

pro-choice

THE DIVIDING DEBATE

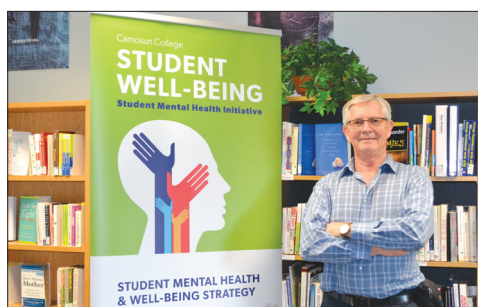
pro-life

A vigil in Victoria keeps the pro-choice/pro-life conversation going, both on campus and off

page 6



Camosun student protests potential tuition raise: 3



College launches new mental-health strategy: 4



Camosun makes art and poetry mingle: 5

NEXUS

camosun's student voice since 1990

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

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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 sound like Satan."

COVER PHOTOS:

Camosun student: Jill Westby/*Nexus*
College mental-health strategy: Jill Westby/*Nexus*
Camosun art and poetry: Jill Westby/*Nexus*

editor's letter

Reading that matters

Whether or not students do any reading on reading break is up to them; either way, we hope you get some rest. In the world of news, rest is hard to come by, which is just how we like it: we're already hard at work on stories for our next issue while we get this issue put together, and, as always, we're uncovering issues that matter to you.

We're proud of this issue, as it's a particularly hard-hitting one. For example, turn to page 6 to read contributing writer Jessica Williamson tackling the controversial pro-choice/pro-life debate. Not everyone is willing to comment for a story like this, but we made sure we got both sides of the issue covered so students can read it and make up their own minds about who they feel is in the right.

On page 3, we talk to a Camosun student who is organizing a petition around the tuition-fee raise that some of Camosun's engineering programs are potentially facing.

Then flip on over to page 4, where my fellow student editor Pascale Archibald talks about the new mental-health strategy that Camosun has recently launched. It's vital that mental-health issues on campus are discussed, something that is proved by the popularity of our recent stories on Camosun students using ADD medication to help them study.

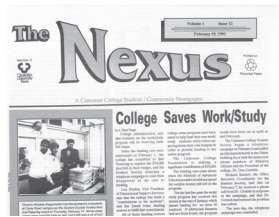
Back in the arts section, we preview *The Valley*, which happens to be a play that centres around mental-health issues; it looks at how police could better treat those with mental illnesses instead of criminalizing them. See contributing writer Sera Down's story on page 8.

There are more stories, there are columns, and, last but not most certainly never least, there are comics and the word search, great for that awkward moment between classes when there's not enough time to go anywhere but it's too early to arrive in the classroom. Enjoy!

Adam Marsh, student editor
adam@nexusnewspaper.com

flashback

25 years ago in *Nexus*



Camosun saves work/study program: The work/study program was under some budgetary strains 25 years ago; our February 19, 1991 issue detailed the troubles in the cover story "College saves work/study." The piece explained how the Ministry of Advanced Education wouldn't spend the surplus money it had left in the program, leaving Camosun scrambling to pick up the pieces. Thanks to the college's efforts and the Camosun College Student Society rallying for a solution (by way of a "telephone campaign," quaintly enough), Camosun found a way to come up with the \$50,000 that they weren't getting from the government.

What would ICBC say?: Our *City Cycling... Seriously* column

was a great look at cyclist issues, especially considering it was 25 years ago. But looking back on this particular issue, we're surprised at the lack of shoulder-checking happening in Victoria a quarter-century back: "Motorists aren't looking to their right, normally, while preparing to turn right," the column's writer said. Actually, we know what the drivers are like out there today; maybe it's not that surprising. Stay safe out there, cyclists.

This is the weirdest story ever: If you've been reading this column the past few issues, you know all about "the man in the window." If not: it was a cardboard cut-out of a man, and it went missing from Camosun's A/V department. In this issue, we reprinted a ransom letter that his... uh, *its* captives left in a Fisher building bathroom. Along with a picture of the cardboard cut-out, those holding "Cam Olson," as he was known, said in the letter, "Time is running out! We want better parking or Cam Olson gets towed."

open space

Pick-up artists taking civilization backwards

JAYDEN GRIEVE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The advent of pick-up artistry in our culture is a gross step backwards for equality, and for civilization at large.

A pick-up artist is not someone who has bettered themselves so that they may become more attractive to their target. They are a slimy worm, twisting and contorting themselves into whatever false shape will best allow them to squeeze into their chosen hole; they are a person who,

time, but that is a major cop-out; the difference starts with men and women standing up and refusing to participate in such dirty games.

What it all comes down to is this: it may be true that there are some who are not bothered by this deception, but there are many out there who are, and for those people, being tricked into bed will have a horrific, damaging effect.

How can any person justify that 15 minutes of pleasure is worth psychologically damaging another

Pick-up artists are slimy worms, twisting and contorting themselves into whatever false shape will best allow them to squeeze into their chosen hole.

when the sheets are finally stained and the veil pulled back, reveals their true gruesome nature.

Deceiving someone into sex is an act of rape. There isn't really any argument against this; it's a cold, hard fact, not an opinion. What is really problematic is the general acceptance that this is okay.

Rapists in any other form are social pariahs. How is it that we can allow these people to walk, and—have mercy—encourage their behaviour? If you need proof, just look at pretty much every single alcohol commercial. We can chalk it up to our oversexed society telling all the little girls that they owe men sex and all the little boys that they have to achieve conquest to have any amount of worth. We can tell ourselves that this will change over

living, breathing, feeling human being? The narcissism and selfishness of a person who could do that must be an excruciating weight to bear. Or do they feel nothing at all? Are these living, breathing boys and girls just pieces of meat to them?

There is nothing wrong with participating in fun, safe, consensual sex with whomever you choose. Where a problem begins is when pieces of that equation start to be taken away. Tricking people into sleeping with you using psychological tricks and lies does that; it is not okay and has no place in modern society.

If you want people to be with you, try becoming a good person, and stop holding your own baser pleasure above the happiness of others.

letters

The stigma of "stigma"

You need not remove your clothes to remove that prejudice from your paper (regarding the use of the word "stigma" in "Bungy Jump for a Cause strips stigma," February 3, 2016 issue). All you need is a consult with your ethics.

HAROLD MAIO

VIA NEXUSNEWSPAPER.COM

Prairie punks impact internationally

Not just Canada but 'Merika as well (Re: "How Propagandhi became Canada's most important band," February 3, 2016 issue)! Fuck the border!

TYLER CURLEY

VIA TWITTER

SPEAK UP

How do you feel about Camosun's tuition fees?

BY ADAM MARSH



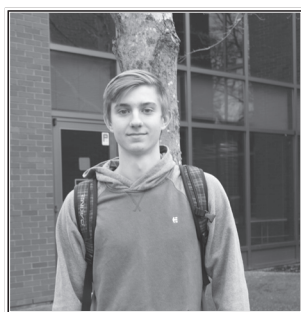
BAILEE MATHERS

"I'm in two classes, so it's super cheap right now. Last year I was at UVic, and it was crazy."



KAYLA MADALENA

"It's a little expensive being in four classes, especially since you can't work as much."



GARNETT ROBERTS

"I think tuition should be free. Our government should pay for it just like Norway. Denmark does it too—free postsecondary for everyone—and I think that really helps society as a whole."



CHASE ANDERSON

"Education should be free, because not everyone can afford it."



RACHAEL KULZER

"They're decent; they're all right. Nobody likes to pay them."

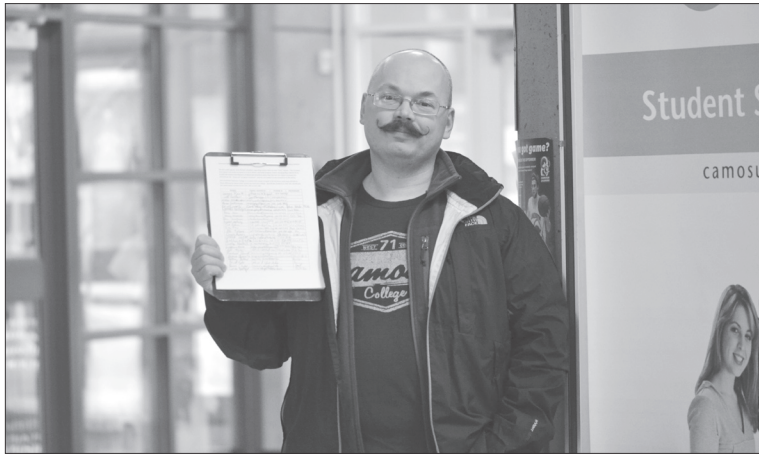


THOMAS NICOLSON

"Relative to other universities, it's fine. Personally, I feel like the parking is more of a stab in the face."

fees

Camosun student starts petition protesting potential tuition raise



JILL WESTBY/NEXUS

Camosun student Blair Roche holding his petition.

ADAM MARSH
STUDENT EDITOR

The tuition for Camosun's Civil Engineering Technology program will increase above the two percent allowed for an existing program if the Ministry of Advanced Education deems it as being "new," and one Camosun student has started a petition in protest of this potential increase.

The Ministry of Advanced Education has a two-percent tuition increase cap in place for "amendments to existing programs," and Camosun Civil Engineering Technology student Blair Roche feels that's what the changes in question should be categorized as. He says his petition now has over 80 signatures; there is also a Facebook group, Camosun CIVL Oppression 2016, discussing the issue.

Roche calls the increase an "outrage."

"It's staggering," says Roche. "If you go the ministry website where they have the policy [aved.gov.bc.ca], there is a mandatory fee

rate for new instructional programs, not amendments to existing programs. It's clearly an amendment to an existing program, so they should be subject to the two-percent increase."

Roche points to the June 15, 2015 Camosun College Education Council meeting minutes, which show the Education Council approving "program revisions" to Civil Engineering Technology courses (the minutes are available online at camosun.ca).

According to minister of advanced education Andrew Wilkinson, the college needs to stick to the two-percent rule for existing programs.

"Engineering Technology diplomas at Camosun College are existing programs and are subject to the annual tuition limit increase policy of two percent," says Wilkinson. "Camosun will be submitting a written request for formal review by the Ministry to have these programs considered as new under the tuition limit policy."

Roche says he has two primary goals: to bring to light the fact that "Camosun and all other institutions are critically underfunded," and to show that it's not going to be good if the college's Engineering programs cost more than UVic, which, he says, they will if the program's tuition is increased by 43.9 percent, which was the original proposal.

However, Camosun vice president of education John Boraas admits that the college made a mistake when doing the initial calculations for the new tuition cost, using national data instead of provincial.

"One of the things I want to put on the table is that one of our principles is that we want to be in the middle of the pack in terms of tuition," he says. "When we did this proposal one of the things I realize now is that we looked at the middle of the pack nationally, not provincially, so this does put us at the very top. So there's no doubt, no matter how this comes down, we will do another analysis to put ourselves in the provincial pack. We just used the wrong comparators."

Boraas says that while there will still be a tuition raise if the government approves it, it won't be 43.9 percent.

"This percentage is what we put forward initially and is one there will be some change to," he says, "and that's dependent on what government decides."

Roche does acknowledge that Camosun's tuition is comparatively low, and that the cost does need to go up—just, he says, "not 43 percent in one year."

"The transfers from the min-

istry to the institutions have been getting cut by millions of dollars; meanwhile, the price of everything goes up, so they are desperate for money, and they don't want to cancel programs, but if they don't get money from somewhere, then they are going to have to cancel programs. They can't force it out of the ministry, but they can squeeze it out of us. It's an abusive relationship," says Roche.

Boraas says letters were sent out to all students in the affected programs explaining that tuition would only increase for new students, although he's not convinced everyone read them.

"I know when I get a letter from my bank, I often don't read them, so I'm sure it's the same when they get a letter from me," says Boraas.

He says Camosun has sent the requests for the tuition increase to the Ministry of Advanced Education, but until they hear back, "everything is up in the air."

"If you're in year one right now, year two would see no increase in cost. So, in other words, you're protected. Once you've started and we've said, 'Here's the cost for a program,' we're not going to change it."

Boraas says that the college wants to do everything as transparently and openly as they possibly can.

"We got letters out to students, all those kinds of things. The intent was, 'Here's—black and white—what we're trying to do.'"

Boraas stresses that it is in the Ministry of Education's hands now, and "we'll just respect whatever comes out of it."

He also says that the college kept a close eye on the content to ensure they met the criteria for being considered "new."

"I know that every single course we agreed was eligible for tuition change was a course that was changed, and not just by combining other courses," says Boraas. "Truly new. It had to be at least 50 percent brand new to the program for us to accept it."

Boraas adds that Camosun is trying to keep its programming in the face of government cuts.

"I'm just trying to very clearly move forward with being sure that we don't have to cut more programs because we don't have the money. So it's that balance, and I want to do it well."

Camosun student Rachael Grant, who is one of four student representatives on the Education Council board, says that "it's really an unfortunate decision, and it's horribly unjust to see tuition increased by this level."

"I personally see that our college is doing this for a reason," says Grant. "Our institution is chronically underfunded by our provincial government."

Grant points out that the same thing happened with English 150 transitioning to English 151.

"It costs more, and it's basic English that everyone has to take. I don't understand how you can change basic English enough to justify increasing tuition over the two-percent cap. This is a very common practice. This is just them trying to get by. The provincial government knows they're doing it, but they don't care."

NEWS BRIEFS

Minister comments irk student society

The Camosun College Student Society (CCSS) is concerned after comments made by BC minister of advanced education Andrew Wilkinson in a *Times Colonist* story. In the piece, Wilkinson made several statements about student debt in BC which the CCSS says were misleading. In the article, Wilkinson stated that 61,000 students receive financial assistance, which, according to the ministry's data, is representative of less than 20 percent of students enrolled in postsecondary, according to a CCSS press release. Additionally, the two-percent tuition-fee-increase cap was mentioned by the minister, but student groups are saying that students are experiencing increases that go above and beyond two percent (see next news item and our news story above). The press release also says that the minister referred to student loans as interest-free, which the CCSS claims is misleading, as interest kicks in after graduation and students are expected to pay prime plus two percent.

Ministry irks CFS-BC

The Canadian Federation of Students-British Columbia (CFS-

BC) is raising concerns about what it considers to be the Ministry of Advanced Education's refusal to enforce its policy on postsecondary institutions raising student fees. A handful of institutions have proposed new fees that, according to CFS-BC, are technically not allowed under the government's two-percent tuition-raise policy. The fee increases, according to CFS-BC, range from a few hundred dollars to \$2,000 a year.

Camosun College announces two new vice presidents

Geoff Wilmshurst and Shane Busby are Camosun College's new vice president of partnerships and vice president of administration, respectively. Wilmshurst, who is the former director of Camosun International, will be replacing Tom Roemer, who is moving to a VP position at BCIT; Busby will be replacing Peter Lockie, who is retiring.

Call for poets and visual artists

Camosun College is calling for poets and visual artists to participate in the poetry reading and art exhibition of The Art-Poem-Art-

Experiment, to be held on March 31. Completed works of poetry must be submitted by February 18, and finished visual-arts pieces must be submitted by March 10. For more information visit art-poem-experiment.com or see our story on page 5.

UVic students outraged at UVSS-CFS connection

According to an anonymous press release, University of Victoria students were outraged to learn that the University of Victoria Students' Society (UVSS) participated in the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) lobby week. The participation on the part of the UVSS is seen as inconsistent, says the press release, following a vote made by UVic students to leave the CFS in 2010.

Camosun students win at regional chemistry symposium

Applied Chemistry and Biotechnology students Kyle Cessford, Brian Thompson, and Tara Turnham took the top three spots at the regional Chemical Institute of Canada Student Symposium, which was held in Victoria in January. The students presented three

diverse projects to an audience of academic and industrial chemists. The winning projects involved 3D printing with organic molecules, phenethylamines, and the first artificially produced element, Technetium.

Ministry of Advanced Education funds Aboriginal learners

According to the Ministry of Advanced Education, a total of 29 programs will be delivered in 2015 and 2016 in Aboriginal communities to provide Aboriginal learners the skills to succeed in sectors facing demand for skilled workers. The programs are being supported with funding from the Ministry of Advanced Education, Employment Services and Supports, and Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada. The goal is to increase the labour market participation of Aboriginal peoples by assisting them to prepare for entry to, or return to, sustainable employment.

CRD Arts Committee awards grants

Thirty organizations within the Capital Regional District are expected to receive grants from the Arts Development 2016 Operating Grant

program. A total of \$2,121,240 has been set aside and approved for use within the community to produce a wide range of events for citizens and visitors. These activities are expected to bring visibility and economic benefits to the region. Visit crd.bc.ca/service/arts-funding for more information.

Free training for young entrepreneurs

ETHOS Career Management Group is offering a free Business Works Youth program that assists young people in developing the skills to succeed in self-employment. Find out program specifics and eligibility requirements at bwy.ethoscmg.com.

-PASCALE ARCHIBALD

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

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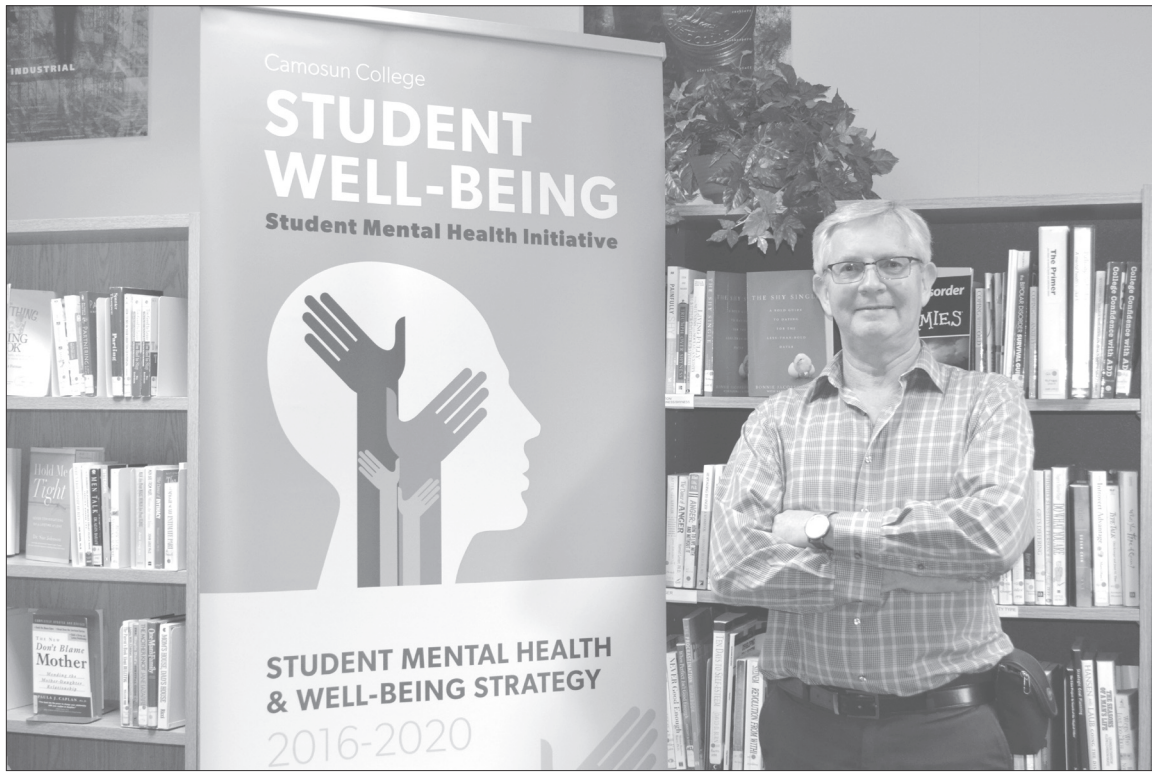
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college

Camosun launches Student Mental Health and Well-being Strategy



JILL WESTBY/NEXUS

Camosun College counsellor Chris Balmer is the leader of the new mental-health strategy development team.

PASCAL ARCHIBALD
STUDENT EDITOR

On January 28, Camosun College officially launched its new Student Mental Health and Well-being Strategy. The plan is intended to provide a foundation for creating awareness of the mental health and well-being needs of students on campus.

Camosun counsellor Chris Balmer is the leader of the strategy's development team; he says the plan is a broad and comprehensive ap-

proach that involves mental-health services and education for employees and students to promote greater mental-health awareness toward themselves and others.

"We are attempting to grow a culture of compassion amongst the members of the college community, including the students," says Balmer. "So in that statement, that includes our awareness, our attitude, our ability to exercise tolerance and patience, our awareness of early signs of distress, and our

knowledge and ability to respond to people experiencing distress."

Although there was no specific mention of any department redesign in the strategy, the development team considered all aspects of student interaction with the college and designated specific goals for each of what they consider to be the five categories of operation: policies and practice, environment, literacy support, campus services, and responding to crisis.

"This is progress in develop-

"Within a short period of time students will notice evidence of a renewed awareness and sensitivity to their mental-health experience."

CHRIS BALMER
CAMOSUN COLLEGE

ment," says Balmer. "It's a plan, and with a plan there are many, many conversations still to take place with so many individuals."

Although there is much work to be done, Balmer expects students to see some change for the better very soon.

"I think it means that within a short period of time students will notice evidence of a renewed awareness and sensitivity to their mental-health experience," he says.

This sensitive approach to students' mental health is a far cry from the old view of educational institutions, according to Camosun College Student Society student services coordinator Michael Glover.

"The truth is there are different perspectives on education," says Glover. "One of them is support and nurture; everybody has to say that

now, but the truth is there are still people at this college that believe that they can make you into steel by hammering you, and that is just the old way of thinking."

Just as educational institutions are changing, so is awareness of mental health. Balmer says that one of the reasons for the creation of this strategy was a meeting that occurred ten years ago at Camosun involving faculty and staff.

"The meeting that took place at Camosun ten years ago brought together faculty and staff from across campus to discuss what we were noticing as more and more students experiencing mental-health challenges and issues on campus," says Balmer. "We really wanted to make a commitment to see what we could do about that."

Glover says that he's interested to see whether or not this strategy will translate into real changes at the college.

"I would be optimistic that there is a commitment to do that; I certainly would hope there would be. Certainly there's a lot of departments that could really use this awareness."

He adds that he feels that this is a progressive move, and he hopes it makes a difference at Camosun.

"I would like to see some real, tangible stuff out of it," he says. "I think that the people that put it together, that was their intent. I think there are people who are interested in it having a real impact."

know your profs

Camosun's Clarence Bolt still a student at heart

ADAM MARSH
STUDENT 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 Religion and History prof Clarence Bolt about his trade, how he is just as much of a student as he is a teacher, and his favourite Indonesian meal.

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

I teach World Civilizations before 1500 and World Religions of the West—Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. This semester, I'm doing a special topics course on the Tanakh (Old Testament) as literature. I've taught at Camosun for over 30 years.

2: What do you personally get out of teaching?

The big secret is that as an in-

structor, I am no more and no less than a full-time continuing student, a life-long learner. It's tremendously rewarding to see students understand and embrace a broader view of the world than our still largely western one.

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

That I don't know everything! Actually, they know that. Given what I teach, they may be interested to know that I love science fiction. I am particularly struck by the prominence of religious themes and ideas (Noah, Moses, Armageddon) in science fiction. I also love animation. My childhood favourite, *Curious George*, still rocks!

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

Really? Answering would be telling!

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

There is no one "thing." Rather, it's what Camosun does for so many students. We bring in students, many who've been out of school for years and for whom, for one reason or another, academic education wasn't a priority. As they navigate Camosun's world, they thrive, motivate themselves, and become what they never imagined.

Some go on to degrees, even grad school, and become teachers, doctors, lawyers, and even historians. Others return to previous environments recharged, contributing to their communities in positive ways. I am privileged to be part of a world that really changes lives.

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

Again, it's not one thing, but it relates to the last point. Over the years, I have watched several iterations of budget cuts. Courses get cut not because of their importance to education but because of bottom-line thinking and narrow views of postsecondary education. Many decisions narrowed student possibilities and options, countering Camosun's promise of meeting the changing needs of the future by offering lifelong, life-changing learning.

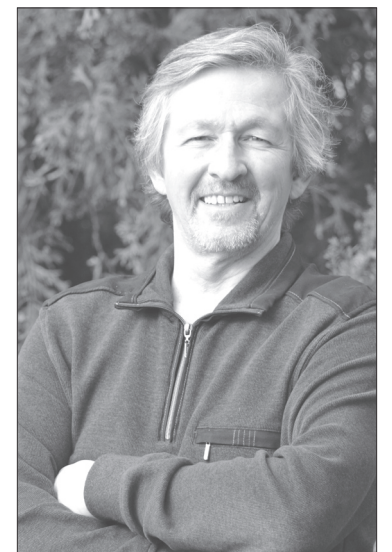
7: What do you personally see in the future of postsecondary education?

I distinguish between training and education. Our provincial government's focus on jobs and skills training doubtless adds value to the element of our labour force that works in resources, trades, construction, and the like. Many people in my generation trained for resource-industry jobs but are now

unemployed because changing technology and markets rendered their skills obsolete. Many had low levels of education. There are ever fewer jobs in these areas, a trend that will continue. Education, on the other hand, as delivered by Arts and Sciences, and which our government consciously undervalues and underfunds, provides the critical thinking and analytical tools by which we create the skill sets and mindsets needed to adapt to a changing world in which many of today's jobs will no longer exist tomorrow. These thinking and analytical tools will be increasingly valuable—no, essential—if today's and tomorrow's people are to navigate the future, whether as citizens, bosses or employees, consumers or producers, and whatever other identities they possess. Governments, boards of colleges, and administrators need to acknowledge that education, as here defined, is an "essential service," and they must follow through with appropriate policies, funding, and promotion.

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

Aside from marking papers, Mona [Brash, Camosun Political Science instructor and Bolt's wife] and I choose from a menu that includes biking and going for long walks along the ocean, having coffee, and reading newspapers at



JILL WESTBY/NEXUS

Camosun's Clarence Bolt.

a local coffee shop, dining at our favourite restaurant, gardening, reading, taking in a movie... very civilized.

9: What is your favourite meal?

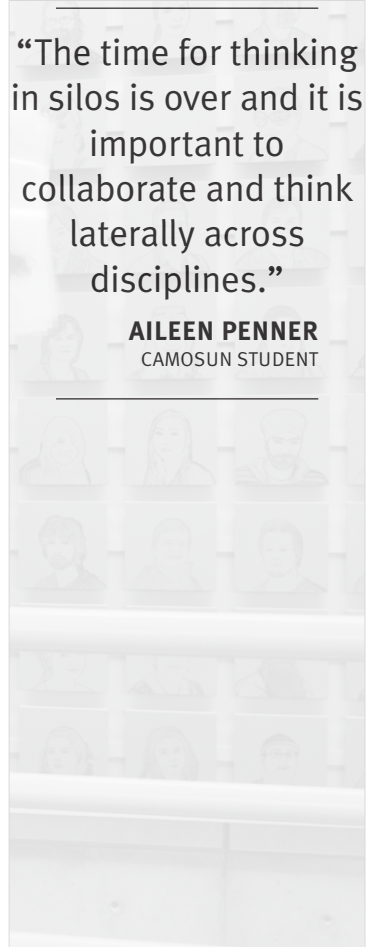
It's hard to pick a favourite. I love food! I make a mean *bami goreng*, an Indonesian dish that was part of my growing up.

10: What's your biggest pet peeve?

It's a toss-up between passive-aggressive behaviour or sloppy thinking, especially dogmatic assertions with absolutely no evidence, or, even worse, clearly contradicted by evidence.

college

Camosun's Art-Poem-Art Experiment shows off student work



JILL WESTBY/NEXUS

JAYDEN GRIEVE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Camosun visual arts student Aileen Penner (left) and instructor Nancy Yakimoski are facilitating the college's Art-Poem-Art Experiment.

During February and March, Camosun College Visual Arts instructor Nancy Yakimoski and visual arts student Aileen Penner are facilitating a special art project for students at the college. It's called the Art-Poem-Art Experiment, and it will show off the talents of Camosun students in a unique way.

"We're both poets involved in the writing community, and we wanted to find a way to bring art and poetry together," says Penner.

The duo was inspired to start developing the project for the college after they attended a special

event held by Victoria poet Yvonne Bloomer.

"She did a workshop where she invited poets to respond to a piece of work in the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria, and then she did a reading in front of the painting," says Penner. "Nancy and I were both there, and we thought it would be a great idea to do something like that for students at Camosun."

The project will highlight Camosun's art collection. College students who write poetry will choose a piece of art and write a poem about it. That poem will then be taken by a student artist, who will

create a new piece of art inspired by that poem.

"We've picked 25 pieces of art in three buildings on Lansdowne, and Nancy's been taking writers and poets and anyone who is interested around the collection," says Penner.

After the poems are submitted, an English teacher will mentor two students, who will do the blind jurying and editing of the selected poems into a poetry chapbook. A similar situation will be happening on the art department end of the project, leading up to a gala event in the library.

"A student will work with an instructor to curate the pieces for the event and install those pieces in the library alongside the poems," says Penner. "I just have the feeling that the event is going to be a night full of exciting conversation."

Penner also hopes that the event will bring a renewed interest to the art collection at Camosun, which she says is a beautiful and varied set that needs some love.

"There are some pretty famous artists," says Penner, "and there's everything from sculpture to native carvings to painting to collage and printmaking, so there's really quite a

range in the collection, and it would be good to see it displayed in a way that people are responding to it."

Penner says that she hopes the event might become an annual occurrence, possibly even expanding outward to other Camosun faculties.

"The time for thinking in silos is over, and it is important to collaborate and think laterally across disciplines," says Penner. "It would be wonderful to think a project like this could expand to biology or chemistry."

See art-poem-experiment.com for more information.

book

Local author examines The Butchart Gardens' hidden history



PHOTO PROVIDED

Local author Gwen Curry.

ALEXIS KOOME
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Residents of Victoria are all too familiar with The Butchart Gardens. It's one of our more well-known

"With writing there has to be passion, and I was passionate about this story."

GWEN CURRY
AUTHOR

claims to fame; it's also widely known that beneath the beautiful and blossoming landscape lies a historic tale, although the details of the tale are unknown to many.

This uncertainty is precisely what prompted University of Vic-

toria professor and artist Gwen Curry to write her first book, *Tod Inlet: A Healing Place*.

"With writing there has to be passion, and I was passionate about this story," says Curry.

The area where the gardens stand is Tod Inlet, which is Brentwood Bay's corner of Gowlland Tod Provincial Park.

Curry's relationship with the inlet began nearly 40 years ago. Back then it was simply a place to wander and be alone with nature. While getting her Fine Arts degree at UVic, Curry was captivated by the inlet and its underlying stories.

"Back then, it was untouched," she says. "It wasn't yet a park. No barriers, no fencing... just the debris from the factory."

The factory Curry refers to is a cement plant that operated at Tod Inlet until 1921 and was the first of its kind to be completed in Western Canada.

"It's a part of our local history," she says. "We all knew about the old factory."

Through neighbours, friends, and family, the story began to present itself to Curry in pieces. Over time, she found that the people she met while walking the inlet had questions, and she often had the answers.

"Without trying at all, I had more knowledge than most," she explains, recalling how the book came to be.

After an inspiring trip to the Northwest Territories in 2005, Curry

decided to trade in the paintbrush for a camera, and the inlet became the perfect muse. At first, photography was a personal endeavour for Curry, and she found herself taking pictures of the inlet.

"I loved the juxtaposition of the man-made and the natural," she says.

Over the years, Curry took almost 7,000 photographs of Tod Inlet. When the idea for a book surfaced, she found that she had amassed a lot of knowledge about the area.

"I sure didn't feel like an elder, but in a way I was," she says. "I knew so much, I realized, 'I have to write this story.' It's not just a place for us to go to for healing; it's a place that is healing itself."

As part of our 25th anniversary celebrations, we started an Instagram account! Come say hello over there and see what we're up to online.

While you're at it, we're also on Facebook and Twitter, you know...

Find us as nexusnewspaper on all three. See you there!

Pro-choice

The conversation continues

Story by Jessica Williams

“I just think that it’s important to have conversations, and I think education is important. And I think that having access to services like abortion is crucial.”

RACHAEL GRANT
CAMOSUN COLLEGE STUDENT
SOCIETY

The controversy surrounding abortion is not a new debate in Victoria, be it on campus or in the community. Choosing a side—pro-life or pro-choice—divides people, and with a pro-life organization holding a vigil in town, the debate is on people’s minds as strongly as ever.

Pro-life group 40 Days for Life is holding a vigil until March 20 outside the Vancouver Island Women’s Clinic in an attempt to spread their message. Here on campus, Camosun College Student Society (CCSS) women’s director Rachael Grant stands on the other side of the debate, but she feels that keeping the conversation happening between the two sides is important.

“I am personally a very pro-choice person, but I don’t know about changing the conversation necessarily. I just think that it’s important to have conversations, and I think education is important,” she says. “And I think that having access to services like abortion is crucial.”

While the debate is still going strong, it’s not one typically heard and spoken about here at Camosun.

“That’s not something I’ve seen come up very often, although we do work with various partners like Island Sexual Health and various non-profits that do advocacy around town,” says Grant. “That’s not necessarily outside the scope of conversations that happen at the Women’s Collective, but not something that I’ve come across. I’ve been active for three years now, and it hasn’t really been a prominent conversation.”

Where your student fees go

Whether or not Camosun students realize it, some of their student fees go to supporting one side of the debate. Every Camosun student is a member of the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) and pays membership dues through their student fees. The CFS has a policy that states that part of the money that students pay goes toward promotional and educational material in support of pro-choice campaigns.

This policy also states that the CFS will support any member student societies if they choose to deny pro-life student groups access to funding and the space to form a pro-life student group (the CCSS has not denied a pro-life group the opportunity to be an official group on campus).

The CFS did not respond to *Nexus* after multiple requests for an interview about this policy by deadline.

We took this policy to Camosun students to find out their thoughts on it.

“I think [the policy] is a little convoluted, but it’s definitely better than the opposite,” says second-year Pre-Social Work student Olivia Bing. “It’s really awesome because the pro-life protesters are usually really intrusive. They’ve done it up at UVic, and I don’t really think it’s a place to do that. You don’t know the kind of emotion it’s going to evoke from someone. So I think it’s definitely good to be inclusive.”

Not being aware of this policy and not having a choice as to where their money goes are the main issues for the students

we spoke with, although no one was against the policy.

“Yeah, I’m all for it. If it’s helping move toward change, I’m okay with it,” says first-year Visual Arts student Rheanna Bruce. “It’s kind of mixed feelings, but in the end I am pro-choice.”

University Transfer student Pierce Newman says that it’s “not a bad choice” for something that will cost him more money through his student fees.

“I would be much more up in arms about something like the vice president or president getting a new office, or something like that,” he says. “So I think it’s great in a way that they’ve chosen that.”

Grant says she hasn’t analyzed all of the CFS’ policies in depth, but she was aware of the pro-choice decisions the CFS has been making. In regards to denying a pro-life group access to form on campus, Grant says it’s behaviour-dependent.

“Anyone can hold any opinion; it’s what you do with that opinion,” she says. “What we’ve seen is other student unions, with clubs and groups forming that are pro-life, it’s what those groups tend to engage in, spreading information and images that are very triggering, potentially, and that are inaccurate,” says Grant.

Grant says that because of that history of behaviour, there is hesitancy surrounding pro-life groups on campus.

“So I believe at the Camosun College Student Society, if we had a group apply of that nature, they wouldn’t be denied, but they would be watched, because there is a long history of groups of this nature engaging in behaviour that makes students feel unsafe and perpetuates misinformation,” she says.

CCSS executive director Michel Turcotte is familiar with the CFS policy and feels that it’s “completely acceptable.”

“The Canadian Federation of Students, both federally and provincially, are declared pro-choice organizations,” he says.

The Debate

National Campus Life Network (NCLN) is a pro-life organization that mentors students on Canadian campuses and advocates for human-rights issues. They also aim to support pregnant women by equipping students with resources and training, and by coordinating national campaigns and on-campus events. NCLN has done work at the University of Victoria but has not set anything up at Camosun.

NCLN executive director Anastasia Pearse says her own personal values align directly with the organization’s views on abortion.

“We consider ourselves to be a pro-life organization, and we believe that all human beings have human rights and value and are therefore worthy of the same right to life as you and I, regardless of their abilities, circumstances they find themselves in, or their age,” she says. “And human life begins at conception; therefore anything that directly and intentionally kills an innocent human being from that point onward is wrong. So because of this we specifically address issues such as abortion and euthanasia.”

NCLN opposes the CFS policy that offers support to

“With controversial issues, the solution is not to censor one side, but rather to encourage the debate, especially on campus.”

ANASTASIA PEARSE
NATIONAL CAMPUS LIFE
NETWORK

or pro-life? s at Camosun and beyond

on, contributing writer

student societies who choose to deny pro-life groups the right to form on campus.

“I think that these organizations say that they can, in that policy, alienate specific groups of students,” says Pearse. “What they need to do is ensure that diversity is encouraged on their campuses. I think that with controversial issues, the solution is not to censor one side, but rather to encourage the debate, especially on campus.”

Opposition to their cause is something that Pearse and the NCLN are familiar with, but it doesn’t stop them from being vocal and forthcoming about what they believe in. Pearse says that pro-life groups shouldn’t be prohibited from being on campus because they hold a view that isn’t popular amongst college students.

“Just because they hold an unpopular belief doesn’t mean that they should not be allowed on campus,” says Pearse, “because then many clubs would also have to be denied or silenced because they are the minority or hold an unpopular belief.”

The NCLN says they aren’t looking for any “special treatment”; they just want to be able to give their side of the discussion without being censored in this debate.

“We’re just looking for the same treatment as any other club,” says Pearse. “And so that means being able to share our message on campus, being allowed to have access to the same resources as any other club, and being encouraged to engage in open and respectful dialogue with other students.”

The CCSS’ Turcotte approaches the matter diplomatically and says he keeps his personal views out of the equation when discussing this matter.

“I think it’s important for others to be able to differentiate how they personally feel about something from how they professionally or from a societal point of view look at something,” he says. “I actually come from a fairly religious background and so my personal views on the subject, and whether or not I would encourage anyone personally to get an abortion, is a different issue. I don’t believe it’s appropriate for me to be telling other people what to do.”

Despite the CFS making policies about it that directly impact students, Turcotte thinks this issue should not be a campus problem, or one that any student society should have to deal with.

“Student unions should try and stay away from that debate as much as possible, because it tends to divide members,” he says. “You have members that come from various backgrounds—religious, non-religious, different ethnic backgrounds—where there are still various points of view on this subject. But, ultimately, I think that student societies do need to stand up for a woman’s right to choose. And that was something that the Supreme Court of Canada decided when it threw out the existing abortion laws.”

The Belief

“I wish there wasn’t a need for abortion,” says 40 Days for Life Victoria representative Alexander Berns. “I wish society was back like it was when I was a kid growing up; you gave your bus seat up for a pregnant woman, you opened doors for a pregnant woman,

you saw a pregnant woman or knew of a pregnant woman in your neighbourhood, it’s almost like automatically by virtue of being pregnant, they had first place in everything.”

40 Days for Life is in the midst of their local vigil outside the Victoria Women’s Clinic. The vigil includes prayer, fasting, and public outreach.

“It’s called a prayer vigil,” says Berns. “It’s normally held at the intersection of Helmcken and the Old Island Highway, across from the View Royal Square, because that’s where the abortions take place, and we’ve decided that we’d tackle the women’s clinic.”

The Vancouver Island Women’s Clinic declined to comment to *Nexus* about the 40 Days for Life organization.

When asked about pro-choice organizations, Berns says that “they’re all children of God, and I can’t denounce what God has made; if I do that, I’m not a very good Christian at all.”

“If I don’t see with them eye-to-eye, that’s okay. I don’t have to like what they stand for, but I do have to treat them with dignity, and that goes for the Vancouver Island Women’s Clinic,” says Berns. “It’s a service that’s legal in Canada. We wish it didn’t need to be legal, or that there wasn’t an environment where it becomes profitable to operate such a clinic. I think it reflects back on our whole society that has failed somewhat, and we should change that around.”

Not taking the violent or invasive approach that some claim to typically see from pro-life groups, Berns and 40 Days for Life say they want to remain peaceful and respectful.

“We pray. That’s all we’re allowed to do; that’s all that we promote,” says Berns. “And then any resources that we discover that are available locally, we present them to anyone that comes and asks. There are resources out there to help, and to help her finish her degree or whatever it is that’s making her lean toward having an abortion. There are many reasons, many reasons. And we respect each and every single one of them.”

Grant opposes the 40 Days for Life organization and has a different opinion on the severity of their protests, vigils, and methods.

“I find it’s unfortunate that folks believe that holding protests and vigils of this nature, to protest outside of an abortion clinic, accomplishes anything. Like I said, it’s about conversation, regardless of what I feel about their views. Holding a sign and demonizing women accessing healthcare does not accomplish anything. Regardless of their stance, I don’t find their methods at all effective; they don’t do anything but demonize women accessing healthcare.”

The deep-rooted debate about abortion on local campuses and off is not one with an end in sight. For Grant, abortion is a health-care service that people rely on, and it should be available to everyone who needs it.

“It’s a human right to be able to take care of your body,” she says. “Why this is a controversy is concerning to me, the fact that it’s still a controversial issue when we have the research and accessibility to information on abortion that we do. But it’s clearly ignorance to feel that it’s okay to demonize abortion the way people do.”

“Student unions should try and stay away from that debate as much as possible, because it tends to divide members.”

MICHEL TURCOTTE
CAMOSUN COLLEGE STUDENT SOCIETY

“It’s a service that’s legal in Canada. We wish it didn’t need to be legal, or that there wasn’t an environment where it becomes profitable to operate such a clinic.”

ALEXANDER BERNS
40 DAYS FOR LIFE

play

The Valley brings current events close to home



SERA DOWN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

As students, we're often too focused on our coursework to assess our own mental health or that of those around us. We consider the victims of police aggression and devastating mental illness to be beyond us, fleeting figures in dashcam videos and quivering cell-phone recordings whose altercations are to be put on trial on YouTube.

The Belfry and Victoria playwright Joan MacLeod, with their history of producing and showcas-

ing both topical and thought-provoking works, are now presenting *The Valley*, a play that examines the chronic struggle between law enforcement, mental illness, and society in an intimate and poignantly human narrative.

"All [MacLeod's] characters are real people. She doesn't write them as stereotypes or caricatures," says actor Luc Roderique, making his Belfry debut as Vancouver police officer Dan.

The cast of four characters—a cop, his wife, a struggling student,

"There is a certain ambiguity to the script, where you are constantly shifting allegiance between the characters."

LUC RODERIQUE
THE VALLEY



PHOTOS BY EMILY COOPER

The Valley looks at issues relating to mental health and police aggression, and how the two intersect.

and his mother—and their physical and emotional afflictions are pulled together by a brutal incident at a Vancouver SkyTrain station. The true sequence of events slowly unravels as the audience sees how each character copes.

"Connor is an 18-year-old first-year university student and writer who comes back home and is in a lot of mental distress," says actor Matt Reznek about Connor, the character he plays. "He has a psychotic episode at a SkyTrain station and has an altercation with a police officer [Dan]. The play is about the repercussions of that incident."

Inspired by the events surrounding the Robert Dziekanski taser incident at Vancouver International Airport, the work aims to explore the human factor involved in reactive incidents and to move beyond the cut-and-dried interpretations often presented in media.

"There is a certain ambiguity to the script, where you are constantly shifting allegiance between the characters," says Roderique. "We get to see Dan on the job, but then you also get to see him in private moments where he gets to talk

about how he feels about his job and relationship candidly. We can forget [people in law enforcement] have private lives, struggles, emotions, and kids, and they can be a little messed up just like us."

The freedom to explore their characters beyond an archetype has helped both actors authenticate the sense that these events could happen to anyone, and that often those who have great potential suffer silently.

"The creative mind and temperament is always attributed to mental illness," says Reznek. "For another writer it could have the danger of seeming like it is a stereotype, but the way it is presented is that's it's just misunderstood. We as a society can't distinguish between genius and insanity; there is a very thin line. It's important to the story that he has the potential for greatness; it's more tragic."

The portrayal of a brilliant but conflicted young artist and student is even more critical as Camosun students begin to neglect their mental health in haste to cram for final exams and midterms.

"I know if there ever was a

point where I came close to breaking, it was during college," adds Roderique.

Unbroken by the prospect of the play's four-week run, the cast have faith their work will draw in and engage audiences of all demographics.

"There's been some very ambiguous mixed debates, which is exactly what we were hoping for," says Roderique. "That's what I think theatre should do—it should spark questions and debates and discussions."

A subversive player in the mental-health debate, *The Valley* intends to promote change through open discourse, an activity that residents of Victoria and Camosun students alike crave. The play tackles events that are relevant to those far away from the college grounds, as well.

"It's easily transferable to the world, not necessarily just Canada," says Reznek.

The Valley
February 2 to 28
\$23 to \$48, The Belfry
belfry.bc.ca

review

Old Man Luedecke brings his toe-tapping tunes to dinner in Victoria

PASCALE ARCHIBALD
STUDENT EDITOR

Banjo player extraordinaire Chris Luedecke is the genius behind Old Man Luedecke (loo-deck-ee); the Chester, Nova Scotia-based musician was recently in town for not one but two shows at downtown Victoria restaurant Northern Quarter.

The venue was perfect for this show, but not for the obvious reasons.

First of all, Northern Quarter is actually quite small; because the earlier dinner show was sold out, the host ended up having to sit groups together at tables. We were sitting with a lady and two other gentlemen; that may sound uncomfortable, but it totally worked for this show.

The style of music made me think of small towns on the east

coast where the whole town crowds into the one pub to enjoy drinks and the company of others; for one evening we were indeed amiably

The style of music made me think of small towns on the east coast where the whole town crowds into the one pub to enjoy drinks and the company of others.

crowded together to enjoy really good food and drink, and fantastic entertainment.

The other thing that was notable

about the crowd was the diversity in demographics.

I had seen Luedecke a few years ago at Lucky Bar, and I had noted how all ages and types were there to see him play. This recent show saw the same kind of crowd; a young couple had even brought their baby along.

Luedecke's skill with the banjo is pretty fantastic to watch; seeing him play his simple, wholesome songs about love, family, and daily life from his most recent album, *Domestic Eccentric*, as well as cuts from his older releases, was a real treat.

The show was a complete success, and I thoroughly enjoyed the self-deprecating and humorous stories in the introductions to his songs; they hit a chord of truth, just like Old Man Luedecke's songs themselves.



PHOTO PROVIDED

East-coast banjo-man Old Man Luedecke played two shows in Victoria.

music

The Sheepdogs return to town a changed band

“*Future Nostalgia* is somewhere between the homemade vibes of *Learn & Burn* and the more polished studio sound of our self-titled album.”

EWAN CURRIE
THE SHEEPDOGS

ALEXIS KOOME
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Sheepdogs are coming back to Victoria with new tunes and a new lineup.

Three years since the release of their self-titled album, *Future Nostalgia* features 18 new Sheepdogs songs that the group recorded at a cottage in Stony Lake, Ontario. It's the Saskatoon rock band's fifth album, and it comes with a lineup change: guitarist Leot Hanson parted ways with the band to open a music venue in Saskatoon, and long-time friend Rusty Matyas played guitar on the album but is not on tour with the band.

“*Future Nostalgia* is somewhere between the homemade vibes of [third album] *Learn & Burn* and



VANESSA HEINS

The Sheepdogs have made it through some lineup changes and are ready to bring their rock back to Victoria.

the more polished studio sound of our self-titled album,” says vocalist/guitarist Ewan Currie. “We wanted to take the best things we learned in both experiences and make them happen on this album.”

Part of the new album's sound is Currie's younger brother Shamus, who plays several instruments for the band and is now an official member; his trombone can be heard

on some of their earlier tracks but holds a more prominent role on their new album. The Sheepdogs have taken their new lineup overseas to promote the album, and Currie says it went great.

“It went really well, so we wanted to get back there and keep building it in the UK,” he says.

The band toured Europe in January with Brit rockers The Tem-

perance Movement, who are also touring Canada right now. The two bands aren't playing together here, but Currie still encourages Victorians to go see his old tourmates as they roll through town.

“They're really cool, and I hope people will go out and see them,” he says.

As for what the Victoria audience can expect at the Sheepdogs

gig, Currie says it will be a mixture of songs old and new.

“We're doing a lot of stuff from *Future Nostalgia* but throwing in a bunch of the old favourites as well.”

The Sheepdogs
7 pm Saturday, February 20
\$30, Sugar
sugarnightclub.ca



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review

Wild Honey a surprisingly sweet and genuinely emotional play



PHOTOS BY DAVID LOWES

Wild Honey is cathartic to watch, and the actors deliver with emotion.

NATASHA OLEKSHY
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Writer Michael Frayn has re-worked Russian playwright Anton Chekov's first play, *Wild Honey*, into a gratifying comedy full of scandalous love triangles.

Wild Honey uses humour to tackle the sensitive subject that is infidelity in a playful, yet honest, way. Throughout the play, well-placed humour is juxtaposed with passionate, fiery dialogue. The original version of *Wild Honey* is performed as a sombre, Shakespearean-esque tragedy, but Frayn's adaptation injects a sense of lightheartedness into the whole affair. His thoughtful combination of humour and drama works surprisingly well.

This theatrical structure of opposites initiated the emotional rollercoaster that I was to experi-

ence while watching *Wild Honey*. One moment the audience was laughing at a well-timed quip, and the next moment our hearts were aching with sympathy for one of the characters as they delivered a wildly distressing monologue. These continual ups and downs kept me vicariously engaged throughout the performance and ensured that I never became complacent.

The actors' ability to deliver their lines with such genuine emotion had the powerful effect of drawing me into the play. My allegiances to characters were constantly shifting as extramarital relations and character development progressed throughout the play. However, there was always one person or another that I was cheering for to come out on top of this entertaining free-for-all. I am not ashamed to say

that I was happily swept up in the domestic intrigue of it all.

Behind all the jokes and antics of *Wild Honey* was a cautionary tale for the audience. The old adage "the heart wants what the heart wants" comes to life here and exemplifies the painful repercussions of acting in a selfish, lustful manner. However, at the end of the night, I left the theatre feeling entertained yet comforted by the play that I had just watched.

Wild Honey is a refreshingly cathartic experience that I would recommend to all.

Wild Honey
Until February 20
\$15 for students,
Phoenix Theatre, UVic
phoenixtheatres.ca



exotic-animal word search

Things can get a little shaky amidst all the stress of being a student. Sometimes it's good to get lost in a fun and light time-filler. Enjoy, readers!

As an added bonus, if you find all 20 of the words below and bring it in to the office, you'll get a free prize for your hard work!

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- CHAMELEON
- CROCODILE
- ELEPHANT
- FLAMINGO
- GELANDA
- HEDGEHOG
- HIPPOPOTAMUS
- HYENA
- IGUANA
- KANGAROO
- LION
- OKAPI
- SCORPION
- SHARK
- SKUNK
- TIGER
- WALLABY
- WILDERNESS
- ZEBRA

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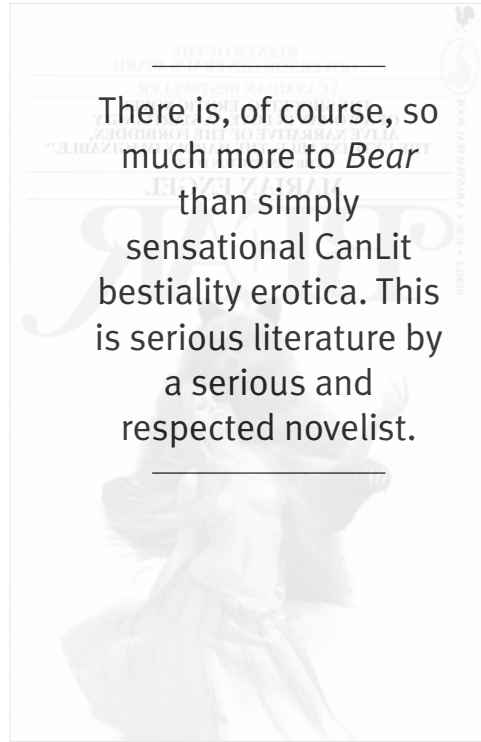
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Lit Matters

by Keagan Hawthorne

Marian Engel bears it all



“Remember that it is not enough to have everything around you beautiful, remember that there must also be change and flux, because it is through change that we pretend that we can make decisions, and keep our pride,” wrote Marian Engel, a Canadian novelist who was very much interested in stories of personal change.

Engel is most famous for *Bear*, which won the Governor General’s Award in 1977 and has been called the most controversial novel ever written by a Canadian author.

The story follows Lou, a shy librarian who is escaping her dead-end city life on an island in Ontario’s cottage country. She is alone with a mangy old pet black bear left behind by the island’s previous

love with the bear. And having sex with him. Okay, so they don’t have intercourse, but she gets the bear to use his tongue (“muscular but also capable of lengthening itself like an eel”) to good effect. Repeatedly. Hence the novel’s controversy, and hence its popularity.

There is, of course, so much more to *Bear* than simply sensational CanLit bestiality erotica. This is serious literature by a serious and respected novelist.

You can read pretty much any way you like: it’s an insightful comment on our national fetishization of the wilderness and the often voyeuristic relationship we tend to have with it. Or, it’s a high text of second-wave feminism in which a subdued female character finds strength, conquers nature, and

takes ownership of her sexuality and herself.

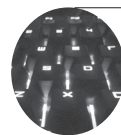
But most of all, it’s a tender, graceful, and comforting love story, one that is beautifully written in finely tuned prose.

If you’re not afraid of strangeness, it’s a marvellous book to spend a weekend with.

Engel, who died in 1985, wanted to inject some change into Canadian literature, and she certainly did that. And despite the fact that she is known today as the author of Canada’s only mainstream bestiality, the continued popularity and serious appreciation of her work would surely have made her proud.

Marian Engel must-read:
Bear

(Public Library Central Branch: Adult Paperback Fiction)



The Bi-weekly Gamer

by Adam Boyle

What is a sport?

I want to talk about the word “sport,” the definition behind it, and how e-sports is dismantling the stigma of gaming. This topic is a hefty one, so I will be breaking it up into two columns.

The Oxford Dictionary defines a sport as “an activity involving physical exertion and skill in which an individual or a team competes against another or others for entertainment.”

Now, the first thing that will probably come to your mind after reading that definition is, “That doesn’t have anything to do with video games! How could they ever be considered a sport?”

You would be partially right: it doesn’t have anything to do with video games. My question to you is, would you not also consider something such as hunting, fishing, or poker to be a sport? Some are on sports channels on TV, after all.

The fact of the matter is that the definition of “sport” is crumbling. Things such as chess are

now considered sports. Although it might not be in the sense you might think, it is a sport according to that definition. Reading back to the first line of it, you will see that it talks about physically exerting yourself to compete. Does one not exercise their brain during chess? Chess is a game of logic, planning, and skill.

So too are many of today’s professional e-sports, such as League of Legends, Dota 2, Smite, Counter-Strike: Global Offensive, and many more. A sport is not purely restricted to gym junkies or kids who grow up with a stick in their hands... or a basketball in their hands. Today, the term has come to include those that grow up using their brain to solve puzzles and to plan around their opponent while working with teammates.

Next issue I will be going over how the world of e-sports is merging into traditional sports and how big names are welcoming the growing industry with open arms.

contest

Find the hidden Nexus and win



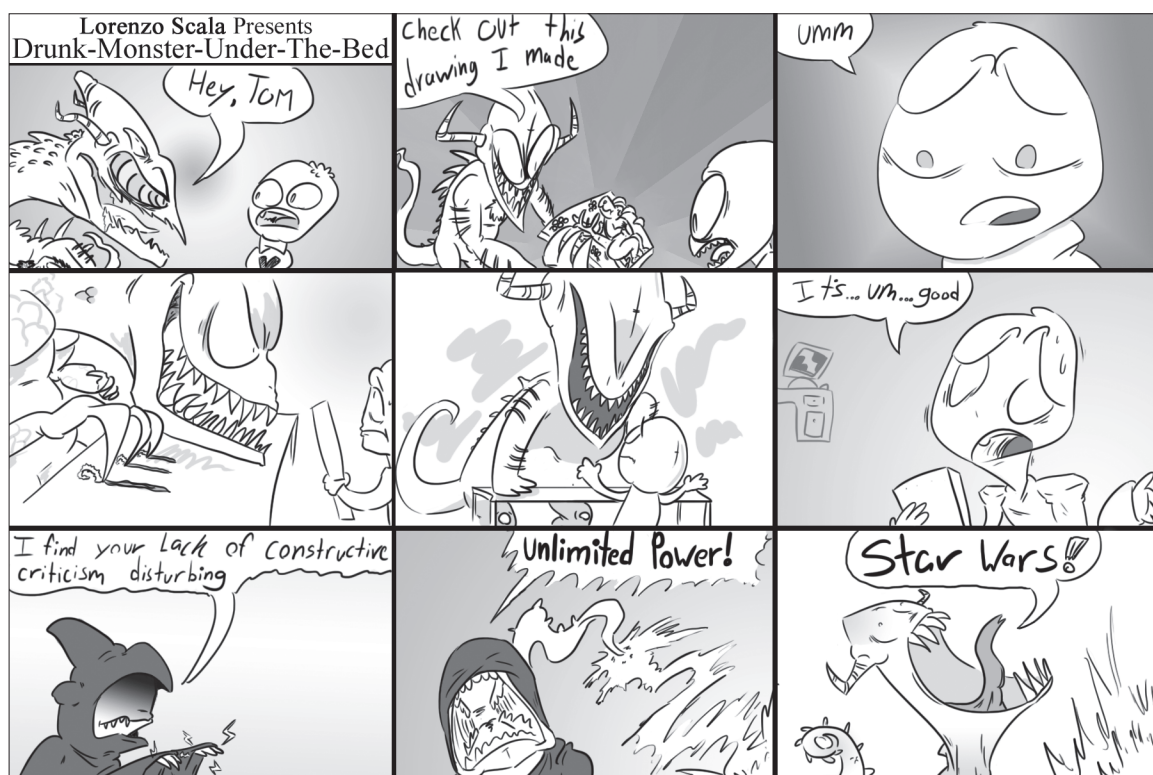
GREG PRATT/NEXUS


Who doesn’t love a good scavenger hunt? Take your mind off your studies for a few minutes and see if you can find this copy of the last issue of *Nexus* that we hid at Camosun.

The first person to find this copy of the paper and bring it in to

our office (201 Richmond House, Lansdowne campus) wins themselves a free *Nexus* 25th anniversary T-shirt!

We’ll give you one hint: this one is hidden somewhere on the Lansdowne campus (Interurban, we’ll get to you soon). Happy hunting!





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what's going on

by pascale archibald

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Bluesman Andersen

New Brunswick's Matt Andersen brings his narrative-driven soul and blues tunes to the University of Victoria's Farquhar Auditorium. Tickets start at \$23 and doors are at 7 pm; for more info, go to uvic.ca/auditorium.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Do the bat walk

All ages are welcome to this free

informational stroll around Francis/King Regional Park to learn all about our local bat populations. Stop in at the Nature Centre just off Munn Road for a guided walk at 11:15 am or 1 pm. More information on this event can be found at crd.bc.ca.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Virtuous organ music by virtue of being in a church

Curt Bergen will be playing his organ at a concert in St. Matthias Church,

located at 600 Richmond Road. The event starts at 8 pm and students get in for \$10. For more information, call 250-598-2833.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21

Spring spotters at Witty's Lagoon

Join a CRD naturalist on a free guided walk through Witty's Lagoon Regional Park to look for and identify the early signs of spring. Interested parties should meet at the Nature

Centre just off Metchosin Road in time for the walk, which runs from 1 pm to 2:30 pm. Visit crd.bc.ca for more info.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21

Beethoven brought to you by...

The Victoria Chamber Orchestra will be performing at 2 pm in Oak Bay's United Church, located at 1355 Mitchell Street. The program will consist of Symphony No. 1 in C and Symphony No. 3 in E Flat. Music students get in free; all other students pay \$15. To purchase tickets, go to Long & McQuade or Ivy's Bookshop, or buy them online over at victoria-chamberorchestra.org.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Monsters!

Nope, not real monsters, and not the return of monster trucks, just the band Monster Truck rolling into town for a performance at Sugar Nightclub. Doors are at 8 pm; advance tickets are \$32.50. For more information, visit sugarnightclub.ca.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

Hiking on High Ridge

Hike in a group along Francis/King's High Ridge Trail during this free hike for adults. The hike is expected to run from 1 pm until 3 pm and requires pre-registration by February 22, as space is limited. For more info visit crd.bc.ca; to register, call 250-478-3344.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25 TO SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27

The phantom returns

Phantom of the Opera is coming to the McPherson Playhouse for a three-night run put on by St. Michaels University School, a private boarding school located just down the road from Camosun's Lansdowne campus. Tickets will set you back \$25.25; more info on this and other events can be found at rmts.bc.ca.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Black History Month closing gala

Take an evening to pay tribute to the members of the black community who have distinguished themselves in the public, private, and community sectors. The gala will be held at 3220 Cedar Hill Road, in the Cedar Hill Recreation Centre's auditorium. The event starts at 6:30 pm and entry is by donation. RSVP at blackhistory-monthclosinggala.eventbrite.ca.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Owl prow!

Join Capital Regional District guest naturalist David Allinson on a guided night-time owl adventure. The event is expected to run from 7 pm to 9 pm in Mill Hill Regional Park and is recommended for ages 8 and up. It'll cost you \$10 per family; pre-registration is required, so call 250-478-3344 to sign up. Visit crd.bc.ca for more info on this and many other events.

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