

NEXUS

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camosun's student voice since 1990

CAMOSUN COLLEGE PRESIDENT SHERRI BELL

THE *NEXUS*
INTERVIEW

PAGE SIX



clearly recognized and appreciated;
Whereas the Canadian Federation of Students (Services) no longer upholds the pr
in the Preamble to the Bylaws, thus fails to represent those committed to their adv
Whereas Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario staffperson Toby Whitfield has
y some individual members of the National Executive to assist with their partici
by the Canadian Federation of Students, resulting in labour relations strife a
eration democracy;
reas Bilan Arte and Anna Dubinski, along with former National Chairpers
rmick, have lied, withheld information, and otherwise made it impossi
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ck, lied to members of the Canadian Federation of Students at t
eting of the Canadian Federation of Students;
t the 67th semi-annual general meeting of the Canadian Fed
legates representing BC members were subject to collec
ominem attacks, and other intolerable interactions;
at same meeting, an announcement was made during
oneys of the Canadian Federation of Students (-Ser



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Camfest returns to welcome students to Camosun: 10

NEXUS

camosun's student voice since 1990

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editor's letter

Welcome to September

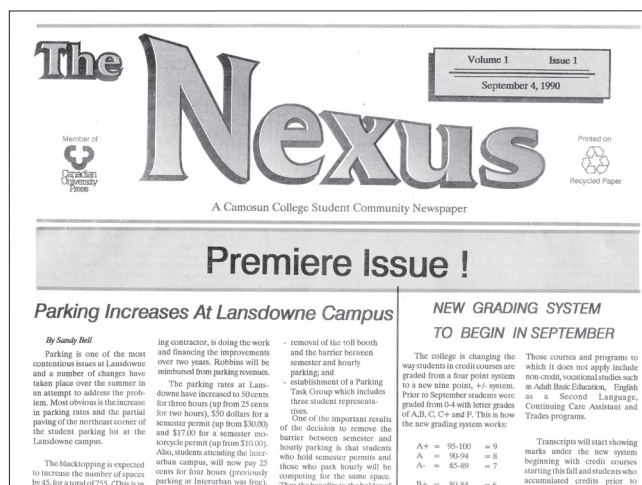
Egads! Not much space here to say hello to you, new and returning Camosun students. So it goes for our first issue back for the fall semester; it's always a busy one. So I'll keep this quick: if we haven't met before, we are your student newspaper. We cover issues that matter to you, and we're also written by you (get in touch to become a volunteer; no experience necessary).

This issue we sat down with Camosun's new president to talk to her about all manner of things that are relevant to you, Camosun students; see the story on page 6. Elsewhere, we've got continuing coverage of news relating to the Canadian Federation of Students, tons of great arts stories, fun columns, and more. We hope you find something to enjoy; email us and let us know. And, seriously: get in touch to volunteer and help make the paper what you want it to be!

Greg Pratt, managing editor
editor@nexusnewspaper.com

flashback

25 years ago in Nexus



Did you know we just turned 25? That's right: the very first issue of *Nexus*, known back then as *The Nexus*, appeared on stands around Camosun in September 1990. So we're relaunching the popular *20 Years Ago* column as *25 Years Ago* and starting back at the beginning...

CCSS and CFS union begins: A news story in the September 4, 1990 issue of *Nexus* (that's right, our debut issue!) talked about how the Camosun College Student Society (CCSS) was considering joining the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS). Indeed, the CCSS did end up joining the CFS, although, as recent stories in *Nexus* detail, the relationship hasn't always been smooth sailing. See the next page for more on that.

Parking, always parking: One of the most consistent student concerns over the years has been

parking. And, indeed, the main cover story on our first issue talked about changes being made to the Lansdowne parking lot. And right in the first paragraph, there is talk of the increase in parking rates, an increase which continues to this day, and which continues to irk students to this day.

Same paper, same goals: A piece introducing the paper to the readers explained that during Camosun College Student Society elections, students put the need for a student newspaper high on their list of priorities. We've had to change with the times, offering more online content, and it's a constant challenge to bring you, the reader, stories that are relevant and sometimes not reported anywhere else, but that's what we're still doing 25 years later. We hope we're still doing a good job in your eyes; judging by the feedback we get, we are, which makes us all very proud.

open space

The joys of being naked

KEAGAN HAWTHORNE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

I recently got myself a "plus" membership to the downtown Y. The quiet change room has a hot tub, steam room, and sauna. Men linger after swimming or working out to catch up on news and gossip, quietly relax, or read the paper. There is a sense of unhurried ease, and there are bodies of every imaginable shape and size out on display without shame or fear.

That's right: most of the men are naked most of the time. I've become one of those men, and I love it.

Naked socializing is an activity that's foreign to most Canadians. We're a body-shy culture, with puritanical ideas about sex and shame. But what could be more natural than being unclothed? Dipping into the hot tub, sweating it out in the sauna, or just sitting around reading the paper with all your bits bared is refreshingly nice.

In many cultures nudity is a no-brainer. The ancient Celts fought bloody battles in the buff (imagine a horde of screaming, naked swordsmen descending upon you!), and the Greeks, inventors of the Olympic Games (originally naked) gave us the word "gymnasium," which means something like "place for naked sports."

Today the Swedes and Finns enjoy their saunas nude, and over in Germany you can go naked in some co-ed baths and steam houses.

I got my first taste of communal nudity at an *onsen*, or hot spring, in Japan. I was sitting on a stool washing myself when the man on the next stool looked at me and said, "Canada? Oh! You a cowboy?" accenting his question with a bucking bronco pantomime that I won't soon forget.

And being naked doesn't just feel better: it *is* better for you. A host of health benefits are claimed by those who sleep naked: deeper sleeps, healthier genitals, more sex, money saved on pyjamas... Sunlight on your genitals can help stimulate a healthy libido, and being nude around others helps develop healthier attitudes by increasing body confidence.

The pleasure of communal nudity doesn't come from a tootling sense of adventure. It's the opposite—the pleasure is that the comfort of it isn't a big deal. It's empowering to feel good about being naked because it's empowering to feel ownership of your body and its boundaries.

So the next time you have the chance to let it all hang out, give it a try. You'll feel great.

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

letters

BC delegates walk out of CFS meeting

I think there is an important element that does not appear in this story ("Camosun College Student Society Lansdowne executive alleges she was verbally abused at Canadian Federation of Students national meeting," August 19 issue): the connection between the special women's caucus meeting and BC's delegates walking out of the final plenary session after dinner. It was completely unprecedented to have a surprise formal caucus meeting during the dinner break, and while it may have made certain women delegates feel better, it was traumatic for most of those from BC. As an interested party I was receiving live updates of what was going on inside the caucus meeting and was surprised at the strength of the attacks against Shayli [Robinson, CCSS Lansdowne executive] and against BC in general. When I made my way back to the meeting hall the first thing I saw was a young woman from BC crying outside the building. Other BC women were dazed and shocked and expressed that they felt unable to continue. Plenary reconvened shortly after with about 35 percent of BC delegates in the room, and when it became apparent that many of the women felt it was unsafe to return, the remainder of the BC delegates left the meeting in solidarity.

MICHEL TURCOTTE

CAMOSUN COLLEGE STUDENT SOCIETY

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SEND A LETTER

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

OVERHEARD AT NEXUS: "I figured it was either a dead mouse or rotting algae."

COVER PHOTOS:
Sherri Bell: Greg Pratt/*Nexus*
CFS-BC: Greg Pratt/*Nexus*
Camosun Mechanical Engineering Showcase: Camosun College A/V Services
Camfest: Provided

SPEAK UP

If you could say one thing to Camosun's new president, what would it be?

BY SARAH TAYLER



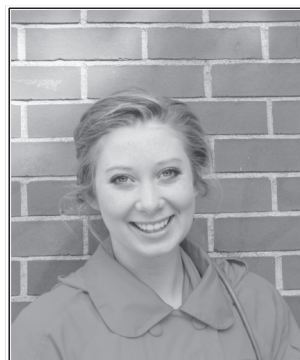
INDERPREET CAUR

"It's awesome to be here. Actually, I really like this college; the faculty and all the students are really helpful."



C.J. DEMPSEY

"You're in the same boat as me—I'm a new guy, too."



REBECCA THOMPSON

"Please don't be a dictator."



SCOTT MCMURDO

"Just make sure that everybody has equal rights to everything, are able to afford things, and everybody is, well, equal."



JAKE RIEGKE

"Keep it up; it looks pretty sharp."



YOLANDA SUN

"I love Camosun. I love the instructors, especially in the ELD department. They are very professional, very approachable, and they are really helpful for me."

student politics

Canadian Federation of Students under fire from BC members

GREG PRATT
MANAGING EDITOR

The Canadian Federation of Students-British Columbia (CFS-BC) had its semi-annual general meeting from August 13 to 16; the meeting agenda contained several motions condemning the national Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) organization.

The motions talk in detail about how the BC branch of CFS (which is a separate legal entity from the national CFS) has “no confidence” in the national branch and explicitly calls for the resignation of CFS national chair Bilan Arte, who took over from Jessica McCormick earlier this year. The national CFS office has faced criticism from CFS members for allegations of corruption and union-busting, which McCormick denied to *Nexus* in April.

The motions go on to say that the CFS should no longer have contact with Arte and McCormick and explain how CFS-BC is losing confidence in the national executive, suggesting ways to distance themselves from the national CFS.

CFS-BC chairperson Simka Marshall says that after roughly 10 months of what she calls “frustration” with the Ottawa office of the CFS, the executive committee of CFS-BC was “forced to recommend organizational changes to our upcoming meeting,” she told *Nexus* before the meeting.

Marshall says that the motions were directed towards the national executive and not the national CFS organization as a whole.

“The actions of the national executive, and in particular the at-large members of the national executive, have been counter to the bylaws, the laws that govern the organization, the principles of the federation, and, in some cases, the very purpose of the organization,” Marshall told *Nexus* in a second interview after the CFS-BC meeting. “The resolutions adopted unanimously at this most recent general meeting aim to resolve the outstanding issues, and those resolutions have weight because BC member local unions are a part of the national organization.”

Arte says that she remains “committed to continuing to fight for a system of postsecondary education that is equitable and accessible for all” despite these problems.

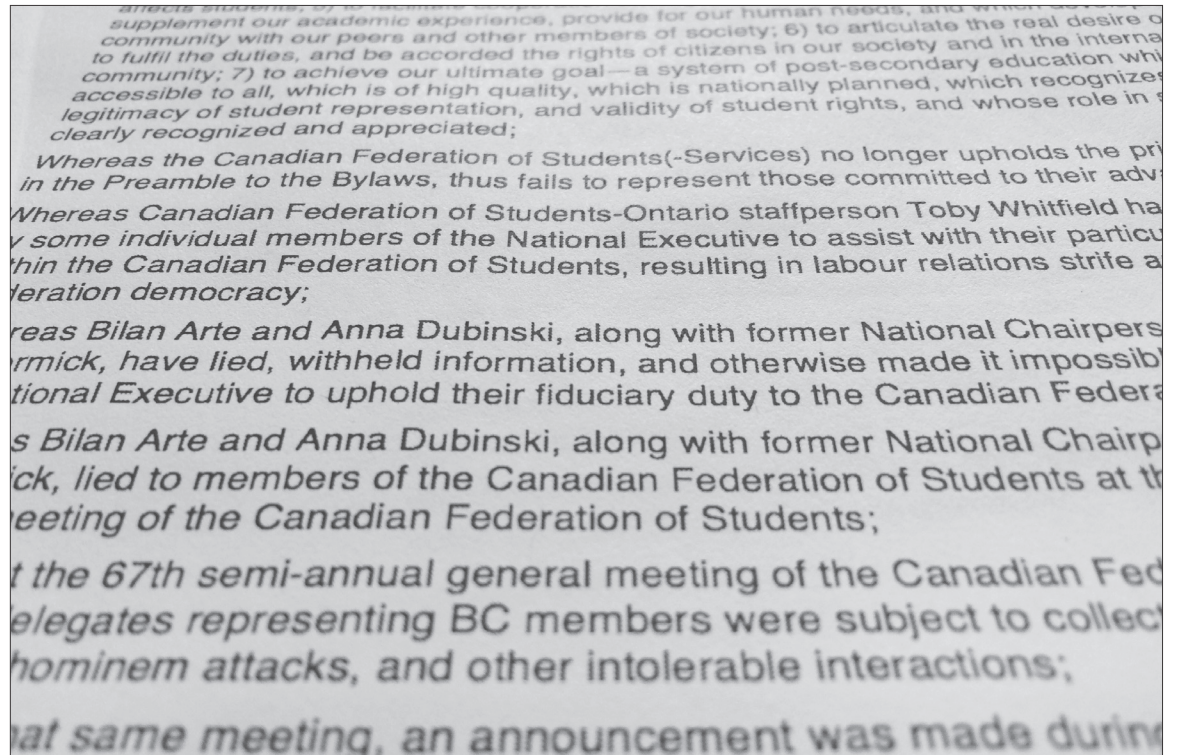
“Where leaders have committed serious misdeeds by their actions or non-actions, they should step aside.”

SIMKA MARSHALL
CANADIAN FEDERATION
OF STUDENTS-BRITISH
COLUMBIA

“Students in all parts of the country benefit from a strong national and provincial students’ union,” she says. “We are disappointed with the tension and division that is being created between some members in BC and other members across the country, but we remain committed to working to resolve any issues that may exist.”

Marshall says that members voting at the CFS-BC meeting “unanimously voted to censure Ms. Arte and call for her resignation.”

“She oversaw a fraudulent election which took place at the most recent [CFS] general meeting,” Marshall continues, “and also chaired a special session of the women’s constituency group, at which BC delegates were verbally assaulted, bullied, and harassed. Beyond her other transgressions against the bylaws and principles of the organizations, these aforementioned acts were deemed sufficient to call for her resignation. The additional language asking for the discontinuation of her involvement is to express that BC members would not be satisfied with her simply shifting into a different role on the national executive, nor being given a staff job. It is important to note that in recent months the at-large member of the national executive have been hiring staff without authority or ratification by the national



GREG PRATT/NEXUS

A sampling of the motions from the Canadian Federations of Students-British Columbia's recent meeting.

executive, and BC members are not interested in Ms. Arte being given a patronage appointment in the national office.”

Arte insists that not all the information being given about her is accurate. Still, she remains hopeful that the student movement can remain unified and work together.

“On a personal level, I find it unfortunate that some folks have felt the need to spread misinformation about myself and other members of the national executive,” she says, “but I am optimistic that we can move forward together and put our differences behind us.”

Camosun College Student Society (CCSS) executive director Michel Turcotte is also hopeful that despite the challenges, the national student movement can work through its problems. He says that most of the motions passed, many after being debated and amended, and it “may force a reexamination of the formal relationships between the two organizations.”

“Student leaders in British Columbia believe that there has been a shift away from the founding principles of the Canadian Federation of Students and want to consider their options,” he says.

Some BC locals of the CFS have said that the national office has not been responsive to their questions and concerns, something that Turcotte says changed during the meeting.

“I find it unfortunate that some folks have felt the need to spread misinformation about myself and other members of the national executive.”

BILAN ARTE
CANADIAN FEDERATION OF
STUDENTS

“During the course of the BC general meeting, the national leadership finally reached out to member locals in British Columbia and will likely be meeting with representatives of the CCSS in the near future to discuss our concerns,” he says.

But Marshall says the lack of communication from the national CFS office isn’t helping relations with BC members.

“I’d note that, through informal discussion of the executive committee and with student activists around the province, students in BC are not interested in a protracted back-and-forth with those in the CFS’s national office,” says Marshall. “Students have asked questions of their national union; they want them answered. Where leaders have committed serious misdeeds by their actions or non-actions, they should step aside. Limited correspondence from the CFS national office indicates that they are attempting to hold BC students, our organizations, and our representatives responsible for disunity across Canada. This distorted perspective is a nonstarter with BC students.”

Arte, however, says that she is willing to talk to those members located in BC.

“I continue to make myself available to members in BC,” she says. “If they have questions or concerns I would encourage them to connect with me directly.”

Camosun students are members of the CFS and CFS-BC.

The full agenda for the CFS-BC meeting is available on the *Nexus* website.

NEWS BRIEFS

Wi-fi issues?

Camosun College’s Information Technology Services would like to remind all Camosun students to reset their passwords to get on Camosun’s wi-fi. To do so, visit the library or computer lab, or go to password.camosun.ca. If you’re a new student, the default is your birthday in this format: mmddyy. Good luck!

Good things happen to those who fish

Camosun College student Nigel Delange recently received one of four Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC scholarships. He was awarded the \$1,500 scholarship due to his longstanding interest in freshwater

fishing and his current career goals. Delange is a third-year Environmental Technology student aiming to pursue a career as a fisheries technician. Delange is one of 23 students to win the award since the creation of the Freshwater Fisheries Society in 2003.

Victoria and Saanich partner up to help homeless

Last year, the municipality of Saanich pledged a grant of \$112,000 in support of new apartments to house homeless seniors. Victoria’s mayor and council recently voted to match Saanich’s grant in building the Cool Aid Society’s Cottage Grove apartment building, which will house 45 homeless seniors.

Cottage Grove will be the society’s 11th apartment building and the fourth building devoted to seniors. Construction is expected to start in the next few months near Quadra Street and Tolmie Avenue.

Film submission call out

Hey, filmmakers, and aspiring filmmakers: the Vancouver Island Short Film Festival is now accepting film submissions for their 11th season. Films of all genres are welcome, as long as they are 12 minutes or shorter. Deadline for entry is November 1; for entry forms and the festival guidelines go to visff.com, or email submissions@visff.com or call 250-729-3947 for more information.

BC’s first annual KidSport week

KidSport Greater Victoria is getting ready for a provincial week of awareness about the accessibility of children’s sports. The week, running from September 6 to 13, will include a charity golf tournament, Victoria Golf Men’s Links to Change. This year’s tournament will receive a bonus in the form of celebrity endorsement: Jon Montgomery, Canadian Olympic gold medalist and host of CTV’s *Amazing Race Canada*, will be participating and speaking at the event. According to a KidSport Victoria press release, the organization funds over 1,200 local kids in sports every year and is one of the largest KidSport chapters

nationally. KidSport says last year’s tournament was a success, raising over \$25,000 for the charity. Since the formation of the Victoria chapter in 2000, 7,418 children from low-income families have been assisted in sport registration, according to the organization. More information on the charity tournament can be found at vgccharity.com.

-PASCALE ARCHIBALD

We’ve got more News Briefs that we couldn’t fit here; head to the news section of nexusnewspaper.com to find ’em!

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

students

Camosun's Mechanical Engineering Showcase returns



CAMOSUN COLLEGE A/V SERVICES

Camosun students displaying their final projects at last year's Mechanical Engineering Showcase.

PASCALE ARCHIBALD

STUDENT EDITOR

No one would expect the bust or hardcover book sitting on a fireplace mantel as being anything other than what they appear to be. And if you're thinking secret-passageway triggers, I would say you've read a few too many spy novels in your time. But while secret passageways seem to exist solely in works of fiction, some Camosun students have taken on the task of building one.

It's just one of nine final projects from students of Camosun's Mechanical Engineering Program.

Mechanical Engineering instructor Jeffrey Stephen has been involved with the showcase for 10 years. He explains that students have three months to invent, build, and test their inventions.

"The students then present their

projects, concepts, and their development to a team of engineers," says Stephen. "They have a half hour to do that, and they earn 10 percent of their grade. They then go on to the showcase, where they demonstrate to the public. I find I'm getting better at assessing the students' abilities and can understand more how to direct them towards success."

As a result, Stephen says that for the past few years the students of the program have been making incredibly impressive inventions, some of which Victorians may have already heard about or even seen.

"We've had a few projects that just hit the news," says Stephen. "We made a brand new coffee grinder for 2% Jazz coffee that went through patenting processes, and a beer vending machine for Phillips

Brewery that's just been installed into their storefront."

These capstone projects are unique in the world of mechanical engineering, according to Stephen.

"There are other college-level engineering schools that do encourage capstone design," says Stephen, "but some of them have it theory only, so as long as the students can draw it then it's the end of the project. We actually require our students to build it, prove that it works, test it, and then present it. No other school makes their students defend their designs in front of an industry panel of engineers."

The projects are an excellent way for the students to find out that theory doesn't always line up with reality, says Stephen.

"The process of creative development is such an important skill and the students really, really get a good dose of that."

JEFFREY STEPHEN
CAMOSUN COLLEGE

"They've spent two years studying the academia side of engineering and the theory," he says. "It's not until they actually try to apply it that they realize what it takes to physically build something, to invent and use parts that can actually be manufactured, and apply the physics concepts that they have learned in a way that actually works. Essentially, they get a massive appreciation for the creative process because they start from zero and they have to create something. The process of creative development is such an important skill and they really, really get a good dose of that."

Second-year Mechanical Engineering student Keith Jacobsen is part of Savvy Cabinets, the team who will present their secret-passageway project in the showcase. Jacobsen has found the process to be very enlightening.

"It's a pretty complicated project," says Jacobsen, "insofar as there's a lot of artsy components. It looks very simple and it should seem very simple when you first approach it, but in order to make it appear as simple as it does, it's a fairly complicated design."

It turns out that frequent aes-

thetic changes make for a lot of work when it comes to moving mechanical parts, as Jacobsen explains.

"The biggest problem of our design has been an iterative issue," says Jacobsen. "We would design an aesthetic of the bookcase and then design some hinges that would be able to activate this thing. Then we would show it to the client and the client would change something, so we would have to go back and redesign the aesthetic, which would make us have to redesign the hinges."

The take-away message from this project, according to Jacobsen, is that classroom learning isn't everything.

"They don't tell you about the price ranges of components in the classroom," he says. "So it's really nice to learn the real-world applications of what we've learned for the past two years."

Camosun Mechanical Engineering Showcase
10 am to 2 pm Friday,
September 25
Free, Camosun College
Interurban campus
camosun.ca

know your profs

Camosun geography instructor Hilary Sandford swears with conviction... off the clock

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 shy, to ask? Email editor@nexusnewspaper.com and we'll add your instructor to our list of teachers to talk to.

This issue we talked to Camosun geography instructor Hilary Sandford about anonymous marking, swearing with intensity, and giving the slitty-eyes.

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

I teach geography and have for over 20 years. I now split my time between teaching and working as Camosun's sustainability developer, a position that allows me to put theory into action.

2: What do you personally get out of teaching?

I'll have to order the side of cheese with this one because I get hope for the future. Every one of the approximately 100 interesting people I teach each term makes me remember the amazing potential in all of us.

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

That I don't remember their marks! Students will often look at me a bit sheepishly after a test, like things are different now because

they bombed something. But I don't mark with names showing, so, no judgment.

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

I swear with flourish, intensity, depth, and conviction in most any conversation outside the professional realm. I hope they don't find that out in the classroom.

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

Well, it tends to happen every day, which is probably why I'm still here: sharing a laugh with someone about something stupid or shocking or brilliant or crass. I love that students still find things funny.

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

Well, getting two flat tires as I drove to Carmannah with a class of students in the van was pretty epic, considering I was carrying only one spare.

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

I'm the worst at seeing the future. I can never even see what's going to happen at the end of a movie. But I hope to be pleasantly surprised and see society show post-secondary education some love with



PHOTO PROVIDED

Camosun's Hilary Sandford.

increased revenues and decreased student debt.

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


Swim in lakes. Walk my dog. Cook and bake. Grow veggies. Start revolutions. You know.

9: What is your favourite meal?

Well, my birthday is this week, so this is on my mind. I'm going to ask for homemade chile rellenos with all the usual fixin's and a New York cheesecake. Yes, I am.

10: What's your biggest pet peeve?

My eyes will roll back and I'll foam at the mouth if there is repetitive noise in a quiet room. Like, someone who taps a pen during an exam? I'm tempted to either fail them or kill them. Usually I just give them the slitty-eyes and they stop.



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municipality

Charles Tolman explores the history of water in Victoria

PASCAL ARCHIBALD
STUDENT EDITOR

Victoria has one of the most secure water systems in North America. It is also one of only five North American cities that actually controls its water supply's entire watershed (Victoria gets its water from Sooke Lake).

Charles Tolman, a writer and retired academic, is more than happy to talk about those things. Tolman has written and contributed to over 50 books, most of them dealing with theoretical psychological issues. But his latest book, *Bringing Water to Victoria*, timelines the construction of Victoria's water-supply system.

Tolman became interested in the history of Victoria's water supply through family archives. Specifically, his interest stemmed from letters written by a cousin.

"I started reading through the letters and I was just dumbfounded," says Tolman. "I have lived here most of my life and I did not know that this cousin of mine had ever been in Victoria. He explained how he was taking a job with the city to help build a water supply system in Sooke Lake."

Tolman says letters from 1913 and 1915 were "kind of a sketchy history of the building of this water supply system." From there, he was hooked.

"I was quite fascinated, so I looked into the rest of the papers and I found about 200 photos from this project," he says. "I also found blueprints of the equipment that

they built and, astonishingly, I found entire account sheets that detailed all the money they had spent on the project."

Naturally, finding all of this information piqued Tolman's interest in the project, and he went in search of more information, first at the City of Victoria and then in the provincial archives. At this point Tolman and his wife went on the Capital Regional District (CRD)'s annual watershed tour, where he met Peter Malone, then the manager of CRD water. It was while on this tour that Tolman learned just how secure Victoria's water supply is.

"It's really quite amazing," says Tolman. "If you think of what's going on now, all the cities that depend on snowpack have been in trouble. Ours depends on rain and we are still over 70 percent of capacity in the reservoir, even though we've had no rain for four months."

There was a time, as Tolman explains, when Victoria faced some serious water issues. In the early 1900s there was a need to upgrade Victoria's water supply, but there were few possibilities of where to go to get said water.

"The closest possible sources were Elk and Beaver Lake," says Tolman. "Which was problematic right from the start, because the water from Elk Lake was very good but was being run through Beaver Lake, which at that time was simply a swamp, so the quality of the water was very poor."

Goldstream was considered to be

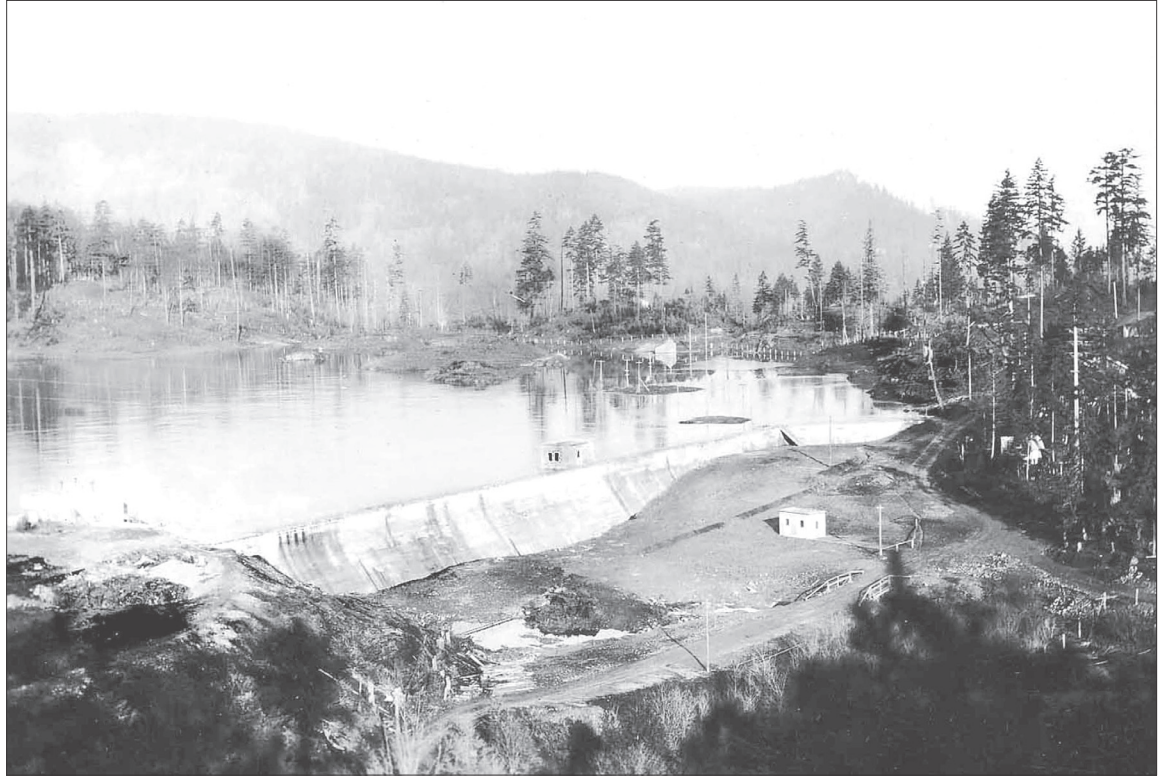


PHOTO PROVIDED

An archival photo of the Humpback reservoir, located in Sooke, upon completion in 1915.

the best option, says Tolman; Sooke was thought of as too expensive. The trouble with the Goldstream proposal was the Esquimalt water company had already laid a claim on it. After losing a litigation attempt, Victoria's only option was Sooke. A good thing, says Tolman.

"If Victoria had won and gone to Goldstream I don't know where Victoria would be now," says Tolman. "There wouldn't have been enough water there to supply the city. In fact, if you put this all together, you realize that the Greater

Victoria area has 360,000 residents, and we would never be this size if we had not gone to Sooke. It's only because we went to Sooke that we had a sufficient water supply to allow the growth of the city."

Tolman's new book details a great majority of the photographs he found, along with a written historical account. Tolman says it's important that when you turn on the tap and see clean, abundant water to remember that that was not always the case.

"We are so lucky," says Tolman.

"If we think of all the infrastructures that we absolutely need, water is right on top. We cannot survive without water. I think it's a good idea that people, when they turn on the tap and see that water come out, they know where it comes from."

Bringing Water to Victoria book launch
7:30 pm Thursday, September 24
Free, New Horizons, 230 Menzies Street
jamesbaynewhorizons.ca

PEERS HELPING PEERS AT CAMOSUN

Camosun International Peer Connections Program

- International and domestic students that join the Peer Connections Program receive training in cross-cultural communication skills that are invaluable for personal growth, cross-cultural learning, and career development and exploration.
- Peer Connections provides Camosun students with a unique leadership opportunity to help their peers while learning about culture and global perspectives from other students.
- Students in the program enrich their campus life intellectually and socially by learning from a variety of guest presenters and student-centered activities with a global focus.

Students interested in joining the Peer Connections Program should attend one of the following information sessions:

Sept. 14 or Sept. 15 - 5-6 pm
Lansdowne Campus - Wilna Thomas Building, Rm. 234

Sept. 16 - 4-5 pm or Sept. 17 - 12-1 pm
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Camosun College president Sherrri Bell

The *Nexus* interview

On July 1, 2015, Sherrri Bell began her term as the new president of Camosun College. It's a job as exciting as it is daunting, but Bell is as prepared as anyone, as she comes into the position from another education-related job: she was superintendent of the Greater Victoria School District. We sat down with Bell on a morning in July after she had only been in the position for a couple of weeks and talked to her about student debt, the cost of textbooks, what it feels like to enter a position that her predecessor was terminated from for reasons never made public, and much more.

Congratulations on getting appointed. How is it working out so far?

It's just been absolutely amazing. Even though it's summertime and there are not as many students around, you can still feel the energy on both campuses—the energy as it relates to the students, but also faculty. The faculty who recognize me, they'll stop, and say, "You're Sherrri, aren't you?" They'll introduce themselves. It's been absolutely tremendous and tells me a lot about the culture here that people are so willing to stop you and say hello and welcome you. It also speaks to such pride in what they do. I spend a portion of my day out on campus, and I'll walk into the bookstore, the cafeteria, walk behind the admissions desk and see all the offices there and just introduce myself to people there, because I think that's really important that people meet me. And it's been absolutely incredible. The stories that I've heard from employees that have been here for 25 or 30 years, they're so connected to Camosun and what Camosun stands for in the community and the service it provides students. It's heartwarming. I met a woman in the bookstore who said she attended Camosun as a student, graduated, started working here, and she's still here 26 years later. It's that kind of passion for the place that has really stood out for me. Because there are not a lot of students here yet, I'm really looking forward to the first week of classes so I can be out and about with students as well as faculty.

Which is interesting, because I'm not sure I've seen other presidents out and about or having that goal. That's a huge goal of mine, to connect with students, faculty, and staff.

What are you planning on bringing to Camosun?

Relationships and knowing people in the organization is incredibly important to me. Once you build those relationships, everything else that happens in the workplace, whether it's a controversial issue or an idea or whatever it is, if you have that relationship and trust, things move smoother. I'll bring that. I'll bring the collaborative spirit. Coming from K-12 is an advantage; I have lots to learn about Camosun College in particular and postsecondary, but there's a strong link—there always has been—between K-12 schools and Camosun College, so I bring that connection. The South Island Partnership, which is a partnership that has been going on for years where secondary students can get dual credit for attending Camosun, I can see us growing that program.

Coming from K-12 to postsecondary, will there be challenges for you?

Any time you start any new position, first of all it's connecting with the people, knowing the people in the organization. And then there's always a learning curve. It's reading and listening and putting the puzzle pieces together. You meet with someone, you get a piece of the puzzle, you meet with someone else, you get another piece of the puzzle. I've got a lot to learn from the people here, and so far people have been very generous with their time.

There's been no shortage of budget cuts at Camosun over the past several years. How does it feel to enter a position where that's been the trend?

I come from a position where that's the trend. Public education K-12 has to make their share of sacrifices as well, so that's a part of the position I know very well. I was involved with the sad state of affairs of closing schools and cutting positions, so I know how that works. Camosun, fortunately, last year was in a position where that didn't occur, and we were actually able to put some funds back into some much-needed student services. So that was great, and hopefully that trend will continue for us.

What are your thoughts on student debt and the cost of education? Students come in to our office and I wouldn't always describe them as being hopeful and optimistic about the future. A lot of people my age are still paying off their student debts. What are your thoughts on students coming to Camosun knowing they're going to be dealing with this debt?

I have two children of my own, one that still has student debt, so I've lived through it. It's not easy. It's the support system so that students can attend school, so getting a student loan is critical for many students to actually be able to attend postsecondary. And then you're finished, and the job market isn't perhaps what it has been in the past, so you're in that cycle of looking for work... I think one of the most important things for students is to be able to have a plan for the future, to have that budget and think, "Okay, I can get this entry-level job and start chipping away at this," and have that plan where they can see the end. Where I've seen students feeling less hopeful is when they can't visualize it and don't have that long-term plan for managing debt. It would be great to have more support in that area, especially for students that come from low-income families, students who are the first ones in their families to attend university or college. There are bursaries, there are other options, and certainly I think Camosun and other institutions do a good job at connecting students to ways of finding funds. We also live in a city where the cost of living is high, so I have huge empathy for students in that position. But in the long run, when you look at data and statistics about individuals who achieved something at postsecondary, their success rate and their potential earning power is much higher. Again, it's looking at that long-term picture.

But even in the short-term, you say if they can chip away at the debt, but chipping away is impossible sometimes. It's an issue across the country; I think it's a little bit more difficult here just because of the cost of living.

Can we talk about the price of textbooks? Every student who comes in and talks to us is furious about the cost of textbooks. It seems like these companies just charge whatever they want: "Here's a book, it's going to be \$150, what are you going to do about it?"

There are a few ways to look at textbooks. One is how absolutely necessary is it for the course? There are textbooks that I still use that I used in my master's program. There are some that are so valuable, and then others that you're just using for the course. I know that there is a wonderful network of students that reuse textbooks, and sell them, but the problem with that is you have an old edition. So I think the cost of textbooks is an issue for sure. Looking into e-texts and online information is also important to take a look at in the context of what kind of materials are needed for coursework. Is there a better way to do it? I don't have the answer to that, but it is something that I'm interested in.

Story and photos by Greg Pratt

I'm sure this isn't the thing you most want to talk about, but [your predecessor's termination as president] was terminated... That was a contentious issue: public education. How does it feel for you to come into a position where the last president was terminated? Are you worried that tomorrow you're going to be terminated?

Not at all. I'm not worried about it, I don't think about it. I know what my capabilities are in this position when I was recruited for it. I know what my capabilities are in this position. So it's just not something I think about. I know that if there's something that people want to give me advice about, that's something that I'll take into consideration. I was on the elected board before, and I worked with teachers and students. I want to build that trust. So, no, it's not something I'm worried about. I will try to do the very, very best I can do, and if people want to give me advice, I'll take it.

Many people said they suspected Kathryn came under fire over whether or not that's the case, that has been a big issue. What about budget cuts?

Well, the funding cuts have happened, so that's a done deal. I've responded to that. If you look at ESL, the government has pulled some of the students, but we've also done it at the college, and here, the board, that it is an important program and the college knows about the fact that they can still come here and take ESL. Although there were cuts, we found a way around that, and that's where that's the end solution, service to ESL students.

You mention values a lot when talking about the college.

I'm starting to develop an understanding of where that comes from. One of the aspects of the college that attracted me. I live in the community in education for a long time, so I knew that before I came here, I actually feel where that comes from, just based on conversation. It is excellent. We're a college that really does serve the community, which is really interesting.

What are a few things that you think are great about Camosun?

People that work here—and again I'm looking forward to a lot of students around right now—there's a real passion, dedication. Success means different things to different people. For one student it might be through something, and for another student it might be through something else. I think there's a connection from the people in payroll to the students, that's their goal—all-around student success. You know they chose to come here. You know it, because you work here.

What are some areas that Camosun needs to improve in?

I've been meeting with all the directors and vice presidents. "What are we working on?" I'd be worried if people said, "Nothing! We're just going on." I think every school, every department is being either good for the organization or really good for students. I'm interested in looking into more indigenous education; I think that's a different level with indigenization.

What will that look like?

I'm not sure what that will look like yet. I think it would be interesting to see what is possible, because we have a group of people who work in indigenous education, and I need to learn more about that.

What else are you excited about?

We've got two buildings we're looking at: of course the old potential new health and wellness centre. That part's exciting and mortar. It's what we can do. There's a potential for rejuvenation. I want to learn a little more about that.

Do you have any thoughts on student housing?

I do, but, again, it's a little premature... I've read a fair bit about it. I want to see what the potential is for student housing and see that kind of capital work for a long time.

The trades building, you can tell there's a lot of excitement about that.

Definitely. Only some of the trades are moving to the new space that's already in the Drysdale and Jack White buildings.

Merri Bell

, managing editor

coming into the position after Kathryn [Laurin, ex-Camosun] people want to know what happened and probably never will. person was terminated and it went public and things got a terminated?

it, it didn't even play into my thoughts in looking into the ies are, and I'm pretty confident that I'm going to do a great ere are things that people think I should change, I think I'm ple will see there's a trusting relationship, so if I am doing how I've always interacted with people. I worked with an ts, and that's been my life. I think I'm a pretty approachable ing I considered because I just know that no matter what I to give me feedback I welcome it.

because she was quite outspoken about ESL cuts. Regardless at are your thoughts on the ESL and Adult Basic Education

deal, but I am incredibly impressed with how Camosun's ut into place bursaries for ESL students, and that will cover nd I think that speaks to the values of the people who work ege has done whatever it could to make sure that students L and that there are these bursaries that they can apply for. at's impressive. I'm proud to be part of an organization

comes from. You're right; it does come up a lot. It was also e community and have lived here a long time and have been e. The difference in knowing it and actually feeling it, I can ons I've had. The reputation of Camosun in the community unity. And there's also an innovative side of Camosun too,

Camosun?

o meeting more students in September because there's not a dication, commitment, to student success, and student suc- ent it might be taking them by the hand and actually helping mean something completely different. And that's what you to admissions to frontline, people who are instructors with can see it, you can hear it, you can feel it; that's part of why e. You know what I'm talking about, that connection.

nts, and one of the questions I ask is, "What are you work- going along status quo." They don't do that; there's always "What are you excited about?" which could be something t, has something that they're working on that will end up tudents, and that's exciting. The kinds of things that I'm at's really important, being involved with it and going to a

be premature for me to say. I'm getting a sense of what has ave a large number of aboriginal students, and a fabulous eed to talk to them first before I can say.

opening of the trades building is going to be exciting. And the g, but it's not the actual buildings that excite me, the bricks enation, change, innovation. Of course, there are ongoing bit more about that.

it about what has happened in the past, so we need to look ongside two other major capital projects. Camosun hasn't

at around that.

ew building, but then the potential to refresh some of the gs will also be good for students.

And some of those makeshift buildings...

(laughs) And look at what space is needed to do the kind of work that the students are doing while they're here. That trades building is so impressive.

Tell us a bit about you. Who are you?

I've been in education my entire life. I started in school and continued in school in one form or another. That's who I am. I'm an educator, and then became an educational leader. That's the professional part. I have two children; one went to Camosun and the other went to Royal Roads. I have a husband who works at UVic, so we're both educators. I've lived in Victoria for almost 20 years. I grew up in Montreal, and lived in Calgary and moved west. Each move got me further and further west, and I've been in Victoria for about 20 years. I love it here. It's an amazing city, and I've lived in a lot of different places, really tiny towns, I lived in Youbou for a couple of years. I've lived in small and large cities, but this is home for sure. I enjoy the outdoors, my family likes to hike and kayak and beach walk, and exercising on our bikes on pathways throughout Victoria.

Did you go to the Aerosmith concert?

No, I didn't. Did you?

Yeah.

I heard it was really great. I mean, can you believe he [Steven Tyler]'s 67? We do go to a lot of concerts, but I don't know why we didn't end up going to that one.

What was the last great concert you went to?

I saw Elton John last year in Vancouver. He was great. One that really stands out is when I went to see the Zac Brown Band at the Gorge. I like Zac Brown, but it was the venue. It was in the Columbia Valley, so it's hot, hot. We left Seattle and it was 52 degrees; it was September. We got to the Gorge, it was 92 degrees. It's built on a hill overlooking the Columbia River—the sunset's there, the river's there, it's just incredible. The sound is great, the venue was incredible, and the music is fabulous. We wrote a list of concerts that we want to see before the bands retire. I love Bryan Adams. Just an absolute entertainer, sings one hit that everyone knows every word to after another. I'd see him again for sure. The one I haven't seen who I'd like to is John Mayer, for his guitar skills. The Rolling Stones were amazing. Absolutely worth seeing.

I've heard they're still fantastic. And they're like 300-year-old zombies.

Hey, Mick Jagger could run circles around both of us (laughs).

"I've been in education my entire life. I started in school and continued in school in one form or another. That's who I am."



"The reputation of Camosun in the community is excellent. We're a college that really does serve the community."

event

Local festival preaches world peace through puppetry



PETER FREEDMAN

Victoria puppeteer Timothy Gosley has gone from working on puppets for popular television shows in decades past to using his skills to raise awareness; he says the two are connected.

RACHAEL GRANT
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Timothy Gosley is best known around town right now for being the director for this year's Puppets for Peace festival weekend, but there's something that not everyone knows

about the man: he was once a puppeteer for the beloved children's show *Sesame Street*.

"I have been a puppeteer since about 1980," he says. "One of my claims to fame is working on *Fraggle Rock* and the Canadian *Sesame*

Street, which I think people are probably tired of hearing about by now."

However, it's hard to hold back curiosity when it comes to learning about the behind-the-scenes goings-on of a television show so many

of us enjoyed as children. When explaining how he got involved in the world of puppetry, Gosley says it all fell into place by chance.

"Working on *Fraggle Rock*, which was in the early '80s, occurred because I had just moved to Toronto, and I was a young hippie, and I was looking for a career," he says. "They had come to Toronto to do *Fraggle Rock* at the same time that I had been there. *Fraggle Rock* was really like a master's degree after my acting degree, and then I got the role of Basil the Bear on Canadian *Sesame Street*."

According to Gosley, Puppets for Peace is well in line with *Sesame Street* values and is a community

pretty cool. I think this year we have a little Buddhist group, we've got Boy Scouts, we've got the Shakespeare Society, we've got all of our crazy puppets, and then we all walk through the Fernwood area, and it's kind of a community walk."

Underlying all of the components of the production, Gosley stresses that the building of awareness is a crucial element, particularly because, as he says, "In Victoria, we are very fortunate, so we are a bit complacent about what is going on around the world."

Above all, Gosley insists that Puppets for Peace is for everyone.

"We don't want it to be partisan, we don't want it to be a protest,"

"Fraggle Rock was created to help with world peace and how to live together, so it kind of makes sense in an odd way."

TIMOTHY GOSLEY
PUPPETEER

effort incorporating many forms of talent—such as, for example, local slam poets—making it a logical progression in his career in puppetry.

"This is kind of my vanity project," he says. "I really love the fact that there's this whole poetry world smashing into the *Fraggle Rock* world. *Fraggle Rock* was created to help with world peace and how to live together, so it kind of makes sense in an odd way."

Gosley says that the event is full of opportunities to be entertained, as well as to gain awareness.

"We have a parade with giant puppets," he says. "It's actually really neat. Kids bring their puppets and it's intergenerational. More people are walking in the parade than watching it, so it's actually

he says. "It's very embracing for everybody."

When it comes to promoting education in the creation of peace, Gosley says that puppetry—or any art form, for that matter—is a natural conduit for the facilitation of a peaceful world.

"I think if you are participating in the arts, you're generally participating in a peaceful activity," he says. "Even when it gets sort of rough, it turns into a celebration, or a thoughtful exploration of certain patterns of things."

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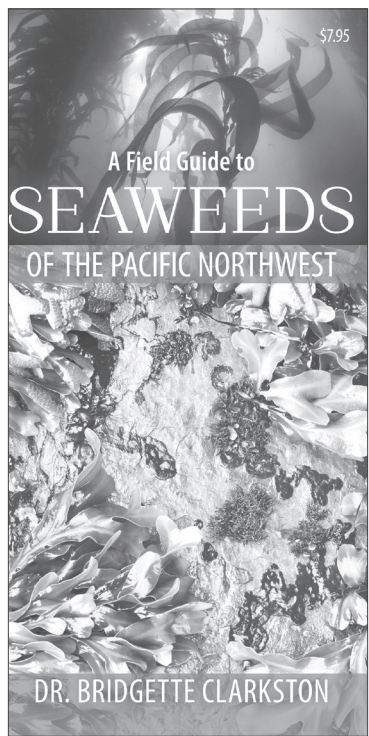
review

Three new ID books survive the *Nexus* field test

PASCALE ARCHIBALD
STUDENT EDITOR

Every ID book should be field tested in order to determine its usefulness as an exploration companion. With that in mind, I tucked these three new ID books from Harbour Publishing away in my pack and headed out on an adventure with them.

The easiest and most accessible guide to test by far was Bridgette Clarkston's *A Field Guide to Seaweeds of the Pacific Northwest*.



This laminated, accordion-style pamphlet describes over 40 of the most important and common seaweeds. I was able to ID with near-certainty all of the seaweeds I found. However, I am more accustomed to ID books that have heft to them and, therefore, far more information. So without a checklist of anatomical identifiers it felt a little bit like guessing.

There were a few species of seaweed that were very easy to identify and the guide mentioned the edibility of a few, so I tried them. (Seaweed seems to be more about the texture than the flavour.)

This is a very easy pamphlet to use, as the photographs are fantastic and it's organized in a user-friendly fashion.

What I found quite disappointing was that this is advertised as waterproof, as a guide intended for seaweed should be, but the edges of the pamphlet are not: mine got a bit of water damage around the edges.

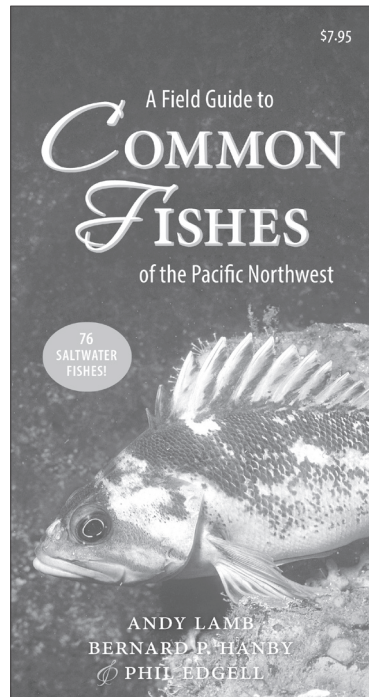
Otherwise, this is a fantastic, fun, and easy to use ID book that's lightweight and relatively durable. I found the information involving the harvest and preparation of edible seaweeds particularly interesting. I'd definitely recommend taking this on your next tide pool adventure; I will be.

I had bought, in preparation for testing out *A Field Guide to Common Fishes of the Pacific Northwest* (by Andy Lamb, Bernard Hanby, and Phil Edgell), a net and a basin in which to identify the critters.

I didn't have as much luck when it came to identifying fish as I did with seaweed. My dollar-store net

and slow human speed were not up to the task of catching spry little fishes.

So, unfortunately, I was only able to catch a few sculpins, and they could have been any four of the 10 species listed. I had trouble identifying with certainty because there is only a simple description of each fish.

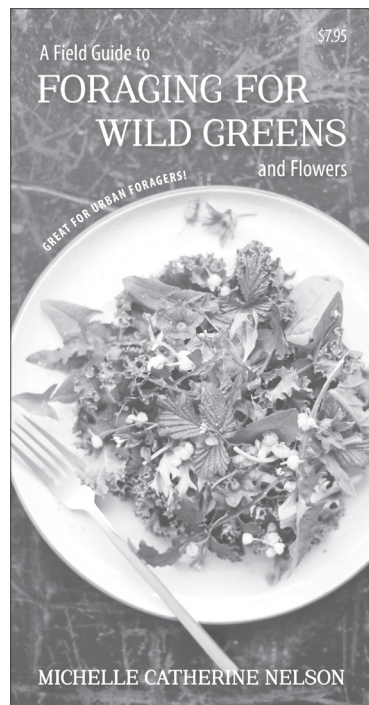


Despite that, it was an enjoyable identification guide to read through, as it includes interesting facts on the many fish. For example, according to the book, "Chum Salmon are alternately called 'dog salmon' due to historical First Nations use as food for their canines as well as for themselves."

Also, I laughed out loud at the very vivid, yet accurate, description of a spotted ratfish: "Limp and grotesque out of water; graceful, with a metallic shimmer in its element."

This would be a good guide to keep around for anyone who spends significant time at the tide pools or for a new fisher or diver. Just don't submerge it in the water! It has the same glossy finish to repel water as the seaweed guide but the same problem of unprotected edges.

A Field Guide to Foraging for Wild Greens and Flowers by Michelle Catherine Nelson was a pleasant surprise. I own many plant-identifying books but none



of them have ever inspired me to get out and forage like this one. I recognized many common plants and had no idea that half of them were edible.

There is a lot of information in this pamphlet and the most important page is the very first one, which I can see many people skimming over. This page covers the general

warnings about moderation in consumption, where to avoid collection, and what plants to most definitely stay away from.

My favourite bits of information in this guide are the "taste" and "eating" sections for each plant. These detail what kind of flavour the plant would bring to a meal and how best to prepare them. It

reads more like a cookbook than an ID book.

I did do a bit of foraging and found some plants, but everything was looking a little crispy in the late summer sun, so I didn't get to create a salad like the one on the cover.

I was also pleasantly surprised to find a ruler printed onto the back of the guide. So smart!

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campus

Camfest returns to Interurban to welcome students

GREG PRATT
MANAGING EDITOR

If you happened to have been on Camosun's Lansdowne campus on Tuesday, September 8, you no doubt saw the hustle and bustle of Camfest. With tons of information, entertainment, and free stuff for all, the event welcomes students both new and returning to Camosun, and it's coming to the Interurban campus on Thursday, September 10.

Camosun College Student Society (CCSS) external executive Andrea Eggenberger is excited about what the CCSS, who put on Camfest, are bringing to the table this year (see camosunstudent.org for details).

"Camfest is a great time to meet other students, get a great free meal and swag, and connect with your student society," she says. "Students can find constituencies and collectives they identify with, and chat with the directors to see what they're all about. As a progressive organization, the CCSS also highlights its campaign work, teaching students how to effect change in their community and country."

The student society is having their 25th anniversary this year, so Camfest is just the beginning of their celebrating. Eggenberger says that students can expect to find a free barbecue on campus as part of the Camfest festivities (there will also be food trucks, if that's more



Students taking in some of the fun at last year's Camfest at Camosun's Lansdowne campus. PHOTO PROVIDED

your speed), along with other fun activities.

"Students can rev up for the new school year test-driving cars, reach new heights on the climbing wall, and check out wandering magicians," she says. "The Don't Close the Doors campaign paint-in will be a great opportunity for students to get messy and delve into activism. We'll also have CCSS board members roaming on campus to tell students about our federal election

campaign, This Time We Decide, and a coalition campaign to stop bus pass-ups and push for late-night service. And did I mention the huge birthday cake?"

If that's not enough to round up starving students, Eggenberger says it's important to start the school year in a memorable and fun fashion, but it's more than that: she says that students often do better in their classes when they feel supported by the college community.

"The student society offers support to students, not just through programs like our food bank and health plan, but also by hosting events," Eggenberger says. "We want to give students every opportunity to connect with other students and with their student society. Camfest takes a significant amount of time to plan and a big portion of our events budget, but it's an ideal time for students to make new connections."

New Music Revue



Raccoon Bandit
Close Your Eyes
(Independent)
3.5/5

Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island indie rockers Raccoon Bandit's second album, *Close Your Eyes*, is well worth checking out. Unlike many indie-rock bands, whose sounds meld together into a wave of redundancy, this band is unique.

"Searcher Song" is a particularly noteworthy track that very wisely opens the album with its broadcast: "You have arrived at your destination. Sit back, relax, and listen." And you can't help but sail through the songs to follow.

Another gem on this album is "Believe Me," a beautiful tune with harmonies reaching into and hugging your soul. This album fully demonstrates Raccoon Bandit's broad scale of capabilities, which are far from what is expected of an indie rock band. In fact, the genre does not come close to encompassing all that this band has to offer.

"Passing Through," the album's final track, not only has fitting content and placement, but, as the theme song of the Canadian series *Just Passing Through*, shows that this is a group of pure Canadian talent—talent that has been, and should continue to be, celebrated.

-MATT O'CONNOR

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Lit Matters

by Keagan Hawthorne

The numinous everyday of Marilynne Robinson

“There are a thousand thousand reasons to live this life, everyone of them sufficient,” wrote Marilynne Robinson, who has been called one of America’s finest living writers, despite having only published four novels in the last 35 years.

Robinson’s novels are themselves good reasons to be alive. Using prose that is graceful and light, she delivers a vast range of emotion and philosophy about the human condition. Her characters deal with a world that is at times indifferent to their struggles and yet still sufficient to their needs.

The world of Robinson’s novels, for all its wonder and beauty, doesn’t give her characters, or us, an easy

ride. “The ancients are right,” she said, “the dear old human experience is a singular, difficult, shadowed, brilliant experience that does not resolve into being comfortable in the world.” Yet it is in the very complexity of the world that we find the redemption for that tricky thing called experience.

Robinson writes with a touching consideration for these small details of existence. The main character of *Gilead*, a dying priest who is recounting family history for his son, says that in our everyday world there is “more beauty than our eyes can bear.” Revealing the extraordinary nature of our ordinary lives is one of the purposes of art,

Robinson has said. “Cultures cherish artists because they are people who can say, Look at that. And it’s not Versailles. It’s a brick wall with a ray of sunlight falling on it.”

But this ability to see what she calls the “numinous quality” of ordinary things is not just reserved for artists. “It’s not an acquired skill,” she said. “It’s a skill that we’re born with that we lose. We learn not to do it.”

A good place to start unlearning our blindness is the fiction of Marilynne Robinson.

Marilynne Robinson must-read:
Housekeeping
(Public library adult fiction)



The Functional Traveller

by Sera Down

Turbulence before takeoff

This is the debut of a new column in which Camosun student Sera Down chronicles her adventures as a student in Japan.

There is something to be said of the Type A personality. When it comes to preparing for an extended stint at university in a foreign country, these individuals excel. Their list of necessities is a detailed blueprint to the elaborate *Tetris* arrangement of every item they could possibly need, plus backups, fail-safes, and proofs of purchases. Employing every space-saving technique adopted from their favourite travel blog, they aim to make travel as fretless as possible.

Then there’s the Type Bs.

After spontaneously purchasing second-hand (albeit never used) luggage at a consignment shop, and spending a total of 15 minutes doing amusing Google searches such as “how to pack for international travel,” I deemed I had amassed a functional knowledge of packing. Five months in Japan is no short span of time, especially if a necessity is left at home and shipping is upwards of \$100 for a small package.

My approach to packing is rather Bohemian: just pack what you need, man. Stand ponderously in the doorway of your bedroom and assess what objects you use on a daily basis. Bring those. Simple as that. For

myself, this has essentially boiled down to a hodgepodge of random clothes, an unnecessary selection of Keds sneakers, every USB cord known to man (you never know which one you’ll need), and a barely useable curling iron. Content with my selection, I have deemed my largest suitcase complete (with room to spare) and have wrapped it in an obnoxiously Smarties-patterned luggage cover that resembles a square leotard.

Further intervention from a Type A aunt has revealed that packing proof of ownership of the 95,000 yen in my carry-on may be advisable. And extra socks. And wet wipes. And copies of every prescription I’ve ever received. Just in case.

You get the picture.

While I’ll never be a Type A, immaculately organized and prepared for every possibility, I will deliver reassurance to my fellow Type Bs. Our spontaneity, though often manifesting itself as disorganization, provides us with the ability to adapt and avoid anxiety when something is forgotten. Our “just go with it” attitude opens us up to those unexpected occurrences in which we have to purchase a foreign substitute for a forgotten item, or our sight-seeing plans don’t pan out and we discover an lesser-known corner of a city.

After all, life doesn’t follow an itinerary; why should we?

presidential word search

Get a load of that feature story: ain’t Camosun’s new president full of good news? We thought we’d keep that optimistic spirit alive through the word search, pulling 20 uplifting words she used in the interview for you to find below.

Bring the completed puzzle in to the *Nexus* office and grab a prize for your hard work!

<p>AMAZING COLLABORATIVE CONNECTED CONNECTION EMPATHY ENERGY EXCELLENT GREAT HEARTWARMING IMPORTANT IMPRESSIVE INCREDIBLE INNOVATIVE LINK PROUD RELATIONSHIPS SERVICE SMOOTHER SPIRIT TREMENDOUS</p>	<p>Y G R E N E T V H K I O I E I S T R E M E N D O U S N Z V M T P L I N K U X S J N D G I P N E I P N O I E K O D N J T R A M U H R C R U V Y I G N A E T P H P S V R A A M K E T R S R A Z D I N T E R O L M A O S O T N C E I O A D L G A E B I P H E A V T W I E I M W R A V M Y P E M T C C T T B B G L E I G U Z R A X E Q A I L S L E X X W A E E Z X N I L R E O X N V E W J U Z I Q N S E I C E Z H N O I T C E N N O C R P M S M O O T H E R V G E C F D S</p>
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A MESSAGE FROM THE CAMOSUN COLLEGE STUDENT SOCIETY

by Andrea Eggenberger

ccss external executive

Welcome to a new semester at Camosun College! We look forward to meeting you this year! Students often ask what it is we do, so we thought this would be a great time to introduce ourselves.

The purpose of the Camosun College Student Society (CCSS) is to make Camosun a community rather than just an institution. We seek to create an environment of students helping students by coordinating events, campaigns, and services throughout the year.

The CCSS brings life to campus by funding events and clubs. Students can also find community and support through the CCSS collectives: Women’s, Pride, Sustainability, International Students, Students with (dis)Abilities (SWD), and the First Nations Student Association (FNSA). Make your college experience memorable by getting involved!

We are dedicated to fighting for accessible, high-quality education that is free from all forms of discrimination. The CCSS works with over 500,000 students across the country, as a member of the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS).

Working with the CFS, we effect change by lobbying provincial, federal, and municipal governments on student issues. Leveraging its large membership numbers, the CFS empowers student societies to attain ethically produced, fair trade products cheaply through bulk

purchasing. *Working together works!*

The CCSS provides services to help you face potential challenges during your time at Camosun. We financially support the ombudsperson, an impartial, independent mediator who advocates for fairness. We also offer a food bank, a health and dental plan, a U-pass, and the Walk Safer program. The International Student Identity Card (ISIC), which provides savings for all students in more than 120 countries, is also supplied by the CCSS free of charge.

During the first week of school, we put on a big event called Camfest. There will be a free barbecue, food trucks, test-drive cars, a climbing wall, wandering magicians, and a Don’t Close the Doors campaign paint-in. And, of course, our giant birthday cake for (drum roll please) CCSS’s 25th anniversary!

Camfest is also a great time to connect with roaming CCSS board members and constituency directors.

Hopefully you caught Camfest at Lansdowne on September 8, and go check it out at Interurban Campus on September 10, from 10 am to 3 pm.

We want to help you make the most of your time at Camosun. If you have any questions, comments, concerns, or good jokes, stop by our offices or reach out to us on social media.

We look forward to hearing from you!



In Search of Last Time

by Rachael Grant
camosun college women’s center

Consent conversations

If you’ve never heard of Laci Green, then, well, we kind of wonder where you’ve been. Green is a popular YouTube vlogger who describes herself as a “sex education activist,” based in the San Francisco Bay Area. And we’re bringing her to town.

Let face it, folks: sex is and always will be cool. The Camosun College Student Society has been an active part of the national No Means No campaign through our membership in the Canadian Federation of Students since 1995. For 20 years we have worked to raise awareness about the realities of rape culture, because as long as sex is on the table (oh, my!), conversations about the

importance of practicing consent are crucial.

It’s made painfully clear on a regular basis that the pervasiveness of rape culture is an ongoing and influential force, and campuses across the country are no exception.

Working with our partners at the University of Victoria and the University of Victoria Students’ Society, we are bringing Laci Green to speak about how to end rape culture at the Farquhar Auditorium on September 30. We are also giving away a bunch of free tickets to Camosun students! To win tickets you can enter at either campus, at Campus Centre 111 at Interurban or Fisher 101b at Lansdowne.

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what's going on

by pascale archibald

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

I wonder what facts they would like disregarded?

Revel in the chaos that Ontario-based grindcore band Fuck the Facts will bring to Victoria on September 11. Our quaint city is just one they will be screaming at during their North American tour for their latest album, *Desire Will Rot*, which was released on August 25. Attendance to this chaotic experience will require you to be at Logan's Pub at 9 pm. Tickets are \$15 at the door, \$10 for

early purchases. For more info, see loganspub.com.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

Ah, the south of France: home to cave paintings?

The Royal BC Museum's Distinguished Lecture Series features Jean-Michel Geneste's talk, "Predator and Prey: The Art of Chauvet." Geneste is the current chief of scientific studies of the Lascaux and Chauvet Caves in southern France, home to one of the world's most impressive and fragile

sites for cave drawings. Event starts at 7 pm; admission is free. For more information, visit royalbcmuseum.bc.ca.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

20,000 leagues under the sea... well, not quite

Stay in your PJs and travel with Ocean Networks Canada crews while they conduct underwater research 300 kilometres off the BC coast and let you watch all the action through a live stream. Find all the info on this

and other events over at royalbcmuseum.bc.ca.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Go, grannies, go!

Victoria Grandmothers for Africa will be commencing their three-day cycling tour from Campbell River to Victoria on September 13. Welcome-home celebrations will go down at the legislature grounds from 2:15 to 3:30 pm. The fundraising event assists AIDS-affected African grandmothers. More information on the event can be found at victoriagrandmothersforafrica.ca.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 TO SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

You are beautiful and don't you forget it

September 14 to 20 is Canada's first acne-awareness week; for more information visit acneaction.ca.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

There are stars in my eyes

Canadians have had an influence in Hollywood from the get-go, according to Leslie Bland, who will screen his documentary, *Gone South: How Canada Invented Hollywood*, in the Roger Bishop Theatre at UVic's Phoenix Building at 6 pm. Should make for an interesting night of stars; more info at uvic.ca.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 TO SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

So much to see, so little time

There are so many artists to see at this year's Rifflandia and BreakOut West; among them will be Two Bears North, Yes We Mystic, Towers and Trees, and Leeroy Stagger. Head over to rifflandia.com and breakoutwest.ca for info.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Keepin' it wild

Greater Victoria's Green Team will be meeting to highlight the successes of the first year of the regional environmental volunteer group. They have spent the year educating the public on local parks and ecosystems, conservation, and local food production. To attend, go to room 116 in the MacLaurin building at UVic at 7 pm. Non-member drop-in fee is \$5; more information can be found at npsg.ca.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 AND SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

Gold Rush Film Festival

Filmmaker Eva Wunderman will present *Canyon War* on September 18. Her film looks at the Fraser Canyon War of 1858 and its consequences. On September 26, a series of short films will be run that take a look at the gold rush through the eyes of Chinese immigrants, Aboriginals, and women. Entry fee is \$10 per person, per night.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Do Kraft Hockeyville players like Kraft Dinner?

Kraft Dinner is one of those meals that always sounds amazing while hungry but, after inhaling the meal, sits heavily. Let's hope players of Kraft Hockeyville don't overeat before the NHL pre-season game. See them play at The Q Centre arena at the West Shore Parks and Recreation complex on September 21. There will be several Kraft Hockeyville events in and around the North Saanich community and at the Panorama Recreation Centre during the weekend leading up to the main event. For more details go to the Panorama Recreation website at crd.bc.ca/panorama.

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DAVE LEVITT

Fuck the Facts are bringing their experimental grindcore back to town.



SUNDAY TO WEDNESDAY PICK-UP SPECIAL

1 Large Pizza - \$14.76 (Choose up to 2 toppings)

2 Large Pizzas - \$29.90 (Choose up to 8 toppings between the 2)

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