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Taking a chance on chance: page 7



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# NEXUS

camosun's student voice since 1990

april 2, 2014  
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# two- spirit

page six



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# NEXUS

camosun's student voice since 1990

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V8P 5J2

Location: Lansdowne Richmond House 201

Phone: 250-370-3591

Email: editor@nexusnewspaper.com

Website: nexusnewspaper.com

Publisher: Nexus Publishing Society

## NEXUS PUBLISHING SOCIETY

### STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS

Juliana Cooper  
Andrea Eggenberger  
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### EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Greg Pratt

### MANAGING EDITOR

Jason Schreurs

### ADVERTISING SALES

Jason Schreurs  
250-370-3593  
FREE Media (national)   
advertising@free-media.com  
780-421-1000

### CONTRIBUTORS

Ben Baird  
Piotr Burek  
Jessica Daze  
Jayden Grieve  
Patrick Hallihan  
Matthew Helliwell  
Vishal Pandey  
Samantha Pettifer  
Giustina Qualizza  
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### SEND A LETTER

*Nexus* prints letters that are 250 words or less. *Nexus* reserves the right to refuse publication of letters. Letters must include full name and student number (not printed). *Nexus* accepts all letters by email to editor@nexusnewspaper.com. We reserve the right to edit all letters.

OVERHEARD AT NEXUS: "My mornings have taken on a bit of a macabre tone now that the first thing I do is check for mouse carcasses by my feet."

COVER IMAGE:  
Two spirit: Kelly Legge  
Camosun student awarded: Photo provided  
The Alchemy of Chance: Alice Bacon  
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## editor's letter

### Bring on the new blood

It's interesting working at a newspaper that comes out every two weeks: you're always thinking a month in advance, looking at the next issue or two and rarely thinking about the present. So I've been living in the end of the semester getting this issue together.

And with the end of the semester comes change at the paper as regular volunteers leave and look for new blood. It's tough when you have writers as good as the ones we have, but there's always more fresh talent out there waiting to be discovered. (On that note, drop us a line if you want to write for us: no experience necessary!)

Speaking of talent, head over to page 6 to read contributing writer Jillian Wedel's story about two-spirit; it's a complex issue and one that Wedel handled with grace.

And, you know, there's so much more in this issue, but I need to stop to make room for this issue's two opinion pieces: you students have a lot on your mind right now! See you next time.

PS - *20 Years Ago In Nexus* is only online this time around: head to [nexusnewspaper.com/categories/columns](http://nexusnewspaper.com/categories/columns) to check it out!

Greg Pratt, editor-in-chief  
editor@nexusnewspaper.com

## open space

### Party safe this summer

PIOTR BUREK  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

With summer not far away, some students will be gearing up for an array of beach walks, dance parties, music festivals, and outdoor extravaganzas.

Summer can also mean a lot of partying. Whether it's a guerrilla rave happening on the beach or some booty-bumping headliner in a club, we will be putting on our dancing shoes and letting loose with friends to some body-vibing, deep bass lines.

And along with parties come drugs; it's extremely important that when we talk about drugs, we also talk about harm reduction.

Talking about drugs is challenging given that we're so often presented with conflicting points that either start with "drugs are terribly bad" or "drugs are amazingly good," both of which don't speak to the reality of party drug use.

I write this not as an expert in drug harm reduction, but as a peer who has experienced both the joys and downfalls of party drug use. My aim is to offer some suggestions on party drug use that take into account the fact that some students, regardless of whether drugs are bad or good, will be using drugs this summer.

In doing so, I hope to offer some

peer advice on how to make your experiences safe(r) and, hopefully, more fun.

A few things should be taken into account with all party drugs. First of all, those who use drugs need to know their dealers. A dealer may be a good person to ask about drug quality and dosage. This is especially important when doing drugs such as GHB, where the dosage varies drastically between batches.

Second, if you're going to be dropping any drugs, make sure to tell someone you're with so that if anything goes wrong, they know what you have taken and how much. Third, don't be afraid to get help. Be aware of the nearest medical services, whether it's a hospital, or a first aid tent, just in case something goes wrong.

Finally, get informed! Do your research. This can be done on the internet or by asking others about their experiences. There are a number of organizations, most notably DanceSafe ([dancesafe.org](http://dancesafe.org)) and Erowid ([erowid.org](http://erowid.org)), that give judgement-free information on all the party drugs out there.

Being informed about the drugs and the way they can affect your body is extremely valuable and may lead to having a more comfortable and hopefully safe(r) trip.

## open space

### Sex slavery needs consideration in law reform

It's imperative that our nation enters into discussion about the consequences of changes to our laws on sex workers and trafficked women.

JULIANNE DAZE  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Canada's recent law reform has people debating over which legislative objective to adopt concerning the sex trade. But is sex slavery being adequately considered in these debates?

The applicants challenging the prostitution laws have, understandably, made recommendations based on their experiences as autonomous sex workers. But any change to the law ought to be considered with sensitivity toward those who are being exploited within the industry: typically 12-to-14-year-old girls who are coerced to engage in sexual acts to which they are otherwise legally incapable of consenting towards.

In the past, many of these young girls have been incarcerated while their clients and pimps have walked away. The model in Nordic countries such as Sweden and Finland attempts to reverse this process and "target the market" by criminalizing the purchase of sex. Adapting this model in Canada would decrease the demand for sex and facilitate the prosecution of those who exploit young women.

Few prosecutions, coupled with brief sentences, do little to deter traffickers from forcibly pressuring women to service upwards of 20 clients a day. Existing trafficking laws in Canada have only seen 26 convicted cases as of 2013, possibly due to the onus placed on victims to testify and their reluctance to appear before court.

It's clear that trafficking laws

alone cannot prevent sex trafficking in Canada. These laws would be greatly complemented by better support services for women in need as well as legislation which discourages the purchasing of sex.

Granted, the Nordic model isn't without consequence to the consenting sex worker. Basic economics dictate that a decrease in demand would drive down prices. This, in turn, could decrease workers' bargaining power, possibly cornering them into accepting riskier clients.

While these concerns are valid, proper implementation of the Nordic model could prevent the unintended negative effects towards sex workers. Many women working in the sex trade say they would leave if offered a similar-paying job.

Offering services to help these women exit the trade may help to offset the decrease in demand. Also, street outreach services that encourage workers to report bad dates can support affected women and aid law enforcement in convicting abusive clients.

The proper adaptation and implementation of the Nordic model in Canada has the potential to aid victims of trafficking while safeguarding the rights of sex workers. It's imperative that our nation enters into discussion about the consequences of changes to our laws on sex workers and trafficked women alike.

Changes to the law alone will not prevent trafficking, but they are a vital component in the fight against sex trafficking.

Something on your mind? Send *Open Space* submissions (up to 400 words) to [editor@nexusnewspaper.com](mailto:editor@nexusnewspaper.com). Include your student number. Thanks!

# SPEAK UP

What was your best or worst Camosun memory this year?

BY RACHEL SOVKA



CLAUDINE BARRETT

"My best memories were hanging out with my classmates after really getting to know them and getting into the community spirit. I'm so grateful to have had that experience."



CHRISTOPHER FLETT

"My best experience was getting the answers back on my Business 140 test; I had a 98.7%. That was great, but of course now I'm thinking, 'Well, what was the 1/3?'"



AMANDA CHOME CZKO

"My worst memory was today: I have a big assignment due tomorrow and my computer crashed, and I lost it all, everything. So that is probably my worst experience this year."



NICK WINDEBANK

"Any of David Blundon's labs [were my worst memory]. They were like 10 hours long each and he doesn't give you seven days; he cut the due date down by one day every week. Not fun."



TRISTAN PRINCE

"My worst Camosun experience was getting three parking tickets in one day."



LEANNA BAKKER

"My best memories are with my professors at Camosun. I went to UVic before... here there are smaller class sizes and my prof actually knows my name and emails me back."



recognition

# Camosun College student wins co-op student of the year award

“It was the most unbelievable week of my life.”

**BEN LUBBERT**  
CAMOSUN STUDENT

**MATTHEW HELLIWELL**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Camosun student Ben Lubbert has won the BC Association for Co-operative Education’s Co-op Student of the Year award. Lubberts’ win mark the seventh consecutive year that the award has been awarded to a Camosun student. The award, which also includes a cash prize of \$500, is granted to the applicant most fitting, based on academic grades, community involvement, and letters of recommendation from Camosun and the co-op employer.

Lubberts, a Civil Engineering Technology student, was granted the award for his exceptional performance with the District of Saanich, where he worked as Student Engineering Technician. Lubberts

impressed his colleagues with his dedication, reliability, and willingness to learn.

Lubberts takes little credit for his accomplishments, admitting that he worked hard but didn’t expect the award, which he attributes to the particular circumstances of his co-op placement. Lubberts also says that the award is really the result of the efforts of everyone around him, including a strong support network.

“It’s great to be recognized, but it’s really a reflection of the geniuses I surround myself with,” he says. “It takes the spotlight off me and really on to the people that I choose to be around.”

Lubberts applied for the job with Saanich despite missing a key qualification, which did not discourage him. Instead, Lubberts dedicated several days to learning the skills needed for the job on his own time. Lubberts says that part of what he laid out in his application was his experience of having to learn new skills just days before his placement.

“I applied with the anticipation that I would immerse myself at Camosun for a day or two of self-learning,” he says.

Lubberts’ timing was unique, as well. Lubberts applied for the position with Saanich while his wife

was pregnant, becoming a father just days into the placement.

“I started work on Thursday and my baby was born on Saturday,” he says. Lubberts took just one day off and successfully balanced his new family with great performance at his new job over the rest of the summer.

Thinking back on the experience and how he managed to cope, Lubberts is nearly speechless. “It was the most unbelievable week of my life,” he says.

Lubberts also thanks Camosun’s Co-Operative Education department, who helped him find the opportunity in the first place. “This was not [a result of] my sole effort,” he says, “but a result of great help and contribution in the co-op department at Camosun to get me the job.”

Gloria Darroch, director of Co-operative Education at Camosun, says the win makes her proud of the students and the programs at Camosun.

“We have seven winners over the last seven years, and they represent a variety of programs at the college,” says Darroch. “It is always nice when it’s validated by outstanding contributions by students.”

Despite consecutive wins, Darroch says the co-op department knows that Camosun students like



PHOTO PROVIDED

Camosun student Ben Lubbert recently took home a student co-op award.

Lubberts face tough competition for awards.

“We are constantly delighted to get the recognition. All postsecondary in Canada does a good job, so look at the competition,” she says. “We don’t take it for granted at all.”

No Camosun student should

take these wins for granted, says Darroch, and should be proud regardless of what program or campus they are in.

“When any student gets recognized,” she says, “all students see another positive reason that supports their decision to come here.”

## Student groups

### Camosun College Student Society elects new board of directors

**JASON SCHREURS**  
MANAGING EDITOR

The Camosun College Student Society (CCSS) elected 12 new students to their board of directors in their recent spring elections, which took place March 18–20 on both the Lansdowne and Interurban campuses.

Just over 450 Camosun students voted on both campuses over the three days. Meanwhile, a referen-

dum to increase the recreation levy and, in turn, increase the fitness centre’s hours at the Interurban campus was passed with 272 “yes” votes and 127 “no” votes.

Former students with disabilities director Rachael Grant was acclaimed as the CCSS’ new external executive, a position that deals with outreach and communications for the student society.

Jacqueline Christie was elected

as the new Lansdowne executive, while Andrea Eggenberger took the Interurban executive spot, the students becoming official representatives at each campus.

Long-time CCSS board member Jordan Sandwith moves to the finance executive position on an acclaimed vote, while Joshua Goodwill (First Nations director), Annabelle Pickering (women’s director), Andy Chen (students with disabilities

director), Tatianna French (Pride director), and Stephanie Hurst (sustainability director) were either acclaimed or won in their respective positions.

Andrea Lemus returns as the CCSS’ international director. Morticia Chan and Adrian McLaren were acclaimed as Lansdowne directors.

Most of the acclaimed students, where voters were asked to either

vote “yes” or “no” for a uncontested position, got overwhelmingly more “yes” than “no” votes this time out.

The CCSS has two elections per year, one in the spring and one in the fall. Although just over 450 votes is low for a student base at Camosun of nearly 8,000 students, it’s consistent with the amount of votes CCSS elections have gotten the past several years.

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Camosun students help make city pretty

Camosun students from the Criminal Justice Program helped acquire resources to clean up the Rock Bay neighborhood during March. The Clean and Safe team that cleans the neighborhood streets is made up of emergency shelter tenants who volunteer for training. The students reached out to local businesses to source donations of paint and supplies to assist the team in graffiti cleanup.

### Community benefits from Camosun programs

Camosun students in the Business and Community Family and

Child Studies programs will be engaging with local communities for two weeks in April. Students will be involved in fundraising, event planning, and even a landscaping makeover to gain practical experience as part of their coursework. The Pacific Institute for Sport Excellence at Interurban will be hosting an event for children and youth with developmental disabilities on April 6, thanks to the students’ successful fundraising.

### Island sex clinics can’t cover costs

The Island Sexual Health clinics are struggling to cover costs this year and may have to cut some of its free public health services. Funding has not met the service demand, despite cost-cutting ef-

forts by directors. The non-profit organization offers services at four clinics in Victoria, including one at Camosun College, which greatly benefit people unable to find family doctors. Services include pap, pelvic and genital exams, birth control, emergency contraception, pregnancy testing and planning, vaccination, testing and treatment for sexually transmitted infections, and free condoms.

### Encouragement for cyclists

A cycling program offered by the Capital Regional District and the Greater Victoria Bike to Work society intends to promote fun and confidence for novice riders. The Ride On! program runs from April to October and will include a num-

ber of courses in cycling skills for adults and children. Most courses will be offered through community recreation centres. Visit [biketoworkvictoria.ca/bike-skills](http://biketoworkvictoria.ca/bike-skills) for more information or to register.

### Volunteer for sustainability festival

Arts lovers are invited to contribute to the Third Annual Creatively United for the Planet Festival by volunteering. The event had over 5,000 visitors last year, big numbers, although no surprise it’s a hit in a city as green as Victoria. The festival runs April 25 and 26 at St. Ann’s Academy and features live music, art, food, and children’s activities. Go to [creativelyunitedfortheplanet.org](http://creativelyunitedfortheplanet.org) to find out how to volunteer and for more event info.

### Arts scholarships available

The BC Arts Council Scholarship program is looking for funding applications from arts students for in-province or worldwide study. Accepted students can receive up to \$6,000 per year in scholarship money. Programs as diverse as creative writing, music, theatre, dance, visual arts, media arts, museology, and conservation received \$750,000 in funding last year. The submission date is April 30. Go to [bcartscouncil.ca/guidelines/artists/youth/scholarship\\_awards.html](http://bcartscouncil.ca/guidelines/artists/youth/scholarship_awards.html) to see the scholarship guidelines.

**-SAMANTHA PETTIFER**

Got a news tip or a story that we should be covering? Let us know! [editor@nexusnewspaper.com](mailto:editor@nexusnewspaper.com)



know your profs

## Camosun's Michael Pollock never forgets... usually

**GREG PRATT**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Know Your Profs is an ongoing series of articles helping you get to know the instructors at Camosun College a bit better. Every issue we ask a different instructor the same 10 questions.

Got someone you want to see interviewed? Email [editor@nex-usnewspaper.com](mailto:editor@nex-usnewspaper.com) and we'll get on it.

This time around we caught up with psychology instructor Michael Pollock and talked about the importance of sleep, memory-enhancing techniques, and who's working for who in a college classroom.

*1: What do you teach and how long have you been a teacher at Camosun?*

I came to Camosun just over a year ago and really love the courses that I get to teach here: Intro Psychology, Biopsyc, and Drugs and Behavior. Previously on the mainland I taught similar courses as well as several additional ones that I developed, such as a course on sleep and dreams.

*2: What do you personally get out of teaching?*

It provides me with inspiration and a stimulating environment. When I'm doing only research I find my thinking tends to get limited to some specialized area and it becomes hard for me to see the

bigger picture and maintain my enthusiasm. Teaching about a topic forces me to look at its overall meaning and how it's relevant. Students' comments and questions also help me gain a fresh perspective.

*3: What's one thing you wish your students knew about you?*

How brilliant I am. Just kidding! What I'd really want them to know is that I'm here to serve them. As a student, I held the implicit belief that I was working for my professors like they were my bosses. What I now tell my students at the beginning of the semester is that I work for them and not the other way around. By registering for the course they've hired me to help them learn the course information as well and as easily as possible, and if they don't do well in the course then that's also a reflection of failure on my part.

*4: What's one thing you wish they didn't know about you?*

How terrible my everyday memory is. I teach about the ability to use mnemonics—memory-enhancing techniques—and give demonstrations where I do things like memorize long strings of digits that students shout out to me. The irony of it, though, is that I am very absentminded and, if I don't use mnemonics techniques, will often forget the names of students or forget to do things because my mind is elsewhere. My only rationalization

“As a student, I held the implicit belief that I was working for my professors like they were my bosses. What I now tell my students at the beginning of the semester is that I work for them and not the other way around.”

**MICHAEL POLLOCK**  
CAMOSUN COLLEGE

for this is that it helps me relate more to how hard it is for students to learn large amounts of new information and it also provides me with opportunities to test practical ways of overcoming this problem.

*5: What's the best thing that's ever happened to you as a teacher here?*

I would have to say being hired at Camosun as a full-time continuing position. It truly is a dream job! What other job would pay me to discuss my favorite topics? The other members of my department are so friendly and wonderful to be around, and their excellent teaching inspires me. The students here also seem to be more affable and easy-



CAMOSUN COLLEGE A/V SERVICES

Camosun's Michael Pollock knows a thing or two about sleep deprivation.

going than at some of the previous institutions I've taught at. Finally, I jumped at the opportunity to move to Victoria since I have lots of close relatives here and Victoria is an all-around magical place.

*6: What's the worst thing that's ever happened to you as a teacher here?*

Compared to some other jobs, I can hardly complain about anything that happens to me as a teacher. However, if I had to choose, I'd say the sleep deprivation I endured during my first year here when I was staying up late at nights in order to find the time to adapt all of my lecture material to the different textbooks. In some cases I was even sleep deprived while teaching about the importance of sleep!

*7: What do you see in the future of postsecondary education?*

In this modern-day electronic age in which students have online access to the most up-to-date and expertly reviewed information, what is the role of the classroom setting in which students still meet face-to-face with their teachers? This is a question that I pose to my students at the beginning of each semester and which I think will be the challenge for the future of postsecondary education. Some have speculated that the role of the classroom will evolve and become “flipped.” Rather than the teacher being the “sage on the stage” who simply stands at the front and lectures, instead it's thought that the

teacher will become more like a “guide on the side” who helps students better digest the information by working with them on questions and activities.

*8: What do you do to relax on the weekends?*

Spend time with family and friends, as well as go for runs with my dog on Victoria's many beautiful beaches and trails.

*9: What's your favourite meal?*

My wife is an excellent cook who spoils me with many fancy meals. But on my birthday she'll often make a simple chicken broccoli casserole because she knows how much it reminds me of what my grandmother used to make when I was kid.

*10: What's your biggest pet peeve?*

Apathy. For the research project in my Psyc 110 Experimental Psychology course, I encourage my students to choose a topic they're interested in and that they'd really love to learn the answer to. However, many times I find students revert to a topic that they aren't as passionate about because they think it'll be easier to study, be a safer bet for finding an answer to, or because it fits more in line with what they think traditionally psychology is supposed to study. However, I'm always here to help guide them along in the case of problems and would really wish that they would have the courage to always pursue their dreams.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE NEXUS PUBLISHING SOCIETY

FRIDAY, APRIL 4, 2014, 4:30 PM,

NEXUS OFFICE, RICHMOND HOUSE 201, LANSDOWNE

### AGENDA

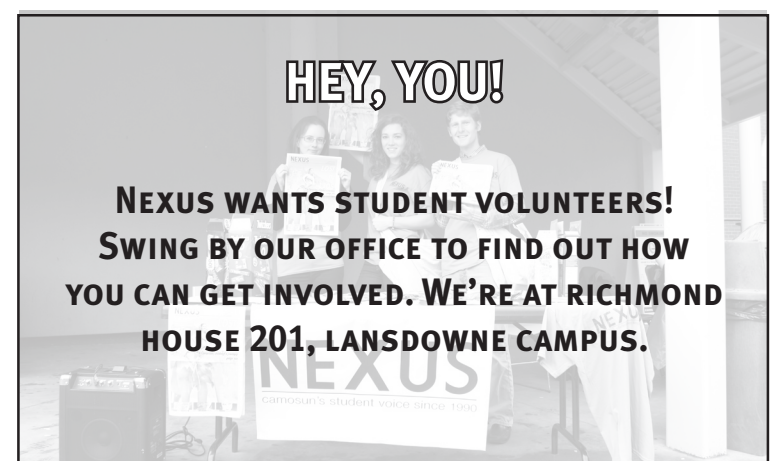
- I CALL TO ORDER
- II INTRODUCTION TO RULES OF ORDER
- III APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- IV APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS AGM
- V REPORTS
  - 1.) PRESIDENT'S REPORT
  - 2.) FINANCIAL REPORT
- VI ADOPTION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT
  - 1.) ADOPTION OF MAR. 31, 2014 FINANCIAL STATEMENT
  - 2.) ADOPTION OF APRIL 1, 2014 TO MARCH 31, 2015 PROPOSED BUDGET
- VII RESIGNATION OF CURRENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS (EXCLUDING PRESIDENT AND TREASURER)
- VIII BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTIONS
- IX ADJOURNMENT

PLEASE SIGN IN ON MEMBERSHIP LIST WITH VALID CAMOSUN COLLEGE STUDENT ID IN ORDER TO VOTE AT THIS MEETING.

**FREE PIZZA!**

**HEY, YOU!**

**NEXUS WANTS STUDENT VOLUNTEERS!  
SWING BY OUR OFFICE TO FIND OUT HOW  
YOU CAN GET INVOLVED. WE'RE AT RICHMOND  
HOUSE 201, LANSDOWNE CAMPUS.**





theatre

# Popular stage duo return for Fringe fundraiser

“I’m really looking forward to reconnecting with our audiences and friends across the country.”

**INGRID HANSEN**  
KITT & JANE

**JASON SCHREURS**  
MANAGING EDITOR

What do you do when are a popular stage duo and you need to raise money to buy a van for an upcoming Fringe tour? Well, you host a cabaret show, of course.

As we reported in December, the Victoria production of *Kitt & Jane* was chosen in the Canadian Fringe Festival lottery and organizers plan to tour the show in select Canadian cities this summer. The show tells the story of two 14-year-old kids training the audience to survive the apocalypse.

In an effort to help raise funds, they’ve come up with a new cabaret show called *Spirit Week* based on the characters from *Kitt & Jane*,

which is being billed as a “mad-cap evening of competitive fun” by the show’s star and co-creator Ingrid Hansen.

Again featuring the characters of Kitt Pedersen (Hansen) and Lucas “Jane” Jameson (Rod Peter Jr.), the cabaret-style *Spirit Week* introduces another character who only made a brief cameo in *Kitt & Jane*: “self-appointed coolest substitute teacher in town, Chase Breyer,” explains Hansen.

“He’s a hilarious, try-hard substitute teacher, self-appointed as everybody’s new best friend,” elaborates Hansen. “He appears as a voice-over shadow puppet character in *Kitt & Jane*, and then at our Christmas Cabaret he was brought to life by local comedian Rich Gauthier. Gauthier will host the show and he’s absolutely fascinating to watch as Chase; tragically awkward and hilarious.”

Due to its cabaret style, *Spirit Week* isn’t a proper third installment of the Kitt Pedersen trilogy. (*Kitt & Jane*’s prequel, *Little Orange Man*, telling the story of Kitt’s early years, was also a Fringe favourite.) But the *Spirit Week* fundraising show does beg the question of whether the Kitt plays will some day become a full-fledged trilogy.

“We have talked about what

a third show would look like, but have not confirmed it at this time,” says Hansen. “Would it be two years in the future, or 50? Send us your ideas!”

In the meantime, Hansen, Peter and co-creator and director Kathleen Greenfield are preparing their main show for the Fringe tour, raising money along the way with shows like *Spirit Week*, a recent encore performance of *Kitt & Jane*, and an upcoming presentation of *The Adventures of Superman* (April 18–19), all taking place at the Intrepid Theatre Club.

And as for this summer’s Fringe tour, Hansen says the trio is stoked on what lays ahead, although they’ll be even more stoked once they have a van to tour in.

“We’re revved. Raring to go,” she says. I’m really looking forward to reconnecting with our audiences and friends across the country... Fringe is the stomping grounds for innovation in live performance in Canada, and a very passionate community of weirdos. I am proud to be one of them.”

*Kitt & Jane* present *Spirit Week*  
8 pm April 3 and 4  
\$15, Intrepid Theatre Club  
(1609 Blanshard Street)  
snafudance.com



PHOTO PROVIDED

Zaniness surely awaits for those who dare check out *Spirit Week*.

what’s going on by samantha pettifer

MARCH 27-APRIL 23

**Siblings Alight**

The latest art show at Dales Gallery features two artists in different mediums that share a passion for the outdoors. Stewart McGillis’ iron sculptures are surprisingly energetic and lithe, displaying his interest in inner life and spirituality. Martha Batchelor has only recently begun to work in abstracts, but her lively acrylics are backed by years of artistic passion. Go to dalesgallery.ca for more info.

APRIL 3–12

**Elementary, my dear blood fiend**

Craigdarroch Castle and Giggling Iguana Productions are presenting Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Sussex Vampire, a stage adaptation of a classic Sherlock Holmes story. Fans of Sherlock won’t want to miss this production, which puts the audience right in the middle of the action as they move through the castle’s interior. Find information and tickets online at thecastle.ca (reservations are required).

SATURDAY, APRIL 5

**How does your garden grow?**

Fairfield flower spot Abkhazi Garden is holding a community open house. The heritage site, created by a real-life prince and princess, will be offering tea and tours to the public from 11 am to 4 pm. Go to abkhaziteahouse.com for more info.

SATURDAY, APRIL 5

**Winning the blues**

Tim Williams, fresh from winning the solo/duo category at the 2014 International Blues Challenge, will be showcasing his chops at the Upper Deck on Gorge Road East. The multi-instrumentalist is well versed

in traditional repertoire and also writes his own material.

SUNDAY, APRIL 6

**Cam-Col-comic-con**

Camosun’s unique Comics and Graphic Novels program is hosting their second annual comics event, the Camosun College Comics Conference (4C). Take a look at what the artists have been up to this year, or attend a hands-on “comics jam” workshop. There will also be guest speakers and an artwork raffle. The event takes place on the Young building’s third floor at Lansdowne campus with free admission. Visit camosun.ca/comics for more info on the program.

SATURDAY, APRIL 12

**Fast Romantics**

A band that was formed during what one of the founding members calls a “whiskey storm” has got to put on a good show. Fast Romantics have recently grown in popularity, playing tours and festivals, even winning a competition by Spin that took them to New York. Catch their show this month at Lucky Bar.

SUNDAY, APRIL 13

**MS Walk**

The Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada is putting on the MS Walk at Willows Beach Park to support MS research. Entrants can choose to walk 3km or 6km, or run 9km. Create a team and ramp up the fundraising energy! Go to mssociety.ca for more details.

TUESDAY, APRIL 15

**Kim Churchill**

Australian busker and surfer Kim Churchill has just released a new album recorded here on Vancouver Island, Silence Win. His extensive touring experience has honed his performance skills enough to open

for big-name acts such as Billy Bragg and Michael Franti. Check out his skills at Lucky Bar.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16

**Return of the Zolas**

Vancouver favorites The Zolas are back in Victoria, armed with spacey riffs and tight pop hooks. What do spacey riffs sound like? Check them out at Club gone9 to find out!

APRIL 17–25

**Student art show**

Camosun’s art students share their work in the 2014 graduating class exhibition. Over 25 artists will be featured at a downtown venue, showcasing a variety of styles, media, and viewpoints. Emerging will open on April 17 at 851 Yates Street.

SATURDAY, APRIL 26 AND SUNDAY, APRIL 27

**Advent of the ad-man**

Award-winning CBC broadcaster Terry O’Reilly will be speaking at the Vic Theatre about advertising in the movies. O’Reilly is known for hosting the radio shows Age of Persuasion and Under the Influence, which makes him sound either like a hypnotist or an advertising and marketing expert. And, boom, it’s the latter! More info can be found at thevic.ca.

SATURDAY, MAY 10

**Still strong... without the lemons**

He’s best known as the lead singer for ’90s alt-rock group the Lem-onheads, and Evan Dando hasn’t stopped rocking. Following last year’s tours with Soul Asylum and Fountains of Wayne, he is taking it solo this spring. See him at Lucky Bar with featured guest Sara Johnston of Bran Van 3000.

# NEXUS

camosun’s student voice since 1990

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# two-spirit beyond

**"A majority of activists are moving back towards locating and discovering the specific term within their community."**

**Jeffrey McNeil-Seymour**  
2Spirit of the First Nations of Toronto



KELLY LEGGE

**"It's a term that is both about cultural identity and sexual or gender identity."**

**Sarah Hunt**  
Camosun College

**L**GBT: it's an arrangement of letters that many of us have seen, but for those who are unfamiliar with it, the acronym stands for lesbian, bisexual, and transgender. As an acronym adopted by what was known simply as the gay community, its purpose has been to acknowledge and highlight the diversity within this self-actualizing community. In the 1990s, the number of letters has steadily increased and now includes not limited to, LGBTQIP2SAA. The "2S," which stands for two-spirit, is a relatively new term; however, its cultural significance and traditions reach far back into history, long before the construction of what is now nicknamed the "gay alphabet."

I first started using the term two-spirit about four years ago while delivering presentations in high schools on issues surrounding the queer community. The presentation, called Out in Schools, included statistics on the health and safety of queer youth, a timeline that covered the history of gay rights in Canada, a colour-coded map of lighting countries who had legalized same-sex marriage, and a slide that listed some of the terminology.

At this point, I would go through and explain the word behind each letter on the ever-expanding list of identities to the students. But when it came to two-spirit, I was aware that as a non-Aboriginal person, my knowledge in this area was lacking in many important dimensions. While knowing I had much to learn, I handed out the information I had acquired up until then: "Two-spirit is a term derived from First Nations languages," I would say, "and is used to describe individuals who embody both a masculine and feminine spirit..."

Following my brief summary, a common question that was often asked was whether two-spirit referred to a gender identity or a sexual orientation. In my subsequent pursuit of gaining a more full understanding of the term, I came to realize that questions like these actually pushed the meaning of two-spirit further, imposing upon it structures of thought belonging to the dominant culture—including gender and sexuality.

"Those categories are themselves a western construct," says Dr. Sarah Hunt, a Kwakwaka'wakw writer and activist who teaches in the Indigenous Studies and Community Family and Child Services Program here at Camosun College.

Hunt, who identifies as two-spirit, explains how western distinctions of gender and sexuality were preceded by a variety of traditional roles that went beyond binary notions of sex and gender; these were roles that were cultivated and fully integrated into the many facets of a community.

"In indigenous cultures, who you are and your role in the community are intertwined. I think of those maybe as gender roles," Hunt says, "but I think, historically, indigenous nations had their own way of talking about roles and identity that were not necessarily linked with biology but maybe with your connection to the spirit world, your name, or your role in the community, your inclinations as a child, and how your identity is viewed."

The term two-spirit, according to Hunt, captures much more than what is often understood as attracted to or what pronoun you identify with. She describes being two-spirit as just about being gay, or being bi, or trans, necessarily; it's a term that is about cultural identity and cultural identity and sexual or gender identity. It's a term," she says, "that in many ways defies those colonial categories."

## THE ORIGINS OF "TWO-SPIRIT"

**E**merging in 1990 at the third annual Native American Gay and Lesbian



Sarah Hunt of Camosun's Indigenous Studies and Community Family and Child Services Program



# and sex and gender

by jillian wedel, contributing writer

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conference in Winnipeg, Manitoba, the concept of two-spirit was taken up in order to help liberate and mobilize a community whose traditions had been brutalized by the language and ideologies that colonization brought with it.

“Two-spirit,” says Hunt, “was a term that a group of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered, and queer indigenous folks came up with to replace the term ‘berdache.’”

Originally introduced by French settlers, *berdache* was an anthropological term used to describe indigenous people who were considered to be homosexual, or those who appeared to participate in mixed gender roles. Though First Nations people eventually adopted the term, the actual meaning behind it translates to “captive, prisoner, or slave.” Hence the need for a new and more accurate term originating from indigenous people themselves.

While the name two-spirit carries with it the potential to empower and unite Aboriginal queers, it’s important to realize that it’s an umbrella term and covers a rich variety of identities that embody particular roles and responsibilities unique to specific First Nations communities.

“Indigenous cultures have had, and still have, culturally specific ways of seeing gender and sexuality, but through colonization, a lot of the language around these cultural practices has been lost,” reveals Hunt.

Due to this loss of language, reclamation has become integral to the revitalization of these traditional ways of being. Communities, each with their own unique history, have been faced with the challenge of resisting the various forms of colonial power in the process of resurging their own two-spirit traditions. Many of the Nations, however, continue to struggle with this task.

Hunt elaborates on this by pointing out that “in some communities they might not have lost much of that knowledge.” She goes on to suggest that “maybe there’s a very strong respect for two-spirit people and their role in cultural, social, and ceremonial practices. On the other hand,” she says, “there are also communities where there’s no acknowledgement, where it’s not safe to be yourself if you’re two-spirit.”

Sadly, the marginalization of the two-spirit community is a reality, and one that is reflected in statistics: Aboriginal gay youth are at much higher risk for committing suicide than non-Aboriginal gay youth.

## RECLAIMING TRADITIONS

Jeffrey McNeil-Seymour, who comes from the Tk’emlups te Secwepemc (Kamloops Indian Band), is completing his master of social work at the University of Toronto specializing in social justice and diversity. He is also a board member for the 2Spirit of the First Nations of Toronto.

When asked what advice he would give to a young person who feels they might be two-spirit, McNeil-Seymour says he “would help them locate their traditional roles and responsibilities and the word attached to their cultural location.”

McNeil-Seymour says that recognizing the relationship that two-spirit people have to their traditional territory sets them apart from the dominant LGBT acronym which McNeil-Seymour describes as “incredibly hegemonic.”

“Two-spirit,” claims McNeil-Seymour, “has become colonized to a degree, because I look at how it’s constructed in my community, and generally, with a lot of family back home in Kamloops, it’s just like, ‘Oh, well two-spirit is just a way to identify Aboriginal people who are lesbian, gay, or bisexual.’”

Needless to say, upholding two-spirit traditions has been a continuous effort, as McNeil-Seymour asserts that the influence of the LGBT acronym “runs the risk of overriding and rewriting our ways of knowing our relationships to community, spirituality, and the land.”

When asked if he identifies as two-spirit, McNeil-Seymour says “as an entry point, yes; but as my cultural location, no. At this time, with a number of emergent two-spirit youth, a majority of activists are moving back towards locating and discovering the specific term within their community.”

Prior to colonization, two-spirit individuals had been described in the languages of over 100 tribes throughout North America. For McNeil-Seymour, the term he uses is *chakwoya’heis*, which he says “is a Secwepemc’stin word for a person who has sex with the same sex.” He explains that one of their roles and responsibilities in community is “*yucamin’min*, which means to protect the earth and to protect the people.”

McNeil-Seymour, like many other individuals who fall under the two-spirit umbrella, are still in the process of gathering together and resurrecting these once highly revered positions within their communities.

“I wish for two-spirit people to move back into their traditional spaces of seers and visionaries and warriors and mediators,” says McNeil-Seymour, “to reclaim those titles.”

## SUPPORTING THE TWO-SPIRIT COMMUNITY

For those wondering how to be an ally to the two-spirit community, both Hunt and McNeil-Seymour express the importance of being



PHOTO PROVIDED

### Kelly Legge of the Indigenous Perspectives Society.

aware of the traditional lands you live on and how you came to be there. Understanding that two-spirit issues are indigenous issues and indigenous issues are issues of decolonization is an essential part of supporting two-spirit people, says Hunt.

Ultimately, being an ally requires building relationships and educating yourself according to both Hunt and McNeil-Seymour. Fortunately, there are more and more events and gatherings providing people with the opportunity to do that.

In November of last year, Camosun Pride and the First Nations Student Association invited the Indigenous Perspectives Society (formerly First Nations Children Society) to deliver a workshop on Lansdowne campus entitled “The two-spirit Identity: exploring tradition and resurging communities.” The event, which was welcome to all, provided a brief overview of the history of two-spirit traditions and also invited participants to share in traditional drumming and song.

One of the facilitators that day was T’oila McIntyre, a two-spirit woman of Cree decent, who is an instructor at the Indigenous Perspectives Society. McIntyre says the workshop was “more or less kind of a two-spirit 101 just to introduce the concept, because I think that, just like myself who thought that it was just a really cool term that we could adopt, there are a lot of traditional teachings behind it.”

McIntyre has been on a life-changing journey ever since the realization of her own two-spirit identity. “Just within the last four or five years,” explains McIntyre, “the real meaning behind two-spirit has been introduced to me.”

McIntyre says that discovering this part of her identity has been a deeply meaningful process involving many epiphanies along the way. “It’s still a very new journey for me,” she says, “but it’s becoming clearer as I go along, as I get older, the more people that I get involved with, and my personal relationships, and right now I feel like a big part of it is educating.”

Also involved in the workshop was Kelly Legge, a non-Aboriginal queer woman who works as a policy analyst for the Indigenous Perspectives Society. Legge also does research and curriculum development for the society’s trainings and participated in designing the curriculum delivered in the two-spirit workshop.

Legge became active in two-spirit advocacy work when she noticed the lack of presence of the two-spirit community and indigenous organizations at Victoria Pride in years past. “I mentioned to my organization’s executive director that it could be something that the society would consider getting involved with,” says Legge.

Coordinating with five other Aboriginal organizations, Legge helped orchestrate the Indigenous Perspectives Society’s very first participation in Victoria Pride last year, and it was one that couldn’t be missed: adorned in bright pink shirts that read “All My Relations: support our two spirited youth and end bullying,” the larger-than-life group marched at the head of the parade singing and drumming through the streets of downtown Victoria.

Legge says it’s the queer community’s responsibility to recognize its own diversity and to be a safe space honouring the “unique individual and cultural identities of our greater community, whether you are gay or lesbian or transgender or two-spirit.”

“Part of that safety is for us to appreciate that the term ‘two-spirit’ is a cultural and spirit name in its origins, and its intention was to shirk colonial definition,” she says.

Legge notes that it is important for non-indigenous people to recognize and respect the decolonizing efforts that are behind the term two-spirit and to avoid claiming it for themselves. “It would be problematic for me, for example, to appropriate a term that is holding a place while First Nations resurge and reclaim their own language and traditions,” she says.

The recognition of diversity that Legge speaks of is what continues to be a source of growth for the LGBT acronym. And while new terms are added and the letters multiply, it’s important to remember that our own social and cultural locations can blind us to the identities that require a reading that’s between the lines.

As Camosun’s Hunt points out, the influence our words and categorizations have on the way we perceive things should encourage us “to really think about the limitations of the English language.” Taking this into account, the recognition of our diverse identities shouldn’t only be through the letters of an acronym, but through the understanding of our diverse histories, cultures, and ways of viewing the world around us.

For more information on hosting a two-spirit workshop in your organization or school, visit [ipsociety.ca](http://ipsociety.ca). To learn more about two-spirit gatherings happening in Victoria, email [2spirit.victoria@gmail.com](mailto:2spirit.victoria@gmail.com).



AMANDA LALIBERTE

Child Services Program,



performance

## Project explores the alchemy of chance

“Our mandate is that everyone is an artist and creativity flows in the blood.”

**CHANDLER  
MCMURRAY-IVES**  
AMBIGUOUS ARTS FESTIVALS  
SOCIETY

**JAYDEN GRIEVE**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Art is a tool that has been used for centuries to push boundaries. From Shakespeare, to the Beatles, to urban graffiti, the creative mind has always yearned to try new things. The Alchemy of Chance, the newest project from the Ambiguous Arts Festivals society, is an interesting example of this innovative creativeness.

“Basically, it’s an interdisciplinary arts experiment,” explains Chandler McMurray-Ives, the event’s organizer. “We selected six really high-calibre artists from the community, who are all incredibly unique in their creation methods, even within their own genres, and then we selected six creative professionals, based on people who created on a daily basis, but aren’t

necessarily considered ‘artists.’”

The premise of the Alchemy of Chance is quite unique. Six different kinds of artists will each be paired with a creative professional and then have only two short weeks to create a 10-minute performance. With possible combinations, such as a chef and a puppeteer, a carpenter and a dancer, or a musician and a chemist, there’s no telling what the outcome will be.

“The goal is to stretch the artist by pairing them up with someone who has a different set of skills and completely different practices than them,” says McMurray-Ives, “as well as to stretch the creative professionals by bringing their skills onto a stage, making it a performance, and kind of going beyond what their comfort zone might be. We’re really trying to break down the word ‘artist’ and the idea of performance so that it belongs to everyone.”

Hairdresser Jen Li says that although she’s participated on stage in hair shows before, this will be a completely new experience.

“It’s unique because though I don’t really know what to expect, that’s also why I’m excited,” says Li. “I’m excited about just challenging myself artistically. Doing hair, you can be an artist with it, but at the same time usually you have to keep in mind that it’s somebody’s head

of hair you’re doing, and I think it’s going to be so creative and so different, and I’m just excited to be on stage.”

Though Li admits that she’s a bit nervous, she has thrown herself wholeheartedly into the project and says it’s a great opportunity to create something special.

“The whole purpose behind it is connecting artists and creative professionals, and bridging that gap. We just have to have fun with it and be open,” she says. “I’m just going to go with the flow. I’m just going to depend on my partner’s personality and what our chemistry creates.”

This experience will be unique to both halves of the partnership and organizers and participants are interested to see how the two different types of people work together.

“I think it’s easier for me being an artist than it is from the other side,” says Tim Gosley, a local puppeteer who has appeared on television programs such as *Sesame Street* and *Fraggle Rock*. “I have facilitated non-puppeteers creating giant puppets and that was interesting because the designs were a lot more original than if I was working with a professional designer. They weren’t as professional looking, but since the people didn’t have the



ALICE BACON

Tim Gosley and one of his larger-than-life creations.

same design vocabulary some totally original things were able to come out of it. So with these guys I’m hoping they can guide the design process so some totally original things can happen.”

This is precisely the idea that the show was brought about to inspire. Each and every person, performer or professional, will contribute their own special brand of creativity.

“I believe, and Ambiguous Arts believes, and our mandate is that

everyone is an artist and creativity flows in the blood,” says McMurray-Ives. “It belongs to every single person and I’m so excited about the fact that there are 12 creative brains churning to create this piece, and I have no idea what’s going to happen!”

*The Alchemy Of Chance*  
8pm Friday, April 4  
Metro Theater  
ambigarts.com

music

## The Hanson Brothers talk beer and hockey

**JASON SCHREURS**  
MANAGING EDITOR

Originally started as a way to unwind from the prog-punk of the legendary Nomeansno, The Hanson Brothers side-project could now be the key to get the on-and-off-again Nomeansno back into the studio. Currently on a Canadian tour as a cross-marketing campaign for singer (and Nomeansno drummer) John Wright’s new Punk Rauch beer, being released by Quebec’s Trou du Diable brewery, The Hanson Brothers combine punk rock, beer and hockey into a unique blend of Ramones-inspired tomfoolery. Meanwhile, Nomeansno are on a hiatus.

“It’s definitely a different dynamic than Nomeansno. We keep saying we’re not going to do many more Hansons projects, and this tour came about almost entirely because of John’s involvement with the brewery,” says Holliston (a.k.a. Tommy Hanson). “Doing these Hanson Brothers dates is actually

really beneficial to Nomeansno because everyone is back together and talking about music. It’s really been good and everybody’s excited again. Originally, the Hanson Brothers were sort of designed to get away from the musical scriptures of Nomeansno, but now it’s bringing us back the other direction.”

An avid home brewer, Wright has filmed how-to videos on making beer in his Johnny Hanson character. The current tour will include tastings of his Bavarian-styled smoked beer.

“I don’t care much at all for smoked beer, but this one’s a bit milder and the finish isn’t quite as long or overpowering, so I really like it,” says Holliston about Wright’s beer.

The Hanson Brothers formed way back in 1984 by Wright and his brother Rob (who plays bass and sings in Nomeansno) as way to celebrate one of their favourite movies, *Slapshot*, and their favourite sport, hockey. They released



PHOTO PROVIDED

The rough and tumble hockey punks of The Hanson Brothers.

two pop-punk albums in the ’90s, but not without some confusion with other Hanson-named bands. Most notably, the cutesy boy-band Hanson, whose underage fans once showed up to the punk band’s Cleveland dive bar gig.

“It was in a part of town in Cleveland where people don’t always walk the streets after 9 pm. It was really sad because these two girls, who must have been 14 and somehow got into the bar, were so excited, then so incredibly disappointed,” chuckles

The Hanson Brothers  
Saturday, April 12  
\$12-\$15, Logan’s Pub  
loganspub.com

### New Music Revue



Elephant  
*Sky Swimming*  
(Memphis Industries)  
4/5

*Sky Swimming* is an excellent debut album from alternative band Elephant, featuring ex-couple Amelia Rivas and Christian Pinchbeck.

The disc mimics the up-and-down nature of their relationship (which fell apart during the making of the album), from the upbeat opener “Assembly” to the mellowed-out but still fun “Ants” and the emotional and raw title track.

Constant throughout are Rivas’ smooth as silk vocals sitting over the background of hip-hop beats, electronic loops, and moving harmonies. The album is occasionally overproduced, however, which distracts from Rivas’ naturally beautiful voice.

Still, this is a great album worth listening to over and over again.

-GILLIAN SELLMAN

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music

# Greg MacPherson visits ghosts of accidents past on BC tour

“Early on my records were good, but as an artist I don’t think I had the skills to realize my artistic vision as well as I do now.”

**GREG MACPHERSON**  
MUSICIAN

Fans may have been disappointed that MacPherson didn’t make it out to play on that tour, but surely few are disappointed with *Fireball*. It’s MacPherson’s sixth full-length album and, finally, one that he himself would buy.

“That’s a nice feeling that I didn’t always have,” he says. “Early on my records were good, but as an artist I don’t think I had the skills to realize my artistic vision as well as I do now.”

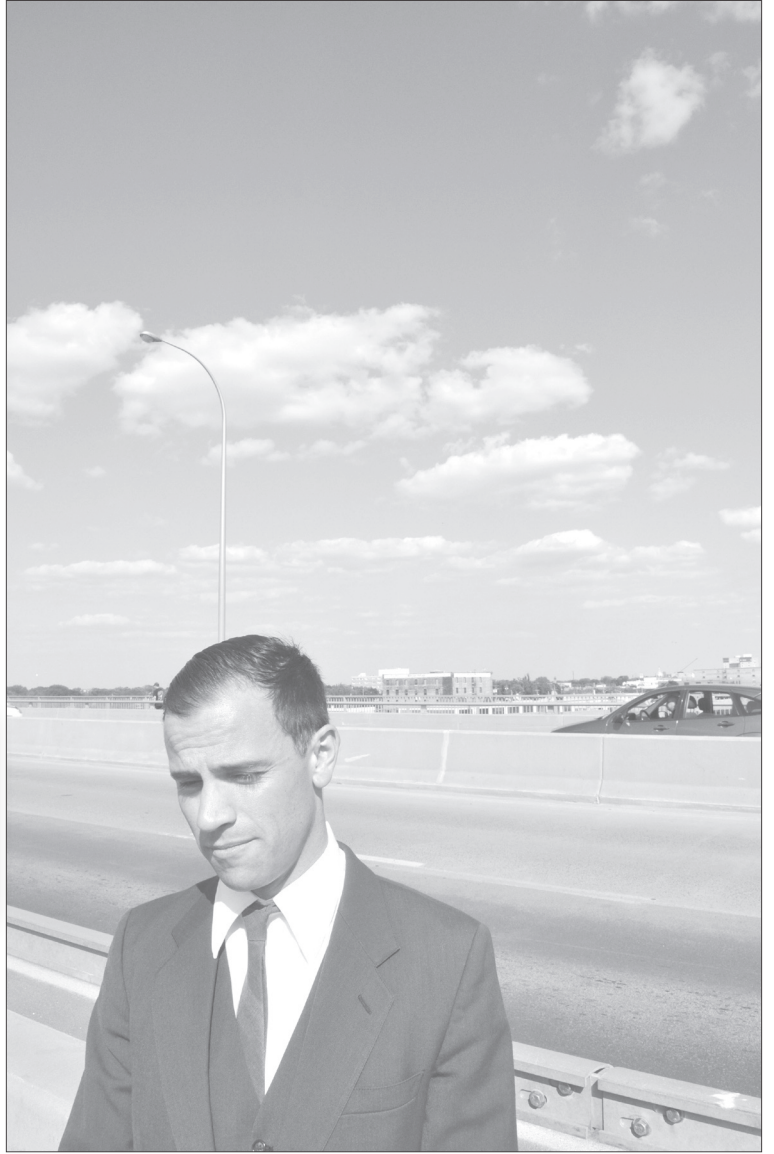
*Fireball* and MacPherson’s 2011 album *Disintegration Blues* were released on his own record label, Disintegration Records (previously, MacPherson has had albums released by respected Canadian indie labels such as G7 Welcoming Committee Records and Smallman Records). Starting his own record label has allowed him the opportunity to give exposure to unknown talent, something he is very excited about.

“The idea is that if we’re all putting our music out together, and we have different people interested in our work, it’s going to shine a bigger light on all of us,” says MacPherson. “I’m really excited for people to hear the music we’re putting out. We don’t do it in a lavish way, but I think we are really realistic, and are able to support our artists in a lot of ways. We want unknown artists who should be really well known to

have the opportunity to get some exposure.”

Another way to get exposure is by hitting the road. MacPherson is looking forward to touring again; it’s a labour of love, he says, yet a part of being a musician that he values and wouldn’t trade for anything.

“It’s a lot of hard work,” says MacPherson. “All the hours of driving, and setting up, and waiting, are elements that make touring hard, but even after all that it is so much fun, and it’s a total privilege to be able to do it at all. If you ever hear anyone complain about touring, you should just laugh in their face. It’s an absolute privilege, and if folks really want a dose of reality they should go and get a job.”



DEREK HOGUE

Winnipeg’s Greg MacPherson is returning to Victoria; will he bring a suit?

**GIUSTINA QUALIZZA**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Winnipeg singer/songwriter Greg MacPherson is heading out to the west coast to conclude his tour for his latest album, *Fireball*. And he’ll visit some bad memories along the way: his last BC tour was cut short after MacPherson and his band were in a car accident on their way to the coast.

“We were sitting in a snow bank, all turned around on the highway, and we realized that we had to cancel or we were going to get killed,” MacPherson recalls. “I’ve never had to do that before. I felt like I let people down.”

Greg MacPherson  
7:30 pm Friday May 2  
\$12, Lucky Bar  
luckybar.ca

**WIN FREE TICKETS!**

The first two people to email [nexus@nexusnewspaper.com](mailto:nexus@nexusnewspaper.com) with the subject line “Greg MacPherson tickets” will each win two tickets to go see Greg MacPherson!

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Noms!

words and photo by Patrick Hallihan

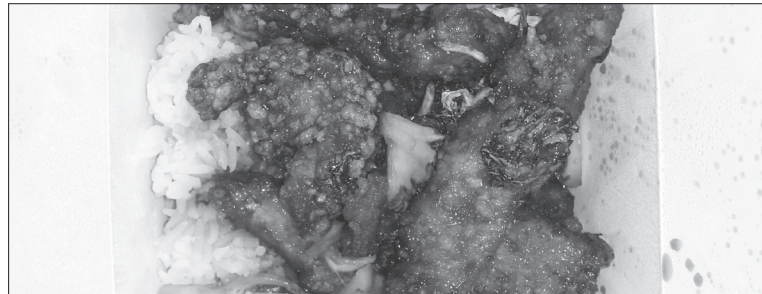
## Foo worth the crowded digs

Foo is an Asian-street-food-style restaurant that will make you willingly cram yourself into a small space for some of their seriously tasty food.

Located at the corner of Yates and Blanshard in the downtown core, this little building resembles what I would expect a street food shack to look like. Actually, the parking lot is probably bigger than the whole of the restaurant. Maybe I should be glad a restaurant in the downtown core even has a parking lot... a free one, at that!

Two friends and myself toddled in to the little food shack on a sopping wet Saturday evening. The restaurant was jam packed with people, as many standing as sitting. With all the dampness and body heat, the windows were steamed up. Even so, the décor was pretty nice. Lively music playing, clean counters and chairs, chalkboard menus in various Asian currencies, plus one in Bitcoin.

Apparently everyone standing had already ordered, so we awkwardly scooped by the other



Some delicious fare from Foo: deceptively filling and high quality.

customers and gave our orders to the cashier. Standing to the side, we chatted while we waited on food. It was neat to be able to watch the two chefs on the other side of the counter do their thing, and after 10–15 minutes our names were called, so we took our food and left.

Eating at my friends' house, the food was fantastic. Two of us had the Caramel Chicken with rice and veggies. The chicken was juicy and well cooked, a little sweet and salty, and a nice crunch on the outside. Really fantastic stuff! This was one of those dishes that I was legitimately sad to finish, because it meant I couldn't keep eating it.

My other friend had the Sweet

& Sour Pork Belly: incredibly tender and flavourful, although not as good as the chicken.

The menu is extremely compact (about 12 main dishes to choose from), with most items running \$10–\$13. The food is deceptively filling though, so you definitely get your money's worth. Perhaps not the cheapest of eats, but for the quality and quantity it's a pretty good deal.

Foo is absolutely worth a visit. I don't even like Asian food all that much, but maybe I've just never had good Asian food, because this place is amazing. Go to Foo, but make sure you take your food somewhere else to eat if you get claustrophobic.



Age of Geeks

by Vishal Pandey

## Tech updates, tech updates, tech updates

Spring is here and so is an array of devices and apps from the technology world. It's that time of the year when lot of updates get pushed out, at least for Android devices. During the last two weeks we also saw the release of significant devices, apps, and updates.

### All new HTC ONE (M8)

So, the Taiwanese manufacturer has released the successor of last year's flagship HTC ONE cell phone. The phone packs five-inch, full HD resolution. On first look, the HTC One (M8) appears to be a solid upgrade from its predecessor, in terms of build quality. Keeping the industry standards in mind, the phone has the best hardware, but lacks in camera department. For some reason, HTC took a gamble by placing just a four-megapixel camera in their flagship device,

which is far below the industry standard. Hit or miss? We'll soon find out.

### LG G2 Kit Kat update

The phone that built the base of the mighty Nexus 5 is finally getting the update to the latest Android software 4.4, a.k.a. Kit Kat. So, it's about time that LG's flagship phone finally gets the bells and whistles of its counterpart, Nexus 5, which was lucky enough to get the first updates. G2 is on contract with the Canadian carriers Bell and Rogers, who are now getting the update. If you haven't got the update yet, it should be just around the corner.

### HTC BlinkFeed coming to all devices

BlinkFeed is HTC's feed aggregator that displays your social network updates, calendar events,

news, music, and other content all in one place. With HTC BlinkFeed you don't need to open multiple apps to see what's going on; all of your content is gathered together in one convenient stream. HTC has kept this wonderful app to itself for a long time, but has decided to try the app's fate with other devices as well sometime in the future. The company is working on a SDK, which will allow other devices to work with it. At the moment it's only available on the HTC M8, but this exclusivity won't last for long.

### The end of Last.fm

After going paid subscription-only last year, Last.fm recently announced that its subscription radio streaming service would no longer be available. However, users will still be able to stream music from Last.fm using Spotify.



Politically Speaking

by Matthew Helliwell

## Stop blame game, separatists

Two things are going to happen this year: there will be an election in Quebec and a separation referendum in Scotland. If the separatist Parti Quebecois wins a majority in that province, they may hold their own referendum. Separation, in general, which on its own holds some merit, isn't the problem in Quebec. So what is?

Ask the PQ three years ago and they'd tell you it was the Anglo bastards. That explanation has fallen out of fashion lately, because they realized the persecution complex was getting old.

Since the Charter of Values debacle, the scapegoat for everything wrong with Quebec has become the hijab. If that legislation passes, public employees will be barred from wearing any overt religious symbols. (God forbid I should be forced to watch someone peacefully express the most important part of their life on their head when I renew my driver's licence.)

As if that wasn't enough, Quebec premier Pauline Marois has so graciously drawn to our attention the secret plot by "les autres" to steal Quebec's upcoming election.

A recent story in Montreal's *Le Devoir* chronicled the tale of a poor, unsuspecting electoral officer bombarded by people trying to vote... get this, whose first language wasn't English or French! Naturally, they were turned away. So was 21-year-old fourth-year McGill University student Dune Desormeaux, who couldn't vote because he was a student.

Skip over the Atlantic and we can see a separation movement being run the right way. Whether you agree if Scotland should separate or not, it's hard to argue that the separatists in that country are doing a bad job. Their six-word question is clear as day, and the separation website lays out answers to all kinds of questions, from the banal to the complex. Rhetoric surrounding their referendum tends to revolve around the positives to separation, rather than the same complaints parroted a few hundred more times.

If Quebec separatists want to be taken seriously, they should take a page out of Scotland's book and stop looking for someone to blame.

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Camosun College Student Society columns



In Search of Lost Time

by Daphne Shaed  
camosun college women's center

## Finding body acceptance

We are all different. You're special and I'm special; we are all independently special in our own unique ways.

Trying to conform to western society's unrealistic views of beauty and body shape takes its toll on us mentally and physically, and it's dangerous.

For almost two years now I have gone without makeup with the exception of special occasions, where I may put on a little bit. The surprising thing was that, after a period of adjustment, I felt better about myself than I ever did wearing makeup.

However, I still obsessed about my body. I have muscle and I have fat, too. Every time I stepped on the scale I held my breath waiting for the inevitable blow to my self-esteem.

I bike to and from school, I eat a healthy diet, and my doctor tells me I'm in top shape. So why am I not a size six? Well, it's because my body isn't meant to fit

into a size six without compromising my health.

Real women do not have curves. Real women are just independently variable in size, shape, and everything else that makes us who we are.

The key is to consider our overall health, physical and mental, as the measure of our view on beauty. It begins by ignoring the powerful messages from popular media that are always going to tell us we aren't good enough.

Instead, reflect on yourself and your lifestyle (physical health and mental wellbeing) and promote a healthy sense of self, based on your own independent criteria.

I was able to find body acceptance once I started introspection, instead of attempting to conform to the beauty myth; I was able to find body acceptance once I started fitting my clothes to my body, rather than my body to my clothes.



Queerly Forward

by Piotr Burek  
camosun college pride collective

## Assumptions are microaggressions

Chances are many queer students on campus have been faced with situations where others have made sweeping assumptions about them. Included in this list of assumptions are ones about sexual orientation, ethnicity, gender, and all the others that feed annoyingly into the daily dose of microaggressions, or small acts of mostly non-physical aggression. Not only are they extremely annoying, but microaggressions can be harmful and damaging.

Assuming someone's gender identity, for example, can have very detrimental effects on that person's mental and physical wellbeing.

Many gender-variant folks already have to deal with systemic institutional oppression, so the last thing they need to hear is someone mis-gendering them, or assuming they somehow need to fit within a binary model.

These assumptions have been spoon-fed to us

throughout our lives, so it can be difficult to escape the way in which we've been socialized to assume. But with a little bit of dismantling, we can all work on relating to each other without assumptions.

Unlearning is an important part of creating safe(r) spaces among the queer community and the community at large. We can unlearn the assumption that everybody is heterosexual. We can unlearn the assumption that everyone is either a man or a woman. We can unlearn the assumption that everybody wants a long-term monogamous marriage. There are so many things we can unlearn that would create stronger relationships among our communities.

So what is the moral of this article? Check your assumptions and be aware of the way in which microaggressions pervade our campus. Doing so would foster stronger relationships in which you can really get to know each other.



Student Zen

by Ben Baird  
camosun college meditators on campus

## Kindness before rightness

A meditation teacher of mine has said on numerous occasions that it's more important to be kind than to be right. Certainly there are situations where it's critical to communicate the right message to the right person and make sure they understand it; it may be the kind thing to do. It's those situations in which we press our point through another's resistance where conflict arises.

Zen meditation involves a regular practice wherein we arrange our bodies in an intentional way (there are a number of postures for different bodies and abilities) and give ourselves to this posture for 20 minutes or so, just sitting and breathing.

It may be a stretch to understand what this practice has to do with being kind, but once we have experienced

the torrent of thoughts and emotions which floods our minds when we sit like this, and the initial frustration of this busy mind, we may see the importance of being kind.

As I mentioned in last issue's column, receptivity is what characterizes the Zen style of meditation. When we insist upon our position as correct, using affirmative language to drive it home, we are not practicing receptivity. Often what's most kind is just to listen, especially in a culture where individuality and personal achievement are paramount values.

So, when we sit for 20 minutes in the morning or at night, we might consider our meditation a way of training our minds to be kind to ourselves and others.

# NEXUS

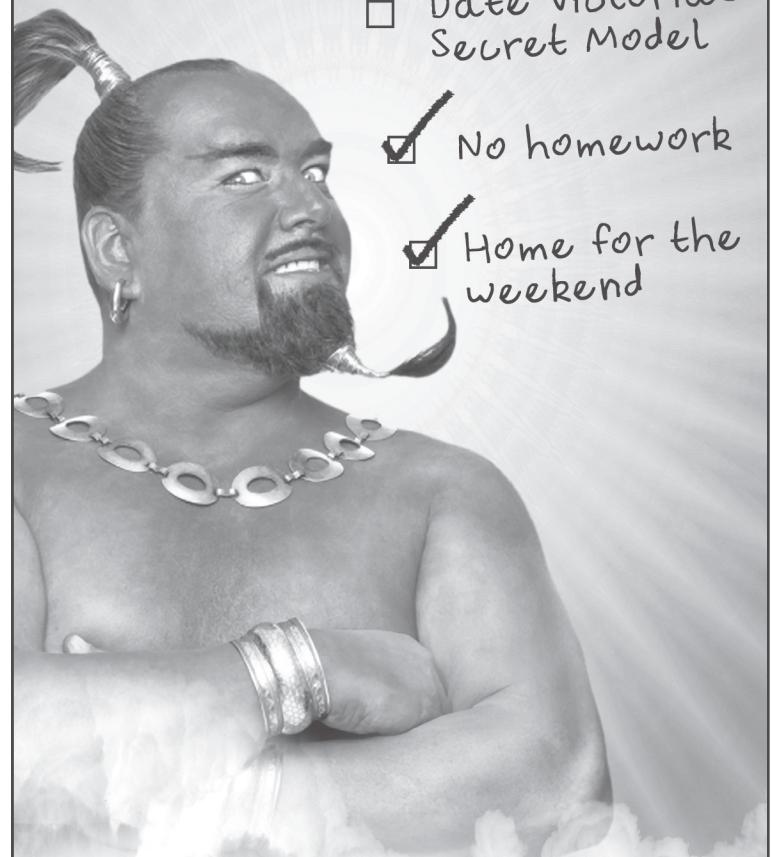
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# NEXUS



sexy camosun word search

Just how sexy is Camosun? According to our last issue's cover story, pretty sexy. In case you missed the story, head over to [nexusnews-paper.com](http://nexusnews-paper.com) to read it and to join the conversation and let us know just how sexy you think the campuses are! (Don't forget to find us on Facebook and Twitter while you're at it, by the way.)

This word search pays tribute to that friskalicious story.

The first 10 people to bring this completed word search in to our office will get a free pass for one admission to a drop-in session (swimming, skating, weight room, etc.) at any Saanich Recreation Centre, courtesy of Saanich Parks and Recreation.

- BOTTOM
- BUTT
- DESIRES
- FLOWING
- FRISKY
- JUICES
- KISS
- LOUDER
- LUBRICATION
- OVERALLS
- SASS
- SCANDALOUS
- SEXY
- SLOPPY
- SMELL
- SNUGGLES
- SPANKING
- STAIRCASES
- WASHROOM
- WIRES

S	P	B	Y	A	S	T	S	L	W	N	L	S	B	O
P	Y	O	Q	P	S	C	O	B	O	H	L	E	C	W
A	X	T	C	E	P	U	A	I	O	J	E	R	L	J
N	V	T	Q	T	D	O	T	N	A	X	M	I	F	T
K	C	O	U	E	M	A	L	I	D	W	S	S	P	X
I	P	M	R	Z	C	V	X	S	A	A	S	E	K	N
N	S	T	A	I	R	C	A	S	E	S	L	D	D	G
G	H	L	R	M	S	W	H	S	J	E	C	O	I	W
Y	F	B	L	E	M	R	S	E	C	I	U	J	U	L
X	U	R	R	A	O	S	E	L	G	G	U	N	S	S
L	B	I	I	O	R	F	L	O	W	I	N	G	A	P
B	W	S	M	S	K	E	L	N	H	X	J	M	S	L
R	U	T	N	I	K	X	V	T	M	V	S	H	S	B
R	O	T	S	P	S	Y	H	O	M	Y	Q	S	T	T
S	G	S	T	D	Y	G	S	E	X	Y	U	L	O	A

astrological asininity

by River Rainfall

Hi! OMG this is the last issue of this website before the semester ends so um bye!!

**Aries:** Hi Aries! I hope you're ready for the spring semester! Or, are you leaving Camosun for now? I hope you come back because Aries you're one of my faves.

**Taurus:** Taurus, study hard for those tests, because that grade point average isn't going up by itself! LOL unless you're hallucinating, which happens to all of us at least a couple times a day, so, all good!

**Gemini:** So if you really think about pumpkins it gets pretty weird. And I know pumpkins only exist during Halloween month, but Gemini, you gotta watch out for those this month. If you happen to

see one, weird, and get away.

**Cancer:** Hi! Totally told you to not sit on seats for the next couple of weeks last time. Did you pull that off? 'Cuz that's hard!

**Leo:** Leo, stock up on lottery tickets and... eggs?!

**Virgo:** LOL I was just messing with Leo there, no reason why they should buy eggs.

**Libra:** Hi, Libra! I saw you running across Richmond Street the other day. That hill there, I know everyone is supposed to go 30, but no one does (I like to meditate right on the yellow line in the middle of Richmond). So watch yourself!

**Scorpio:** Freakin' fun forecasting futures! LOL no seriously don't go to Cadboro Bay between April 3

and 5. Seriously.

**Sagittarius:** So what are you anyway, some kinda half-human half-horse?! I mean OMG freaky dreamy LOL! Not making fun but ummm weird. I don't know what's in your future, eating hay and not liking it because you're half-human?

**Capricorn:** Capricornio, I want to get to know you better! LOL sorry sometimes I just say things. Watch out for snow globes or just globes in general yeah just globes.

**Aquarius:** I'm Aquarius, which I don't know if I've mentioned, so I think we should move all this around so we're up top LOL not at the bottom; the bottom sucks.

**Pisces:** See? Bottom sucks.

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