked directly with Corey and his wife Julie and they were so accommodating. A lot of the im-

ages are actually from Erika Gagnon, who is Corey's first wife. She came forward and was very pleasant to work with. Everything came directly from the family and we probably worked closer with Julie because Corey is getting ready to go on tour."

The exhibition uses artifacts, memorabilia, awards and even personal items like handwritten letters and high school report cards to tell Hart's story from his childhood in Quebec to his international stardom to his close relationship with his fans. Some of the notable pieces include notes written between Hart and fans and his iconic wayfarer sunglasses from the "Sunglasses at Night" video.

"We had [the sunglasses] when we opened Studio Bell in 2016," says Moffatt. "I have a deep respect for how, if you read some of the notes from fans to Corey, they talk about calling him at the studio when they were teenagers and he was recording and he would actually answer the phone. How many artists do you think have that

connection? Those fans have stayed with him and that's why he's going on tour again."

Getting the rights to use the music video from Hart's 1985 hit "Never Surrender" in the exhibition proved to be a challenge for the NMC, with Hart personally stepping in to allow the video to be used.

"The holder of the video wanted quite a bit of money for us to use it and Corey felt it was really important to use it for the exhibition," Moffatt says. "It was pretty amazing, we just got this email from him saying he got the rights and we emailed back to him and he sent back this image captioned 'Never Surrender'. That's the type of person that he is."

The exhibition and his upcoming tour of Canada speak to the enduring appeal of Hart and his music, which Moffatt thinks is owed to a few different factors.

"He stayed true to who he is. That's represented in the exhibition," he says. "We have some correspondence between him and his mother in the exhibition that

is quite touching. He's an amazing songwriter, he's writing still for Celine Dion and others and he's very down to earth. He's an artist that stepped away from the limelight to raise his family of four kids and he's only coming back now because his kids are at the age now where they're pushing him like, 'Dad, get out there and do this again.' He's a family person and a huge inspiration to a lot of us."

The exhibition comes as Hart is gearing up for his first tour in 21 years with stops in major cities across Canada. Hart is also finishing recording *Dreaming Time Again*, his first album since 1998's *Jade*. The album is produced by fellow Canadian music hall-of-famer Bob Ezrin and is set for release on May 3.

Milestones: Corey Hart runs at Studio Bell until October 2019. Information on the exhibition and entrance into the NMC can be found on their website.

Hart will play at the Scotiabank Saddledome on June 20. Tickets for the concert are available through Ticketmaster.



Black Radish Theatre @ The **GRAND**, April 25 - May 12

Tyrell Crews, Andy Curtis, Christopher Hunt, Duval Lang & Anton Matsigura
Directed by Denise Clarke

blackradishtheatre.ca



Coming Out Monologues, YYC returns for 10th Anniversary Edition

Story by Troy Hasselman
Photos by Mariah Wilson

The Coming Out Monologues, YYC returned to the city for its 10th anniversary edition, showcasing the voices and talents of LGBTQ+ individuals from around our province and country. From its beginnings as a single-night event at the University of Calgary in 2009, the Coming Out Monologues has grown into multiple nights in progressively bigger venues, running this year at the Patricia A. Whelan Performance Hall at the Central Public Library.

The monologues ran from March 20–23 this year with performances ranging from spoken word to video pieces to music and dance giving Calgary's LGBTQ+ community a spotlight to speak their experiences through their preferred medium.

This year's Friday performance typified the event by using music, monologues and video to tell different stories from across the LGBTQ+ spectrum.

The evening opened with the introduc-

tion of guest emcee William Bridel from the University of Calgary's Faculty of Kinesiology. Bridel proved to be an effective host for the evening, speaking on his experience growing up as a figure skater in Aurora, Ontario in the 1970s, wittily bantering with the crowd and boosting their excitement with his clear enthusiasm for the event and its performances. He made costume changes throughout the night, emerging in a shirt decorated with hearts that he said represented his love for the event, switching up to a white button-up and bow tie after the intermission and finally wearing a Coming Out Monologues T-shirt at the night's end.

The first monologue by Brandon Howse spoke of the issues surrounding parenthood as a trans person in *Transparent*, which covered a trans person's confusion with gender identity upon becoming pregnant with a child and their struggles with postpartum depression and anxiety. The piece analyzed the difficulties parenthood can present to a trans person in accepting their own identity.

The next monologue, *I Want a Gay Fairytale* by Kerry-Leigh Fox, focused on the importance of LGBTQ+ representation in media and the role that can have in relieving closeted kids dealing with the isolation and trauma of being in the closet.

Both performances were received by rapturous applause. The crowd was wholeheartedly supportive of all performers involved and created the welcoming, inclusive environment the events aims for.

After an intermission, the second half began with a video piece telling the story of Mexican immigrant Oscar Omar, who entered Canada in October 2017 after fleeing persecution for his sexuality in his native Mexico. Upon arriving in Canada he stayed in the Calgary airport for six days after arriving in the city with \$400 in his pocket, unable to speak English. He spoke of his support from the Canadian organization Rainbow Railroad and the help they gave him in settling into Canada and his process of gaining asylum, which he was granted in early 2019.

The final monologue of the evening was

delivered by *Globe & Mail* restaurant critic Dan Clapson telling his story of growing up closeted in rural Saskatchewan in a way that was both funny and poignant.

Both halves of the show ended with music from non-binary Calgary musician and self-proclaimed Métis prince Damase Ellis, who played songs from their 2017 release *Into the Waves*. The songs demonstrated a jazz-influenced folk songwriting with lyrical topics such as unrequited love and the death of Anne Boleyn. Ellis was charming in their between-song banter, showing a dry, witty sense of humor to add some levity to their affecting material.

The evening ended with a standing ovation for all performers involved and a plea for unity in the LGBTQ+ community during a tumultuous time. The 10th edition of the Coming Out Monologues, YVC took place in a different city than the one it started in but one where the struggle for equality continues, with this performance offering a space for expression of members of the LGBTQ+ community to tell their own stories.



TOP 30

The top 30 albums played on CJSW 90.9 FM in March

Tune in to CJSW 90.9 FM and online at cjsw.com

1. Crystal Eyes, Marlaena Moore** - **Radical Softness** (Self-Released)
2. Melted Mirror** - **Past Life** (Self-Released)
3. Tanya Tagaq* - **Toothsayer** (Six Shooter)
4. NOV3L* - **Novel** (Self-Released)
5. Radiant Baby* - **Restless** (Lisbon Lux Records)
6. Various Artists* - **Got It Covered: Saskatchewan Musicians Cover Each Other's Music** (Self-Released)
7. Adriane Cassidy* - **C'est la fin du monde a tous les jours** (Grosse Boite)
8. Steven Lambke* - **Dark Blue** (You've Changed)
9. Red Cain** - **Kindred: Act I** (Self-Released)
10. ILiving Hour* - **Softer Faces** (Kanine Records)
11. Boy Harsher - **Careful** (Nude Club)
12. Cloud Nothings - **Last Building Burning** (Carpark)
13. Cass McCombs - **Tip Of The Sphere** (Anti-)
14. Mercury Rev - **Bobbie Gentry's The Delta Sweet Revisited** (Bella Union)
15. CHAI - **PUNK** (Burger Records)
16. Harlem - **Oh Boy** (Female Fantasy)
17. These New Puritans - **Inside The Rose** (Infectious Music)
18. Ibibio Sound Machine - **Doko Mien** (Merge Records)
19. Priors* - **New Pleasure/Call For You** (Slovenly)
20. Kinnie Starr* - **Feed the Fire** (Aporia)
21. Baby Jey* - **Someday Cowboy** (Maintenance)
22. Frontperson* - **Front-runner** (Oscar St. Records)
23. Bad Hoo* - **What Is When?** (Self-Released)
24. Herb and the Humans* - **Fractured Stars in Empty Bars** (Transistor 66)
25. The Lunatic Touch* - **Dead In The Water/Midnight Dance EP** (Wasted Wax Records)
26. After Funk* - **Santa Barbara** (Self-Released)
27. Tokyo Police Club* - **TPC** (Dine Alone Records)
28. Kitty & The Rooster* - **One Gig Hard Drive** (MAPL)
29. Emilie Kahn* - **Outro** (Secret City Records)
30. Ivory Towers* - **Queller** (Avante Garde Jazz)

Bull riding steadily growing as a stand-alone sport in Canada

Story by Kristy Koehler
Photos by Mariah Wilson

On March 22 and 23, athletes from as far away as Brazil converged on the Nutrien Western Event Centre in Calgary to compete in the Calgary Classic, an event on the Professional Bull Riders (PBR) Canada Monster Energy Tour.

Professional bull riders are quickly becoming the rockstars of the rodeo world. Always one of the most popular events at rodeos around the world, the PBR organization was formed in 1992 by 20 riders who believed bull riding could succeed as a standalone sport. Now, with sponsorships by Monster Energy and television broadcasting by TSN, it appears the founders were right. PBR runs more than 300 events annually

including on its international circuits in Canada, Mexico, Brazil and Australia. More than \$180 million in prize money has been given out and 34 riders have earned more than \$1 million each.

PBR bills itself as the most exciting eight seconds in sports. “The first step is just staying alive,” reads their media guide. “There are no timeouts. No slow-down, four-corners offense. No towels to throw in. There is only one man, one bull and eight desperate seconds.”

Four judges have 25 points each to award to the rider and to the bull. Points are combined, then halved for an official score. Both athletes — and in bull riding the bulls are considered athletes — are scored out of 50 points each for a total of 100 available points per ride.

Judges score bulls on degree of difficulty — speed, power and kicking

ability. Re-rides are awarded if the bull doesn't perform well enough to give the rider a fair chance at a good score.

Riders must stay on the animal for eight seconds — judges look for control and body position. The rider must hang on to the bull — they average between 700 and 900 kilograms — with one hand and is disqualified if he touches himself or the bull with his free hand.

If the enthusiastic, sold-out crowd in Calgary was any indication, bull riding is well on its way to becoming what the original 20 athletes who formed the PBR wanted — a stand-alone sport with a wide audience.

Zane Lambert, from Ponoka, Alberta, won round one of the Calgary Classic on March 22. He's also a two-time PBR Champion and sits ninth in the Canadian rankings. He's a four-time





Calgary Stampede and three-time Canadian Finals Rodeo qualifier.

During round two, Lambert had to contend with a re-ride before he even left the chute, something that can happen if the bull is too unruly or won't perform at all. Lambert took it in stride.

"That's the sport," he said. "That's bull riding. It's what keeps it hard and challenging, all of these different factors. You're dealing with timing, you're dealing with the chute people, you're dealing with the bullfighters. Anything can be a factor. You just have to keep doing your stuff and your business. You just push everything out. And that's how you find out who are the professionals that can handle all that

and keep going."

Lambert says after more than a decade of bull riding, it's the challenge that keeps him coming back for more. He also hopes to see the sport grow.

"We're trying to grow the sport," he said. "We've got a little ways to go yet. We've really got to grow here in Canada. I feel it's really grown in Brazil, it's really grown in Australia. We just want to keep it going here. I don't think we're rockstars yet."

Another Canadian competing in the Calgary Classic was Shay Marks. The 23-year-old athlete recently recovered from reconstructive shoulder surgery. After a two-year hiatus to recover, he won the season-launcher of the Monster

Energy Tour in Winnipeg. For him, there was never a chance his career would be over.

"It was just at a halt for a bit," he said. "I was just waiting to get back on."

Who do the bull riders really compete with in these events?

"It's hard to say," said Marks. "Definitely not against the other riders but against the bull and against your own head."

After the Calgary Classic, Marks ended up in third in the national standings. There are plenty more events coming up this season, independent of the Calgary Stampede. A full schedule, standings and more information can be found at pbrcanada.com.

Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing can be effective, non-traditional trauma treatment

Story by Frankie Hart
Photos by Debbie Wilson

My eyes follow the back-and-forth movement of my therapist's hand, focusing on her ring. In my periphery, the room is a streaky blur. Her hand comes to a stop and she instructs me to take a deep breath. She asks me, for what feels like the 20th time, what comes up in my memory. I take a long pause and honestly reply, "Nothing."

She smiles at me. "That's great."

Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) is a therapy used primarily to treat trauma. The concept is that recalling the trauma while experiencing stimuli such as eye movement or hand tapping can help the brain reprocess those memories and the emotions associated with them.

Mental health care isn't financially accessible to a lot of people. If you aren't privileged enough to have good insurance or money to go to traditional talk therapy, you may be wary of trying a lesser-known treatment such as EMDR. Hopefully, more visible and accessible information about personal experiences can help people make confident, informed choices.

My first appointment was mostly an assessment of my trauma to gauge what the sessions would look like and how many there would be. My therapist said that since I experienced an emotionally abusive relationship that lasted a year, reprocessing could take as few as two sessions. She informed me that for some, their traumatic experiences were life-long or happened at different times of their lives spanning years and could be more complicated to address. I hadn't had any contact after the relationship ended, so the time frame affected was concise and contained.

I was surprised. A year is a long time, and so were the four years following the relationship when the handful of other mental health professionals I saw only addressed my symptoms, not the issue.

The last one I'd seen recommended EMDR so I could finally work with someone who specializes in trauma, once we'd realized that was needed. I've been experiencing chronic dissociation for four years and was hoping that if the trauma had caused it, then focusing on the trauma could reduce it. I didn't expect that this sort of process could be done in just two 60-minute sessions.

My therapist told me that for those who feel themselves start to dissociate, or dissociate more than usual, tapping on the knees or hand buzzers can be more helpful than eye movement. Then, we got started.

After the assessment, I had to establish some safety nets. These can help during the EMDR process because it is common for unpleasant memories or feelings to come back up in-between sessions. In preparation, my therapist ran me through two visualization exercises.

The first was creating a 'container.' I had to imagine some sort of container that was sturdy and capable of being securely

locked. A vault, for example. It helps for it to be a container in some sort of context that I can visualize vividly. I chose a treasure chest on a pirate ship since it has plenty of sensory cues, such as salty air and wavy movement. If memories, thoughts or feelings come up when I feel unprepared to handle them, I can secure them in my container. However, I have to keep in mind that this is temporary storage. It has to be worked through at some point, but it's helpful to be able to put something away if it comes up at a bad time.

The second was establishing a 'calm place.' I had to think up a place where I would feel the most calm. In this exercise, it was important to thoroughly establish sensory inputs. My calm place is the windowsill of a house, where I can feel the sunlight on my skin. I'm wrapped in a soft blanket which smells like dryer sheets and I hear the white noise of my family going about their business. These details were established while my therapist waved her



hand in front of my face, every now and then pausing for a deep breath. After, she asked me to stay in my calm place and tap on my knees for a while. Now, if I need it, I can close my eyes and tap on my knees and return to the calm place.

For my first actual session, I chose the guiding statement, "I feel trapped" to embody the main negative feelings associated with the relationship. Then, I had to focus on my first memory in the relationship where I had felt this way. I would follow my therapist's waving hand with my eyes and would stop to take deep breaths. Then she would ask me "What comes up?" We would follow my path of memories and reprocess and occasionally she would ask me to focus on thoughts and feelings associated with certain memories, especially if any feelings manifested strongly in my body. Then, I was to return to the original memory and give it a positive statement, to replace the feeling of being trapped. I was confused. Wasn't the whole point of me seeing her that these memories were so bad that they negatively affected my life? She elaborated that I was to assign a statement to the memory that recontextualized how I felt about it. I thought back to who I was in the memory, what I had gone through and what I had yet to go through. My new statement was, "I am resilient."

At the beginning of the session, I was to rate the guiding statement and target memory numbers according to how they upset me. Closing out the session, I was to rate them again, as well as rate how true I thought my new statement was. Depending on how the numbers were going, we might continue to reprocess or move on.

I was scared of going into the second session. I was informed that the first session would be the first memory and the second would be the worst one. Despite waiting so many years for improvement, I felt anxious. EMDR requires a certain amount of confronting memories that you don't want to do. Overdoing it could risk retraumatizing yourself but underdoing it means no progress. I was mostly afraid about what my therapist had said about dreams being affected. In the week between my first and second session, I had a minor



flashback. It was a childhood memory completely unrelated to what we had reprocessed, but it was something I'd never experienced before. If I reprocess some of my worst memories, maybe it won't be so innocuous next time.

Nonetheless, I went to the session. This time it was much harder. Sometimes when I was asked what came up I only told my therapist part of it. Half of going over the memories was thinking about it, but I realized how much harder it is to have to say out loud. She never pressed for further details when I gave vague answers, which I appreciated. Eventually, she asked what came up and it felt like my brain had already been emptied. We went over the original memory and I realized that I remembered everything the same, but it wasn't as lucid as before. Did I just *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind* my abuser? I attributed a new statement to the memory and realized that my ranking of the original statement had dropped to zero. I felt so relieved and so... tired. I asked my therapist if that was it. She said unless anything comes up, I seemed to be done. I was still worried about something from the worst memories coming back, so I scheduled a follow-up just in case. But nothing did.

In the follow-up, I asked my therapist about my dissociation. I had come to EMDR to try to alleviate it by targeting the trauma, and it didn't get worse during reprocessing but it didn't get better either. After talking more about it, she said it seems that it had likely been set off by the trauma but otherwise is independent of it. I couldn't

help but be a bit disappointed. As much as I've tried to accept my dissociation as a part of how I function, I still hoped that maybe there was something I hadn't tried or heard of yet that would finally snap me back. My therapist suggested that I might have a fear of dissociating that feeds my dissociation. Looks like I'm going to have to see someone else about unpacking that self-fulfilling prophecy.

Although EMDR didn't meet my high hopes, it still did a lot for me. There have been times where memories of that relationship would suddenly flood back to me and I would go over things that I had just realized were manipulative and coercive, and it was really helpful to finally give them the work they needed. Despite it not affecting my dissociation, knowing now that they're not tied to it is still valuable information.

It isn't acknowledged enough that taking care of your mental health is complicated. Not all treatments work for everybody and not all mental health professionals are helpful. I was on medication for two years that turned out to be higher than the recommended maximum dose and did pretty much nothing for me except give me insomnia, which I had to take another medication for. The first counsellor I ever went to told me that there's a lot of common symptoms between depression and dehydration. I understand the hesitation that comes with trying to figure out treatment, which is why I hope putting my experience out there is beneficial.

'Stalk' up on celery for an affordable addition to a healthy diet

Story by Tori Taylor
Photo by Mariah Wilson

Buying healthy food can be expensive. But it doesn't nece-celery have to be. Fruits and vegetables are super affordable and can be prepared in many ways. There's one nutrient-packed vegetable that offers a 'bunch' of health benefits and is well worth 'stalk'-ing up on. It asks very little of your wallet and can keep for over a full week in your fridge.

Atrocious puns aside, I'd like to talk about why celery is a strong addition to your diet. Some of us may fondly remember 'ants on a log' as a childhood snack. Our parents may not have even known the nutritional benefits of that dressed-up log.

Celery is a wonderfully shaped dipping stick for hummus, tzatziki and almond butter. While almost non-existent calorically, it is also full of vitamins, minerals and phytonutrients — natural compounds thought to reduce the risk of cancer, heart disease, stroke and Alzheimer's. Celery

retains up to 99 per cent of its nutritional value when cooked or steamed. In contrast, most vegetables lose between 38–41 per cent of their vitamins, minerals and antioxidants when they are boiled or blanched.

It's important to note that produce should be eaten within about seven days from the date of purchase. Fruits and veggies should be eaten as freshly as possible in order to keep the antioxidant count up. Celery lasts slightly longer than most other veggies.

Since celery is so phytonutrient dense, it works as an excellent anti-inflammatory. Celery contains several antioxidant properties that fight hard against chronic and day-to-day inflammation.

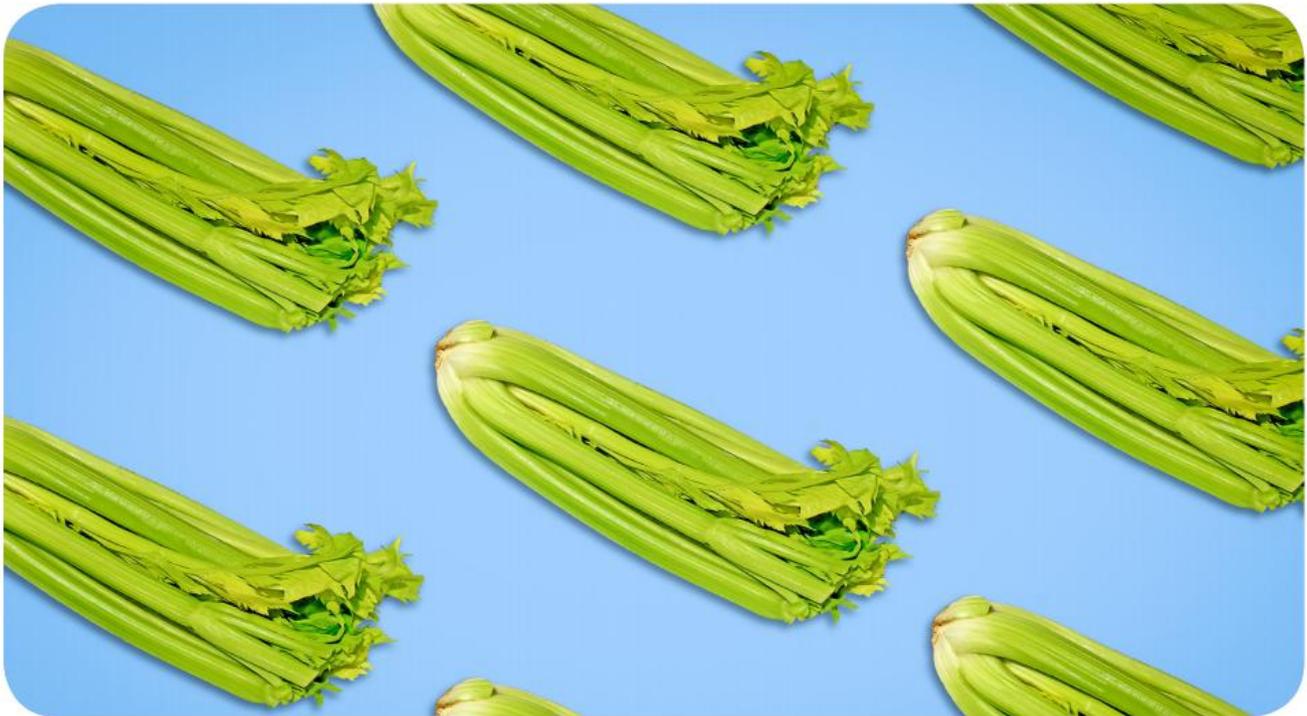
Digestive issues are a real problem among a significant portion of the population. Celery combines fibre with antioxidants to ease constipation, keep the bowels functioning smoothly and support a healthy stomach lining.

In such a dry and cold climate our skin can take a daily beating. Staying on top of hydration and moisturizing is a full-time

job. Adding celery into your diet has shown to positively impact your skin. Celery's micronutrients and vitamins work hand-in-hand with strong antioxidants for a clearer complexion.

Celery can be eaten hot or cold. For a steamy soup, sauté around six cups of celery, a few garlic cloves and an onion with a bit of olive oil and salt and pepper. You can add whatever additional seasonings you want. I always add a bit of lemon and cayenne pepper. Boil 475 mL of peeled sweet potato and then, in a big blender — or small portions at a time in a smaller blender — add 475 mL of vegetable broth, 15 mL of coconut oil and your celery sauté. Blend into a purée. Then, blend your sweet potato with another 475 mL of vegetable broth. Mix both purees together in a big bowl. You can keep your soup in big Mason jars in the fridge for 10–14 days.

For a cold drink, blend several stalks of celery, lemons, pineapple or apple with any green leafy things you'd like. Feel free to add any other vegetables or fruits to this mix. It's refreshing and your body will thank you.





Dinos rowing gaining popularity and headed to tournament in San Diego

Story by Kristy Koehler
Photo courtesy Mark Laidlaw

Rowing is picking up steam at the University of Calgary. Mark Laidlaw, head coach of Dinos rowing since 2014, says that the team's recent success, coupled with the number of athletes currently competing, has been great for the profile of the sport.

"It's slowly gaining attention," he said. "Five years ago there was a dozen or so athletes. It was a really small team — there wasn't much of a presence. Now with 70 [athletes] it's getting harder and harder to ignore that there's a team. I still hear quite a lot of 'I didn't even realize there was rowing in Calgary.' We're working on it.

"Historically, if we go back 20 years [rowing] certainly hasn't been a big sport at the U of C and the results would reflect that," he continued. "But, in the last five years it's progressively gotten better and better."

On March 9, the Dinos competed at the Alberta Indoor Rowing Championships in Blackfalds, Alberta. The tournament isn't just for university clubs — rowing clubs from all over the province are eligible to compete.

"We won more medals than any other club

in Alberta," Laidlaw said. "Last year we tied for the most medals. This is the first time that we've actually outright won the most. Twenty-three athletes won medals."

The Dinos are headed to California from April 6–7 for the San Diego Crew Classic. The tournament is the main competition for the winter and spring. Last year, the Dinos took part for the first time ever and came home with a gold medal. This year, they're sending 24 athletes and Laidlaw's goal is to come home with two golds.

Laidlaw is thrilled that people are starting to notice the rowing team. The number of athletes trying out for the team has also increased and the Dinos are now in a position to be more selective about who to keep and who to cut. For those looking to get into rowing, the team recruits twice a year.

"We offer a week or so of 'learn-to-row' for people to get accustomed to the skill and give it a shot, and then we put them through some fitness testing and make our decision," said Laidlaw.

He says the decision to keep or cut people from the team isn't always based on who is the fittest and strongest. Year of study and how long an athlete will be able to play for the team also plays a role. Of course, cardio and

power are assets that help athletes secure a place on the roster.

"Cardio is definitely a good thing," he said. "Power is really important. We get people with all kinds of fitness levels and backgrounds. We try not to make our test based too much on whether they are fit right now but whether they show that they can be fit and strong."

Laidlaw says the team gets potential athletes from aerobic-heavy sports like cross-country skiing but also from strength-based sports where they have very little aerobic capacity.

"I'd love for everyone to understand the accessibility of our team," he says. "The majority of our athletes have never rowed before. People looking for either a different sport or maybe a first sport — rowing is a really accessible way to give yourself competitive experience.

"Across the board rowing is generally a late-entry sport," he continued. "There's very few high schools that offer it. If you look Canada-wide most people start rowing in university. It's a little bit of a leveller playing field than some other sports."

Fans can keep up with Dinos rowing online at godinos.com/row.

Canadian Association for Disabled Skiing thankful to U of C student volunteers

Story by Kristy Koehler
Photo courtesy CADS Calgary

The Canadian Association for Disabled Skiing (CADS) provides opportunities for folks with disabilities to ski or snowboard in a safe environment, using equipment tailored to the needs of each individual.

Matt Shaw, in addition to being a supervisor for the program, sits on the association's board of directors. He says CADS is one of the first adaptive skiing programs in Canada as well as the largest.

"We are definitely the biggest in Canada – we're probably the biggest in North America and potentially the biggest in the world," he said. "We're one of the largest programs out there."

There are roughly 500 volunteers

and 150 students in the program, large enough that the group has to lease the hill from WinSport every Sunday night. The program relies on volunteer and community support, both for monetary contributions and labour. CADS only has one part-time employee – the rest of the people in the organization are all volunteers.

"We do charge program fees but we've never turned a student away if they couldn't afford it," Shaw said. "Our money comes from program fees but we get some support depending on the government or the year and then our national organization sometimes contributes funds as well."

Shaw says the convenience of WinSport is a huge plus for participants in the program.

"It's really helpful to our students that they can take public transit to our

program," he said. "A lot of the other programs that run across Canada have to be at ski hills – Calgary is pretty lucky in that we have a ski hill within city limits."

Participants in the program have gone on to have successful athletic careers.

Alana Ramsay stated skiing with the program before winning Female Para-Athlete of the Year at the 2016 Canadian Ski Racing Awards. In addition to multiple World Cup and National Championship wins, Ramsay won her first Paralympic medals, a pair of bronze medals in super-G and super combined at the 2018 Paralympic Games.

Shaw says he's still relatively new after spending four years with the program. There are volunteers celebrating decades of service with the organization.

"When I started, I thought it would be



kind of cool to share snowboarding with people who might not get exposed to it," he said. "This last year or so, my motivation has really been for the caregivers.

"They try to get their kids into different programs and they try to get them exposed to different things," he continued. "And, they get used to hearing, 'No, your child can't do this — your kid is not physically capable of doing this' or, 'They're not mentally capable of doing this.'"

Shaw says parents are shocked when the CADS staff are so confident in their ability to help someone's loved one get on the hill.

"To see these students fall and get bruises and take one step forward and two steps backward and have to really push hard — you see it raise their confidence, which is really cool," said Shaw.

CADS has plenty of equipment and staff to help folks with all types of disabilities gain independence on the hill. Notably, the sit-ski is exactly as it sounds — a seated ski to assist those without the use of their lower extremities.

"I think there's a lot of benefit from being challenged in life," Shaw said. "I think there's a lot of benefit from getting bruises and falling down and sucking at things. The world is a tough place for people with disabilities. We're a safe environment for them to fail and struggle and progress.

"All of our students have been through something similar and they can relate to each other," he added. "There's going to be no awkward looks if they're having a bad day or are struggling with something. It's a very safe place to learn."

Students of the CADS program come from all walks of life, all ages and all different abilities.

"We get people with [multiple sclerosis] and ALS and neurological diseases who want to get back on the mountain again," said Shaw. "We always try to make students as involved as possible but worst-case scenario, if you can't move your legs or you can't move your arms we can put you in the sit-ski and have someone behind you

tethering you down the hill."

Shaw says that University of Calgary students have been an invaluable part of CADS's volunteer corps over the years. He says 15–20 per cent of volunteers are U of C students.

"It looks great on a resumé," said Shaw. "A lot of our volunteers have gone on to med school."

Both undergraduate and graduate students have helped out with CADS. Being a certified ski instructor isn't mandatory to volunteer with the program.

"If you can comfortably and safely get down a blue run on your own then you can be a volunteer," said Shaw. "We'll teach you how to teach — we just ask that you can comfortably get down a blue run and we'll show you the rest. A lot of our instructors have come from the University of Calgary and it would be great to get even more people knowing about us."

Students interested in getting involved can go to the organization's website at cadscalgary.ca.

WHAT'S
HAPPENING

THE DEN EST. 1969



SU announces BSD to comprise of large ball pit

Story by Frankie Hart
Photo via Creative Commons

On March 14, the Students' Union announced that the upcoming Bermuda Shorts Day will take a bizarre turn.

SU president Sagar Grewal announced that after thorough student deliberation and careful consideration of budgeting, the plans for BSD were ready to be unveiled. Grewal stated that the majority of Lot 32 would be replaced by a giant ball pit for the day.

When asked what musicians would be performing at BSD, Grewal replied, "There will be a ball pit."

Concern quickly spread across the students in attendance. One student asked

why a ball pit was to be the only source of entertainment on the university's traditional party day.

"Ball pits are super fun!" vice-president student life Nabila Farid explained. "We're really trying to channel the child-like joy and wonder that people get from places like Chuck E. Cheese."

Vice-president operations and finance Kevin Dang explained that the large deficit generated from last year's BSD needed to be addressed. Cutting costs in entertainment was one of the most convenient ways to achieve this, replacing live music with a cost-effective (and giant) ball pit.

"My favourite part about ball pits is when you cup a bunch in your arms and throw them up in the air," Grewal added. "There is no greater joy in life."

Dang also explained that additional measures will be put into place to maximize the entertainment value of the ball pit. The strategy to achieving this includes minimizing any kind of drinking.

"We know that some people really liked the drinking aspect of BSD," Dang said. "But nobody likes a sticky ball pit. And the fastest way to create one is to bring a drink in it. So unfortunately, there will be no drinks this year."

Farid stated that these drastic changes may not be permanent changes to BSD, but that the SU was putting different ideas on trial this year for the future.

"We're planning on surveying student enjoyment and using that data," she said. "If it goes well, next year we could have two ball pits!"

Department of Physics and Astronomy to introduce class on vape physics

Story by Frankie Hart
Illustration by Tricia Lim

After much student consultation, the Department of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Calgary announced that they will offer "PHYS 201: Vape and Vaping" starting in the fall 2019 semester. The class will cover vape mechanics and manipulation from a scientific perspective.

The class will be taught by Dr. Ripp, who says it is long overdue.

"With vape's current popularity and many fascinating qualities, who are we to decide it's undeserving of scientific study?" he asked. "The students have clearly been acquainted with the old huff n' puff. I'm here to make them experts."

All students will be required to Juul, though more sophisticated mod vapes will also be encouraged for experimentation. However, only fruity vape juices will

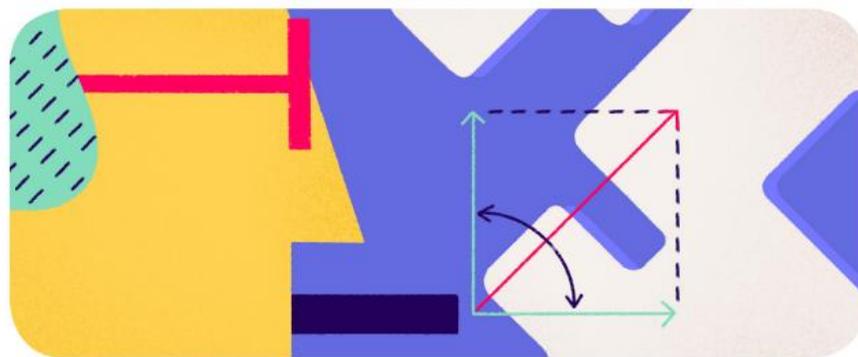
be permitted in order to prevent nasty vape smell combinations in class. Due to the rigorous nature of the course, students are also encouraged to use e-juice with low amounts of nicotine.

"I can't have a regular vaper coming into this class cocky with 24 mg juice," said Ripp. "Just in case, we have a dedicated EMT for the class in case some kids get nic'd out. Can't be too careful."

The first section of the course will fo-

cus on studying the theoretical side of vaping. Students will learn how to build the sickest box mod, capable of puffing the phattest clouds. The latter half will be dedicated purely to learning various intricate vape tricks. However, Ripp has one restriction: No videos.

"I don't wanna see them smoking volcanoes online anywhere," Ripp said. "I'm trying to mould them into cloud chasers, not clout chasers."



Reasons why this Good Friday is just okay

Story by Frankie Hart
Photo by Mariah Wilson

On April 19, there's a day labelled 'Good Friday' on my calendar. What's so good about it, huh? Oh, a dude died on it? Then why'd you call it good?

Here are some reasons why this Good Friday is just kind of meh:

It's James Franco's birthday:

This dude kinda sucks.

The long-range forecasts predict it will be 11 C and partly sunny:

That doesn't sound nearly warm enough for that deep into April. At that temperature, I still have to wear a light jacket. We're supposed to pretend this is good?

People don't commit enough to calling it 'Great Friday':

According to Wikipedia, the day is also known as Holy Friday, Great Friday and Black Friday. All three of these are more impressive titles than 'Good Friday.' Yet, on the calendar, it says Good Friday. Cowards.

It's Suge Knight's birthday:

I saw one (1) conspiracy video about the murder of Biggie Smalls and I'm thoroughly convinced Suge did it. If anything, I'm starting to think this is will be a bad Friday.

People don't really do anything for Good Friday:

Do you mean to tell me that it's called 'Good Friday' and the best you can hope for is that mom might make hot cross buns? In the words of Shania Twain, that don't impress-a me much.



Respiratory Therapy



*A passion for technology ...
...compassionate patient care*

 **College and Association
of Respiratory Therapists
of Alberta**

www.carta.ca



CANADIAN SOCIETY OF RESPIRATORY THERAPISTS
SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE DES THÉRAPEUTES RESPIRATOIRES

www.csrt.com

Which app is taking over your life?

By Frankie Hart

Aries
(March 21 – April 19)
There's no way to have three 'finstas' and two 'rinstas' and not become a shell of a human being. Are you okay?

Taurus
(April 20 – May 20)
Despite the hit it took from Instagram stories, you're still a dedicated Snapchat user. You'll tell people it's to keep your streaks, but you actually just creep on everyone using the map every hour.

Gemini
(May 21 – June 20)
Even though most stopped playing *Pokémon Go* in 2016 and the student club is gone, you're still out huntin'. You will never stop. It is your destiny.

Cancer
(June 21 – July 22)
After months of seeing ads for *Episode*, you'll download it out of curiosity. You've smooched every hottie and became the most popular girl at your high school. This app is the perfect replacement for the crushing loneliness of your university life!

Leo
(July 23 – Aug. 22)
Hit or miss, you're always on Tik Tok, huh? Got a final, I bet you're gonna fail, ya! Gonna ride this meme off of a bridge, yuh!

Virgo
(Aug. 23 – Sept. 22)
Most kids these days have abandoned Facebook, but you're in over 100 niche groups, 10 of which you're a moderator of and three you're the main admin of. You're in too deep to bail now.

Libra
(Sept. 23 – Oct. 22)
You'll continue to live in denial and watch five-hour hyper-specific Vine compilations on YouTube. In your mind, it'll always be 2015. The glory days.

Scorpio
(Oct. 23 – Nov. 21)
You'll get caught up in *Choices*, the less horny and more fantastical version of *Episode*. The stories are well-developed and read like an interactive book! Or at least, that's what you'll say to yourself every time you buy a pack of 250 diamonds for \$27.99. Yikes.

Sagittarius
(Nov. 22 – Dec. 21)
You'll spent enough time on 'stan Twitter' that you'll physically say 'SKSKSKSK' in real life. While talking to people. To their face.

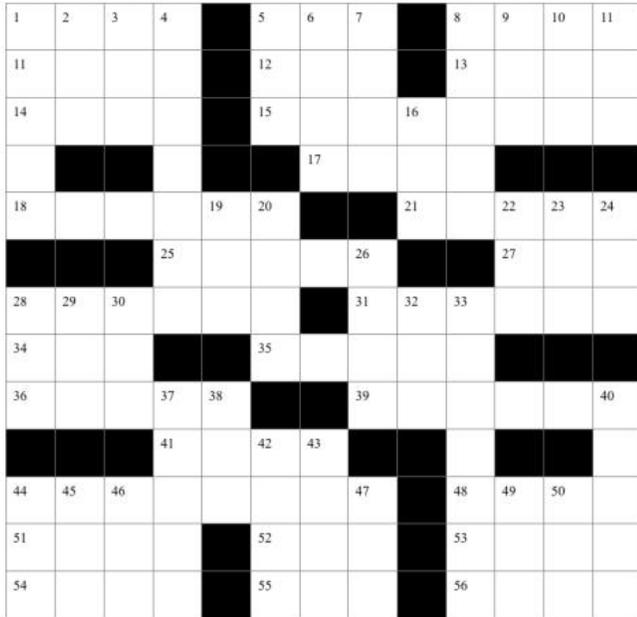
Capricorn
(Dec. 22 – Jan. 19)
You'll become addicted to the dress-up game *Love Nikki* despite having no idea how it's supposed to work. Are you choosing an outfit for work or for being some sort of demonic elf?

Aquarius
(Jan. 20 – Feb. 18)
Mobile gaming doesn't get the respect it deserves. Why would you play *Fortnite* on your computer when it's right here on your phone?

Pisces
(Feb. 19 – March 20)
You thought that you'd only play *SongPop* for a little while, then it would eventually become another piece of nostalgia like *Draw Something*. But nothing quite compares to the rush of beating a baby-boomer dad at identifying '70s rock classics.



Game of Thrones crossword



- 29. Things Fall Apart tribe.
- 30. German far-right terrorist group acronym.
- 32. North African folk music.
- 33. Space rotation physics.
- 37. Foamy beer, say.
- 38. Electric fish.
- 40. Netflix Bateman show.
- 42. Combustion effect.
- 43. Shakespeare word for soon.
- 44. MMO video game shorthand.
- 45. World Bank wing that helps development of poorer countries
- 46. Physically separated relationship acronym
- 47. Acquire something.
- 49. Below zero water.
- 50. Originally called/maiden



By Anton Charpentier

ACROSS:

- 1. Australian naval ship acronym.
- 5. A hit, physically or musically.
- 8. Danish toy company.
- 11. A promise.
- 12. John Lennon muse.
- 13. Something you pump.
- 14. Middle layer of the eye.
- 15. G. R. R. Martin's fictional continent.
- 17. Doe companion.
- 18. Cannot be killed with fire.
- 21. Noble gas.
- 25. Make corrections.
- 27. When the waters recede.
- 28. See through wall.
- 31. Sexual excitement.
- 34. Medical abbreviation for pregnancy specialists.
- 35. Carbon-free energy source.
- 36. Targaryen or Lannister, say.
- 39. Sexual drive.
- 41. EU football acronym.
- 44. Ygritte's northern clan in *Game of Thrones*.
- 48. Singer Turner.
- 51. Betting ratio.
- 52. Fish egg dish.
- 53. 26-down competitor.

- 54. Feeling cautious.
- 55. Tolkien tree race.
- 56. Cousin to the onion.

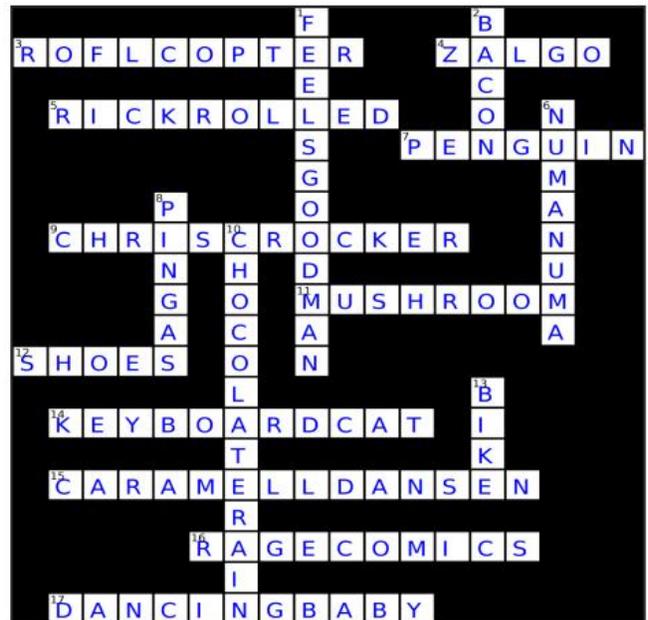
DOWN:

- 1. Hunting dog.
- 2. Mars vehicle title in *The Martian*.
- 3. Previously dined.
- 4. Austin Powers slang for sex, in past tense.
- 5. Works best with arrows.
- 6. Singles.
- 7. Social media action.
- 8. Feudal superior.
- 9. To make a mistake.
- 10. Sticky, unpleasant substance.
- 11. Non-committal hookup acronym.
- 16. Annual payment to the government.
- 19. Éponine's solo acronym.
- 20. Current events information.
- 22. Fisherman's friend.
- 23. Kimono sash.
- 24. *Brooklyn Nine-Nine* saviour.
- 26. Texas computer company.
- 28. Old English term for crooked.

Congratulations to Israa Farouk, Nhat Vu and Ty Sakatch for being the first students to submit last month's puzzles!

Send a photo of a completed crossword to humour@thegauntlet.ca to be congratulated in our next issue. Be among the first three submitters to win a (not yet arrived) *Gauntlet* toque!

March Solution:



The *Gauntlet's* real election compass

By Frankie Hart
Illustration by Tricia Lim

1. Should members of the legislative assembly who switch parties be required to immediately seek re-election?

- a) I have no idea what you're talking about.
- b) This is why I don't vote.
- c) I'm just trying to figure out who I'm going to vote for before I finish horfing down this burger at MacHall, can we please cut to the chase?
- d) Yes, they should.
- e) No, they shouldn't.

2. Should religious schools in Alberta have to teach the provincial sex education curriculum?

- a) Duh.
- b) Yes.
- c) Yeah, dude.
- d) No, I think that this will prevent teen pregnancy even though, statistically, it worsens it.
- e) No, all parents have the right to never have the word 'penis' said near their child.

3. How much government funding

should private schools receive?

- a) Wait, private schools get government funding?
- b) I guess whatever they're getting now... which isn't a lot, right? Right?
- c) Huh?
- d) Yes, my sons Brayden and Hunter told me they don't even have the newest iPads in class. Atrocious.
- e) Yes, my daughters Rayleigh and Laklynn told me they don't even have the newest iPads in class. Horrible.

4. Do you understand the potential consequences of making it mandatory for schools to 'out' children to their parents?

- a) Yes.
- b) Yes.
- c) Yes.
- d) Yes.
- e) Huh?

5. Do you think new pipelines should be built in Alberta?

- a) Well, they're going to be.

6. Should anti-abortion activist be able to protest right outside of abortion clinics?

- a) No.

- b) No.
- c) No.
- d) I "don't know."
- e) I'm an asshole.

7. Should routine vaccinations be mandatory for all students in Alberta schools?

- a) How is this a question?
- b) No, but anti-vax parents should be given mandatory dunce caps.
- c) I have measles.
- d) I have measles and smell like lavender.
- e) I have measles but at least I look 'on fleek' thanks to Kat Von D's line of cosmetics.

Mostly As, Bs, Cs, Ds and Es:

Throw yourself into the Bow River.

Damn, this election sucks. Maybe you'll find some comfort floating gently down the river, returning to the simplicity of nature. Ah, to be a duck with not a care in the world, nor a politician to inadequately represent you. But you can only stay like this for so long before you remember your civic duty. Pull yourself out of the river and drag your soaked self to the polls. Despite everything, you gotta do what you gotta do.





WANT TO BE A PART OF OUR FLOCK?

Visit thegauntlet.ca/volunteer or
email volunteer@thegauntlet.ca and
learn how to get involved!



