

# NEXUS

camosun's student voice since 1990

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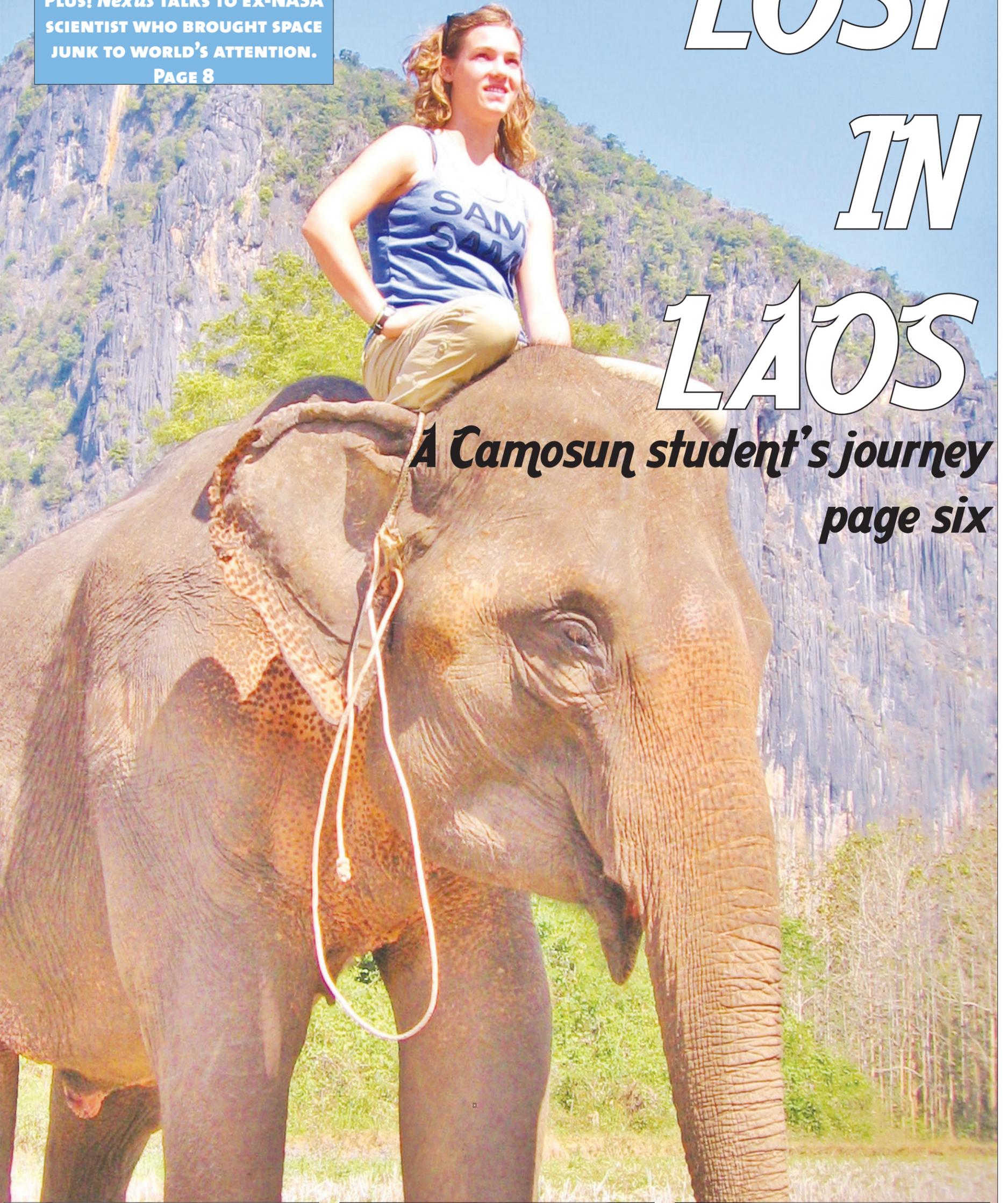
**PLUS! Nexus TALKS TO EX-NASA  
SCIENTIST WHO BROUGHT SPACE  
JUNK TO WORLD'S ATTENTION.  
PAGE 8**

# LOST

# IN

# LAOS

**A Camosun student's journey  
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OVERHEARD AT NEXUS: "Get up here; we have candy."

COVER PHOTOS:  
Lost in Laos: Provided  
No Means No: Greg Pratt/*Nexus*  
Arno: Provided  
Rocky Horror Picture Show: Miles Lowry

## editor's letter

# Jumpin' Jupiter!

Few things get me as excited as talk of outer space. Ever since I was a kid, it's fascinated me in a way that not much else does. Things like obscure '80's thrash metal or odd flavours of potato chips come close, but nothing really gets the ol' blood pumping like talk of outer space.

That's why it's with much excitement I present to you our talk with ex-NASA scientist Donald Kessler, who first presented the danger of space junk to the world back in the '70s. It's not like everything we send out into space just vanishes when we're done with it, after all. So while exploration of space is important, so is cleaning up our litter out there. Head over to page 8 to read more, and also head over to [nexusnewspaper.com](http://nexusnewspaper.com) and look in our web exclusive category for even more with Kessler.

If you'd rather get lost in Laos than lost in space, check out this issue's feature story, penned by contributing writer Rachel Sovka. Sovka details her journeys through Laos, where she went to cure a broken heart but ended up coming back home with a whole lot more. Read it all on page 6.

On page 5, contributing writer Giustina Qualizza speaks with Arno Kopecky, who sailed the Northern Gateway Pipeline route and wrote a book about it. Meanwhile, contributing writer Jayden Grieve writes about something a bit closer to home: Camosun's Living Library event, where students can book time with Camosun alumni and other folks to talk about their careers one-on-one (*Nexus* staffers are just a few of the "books" that you can reserve time with!).

Also on the Camosun front, contributing writer Andrea Eggenberger talked to some Camosun students involved in the relaunch of the No Means No campaign. See page 3.

And we're not forgetting that it's the season for spooks and thrills; head to our site to read our *Dracula* preview if you missed it last issue, and head to page 9 to read our *Rocky Horror Picture Show* preview, written by contributing writer Gariele Braaksma.

Now, if you'll excuse me, time to go stare at more space photos.

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

## flashback

# 20 years ago in Nexus



**Criminals or heroes?:** The *Student Opinion* column in our November 1, 1993 issue talked about one of the hot topics of the day: the protests over logging practices in Clayoquot Sound at the time. Writer Paul A. Smith asked "... what will future generations think of those who took great risks to stop such practices? Will they still be looked upon as criminals?" Well, future generations, help me answer Smith's question: drop *Nexus* a line and let us know what, if anything, you feel about the Clayoquot protestors.

**The never-ending upgrade:** In our last issue, we wrote about Camosun struggling to keep build-

ings upgraded. In this 1993 issue, we wrote about... the same thing. Back then, a big concern was the Carey Road campus needing funds for students with disabilities. Wait, what? Carey Road campus? Yup, from 1977 to 1995, there was a Carey Road campus. (That's not all: the Fort Street campus also closed in 1995!)

**Quotable column:** Our favourite quote from *Excrementia Factorum* this issue comes from a column griping about Halloween. Author Shelley Evans lays down the many reasons why she doesn't like the holiday, including this: "I hate my door bell." How can you argue with that?

## open space

# The naked truth



RACHEL SOVKA

## Cyclists getting naked for the cause.

RACHEL SOVKA  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

I went to my first nudist parade last year. It was a naked bike ride in Victoria protesting carbon gas emissions... at least I think that's what it was for. The truth is, I just thought yelling in front of our government legislature completely nude was a great idea, no matter what it was for. That said, I certainly agreed that polluting the environment and failing to invest in sustainability was wrong, but I was too absorbed in chanting, "Less gas! More ass!" to deeply consider the political implications right then and there.

What I was considering, though, was how amazing it felt to be naked, not only having the wind breeze through places you'd never felt wind before, but also the beauty of vulnerability exposed, of joining together in an indescribable unity. There was something about the freedom that came over us in those moments of being absolutely butt-naked with strangers, a passion for something bigger than each of us and our petty images of ourselves.

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

## correction

In "Exploring the many tragedies of opera with Falstaff" (October 16, 2013 issue), we incorrectly said MET refers to the Metropolitan Museum of Art; it refers to the Metropolitan Opera. We also said that the opera broadcasts that MET are involved with are not shown in Victoria; they are. We apologize for the mistakes.

# SPEAK UP

What's the most interesting food you've ever eaten?

BY RACHEL SOVKA



CARLITO LIVINGSTONE

"My friend and I used to work at a restaurant and we got creative and made curry and prawn poutine. We thought it would be good but it was the most disgusting thing ever!"



MALCOM STEWART

"Yak's milk in Nepal. It was warm and weird."



JACOB ARTS

"Cow tongue and cow heart. They taste weirdly similar, almost identical. Delicious! Better than any other part of the cow, by far."



APRIL BRADY

"Prairie oysters (deep-fried bull testicles). I didn't know what they were, my family just said, 'Have some!' Then, 'You just ate a bull testicle.' I was like, 'Right on!'"



MINAMI SUGITA

"Sea cucumber. My father suddenly revealed that I was eating it inside the soup. And in Japan I ate bee larvae at my grandma's."

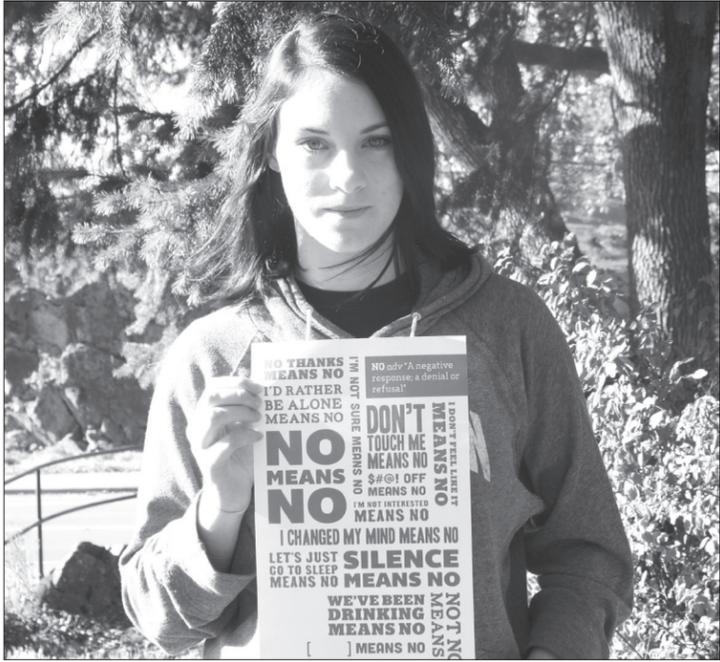


JANICE BETOS

"Ox tripe. My friends told me there was a great authentic Filipino buffet in Vancouver, but when we went they didn't tell me what was in the soup. It was good, but weird."

social issues

# No Means No campaign gets relaunched



GREG PRATT/NEXUS

Madeline Keller-MacLeod of the Canadian Federation of Students.

**ANDREA EGGENBERGER**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) has re-launched their longstanding No Means No anti-sexual assault campaign. According to the CFS, in the wake of rape chants happening during frosh week at the University of British Columbia (UBC) and Saint Mary's University, as well as three recent reports of sexual assault at UBC, awareness is needed now more than ever.

"There is a culture of silence around this culture of violence," says Madeline Keller-MacLeod, CFS-BC women's liaison and Lansdowne executive for the Camosun College Student Society (CCSS). "I think the chants are kind of a reflection of what our broader society is willing to accept right now, and No Means No is saying that we need to change that, and it is our responsibility to change that."

The campaign, originally launched by the CFS in 1992, was intended to combat sexual assault on campus and in communities nationwide. Some studies say that only eight percent of victims of sexual assault come forward to report the crimes, and the CFS claims there has been no significant decline in sexual assaults over the past 20 years.

One of the primary focuses of the re-launch revolves around the idea of consent, says Keller-MacLeod.

"No can take many forms and each of those forms has to be respected," she says.

Daphne Shaed, CCSS women's director, explains that consent is a communicative process and that silence is not consent. She also points out that the word "no" is not negotiable and that any consent given has a limited life span.

"Consent is not something that is carried forward to any other situation than the immediate, present

"There is no point of no return."

**DAPHNE SHAEED**  
CAMOSUN COLLEGE STUDENT SOCIETY



GREG PRATT/NEXUS

Camosun College Student Society's Daphne Shaed.

moment that you're in," says Shaed. "To carry forward regardless of consent just because you feel that you've reached a point of no return is ridiculous. There is no point of no return."

The campaign is also addressing the validity of consent in certain situations.

"When someone has consumed alcohol or drugs, for example," explains Judith Prat, manager of direct client services of the Victoria Sexual Assault Centre, "they're not in a cognitive state where they can logically give consent. Their judgement is clouded."

Prat says she likes the campaign but would like to see more emphasis on the legalities involved. Sexual assault is a criminal offence prosecuted under the Criminal Code of Canada.

"Education is excellent," says Prat. "I like the positive messages in the campaign, but I would also like

to see more reference to the criminal codes in the posters."

One of the other goals of the No Means No campaign is to educate would-be perpetrators in hopes of getting them to recognize their role in the dimensions of sexual assault or rape; according to Keller-MacLeod, it also points out the fallacious logic of victim blaming.

"Rape and gender violence is about power, not sexual gratification," says Keller-MacLeod. "It doesn't matter what you're wearing; it's still considered something you should be afraid of."

The campaign also discusses the changes in rape culture over the past 20 years and how it has unfortunately become more a part of our everyday vocabulary, says Shaed.

"I don't think in 1996 you would have heard people talking about conquering something, or dominating something, or doing well in

something, in relation to rape," she says.

Keller-MacLeod says she has heard firsthand how words can be used to further rape culture on campus. "I heard somebody come down the stairs of Fisher Building one day and say they had just 'raped that test.' Part of rape culture is refusing to stand up against sexualized violence, and even just comments, comments that you can say are benign."

The CFS and the CCSS are organizing several workshops in the winter semester highlighting topics such as what consent really means; the nature of this temporal arrangement; how to ask for consent; non-verbal communication; methods of de-escalation and avoidance; empowerment for women; and self-defence. Also, this semester, keep your eyes open for a poetry slam around gender violence in early December.

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Fall Camosun College Student Society election results in

The preliminary results for the Camosun College Student Society (CCSS) fall elections are in. 593 students voted, and the end result is this: Jacqueline Christie is now a Lansdowne director, while Sophie Amin, Xinyi Qu, Pamela Webster, and Ellen Young are Interurban directors. Andrea Lemus is the new international director.

### Camosun good for the economy

If providing education isn't productive enough, Camosun delivers on the money front as well, according to a new report. In the analysis based on the 2011/2012 academic fiscal year, the school had a \$1 billion impact on the regional economy. According to the analysis, the school's government funding is more than balanced by the positive income created locally, both for

businesses and individuals. For once it's nice to see tax dollars not going to waste.

### CRD asks for input on waste

After heavy public resistance to the proposed bio-solids processing plant in Esquimalt, the CRD has marked the Hartland Landfill area in Saanich as the best alternative. The press release emphasizes a proactive engagement with the community, as well as noting the greater distance from the proposed site to nearby residences. Maybe, just maybe, the government learned something from the unfortunate Victoria sewage debacle.

### Chargers volleyball going strong

Camosun women's and men's volleyball teams may have started slow this season, but both teams have gone on to win consecutive games at home. Let's hope the trend continues through November. Don't

forget to show your support at the men's and women's basketball teams' home games this month at the Pacific Institute for Sport Excellence while the volleyball teams are away.

### Golf team wins bronze

The Camosun Chargers men's golf team won the 2013 PING CCAA nationals bronze medal with some tough competition. The team was in ninth place after the first day and fifth place after day two, and they had the lowest daily score on day three. Camosun golfer Jarret Calbeck won his second award this season: CCAA 2013 All-Canadian. The tournament gold winner was fellow BC team University of the Fraser Valley; Ontario's Humber College took silver.

### New health authority for BC First Nations

British Columbia is pioneering a new initiative in health care, by setting up a First Nations Health Authority. It's intended to cover

all the areas within aboriginal communities that the main health streams are not adequately addressing, and to integrate First Nations cultural knowledge and values into the services. The Songhees Wellness Centre being built in Esquimalt will be part of this larger initiative.

### Pay your age for dance

Dance Victoria is running a special deal this season to invite youth to experience the beauty of dance. If you are between the ages of 12 and 29, you can attend performances for the cost of your age. The tickets are limited and go on sale three weeks before the shows. Info at [dancevictoria.com](http://dancevictoria.com).

### FilmCAN competition

Know any young filmmakers? This is their chance for a bit of fame in the 2014 Victoria Film Festival. FilmCAN invites submissions from kids in Grade 12 and under for the chance to win some sweet prizes, as well as to have your short film shown before a feature at the festi-

val. A mentor program will also be set up online to help with questions about the filmmaking process. Entries accepted until December 14 on the [FilmCAN](http://FilmCAN.org) site; details at [victoriafilmfestival.com](http://victoriafilmfestival.com).

### Group offers ferry fare proposals

BC Ferries has become prohibitively expensive, says the Ferries Advisory Committee, and fare reductions are the best way forward. They recently presented their proposals in a paper to the provincial government with the hope that the budget planners will approve funding for a pilot project of reduced ferry fares. As anyone on the island would agree, that would be amazing (but don't hold your breath).

**-SAMANTHA PETTIFER**

*Got a news tip? Let us know! Email the info to us right here: [editor@nexusnewspaper.com](mailto:editor@nexusnewspaper.com).*

camosun

## Living Library offers students valuable knowledge

“It’s not just a matter of who you know, but who knows what you know!”

**IRENE WALLACE**  
CAMOSUN COLLEGE

**JAYDEN GRIEVE**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The general consensus amongst successful people is that knowledge is power. On Wednesday, November 13 the Lansdowne campus will be hosting a Living Library for students to get knowledge in a variety of fields. No, this Living Library isn’t the inevitable genetically-modified-books-come-alive-and-take-over-the-world apocalypse; rather, it’s an event where professionals

from many different disciplines gather to give students the skinny on their fields.

“One of the most valuable strategies you can use to figure out not only where you want to go but how you get there is to talk to people that are in the field,” explains Camosun employment facilitator Irene Wallace, who, along with Camosun’s library staff, is organizing the event.

Students are able to book a spot in a two-person appointment, either with a friend or a stranger, to discuss for 15 minutes any questions they might have about their profession with one of the “living books” professionals.

“So many students wonder how do you get there, who do you need to know, how do you network, how do you shake hands, how do you introduce yourself?” says Wallace. “At the end of the day, number one, you need a proper education, there’s no doubt about it; but, secondly, it’s

not just a matter of who you know, but who knows what you know!”

Over 35 guests will receive an official college welcome from new Camosun College board of governors chair Marilyn Pattison and then proceed to meet with 16 sets of students. This will mark the college’s fourth Living Library event; the latest took place at the Interurban campus in February.

“According to my research, we are the only institution in the country that is running their living library on all their guests being brought in for students to talk to about their educational background or their career,” says Wallace. “This particular one is at Lansdowne, so our guests are primarily with arts and science backgrounds. We’ve got criminology, some business, and some health, because of our health programs, whereas the one at Interurban was sport, trades, tech, and business.”

This event marks a big oppor-



PHOTO PROVIDED

Camosun’s Irene Wallace (left) and Marilyn Pattison at a Living Library.

tunity for students to not only learn about their fields but also to make connections, explains Wallace.

“People are coming to this event who you can follow up with; it’s 15 minutes, so you’re not going to get a lifetime of information, but most of them are coming knowing that the possibility is there that you could ask for their business card and they could be open to you emailing them and setting up an information interview for a later date,” she

says. “What better opportunity for students and alumni to meet with top-notch people in a variety of fields to try to get some ideas on how to break into employment and your career?”

Camosun students and alumni can sign up for appointments at [camosun.ca/services/library](http://camosun.ca/services/library). Students can sign up for as many sessions as they wish, with any of the “living books,” not just those in their own field.

camosun

## Know Your Profs: Camosun’s Bogdan Verjinschi

**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. Got someone you want to see interviewed? Email [editor@nexusnewspaper.com](mailto:editor@nexusnewspaper.com) and we’ll get on it.

This time around we caught up with mathematics instructor Bogdan Verjinschi and talked about the struggles of teaching math, thank-you letters, and education via pills.

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

I teach mathematics and I have been teaching at Camosun since 2001.

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

I actually enjoy teaching math

and I am very pleased when I can help my students understand the material we need to cover. I get a lot of enjoyment in seeing their faces lit up when they “get it”: when they understand fully the concepts I present to them.

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

Although a difficult subject, math is very useful in peoples’ lives. I am aware of how apprehensive students might be about this subject, and I am here to help them.

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

Where I park my car. No, no, I’m just joking.

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

Not one, not two, but 15 thank-you letters I received in one day.

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

“What’s the point to all these computations?” This was a question asked by a student well into the course.

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

Long into the future, students get their education through pills purchased in learning dispensaries. The pills are generally very small, but the math pill is very large: even in the future, math may be a little hard to swallow.

This, of course, is pure fiction, just an old math joke.

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

Usually, I go for long walks, or go hiking, or just share quality time with family and friends.

**9: What’s your favourite meal?**

Japanese food.

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

Noisy motorcycles.

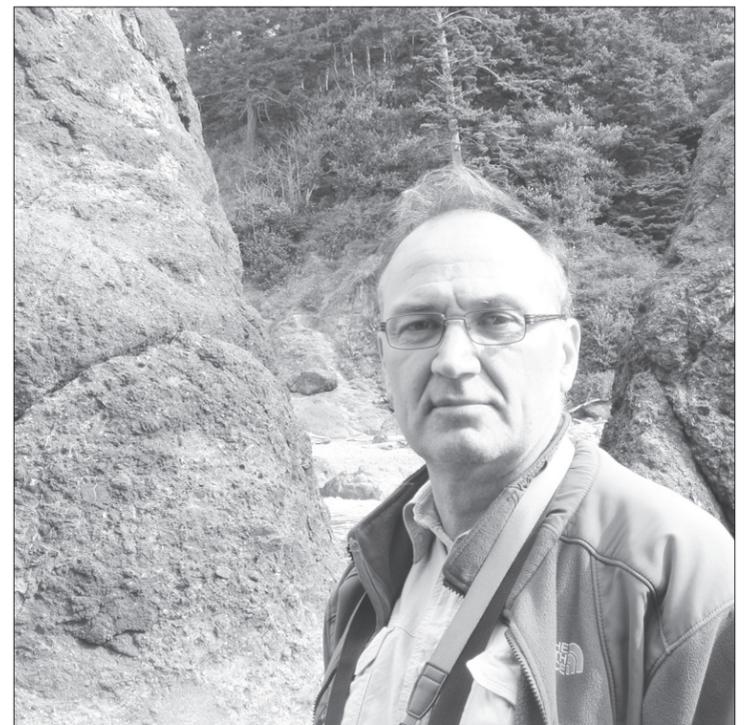


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Camosun’s Bogdan Verjinschi knows a few good math jokes.

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literature

# Author sails into discovery with new pipeline book

“Have adventure and bring out your inner ninja, really take life by the horns and live it.”

**ARNO KOPECKY**  
JOURNALIST

**GIUSTINA QUALIZZA**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

In the summer of 2012, environmental journalist Arno Kopecky found himself casting off from the marina in Sidney, BC with professional photographer Ilja Herb. Together their plan was to sail *Foxy*, a 41-foot sailboat, up the coast to Kitimat, BC, following the route that the many oil tankers would take, should the Northern Gateway Pipeline be approved.

Kopecky's newest book, *The Oil Man and the Sea: Navigating the Northern Gateway*, uses their journey to offer a unique perspective on the important issues concerning the endangered coastline. The travelogue brings to light the story of the coast that has been buried by politics.

“The story is about much more than the Northern Gateway,” says Kopecky. “The Gateway was a way into the story of the Great Bear Rainforest, and all of the coastal First Nations that have lived there for 10,000 years, who are just now on an upswing once again. It is about the relationship between

non-indigenous and indigenous Canadians.”

Both Kopecky and Herb are seasoned travellers and thrive in the face of adventure. Neither of them, however, had ever learned how to sail a boat. Moving and docking *Foxy* proved to be a challenging and humorous task.

“The sense of unease and uncertainty became part of the story,” says Kopecky. “It became sort of a comical thing. Trying to take the piss out of myself, and not in any way glorify my abilities. You have to have a laugh and have a good time along the way.”

The Great Bear Rainforest and the surrounding area are of incredible cultural and ecological importance. Both Kopecky and Herb wanted to make sure their firsthand experiences in this exquisite wilderness helped the public to understand how detrimental the pipeline could be for the ecosystem.

“I think the lovely thing about writing a book about it, and having a lot of beautiful photography in that book, is that it allows you to really capture people's minds and attentions, hearts, and imaginations, and make them *feel* what is at stake instead of just telling them what is at stake,” he says.

He hopes that *The Oil Man and the Sea* will lay out environmental issues and affect people enough to be moved to action, as we stand to lose a lot if the Great Bear Rainforest and BC's coastline are destroyed.

“Everybody knows what's going



PHOTO PROVIDED

Arno Kopecky navigated the Northern Gateway and wrote a book about it.

on,” says Kopecky. “It's not really a secret that climate change is happening or that biodiversity is at risk and the world's oceans are polluted. Everybody knows these things, but it's like, where do you begin? Or,

how do you engage with this? Do it positively and have fun, and be cool. Have adventure and bring out your inner ninja, really take life by the horns and live it, because this is what we gotta deal with.”

*The Oil Man and the Sea* book launch  
7 pm Tuesday November 5  
2031 Swartz Bay Road,  
North Saanich



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# Adventure Elephants, “penis,”

By Rachel Sovka, c



What would it take for you to drop everything and move to a third-world country that you’ve never heard of? Why would you leave your whole life behind and travel alone to a foreign land without speaking one word of the language?

For me, it was the painful end of a long-term relationship, cueing an angsty metaphysical crisis, existential turmoil, and other pleasant cups of tea. (I know, pretty cutting-edge stuff.)

If you had called me two years ago and told me that I would move by myself to Southeast Asia, experience a life-changing adventure, discover unprecedented challenges, healing and joy, and fall in love with Laos, I would’ve said “Who’s Laos? And how did you get this number?”

But maybe if you had told me that I would spend the most significant year of my life driving a motorcycle, becoming bilingual, jumping off waterfalls, and eating barbecued dog, I would have believed you.

You see, it was no surprise to friends and family that I decided to volunteer in an impoverished nation trying to find God and heal my broken heart, nor was it a surprise that said country was, to my shame, a place I had never even heard of before. But living on the edge of crazy was just my style, and broadening my horizons was how I embraced this season of life.

It was a surprise, however, that I became a full-time English teacher and community development worker. It was also a surprise that my teaching involved so much dancing! But, as it turned out, there were a few other things I wasn’t expecting on this unforgettable adventure.

Whether it was unanticipated relationships, getting bucked off an elephant into the Mekong River, or becoming intimately acquainted with the squatty-potty, I wouldn’t have had it any other way. My ignorance about the nation of Laos was nothing but advantageous; it let the experience define itself, unencumbered by expectations. Alright, I wasn’t expecting to get bucked off an elephant, but that aside, it was love at first “sa-bai-dee”!

## Learning Lao life lessons

The Lao People’s Democratic Republic (Lao PDR, or Laos) is a small developing Buddhist country sandwiched between Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand, Myanmar, and China. Since Laos is one of the last remaining Communist countries, the natural beauty is largely untouched due to border closures and political tension.

Both the phrases “democratic” and “yes, of course your luggage will arrive” are used very loosely over there. A better acronym for Lao PDR might be “Lao People Don’t Rush.” Despite heinous colonial and wartime abuse, the Lao way of life is laid back, welcoming, and peaceful. In all my years growing up in New Zealand and, later, in Canada, never have I been so enchanted with such gracious and humble people and their value of simplicity.

I fundraised with a Mennonite Central Committee program called SALT (Serving and Learning Together), a cross-cultural exchange program that found me a job and a local host family in the capital, Vientiane, where I lived in a small dusty village often without electricity and always without clean water.

The lack of toilets (to say nothing of toilet paper), paved roads, and household appliances were made up for by the additional presence of ants in my bed and lizards

in my shower. No, I’m kidding: there was no shower. Bucket-showers were one of many cultural differences of life, like eating with your hands, sleeping in hammocks, and getting bitten by an obscure insect at least once daily.

I embraced all this with *joie de vivre* to the point where I couldn’t remember the last time I didn’t have ants in my toothbrush, wore makeup, came to work on time, wasn’t sweating, drove a car, wore pants, or slept using blankets. Although I missed air conditioning, tampons, and consistent internet access, I loved living in a land where palm trees are ubiquitous, traffic lights a suggestion, marriage proposals came daily, and beer costs less than one dollar!

I had volunteered in Mexico twice before, so it was never the poverty of Laos that shocked me. Rather, in spite of it, the Lao people were so generous and kind;

this underdeveloped nation was far more developed in matters of the heart and what life is truly about. Laos was like medicine for my soul, a cosmic chill-pill; *Take once daily with food. Spicy food. If irritation persists, seek extended stay.* I spent the year assuaging my grief with mangoes, sunshine, and investing in my village community.

Among the valuable life lessons they taught me was how to kill frogs and eat barbecued dog, buffalo intestine, ant eggs, congealed blood cubes, fish eyeballs, and every part of a chicken you can conceivably consume (head, feet, butt, half-formed fetus, you name it).

## Rethinking education

I had expected that after spending 2011 studying philosophy at Camosun, this year away would be a break from school, but my hopes of not setting foot in a classroom for a year were dashed when I was offered a full-time teaching job in two schools. So much for that.

However, I can promise that “school” in Laos is not what you’re picturing... unless you’re picturing 83 screaming children filling a small concrete room, trying out English swear words at me, the air punctuated by the faint smell of urine, and me dancing Gangnam style to captivate my students’ attention in 43 Celsius weather.

Education in Laos drastically differs from North American psychology and technology. Before you complain too much about your semester, imagine for a moment academic enrollment based on your ability to reach your arm around your head and touch the opposite ear. I kid you not, this is the Lao method. I wouldn’t besmirch the good name of entrance exams, but this works just as well, if you ask me.

In contrast to most developed countries, Laos’ education system focuses on the triple treat: corruption, corporal punishment, and the most boring and inapplicable methods imaginable. Observing this, I worked hard to make learning engaging and nurturing within appropriate cultural bounds. Though games, songs, and plenty of high-fives kept my kids smiling all year, I also considered teaching to be moulding the impressionable minds of the future and directly affecting the kind of people they become. So I made it my mission to teach things outside the curriculum, like showing kindness to one another, the value of thinking critically for oneself, and what it means to be joyfully alive.



I spent a  
referring to  
“penis”  
pronouncing  
“me” a sem

**Both the phrases  
“democratic” and “Yes, of  
course your luggage will  
arrive” are used very  
loosely over there.**

# es in Laos: and existentialism

contributing writer

lot of time  
to myself as  
due to  
the word for  
tone too high.

In my efforts to pave a solid, safe path toward hope, amidst exhaustion and adversity, I discovered that giving myself grace and patience when I made mistakes was just as important as giving it to others, even if that means a lot of crazy dancing... no,

The USA, serving arrogance and entitlement all day, made it obvious how much readjusting I have to do to the priorities of affluent life. If you see me in a 24-hour grocery store staring at the infinite choices of microwaveable food, just know that I'm still a little disoriented. Let's just say there have been a few times when I left my keys in the freezer and tried to start the car with a bagel.

I don't find anything interesting between my toes anymore or get to drive the wrong way down a one-way street, but I'm finding ways to appreciate and celebrate Canadian culture. I miss sharing meals sitting on the floor, washing my clothes in the river, and parking my motorcycle in the kitchen. I miss being the tallest person in every room and being proposed to an average of twice a week. Being a white foreigner in Laos was like applying a thick coating of please-stare-at-me cream every morning, so I'm still getting accustomed to no one's head spinning whenever I walk in to a room, and not getting asked out every hour on the hour.

I continue to laugh at my mistakes and give myself grace, but when I returned I hadn't spoken English in so long that I fear my writing is about as witty and articulate as a clump of dirt. What is there to say now that I'm no longer running with butterflies, swimming with elephants, sleeping with lizards, praying with monks, and dancing with drunks? (Well, I guess that last one still happens in college.)

Being back at Camosun has shown me how much I missed out on pop culture and current events... and, seriously, what is all the twerking about? I find myself caught between cultures, a little misplaced, lost in liminal space.

After returning to Canada I got a summer job in the only Lao restaurant in town, where I was paid to do my favourite things: speak Lao, eat traditional food, and share my heart for Laos with the local customers. My life in Laos continues to open doors for me both personally and professionally.

Of course I'm not the first person to volunteer in a third-world country in hopes of finding myself. But when I went somewhere unknown to me for a whole year to see what I could do to bless the people there, I ended up being deeply blessed myself. I may not have found God yet, but while I was searching, I found myself on the way.

Though I only have 27 new stamps in my passport, one tattoo, and an elephant-induced knee injury to show for it, I have new beliefs, worldviews, and peace like never before.

Laos is where I found joy in simplicity and freedom from hurt. For me, escaping a dark place meant literally stepping into a very, very bright place... 43 degrees Celsius, in fact. Suffice it to say, I spent a great deal of my time in Laos sweating my problems away. The only time I wasn't profusely perspiring was when I got Dengue fever and almost shivered to death.

I don't know where my next adventure will take me, but I want to use all my new skills and perspectives, whether it's to teach 83 screaming children, to slaughter chickens, or to properly say "I" instead of "penis."

I found unfathomably amazing things waiting for me when I left it all behind for a journey of service and self-discovery. I learned to expect the unexpected and embrace the season of life, but most importantly I discovered how to love, and what it means to be alive.

especially if that means a lot of crazy dancing. As well as teaching me to be a good teacher, Laos taught me to be a better student. I never expected to be an international English teacher because I always believed it was inherently wrong to perpetuate the economic monopoly of the English language, depleting other cultures in globalization and assimilation. But it was actually an amazing opportunity to understand traditions, preserve culture, expose realities of North American ideologies, and develop sustainability.

All this through the vulnerability of learning another language bearing no semblance to my mother tongue.

## Complications in Lao-glish

My countless embarrassing mistakes on the journey to bilingualism rendered me incapable of expressing myself for the first few months, save for enthusiastic miming and theatrical performances of the animal I wanted to eat in restaurants.

I'd be lying if I said that learning a random Asian language by full immersion wasn't a challenge. But good thing learning a tonal language is easy, SAID NO ONE EVER. I mean, for crying out loud (and sometimes I did), this monosyllabic language is derived from ancient Sanskrit! Which basically means it looks like calligraphy combining Arabic and hieroglyphics. It also means that I spent a lot of time referring to myself as "penis" due to pronouncing the word for "me" a semitone too high.

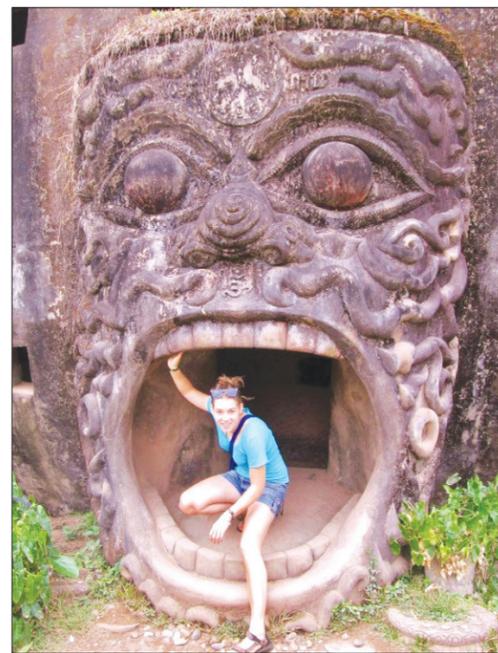
There was no end to my faux pas in the hierarchical respect system, whether I was calling someone "pig" instead of "friend," asking my host sister to marry me instead of go to a wedding with me, or saying "near" when I meant "far." I clung to my Lao-English dictionary like it was the last plane out of Vietnam. Learning to read and write all over again in a language without spaces or punctuation in a country where no one speaks English was difficult, but I was eventually successful. Eight dialects, six tones, 27 consonants, and 56 vowels later, I became fluent and sounded a lot less like I was coughing up a hairball on each vowel.

## Reverse culture shock

Now that I'm back at Camosun, I'm excited about linguistic anthropology, but struggling to adjust to the cultural emphasis on time efficiency, traffic laws, and not picking one's nose in public.

On my way home, I couldn't have made my reverse culture shock any worse than I did going straight from rural Southeast Asia to New York City, where I stayed in hostels for a week feeling overwhelmed at all the white people, excess electricity, flushing toilets, eating with a knife and fork, sitting in chairs, and being blessed when I sneezed. It was a miracle to feel paved roads, clean hot water, refrigerators, and the necessity of wearing socks, but swearing, complaining, and consumerism had gone nowhere, unfortunately.

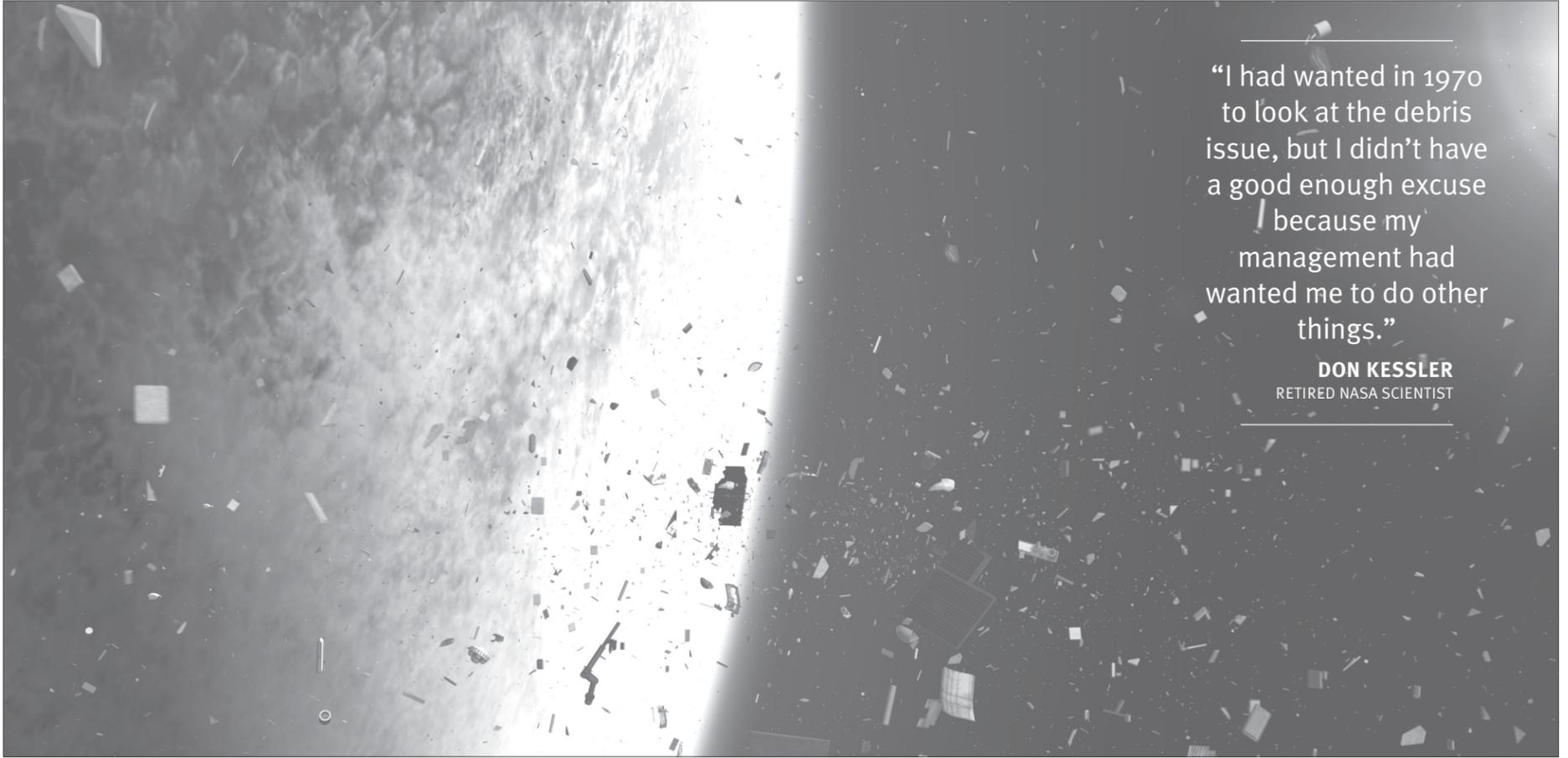
**This underdeveloped nation was far more developed in matters of the heart and what life is truly about.**



PHOTOS PROVIDED

astronomy

# Ex-NASA scientist warns of space junk via new film



“I had wanted in 1970 to look at the debris issue, but I didn’t have a good enough excuse because my management had wanted me to do other things.”

**DON KESSLER**  
RETIRED NASA SCIENTIST

Debris field as depicted in *Space Junk*, a movie for which former NASA scientist Donald Kessler (below) worked as a key adviser for.

SPACE JUNK3D, LLC

**RYAN BREZZI**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Are the days that we can look up at a clean sky and see a vast expanse of stars and contemplate the depths of our existence numbered? Human impact is now being felt in space, and aside from the development of megacities with buildings and lights that block the stars, the days of the big sky are gone, and the weight of space junk is above us.

When Don Kessler, who was recently in town promoting the new IMAX film *Space Junk 3D* (for which he was a key adviser), first began working on his space junk theory within the walls of NASA in the late 1970s, he came up against a lot of opposition. But, with time, it would become clear that he was right.

“The general thinking at that

time was that ‘space is infinite, you don’t need to worry about it; the probability of any satellites colliding is very small,’” says Kessler, who is now retired from NASA.

However, with the energy crisis in the ’70s, solar stations became the buzz, and Kessler was assigned to look at the environmental concerns related to the stations. This was also his chance to look further into space junk.

“I had wanted in 1970 to look at the debris issue, but I didn’t have a good enough excuse because my management had wanted me to do other things,” he says. “So I was looking for an opportunity to do that, and that’s when I looked at the debris issue, trying to understand solar stations.”

Space junk is no small matter. The amount of space junk in Earth’s



RYAN BREZZI/NEXUS

inner atmosphere, up to 1,500 kilometres above earth’s surface, is 2.5 million kilograms. Space junk is spacecraft that are launched into space and then left there, as well as the debris created from the collision of these spacecraft.

“An average collision will prod-

uce about 100 fragments that are massive enough that if any one of those 100 fragments go and hit another satellite, it would catastrophically break it up into a similar type of event,” explains Kessler. “And then at smaller sizes you get about 100,000 objects, and then one million objects.”

Space junk is growing, and there isn’t much hope to repair the situation, according to Kessler. Despite people saying that technology will make things more efficient and reduce waste, the growth of space junk isn’t reversible. Efforts to reduce space junk are necessary, but will not solve it, he says.

“What it boils down to is we started that too late,” says Kessler. “We should have started that 20 years earlier, in order to not have gone over this tipping point where

we have so much up there that even if you don’t put anything else up there, we’ll create a collisional cascade within 100 years. Without the mitigation strategy, it would be 50 years.”

*Space Junk*, which is playing daily at the Royal BC Museum, leaves audiences pondering the question of what to do next about the space mess that’s been created.

“We [will] have 2.5 million kilograms of already processed material in one place [if we gather it in orbit], and we plan to process it some way in the future,” reveals Kessler. “But if you go that route you have to have a plan.”

*Space Junk*  
Plays daily,  
Royal BC Museum  
[imaxvictoria.com](http://imaxvictoria.com)

## what’s going on

by samantha pettifer

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1

### Flashback to the ’80s

If you’re old enough to remember Grapes of Wrath, you’ll probably also remember how big they were in Canada (Sarah McLachlan opened for them!). Three original members got together in 2010 and released an album, *High Road*, this year. To indulge old memories or make new ones, catch ‘em at Upstairs Cabaret.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1

### The paradox of art

The theme of paradox brings together seven diverse artists for this UVic faculty show at the Legacy Gallery downtown. Meet the artists at the opening reception from 5:30–7:30 pm and check out their take on the paradox of the modern art experience.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3

### Flashback to the ’90s

Seminal east coast hip-hop artist and producer Pete Rock has once again joined forces with CL Smooth

for a tour celebrating the 20th anniversary of their classic album Mecca & the Soul Brother. Technically, it was 20 years last year, but apparently the party kept going: seriously, those jazz and funk samples got a groove that just won’t quit. Get your fix at Club 90NE9, doors at 9 pm.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6

### Challenge your cervix to a screening

If you have been gifted with a cervix, the Island Sexual Health Society wants you to give it the attention it deserves. As part of an awareness campaign for cervical cancer, they will be holding a drop-in cervical screening clinic from 10 am–7 pm. The clinic is a non-profit organization providing vital services for anyone without a family doctor, so they are also encouraging donations. Info at [islandsexualhealth.org](http://islandsexualhealth.org).

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7

### Special Olympics is fun for everyone

Bobby Debruin of Special Olympics

BC will be visiting the Interurban campus to speak about the Special Olympics. The organization wants to spread awareness of volunteer opportunities and sports programs for potential athletes. Debruin and a Special Olympics athlete will be at the Pacific Institute of Sports Excellence, Room 329b, at 12:30 pm.

FRI-SAT, NOVEMBER 8–9

### Alberta Ballet dances to Sarah McLachlan

Alberta Ballet has garnered praise for their popular series of popular music shows, including music by Joni Mitchell and Elton John. Their current show is based around the music of Canadian icon Sarah McLachlan. *Fumbling Towards Ecstasy* portrays the story of a woman’s life with beautiful and powerful choreography, set to McLachlan’s recognizable songs. The show will be at the Royal Theatre; more info at [dancevictoria.com](http://dancevictoria.com).

NOVEMBER 8–10

### Shakespeare, Downton Abbey style

Students at the Canadian College of Performing Arts are bringing

Shakespeare up to date, but not today’s date. Company C will be performing *Twelfth Night* as set in the 1920s, and full of the humorous fun one would expect from the Bard’s comedies. The action takes place at Metro Studio Theatre. Info at [ccpacanada.com](http://ccpacanada.com).

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12

### KEN Mode comes to town

Metal/hardcore band KEN Mode have spent many months touring this year and are back on the road again for another month. The Juno Award winners released another critically acclaimed album this year that was long-listed for the Polaris Prize. Catch them at Lucky Bar before they head back home to Winnipeg.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13

### The books are alive

The Camosun Lansdowne Library is holding a Living Books event for people who would like to learn things from a resource far more interactive than books or the internet: real people! From 9–11 am and 1–3 pm students and alumni can book time to talk to someone working in a career of interest about

where your schooling can take you. Check [camosun.ca/services/library](http://camosun.ca/services/library) to make an appointment.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16

### Powerful fun

With new albums out this year, labelmates Pup and Hollerado are riding high. Pup have been getting attention for their high-energy punk shows and fist-pumping songs. Hollerado’s power pop is a sure bet for anyone who loves their radio singles. Enjoy them at Sugar Nightclub, doors at 7 pm.

UNTIL DECEMBER 31

### Let’s get greener

The Capital Regional District is running a campaign to encourage sustainable habits at home. Think you already know enough about recycling paper and plastic? Wait, there’s more! Green 365 Indoor Living features information in areas you might not have thought about, like plumbing or homemade cleaners. And kitchen renos, not that you’re renovating a kitchen in your rental, but, hey, good info anyway. Also, you can get a free calendar (yep, free). Tips at [sustainableu.ca/green365](http://sustainableu.ca/green365).

musicals

# Rocky Horror Show adds new twist to cult tale

“Rocky Horror is a personal expression and breaking down of stereotypes. There is something in this: something mysterious.”

**RODERICK GLANVILLE**  
DIRECTOR

“We have a little competition going on to see who can pull more ridiculous faces,” says Rundell with a laugh. “We are all professionally trained actors who have thrown all of our training out the window. We just can’t take ourselves seriously.”

Interestingly enough, despite thriving in the mess and madness of *Rocky Horror*, neither Glanville nor Rundell has ever danced the famous Time Warp. Maybe the audience can teach them the moves.

After all, it’s just a jump to the left.



MILES LOWRY

*The Rocky Horror Show*  
October 31 to November 1  
\$25-\$45, McPherson  
Playhouse  
rtms.bc.ca

That’s right, it’s not *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*... it’s *The Rocky Horror Show*. Scary!

**GARIELE BRAAKSMA**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER  
Mannequins donned in elaborate gowns and dancing marionettes: these are the type of decorations that make up the eclectic atmosphere of Kaleidoscope Theatre HQ. Still, these adornments are tame in comparison to the unique creations designed specifically for this year’s showcase of *The Rocky Horror Show*. Directed by Roderick Glanville and featuring an ensemble cast of 31 local artists, this adaptation of the cult classic stage production looks set to thrill.

After getting caught in a storm, newly engaged lovebirds Janet Weiss (Sarah Anne Murphy) and Brad Majors (Pat Rundell) seek refuge at an ominous castle. Here, Janet and Brad encounter Dr. Frank N’ Furter (Griffin Lea), a cross-dressing mad scientist, and his legion of groupies.

“What I enjoy about this show is that we are not recreating the film version,” says Glanville. “It’s not *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*. It’s different. You are not going to see the film characters on stage. You are going to see the characters that we have invested in and created. And we have a great cast of killer actors and rock-solid singers.”

Spectators can expect more than just hair-raising melodies and bone-shaking dance numbers. In true *Rocky Horror* fashion, audience members can bring props and call out to the cast. Popular antics, such as throwing toast and rice, won’t be permitted in the theatre, but substitutes will be for sale in the lobby. And for guests who come in costume? There’s an audience-rated costume contest.

“The audience can get right into it. They can call back, talk to the actors, dance in the aisles. They can do the Time Warp,” explains Glanville. “It is totally interactive and immersive. Three different audiences make three different shows. Everyone is just going to have a blast.”

The madness doesn’t stop with audience participation. While on stage, a handful of cast members will be engaging in zany activities of their own. Brad, Janet, Riff Raff (Kelly Hudson), and Magenta (Tich Wilson), especially, will be exaggerating their roles.

## Books or Beers?

### 23 Beers on Tap

Music Bingo **MONDAYS** @ 7:30 • \$5<sup>50</sup> Martinis

\$2<sup>00</sup> Taco **TUESDAYS**  
\$7<sup>95</sup> Beef Dip & Fries / Colouring Contest @ 7:30

50¢ Wing’s & Prawn **WEDNESDAYS**

Western **THURSDAYS** Burger & Fries \$7<sup>95</sup>

**SUNDAYS** All You Can Eat Pasta \$8<sup>95</sup>

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY**  
Brunch til 2:30 PM



## Daily Draft Specials

Some conditions apply,  
coupons not valid with specials.



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**f** Maude Hunters is on Facebook

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OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK UNTIL MIDNIGHT • ON-SITE LIQUOR STORE**





Noms!

by Patrick Hallihan

## Eating at the Greek



Greek food is pretty hard to beat.

The Greek Community Hall offers great, authentic Greek food for small-to-medium-sized groups, with sizeable portions for everyone, and even dessert! Most of us already know that the Greeks are up there in the great nations of food, bringing us foods like spanakopita and baklava. So who's up for some Greek?

Now, admittedly, dining at a community hall is a bit outside of my usual assignment, but I had a unique opportunity to attend the Greek Community Centre for a conference with the promise of dinner, and it seemed hard to pass up as a starving college student.

Besides, after hearing about all of the amazing food of Greek Fest,

how could you pass up a chance to go dine with the gods themselves?

The Greek Community Centre is a very classic looking building and is pretty unique in the area in terms of architecture. The conference itself was a bit of a humdrum financial affair, but I doubt any of you care to hear about that.

Here's a lesson in mooching food: go to a conference, learn something, and eat for free. That's solid life advice for a student. As I write this, we're all in the thick of midterms, so it's more important than ever to find those free and easy meals where you can; a conference usually offers a decent spread. (Of course, it's best if you actually have some degree of interest in the topic

of the evening.)

But moving on: the food! The Greek Community Centre put out quite the spread for us, from warm pita bread to spanakopita, arni psito, and much more, with a constant influx of more. The food was just plain good, and well worth the rest of the conference. The spanakopita, which is basically spinach pie and phyllo pastry, was my fave.

Now, I don't expect the student body to start booking rooms at the community centre, but the next time Greek Fest comes around, you may want to think about going! Greek food offers a range of Mediterranean-inspired dishes, hardy enough to fuel any student through the toughest of midterm weeks.



Gameplay

by Stacey Young

## Wii U finally takes off, Raven's Cry released

Before I reveal the latest video game releases, let's share some gamer news. First, have you heard that Nintendo decided not to manufacture any more Wii consoles in Japan? But why? Nintendo doesn't clarify why they are discontinuing the Japanese manufacturing of the product; they also fail to mention if this dismissal will continue throughout the world.

My hunch is that Nintendo is putting the seven-year-old console on the sideline so they can focus on their latest console. The Wii U has been on the market since 2012 and hasn't received a lot of attention until recently.

Nintendo claims that Wii U sales in the United Kingdom have increased by 685 percent due to the release of *The Legend of Zelda: Wind Waker HD*. Will the Wii U expand and see sales continue to rise? Only time will tell. If they continue to produce all-time favourites like *The Legend of Zelda* for the Wii U, maybe more gamers will buy the product.

On a quick note, there's some disturbing news for gamers in Brazil. The PlayStation 4 will retail for over \$1,500 (which is R\$3,999 in Brazil's currency). In Canada, the PlayStation 4 retails at \$399.99,

which isn't even close to Brazil's ridiculous retail price. The Xbox One will also cost a pretty penny for our Brazilian brethren, over \$1,000 Canadian. Yikes.

Now let's take a look at what was released this month:

*Raven's Cry*

**Platforms:** PS3, Xbox 360, and PC

**Released:** October 24

This game is about a man named Christopher Raven who becomes bloodthirsty for those who murdered his beloved family. This role-playing adventure game is set in the 17th century and intertwines fictional events and characters with factual historical moments. There's a dark essence within the game's storyline. Pirates in the game are ruthless and determined to seize all the treasures of the world, no matter who stands in their way. Players can use different scare tactics to intimidate their enemy, summon their trusty companion—a black raven—to viciously attack rivals, and cast magic spells to increase their power.

Finally, for all those who are a fan of the *Assassin's Creed* series, the newest addition, *Assassin's Creed IV: Black Flag*, is now available in stores.



Age of Geeks

by Vishal Pandey

## Wait no longer for BlackBerry, Apple

This is the end! Not of the world, of course, but of our waiting. Finally, Blackberry released their Android and Apple apps for the BlackBerry Messenger. Read on for more information on this wonderful news, as well as other tech stories that have broken since last time.

**BlackBerry releases messenger for all smartphones**

So it's about time that Research in Motion, the parent company of BlackBerry, decided that they can share one of their wonderful services with everyone. For those that were missing BlackBerry Messenger after moving to an iPhone or Android, grieve no more. Now everyone can download the service onto their smartphones, free of

charge. It's available from the Apple App Store and the Android Play Store. If you haven't downloaded it yet, this is the time. A little bad news, though: if you guys didn't register at the BlackBerry website, you might have to wait a bit to actually start using this service. But you've waited a long time already; a little bit more isn't going to hurt, is it?

**Apple releases iPad 5 and iPad mini**

Guess who's back? I mean, back again? The tech giant Apple just released the next generation of tablets. So, what's new? Well, the new iPad is based on the same architecture as the iPhone 5S. So it has a lot of new things to offer, including the fingerprint scanner. Apple also

unveiled the iPad mini 2, which is now blessed with retina display. The new iPad mini packs the same display size, but with new features, and the retina display is an absolute pleasure to look at. But, as usual, all of this comes at a cost. It's rumoured that these iPads will be priced a bit higher than the current generation. The new iPads will arrive at Apple stores, as well other retailers, by the end of this month.

Wow, isn't it a wonderful feeling when you are waiting for something to arrive for a long time and it's finally here? And if you're not completely overwhelmed by these announcements, just wait until next issue; we've got something that will really blow your mind.

*Earth Council* By Adrian Behennah



## Trans\* Day of Remembrance 2013 - Victoria, B.C. 7<sup>th</sup> Annual TDOR Memorial & Open-Mic

Saturday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, 1 – 3 pm

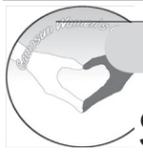
AIDS Vancouver Island, 713 Johnson St, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

\*Fully accessible, elevator, gender neutral washrooms\*

Remember, recognize & celebrate Trans\* identities, experiences, communities & resistance. Strong emphasis on providing a voice to the oppressed. Safer spaces policy applies.

\*Light snacks provided. May provide bus tickets, food items, or babysitting stipend if needed. Please contact [VictoriaTDOR2013@gmail.com](mailto:VictoriaTDOR2013@gmail.com) for details.\*

Camosun College Student Society columns



In Search of Lost Time

by Daphne Shaed  
camosun college women's center

## Student life needs students

We all have busy lives; each one of us has commitments to family, work, school, and other endeavours. As a student organizer and activist in many social justice campaigns and movements, there are really two major obstacles to overcome.

One obstacle, of course, is the forces of inequality and the many abstract features, covert and overt, that are addressed in a variety of methods from individual social activists and groups alike.

The other obstacle is getting volunteers. No movement is successful without people to populate it and do the work necessary to hold a rally or meeting, hold a fundraiser, or put on other events that require people power.

In my three years at Camosun I have witnessed a sharp decline in student life and participation in the student society in general.

The lack of participation from students is taking its toll on the few who dedicate their time and energy. These few students are the front line, defending your access to education and promoting campaigns that directly affect students.

The Camosun Women's Centre is in need of volunteers so that we may hold workshops and events that add to your educational goals here at Camosun.

We need to be talking about the issues that affect us, and together we can stand up and have our voices heard.

Rights unprotected get revoked, and movements without people to take the time to do the work are repressed.

If you would like to volunteer for the Camosun Women's Collective, contact Daphne Shaed at [womens@camosunstudent.org](mailto:womens@camosunstudent.org).



Queerly Forward

by Zofia Rogowski  
camosun college pride collective

## Genderqueer enables fluid identity

I identify as genderqueer, an umbrella term that basically means, "I don't fit into the gender binary." I came across this term a year ago and was instantly drawn to it.

As a person of Anishinaabe and European heritage, I have always carried multiple identities. Genderqueer is vague, which is perfect; gender itself is a social construct which is becoming increasingly vague as feminist and queer movements are gaining visibility and recognition.

Genderqueer challenges the status quo, which tells us that there are two genders and that they are static. People who identify as genderqueer are diverse, as it describes anyone outside of the gender norms. This makes it an attractive term to people who are not comfortable with static labels.

Many people who identify as genderqueer experience a fluid gender identity, and may present as

men, women, both, or neither, according to their current frame of mind. Others consistently present as androgynous.

Some people may prefer gender-neutral pronouns, such as "xe" or "they."

When I practice traditional, western "feminine" rituals, such as dressing up in fancy gowns and painting my face, I feel more like a drag character, a fem-gendered extension of myself.

I have experienced body dysphoria most of my life. Genderqueer helps me reconcile these feelings. I often don't feel I am woman, but it doesn't follow that I am therefore man.

I wonder how many people would choose a less rigid gender label if it were more acceptable in society. The overarching culture would benefit from a term that recognizes the vague nature of gender.

Perhaps "genderqueer" is that term.



Mind Your Business

by Gariele Braaksma  
camosun college DECA club

## Budgets work so you don't have to

Ah, the dreaded "C" word: Christmas. Now that November is upon us, we enter the world of megapurchases and last-minute presents. Welcome to overspending, where even one wrong purchase decision may catapult us into debt.

Maybe it's time to consider the following money management steps:

**Set goals**

Let's take this time to identify our values and what we consider most important in life. So, for example, if your dream is to travel the

world, a goal may be to first build up your savings.

**Track expenses**

It might be annoying to jot down purchases in a little notebook, but it's worth it to see just how many vanilla soy lattes have been purchased in the past three days. Expense tracking reveals those little habits that slowly chip away at the money supply.

**Separate needs from wants**

We want the fancy camera or new smartphone, but sometimes saving for rainy days is more rewarding than impulsive retail therapy.

**Make a budget**

Nobody panic: budgeting doesn't have to mean living off ramen noodles and baby spinach, or saying adios to your amigos. A proper budget is simply a guide to help achieve goals.

**Stick to the plan**

Money management is a lot like breaking a habit. Sometimes we adopt new customs and abandon old patterns. Other times we falter and the commitment fades. Just remember: if the plan crumbles, it's okay to repeat the first step of setting your goals.



Ability's Muse

by Rachael Grant  
camosun college students with (dis)abilities collective

## Thin line between assistance and degradation

Helping those who can help themselves is no service. In fact, it's counterproductive and, at times, even offensive. Where there are differences in abilities, there's need for a difference in approach and support. It will never be beneficial to adopt a rescue mentality, or to project pity onto another.

When you see an individual who walks with a cane approaching a door, what are your instincts? I invite you to examine the thought process that so quickly runs through your mind in such a situation.

Should the roles be reversed, would you want assistance you potentially may not require? Would you want anyone to make the assumption that you are unable to perform a task, such as opening a door? Assumption of another's perceived lack of ability, even with the most

well-meaning intention, is highly problematic. So, should such a situation come to pass, I ask you to be present. Be aware that there's an immense spectrum of abilities and corresponding individual approaches.

When an individual is in need of support, it's crucial to allow them to request it. If, for some reason, they cannot bring themselves to or are unable to ask for help, it would then be appropriate to offer a helping hand or a supportive ear.

The act of assuming that someone is in need of assistance can be demeaning to the very individual that this help is intended to benefit. It's a hindrance to presume inability, as it promotes enablement, disempowerment, and robs the individual of their right to independence.

## A MESSAGE FROM THE CAMOSUN COLLEGE STUDENT SOCIETY

by Simka Marshall  
ccss external executive

### Police use violence to counter peaceful protest

A contingent of police and other government paramilitary forces were forced to retreat from an attack on the Elsipogtog First Nation in recent weeks. The state was attempting to violently enforce an illegal injunction on behalf of Southwestern Energy, a Texas-based company trying to exploit natural gas resources of the First Nation.

After the Elsipogtog people rejected advances from Southwestern Energy to initiate natural gas fracking on their land, the company sought the development regardless. Thus, the Elsipogtog First Nation established a blockade in defense of their land and water. From there the company was successful in seeking an illegal injunction for removal of the blockade.

The Canadian state employed military tactics, snipers, attack dogs, tear gas, and other forms of violence against the families of the First Nation as they demonstrated, rather than uphold their democratic decisions. This culminated in a week of intense violence against the Elsipogtog people during October. During this week, corporate and state media supported the violence by underreporting illegal activities and focusing coverage of the issue on irrelevant details that painted the First Nation in a bad light.

The Camosun College Student Society supports the Elsipogtog people, their fight against natural gas fracking, and the exercise of their right to self-determination. If members would like to get involved in this support they can email [external@camosunstudent.org](mailto:external@camosunstudent.org) or contact me through the CCSS offices on both campuses.



### NOW HIRING!



### Canvassers

### for the Ancient Forest Alliance

The Ancient Forest Alliance is hiring canvassers in Victoria to help raise awareness and funds. Flexible hours and meaningful work!

For more information and to apply please contact Amanda at [canvass@ancientforestalliance.org](mailto:canvass@ancientforestalliance.org)

## Dunlop House Pub



October 31 - Dexter

November 7 - Survivor



Every Thursday from 4 to 6 pm.  
Off Lansdowne Road,  
across from the Camosun staff parking lot.



## WHERE LEADERS ARE MADE

Find Your Voice. Speak Your Mind.  
Lan: 6:45 PM Thur, Paul 216 Int: 5:15 Tue, Campus Ctr 320  
Info on the web: <http://camosuncollege.toastmastersclubs.org>

sudoku

answers for #1 (left) and #2 (right) online at [nexusnewspaper.com](http://nexusnewspaper.com) today! head to our web exclusive section to find them.

			3	4				7
5	7		8	1		2		
					2			1
1		7	6	3		4		9
		9		8		5		
3		2		9	7	1		8
7			1					
		1		5	8		3	4
8				2	4			

Puzzle by websudoku.com

2		5	7					
		1			9		6	
			4	3				5
6				4				7
5	4		3		7		1	8
7				2				3
3				1	4			
	2		5			4		
					6	8		9

Puzzle by websudoku.com

palindrome word search

The first five people to come by the *Nexus* office with this word search completed get to take a trip into our room of CDs and bring a few home! (Just kidding, it's not a room. It's a pile of CDs on a desk. Still.)

Now find those words on the right down below. This time around, we went with a palindrome theme. Why? I think "why not?" is a better question. Enjoy!

AIBOPHOBIA  
CIVIC  
DETARTRATED  
EVE  
GAG  
GIG  
NAAN  
RACECAR

RADAR  
REDIVIDER  
RELEVELER  
SEES  
SEMEMES  
SUCCUS  
TATTARRATTAT  
TENET

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

astrological asininity

by River Rainfall

**Aries:** There is some weird stuff coming up, I guess it's best if you don't know about it.

**Taurus:** Hi! Avoid the number 76 and spinach this week at all costs; bugs in the spinach, and that number is just the worst.

**Gemini:** LOL, my socks are falling off! The elastic just isn't holding! Oh, Gemini, you're all good.

**Cancer:** I'm seeing you do a lot of stuff that's angering the stars, and Mars. So, stop it!

**Leo:** Okay so I was totally running over to the *Nexus* office and I turned a corner and was face to face with a huge deer! It scared the poop out of me! THEN THE DEER TALKED TO ME. And it said "If you're a Leo, career choices are in your future." I totally said "WTF, deer, you sound like a fortune cookie, and I'm not Leo, I'm totally Aquarius," then he just stared at me and I stared at him and he stared at

me and I stared at him and he stared at me and I stared at him.

**Virgo:** Note that the deer didn't mention you, Virgo. Totally first thing I thought of when I was talking to the deer.

**Libra:** Hi! You know what I see in your future? Finally understanding the radiator that heats up your apartment. TOTALLY KIDDING.

**Scorpio:** I see some luck with a test, a fun time with an "associate" (what, you in the mob? What the hell does that mean?) and... good times with fake fur? Um, um, can we hang out?

**Sagittarius:** You want in on that, too?

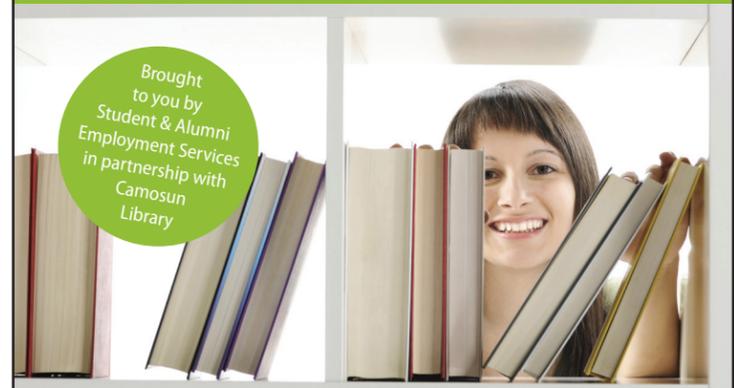
**Capricorn:** Avoid hula hoops.

**Aquarius:** Have I mentioned yet that I'm an Aquarius? I don't think so! We should totally hang!

**Pisces:** You always bug me because you come right after me on the list of signs. Like, stop it.

Living Library

What if 15 minutes could change your life? Book an appointment with a real person to learn about their career path and educational background.



Wednesday, November 13

9:00 – 11:00am and 1:00 – 3:00pm  
Lansdowne Library

View 'Living Books' bio and register for an appointment at [camosun.ca/library](http://camosun.ca/library)

For more information email [employ@camosun.bc.ca](mailto:employ@camosun.bc.ca) or call 250-370-4181



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CROWN ROYAL  
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