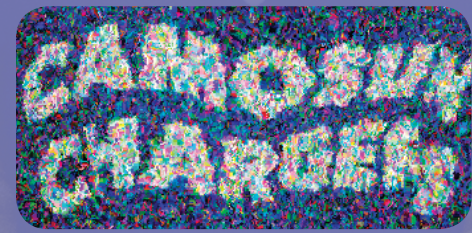


Camosun has a sports team?



The trouble with the Camosun Chargers is that students don't know about them.

Page 6



Sherri Bell named president of Camosun College: 3



Camosun College Student Society election results: 4



Local author looks at BC's income gap: 8

NEXUS

camosun's student voice since 1990

Next publication: June 10, 2015

Deadline: noon June 3, 2015

Address: 3100 Foul Bay Rd., Victoria, BC,
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

Pascale Archibald

Tori Dmytar

Sera Down

Jayden Grieve

Oryanna Ross

Sarah Tayler

MANAGING EDITOR

Greg Pratt

ASSISTANT EDITOR

Jason Schreurs

ADVERTISING SALES

Greg Pratt

250-370-3593

FREE Media (national)

advertising@free-media.com

780-421-1000

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Jill Westby

CONTRIBUTORS

Pascale Archibald

Rebecca Davies

Tori Dmytar

Jayden Grieve

Keagan Hawthorne

Lachlan Ross

Sarah Tayler

Josh Traill

All editorial content appearing in *Nexus* is property of the Nexus Publishing Society. Stories, photographs, and artwork contained herein cannot be reproduced without written permission of the Nexus Publishing Society. The views and opinions expressed herein are those of the authors, not of *Nexus*. *Nexus* has no official ties to the administration of Camosun College. One copy of *Nexus* is available per issue, per person.

Nexus is a member of Associated Collegiate Press.

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: "I don't have a fax machine because this isn't 1990."

COVER IMAGES:
Chargers: Kevin Light
Sherril Bell: Camosun College Audio Visual
Student society elections: Jill Westby/*Nexus*
Local author looks at income gap: Annie MacLeod

editor's letter Still changing

Feels like just last time around in this section I was talking about the changes afoot, and this issue is full of even more changes. Camosun's got a new president, after months of searching for someone to fill the position left vacant after Kathryn Laurin's termination last year. And, just as relevant to students, the Camosun College Student Society (CCSS) has seen some changes to their board after their recent spring elections.

Head over to page 3 to read our chat with incoming Camosun president Sherri Bell about her new position (we'll have a more detailed interview with Bell coming in September). When you're done that, flip over to page 4 to see our interview with new CCSS external executive Andrea Eggenberger about the CCSS board elections.

It's a jam-packed issue: flip over to page 4 to read contributing writer Pascale Archibald's story about the CCSS' struggles with microwaves on campus; page 5 has contributing writer Sarah Tayler's piece on exploring Tod Inlet; back on page 8 in the chock-full arts section, contributing writer Jayden Grieve talked to local journalist Andrew MacLeod about his new book and the income gap in British Columbia.

And, because I know it's your favourite, you can find the word search on page 11. You're welcome. As always, once you've finished it, bring it in for a gift and to say hello.

Greg Pratt, managing editor
editor@nexusnewspaper.com

letters Still a bit hazy

I was walking in my neighbourhood and picked up a copy of *Nexus*. I enjoyed the article about clean-air bylaws ("CRD clears the air on the new clean-air bylaws," April 1, 2015 issue). I find that the student papers cover material that the main press doesn't.

A point of clarification: the Capital Regional District (CRD) is not a "government-run organization" as you stated, but an actual order of government. On the CRD website it says, "The CRD is a local government that delivers 200+ local, regional and sub-regional services for residents of the region, including 13 municipalities and three electoral areas on southern Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands."

We directly elect politicians to serve on the CRD board. When you vote and enter your ballots, you are allocated a certain number of votes per region for CRD positions.

Interesting that the CRD and Island Health work together on the smoking bylaws; that makes sense, but it goes to show how important local elected governments are to public health. Island Health can't do it alone, and they have to work with all the municipalities and electoral districts on the island and central coast to coordinate smoking bans.

SILVIA VILCHES

COMMUNITY MEMBER

Defederation debate

Sleazy organization ("Canadian Federation of Students national office denies corruption allegations," April 1, 2015 issue). Camosun needs to join the ranks of UVic and leave the CFS.

MATTHEW HELLIWELL

VIA FACEBOOK

correction

In "Decolonization, divestment, and Camosun College" in our April 1, 2015 issue, we said that a \$5,000 donation that the Camosun College Student Society (CCSS) made towards veterinary costs was non-repayable. This is incorrect, and the CCSS expects money to be returned to them if a lawsuit that is happening as a result of the situation is successful; if it's not, at that point the money will be classified as a donation. We apologize for the mistake.

open space

Student society speaks up

The following is a condensed version of a letter Nexus received from the Camosun College Student Society [CCSS] in regards to our story "Canadian Federation of Students national office denies corruption allegations" (April 1, 2015 issue).

At the time this letter was written, Rachael Grant was external executive of the CCSS, a position now held by Andrea Eggenberger.

The full version of this letter can be found at nexusnewspaper.com/category/news.

Your fair representation of this story is an example of why Canada still needs a vibrant and diverse student-driven media. This is very difficult for us at the Camosun College Student Society, as we believe deeply in the founding principles of the Canadian Federation of Students and that it is the best venue for students in Canada to come together in dialogue and action.

In response to the CFS national chairperson's assertions in your article, we must confess we are deeply troubled. While we cannot verify all of those assertions to be untrue, we cannot at this time express confidence that they are true.

#1: The election was fair and democratic

The physical running of the election was handled in a fair and transparent manner by trusted individuals. However, there were individuals who misrepresented their intentions to run in a way to subvert the process. Essentially, they lied to prevent others from running and exploited our trust in hopes we would not oppose them. This did serious damage to the trust within the organization, and that cost is in no way worth whatever gain those individuals who were involved think they have achieved.

#2: There was a need to hire private security to deal with threats to CFS staff

We cannot confirm that there was a need for this and we are confused as to why it would be necessary with the current information that we have.

#3: The Federation is acting as a fair pro-union employer

While we agree that the Federation has a long and proud history as a pro-union employer, we cannot confirm that the primary officers are behaving in a way that is consistent with this practice. At this point we believe the CFS national chairperson, the CFS national deputy chairperson, and the CFS national treasurer have the intention to displace long-term Federation staff in order to institute their own aspirations for the organization. We know what they have done has been accomplished without consultation with the membership. We have raised these concerns and have not received a satisfactory answer at this time. We find this very concerning.

#4: There is no communication or service breakdown at any level

As the people that maintained our connection to the CFS national office have been displaced for reasons we do not understand, we cannot support the national chairperson's claim. We have attempted to establish direct communications on these issues in order to express our concerns, however, we waited six weeks to receive the information that is now represented in this email. In addition to this, over the past year we have faced increasing struggles in trying to conduct business with CFS Services.

Moreover, we are concerned that radical action is being taken out of the blue without the consent or knowledge of the Camosun Student Society Local 75 of the CFS and other locals as well. We are still waiting to hear what justifies that.

We are concerned and saddened that we are forced to air our dirty laundry in public. However, we believe in a democratic national student movement and will do what we feel is necessary to protect that ideal.

In solidarity,
Rachael Grant
External Executive
Camosun College Student Society
CFS Local 75

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

SPEAK UP

Have you ever been to a Camosun Chargers game?

BY SARAH TAYLER



RORY ANGUS

"I haven't. I didn't know where they were."



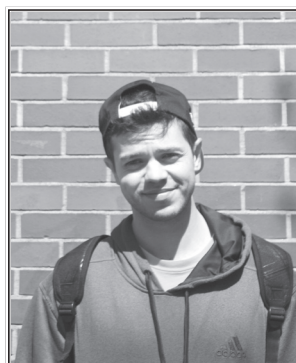
FADUMA HAGI

"No. I didn't even know about it."



MIREIA PLANAS

"No. I'm here on an exchange program, I don't know of those things."



AARON PICHICHERO

"Yeah, I went to the volleyball championships. It was pretty good."



CRAIG ELLERMANN

"No, is that the school athletics? Why haven't I gone? I don't know, busy? Studying, and procrastinating about studying."



ALLISON RASHLEIGH

"No, because I'm taking seven classes and I'm really busy."

campus

Sherri Bell named new Camosun College president

“I am absolutely thrilled with this opportunity.”

SHERRI BELL
INCOMING CAMOSUN COLLEGE PRESIDENT

GREG PRATT
MANAGING EDITOR

Sherri Bell is the new president of Camosun College.

Bell, who will enter the position on July 1, has extensive experience in the public education system, working most recently as superintendent of schools for the Greater Victoria School District, where she's been for the past 19 years.

“I'm thrilled,” says Bell. “I am absolutely thrilled with this opportunity. I've been an educator for my entire career—mostly K-12, but I spent four years at College of the Rockies. This is just a wonderful opportunity for me to take what I've learned in K-12 and move on with the students I work with now to postsecondary at Camosun.”

Bell says that her immediate plans at Camosun do not involve any great change; rather, it will be a time of learning for her.

“I think it would be a bit presumptuous if I started saying I was going to change this and that,” she says with a laugh. “Right now I need to listen, and talk to people,

and learn. I know enough about Camosun, our school district has a very close partnership with Camosun, and because I live in the community, I know the college. But I don't know it the way I need to as president, so that will be the first order of business, and then we can look at aspects that we can grow and develop and look at together.”

Bell replaces Kathryn Laurin, who had her contract terminated last year for reasons that were never made public. Bell says that she was not nervous entering the position after Laurin's termination.

“No, I wasn't,” she says. “Not at all.”

Camosun College Student Society (CCSS) Lansdowne executive Shayli Robinson was on the interview committee (at the time she was CCSS First Nations director) for the presidential search. She says that during the process, Bell was the candidate who “stood out most” to her.

“Based on her experience in the K-12 system working strongly with the community, she has worked with



CAMOSUN COLLEGE AUDIO VISUAL

Sherri Bell is the new president of Camosun College as of July 1, 2015.

students who come to Camosun and are some of our most vulnerable students,” says Robinson. “Because of this experience, I feel she has a deep understanding of the issues that face our institution, especially those relating to budget cuts which will affect many of our fundamental programs.”

Rachael Grant was also part of the interviewing committee during the presidential search (at the time, Grant was CCSS external executive; as of May 1, she is no longer in that position).

“She's very excited to get going,

she's very passionate,” says Grant about Bell. “We can expect a lot of new initiatives, a lot of fresh energy. I'm very excited to see what she has in store for Camosun students.”

Indeed, Bell says that she is a “very student-centred” leader and insists that when she looks at decisions that are best for the college they will be decisions that are best for the students.

“Any kind of decision, you have to look at it through the lens of, how is this going to make a difference for student learning and student success? Their experience at a college

is very important,” says Bell. “You can get a lot of information online, you can take classes online, but to be at Camosun, you have to walk away not only with just knowledge, but you have to have had an experience that's going to have impacted your life in a really positive way. That's what I want students to know about me—that's what I come in to the job looking for.”

Look for an in-depth interview with Sherri Bell in our September 9, 2015 issue.

NEWS BRIEFS

Camosun signs on for skill development in India's sport sector

Camosun College has entered into a memorandum of understanding to create educational partnerships with the National Skill Development Corporation in India. It is hoped that the memorandum, also signed by Alberta's Bow Valley College, will lead to helping students develop skills in sport science and technology, sport medicine, sport broadcasting and communications, and other sport-related areas.

Camosun students get Skills Canada gold

Camosun College trades students walked away from the 21st Skills Canada BC competition in Abbotsford on April 15 with some new gold medals to their name as a result of the skills they've picked up learning about carpentry, sheet metal, and more at Camosun. Head over to camosun.ca to see a list of the winners.

Camosun DECA domination

Camosun's DECA club had the best performance in their chapter's history at a career development conference held in Florida on April 21. Every one of the seven Camosun DECA competitors who entered advanced to the finals in their respective events; this has

never been accomplished in the history of Camosun's DECA club. DECA aims to prepare students in finance, marketing, management, and hospitality.

Chargers celebrate a successful year

Check out our cover story (page 6) to read all about the Camosun Chargers and their triumphant year, which they celebrated during their 21st annual awards ceremony on April 9. Third-year Chargers golf player Brady Stead took home the President's Cup award, fourth-year men's volleyball middle Alex Sadowski got the Linda Henderson Award for Excellence, and fourth-year men's volleyball setter Vitor Macedo won the Derek Twomey Scholarship for Sport award. A whole ton of others won more awards, too: head to camosun.ca/sports/chargers to see the whole list.

Interurban group donates

The Civil Engineering Bridge group, based at the Interurban campus, recently made a \$150 donation to the Red Cross for Nepal relief.

BC students launch campaign in support of adult education

Students across BC have launched a new campaign urging Premier Christy Clark to halt a

\$6.9-million funding cut for Adult Basic Education (ABE). ABE helps students with basic skills, up to and including high-school level. Head to dontclosethedoors.ca to find out more.

Government to assist Aboriginal students

The provincial government has put \$1.96 million into the Aboriginal Emergency Assistance Fund for postsecondary Aboriginal students who experience a short-term financial crisis. The student support website is located at aved.gov.bc.ca/aboriginal/student-resources.htm.

UVic students protest housing fee hikes

Planning on transferring over to UVic and, in an attempt to live the ultimate '80s-movie university-student life, moving in on campus? Be warned that there are some proposed residence fee increases, ones that UVic students are protesting: according to a University of Victoria Students' Society press release, the university's proposed changes include increases of 13 percent, six percent, and six percent over the next three years. Also, don't let this little fact race past you: students who live in residence at UVic don't have the Residential Tenancy Act to fall back on, according to the same press release.

UVSS election ends with 15 disqualifications

The recent University of Victoria Students' Society (UVSS) election ended with no fewer than 15 candidates being disqualified. The candidates were, according to an article in Martlet, three minutes late in submitting their campaign spending receipts to the UVSS elections office.

Election details now open to public

Feeling snoopy? Wondering about exactly what went down during the last municipal election? Wow, that's perfect, because the 2014 annual financial reports for political parties and constituency associations are now available for scrutiny/snooping/public inspection. Just head down to the office of the Chief Electoral Officer (100-1112 Fort Street) or point yer clicker to elections.bc.ca.

Victoria to provide funding for centre

The Victoria Cool Aid Society's Downtown Community Centre will receive annual funding to the tune of \$50,000 from the City of Victoria, thanks to an 8:1 vote that passed on April 16. The Downtown Community Centre offers classes, voicemail services, computer training workshops, and more, mostly free of

charge. City council, who were apparently feeling generous, also voted in favour of a one-time \$750,000 contribution to the Victoria Housing Trust Fund, to which they already commit \$250,000 annually. The money goes towards helping people struggling with homelessness in the community.

Doc filmmaker award nominations open

If you know of a documentary filmmaker who is strong on community and big on resistance, they might be a good nominee for the Alanis Obomsawin Award for Commitment to Community and Resistance. Head to cinemapolitica.org and search for “Alanis” to get to the page with more information. Nominations close at the end of the year.

Local author wins BC Book Prize

Victoria's Eve Joseph recently took home the Hubert Evans Non-fiction Prize at the 31st annual BC Book Prizes for *In the Slender Margin: The Intimate Strangeness of Death and Dying*, which was published by HarperCollins.

-GREG PRATT

Got a news tip for us? Email editor@nexusnewspaper.com today!

student politics

Student society elections bring in new student board

GREG PRATT
MANAGING EDITOR

On April 7, 8, and 9, the Camosun College Student Society (CCSS) held their spring elections. Andrea Eggenberger is the new CCSS external executive, defeating Rachael Grant, who previously held the position. Eggenberger won by 13 votes.

"It was a really close race," says Eggenberger, who says she hopes to have more events as external executive. "I was preparing to lose because my competition was just fantastic. I was super excited and shocked."

409 students (which is 4.87 percent of all Camosun students) voted. The number is consistent with that of previous CCSS elections.

"I definitely wish there were more," says Eggenberger about

the number of students voting. "We're going to look into maybe doing some online voting. I think timing is a problem for a lot of students. I asked around and people said, 'I'd totally vote, I'm just not available.'"

Shayli Robinson ran for the position of Lansdowne executive and Chris Marks ran for Interurban executive; both had no competition and were elected in.

Sarah Lindsay won out as finance executive, while Jackson Traplin is First Nations director, Annabelle Pickering women's director, and Zachary Snow students with disabilities director (the last three all ran uncontested).

Pride director Travis Moore defeated Lillian Stearns-Smith in the running for the position and held on to the title, while Vicky Qu defeated

"I was preparing to lose because my competition was just fantastic."

ANDREA EGGENBERGER
CAMOSUN COLLEGE STUDENT SOCIETY

Darwin Scott for the position of international director.

Maggie LeBlanc ran uncontested for sustainability director and was elected in, while Kimberly Banfield took home the Lansdowne director title, and Ellen Young and Bobby Tiet are Interurban directors.

The CCSS has elections in the spring and fall. Full election results are at camosunstudent.org.



JILL WESTBY/NEXUS

Andrea Eggenberger is the new student society external executive.

campus

Microwave maintenance making waves at Camosun



JILL WESTBY/NEXUS

The student society's Michael Glover expresses his microwave concerns.

PASCAL ARCHIBALD
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The microwaves on both Camosun campuses are a bit of a hot potato when it comes to the daily cleaning and maintenance they need, according to the Camosun College Student Society (CCSS).

The maintenance work is divided between CCSS staff and Camosun College custodial workers, but the CCSS says that somewhere in the division communication is lost and students suffer.

CCSS student services representative Michael Glover says that

"The college is looking into some way to fix the problem. There is still a great deal of work that has to be done."

BRIAN CALVERT
CAMOSUN COLLEGE

providing microwaves for students is important.

"It's a necessary resource for a lot of Camosun students, as not everyone can afford to buy food at school," says Glover.

But Glover has noticed a large number of old microwaves on campus and suspects people have been using Camosun to rid themselves

of their old kitchen appliances. Camosun has also installed new microwaves, creating a tricky situation in regards to who is responsible for cleaning what.

"The student society has a small number of microwaves that we are responsible for," says Glover. "However, the college has installed a bunch of new microwaves, and that's a whole other job."

The CCSS and Camosun recently had a preliminary meeting to assess the scope of the issue. It was just the first of many meetings, says Brian Calvert, Camosun's associate director of facilities.

Calvert says that he's known for a while that the maintenance of campus microwaves needs direction.

"The college is looking into some way to fix the problem," says Calvert. "There is still a great deal of work that has to be done."

A lot of information still needs to be gathered before any solid plans can be made, says Calvert.

"It's more than just microwaves we have to look at," he says. "There are all kinds of third-party appliances to take into account, so it's a big undertaking."

First year Environmental Technology student John McGoff uses the Fisher building microwave on a daily basis. He says he's thought about taking matters into his own hands because of the state of the microwaves on campus.

"It would be nice to see them a bit cleaner," says McGoff. "Sometimes I want to clean them myself but I don't really know what the protocol is for that."

Calvert says that the college hopes to have a new management plan and guidelines in place for September.




Licensed FT child care spaces available on both campuses
APPLY ONLINE TODAY
camosun.ca/childcare

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD!

Fill in this survey to let us know how we can make your student newspaper even better. Take a photo of the finished survey and email it to editor@nexusnewspaper.com or cut it out and bring it to us: Richmond House 201, Lansdowne campus.

All completed surveys will get entered into a draw for a prize pack! Get it to us by Friday, June 5 to be entered. Thanks for participating!

- 1: What would you like to see more or less of in our news coverage?
- 2: What would you like to see more or less of in our feature stories?
- 3: What would you like to see more or less of in our arts stories?
- 4: Do you read our event listings? YES/NO
- 5: What would you like to see in our columns page?
- 6: What other suggestions/comments/feedback do you have for *Nexus*?
- 7: Please enter your name and email here if you'd like to be entered in the prize draw:

creative non-fiction

Stardust in the waters: a journey through a provincial park



SARAH TAYLER/NEXUS

The one and only Snoopy tree, located at Gowlland Tod Provincial Park.

I am shocked by residents who have never heard of the “Snoopy tree.” The bulbous, misshapen lumps of its bark split open to reveal a pale standing dog with a black, perfectly shaped ear. I never walk Tod Inlet without stopping to see it.

SARAH TAYLER
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Half a block past the entrance to the Butchart Gardens, the van crunched onto the side of Wallace Road. The three of us, all local teenagers, crawled out to the gravel pathway between the wall of trees and the empty road.

We pulled up our coat zippers and clicked on our flashlights. Mine, a police flashlight and half nightstick, painted a full silver circle on the trail’s edge. It made me confident against all possible predators as we hiked down the slope into the mouth of Gowlland Tod Provincial Park.

My friends shone their beacons onto the sides of the trail. The rusted machinery and concrete structures of BC’s first cement factory protruded from the shadows like pale, bloody fangs, tangled in webs of back boughs, lichen, and moss.

I kept my light forward, illuminating the trail. With its bulb clenched in my palm, I kept the heavy handle propped on my shoulder in case I should need to swing. I did not turn my head, and when I talked I raised my voice to drown out the cracks and rustles of the brush.

I ridiculed whatever creature was stalking us and dared it to come sprinting and screaming at me.

Ten tense minutes later, the trail opened up into the Camas Meadow, overlooking the inky black surface of Tod Inlet. We scuttled towards the outhouses, and I shone my light at a large warty maple: the “Snoopy tree.”

I am shocked by residents who have never heard of it. The bulbous, misshapen lumps of its bark split open to reveal a pale standing dog with a black, perfectly shaped ear formed from a bug- or bird-worn hole. I never walk Tod Inlet without stopping to see Snoopy emerging from the wood.

After a much-needed bathroom break, we bypassed the dock, because until the moon slips behind the mountain at around 10 or 11, its beams reflect on the water’s surface and outshine the bioluminescence.

We slid down a rocky ledge in the shadows of the picnic grove. We gathered piles of pebbles and tossed them at the murky, algae-covered surface—a breeding ground for plankton. Every splash drew a squeak from us since, although they were dim, the plankton would give off a transient teal glow with every well-thrown stone.

One of the girls froze and whispered, “Did you hear that?”

We all stiffened and tilted our

heads. Was it footsteps that we heard behind us? An animal scuttling? The wind? I squeezed my flashlight to remind myself that I was armed. We climbed up using roots and protruding rocks as hand and footholds, and then we waved our beams around in paranoia. We found nothing.

The moon was finally hiding, so we lay down on the dock belly-first. I rolled up the sleeves of my dad’s sweater and plunged my arms past my elbows into the mild saltwater, and gasped as plankton exploded like stardust from my hands. We waved our hands around and scared a sculpin against the side of the dock. The fish darted for the sea floor, lit up with a bright blue-green coating on its way down. We scooped up and threw handfuls of water that bespattered the surface with the brief image of a galaxy.

At midnight, our way back up the trail was worse than before. My friends scoured the sides of the walkway with their flashlights and twitched at every sound while I was busy feigning bravado. Then a girl gasped, “I see eyes. Green eyes. What do green eyes mean?”

Pretty sure that green eyes meant herbivore, but not entirely certain, we picked up the pace and ran for the van.

know your profs

Camosun economics and statistics prof Ocean Lu loves to see students succeed

GREG PRATT
MANAGING EDITOR

Know Your Profs is an ongoing series of profiles on the instructors at Camosun College.

Every issue we ask a different instructor at Camosun the same 10 questions in an attempt to get to know them a little better.

Do you have an instructor that you want to see interviewed in the paper? Maybe you want to know more about one of your teachers, but you’re too busy, or you’re too shy, to ask? Email editor@nexus-newspaper.com and we’ll add your instructor to our list of teachers to talk to.

We’re especially looking for ideas for profs to profile in September and beyond, so please get in touch with your ideas!

This issue we talked to economics and statistics instructor Ocean Lu about having the most rewarding job, being misunderstood, and having an identical twin sister.

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

I teach economics and statistics. I started teaching part-time in January 2011, then became full-time faculty in May 2012.

2: What do you personally get out of teaching?

It’s the most rewarding job, and I feel that I make a difference each class.

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

That I have another degree in Chinese Dance Choreography, and that I have an identical twin sister, Rain (so that the students don’t get freaked out when they see both of us).

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

That I have an identical twin sister, Rain (laughs).

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

Seeing students succeed when they follow my advice.

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

Being misunderstood due to the fact that English wasn’t my first language.

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

Programs more tailored to the needs of students.

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

I teach dancing.

9: What’s your favourite meal?

Dumplings.

10: What’s your biggest pet peeve?

Mouse-like pets.



JILL WESTBY/NEXUS

Camosun’s Ocean Lu, not to be confused with her twin sister, Rain.

CAMOSUN HAS

A CAMOSUN STUDENT ATHLETE LOOK

When Camosun Chargers men's volleyball setter Vitor Macedo's block looped up over his opponents and landed inches within the end line during men's volleyball championships, my Facebook newsfeed exploded. Pictures of gold medals in mouths, a white banner reading "National Champions Canadiens," and the wooden trophy that took two hands to carry were posted everywhere. As a member of the Camosun basketball team, much of my social media circle was either following the volleyball game on Twitter or streaming it live.

Our team, who wasn't expected to make the national championships, had won it.

Chargers families and friends were going crazy. But most Camosun students would have been more surprised to find out we have a sports team than to learn that a Camosun team won gold at Nationals.

My journey to the Chargers came after three years studying at UVic. In my first season, I was asked to join the Chargers athletic council, where two members of each team meet with the athletic director and staff to discuss possible improvements to the program. It was in these meetings, and getting to know senior players, that I began to understand the Camosun sports teams.

Getting students involved was always our top priority, and I think in the first two years we made some progress. After seeing the success of UVic's Vikes programs in my time there, I hoped we could create a scaled-down version of it. Now, after finishing my third season with the basketball team as one of the captains, I have had opportunities to interact with almost every coach, athlete, event staffer, and administrative member in the program. Based on the feedback they've given me, there's still a huge amount of work ahead of the Chargers.

VICTORY CHEERS AMONGST THE SILENCE

It's been a landmark year for Camosun athletics. Jared Callbeck became the school's first individual champion at golf nationals last October, with the Chargers team taking silver; the women's and men's basketball teams finished fourth and fifth at provincial playoffs; the school hosted volleyball provincials, winning gold and silver medals, with teams going on to earn gold and bronze at national championships.

Camosun may be a small commuter school hiding in UVic's shadow, but the city finally heard about our blue-and-white team with the ram mascot. Local television stations and newspapers publicized the gold medal win and praise streamed in from Chargers alumni and other sports organizations.

Within the student population of Camosun, however, midterms, assignments, and weekend plans remained the topics of conversation.

Walking around Lansdowne campus in late March, there were no mentions of volleyball victories. Two bulletin boards by the cafeteria formed a promotional collage about meditation, concerts, squash, and community printing, with just a single Chargers game schedule—posted in September—on one board. In the campus bookstore informational slides flicked across a television screen for students. Used textbooks, bus routes, locker rentals, and reducing greenhouse-gas emissions were advertised, and then popped up a slide about the Chargers. The sign said "Camosun College Chargers clothing and merchandise is available here!" but the Lansdowne bookstore stopped selling Chargers gear in 2010.

The most noticeable mention of the Chargers on campus is a life-size poster of a volleyball player holding textbooks outside the Lansdowne bookstore entrance, on the window of the cafeteria. A quote by the athlete says, "Sport is my life. Now I'm making it my career," advertising the college's Sport Management program. The problem is our team's poster boy now wears black and white playing up island at Vancouver Island University—Camosun's rivals.

A DESPERATE NEED

"Most students don't know that the Chargers exist," says Camosun College Student Society (CCSS) student services coordinator Michael Glover. "There just isn't enough awareness and that constant effort to get students to come to games."

Since the Chargers moved their teams and staff to the Pacific Institute for Sport Excellence (PISE) in 2008, the program has struggled to keep in touch with Lansdowne students. Despite PISE being situated on Camosun's Interurban campus, even many students there aren't familiar with the teams. The numbers say it all: it took two and a half years to sell 48 remaining sweatshirts at both campus bookstores after they stopped ordering Chargers merchandise in 2010 (the Interurban bookstore still sells a very limited amount of Chargers clothing).

To fully put the Chargers predicament into perspective, though, it is important to know where they started. In the late 1990s and early 2000s, when our basketball and volleyball teams were less than 10 years old, the Chargers didn't have a home gym. Staff packed a van full of the limited sports equipment the school owned and drove to a rented gym at St. Margaret's School to set up for games. Today, the Chargers have a mascot and an office filled with desks for four staff members and coaches and share a world-class facility with Olympians at PISE.

The centre court circle on the Chargers' home court is painted navy, with a mean white ram logo exploding out. At both end lines, huge white letters spell out "Chargers" against the navy backdrop. Large rectangular windows on the second and third floors of PISE look down on two courts, where basketball and volleyball players can be seen practicing throughout the day. On game days, royal blue bleachers are rolled out over one court, creating a show court for the athletes. Players from every team across the league know Camosun for having the best facilities.

A desperate need for a place to centralize the Chargers resulted in this huge gym, immaculate weight room, second "high performance" weight room, and recovery facilities such as hot tubs and ice baths. Now the problem has shifted to an inability for students to get out there. With many Lansdowne pupils living by their campus, a 20-minute drive out to Interurban and PISE is 10 minutes further than most people in Victoria seem willing to go. Furthermore, a Chargers office out at PISE has created a disconnect between the sports teams and the students.

This season, the Chargers basketball and volleyball teams averaged around 150 fans, mostly made up of families and friends, through the gates on game days. The student population, who get free admission instead of paying \$5, made up just 24 percent of crowds. While this number improved from 19 percent last year, it still struggles to justify students spending \$17 through each semester's tuition on sports they don't watch (every Camosun student pays fees towards the Chargers as part of their tuition).

STUDENT-FRIENDLY SOCIAL MEDIA

The student society's Glover says that the Chargers moving to Interurban was a mistake the college made that the athletic program is now having to deal with. At the time, an extravagant sport facility beat out lacking a home court, but seven years later the students still aren't showing up to it.

"It's hard to transmit information now because there are so many ways to do it," says Glover. "When [the CCSS] is the most successful, we have somebody out there all the time. There's just nothing that will ever beat face to face."

In the first week of classes, basketball and volleyball players promoted their teams at a stall during Camfest on both campuses. Unfortunately for the basketball teams, that day of publicity in September was two months before their first home game. The Chargers are aware that they're struggling to stay noticed by those attending Camosun.

"My job is to reach the people that don't know about us," says Chargers marketing and communications officer Bonita Joe, who has been with the program for all of its 21 years. "We know that student area is one of those ones that we really have trouble reaching."

This year, in a push to promote to students, Joe brought local media to games, put advertisements in *Nexus*, and tweeted out game dates and results regularly. And although the Chargers booth at Camfest may have been too early to keep students' attention, Joe says that "athletes are the best form of advertising we have on this campus if you want to target students."

One of the ways many Chargers athletes believe the program could strike the student population is to be more interactive online.

"Our in-house social media is better than any other school's in our conference," says fifth-year volleyball captain Jeremy Finn, "but it's not the right type of social media. I don't think it gets through to the right audience."

Finn says that despite information being posted on Twitter and Facebook

by the Chargers, photos and videos of the Chargers employ a professional photographer. Photos are hidden on a different page and social media posts are on an athletic banquet," says Finn.

MEANWHILE,

In the basement of the Young Building, students sit at white weight machines and run on treadmills. Outside the entrance two small bulletin boards with signs announcing events and athletics information."

The Chargers logo is on the sign. The Chargers teams is anywhere to be seen.

"There's just no Chargers presence on campus. Lansdowne is concerned, it just doesn't know what member at Lansdowne campus twenty years ago. We raise awareness about the CCSS. "The Chargers, "but they're not here."

With her office at PISE now, the Chargers have to visit the Lansdowne campus once a week. She slides to the Lansdowne library and bookstore. She says that after the email is sent, whether the students is unknown.

Comparing the power of social media today to 21 years ago when the Chargers started, Finn says that promotion was limited, I think it was more difficult.

With so much noise blaring at students through Instagram, Snapchat, news apps, email, and social media, it's hard to get students' attention on social media beyond their athletes' games.

Also, this past year, where we have been interested in promoting and progressing the program, the council was put in place. As a result, the plan to advertise our teams were either not developed or were not acted on.

At the beginning of March, the Chargers had a special sports floor, creating a feature for the provincials at PISE, and the program was put in place. Events like this show that with a focus on pulling off big plans and drawing out the students.

Now the Chargers need to bring their targeted social media, and advertising, to the college's homepage and Camosun website to address the lack of physical reminders for students or student athletes to bring their friends to home games. Perhaps with efforts like "Camosun PISE?" and "Camosun has a sports team."

But until the Camosun Chargers continue to be played for the polite cheers of pupils seen in other college's stadiums, the support of anyone in the community of athletes want to play for.

A SPORTS TEAM?

LOOKS AT THE CHARGERS' CHALLENGES

Story by Lachlan Ross , contributing writer

Photo by Kevin Light

are what get students clicking. The photographer for games, but “our pictures saved until the end of the year for the

AT LANSDOWNE

ing at the Lansdowne campus, students on treadmills in the campus fitness all sets of shelves sit on either side of a g that the board contains “recreation”, but no other mention of the sports

ce here at all,” says Glover. “As far as t exist.” The student society has a staff ty hours a week talking to students to ey’re all great people,” Glover says of

hargers’ Joe says she only gets a chance e every two weeks. While she emails ookstore for their television monitors, hether the information makes it to the

dia with the bulletin board on campus ed, Joe says that “although communi- e effective.”

tudents from Facebook, Twitter, In- ls, and online games, the ability to get comes as competitive for the Chargers

d a large group of senior athletes in- ng the Chargers program, no athletic many of the ideas athletes had to ad- vered to Chargers administration, or

hargers rolled in and pieced together ure court in the centre of the gym and apacity. It was PACWEST volleyball was on display for British Columbia. sed effort the Chargers are capable of crowds.

his focus to the addition of specifically g on Camosun-related websites, such un’s online learning website, D2L. To s on campus, the program could hire awareness to both campuses before these, the common questions, “What’s am?” will be eliminated.

can connect with students, games will aps of parents rather than the rowdy g gyms. While the Chargers appreciate nity, their student fan base is who the



“Most students don’t know that the Chargers exist.”

MICHAEL GLOVER
CAMOSUN COLLEGE STUDENT SOCIETY

“We know that student area is one of those ones that we really have trouble reaching.”

BONITA JOE
CAMOSUN CHARGERS



social issues

Local author hopes for a better place in new book



“If change is possible in one direction, it’s possible in the other.”

ANDREW MACLEOD
AUTHOR/JOURNALIST

Local journalist and author Andrew MacLeod explores British Columbia’s income-distribution gap in his new book, *A Better Place on Earth*.

ANNIE MACLEOD

JAYDEN GRIEVE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

There are times when British Columbia really is the beautiful place that the license plates promise it to be; there are also times when it feels like just a cruddy backwards province.

In his new book, *A Better Place on Earth*, local journalist Andrew MacLeod (known for his work at *The Tyee* and *Monday*) discusses several unpleasant circumstances that have wormed their way into

BC. Front and centre: the massive income split between the poor and the rich, something that’s gone relatively unchecked for a long time.

“It’s the kind of thing we are maybe aware of but it’s not always front of mind,” explains MacLeod. “I think the Occupy movement did a good job of putting the idea that the one percent has done really well in recent decades at the expense of everyone else on the agenda, but that sort of ended and nothing really changed.”

MacLeod says that people forgetting about the movements they initially get so excited about is a problem in society. People want a quick fix, and it’s just not going to happen that way, he says.

“In the moment it feels like nothing ever changes. That’s why it’s hard,” says MacLeod, “but things do change and you do have to look at it as a marathon, not a sprint.”

MacLeod goes on to say that he feels that nothing is ever hopeless and even though it’s easy to give

up, things do change, as long as people do stick with the causes they support.

“Inequality has risen over the past three decades,” he says. “It has been changing; now how do we change it back? If change is possible in one direction, it’s possible in the other.”

As well as outlining the current situation regarding income inequality, poverty rates, the welfare system, and other pieces of the puzzle, *A Better Place on Earth* suggests a

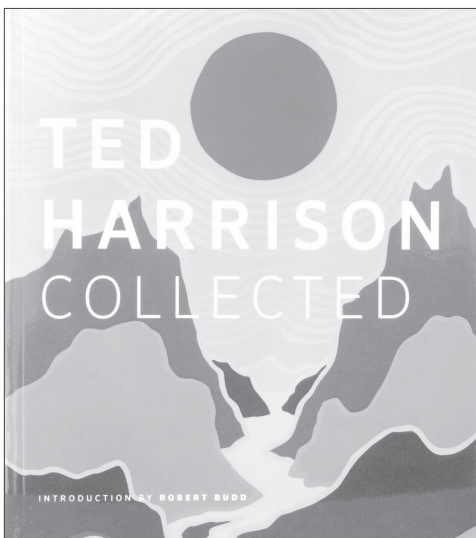
plethora of ways to aid, or possibly even fix, the income-distribution crisis.

MacLeod goes so far as to say that the problem is at the point where it’s not just those at the bottom who need to try to fix it—it’s everyone.

“I’d say we’re at a point where lots of people do get that it’s a problem,” says MacLeod, “that the rising inequality is a problem not just for people at the bottom but for everyone, and for the economy.”

review

Collection pays tribute to Harrison



KEAGAN HAWTHORNE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Ted Harrison Collected
(Douglas & McIntyre)

Even if you don’t know Ted Harrison’s name, you probably know his paintings. His much-loved depictions of winter in northern Canada, done in bold, cheerful colours, have appeared everywhere from schoolbooks to illustrated editions of *The Creation of Sam McGee*.

Originally from England, Harrison had a lifelong fascination with Canada’s north. Over the course of his career he created hundreds of paintings and silkscreen prints of what he called “my Yukon,” an abstracted

landscape that is as inventive as it is iconic.

Harrison said he experienced the landscape as music, and the bright bands of colour in his paintings represent the notes and tones that he heard. His was a folk music—he painted scenes of everyday life peopled by faceless characters in whom we are invited to find ourselves.

Harrison died in January here in Victoria, where he spent the later part of his life. To commemorate his life and work, Douglas & McIntyre released this book, a collection of Harrison’s screenprints introduced by Robert Budd.

Budd’s introduction is interesting without being wordy or filled with jargon. He draws on a personal relationship with the painter and includes entertaining bits of conversation (in response to questions about his work, Harrison would reply, “God knows! I just thought I’d do it!”). The art-history lesson Budd offers will be accessible to anyone interested in art.

Unfortunately, the book is small for an art book. Although the reproductions are vivid, their size leaves them seeming more like postcards than lively landscape depictions, and at the end I found myself wishing for a more substantial experience of the artist’s work.

But even still, it is a good introduction to the work of Harrison. And perhaps it’s fitting that an artist interested in everyday life should be represented in an everyday kind of book.

review

Cookbook makes foraging an option

REBECCA DAVIES
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

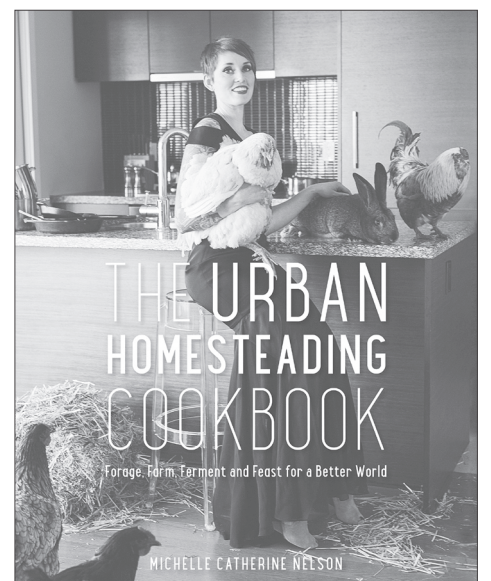
The Urban Homesteading Cookbook: Forage, Farm, Ferment and Feast for a Better World

By Michelle Catherine Nelson
(Douglas & McIntyre)

In efforts to help the environment and to be healthier, buying organic and locally sourced food is now a priority for many people. But it can be expensive. Michelle Catherine Nelson brings a free alternative to shopping at the grocery store for city-dwellers and country-livers alike in *The Urban Homesteading Cookbook*.

Here, the recipes are afterthoughts; the real lessons lie in Nelson’s comprehensible and detailed guide to many different aspects of eating off the land. She reassures weary consumers that although foraging, fermenting, and keeping micro livestock like quail on your deck is hard work, the rewards are bountiful.

Even if you’re not the type of person to collect crickets to make your own insect flour, the book opens readers’ eyes to the food that lives in the woods and along the shores. For example, fiddleheads, crab, mushrooms, deer, dandelions, and fruits are all plentiful in the Victoria area, and Nelson provides simple recipes and preservation techniques to enjoy them year-round. The book is filled with rustic photography that shows the author’s respect for ethical and local food.



As a long-time cook and forager, I found this book to be a thorough beginner’s guide to the endless world of what nature has to offer. People are so used to shopping for their food that they don’t take the time to look out their own back window and see the healthy, accessible edibles at their doorsteps.

All it takes is the proper tools, an open mind, and a little knowledge and guidance to enjoy the nourishment nature presents to us.

So where to start from this particular cookbook? I recommend the Sesame Seaweed Salad foraged from local beaches, brewing your own kombucha, and adding some Tree Tip Syrup into your coffee.

theatre

Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike mocks aging, sibling rivalries

REBECCA DAVIES
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike blends characters and storylines from various plays by Russian playwright Anton Chekov and adds a modern twist to their themes of aging, regret, jealousy, and yearning. But despite heavy issues at its core, *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike* is most definitely a comedic adventure, so much so that Deborah Williams, who plays Sonia, has a hard time maintaining her composure on stage.

"The actor who plays Spike can hardly keep his clothes on," she says. "You have to really work hard to not laugh as hard as the audience. It's just so shocking and wonderful, but that's part of the performance. This is live theatre and that's the joy of it—you never quite know what's going to happen."

Williams plays the complicated character of Sonia, the adopted sister of Masha and Vanya. Sonia and Vanya have both put their lives on hold to care for their dementia-ridden parents, all while their movie-star sister travels the world and pays their bills. Masha comes with her young, brazen boyfriend for a costume party, and years of pent-up resentment, jealousy, and self-deprecation spill out of the three aging siblings. With so many layers to the play (which was written by Christopher Durang and has won a Tony Award), and to her character, Williams needed to do her research.

"I think this play will give people hope for the people around them, not just for themselves. For connection and love, and that working for things is also worth it, and maybe it'll make them go give their brother or sister a call."

DEBORAH WILLIAMS
VANYA AND SONIA AND MASHA AND SPIKE

"I re-read a lot of Chekov," says Williams. "My character impersonates [actress] Maggie Smith, too, so I had to get that impression down before I hit rehearsal. I did a lot of research on adult children nursing their parents. Also, she was adopted when she was eight, so I looked into that a bit too, which was a bit harrowing."

The play is inspired by Chekov, who wrote satirical comedies about the aristocracy pre-revolution, but audience members don't need to be an expert in classical theatre to get the jokes. Vanya, Sonia, and Masha tease each other in the witty, yet sometimes hurtful ways only siblings can do, and the themes of always wanting what we don't have should resonate with most viewers.

"All they can see is the vacuum in their life; they can never appreciate what they actually do have,"

says Williams of the characters in the play. "It's really easy to be North American and think that somehow, with just a bit more money, or a new marriage, or a bigger house, that your life would suddenly be better. All of us are yearning constantly. That is the whole basis of Canadian society; that's why we spend."

Although the play has the potential to make audience members question their own motives for wanting more and acknowledge the bitterness that can accompany getting older, Williams assures viewers that *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike's* darkness is masked by the hilarious relationship dynamics within the family. The actress thinks that audience members will leave performances with one thing: hope.

"I think this play will give people hope for the people around them, not just for themselves. For connec-



PHOTO PROVIDED

Deborah Williams plays Sonia in *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike*.

tion and love, and that working for things is also worth it, and maybe it'll make them go give their brother or sister a call. It's easy to let small things come in the way of lifelong relationships."

Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike
April 14 to May 17
\$23-\$52 (25% off w/student ID), Belfry Theatre
belfry.bc.ca

New Music Revue

San Felix drop ball, Autopilot pick it up



San Felix
Fire Island
(Independent)
2/5

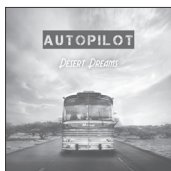
Victoria indie-rock group San Felix's new album, *Fire Island*, opens with catchy percussion and electric guitar in "I Was a Vulture." However, the lead vocalist sings like he's coming down with a cold and the range narrows to the same few notes.

After the first song, the instruments lose their lustre, constantly hinting at some variation to the melody, only to slide back down and get muffled.

The abrupt nonsensical tempo changes in "Day of the Rat" make the hurrying crescendos leading to nowhere sound like bad cut-outs from a completely different song.

In the end we're left with "Garden Treasures," a five-minute track with a bland one-minute musical introduction followed by several more drowsy intervals. It was hard to remember most of the music, even while actively trying to listen.

-SARAH TAYLER



Autopilot
Desert Dreams
(Independent)
3.5/5

Saskatoon's Autopilot follow up their debut full-length, *Diamond Rough*, with this concise seven-song... EP? Mini-album? Album? Call it what you will, but I call it a good length, as the band's dreamy alt-rock doesn't have a chance to get stale before that refreshingly brief runtime is up.

Not that I'm worried about that: a song like the excellent "Ocean-side" gets it all right: toe-tapping rhythms that aren't cloying or too predictable but maintain just enough mainstream pop sensibility to appeal to the casual avocado-squeezing listener at the grocery store, should it ever come to that.

But when they scrap their mainstream appeal, as on the darker and more meandering "Battles," the band's real strengths shine through: a slight nod to shoegaze, a clear love of '80's rock and new wave, and just a whole lot of sincere feeling.

-GREG PRATT

Hatha Flow Restorative Yin yogahour® Prenatal Nidra

MAY STUDENT SALE!

for full time-students:

4 months for the price of 3!

\$209 + gst



#500-3 Fan Tan Alley | 250.385.2105 | www.moksanayoga.com

performance

Uno Fest brings home serious performing talent



TRISTAN BRAND

Stephanie Morin-Robert's *Me, Myself & Eye* is just one of many diverse performances at this year's Uno Fest.

JOSH TRAILL
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Until May 24, Intrepid Theatre will be home to 15 different performers from all over the world at this year's Uno Fest.

The fest is made up of solo performances that explore all different forms of art, which includes everything from circus acts and stand-up comedy to live film creation.

"Whether you like stand-up, intense drama, or even circus acts, it's all there and you're bound to have a great time," says Uno Fest producer Janet Munsil, who has been with the

festival since its creation 18 years ago. "It's really an amazing show and the reception has been great so far. These shows are created by the performers, which makes for such a multitalented production."

The casting for Uno Fest is quite rigorous, and event producers consider over 100 solo performers to be featured in the festival.

"The good stuff rises to the top," says Munsil, who was part of the casting process. "We really have some amazing performers this year."

Victoria local Sharon Mahoney

will be performing her new stand-up comedy act, *The Lion, the Bitch and the Wardrobe*.

"The show is a one-woman show about her battle with anxiety," says Mahoney. "It's a variation of stand-up and character studies."

Mahoney drew inspiration for the sketch from her own anxiety issues, hoping to connect with people who deal with the same problems.

"Anxiety confronts me like a big angry lion," says Mahoney. "I really wanted to make a comedy routine based around this idea that

would also raise issues of mental health."

Solo performances can be incredibly stressful; Sharon really wanted to confront this fear on stage.

"The nature of the profession used to create a lot of stress for me and that's why I think this performance is such a personal one for me," says Mahoney. "I'm really proud of it."

And if this all sounds good (circus acts!) but the student budget is a bit tight, just consider this: certain performances at Uno Fest will be

offered on a pay-what-you-want basis.

"We hope that the donation aspect of certain performances will benefit students the most," says Munsil. "We really want the community to come out to the theatre and see the shows."

Uno Fest
Until May 24
Various prices, Intrepid
Theatre
intrepidtheatre.
com/festivals/uno-fest/

music

Locals Isobel Trigger learn how to rock through trial and error

TORI DMYTAR
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Victoria indie rock/pop band Isobel Trigger packed up the van and hit the road for their cross-Canada tour in April and have been driving and jamming ever since. Vocalist/synth player Felicia Harding says that she learned some important things while on their previous tour, like the importance of getting lots of rest, not indulging too much, and writing things down in the calendar; now they have utilized these seemingly obvious tricks of the trade and are ecstatic about being on the road again.

"We are loving touring and just want to play our music in as many cities as possible," says Harding. "This is our first national tour and we're so excited to be going all the way to Toronto, Montreal, Quebec City... We've achieved so many goals up to this point."

Harding says she has no shortage of inspiration for her lyrics. She especially likes to slip in messages of determination and dedication where she can. When it comes to the songs, she says she is inspired by "all kinds of things. Life, different things that I'm going through, different things that friends are going

"When I was younger I was really shy. Songwriting was a way of getting anything out I wanted to express."

FELICIA HARDING
ISOBEL TRIGGER

through, and things I read about and current events. There's a lot about perseverance in there, there's a lot of trial and error."

Harding says that writing is an integral part of her life and always has been; she says that nothing can get her emotions out the way that songwriting can. Even when she was younger she used it as a tool for self-expression and communication.

"When I was younger I was really shy," she says. "I had a hard time expressing myself and talking to people, so it was kinda my way of getting it out if I had any problems or if I had anything I wanted to express."

The same feeling of release and



BRETT REID

Local indie rockers Isobel Trigger have played across Canada and learned lessons along the way.

expression is mirrored by the others in the band. If someone creates a cool lick, everyone works off it to transform it into something more, adding in their own personal flair. Harding writes most of the lyrics to the songs, but words are not the

only way to express feelings and thoughts.

"It's definitely really cathartic for all of us in different ways, and, definitely, playing live is one of the things that gets us all really tuned in and gives you that cleansing kind of

experience," says Harding. "Afterwards, we all feel really elevated."

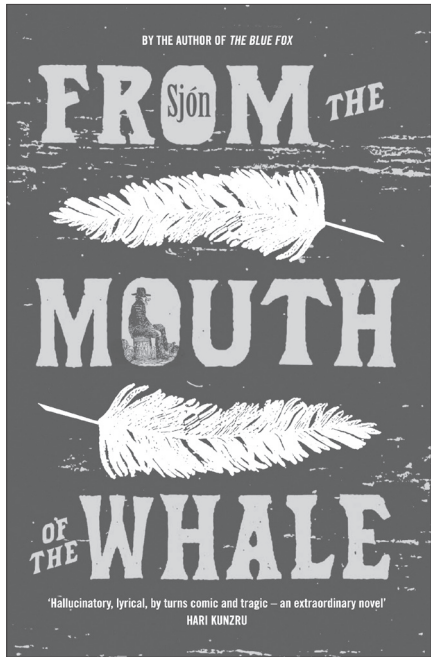
Isobel Trigger
7 pm Saturday, May 23
\$10, Lucky Bar
isobeltrigger.com



Lit Matters

by Keagan Hawthorne

Sjón and the natural history of poetry



His writing is firmly grounded in the landscape of Iceland, in both its physical and mythical aspects. He blends myth with history, surrealism with realism.

“I have seen the universe! It is made of poems!”

So declares a character in *The Blue Fox*, a novella by the Icelandic author known by his pen name, Sjón. The statement is typical of Sjón, who is as interested in the natural world as he is in the world of poetry and myth.

Sjón grew up in Reykjavik, where, as a teenager, he started a rockabilly band with Björk and founded a surrealist poetry movement. He frequently collaborates with Björk on songwriting projects and has been nominated for an Oscar.

Well known throughout Scandinavia, Sjón recently made his debut in English with the simultaneous

translation and publication of three of his novels, *The Blue Fox*, *The Whispering Muse*, and *From the Mouth of the Whale*.

His writing is firmly grounded in the landscape of Iceland, in both its physical and mythical aspects. He blends myth with history, surrealism with realism, always looking, as he says, “for the source of human activity, looking into the back alleys and the darkest clearing in the forest for excitement.”

Although he takes us on this search with an often-lighthearted tone, delighting in curiosity and detail, his novels have dark undertones. In all three, he questions the origins of human constants such as cruelty, racism, and intolerance.

“When did a skilled craftsman first fiddle with a nail between his fingers...and see not the carpentry job in front of him, but his brother nailed to a cross?”

The antidote to our own natures, says Sjón, can be found in our love of sharing stories. “We are curious by nature, always swapping stories. It is one of the great civilizing truths of human beings.” This is the dual power of imagination: capable of turning tools into weapons, but also of transforming the landscape into poetry and our lives into stories.

Sjón must-read:

From the Mouth of the Whale
(Victoria Public Library: Central Branch, paperback fiction)

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>

FILL UP THIS WHITE SPACE WITH A COLUMN OF YOUR OWN!

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

Doritos ingredients word search

Chips: is there anything better on the face of this planet? Nope. To celebrate the mighty chip, here's a word search consisting of the ingredients of some Doritos we had in the office. Ew. Bring the completed puzzle in to the Nexus office and grab some prizes!

ACID
ARTIFICIAL
BUTTERMILK
CALCIUM
CITRIC
COLOUR
DEXTROSE
DISODIUM
GLUTAMATE
GUANYLATE

HYDROXIDE
INOSINATE
JALAPENO
LACTIC
MALIC
MALTODEXTRIN
MODIFIED
MONOSODIUM
ROMANO
WHEY

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

NEXUS HUMOUR

By Jenna Cotton

You draw comics.

And we know it!

(Don't ask how.)

If you think you might be able to make folks laugh with a short comic every other week, then we'd like to see your work in print.

Submit samples to:
Nexus, 201 Richmond House,
Lansdowne Campus, or email:
editor@nexusnewspaper.com

what's going on

by greg pratt

TUESDAY EVENINGS

Weekly drop-in sports at Interurban

Interurban students are on a mission to spread health and wellness. The idea is to give Camosun students opportunities to participate in free/drop-in activities in a safe, inclusive, and social environment. The drop-in sports take place on Tuesdays from 8:30 to 9:30 pm at the PISE Gym at the Interurban campus and are available only to Camosun students (so be sure to bring your student card to get in).

UNTIL SUNDAY, MAY 24

The door is always...

The Open Door Access to Art features artwork from 25 students attending eight different Victoria high schools at the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria. See aggv.ca for more details on this and other events happening there in May, including May 21's Tour of Japan and May 24's Family Sunday.

UNTIL SATURDAY, MAY 30

Do they really cut glass?

Diamonds is an exhibition from artist Todd A. Davis that examines, according to a press release, "surveillance culture, gestures of hospitality, and inhabiting shared spaces." The exhibit is at Open Space until May 30; see openspace.ca for more information.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13

Hell no, contaminated waste won't go

Head on down to the Legislature from 11 am to 1 pm to protest contaminated waste being dumped into Shawnigan's watershed. Search

#SaveShawniganWater on Twitter for info.

THURSDAY, MAY 14

Vancouver Island docs times two

Head over to UVic's Cinecenta at 7 pm to see two documentaries by Vancouver Island filmmaker Richard Boyce: *Coastal Tarsands: Journey to Deleted Islands* and *Rainforest: The Limit of Splendour*. Boyce will be in attendance to present the films. See cinecenta.com for details.

THURSDAY, MAY 14

Get between it

Between Alternatives, featuring paintings by Jane Francis and Jo-Ann Richards, is having its opening shindig from 5 to 8 pm, featuring Karel Roessingh on piano. The exhibit is happening at the Baumann Centre, 925 Balmoral Road, on the following dates and times: May 15 and 16 from noon to 5 pm; May 20, 22, and 23 from noon to 5 pm; May 21 from noon to 4 pm; May 27 from noon to 5 pm. Email betweenalternatives2015@gmail.com for info.

FRIDAY, MAY 15

RIYL: Men at Work, Air Supply

I had eye surgery recently! It was super scary. I have to go back for a checkup on May 15 to make sure my eyeball isn't about to pop out of my skull. Hope I don't forget this time. I missed my first eye surgery appointment because I forgot. Not sure what happened there, that's really unlike me. Also on May 15 is Tommy Emmanuel playing at the McPherson Playhouse at 8 pm. \$52, see rmts.bc.ca for more information.

TUESDAY, MAY 19

Free jazz comes to town

Peter Brotzmann will be performing a solo live concert at the Copper Owl (1900 Douglas Street); Brotzmann is a biggie in the world of free jazz, so head on down if that's yer bag. 9 pm, \$15, copperowl.ca for more info.

FRIDAY, MAY 22

Be Good, Frazey

Frazey Ford, best known for her time playing with the Be Good Tanyas, will be playing at Sugar at 8 pm; advance tickets are \$20. See atomiqueproductions.com for the details.

TUESDAY, MAY 26

Raincoast release launch

Russell Books (734 Fort Street) will be home to the launch of *Raincoast Chronicles 23: Harbour Publishing 40th Anniversary Edition* at 7:30 pm on May 26. Head on down to hear several Victoria contributors read from their pieces from the book. Admission is free; see russellbooks.com for more information.

FRIDAY, MAY 27

Get your ideas on

TEDxVictoriaSalon: Health is more than an awkward name. It's a combo of speakers and TED/TEDx talks focused around the theme of health. 6 to 9 pm, 660 Discovery Street. Get those tickets early, though; tedxvictoria.com can help you out.

FRIDAY, MAY 27

Craving cheddar Ritz for some reason

Calgary punks Puttin' on the Foil are bringing their rawkin' punk to Logan's Pub, bringing the Drunken

Superheroes and Abombanation along for the ride. See loganspub.com for more info.

THURSDAY, MAY 28

Camosun trades and tech awards action

Head over to Spectrum Community School Theatre (957 Burnside Road West) to see the 2015 School of Trades and Technology Awards Ceremony, which gives kudos to both students and alumni. Tech awards at 6, light refreshments at 7, trades awards at 7:30. See camosun.ca/learn/school/trades-technology/tt-awards.html for info.

THURSDAY, MAY 28

Get your future in order

Head on down to the first Camosun and UVic joint Business Co-op and Career Fair, taking place between 11 am and 3 pm at the lobby in the David Strong Building up at UVic. Go to uvic.ca/coopandcareer/events for more info on what's going on and how it can help you.

THURSDAY, MAY 28

TO SUNDAY, MAY 31

Eat and watch

The Feast: Food and Film festival is three days of celebrating the one thing we all have in common. It really doesn't matter what your interests are, or what your life goals are. As long as you're breathing, we have one thing in common: we love alliterations. Wait, wrong fest. See feastfoodfilm.ca for information.

FRIDAY, MAY 29 AND SATURDAY, MAY 30

This is actually a ballet

None of what I'm about to say may

be totally accurate, but I think I remember being in Beverly Hills once and seeing Rodeo, that popular road that everyone talks about. I love how it's not pronounced like the word that means wrangling horses or whatever and instead is RoDEo. Rolls off the tongue nicely. So, I was excited to walk on it (kinda like how I was on a bus once and crossed Sunset Boulevard in Hollywood and was like, damn, Slash probably staggered through this exact intersection at some point during the '80s), but then I realized Rodeo is all about shopping and if there's one thing that puts me in a bad mood, it's shopping. But I bet this "ballet stampede" would lift me right out of that bad mood: *Annie's Rodeo*, 7:30 pm on May 29 and 2 pm on May 30, Royal Theatre, \$30, rmts.bc.ca.

FRIDAY, JUNE 5

Cook's off Cook

Did you see the price on those Aerosmith tickets? These rock shows ain't getting any cheaper! Makes the \$63 tickets to go see Jesse Cook seem like a steal. 7:30 pm, Royal Theatre, rmts.bc.ca for info.

TUESDAY, JUNE 9

Explore the mayhem

So, Dora the Explorer is coming to the Royal Theatre. These evening kid shows are a hoot: by about an hour into it, it's pure chaos, as the kids are grumpy, the adults are wondering if it was really worth it, and the stimulation just DOES NOT STOP. Entertainment or bizarre social experiment? Entertainment, of course. 6:30 pm, \$31.50, rmts.bc.ca for info.

We've got WAY more events for May and June at nexusnewspaper.com/category/webexclusive/

MAUDE HUNTER'S
PUB & LIQUOR STORE

3810 Shelbourne Street, Victoria, BC • Website: maudehunterspub.ca

TACO

PBR CAN

PBR BOTTLE

BEEF DIP + FRIES

ALWAYS DRINK PABST BLUE RIBBON RESPONSIBLY.

pabstblueribbon.com