

# THE DANGER ZONE

# LIFE ON THE ROAD WITH CAMOSUN CYCLISTS

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# NEXUS

camosun's student voice since 1990

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**OVERHEARD AT NEXUS:** "Did you know peacocks can fly?"

**COVER PHOTO:** Jill Westby/*Nexus*

student editor's letter

## Road reality checks

My foot was trembling on the accelerator when I took my road test to get my licence in January. I was well prepared, but there are a lot of things to focus on at one time when you're driving. One of the things my instructor drilled into me was to shoulder-check every time I made a right turn, and for good reason. If I hit a car, it's an expensive hassle, but if I hit a cyclist, the car will win. Every. Single. Time.

Cyclists are a reality of the health-focused, environmentally aware society in which we live, and, as features writer Quinn Hiebert examines in this issue's feature (see page 6), so are cycling hazards. Drivers have a responsibility to drive carefully, and doing so might just save lives. I don't mean to sound overdramatic, but, seriously, the staggering 84 incidents recorded by bikemaps.org between the Lansdowne and Interurban campuses could probably be cut in half had drivers shoulder-checked and left a metre and a half between themselves and the cyclist, as the law requires them to do.

As someone who has both cycled and driven, I understand there are complications. Sometimes there simply just isn't enough space to abide by the metre-and-a-half law. So, drivers, take a breath. Look around. Do you really need to pass that cyclist to get to work on time? They're only holding you up by a minute or two—no longer than if you were to hit one more red light. So ask yourself if it's worth scaring the shit out of someone—or putting someone in the hospital—when they're just trying to be healthy and save a buck on gas.

Hiebert's story looks at some of the challenges Camosun students face while getting to school on their bikes; drivers, let's pay a bit more attention and give them one less challenge to worry about.

Adam Marsh, student editor  
 adam@nexusnewspaper.com

flashback

## 25 Years Ago in Nexus



**GREG PRATT**  
 MANAGING EDITOR

**CFS controversy begins:** Back in 1992, the Camosun College Student Society was talking about joining the Canadian Federation of Students; Camosun students did end up voting to join the national student organization. Letter-writer Chris Conway wrote in our March 30, 1992 issue, "What benefit is membership in the Canadian Federation of Students?" Interestingly, we ran an opinion piece recently where a student was asking that very same question.

**Did these phone calls really happen?:** So, I guess we ran a story about a duathlon, which apparently

is a thing, and a reader called in and "rudely insisted" that "biathlon" is the word we were after. We were so up in arms about this conversation we wrote a mini story in this issue defending our use of the word "duathlon." Wow, all around.

**Now there's an idea:** This issue featured an ad for a special issue of *Nexus* that looked back on the past year. A nice idea; given that we're a few years away from approaching our 30th anniversary, just imagine what a nice collection looking back at the entire history of this (give me a minute to gloat) award-winning, thought-provoking, policy-changing paper would look like. Say, a book. Just imagine.

open space

## Don't let motion M-103 limit free speech

**THOMAS BUSTEED**  
 CONTRIBUTING WRITER

In the wake of anti-Islamophobia motion M-103, put forward by Liberal MP Iqra Khalid, I myself now put forward two questions. The first: why do we pay our politicians to discuss and pass motions that accomplish nothing? The second is a bit more pessimistic: is there a need for our government to openly condemn intolerance? No. That's society's role. There is no productive gain from politicians debating motions without policy.

I once sat in at the legislature and witnessed Liberals and NDPs debating the plans to reduce and eliminate the Medical Service Plan's cost. It was back-and-forth banter, with a few roasts from each side of

Prejudice isn't something the government is meant to solve; it's up to us to solve it by fighting internally with ourselves, not externally with each other. Our dear country's only duty is to provide a legal system under which we are all equal, where justice is colour blind and we are innocent until proven guilty. Fortunately, we live in the West, where we have equal rights and protection under the law, but often we take it for granted in favour of intersectionality.

The precondition to living in a modern, civilized society is the acceptance that you will do no violence toward others, unless an act of violence is instigated upon yourself.

With that being said, speech is not violence, and it never will

Good intentions often lead to disastrous consequences, and I worry that this motion will inspire legislation on speech.

the chamber, ending with a vote to reduce and eliminate the tax. Nothing changed. It only meant people in Parliament agreed on something. A round of applause, ladies and gentlemen. These are your tax dollars hard at work.

If you're fine with politicians scoring easy political points by standing on a pedestal, saying "x-ism is bad," and then reading a list of mean things people have said to them on the internet, then, by all means, vote accordingly. But, no matter what, there will always be people who dislike you for what you believe in, what you say, or how you act. That's justifiable, and that's their right. No matter what, some people will judge you for characteristics you cannot change; what is unjust is encouraging the use of government to infringe upon their rights, because someday it may be used against you.

Clearly, we here in Canada suffer from an existential problem where we are welcoming to other cultures, while resenting, or even forgetting, our own identity as a Western civilization.

In the West, we value freedom of speech, expression, press, assembly, religion, and democracy. People from all over the world flee religious and political persecution and come to the West because they don't have those freedoms at home and they wish for a better life. It's not our government's responsibility to give them that better life; it's our responsibility as a society.

Good intentions often lead to disastrous consequences, and I worry that this motion will inspire legislation on speech.

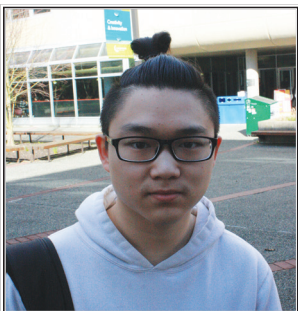
Let's not restrict the same freedoms that others fled their homes in search of.



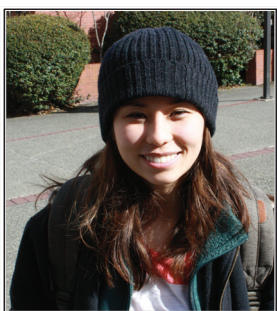
# SPEAK UP

How do you feel about Uber coming to BC?

BY ADAM MARSH



**LEO LI**  
 "I'm an international student; we have a very similar thing in China, but I don't really use that. I would just call a regular taxi. I'm just used to it."



**ELLA HYASHI**  
 "I really have no problem with it, because if there are people who want to make money and do that, that's fine. Cab companies are going to have problems, but they'll probably just end up lowering their pay."



**JAMES CLARKE**  
 "I'm actually thinking of becoming a taxi driver. On the one hand, as a potential customer, I'm excited, but as somebody who maybe wants to be a cab driver, it's kind of a nuisance."



**TAEYA JOHNSON**  
 "I think it's stupid because most of the people who would be doing Uber are younger people who really need money, and chances are they'd do it even if they are not in the right state to drive."



**CHRISTOPHER LOTOCKY**  
 "I usually just take the bus. I think it's fine. In America, it works well; I guess it works for people. It's not going to affect me at all."



**KRIZETTE MENDANA**  
 "It's very convenient for us students. We can save more if we have Uber. I'm not sure if it's really safe."

safety

## Student society “reasonably confident” Camosun took action over events detailed in accusatory letter

**ADAM MARSH**  
STUDENT EDITOR

The Camosun College Student Society (CCSS) feels that Camosun College has taken action after an anonymous letter was sent to the CCSS stating that a Camosun student allegedly threatened to use a gun to shoot women at the school in November of last year, but the college is not giving out any details.

CCSS student services coordinator Michael Glover says he immediately made inquiries to the college after the CCSS received the letter at the beginning of March.

“I’m reasonably confident that the college has taken some action,” says Glover.

Glover says the college was “quick and receptive” to his inquiries about the situation the letter describes. He says the letter is “a legitimate safety concern,” but that his inquiries led him to believe that the allegation was “not a credible threat.” Glover says there is not much he can do without a student to stand behind the letter.

“We’re stuck, because this person is not comfortable even confidentially coming forward,” he says. “I would encourage them to do that if they want any more to happen.”

Camosun College security specialist Todd Corwin says that he

“We do not let such complaints go without an investigation. If a complaint came forward, we would act upon it in order to ensure that both the college community is safe and that the students’ privacy and circumstances are protected.”

**JOAN YATES**  
CAMOSUN COLLEGE

was given a copy of the letter by the CCSS.

“I know about the letter,” says Corwin. “Whether it’s part of a campus investigation or not part of a campus investigation, either way, I can’t speak about it because that’s a confidentiality issue.”

Corwin says he can’t comment on whether or not the police were informed.

“If it has become part of a college investigation involving campus security, I can’t speak about that,” he says.

The letter mentions Camosun Business dean Richard Stride and Exercise & Wellness and Sport Management chair Gord Inglis; Inglis declined to comment for this story, and a message for Stride was returned by Camosun vice president of student experience Joan Yates. Yates says that the college has “a

close relationship with all legal entities” in matters like this. Yates declined to comment on the letter specifically but says that instances such as these are dealt with in a variety of ways, ranging from immediate expulsion to behavioural contracts.

“We do not let such complaints go without an investigation,” says Yates. “If a complaint came forward, we would act upon it in order to ensure that both the college community is safe and that the students’ privacy and circumstances are protected.”

Glover says that the college does not necessarily have a duty to inform the CCSS about what’s happening with situations like this one, but says that “the college has a duty to inform students of what they’re involved in.”

Yates says that Camosun doesn’t



FILE PHOTO

**Camosun vice president of student experience Joan Yates.**

have that duty; she says that the college’s emphasis is on being “scrupulously fair to all parties.”

“If a student is under review for their behaviour, they, of course, are in the loop on it. If other students are directly impacted by something, we inform them, but, again, this is very

broad,” says Yates. “What is direct involvement? But that is done after there’s the appropriate risk assessment that is undertaken.”

Yates says she cannot comment on what that risk assessment entailed in this situation. More on this story as it develops.

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Student society raising student voting awareness

BC students have launched the Students Are Voting campaign in an attempt to get more students to commit to voting in the May provincial elections. The Camosun College Student Society (CCSS) was campaigning to get signatures at the Lansdowne campus on March 15 and will continue gathering signatures until May.

### Camosun developing new policies

Camosun College’s education policy team has created a new public policy page at camosun.ca. On the page, students will be able to see the education policy development process, give feedback on draft policies, and see Camosun’s policies as they stand now. The policies being worked on currently are Sexual Violence and Misconduct, Involuntary

Health and Safety Leave of Absence, Acceptable Technology Use, and Privacy.

### New construction begins at Interurban

Ground was broken for and construction began on Camosun’s new Health and Science Centre at Interurban during the week of March 20. The new building is being built next to the Centre for Business Access, near the Pacific Institute for Sport Excellence (PISE). Interurban students and staff be warned: noise and construction will increase as the building takes shape.

### Camosun student wins co-op award

Camosun College Electronics and Computer Engineering student Gavin Poole has received the Association of Co-operative Education for BC and the Yukon College Co-op Education Student of the Year award. This is the 10th year in a

row that a Camosun student has won this award, which is given to a student who demonstrates outstanding achievement in their co-op experience.

### Camosun Chargers men’s volleyball team places fifth in nationals

The Camosun Chargers men’s volleyball team recently tied for fifth place with rivals Vancouver Island University Mariners in the Canadian Collegiate Athletic Association national tournament, which took place in London, Ontario from March 9 to 11.

### Camosun students begin fentanyl project

Camosun student Marissa Peluso is doing a service project with her sociology class to spread awareness about BC’s fentanyl crisis. The death count due to fentanyl in BC

was approximately 900 in 2016; there were over 100 deaths in BC in January of 2017.

### Bookstore closed for inventory

On Thursday, March 30 and Friday, March 31, the Camosun Lansdowne and Interurban bookstores will be closed for inventory.

### Uber coming to British Columbia

Uber has been cleared by the Christy Clark government for provincial operation by the end of 2017. Many taxi companies are upset, saying it will hurt their businesses.

### Cheaper parking options available downtown

As of April 1, Victoria will have a park and ride at the corner of Douglas Street and Frances Avenue, where there used to be a

Metro Toyota dealership. For \$100 a month, you get a bus pass and a parking space; the first month is free if you commit to three months or more. Head over to downtownvictoria.ca/parking for more information.

### Marijuana shops under fire

If you’re a student who uses local marijuana dispensaries, listen up. The City of Victoria is cracking the whip on retailers who have not applied for a business licence or a rezoning in wake of regulations that took effect in November 2016. According to the City of Victoria, 16 marijuana vendors have not applied for a rezoning; among those, one does not have a business license.

**-ADAM MARSH**

Got a news tip?

Email

editor@nexusnewspaper.com  
to fill us in.

As part of our 25th anniversary celebrations last year, 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!

student politics

## Student society to hold student by-elections in April



FILE PHOTO

A student votes at a previous student society election; voting will be online-only this time around.

**ADAM BOYLE**  
STAFF WRITER

Voter turnout is increasing in federal elections, and with the Camosun College Student Society (CCSS) using online voting for the first time for their student elections—happening from April 3 to 5—the question of voter turnout is on people’s minds here at the college.

CCSS external executive Ra-

chael Grant feels that there are many reasons for low voter turnout among Camosun students.

“Part of it is that people are busy and polls have been at fixed locations,” she says. “Another reason that I’ve heard for why people aren’t voting is that folks don’t know the candidates personally; that can be something that makes someone feel like they don’t want to vote. I would encourage people to read the

platforms prior to every election and get to know the candidates a little bit so you can better know who’s representing you.”

First-year Camosun University Transfer student Sean Archdekin says that he was unaware of the student elections but feels that it’s important for students to have a say on what goes on in and around the college.

“That would definitely be bene-

“I would encourage people to read the platforms prior to every election and get to know the candidates a little bit so you can better know who’s representing you.”

**RACHAEL GRANT**  
CAMOSUN COLLEGE STUDENT SOCIETY

ficial, as older people that aren’t students won’t exactly know as well as students what the students would want. I only just found out about it but, yeah, I’ll probably vote because I want some control on what’s going on.”

CCSS executive director Michel Turcotte feels that attitudes about voter turnout differ between generations, and that this problem is something that all parties must work together to fix.

“It’s a systemic societal problem,” says Turcotte. “If you look at the voter turnout rates of young people, it’s dismal compared to those that are over 55, who almost all vote; not even a majority of young people vote. That’s ultimately doing a disservice to the country. For various reasons, the age groups have become indifferent, but that’s the government’s job to establish

that that’s important, because it’s almost to the point where certain political parties count on people not voting. That’s the same thing with the student society; by not voting you’re just allowing the minority of students to make decisions for you without you having a say in it.”

Second-year University Transfer student Rhys Jones feels that it’s important for students to vote because it can help impact future generations who come through the college.

“Even in the event that the students won’t be there when the rules or promises come into place, students who follow in their footsteps can benefit from the decisions that are made,” says Jones. “The onus is on the current students to vote for the people who are coming along in the future. I would hope someone made that choice for me.”

funding

## Camosun receives largest donation in college’s history



FILE PHOTO

Camosun president Sherri Bell.

**ADAM MARSH**  
STUDENT EDITOR

The Camosun College Foundation’s TRADEmark of Excellence campaign recently received the largest donation in the history of the college. The \$1-million donation is from the Gwyn Morgan and Patricia Trotter Foundation and will go toward funding a new program: Camosun Empowering Women in Trades.

Camosun president Sherri Bell is pleased about what the donation will do to better the future of the college.

“It’s a remarkable donation in that the donors were very specific about where they wanted to see support in the trades, and that was for women in trades,” says Bell. “We were able to utilize their \$1 million, along with some other funding sources, to really support women getting into outstanding careers in trades.”

Camosun program and development coordinator for Women in Trades Training Jayna Wiewiorow-

“We were able to utilize their \$1 million, along with some other funding sources, to really support women getting into outstanding careers in trades.”

**SHERRI BELL**  
CAMOSUN COLLEGE

ski, who is also an alumna of the college, says the new program is innovative.

“It’s going to be able to expand what we’ve been able to formally do, so helping women get through exploratory programs and then Foundation training,” she says. “We’ll open it to more scholarships, help on the worksite, and do it on a case-by-case basis, depending on what the student needs. Our big goal for this one is to help women through the apprentice system and ultimately completing their Red Seal designation.”

Wiewiorowski says that Camosun is hoping to start the program—which is still largely in the developing stages—this fall, and that aspiring students can look for more information online in the summer.

“The big thing that we want to do is—because our current funding generally can only help students through their Foundation training—we want to be able to support them either financially or with tools or any other support that we can provide throughout their entire

Red Seal process,” she says, “so that, ultimately, we can see more females coming through the Red Seal program.”

Bell says that the college’s Empowering Women in Trades program is going to be the first of its kind in the province.

“We’re going to be able to provide a program that no one else in the province provides,” says Bell, “and that is through student bursaries, but also through very targeted support for women.”

The program will include apprenticeship coaches and mentoring to support women in the trades so that they can actually get into an apprenticeship, and Bell says the guidance will go even further than that.

“At times there are women who don’t go into apprenticeship training because daycare, if they are a single mom, may not open as early as they need to get on a job site,” she says, “and so that’s where our mentors and coaches will help support women with other things, other than just the academic work and the apprenticeship part.”

# NEXUS

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## sports

## Camosun Chargers women's volleyball team earn their best-ever national finish

"I'm still in awe that we made it to the national final."

**KATIE FETTING**  
CAMOSUN CHARGER ATHLETE

**ADAM MARSH**  
STUDENT EDITOR

Despite the Camosun Chargers losing the gold medal match of the national Canadian Collegiate Athletic Association (CCAA) women's volleyball championship tournament—held between Wednesday, March 8 and Saturday, March 11 at Interurban's Pacific Institute for Sport Excellence—to Alberta's Lakeland Rustlers, Chargers women's volleyball coach Chris Dahl is in good spirits, as it was the best national women's volleyball CCAA finish in the history of the Chargers. Dahl says he couldn't have asked for a better experience for Camosun fans and faculty—and, of course, for the athletes.

"You reflect upon the matches leading up to that championship final," he says, "and you can't help but be thankful for the performances that our athletes put in and the support that the crowd provided us along the way to make it a truly unique and memorable experience."

Camosun Charger Michelle Zygmunt was awarded most valuable player in the tournament, and Katie Fetting was first team all-star. Zygmunt says that although she's proud of being MVP, she is even more thrilled with the team as a whole.



CAMOSUN CHARGERS ATHLETICS

The Camosun Chargers women's volleyball team took home silver at the recent national championships, held at Camosun.

"Silver is incredible," says Zygmunt. "It really is. For our team, that's such a big accomplishment. For the school, as well. We made history with the best finish for the women's team so far, so I'm proud of my individual accomplishment, but I'm so much more proud of the team accomplishment."

Fetting says that any moment where hard work pays off, especially in a way that helps the whole team, is amazing.

"I'm still in awe that we made it to the national final," says Fetting.

"No matter the result, we were all just extremely happy to make it that far. It was incredible to play in the national final in front of our home crowd. It's nice for hard work to pay off. I tried to do my best during the weekend and I worked my butt off to try and help the team in any way I could."

Dahl says the excitement in PISE during the match was unparalleled and that the game was very close to going to a fifth set.

"I don't know how the fifth would have turned out," he says.

"I always tell our athletes or any coaches that I work with that a fifth set is like a coin flip. There's so much that can happen in a short period of time."

Dahl says playing in front of a home crowd for a "nail-biter of a fourth" was a good way to end the tournament and he's proud of his players, but there's always room to grow.

"You need challenge with programs at schools like Camosun, where the majority of the students that we've encountered over the

years are University Transfer, which means that you're more often than not constantly in a building and growing phase," says Dahl.

Dahl says PISE was packed full of passionate fans showing their support for all of the teams that were playing over the weekend.

"Not just us," he says, "middle school teams, elementary school kids. Our youth club volleyball team from across the lower mainland and the island were in attendance. The reach is going to far exceed the walls of Camosun College."

## know your profs

## Camosun College Chemistry prof Silvija Smith on ice cream and embracing technology

**ADAM BOYLE**  
STAFF WRITER

*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.

If you have an instructor you'd like to see interviewed in the paper, but perhaps you're too busy (or too shy) to ask them yourself, we can help. Just email [editor@nexusnewspaper.com](mailto:editor@nexusnewspaper.com) and we'll add them to our never-ending list of teachers to talk to.

This issue we caught up with Chemistry prof Silvija Smith to talk about Okanagan cherries, student gratification, and success in the classroom.

**1. What do you teach and how long have you been teaching at Camosun?**

I'm a sessional instructor for the Chemistry department and have only been teaching at Camosun for one term previous to the current one.

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

Gratification—knowing in a small way I help others advance toward fulfilling their dreams. I teach many students who will become nurses, doctors, dental hygienists, and lab technicians, and knowing that I'm a small part of their success allows me to celebrate along with them.

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

My students may attest that they may know way too much about me. I feel privileged to be a part of their lives, if just for a class, and assisting them in reaching their goals and fulfilling their dreams, whether that is in chemistry or an entirely different field.

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

I care about my students and therefore have no problem answering any of their questions.

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

Seeing students succeed. Learning isn't just about getting As, it's about growing as an individual, both professionally and personally, and achieving the goals one sets for themselves. If students leave my class understanding chemistry and had fun while learning, I've achieved one of my goals as an educator.

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

Not being able to register all of the students who want to take my class.

**7. What do you see in the future of post-secondary education?**

The continuation of open-minded instructors embracing advances in technology by incorporating alternative teaching methods into traditional lecture delivery. In the classroom, I perform science demonstrations, allowing students to see how the theoretical chemistry taught in lectures can be applicable in the "real world." Outside of the classroom, students complete assignments online, providing them



JILL WESTBY/NEXUS

Camosun's Silvija Smith feels privileged to be part of students' lives.

instant feedback and suggestions to areas requiring improvement. Additionally, online resources—such as D2L and email—allow students easy access to up-to-date marks and course content, and allow for communication with the instructor regardless if the student or instructor is on campus, making help more accessible.

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

I really enjoy having dinner with friends, going to the movies, and

learning new things. Recently, I've been learning archery.

**9. What is your favourite meal?**

Ice cream. Doesn't everyone eat that as a meal? I'm a person who loves food. I feel very lucky to be living on the coast, where I can enjoy fresh seafood regularly, along with delicious cherries from the Okanagan.

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

Individuals not willing to learn.

# The danger zone

Story by Quinn Hiebert, features writer  
Photos by Jill Westby/Nexus

## Camosun cyclists continue to face hazards



As I was driving home from school one day, I hurriedly pulled out of a rush-hour traffic jam onto the shoulder of the Trans-Canada Highway to try to help a stalled motorist, who had been backing up traffic for blocks. As a regularly harried, sometimes-self-absorbed commuter—intent on getting to Sooke—I saw a cyclist approaching but wasn't completely aware that their path had shifted because of the construction.

Cyclists were being forced to divert from a paved surface—strewn with gravel—onto packed road base, down onto the shoulder of the highway, and then back up a slope of more packed road base. I saw the cyclist—even though their dark blue and black jacket blended into the dreary day, their helmet was brightly coloured—and stopped, but I didn't realize how close I was to the re-entry onto the Galloping Goose trail, and the cyclist had been looking down.

As I stared at the startled, angry cyclist—dude, I'm sorry—I had no idea how to handle the situation. As a commuter, I try to be aware of cyclists. But I was not expecting one to be forced to commute on the shoulder of the Trans-Canada Highway.

Roadwork construction is disrupting vehicular flow. The Galloping Goose construction is disrupting active transportation flow. Tempers everywhere out there are short. Throw in drivers' and cyclists' ignorance of road rules, and there's a high possibility of potentially dangerous situations.

With so many construction zones around Camosun lately, and the ongoing problem of unsafe cycling areas around the school (hello, Shelbourne corridor), it's time to ask the question: how safe is it for Camosun students who cycle to school?

### THE DANGER ZONE

As it turns out, one of the routes that Google Maps suggests for cycling between Camosun's Lansdowne and Interurban campuses brings people close to the area of my incident. The internet is a useful tool for student cyclists: bikemaps.org, for example, is a site that maps out cyclist hazards, crashes, near misses, and bike thefts. I have to wonder what bikemaps.org would look like with more recent information; that commute between campuses has 84 recorded accidents, hazards, and near misses. The second route, going up Richmond Road, has spikes of accidents on Cedar Hill Cross Road—12—and McKenzie—15—for a total of 27 recorded incidents on the route. And Shelbourne Street is just a mess of near misses and collisions.

Since bikemaps.org is such a useful tool—when it launched, it was the only way to record near misses—it's no surprise that Saanich senior transportation technologist Troy McKay says that the district decided to work with the website as part of its 30-year Active Transportation Plan.

"It's a UVic-based organization," says McKay of the website, "and they collect ICBC-, police-, and user-reported accident data and near-miss data for cyclists. They gave us a map, which shows some of the 20 worst locations in Saanich. We got that about a year ago, and we're already in the process of fixing three of those worst 20 right now. And

the Lansdowne corridor was one of those that was on the map. The rest of them will be worked into priorities in future years as we work down the list."

One particularly sketchy road for students cycling to Camosun is Shelbourne; there are 15 recorded incidents with cyclists on Shelbourne between Hillside Avenue and Cedar Hill Cross Road alone. Camosun first-year Practical Nursing student Kasey Chou says that Shelbourne is a really scary place to be during rush hour. Some drivers are aware of cyclists, but some aren't.

"There's a lot of traffic there," says Chou. "Like, quite a lot. And, especially during rush hour, there are a lot of bigger trucks as well, and they're not always so kind to cyclists. I've been honked at. I mean, I keep to my right side of the road, but there are still people who will just barely scrape past me, and that's scary."

Meagan Hogg, a graduate of Camosun's Hotel and Restaurant Management program, says that drivers could do more shoulder-checking instead of relying on their mirrors.

"Look before you put yourself into another lane if you're driving a vehicle, because if I make a mistake on a bike, I kill myself," says Hogg. "Someone driving a vehicle is gonna be upset. But when you're driving a vehicle, it's not your life that's on the line, it's the lives of pedestrians and cyclists around you. So double check."

### CYCLISTS BEWARE

Bikemaps.org has 21 recorded incidents happening between Tillicum Road and McKenzie Avenue—the area where I first really understood the danger that cyclists had been placed in by a construction zone during my above-documented incident.

On a typical ride to school, Camosun students pass through a lot of hazards; Hogg says that some of these hazards include construction sites and other users of the road.

"Some of the construction sites could use better signage for their abrupt lane ends," she says. "That would be great, especially on Pandora right now: it's one lane, two lanes to go through an intersection, and then, on the other side of the intersection, it's one lane again. And there are a lot of potholes right now. It's not too bad if you know where they are."

If you're biking downtown, you might have to add needles to the list of things to watch out for. Hogg says that there are many hazards to biking around the city, including potholes and broken glass.

"[Needles are] an unfortunate reality of going down Pandora [Avenue]," she says. "It's usually pretty good, but, occasionally, there are needles in the road, which is kind of gross. I just let the city know, and they're usually pretty good about getting them."

Closer to Camosun, sections of the road and sidewalk in front of the Lansdowne campus have recently been pulled up and turned into road base paths. Unpacked road base is composed of grey stones that sink easily under weight. Hogg says that a hazard around construction sites is this gravel, as well as debris on the road, steel plates, and—unexpectedly, for Victoria—snow.

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"We say something's an 'accident,' but 90 percent of the time it's preventable."

**EDWARD PULLMAN**

GREATER VICTORIA CYCLING COALITION

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"Biking from straight, nice pavement into gravel, similar to a vehicle, you just lose control really easily," she says. "Those big metal sheets that they put over top are super great for covering the big construction holes in the middle of the lanes, but super slippery in the wet, and, if it's close to freezing at all, sketchy. This year there was a lot of snow."

Greater Victoria Cycling Coalition president Edward Pullman says that approximately half of the recorded cycling-related accidents in Victoria take place in intersections.

"We say something's an 'accident,' but 90 percent of the time it's preventable," says Pullman. "So is it really an accident? If a light pole falls on you, that's pretty much accidental. Intersections are a huge challenge and a huge concern."

Pullman says that one of the things that the City of Victoria is currently spending time considering is how to protect cyclists in intersections.

"You've always got the concern of vehicles that are turning off," he says. "So, how you can restrict turns for vehicles, such that they reduce the risk of a cyclist being hit by an errant vehicle turning into a cyclist? Intersections are a huge issue, and they're very often an issue that gets neglected. They're like, 'We'll put a bike lane in, but then when we get to an intersection, we'll just expect that they'll be fine.'"

If a cyclist decides to stay off the roads and take the Galloping Goose Trail to Interurban, the road conditions might not be any better. Pullman says the quality of roads—and trails—is an issue.

"You've got the Colquitz River Trail, which might be a nice route to take as a cyclist," he says. "But given its rocky nature—it's not paved—that certainly makes it a less desirable route to take."

Add in confusion over the new bike lane/sidewalk convergence on the northwest corner of Lansdowne and Richmond, where no one really knows where to stand or cycle, and it's easy to see how these are trying times for Camosun cyclists.

2017

# Elections

On April 3rd, 4th and 5th

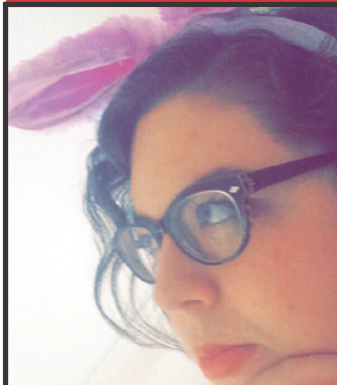
Make **YOUR** Choice

Voting stations open from

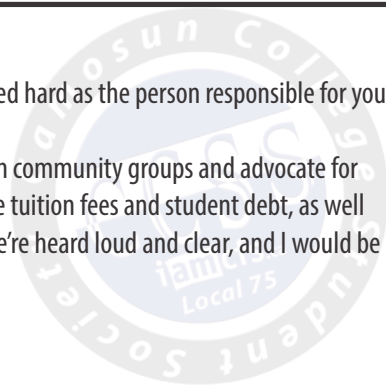
## 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.

**Interurban** Campus Centre 2nd floor **Lansdowne** in the Fisher Foyer

**Rachael Grant**  
External Executive



My name is Rachael Grant, and I'm running for re-election as your External Executive. Over the past year, I've worked hard as the person responsible for your student society's public and partnership outreach, including media communications and coalition building. My election pledge to you is simple. I'll use my experience with the student society to maintain our strong ties with community groups and advocate for students' rights. With your vote, I will continue to contribute to ongoing efforts in pressuring government to reduce tuition fees and student debt, as well as advocating for increased government funding to improve transit. We need an experienced voice to make sure we're heard loud and clear, and I would be honoured to carry on as that voice. Thank you for your consideration.



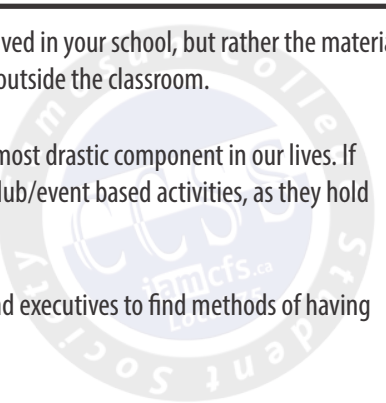
**Luke Mione**  
Lansdowne Executive



Providing an opportunity for growth can only go so far in class oriented situation, as the focus is not on being involved in your school, but rather the material presented for a course. In many ways, this does not prep students, making us wonder if we have the skills to excel outside the classroom.

As we know, our time as a student is limited, meaning that our commitment for time is very limited, and also the most drastic component in our lives. If provided the opportunity, I would like to make it possible for students to understand the value associated within club/event based activities, as they hold both a present and future value, that can go beyond the basic learning within a program.

If elected as a Lansdowne executive, I would make it my mindset to work with the student body, CCSS directors, and executives to find methods of having students engage and realize the potential of what being involved can do.



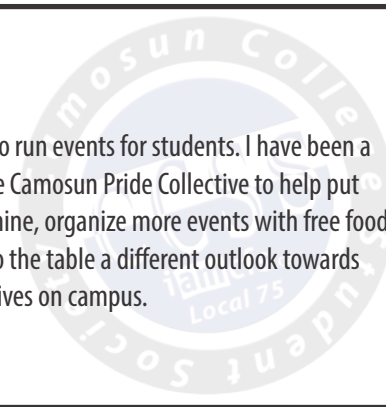
**Audrey Greenlees**  
Lansdowne Executive



Hey Folks!

I am rerunning to be your Lansdowne Executive; over the course of my term I've had fun supporting and helping to run events for students. I have been a Camosun Student for several years and bring an artist's perspective to the table. I have volunteered my time to the Camosun Pride Collective to help put together a float and partake in the Pride Parade. As Lansdowne Executive I'll work hard to make existing events shine, organize more events with free food, support existing clubs, and help create space for new awesome ways to get involved on campus. I hope to bring to the table a different outlook towards mental health, make sure student money is spent in ways that benefit students, and support sustainability initiatives on campus.

Thank you for your consideration!



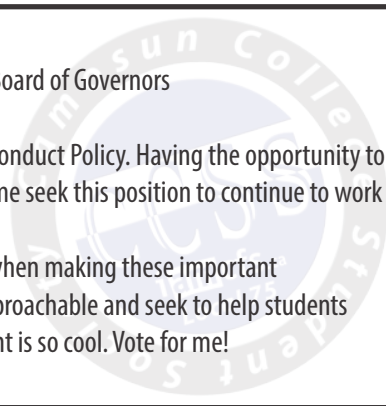
**Melanie Winter**  
Students with disabilities



Aside from Students with Disabilities Director I'm also seeking your vote for the Interurban representation on the Board of Governors

I've been fortunate since last May to sit on a student advisory committee working on the Sexual Violence and Misconduct Policy. Having the opportunity to sit at the college level discussing important matters and then seeing it approved at the Board level encouraged me seek this position to continue to work I've been doing.

With this policy near completion I'm continuing my work with other policies to ensure the student voice is heard when making these important decisions. One of the roles for Board of Governors is to establish policies that affect the organization. I feel I am approachable and seek to help students understand how the college works for them. If you wish to learn more about policy or why the student involvement is so cool. Vote for me!



## CCSS Referendum

**Are you in favour of increasing the Camosun College Student Society (CCSS) levy, currently \$9.76 per month, by .25 Cents per month to provide more funding and support to the Walksafer\* program run by the CCSS?**

\*Walksafer is a night time program operating on the Interurban and Lansdowne campuses which uses golf carts and walking patrols to accompany students safely to their cars or public transit.

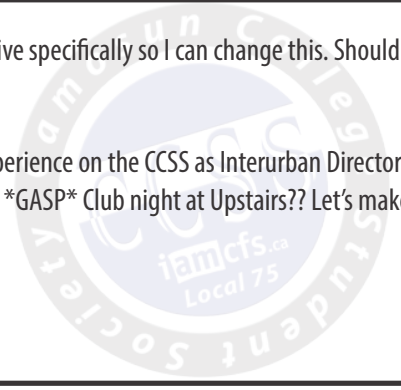
**Mehtab Saluja**  
Interurban Executive



Hello and thanks for caring enough to read this. Let's face it, campus is boring. I chose to run for Interurban Executive specifically so I can change this. Should you vote me in, my main responsibility will be special events on campus.

While free food events are great, not everyone gets a piece of the pie (literally). With my connections, previous experience on the CCSS as Interurban Director and in event planning, I know I can do more. How do you feel about an outdoor movie series? A live band concert? \*GASP\* Club night at Upstairs?? Let's make a Lansdowne/Interurban intramural rivalry!

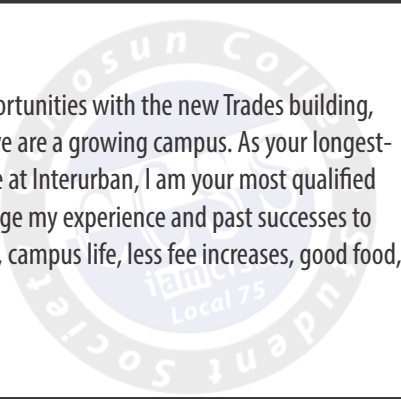
Got ideas? Let's talk. I have what it takes and I'm not afraid to make it happen.  
Get at me: mehtab.saluja06@online.camosun.ca or message me on Facebook.



**Chris Marks**  
Interurban Executive



I am asking you to vote for Chris Marks for Interurban executive, again. Interurban has unique challenges and opportunities with the new Trades building, the new Health and Human Services building coming soon, and the existing School of Business and Technology; we are a growing campus. As your longest-running student representative with previous executive experience, and nearly finished two business degrees here at Interurban, I am your most qualified representative to help you get your issues directly to the people that need to hear them. Please allow me to leverage my experience and past successes to work for you again. My focus is on giving back to students. I share your hopes for better transit, reasonable parking, campus life, less fee increases, good food, and great events. Please give me the opportunity to work for you again.



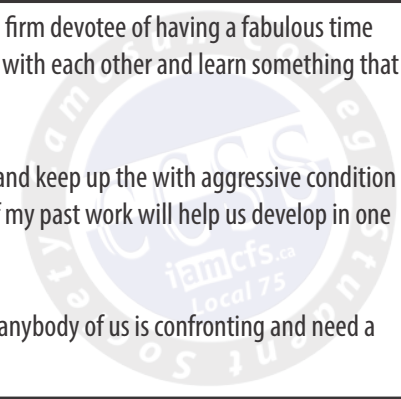
**Chirag Thukral**  
Interurban Executive



Currently, I'm a Post Degree Diploma-Marketing student taking my second semester in Camosun this winter. I'm a firm devotee of having a fabulous time while learning and my rationale is to incorporate such exercises which will assist us as Camosun students to bond with each other and learn something that may help each other develop our careers.

My significant concentration will get a few occasions or competitions composed for us to have more cooperation and keep up the with aggressive condition out in the corporate world. I was related with Students Union and related decisions in India. Ideally, experience of my past work will help us develop in one way or the other.

If I get elected as Interurban Executive, I'll ensure we have an individual interface so that if there is anything that anybody of us is confronting and need a voice to achieve higher specialists, I may have the capacity to help them in any way I can.

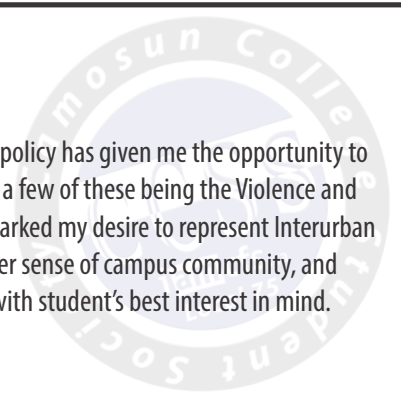


**Dana Campbell**  
Interurban Executive



Hey there!

My name is Dana Campbell, I'm a third year BBA -HR major student at Interurban. My contribution on the student policy has given me the opportunity to input and exercise my opinion on a number of different policies that both affect, and protect student welfare. Just a few of these being the Violence and Sexual Misconduct Policy, and the Involuntary Withdrawal policy. My participation with this student group has sparked my desire to represent Interurban and the interests of the greater student body. My goals for the Interurban Executive position are to cultivate a larger sense of campus community, and enhance the student experience. If I am elected for this position, I can promise that every decision I make will be with student's best interest in mind.



**Arpit Gulati**  
Finance Executive



My name is ARPIT GULATI and I am running to be Finance Director.. i simply believe "GOOD DAYS ARE COMING" .

I think this is the part where everyone expect me to give you reasons why you should vote for me. I have some realistic goals in my mind if I be a given a chance and some of them includes , • 1. Get 100 Pages print free per student per semester • 2. Subsidized cafe in campus • 3. Raise funds for scholarships through student society • 4. Establish Alumni network to keep in touch , help students finding jobs • 5. More recreational events on and off campus • 6. Celebrations of festivals of all countries on campus. • And many many more goals in my mind..

To the office , I hope to bring enthusiasm, creativity and ambition. With your help and support , I am confident that we can make huge strides in student life and truly improve our campus and community . I firmly believe that , together we can make a difference . With my energy , vision and ambition , I will go on further and says " GOOD DAYS ARE DEFINITELY COMING " , and with a gathering like this , I know one thing " WE ARE ALL WINNERS TODAY " and friends trust me our relationship would bring Prosperity. Without You All ! None of this stand..I appreciate your vote for Arpit Gulati..

Thanks and Regards , Arpit Gulati



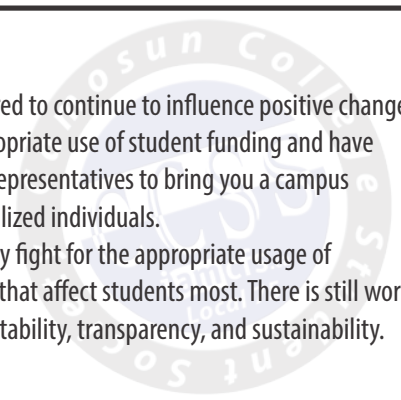
**Wyatt Matthews**  
Finance Executive



Hello friends, my name is Wyatt Matthews.

After two successful terms occupying the positions of Director-at-Large & Speaker of Council, I would be honoured to continue to influence positive change to the student body as Finance Executive. Previously as your representative, I have fought tirelessly for the appropriate use of student funding and have engaged students about the issues that are most important to them. If elected, I will work alongside the CCSS representatives to bring you a campus connected by strong improvements to work and social areas, pivotal resources, and inclusive spaces for marginalized individuals.

The Student Society is an organization built and funded by students. We need a leader who is able to responsibly fight for the appropriate usage of students' money. My experience with the Student Society has seen tremendous positive change in the matters that affect students most. There is still work to be done. Let's continue this change and create a better tomorrow. This term, vote for greater financial accountability, transparency, and sustainability. Vote Wyatt Matthews for Finance Executive on April 3rd - 5th to continue to advocate for your needs.





**Simerpreet Anand**  
**International Director**



I am Simerpreet Anand, pursuing post degree diploma in marketing and i'm running to be the International Director.

I would bridge the gap between international students and domestic students and Camosun faculty. I would like to work for international students, as I'm a international student myself and completely know what we all have to go through when we get here in Canada, the cultural shock, the emotional stress of being away from friends and family. I would like to help make Camosun international more international in the sense that everyone feels warm and welcomed. I would also like to bring my suggestions and ideas to help international student studying experience more fun. I have worked with cultural connections and helped the international office with organizing international events which are open to everyone. I would love to continue to do so while working with CCSS. Supporting me will be supporting your ideas and making sure that they are considered. I have, myself, full confidence that if i do all my duties alone or with the support of others then the students will feel more like home than just a school.

**Karen Kanoga**  
**International Director**



Hello, fellow students and friends, I am Karen Kanoga and I am running for International Director.

As International Director, my mission will be to make sure all international students and their cultures are well represented. Moving from a different country is hard, I know this first hand; my aim will be to help the transition process flow as an international student as smooth as possible. Making friends is hard, I will host events for international students to make friends and make their Canadian experience one to remember. This April 3 -5th, vote Karen Kanoga for International director to help the international community in Camosun have a stronger voice on campus.

Thank you very much

**Navreet Kaur**  
**Sustainability Director**



I am Navreet Kaur and I am running to be Sustainability Director. I believe in good things not by words but by performing my responsibilities with authority.

I think this is the part where everyone expects me to give you reasons why you should vote for me. I have some realistic goals in my mind if I be a given a chance and some of them includes: - 1. to make Camosun College a "living lab". 2. Subsidized cafe in campus. 3. Environmental Friendly Atmosphere in colleges. 4. Cleanliness 5. More recreational environmental events on and off campus. And many many more goals in my mind.

To the office, I hope to bring enthusiasm, creativity and ambition. With your help and support, I am confident that we can make huge strides in student life and truly improve our campus and community. I firmly believe that cooperation makes difference. With my energy, vision and ambition, I will go on further and says "GOOD DAYS ARE DEFINITELY COMING" and with a gathering like this, and friends trust me our relationship would bring Prosperity. Without you all! None of this stand. I appreciate your vote for Navreet Kaur.

**Shauna Nedelec**  
**Sustainability Director**



My family has always been super environmental — from biking to Langford to go to Superstore to doing laundry outside in December, or reusing cottage cheese containers for tupperware. Since my grade 6 teacher went on a rant about plastic bottles and pollution I've been pretty dedicated to doing everything I can to be sustainable. I've been at Camosun College since September 2015 and have been an active member in Camosun Sustainability ever since January 2016; last year a group of us came third place in the CRD's Ready Set Solve competition with our project on Light Energy Savings in the Victoria School District 63. In April 2016's elections, I was successful in being elected at the CCSS Sustainability Director. I have really enjoyed my experience this year working on the Ban the Bottle project and planning out Sustainability Day; it has been lots of work but I'm definitely ready to continue my journey with the CCSS. Helping out in my community never fails to make me smile - whether it's showing someone an exercise at the gym, doing my part to keep the earth green, or listening to people and giving them advice.

**Solomon Lindsay**  
**Sustainability Director**



I have always been interested in sustainable technologies and have excelled in Camosun's Computer Engineering Program which focuses in renewable energy. I have also proved myself in past representative positions including a project to build alternative housing for the homeless, two City Strategies on youth engagement and promoting a socially beneficial economy, and representing my high school at district board meetings. Whether I am attending a Student Society Board meeting, researching the benefits of new solar panels, or planning the annual sustainability fair, all these past roles and interests have prepared me for the position of Sustainability Director. As an avid biker I am interested in improving bike facilities to promote more friendly forms of transportation, but I also intend to educate Camosun on what we already have in the works. I firmly believe that whoever takes this very important role has the responsibility to be transparent and open to input. I intend to follow those ideals should I be elected, and I promise to devote myself to the role of Sustainability Director as it aligns so closely to my education and future career.

Thank you, Solomon Lindsay

**Srijani Nath**  
**Women's Director**



Hi Camosunites!

I am an international student since 2014 in Camosun College and have been very closely knitted with the school in numerous roles such as International Student Ambassador, Peer Mentor and Leader (assisting over 7 consecutive student's orientation), International Alumni Project Officer, Outreach assistant for various major CCSS campaigns and so on. After a successful completion of 2 consecutive terms with the Camosun College Student Society in the role of Interurban Director (Spring 2016) and International Director (Fall 2016), I am looking forward to expand my horizon and depth of learning experience and work towards bringing in an equal representation of all my fellow women students to the best of their necessities and interests.

The past terms has been extremely positive and resulted in a fairly represented stronger and diverse yet cohesive and well integrated students body. So let's continue to strengthen the bridge of betterment while focusing on the specific sectors which calls for immediate action.

Vote for Sri Nath for Women's Director to continue #UrVoiceUrChoice being advocated for Thanks, Sri

**Chris Smithson**  
Pride Director



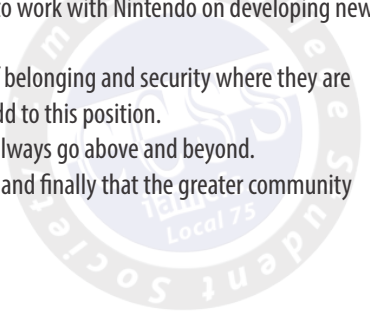
Hello, my name is Chris. I am currently working on my pre-requisites for the Early Learning and Care program at Camosun. I have finally figured out that this is not the right career for me. The career I am hoping to get into is video gaming development. My dream is to work with Nintendo on developing new and exciting games for the gaming population.

In my life story, I have spent some time in foster care for 5 years. I have a burden for all people to have a sense of belonging and security where they are and with who they are. I feel that in a directorship of Pride, I can bring some powerful life lessons and skills to add to this position.

I also have a lot of skills and talent to bring as Pride Director, such as: budgeting, planning, and an eagerness to always go above and beyond.

I am passionate about learning new things, pride awareness in the community, a safe environment for everyone and finally that the greater community acceptance of the LGBTQIAPA is raised.

In closing, I have a positive attitude towards everyone, not matter who they are.



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**CAMOSUN'S NIGHT TIME  
SAFETY PROGRAM**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

### THE CAR/CYCLIST DIVIDE

As a driver, one of my biggest fears when I was learning to drive was the cyclist. I'd heard much about this unpredictable commuter—the slow-moving target that would be difficult to see due to inappropriate clothing choices, such as dark colours. No one wants to be responsible for injuring another person.

Pullman says the government's Motor Vehicle Act—last updated in 1997—remains unclear on when a cyclist can take a lane. Pullman sent me a video of an incident at UVic—asking me not to contact the cyclist—where a cyclist was forced off the road by a vehicle.

"He's travelling along Finnerty Road, between the bus stop and the Student Union Building, and a car essentially comes up behind him and forces him out of the way," says Pullman, "despite the fact that there's very clearly bicycle markings on the road indicating a cyclist can take the lane. He contacted Saanich police, and Saanich police essentially told him, 'You're in the wrong for not allowing enough space to pass,' because the Motor Vehicle Act technically says you're allowed to pass, essentially, when it's safe to do so, but it doesn't clarify exactly when. So, really, in the laws we need a minimum passing distance. Ontario recently beefed up its pedestrian cycling safety laws, and one of the things they said there was that there must be one metre to pass, and you can clearly see that there isn't one metre to pass in that video."

Pullman says that the challenge is that we have a legal system that is not really geared toward cyclists, in terms of making cyclists feel safe on the roads and also recognizing what Pullman says is the cyclist's vulnerable status as a road user.

"And we don't feel that that's currently reflected in both infrastructure and the law," he says. "I'm not going to tell you what the law is, because the law is the law. We happen to not agree with a lot of the laws out there, because they treat cyclists the same as they treat motor vehicles and don't really recognize the fact that cyclists are vulnerable road users. The whole concept of 'same road, same rules' is inherently flawed, without question. The road is the same, yes, but a cyclist's ability to inflict harm is extremely limited. Cars can kill. Cars can kill and do inflict extreme amounts of property damage when used improperly. Cycling, not so much."

Part of the new bike path construction on Lansdowne takes cyclists off the road and onto the sidewalk. Camosun College Student Society sustainability director Shauna Nedelec says it looks good out there so far.

"Instead of being directly next to the curb, kind of by Lansdowne Middle School, they have a new patch where it's kind of elevated off," says Nedelec. "So, basically, the bike path is on the sidewalk, which I think is good because it can get busy. I think it's actually a good construction that they did there. I've seen that in other cities, where instead of it being directly next to cars, you have a bike path that's next to the pedestrians."

Since students tend to mill on the cyclist-designated stretch of sidewalk, cyclist/pedestrian collisions might become more frequent, and Hogg says it's unsafe to have cyclists—who can travel at vehicular speeds—on the sidewalk. Hogg says her top recorded speed is around 55 kilometres per hour, but she can regularly hit speeds of 35 to 38 during her commute.

"It's gonna basically turn my commute into walking speed if I'm stuck behind people taking the scenic route," says Hogg. "Which is great—I don't want to deride them from having their own cycling experience—but I also anticipate there being a lot of aggression directed toward cyclists that are still in the traffic, which will be, unfortunately, an interesting thing to look at. It's challenging."

McKay says that the Lansdowne project is a good example of what the district of Saanich can do to help give cyclists their own space.

"There are a bunch of features built into that, with tighter radiuses of the intersections, to shorten crossing distances, [and] specific crosswalks that are assigned for cyclists and pedestrians, to give cyclists some extra space to ride across those intersections," says McKay. "And then along the college front itself, there's a two-way multi-use trail that's designed to take cyclists right out of vehicle traffic and give them their own space where they can ride. There are a lot of people trying to access into the college, so that's why it was put on that side."

### SAANICH HAS A PLAN

Camosun manager of transportation and parking Jonathan Siqueira says he hasn't received any complaints from cyclists finding the construction around Lansdowne overly treacherous.

"I know with the weather recently, I imagine that there is a fair amount of debris on the roads wherever you go," says Siqueira. "And I think that, at Interurban especially, it's a bit of an issue for people cycling there, because I guess that tends to get a little bit dirtier than around here, although that may be far-fetched, considering the weather."

Saanich has said that some current cycling-related projects include Lansdowne Road from Shelbourne to Richmond; the Wilkinson Bridge/Colquitz River Trail; the Galloping Goose—Carey Road connection; and McKenzie Avenue from Cedar Hill to Shelbourne. McKay says that Saanich wants to build a community that cyclists can feel safe in.

"Saanich's official community plan has some guidance that we want to build a walkable, bikeable community where walking and riding bikes are an alternative and

people feel safe doing that," says McKay. "So that's kind of the overarching guidance. And then, what we're looking at is what does the network look like, where are the routes, and what kind of infrastructure do we have on those routes? And then what is the priority area for building those? We only have so much money—and 700 kilometres of road to work on—and infrastructure is quite expensive, so [we need] to be strategic about where we spend that money."

McKay stresses that this is a community-based plan, with lots of community input in regard to where the routes are and what people's priorities are.

"We've just finished the first phase, which is asking people lots of questions about what do they see is the future of walking and biking in Saanich, and then we'll start to develop a draft network, and that will be out next fall to say, 'This is what we've come up with; what do you think?'"

And it's not a moment too soon: bikemaps.org has high-accident areas reported around Camosun's Lansdowne campus, UVic, and one of the Google-Map-suggested routes to Interurban. It's obvious that students seeking more active forms of transportation aren't always protected.

### CHANGE IS POSSIBLE

Some Interurban cyclists, like Elsie Gilchrist—a second-year Psychology student—say that it really isn't that bad of a commute. But she does point toward Richmond Road, by Lansdowne, and its lack of a bike lane.

"It's nice that the construction's over, at least where it affected me," says Gilchrist. "But one thing I will say is, when you go to the front of the school over there [Richmond Road] and you're turning right, there's the sidewalk, and then there's the actual road—there's no bike lane right there. You have to go around the sidewalk, into the lane of traffic, and then over. So I think that it feels like a little bit of a blind spot, in terms of biking, because you know that there's a bike lane, but then there's that weird area, where there's nothing right there. Other than that, though, it's good. I like the improvements they made."

Some cyclists are insisting that the laws need to change. Pullman says the government doesn't seem to have much of an interest in improving things for cyclists even though they have no problems increasing speed limits, which does not make for safer roads.

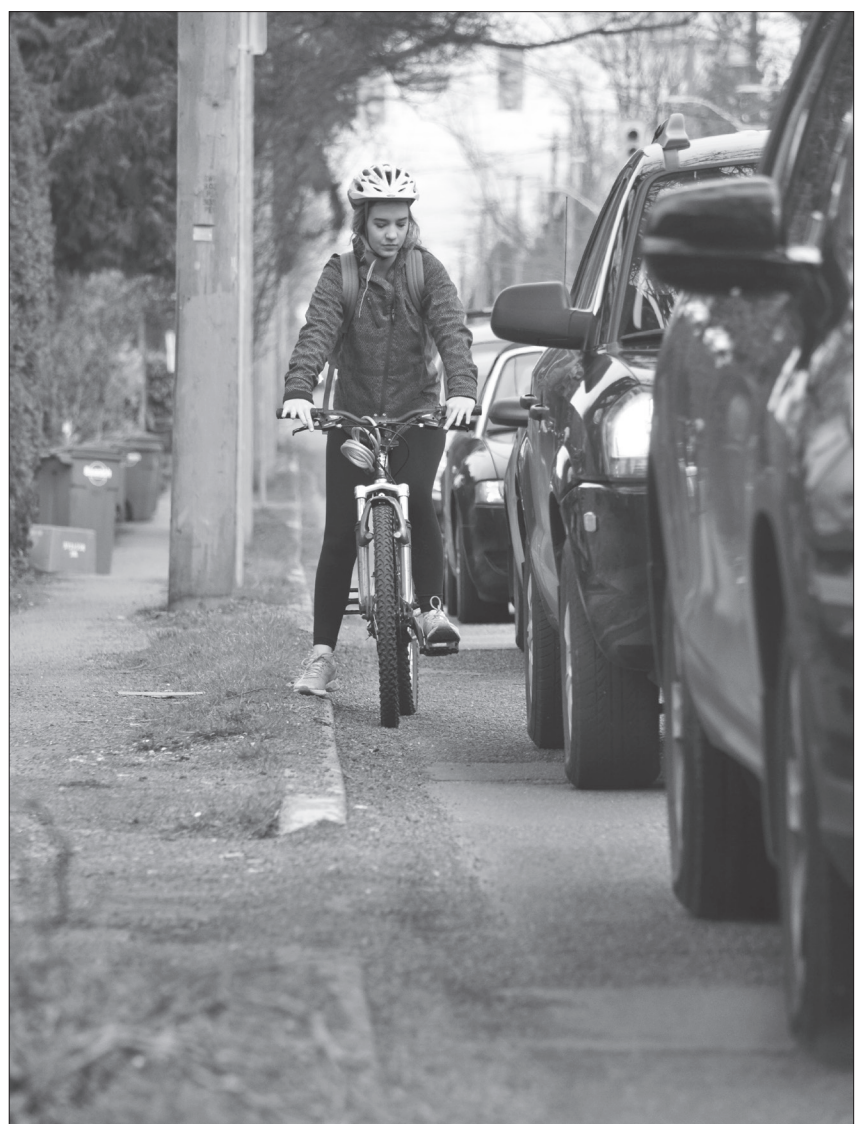
"That may change in the future," says Pullman. "These issues have been out there for a long time, and we haven't seen really much in the way of improvements. Certainly, there's a lot of discussion about it. There are a lot of organizations that support changing the law, but, again, it's been many years."

"Saanich's official community plan has some guidance that we want to build a walkable, bikeable community where walking and riding bikes are an alternative and people feel safe doing that."

TROY MCKAY  
DISTRICT OF SAANICH

"Especially during rush hour, there are a lot of bigger trucks [on Shelbourne], and they're not always so kind to cyclists."

KASEY CHOU  
CAMOSUN STUDENT



theatre

## Play examines true story of gay rights in 19th-century Victoria



*A Queer Trial* writer and UVic professor Jennifer Wise.

PHOTO PROVIDED

“How was it possible that this off-the-beaten-path, nowhere city, off in the Pacific Ocean, in the wild west of Vancouver Island, was 30 years more progressive than cosmopolitan London?”

**JENNIFER WISE**  
A QUEER TRIAL

**AARON STEFIK**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

University of Victoria professor Jennifer Wise has long held a passion for site-specific dramatic performances based on little-known histories of Victoria. Having cut her teeth on her original production, *The Girl Rabbi of the Golden West*, Wise is now working with director Matthew Payne and students of the UVic theatre program on *A Queer Trial*, the recently uncovered story of John Butt, a gay man who stood trial in Bastion Square in 1860 on charges of sodomy. In particular, Wise, who wrote the play, was fascinated by the fact that an openly gay man managed to escape conviction under jury in the mid-19th century.

“That was the big riddle, wasn’t it?” says Wise. “Thirty years after the story of John Butt, Oscar Wilde was condemned to hard labour in jail for the same crimes. So how was it possible that this off-the-beaten-path, nowhere city, off in the Pacific Ocean, in the wild west of Vancouver Island, was 30 years more progressive than cosmopolitan London? And yet, in this little

town, this little unknown town called Victoria, the citizens were progressive and tolerant and humane and compassionate enough to let this guy off.”

Wise says that what makes Butt’s tale all the more astounding is the fact that he was very open about his sexual life and tastes with the rest of the community, despite the explicit anti-homosexual laws that remained widely enforced.

“He made no secret of it,” Wise says. “He went into butcher shops in downtown Victoria and openly propositioned men by saying, ‘Hey, you know, ‘I’d like to have you in bed with me.’”

Wise felt that the expression of the story in musical form was important due to the role that music played in the period the performance is set in.

“In 1860, there wasn’t even a phonograph,” she says. “There was no recording at all. There was no recorded music in existence. If you wanted music, you had to make it yourself. So to convey the feeling of Victoria in that period,

I think music is pretty important. But also, thematically, I wanted to celebrate John Butt. And how do you best celebrate someone’s life? You sing about it.”

Wise says that she also discovered in researching John Butt’s life that he was known for his tenor voice and sang in a choir.

“Many of the people who knew him and reminisced and told stories about him—in fact, all of them—remarked on his beautiful singing voice. So, I thought, ‘How can I do justice to this guy if I don’t have music in the play?’”

Wise paid especially close attention to her portrayal of the normalized bigotry that played a central role in Victorian society of the time, particularly as scores of American immigrants brought with them less tolerant views than many of those found in Victoria.

“So how do you deal with racism or homophobia? How do you deal with really awful, obnoxious views? I think you have to laugh at them,” says Wise. “That’s the only way. So I do have some American characters in the play, and some racist and xenophobic and homophobic characters, but we laugh at them. We let them say what they want to say and then we show how absurd and ridiculous those ideas are.”

*A Queer Trial*

6 pm, Thursday, April 13  
(preview)

2 pm and 4 pm, Friday April 14

Free, Bastion Square

finearts.uvic.ca/theatre/50th/  
trial

art

## New exhibit puts spotlight on non-commercial aboriginal art

“We’re using contemporary Northwest art to reflect on something intellectually relating to Northwest coastal cultures beyond mere exploitation of cultural heritage. That’s only the starting point.”

**LESLIE ROBERT SAM**  
ARTIST

**ADAM BOYLE**  
STAFF WRITER

Art and storytelling play a big role in indigenous communities. Many art pieces tell stories; those that don’t tend to radiate an imaginative aura that makes the viewer think and wonder about the piece and what it could be representing. Here in town, Open Space is currently hosting *Awakening Memory*, a new art exhibit that looks at the role art plays in indigenous communities. Both traditional and contemporary stories will be explored by the three artists whose works are in the exhibit.

Leslie Robert Sam—better known by his decolonized artist’s name, lessLIE—is one of the artists with works in the show. He says that the artists involved in the exhibit are relatively young and have work that

isn’t aimed toward the commercial market.

“We’re using contemporary Northwest art to reflect on something intellectually relating to Northwest coastal cultures beyond mere exploitation of cultural heritage,” says Sam. “That’s only the starting point.”

To prepare for the exhibit, the artists visited the Royal BC Museum for inspiration. Sam says his part of the work was inspired by the experience of visiting the museum and seeing some of the ancestral artefacts on display there.

“For my work in the exhibit, I looked at a couple of spindle whorls there,” he says. “I replicated two of them: one on acrylic on canvas, and the other is a sandblasted installation piece. My last canvas piece was inspired by and in the spirit of



KIRK SCHWARTZ

Local artist Leslie Robert Sam, better known as lessLIE, looks at spindle whorls at the Royal BC Museum.

the other two that I replicated in some form.”

The artists have been sharing some ideas during two previous meetings, something that further inspired Sam.

“We’ve bounced ideas off one another in the meetings that we’ve had, and that inspired some courage to look in different directions as far as works go on my part,” he says. “They’re artists that I always really

admired and I feel honoured to be working with them. There haven’t been any points of formal collaboration, but there are points where the work overlaps in some way.”

Sam is the only Coast Salish artist in the exhibit, a fact that brings some cultural diversity to the art on display.

“It was a bit different for me, since I couldn’t engage with what they were speaking about directly,”

says Sam about the culture gap, “but I did in a more indirect way. The areas where we overlap in our work would be one of the more challenging things in the work.”

*Awakening Memory*  
Until Saturday, April 29  
By donation, Open Space  
openspace.ca

art

# Art exhibit looks at environmental issues through pole dancing



LAUREN MARDSEN

A still from *Birds of Paradise*, which is showing at Deluge until April 22.

**JAYDEN GRIEVE**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

*Birds of Paradise* is a new art installation that seeks to use pole dancing as a vehicle to tell the story of a post-energy-crisis world. Lauren Mardsen—who came up with the idea and directed, filmed, and edited the video installation—says that she was inspired by a friend displaying her pole-dancing skills. “I really got inspired by the aes-

thetics of it, much less from a kind of exotic dancing perspective,” says Mardsen. “The athletic part of it, it just blows my mind how they defy gravity and conjure energy from I don’t even know where.”

Mardsen says that looking at the shape of some of the movements began to conjure up images of things in the world around us—tower cranes, pump jacks, wind turbines—and she wonders

if anyone else has ever seen pole dancing and been reminded of the resource-extraction world.

“I lived in California for a number of years, which is a place that has a very audacious energy infrastructure,” says Mardsen. “Nuclear power plants, the giant California aqueduct—there’s kind of all these big infrastructure projects that really show how we support ourselves with the land and its resources in a way that we don’t see as much in Canada.”

The world of resource management, with the constant questions that exist about its limitations, is a popular topic; Mardsen believes that the subject matter is something that could be interesting to anyone.

“I kind of wonder how you could not be interested in it, as a sentient human being in the world today,” she says, “because it seems to be ever-present, and we can see the world changing before our very eyes. I don’t know how you could not be invested.”

The project is a collaborative effort that Mardsen says couldn’t have been accomplished without the talent and ingenuity of the dancers involved.

“I think a lot about how we’re going to deal with the changing landscape—the political landscape, but also the natural one. Who of the

“If we were ever to be an adaptable creature in the future, pole dancers might be the ones who could survive.”

**LAUREN MARDSEN**  
*BIRDS OF PARADISE*

human species would survive and how will we struggle to adapt?” says Mardsen. “If we were ever to be an adaptable creature in the future, pole dancers might be the ones who could survive. Something about their strength and fortitude really impresses me.”

A large part of art has always been social commentary; Mardsen says that she’s not trying to say something as much as she is trying to help her viewers come to conclusions of their own.

“I don’t think that art in any way makes policy,” says Mardsen. “I don’t think that it actually solves problems, but what it allows us to do is create new images about these very confusing and sometimes confounding situations that we find ourselves in, and I think it has an indirect effect on helping people understand what their values are in relation to that image or that sound or whatever the art is. So it’s meant

to kind of tease it out, or, at the very least, point to the complexity of it.”

The exhibit features video installations of performances, with several dancers telling interwoven stories about the post-energy-crisis world. It also features some strategically placed objects, which Mardsen also considers performers.

“It’s interesting to me to look at how things perform—how an object might perform or how an image might perform,” says Mardsen. “Obviously we have real performers, but, looking at some of the more landscape-based infrastructure and looking at how these things perform as well, I’m starting to have this view of the world like everything is constantly performing.”

*Birds of Paradise*  
Until Saturday, April 22  
Deluge Contemporary Art,  
636 Yates Street  
deluge.ws



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 MARCH 29TH - EIGHTIES DANCE  
 MARCH 30TH - UVIC MUSTARD SEED BENEFIT  
 MARCH 31ST - RUGGED UNCLE  
 APRIL 1ST - KEG KILLERS / TOTAL SHIT  
 APRIL 5TH - METAL / PUNK GAMES NIGHT  
 APRIL 7TH - MENACE (UK) / STREETLIGHT SAINTS  
 APRIL 10TH - MIDIAN: 90S ALTERNATIVE NIGHT  
 APRIL 13TH - DOG INDIANA / PRETTY WOMAN  
 APRIL 14TH - BOUSADA / ZOUBI & THE SEA  
 APRIL 15TH - THE GENERATORS / THE MAGS  
 MAY 5TH - ASSIMILATION / TERRIFIER  
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Cream of the Craft

by Patrick Newman

Battle of the bitters



you should choose to get the most for your brew buck.

Drink what you love and love what you drink!

**Hoyne  
Appleton Extra Special Bitter  
5.3% ABV  
650ml bottle  
4/5**

Hoyne's ESB is named for Frank Appleton, a man who helped kick off BC's craft beer revolution back in the early '80s—and we're all the better for it. Appleton is British, so, fittingly, this beer is very British in flavour. With a nice creamy head and a lovely caramel colour, this is a super pint of bitter. It's a little on the sweeter side at first, but the hops balance it out in the end, and it goes down smooth. If I could only ever have one beer to go with fish and chips, it would be this. It's hoppy and delicious, and you could have a few of these easily without feeling too full. If you're not a stout fan, this would be a good recommendation for St. Patrick's Day; many Irish people would be insulted that you're drinking a beer named for a Brit, but who cares about convention?

**Steel & Oak  
Dry Hopped ESB  
4.6% ABV  
650ml bottle  
3.5/5**

This is a simple (like its label), clean, dry-hopped ESB; S&O don't fuck around. While this is a little lower in alcohol than some ESBs, it's a tasty, tasty brew. However, it does aim to please BC craft brew fans by going the extra mile with extra bitterness; the addition of dry hops at a later stage in the process gives it a very recognizable hop flavour. Where most ESBs tend to be more balanced between hoppy and mild, this one lets you know it was brewed in the Pacific Northwest. It has a nice frothy head and a copper colour, and it smells grassy and a bit herbaceous due to those hops. The hops also round out the medium body; it doesn't make it overly bitter, but it does add some earth and citrus to it. Have it with chicken and potatoes.

Bitters are traditional English-style pale ales that use English malts; they're slightly hoppier than a regular ale but tend to make for a fairly balanced pint. I first had bitters when I travelled to the UK many moons ago; I'll always have a soft spot in my heart for a good one. I recently had two different Extra Special Bitters (ESBs): bitters with more alcohol by volume than regular bitters, which hover around 4% ABV. One of the ones I tried is from Victoria's Hoyne Brewing, and the other is from Steel & Oak Brewing Co. in New Westminster. Both brewers are highly regarded for their quaffable quality and delicious delights; let's see which one

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PEACHES & PEACHES

By Jayden Grieve

Web Exclusive

## NEXUS

What's happening at nexusnewspaper.com

Week of March 20, 2017

Top five most read stories:

1. "Open Space: It's time for some fresh blood in BC's provincial office," March 20, 2017
2. "Camosun receives largest donation in college's history," March 17, 2017
3. "Camosun student takes action in current city issues," March 15, 2017
4. "Blind Portrait impresses with complex storytelling," March 12, 2017
5. "Where are the men?: The ongoing gender problem in early childhood education," February 15, 2017

New, web-exclusive stories:

"Open Space: It's time for some fresh blood in BC's provincial office," an opinion piece about BC premier Christy Clark; "Student society campaigns for student voters," a story about the Camosun College Student Society's efforts to get students to the polls in the upcoming provincial election.

Peaches unapologetically awesome, and unapologetically herself, in Victoria

September 30, 2016 by Patrick Newman, contributing writer  
Filed under Arts, Web Exclusive

October 19, 2016  
October 5, 2016  
September 21, 2016  
September 7, 2016  
August 10, 2016  
July 13, 2016

SMITH VS SMITH "QUIZ" BY MATT SMITH!

YAY! I GOT 100\$ ON A DIRTY DANCING QUIZ!

LEMME SEE THAT.

TAP TAP TAP

THERE. I GOT 100\$ AS WELL!

HAVE YOU EVER SEEN THE MOVIE?

NOPE.

DID YOU GET 100\$ JUST FROM LISTENING TO ME TALK ABOUT DIRTY DANCING!?

YEP.

WOW! I'LL NEVER ACCUSE YOU OF NOT LISTENING TO ME AGAIN!

DARN RIGHT.

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WWW.SMITHVSSMITH.COM @SMITHVSSMITHCOMICS  
SMITH VS SMITH WILL BE AT THE CAMOSUN COMIC ARTS FESTIVAL SATURDAY, APRIL 15 AT CAMOSUN COLLEGE

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE NEXUS PUBLISHING SOCIETY

MONDAY, APRIL 10, 2017, 10 AM,  
NEXUS OFFICE, RICHMOND HOUSE 201,  
LANSDOWNE

### AGENDA

- CALL TO ORDER
- INTRODUCTION TO RULES OF ORDER
- APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS AGM
- REPORTS
  - 1.) PRESIDENT'S REPORT
  - 2.) FINANCIAL REPORT
- ADOPTION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT
  - 1.) ADOPTION OF MAR. 31, 2017 FINANCIAL STATEMENT
  - 2.) ADOPTION OF APRIL 1, 2017 TO MARCH 31, 2018
- PROPOSED BUDGET
- RESIGNATION OF CURRENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS
- BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTIONS
- ADJOURNMENT

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



## Dearest Reader

by Aaron Stefik

### A proposal: Camosun must acknowledge a neglected culture

One can surely envisage few ideals yet dearer to the heart of the Canadian than this grand nation's consummate manner of societal inclusion for all amongst its population in each and every forum of economic and social opportunity, and in every facet of public life. With like admiration, we may gaze back in pride on those previously ostracized sects who have now so heartedly been welcomed back to the forefront of our culture, and whose traditions and ways of life have been embraced and celebrated by the passing tolerance of the vaguely curious public.

It is then of little wonder that I hasten to proffer a warning to the discerning and ever-ready reader that in our own Camosun College there exists a group who have yet to benefit from the above-described Canadian deference to the love of diverse celebration, a people whose practices remain largely unappreciated and whose ancient

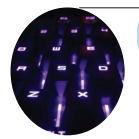
### In the timeless yesteryear of 1971, the First Students roamed these very halls.

and intricate traditional way of life defined the local lands long before the better number of my readers walked their formerly hallowed territory. Self-evidently, I write of the First Students.

In the timeless yesteryear of 1971, the First Students roamed these very halls where we today most thoughtlessly tread, practicing a way of life which brought them great spiritual fulfilment, the better part of the intricacies of which threaten to disappear unrecorded. The First Students were a proud people, and my heart is cloven in twain to conceive that their territories now see use by us, the modern student, an immigrant people to be sure, with scarce acknowledgement of the traditional territory on which

we walk. We who hope to see the legacy of the First Students' culture remain proud and rich, as it has since the class of 1971, can only begin—and, if similar projects are to be taken as indication, perhaps only end—with a consummate acknowledgement of that which we owe to those peoples who sat dreary-eyed in morning lectures before the idea had even occurred to the modern millennial.

Solace may be taken, at least, in the remembrance that many practices of the First Students remain alive, albeit in their modern context. Whenever we down one too many mugs of beer on Thursday pub nights, or wander their traditional hunting grounds of Hillside Centre, let us think of them.



## The Bi-weekly Gamer

by Adam Boyle

### Esports and the surge of wealth

Recently there has been a huge amount of money floating around in not just one or two esports but in almost all of the major ones. Teams are being bought up in *Overwatch* for upward of \$1 million; prize pools in *Dota 2* are reaching \$18 million; *League of Legends* is pumping, presumably, thousands into buying players to save a team from getting relegated.

Struggling North American *League of Legends* team Team Liquid (TL) have been sitting at the bottom of the standings with only a few weeks to go before playoffs and relegations. As a last-ditch attempt to avoid relegations and stay cemented in the league, the team moved players around and hired former Team SoloMid superstar player Yiliang "Doublelift" Peng out of retirement to help save the struggling team. In addition to

Peng, TL also borrowed Adrian "Adrian" Ma from fellow team Phoenix1 to help bolster their new made-of-money roster.

Where exactly is all this money coming from? There are three large groups that are major contributors: investors, sponsors, and the community.

The community of an esports is actually a huge player in the growing industry wealth. Many tournaments are now becoming crowdfunded through microtransactions by the players, and the amount that players can spend on games is extremely high.

Sponsors and investors have been around in the industry since before you could even call it an industry. When no one else was there, who was there for you? Large companies and rich people who want to help support the eventual growth

of esports, that's who. Now, more and more companies, individuals, and even cities are pouring support and wealth into teams and games; some big names include Coca-Cola, Shaquille O'Neal, Rick Fox, Red Bull, and Washington, DC (yes, you read that right).

Where the industry goes from here is unknown, but things are looking up for the still-growing scene. Market intelligence company Newzoo predicts that the industry's revenue will grow to nearly \$700 million by the end of this year, and that the industry will be near \$1.488 billion by 2020.

These are large figures for an industry that's still, in the big picture, quite new.

Keep an eye on esports, because you never know who'll be the next big name to contribute to the industry.



## Calculated Thought

by Sean Annable

### The impact of higher US interest rates

Anyone who follows this column may notice I talk a lot about interest rates. When understanding the impact of interest rates, its easiest to think of them as the cost of money.

Money has been cheap for a long time. Low mortgage rates have undoubtedly added to our housing woes. They make it easier to manage fat mortgages; up goes demand and prices follow. In the bubbly areas, especially Toronto,

and it dictates how banks borrow and lend their money. Even the orange dude couldn't keep the bond market from jumping the fence into the US.

Positive job numbers, higher growth, and higher confidence due to the promise of less regulations, as well as more favourable tax policy on corporations, have led to the US central bank to steadily raise their overnight rate. Up go bond rates

### The problem is, the bond market knows no borders. It's international, and it dictates how banks borrow and lend their money.

supply has shrivelled up. Whether it's fear of not wanting to pay sky-high prices for a new home if they sell, fear they'll miss out on more gains, or both, no one wants to sell, and it's pushing prices higher.

The Bank of Canada hasn't budged, and has kept the overnight rate at 0.5 percent. As pointed out before, this rate influences the prime rate charged by commercial banks. Alas, around 75 percent of Canadians have fixed-rate mortgages, and those rates have little to do with central bank policy or prime rates, and everything to do with bond markets.

The problem is, the bond market knows no borders. It's international,

and ditto for fixed mortgage rates; not just in the US, but Canada too, eventually.

Worse, the gap between US and Canadian interest rates messes with our dollar. Investors go to the markets with the highest return, and higher US rates offer that. Down goes our dollar, and hindered is our central bank's ability to keep the overnight rate steady, pressured by a growing greenback and a lurching loonie.

This all won't happen overnight, but upward pressure on interest rates doesn't bode well for our debt-riddled nation, especially those who mortgaged \$1-million shacks in Vancouver.

## NEXUS HUMOUR

(Subjects Series) By Jenna Cotton

**You draw comics.**

Submit samples to: Nexus, 201 Richmond House, Lansdowne campus, or email [editor@nexusnewspaper.com](mailto:editor@nexusnewspaper.com)



## To See or Not to See

by Finlay Pogue

### Pulp Fiction holds up, like the Bible

*Pulp Fiction*  
5/5

*Pulp Fiction* (1994) was the last film that was both truly original and widely successful. You can moan all you like about *Mulholland Drive* (2001), and you can say, "Hey, wait—*Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind* (2004) was insanely original!" I'll even remind you about *Spirited Away* (2001) and *Synecdoche, New York* (2008), two ingenious and innovative films. But not one of these movies challenges *Pulp Fiction* in its almost biblical uniqueness and impact on society.

It's a rankling assertion that *Pulp Fiction* is unparalleled in originality. It seems almost sacrilegious, but hear me out.

*Pulp Fiction*'s release marked the end of film's post-modern heyday—the period from the early '70s

### *Pulp Fiction* consumed society and presented back to the people exactly what the people had presented to it (and in the process proved there is nothing beyond post-modern).

to May 12, 1994 (the day *Pulp Fiction* was released), when films like *The Godfather* (1972), *Taxi Driver* (1976), and *Blue Velvet* (1986) were reconstituting older films to create interesting and innovative conglomerative pieces.

*Pulp Fiction* soundly ended this phase because it recycled film and TV of the past and also reconstituted post-modern films themselves. Because post-modern films were supposedly making comments about society, *Pulp Fiction* consumed society itself and presented

back to the people exactly what the people had presented to it (and in the process proved there is nothing beyond post-modern).

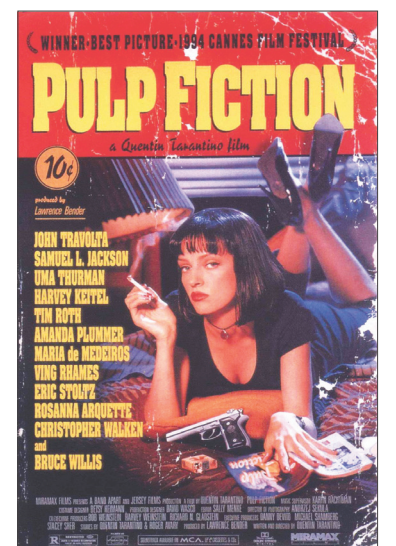
Really, it's all in the title—*Pulp Fiction* consists of a series of chopped-up, fictional, often vulgar, and wholly engrossing segments that are unpredictably tied together into a web of pure entertainment. And it's *Pulp Fiction*'s transcendence of plot (just try summarizing it) that proves its originality.

However, without cultural acceptance, the movie would merely

be one more on the great pile of "critically acclaimed" films—films that are fantastic if you can put up with their idiosyncrasies. *Pulp Fiction*, however, landed with aplomb in 1994; it sold truncated culture back to the people.

And yet, unlike many post-modern works critiquing society—*The Simpsons*, for example—*Pulp Fiction* is not cynical. In fact, it celebrates the very things that it's critiquing: violence for the sake of entertainment, infatuation with appearances, and the self-awareness of pop culture. And because it eschews condemnation of society's tendencies, it's worth its weight in memes.

Comparing *Pulp Fiction* to the Bible is really quite apt—both are composed of stories passed forward from the past, both take liberties with reality for the sake of deeper



meaning, and both have saturated modern-day society to the point of ubiquity. Most importantly, though, neither has been replaced or surpassed since its respective release.

## dearest reader word search

Our new-ish satire column *Dearest Reader* (see page 15) has proven to be an entertaining and popular one. For this issue's crossword puzzle, we took a bunch of words from last issue's *Dearest Reader* for you to find in the puzzle below.

What do you think of the column? As always, let us know what you like—and don't like—about the paper. Email all comments to [editor@nexusnewspaper.com](mailto:editor@nexusnewspaper.com).

Find the words on the left in the puzzle on the right; as always, stop by the *Nexus* office (Richmond House 201, Lansdowne campus) if you complete this puzzle to pick up a prize.

Have fun!

ADDENDUM  
ASSUAGE  
BASTIONS  
BULWARK  
CONNOISSEUR  
CONVENING  
COUNSEL  
DEADLY  
DEEM  
DISCERNING  
DOUBTLESS  
ELIGHTENED  
ENTREATED  
HUMILITY  
JANUS  
LAUDATION  
RAMPAGING  
UNFETTERED  
WHEREIN  
ZENITH

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

## what's going on

by adam boyle

UNTIL MONDAY, MAY 1

**Write your heart out**

The Victoria Writers' Society is holding its annual writing contest; writers have until May 1 to submit a hard copy of their work. Three categories are open this year: fiction, creative non-fiction, and poetry. First prize in each category is \$300. The entry fee is \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members; visit [victoriawriters.ca](http://victoriawriters.ca) for contest details.

THURSDAY, MARCH 30

**Allegation discussions**

A public forum inspired by recent investigations by the *Globe and Mail* about how police handle sexual assault allegations will be held in Fisher 100 at Camosun's Lansdowne campus on March 30. Admission is free; the forum will be held from 7 pm to 9 pm.

FRIDAY, MARCH 31

TO SUNDAY, APRIL 2

**50 shades of Camosun**

First-year students in Camosun's Visual Arts program will be showcasing their work in *Out of the Grey*, their year-end exhibit, which will include everything from drawings to ceramics. The exhibit will be held in Young 111 and 117 and in the Visual Arts Annex.

MONDAY, APRIL 3

TO FRIDAY, APRIL 7

**Volunteering taxes**

Want help doing your tax returns? The Community Volunteer Income Tax Program allows students to help other pupils get their tax returns done on time and is open to all Camosun students. Head to room 277 in the Centre for Business and Access on the Interurban campus to get assistance. More information can be found at [cra-arc.gc.ca/volunteer](http://cra-arc.gc.ca/volunteer).

FRIDAY, APRIL 7

AND SATURDAY, APRIL 8

**Dance, Gaga, dance**

Dance Victoria are celebrating their 20th season this year with a

performance of *Minus One* at the Royal Theatre. The show is directed by Ohad Naharin—also known as Mr. Gaga—who is celebrating 25 years as artistic director of Israel's Batsheva Dance Company. Tickets start at \$29; visit [dancevictoria.com](http://dancevictoria.com) for more details.

SATURDAY, APRIL 8

**Genre-blending books**

Author and journalist Alisa Smith is celebrating the release of her debut novel, *Speakeasy*, at the Oak Bay branch of the Greater Victoria Public Library. Smith will be signing books and giving a talk about her multi-genre book at the event. Admission is free; details at [gvpl.ca](http://gvpl.ca).

SATURDAY, APRIL 8

**Classics in the castle**

Launch Pad Theatre Company is returning to Craigdarroch Castle with their original play *Bard in the Ballroom*. Spectators are invited to attend dressed in cocktail attire. Tickets are \$28 without alcohol and \$35 with a glass of bubbly. For more information, visit [thecastle.ca](http://thecastle.ca).

THURSDAY, APRIL 13

**A hard-boiled hunt**

The Camosun Centre for Sport and Exercise Education is holding an egg-citing Easter egg hunt on the Interurban campus. Entry is a non-perishable food item to be donated to the Camosun College Student Society food bank. Scramble your team of up to four and find the eggs, and you might just win one of the prizes at the end. See [camosun.ca](http://camosun.ca) for details.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19

TO SATURDAY, APRIL 22

**Unleash the dreams!**

Impulse Theatre's play *the dream collector(s)* consists of three mystical beings that collect dreams. One day, the eldest unleashes them on humanity, and all hell breaks loose. Tickets are \$15 for students; more info can be found at [impulsetheatre.ca](http://impulsetheatre.ca).

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12

**From high school to battlefield**

Barry Gough, author of *From Classroom to Battlefield*, will be discussing how students in WWI made the transition from classroom to battlefield at "Defining Canada: Victoria High School Students and Graduates in World War I," an event which will also feature students and alumni performing Canadian WWI songs. Admission is free, and it all goes down at the Victoria High School gym; details are at [vichigh.com](http://vichigh.com).

FRIDAY, APRIL 21

TO SUNDAY, APRIL 23

**The last of the season**

Presenting the last concerts of their 2016-17 season, the Victoria Chamber Orchestra will be at the First Metropolitan United Church and the David Dunnet Community Centre playing pieces by Mozart, Wagner, and Britten. If you're interested in classical music, visit [victoriachamberorchestra.org](http://victoriachamberorchestra.org) for details. Tickets are between \$15 and \$20.

THURSDAY, APRIL 27

**The memory of Vimy**

The Victoria Historical Society (VHS) is presenting the talk "Vimy—Myth and Memory" at the New Horizons Centre at 7:15 pm on Thursday, April 27. Admission is \$5, or free for VHS members. Details can be found at [victoriahistoricalsociety.bc.ca](http://victoriahistoricalsociety.bc.ca).

SATURDAY, MAY 6

AND SUNDAY, MAY 7

**Artists studio tour returns**

Like consuming or making art? The Fairfield Artists Studio Tour, now in its 16th year, is returning to various locations in Fairfield. 27 local artists will showcase their work to the public, and most will offer their work for sale. See [fairfieldartistsstudiotour.com](http://fairfieldartistsstudiotour.com) for info.

Read an expanded version of this with more listings at [nexusnewspaper.com/](http://nexusnewspaper.com/)

contest

Find the hidden *Nexus* and win

GREG PRATT/NEXUS

Let's see if you can find this copy of the last issue of *Nexus*, which we hid somewhere at Camosun College's Lansdowne campus.

The first person to find this copy of the paper and bring it in to our office wins themselves a free prize!

Last time around, we hid the issue behind a chair up on the third floor of the Ewing building. It was peeking out but went unclaimed.

Who will find this issue's hidden *Nexus*? Happy hunting, and bring it to us once you find it!

## know your writers

**Nexus contributing writer Felicia Santarossa**

ADAM MARSH/NEXUS

Have you ever wondered about the Camosun students writing the articles you read in *Nexus*? *Know Your Writers* will help you dive into the minds of the writers behind the stories.

This issue, contributing writer Felicia Santarossa has her say about transcribing interviews, making phone calls while sick, and figuring out (sort of) what she wants to do.

*What drew you to journalism?*

I've always loved to write, so when the *Nexus* managing editor showed up with the opportunity to write for *Nexus* in one of my Communications classes, I thought it would be a great experience for me. I'm really grateful for the flexibility *Nexus* has with contributing writers; it can be tough balancing school and volunteering.

*What is the most awkward moment you have had in an interview?*

They have all been varying degrees of awkward. There was

one where I was rather nervous speaking to the interviewee and I had been getting over a slight cold, so, along with the awkward pauses and random filler words like "okay" and "um," I could hear my nose whistling over the phone. Hopefully it wasn't too obvious.

*What would you say are the worst and best parts of your job at the paper?*

The worst would definitely be waiting for a source to get back to you for an interview; the stress is the worst. Listening to the sound of your own voice as you transcribe interviews can also be cringe-inducing. As for the best, just being able to create stories that, hopefully, people are interested in reading.

*Why did you originally come to Camosun?*

I was sure I wanted to get into some sort of career with writing, but wasn't too sure how to go about it. I was just taking a few slightly random Communications courses here, some Sociology there. After a semester I realized which program to get into and am continuing from there. Trust me, it only sounds like I've got it figured out.

*What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?*

Mostly lose myself in the black hole of social media. Other than that, just hanging out with friends, occasionally playing the piano, and belting out songs the rare moments I have the house to myself. I've always been into theatre, so sometimes I'll act along with the song. How's that for an embarrassing fact about me?