

NEXUS

CAMOSUN'S STUDENT VOICE SINCE 1990

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NEXUS

camosun's student voice since 1990

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OVERHEARD AT NEXUS: "I downloaded an eight-CD Blue Rodeo box set. I wanted to kill myself."
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SPEAK UP

How do you define feminism?

BY ADAM MARSH



RITA HUANG

"For me, I think women can do everything the same as men... it is a good thing."



JACKIE SADLER

"Equality... To have females have equal rights in multiple areas."



WILL SMEATON

"Striving for equality through all things."



YUE YIN

"More respect to women; everybody's on the same page. It's not defined by your gender, it's just human rights."



AMY LEE-RADIGAN

"The freedom and ability to pursue any path that you desire, obviously given that it's not harming anyone else."



MILTON CABRERA

"Caring a lot about equality and equity between genders. I would definitely say that it's something that needs to be focused on a lot more here on campus and throughout the city as well."

open space

On whether or not to be a mother

KATY WEICKER
STAFF WRITER

My relationship with motherhood has always been complicated and uncertain. I've had every opinion from "I'm never going to have kids" (ages 20 to 26) to "If I'm still single when I'm 35, I'm gonna hit up a sperm bank and do this independent-woman style" (ages 26 to 30).

When I was 30, I made the decision to go back to school part-time (when you're a mature student

about this?" moment when they announce it), because despite medical advancements, my biological clock is ticking (even if my emotional one is still dormant).

But I have so much I still want to do with my life before I even entertain the idea of children—I want to publish a novel; I want to travel to Europe; I want to finish my useless degree.

A few of my close girlfriends know, beyond a shadow of a doubt,

My five-year plan included a large chunk of my degree under my belt, maybe a published piece or two... my five-year plan did not include babies. It wasn't even a conscious decision—kids simply weren't on my radar.

with an established career, taking out student loans to do a BA in creative writing feels unjustifiable). My five-year plan included a large chunk of my degree under my belt, maybe a published piece or two... my five-year plan did not include babies. It wasn't even a conscious decision—kids simply weren't on my radar.

And, in all fairness, thanks to the societal and financial struggles of my generation, it wasn't really on a lot of my friends' radars either.

My womb was not exactly housing tumbleweeds in a sea of loin fruits. We simply couldn't afford it; we had careers and dreams and, thanks to medical advances, weren't feeling the crunch like our parents' generation—we were in our early 30s, so we had time... right?

Fast-forward three years and, with my 34th birthday looming in the not-so-distant future, I'm starting to feel my logic wane: because women in my age bracket are starting to pop gremlins out of their uteruses with more regularity (I still have a panicked "Are we happy

that they do not want children—they're the women who want to get their tubes tied and vent about how their doctors refuse to do it because "they might change their minds" even though we all know they won't. There are a few desperate to procreate—women who have dropped multiple crotch goblins, or have spent thousands of dollars in an attempt to create a life. And I have mad respect for both camps.

But what about us floaters—the women who feel the pressure of biology and society to decide what we want but simply aren't ready; the ones who secretly fear we may never be ready; the ones who go from a re-sounding "Nopel!" after witnessing a child having a full-on Kanye-style tantrum in the middle of a grocery store to an ovary-quivering "I want one" when we hold a friend's baby and the tiny creature falls asleep on our shoulder?

We are here, and we are on the fucking fence, terrified that we're going to make the wrong decision or that by the time we finally know what we want, it might be too late.

25 Years Ago in Nexus returns next issue



student issues

Camosun College Student Society adopts proponent position on proportional representation



PHOTO PROVIDED

Camosun College Student Society wellness and access director Eleanor Vannan.

ADAM MARSH
STUDENT EDITOR

The Camosun College Student Society (CCSS) has adopted a proponent position on proportional representation.

The motion to adopt the position was passed at the CCSS' June 25 council meeting. A provincial referendum regarding proportional representation—where the number of seats a party gains is proportionate to the number of votes cast for it—will be held this fall.

The CCSS did not choose a specific type of proportional representation—there's dual-member, mixed-member, and rural-urban—to endorse. CCSS student wellness and access director Eleanor Vannan—who brought the motion forward at the CCSS meeting—says the CCSS is also not taking a specific political party's stance.

"Under proportional representation, there's a fairness and

equality in that every vote leads to some representation," says Vannan.

Vannan feels that students at Camosun are intelligent enough to make the right choice for themselves.

"We have a minority government in BC right now," she says, "and yet they had a higher percentage of the popular vote than all these other majority governments. So it just shows the irrationality of the first-past-the-post counting system. The number of people that support a party really has very little bearing on who actually wins the election, and it has a lot more to do with how ridings are divided."

CCSS executive director Michel Turcotte says proportional representation will be a positive step for the student demographic voter turnout.

"We encourage all citizens of British Columbia to study the three systems that are being proposed

and make the best choice," says Turcotte. "There will be lots of opportunity for that; even Elections BC, under the referendum rules, has a responsibility to help educate."

CCSS external executive Fillette Umilisa says proportional representation is more inclusive than the current first-past-the-post system for students.

"For me, as a person who came to Canada in recent years—and this is going to be my first election—when I look at proportional representation, it's around inclusiveness and getting more involved," says Umilisa.

Turcotte says that the student society feels that proportional representation will better represent students, and that the CCSS chose to adopt the proponent position now because of the upcoming referendum.

"It's timely for us to put our position on the record so that our mem-

"Under proportional representation, there's a fairness and equality in that every vote leads to some representation."

ELEANOR VANNAN
CAMOSUN COLLEGE STUDENT SOCIETY

"You need to make an informed decision. We want our members to be engaged in what goes on around them."

MICHEL TURCOTTE
CAMOSUN COLLEGE STUDENT SOCIETY

bers feel that it's something that the student society thinks would better represent them," says Turcotte.

Turcotte says that proportional representation can give students, and all British Columbians, a greater voice.

"It's one of those almost once-in-a-lifetime opportunities for our members and for British Columbia," says Turcotte. "It is certainly something that is worth taking part in."

Turcotte says there is often a problem with young voter turnout, but that proportional representation is a positive step in solving that problem.

"We feel that moving towards proportional representation will help students get more engaged with the election," he says, "because they'll see that they can actually referendums."

Turcotte says the CCSS will take various steps to make sure students

know what is going on—he says CCSS representatives may, for example, speak in classrooms—because students often face hurdles when it comes to voting.

"We want to ensure that our members are on the voters list," says Turcotte, "which is also one of the biggest challenges facing the student demographic, because they move and don't necessarily get registered initially when they turn 18."

Turcotte says it's on the student society to explain both the rights and responsibilities of being able to vote to its members.

"You need to make an informed decision," says Turcotte. "We want our members to be engaged in what goes on around them."

The British Columbia Federation of Students, which Camosun students are paying members of, also supports proportional representation.

NEWS BRIEFS

College Sheet Metal student wins bronze

Camosun third-year Sheet Metal apprentice Dean Gustin took home a bronze medal from the 2018 Skills Canada National Competition in Edmonton in June. Gustin won gold at the Skills Canada British Columbia competition in April. He was one of over 550 students at the nationals.

Camosun board of governors gets trio of new faces

Brenda Lee McBain, Madhuri Parikh, and Emily Sarah Rogers have joined the Camosun board of governors. Their terms run until July 31, 2019. McBain is with CitySpaces Consulting; Parikh is the principal consultant of On Governance; Rogers is the tenant legal advocate for Together Against Poverty Society. Board Chair Ron Rice said in a college press release

that their perspectives will benefit the board.

Saanich wants resident input

Saanich residents, business owners, and visitors can complete a survey to help Saanich become a 100-percent renewable community and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 80 percent. See saanich.ca/nationals.

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student awards

Camosun business student receives national co-op award



CAMOSUN COLLEGE A/V SERVICES

Camosun Business Co-op student Robin Stone recently won three awards.

KATY WEICKER
STAFF WRITER

Last year, Robin Stone was one of a handful of Camosun Business Co-op students to win the college's Yvonne Thompson Page Co-op

Student of the Year award. This year, she received the recognition again, allowing her to be nominated for the Association for Co-operative Education Provincial College Co-op Student of the Year Award,

"Find the boundaries of what scares you and push that. And try things, and do things you wouldn't normally do, and be okay in figuring out where your actual failure lines are. Most people think their failure lines are much tighter to where they are acting than they are, but they're much, much further out."

ROBIN STONE
CAMOSUN COLLEGE STUDENT

as well as the national College Co-op Student of the Year Award from Co-operative Education and Work-Integrated Learning Canada. She was awarded both.

Stone says that challenging herself at Camosun was a decision that paid off, and one that she hopes other students can learn from.

"Really, find the boundaries of what scares you and push that," says Stone. "And try things and do things you wouldn't normally do, and be okay in figuring out where your actual failure lines are. Most people think their failure lines are much tighter to where they are acting than they are, but they're much, much further out."

Stone, who is headed into her second year of the accounting option of the Business Administration program, says that school is a safe place to experiment; she says co-op is an especially good place for that.

"That's the point; you can go to a co-op and volunteer to do something you've never done before, and say, 'Yeah, I'm gonna give it a shot,' because they don't actually

expect you necessarily to succeed at it," she says. "They're there to support you too. So, you have this perfect opportunity to experiment, this perfect opportunity to challenge yourself and see where you can go." Stone also recommends that students put themselves out there, on campus and within the community.

"Get to know people other than your classmates," she says. "Go out and sign up for some clubs, volunteer, do something you're interested in that gets your name, your face, and your personality, and everything about you, known to other humans who can be part of your social capital and be part of this network you're building. That's going to propel you forward in your career."

Stone also points out the importance of taking advantage of what Camosun offers.

"The school actually sets up these perfect little nuggets of opportunity throughout the program where you can go and practice skills in a professional setting," she says.

"You can do mock interviews, and networking sessions, and basically speed dating with firms if you're interested in working with one of them."

Stone's outstanding work as a co-op student this past year, as well as her high GPA and community and school involvement, made her a prime candidate for the awards, according to Camosun director of applied learning of co-operative education and career services Nancy Sly. Sly has witnessed not only Stone's achievements but also her exceptional personal growth; she recalls Stone's trepidation about speaking at the Yvonne Thompson Page Award ceremony last year.

"She would only come to the awards ceremony if she didn't have to speak," says Sly. "She could barely look me in the eye. And in that next year, she went to Toastmasters, she came out of her shell. So, you could see, she just had tremendous growth, and, obviously, support from family and instructors at the college."

Stone urges Camosun students to take advantage of everything at the college from the get-go instead of waiting until their final semester to unearth the possibilities.

"Go your first year," she says. "Don't wait until fourth year when, one, you've never practiced how to speak to another human about work and you're super nervous, and, two, you're dependent on actually getting a job. Go in just to get them to get to know you, and they say, 'Hey, let's go for a coffee.' You follow up, you go for coffee with these people, and you start to get to know who's in town."

know your profs

Camosun's Gill Atkinson on different cultures, countries, and cats

KATY WEICKER
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 better.

Do you have an instructor that you want to see interviewed in the paper? Email editor@nexus-newspaper.com and we'll add your instructor to our list of teachers to talk to.

This issue we talked to English as a Second Language instructor Gill Atkinson about job satisfaction, her hopes for cultural diversity on campus, and her love of thin-crust pizza.

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

I teach English as a Second Language students in career and academic preparation courses in the English Language Development department, and I've been at Camosun for 10 years.

2. What do you personally get out of teaching?

I enjoy finding out about people and cultures, and I'm privileged to

teach students from all over the world and from a huge variety of backgrounds. It's fascinating to find out about them and their lives, and how they found their way to Camosun.

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

I wish they knew that I have lived in several countries, so I have an idea of what they are going through and what it feels like to start a new life in a strange place where you know no one and may not speak the language well.

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

They probably know far more than they want to about my cats.

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

It's always great to bump into former students who tell me how their time at Camosun helped them. It's really rewarding to be able to help people succeed in their educational and work goals. This is always a good feeling and makes the hours of marking and preparation worthwhile. I also have terrific colleagues who are supportive and

make working at Camosun such a great job.

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

Students who really don't want to be in class.

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

I can't speak about post-secondary education in general, but because of events in other parts of the world, Canada is increasingly becoming a popular choice for international students, so I'm optimistic that we can continue to have a diverse college community.

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

I love to sit in my garden and read.

9. What is your favourite meal?

A real thin-crust Italian pizza, followed by gelato.

10. What's your biggest pet peeve?

Noise. I'm really bothered by people who inconsiderately disturb others with their music or other unwanted sounds.



KATY WEICKER/NEXUS

Camosun College English as a Second Language instructor Gill Atkinson.

event

Hiroshima memorial examines current nuclear threat



PHOTO PROVIDED

Physicians for Global Survival president-elect Jonathan Down.

ADAM MARSH
STUDENT EDITOR

On August 9, Victorians will gather at Wake Up! It's Two Minutes to Midnight to discuss the Nuclear Weapons Ban Treaty and hear citizens and politicians—such as NDP MP Randall Garrison and Oak Bay mayor Nils Jensen—talk about the threat of nuclear weapons and pay their respects to victims of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

The Nuclear Weapons Ban Treaty was passed in July of 2017, but Canada was not part of the negotiations. No countries that have nuclear weapons have signed the treaty; experts say that Canada's stance could hinder the country's ability to get a seat on the United Nations Security Council.

But for Victoria pediatrician Jonathan Down, global survival is more important. Down is president-elect of Physicians for Global Survival and a member of the Vancouver Island Peace and Disarmament Network. He says he's disappointed in local politicians who don't take this matter seriously, especially considering the talk of nuclear threats today.

"We are targets," he says, noting that Victoria is just north of Naval Base Kitsap, one of the largest US naval bases. "These are not military weapons; these are targeting civilian population. The municipal politicians, they don't quite understand that whether it's the Highlands or North Saanich, or whatever, these are target areas."

"We're calling for the Canadian government to sign the recently adopted [nuclear weapons] ban treaty."

JONATHAN DOWN
PHYSICIANS FOR GLOBAL SURVIVAL

Down says that most people in this area think that the threat is somewhere else and is someone else's problem, but he stresses this isn't the case.

"No," says Down. "Nuclear weapons don't work that way."

Down says, for example, computer analytics show that a minimum of two billion people could die as a result of a small-scale nuclear war between India and Pakistan. Closer to home, at the Beacon Hill Park memorial, images of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings will be shown as an artwork display; as well, traditional Japanese paper lanterns will be shown, which is the Japanese cultural way of giving hope.

"We're calling for the Canadian

government to sign the recently adopted ban treaty," says Down. "We're one year on now from the adoption of the treaty by 122 countries around the world. Unfortunately, Canada was not part of the negotiations; it's refused to sign."

Down says that nuclear weapons don't take prisoners; he encourages people to come to the memorial to make their voices heard on the issue of the ban treaty.

"You may not agree with everybody," he says, "but at least be there and express your opinion. I'd like to see Canada sign the ban treaty... If Canada won't sign, as citizens of Canada, we can sign."

Down has gathered thousands of signatures from residents of lower Vancouver Island, and eventually,

he says, he will go to Ottawa and present them to the Prime Minister.

"We are concerned," he says. "As a physician, this is part of my concern not only for my individual patients but also for the population. That's why I'm involved as a pediatrician: concern for the long-term future of not only my children, but also my grandchildren, my great-grandchildren."

Wake Up! It's Two Minutes to Midnight
7 pm Thursday, August 9
Free, Beacon Hill Park bandshell
psr.org/blog/event/wake-up-its-two-minutes-to-midnight/

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Redefining the F word

What it means to be a feminist Camosun student in 2018

Story and photos by Katy Weicker, staff writer
Background illustration by Sebastien Sunstrum, covers illustrator



Jinnie Park

10 years ago, I was sitting at the dining-room table with my stepmom, and I boldly proclaimed that I wasn't a feminist. I can't even remember what prompted me to make such a statement, but what I can remember is the reaction I received from the normally even-tempered accountant sitting across from me: she got angry. Real angry. And she demanded to know how I couldn't support equality.

I was confused by her reaction—after all, feminists were irate man-haters who burned their bras, believed they were superior to men, and screamed at anyone who dared say anything disparaging against women, right? But this description was basically the complete opposite of my coolheaded stepmom.

I spent the next decade quietly grappling with the concept of feminism. Fast-forward to October 2017: my Facebook feed was flooded by women proclaiming “me too,” and I was officially woke to how stacked the patriarchy actually was against women. In the ten months since, I've seen the conversation and definition of feminism evolve to the point where even my October 2017 concept of feminism as “women have been asking really nicely since the beginning of time and now we're done asking nicely” seems archaic and narrow-minded.

So how do we discuss such a sensitive topic? How do people keep their cool when they feel marginalized? How do people not clap back when they feel unjustly attacked? How do we have an open dialogue about what feminists are fighting for without it turning into an actual fight?

I don't know if there is a right answer to any of these questions. But I do know that the wrong answer is silence.

Defining feminism

One of the hardest things about the feminist movement is how to define it. While discussing this topic with five self-identifying feminist Camosun students, I got five different answers.

First-year Engineering Transfer student Kaila McCarthy says she's not really sure what her personal definition of feminism is.

“I feel like it's about equality,” she says. “I feel feminism is about intersectionality in feminism and making sure that everyone has equal rights and opportunities.”

Second-year University Transfer student Charlie Cleugh says that feminism is about equality across the board.

that I like to include in my own life and my own experience is a little bit more nuanced than that.”

As an international student from South Korea, second-year Applied Tourism and Hospitality student Jinnie Park says that gender roles are more rigid in Asian culture. She admits she doesn't feel like a “perfect feminist” because she's still learning about the complexities of the issue.

“Feminism is a belief that men and women have the same rights for everything,” she says, “so women can be much freer from any prejudice or any violence.”

The definition of feminism is simple for second-year University Transfer student Taelor Lay.

“Equality,” she says. “Period. One word.”

Feminism on campus

Camosun College lists “positive and supportive student experiences,” “an inclusive community,” “an environment of respect and safety for all,” “our relationships with one another,” and “Indigenization” among its values on the college website. Cleugh and Lay both say that they feel Camosun is doing a good job encouraging and supporting feminism on campus. Both have taken classes with a strong female influence and found the experience to be enriching.

“Last semester I took a course called Anthropology of Women and we did a lot of work in that class about women's issues,” says Cleugh. “There was a section about sex work and the legalities of that, and should it be legal, and women's rights surrounding that. I think it was just a really enriching experience and it really opened my eyes to a lot of things, and I think it did a lot of other people in the class too.”

Lay has taken classes that aren't specifically described as “women's literature,” but has high praise for her profs who have included books written by women in their curricula.

“I've had a lot of amazing profs. Maureen Niwa, specifically, has encouraged me to delve into women's lit,” says Lay. “It's definitely a passion of mine. I don't know how much I'll be able to pursue it, but I would love to inspire others, in the way that Maureen and some of the other profs have done for me, when I'm a high-school teacher.”

Lay is also incredibly grateful for the support she received from the college after surviving sexual assault last year. Lay was impressed by how understanding and supportive her profs were as she recovered, and by how many resources were available to her as a Camosun student, even though the incident occurred off campus.

“The systems that they have in place to support students that way have made me feel very supported as a woman, as a feminist, and as a sexual-assault survivor,” says Lay. “I feel so supportive of Camosun because of what they have in place to support sexual assault victims with in their recovery.”

Lay says that resources such as the school's student support workers have been instrumental in her recovery.

“I didn't know how much support there was available until recently, but once I was aware of the full extent of the support that was available to me, it was extremely easy [to access it]. The people who are employed to help students are truly there to help.”

Although people I spoke with for this story generally praised Camosun's support of feminism on campus, Hynds finds that her older profs, in general, tend to be slightly less sensitive to her beliefs.

“As society evolves, people accept different ideas about what feminism is, and what the appropriate way to treat different genders are, and all that kind of stuff,” she says.

All of Hynds' classes are at the Interurban campus; she believes the campus culture there is less inclusive than at Lansdowne. While she acknowledges that she's had many positive experiences with Interurban staff, she would like to see them have a bit more sensitivity training, especially when it comes to issues about intersectionality and different cultures.

“I think some of them are working with information or ideas that are a little bit outdated,” she says. “Or, a lot of the time, I feel like some of them are so concerned about walking on eggshells, or ‘I don't want to say the politically incorrect thing,’ and they end up showing how uncomfortable they are around minority issues.” (A spokesperson for the college said no one from Camosun was available to comment on this issue, but they stressed that if any students need assistance they can contact the Ombudsperson or the Student Support Office; the college is also in the process of developing its Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Policy and Procedures, which students are welcome to participate in.)

Despite her concerns, Hynds is quick to point out something that could have been a negative experience but turned out to be a positive one for her.

“In my first semester, I had a professor who was kind of telling this story about a

scientific study about the differences in how men and women think, and saying, ‘Oh, it makes sense that women can't control their logical processes as well as men can because of this scientific fact.’”

Hynds then remembered that she had a book at home that referenced this particular study and gave contrary information to what her prof was saying.

“There was a whole bunch of information that was kind of incongruent with the findings of that study in particular,” she says, “so I highlighted it and brought it into his office and was just kind of like, ‘Hey, I just think we should be looking at all sides of this, making sure that the information is current, and sensitive, above all.’”

In the end, Hynd says her prof was open to her findings and thanked her for bringing her concerns to his attention.

“He was like, ‘I really appreciate that. I don't want to be giving people wrong information, and obviously studies go in and out of favour, so thank you for correcting me,’ which was something that I really appreciated, and he ended up reading the whole book,” says Hynd.

For McCarthy, being one of the few female students in the male-dominated Engineering Transfer program has been a mixed-bag experience. While she admits that feminism isn't something that is readily discussed in her classes and that she hasn't had a negative or marginalizing experience at Camosun, she does want to point out that the anonymity of the internet can tell a different story.

“When it comes to the teachers, there's one thing that I noticed,” she says. “On Rate My Profs—which is definitely something I've seen my classmates look at, and I've looked at—there is an emphasis on female teachers' appearance, whereas a lot of times when people are looking at male teachers, or evaluating male teachers, they're talking about their skills in the classroom. I've definitely heard discussions about the attractiveness of female teachers.”

Park also feels the pressure of gender stereotypes, recalling a time when she brought food to campus and her male classmates commented on her societal role based on how good the meal tasted.

“They said, ‘Oh, you're ready to get married, you're gonna be a good wife,’” she says.

Park says she doesn't appreciate those kinds of comments because they make her feel the cultural pressure to be a housewife.

“I'm gonna get married just to cook for my husband?” she says.

When confronting her classmates, Park struggles with their dismissiveness.

“When I say, ‘I don't like to hear that kind of thing, that's not fair,’ they always say, ‘Hey, it's a compliment, why are you so serious?’ I hate that.”

Fighting stereotypes

It's important to note when involved in the ever-changing dialogue about feminism that there's still a lot of stigma surrounding the movement.

“I find, no matter who you're talking to—even with friends—I feel the need to almost back it up and explain, ‘Oh, I'm not an angry feminist, I'm not the feminist that's rioting with her shirt off. I'm not a feminist you should be wary of; I'm not a feminist who can't make jokes,’” McCarthy says. “You always feel like you have to put people's minds at ease when you use that word.”

Park says that there has been some culture shock for her in regards to feminism. “Here in Canada, I can say, ‘I'm a feminist,’ but in Korea the word ‘feminist’ is not a good word,” she says, adding that “many men think ‘feminism’ equals ‘anti-men.’”

While some stigmas, such as the incorrect assumption that feminists are all man-haters, may be obvious, there are more complex ones that can make owning feminist views challenging.

“When people say they're a feminist, I get worried that it's not intersectional feminism, and that I'm going to be associated with ‘white feminism’—the kind of feminism that only kind of helps white women and straight women, women who are already privileged in society,” says Cleugh. “That kind of feminism really irks me because it's not really doing anything. These women are already privileged in society... sure, there's gender equality, but there are so many trans women, queer women, women of colour that are so marginalized that I think it's very important that we include that. Sometimes when I say that I'm a feminist, I worry that I'm getting looped into the blanket ‘Feminism is just about white women aren't paid as much as men.’ And then it's like, ‘Okay, well, have you looked at how trans women don't even get hired?’”

McCarthy echoes Cleugh's statement, adding that there are so many different kinds of people, with so many different beliefs, who identify as feminists.

“For me, feminism is about intersectionality, and people of all genders, all ages, all

sexes, religions, sizes are treated equally and respected. But there are people who really put limitations on who they think deserve to be treated equally, so it's hard,” says McCarthy. “I think, in a way, you do need to clarify what you mean when you say you're a feminist to assert that you aren't—particularly for me as a white woman—just saying you want rights for white women. You know, you want to see black women and aboriginal women treated equally, and to recognize that white women are still in a place of privilege, even as women.”

Cleugh says that the most important thing to consider when discussing feminism is the idea that there are more than two genders.

“Sex and gender is not this binary thing,” says Cleugh. “I feel like we go into conversations so many times not acknowledging that and the conversation gets muddled in this debate about whether there is or there isn't [a gender binary].”

Cleugh says then conversation gets away from the concerns of people who identify as nonbinary or intersex.

“I feel like if we don't acknowledge the fluidity of sex and gender, we get caught in the first stage and we can't go past that,” says Cleugh.

Hynds accepts that while feminism is becoming more normalized there is always going to be a certain stigma attached to it.

“Above all, I really wish that, especially with the topic of intersectionality, people would recognize that no one is demonizing anybody,” she says. “It's not saying ‘You can never have anything bad happen to you because you're a man,’ or you're white or whatever it is, but simply that those things won't happen to you purely for the fact that you have this identity. Bad things aren't happening to men specifically because they are men—they might be happening to men because they're black, or they're poor, or what have you, but I think that nuance needs to be communicated and understood a little bit more thoroughly.”

Lay wishes that people were better able to focus on equality rather than on the social stigmas and implications that are attached to the word “feminism.”

“I think that is where the defensiveness comes in,” she says. “If I said I was a supporter of equality I don't think anyone would bat an eye at me, but it does happen every now and again when you say ‘feminism,’ although it is essentially the same thing as equality.”

The reality is that feminism is constantly evolving, and it's hard to not feel overwhelmed by it all. In a world where people are so passionate in their beliefs, it's easy to not ask the hard questions for fear of coming across as ignorant, close-minded, or bigoted. But that doesn't mean we shouldn't discuss it.

As a student, I am constantly evolving and learning things that I never knew before. I like to think these revelations have enriched my life, expanded my views, and allowed me to look at the world critically. As a feminist, all I can do is be humble enough to know that I am still learning.

I came into this article feeling ready to crush the patriarchy, and I am walking away from it awake enough to realize there are many different facets of feminism.

And, while we may all choose to add our own layers and nuances to our definitions and beliefs, it is important to focus on the fact that there's still a dialogue that needs to occur in order for society to achieve the ultimate goal of equality.



Kaila McCarthy



Rowan Hynds



Taelor Lay



Charlie Cleugh

art

David LaRiviere addresses gritty, human side of tourism in new exhibit



PHOTO PROVIDED

David LaRiviere's *Anti Tourism Project* looks at the concept of tourism through a different lens.

ADAM MARSH
STUDENT EDITOR

What tourist attraction could possibly be outside the Patient Care Centre at the Royal Jubilee Hospital (RJH)? If you're checking out Saskatoon-based artist David LaRiviere's interactive app, you'll see that the *Anti Tourism Project* is a very different kind of tourist attraction.

LaRiviere has spent his time as Open Space artist-in-residence talking to people around the city, hearing their stories (one of which involved RJH), and creating what he calls an anti-tourism-based guided audio experience that uses an interactive app and *Anti-Tourism*, a mobile app he created that he plans to make available through Google Play and iTunes. When people listen

to his app, they hear people's stories as they stand at the location where that story happened.

Using other people's stories as the basis for his creative works presented some initial hurdles, says LaRiviere, adding that he spent a few sleepless nights thinking he had bitten off more than he could chew.

"It's a bit of a sticky wicket," he says. "I've written a statement

of principles that begins with the issues around using other people's experiences in your own work. I think it is a question for contemporary art. It's an important question, because it has become fashionable in contemporary art through social practice and through relational aesthetics to work in this way."

LaRiviere deals with this by focusing on the event in question rather than the person speaking about the event.

"That, for me, is very critical," he says. "I don't want it to be about that exploitation of certain persons."

Focusing on the event also opens up the floor to many different interpretations of the experience, says LaRiviere.

"If I don't know who the speaker is, then what I bring to the table in terms of my reading of it is as important as anything else," he says.

LaRiviere acknowledges the slight irony of the project and says that tourism is a consumptive act.

"One question that comes up, even for me, is, 'Who is this guy who comes into another place and puts on an anti-tourism project? People depend on tourism. It's a part of their livelihood. One of the ways that I think about it is that I am actually a tourist,'" says LaRiviere.

But LaRiviere questions things when he goes to a new place; the answers to those questions examine the nature of the consumption of tourism.

"I am speaking from the per-

spective of a tourist; when you're a tourist, you consume place," he says.

With his project, LaRiviere is examining how tourists look at the places they visit.

"For most tourists, the question that they ask of place is, 'Show me your crown jewels. Give me your ideal narratives and ideal images,'" he says.

LaRiviere began by talking to people at the location their story took place at. Then he went back to his studio at Open Space, transcribed what he heard, editing it for clarity's sake, then brought the recording back to the subject; they signed a consent form to say that it accurately conveyed their story. The stories then play through the app as listeners stand in the place the subject is talking about.

The anti-tourist doesn't ask for what they normally see on a postcard; they ask for the day-to-day stories of people living in that place, says LaRiviere. The stories those people tell are not all flowers and daisies. In fact, some are very serious, while others are jovial.

"The anti-tourist asks for the real," says LaRiviere.

Anti-Tourism Project
Until Saturday, August 25
Free, tour starts at Open Space
openspace.ca/programming/eversordiddetail

music

Mattie Leon reflects on the realities of war on new EP

ADAM MARSH
STUDENT EDITOR

Toronto-based musician Mattie Leon was sitting by the water in Halifax, soaking up the beauty of Nova Scotia, when he began to intertwine history with creativity. It was this combination that led to his EP *Signal Hill*. Leon, who is on a national tour in support of the EP, points to one of *Signal Hill*'s songs, "Vimy"—about the battle of Vimy Ridge in World War I—as an example of his interest in history.

"I've always been into history," says Leon. "There's a lot of really interesting history about Canada: the ties to the British and then becoming independent; the world wars. Although ['Vimy'] is kind of about Vimy and World War I, it really kind of describes the whole propaganda thing in World War I, where all the people on the home front thought something adventurous was happening on the front lines and that's where heroes were made."

The headlines in the news at the time, says Leon, were positive, but he knows the soldiers' realities were far from that.

"If someone was killed, it was valiant, but in reality it was propaganda; what was going on over there was just gruesome and horrible and kind of, at the end of the day, a

waste of time," he says. "It was just a big waste."

But Leon knows Vimy Ridge was an integral part of Canadian history. He says it was a symbol of Canadians becoming independent in our own country, which he says was very important.

"And all the stuff that happened in the actual battle was really interesting," he says. "I could go on forever about it, but overall the song is kind of about that propaganda and, like, what a waste, and kind of 'How dare they?' you know?"

Leon says wars screwed up young people who were only lined up because they were trying to help.

"That's what it sounds like it was for every war, in every decade, in any country," he says, "somehow riling up people to go fight something that they don't know about."

But Leon writes about more than history; he also takes on issues of love, loss, and landscape, for example.

"On this new record, I've got lyrics about the Appalachians and then I've got lyrics about that turquoise blue water in the mountains just outside Calgary," he says. "I guess when I exhaust all the Canadian stuff I can think of, I'll move on, but it's pretty good right now."

Leon's brother Mike plays drums on the EP and is touring



ABOYNING PHOTOGRAPHY

Toronto musician Mattie Leon lets his interest in history come to the forefront on new EP *Signal Hill*.

with Leon. Leon writes the lyrics for his songs, and the two of them figure out the melodies.

"We get along really well," says Leon. "We just work really well together. We don't butt heads. We'll work on music stuff together, but I have time to work on the lyrics."

Leon says that getting the audience's undivided attention during those quieter songs that focus on the lyrics is something an artist has to work their way up to.

"I find that you kind of have to earn those songs where you need everybody to be quiet and listen,"

he says. "You can't start out of the gate with those."

Mattie Leon
1 pm Sunday, August 26
Free, Canoe Brewpub
canoebrewpub.com

stage

Releasing the words from the chrysalis at this year's Fringe Fest



PHOTO PROVIDED

In rehearsals for *The Boy in the Chrysalis*, playing at this year's Fringe Fest.

KATY WEICKER
STAFF WRITER

The journey for Hapax Theatre's upcoming production of *The Boy in the Chrysalis*, playing at this year's Victoria Fringe Festival, has been several years in the making. The one-man, one-act play tells the story of a schoolteacher who is a drag queen by night, struggling to escape the reality of his recent break-up and life failures within the confines of his apartment.

Playwright Liam Monaghan concocted the story in July of 2015 as part of the Emerging Artist Program through the Queer Acts Theatre Festival in Halifax. Three years later, director and producer Heather Jarvie and Hapax Theatre

co-founder Chad Laidlaw are showcasing *The Boy in the Chrysalis* here in Victoria. Monaghan, who has not been involved in the casting or rehearsal of the upcoming production, is excited to see what Jarvie and Laidlaw do with the piece.

"It's cool that it's taking on a new life that kind of has nothing to do with me, other than the fact that I wrote it," says Monaghan.

Despite the distance (both metaphorically and physically—Monaghan is from Lethbridge, Alberta and is currently based out of Vancouver), Monaghan has been in touch with Jarvie and Laidlaw and hopes to get to sit in on a couple of rehearsals in the next month.

"It's really exciting for me, be-

"It's cool that it's taking on a new life that kind of has nothing to do with me, other than the fact that I wrote it."

LIAM MONAGHAN
PLAYWRIGHT

cause I'm going to go see it, and it will be a new version of something that I wrote but that I haven't had a say in," he says. "So that's really cool."

Monaghan says that he's made peace with the process of putting so much of himself into the project and then releasing creative control of it.

"That's kind of what's great about writing for the theatre," says Monaghan. "It's so much a medium that's open to interpretation by directors and actors. You can never control how people are going to perform it, or how audiences are going to receive it, as a writer. That's what's exciting about it to me. It's so alive in that way."

Monaghan has yet to have the negative experience of a production going sideways from his original vision. Even if that did happen, he chooses to embrace the freedom of others' interpretation of his work.

"It's totally fascinating to see what people do with what you have envisioned or imagined," he says. "Sometimes it's so spot-on what you expected, and sometimes it really diverges from that. I guess you just have to accept that it's part of the medium. You can't get too hung up on it being perfectly what you envisioned or imagined in your head because that's not real. And that's okay. It's a good thing, I think, because oftentimes they make it better. Sometimes they do things you never thought of, and it's better."

Either way, he's proud to tell a story with strong queer themes and a gay protagonist, something he hopes will speak to patrons of all ages.

"He's a teacher, and one of the levels is about his relationship with his students that he cares about very much. So, in that sense, I think it

could be really good for kids. And obviously for young, queer kids, I think it would be representation, which is always an encouraging thing for queer audiences to go to a theatre space," says Monaghan. "Although, I will say, I don't always show the positive light, because I think sometimes we can get complacent that way. It's good to dig a little deeper and think about what are all the aspects, good and bad, of self-identifying this way, and how can we think about those in nuanced ways."

The Boy in the Chrysalis
(at Victoria Fringe Festival)
5:15 pm Friday, August 24 to
Sunday, September 2
\$9 student tickets, Langham
Court Theatre
intrepidtheatre.com

New Music Revue



Guns N' Roses

Appetite for Destruction 2 CD Deluxe Edition
(Universal Music Canada)
3/5

When I first heard *Appetite for Destruction* as an impressionable pie-faced 12-year-old, it was about the only thing that made sense to me for a good nine months. The incredible fury-loaded riffs and roars in "Welcome to the Jungle" and "Sweet Child o' Mine," and the poetic, fast-paced beats of "My Michelle"... the album is a rock nut's bible.

Appetite, originally released in 1987, is now being reissued in several different formats, including the *Locked N' Loaded* box set, which sells for a grand on the band's website.

The two-disc deluxe edition contains a remastered version of the original album plus the band's 1986 Sound City studio session and live recordings from 1987 in London.

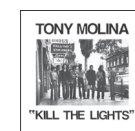
The 1986 studio sessions are raw, fascinating audio footage, serving as an early look at one of the greatest rock bands ever. The songs are a flaw-embraced jackpot; the lead and rhythm guitars are, unfortunately, too unbalanced in

the mix. Steven Adler's drum work is legendary leadership in "Paradise City." Axl Rose's vocals are clear, despite sounding distant, and not without the improvisation often found in live recordings. These are studio recordings, but they feel live; even if it sounds far from immaculate at times, that's not what it's about.

The live recordings from 1987 are memorable, sometimes for their nails-on-chalkboard vocals and other times for when the musicians take charge, which makes for an incredible experience. AC/DC cover "Whole Lotta Rosie" is fast-paced and, instrumentally speaking, Guns at their best. The guitar solos show why Slash is regarded as one of the best guitarists ever, but, frankly, there are points where Rose's vocals sound like they're being sung from my cousin's garage. At times he sounds frozen, flat, and as though he is forcing every moment of it.

Appetite is an album I'll come back to for its flaws and strong points alike that end up making for a time capsule of one of the greatest, messiest, and morally uncompromising bands to ever rock. This deluxe edition isn't as essential but provides a fascinating look into what created one of the best rock albums of all time.

—ADAM MARSH



Tony Molina

Kill the Lights
(Slumberland Records)
3.5/5

Kill the Lights by California's Tony Molina is a callback to the late '60s and early '70s, when love was on everyone's mind and emotional, bard-like vocals were the popular sound.

Molina's complex musical arrangements and retro styling remind me of The Beatles—the honest to God Beatles—and his voice is quite comparable to John Lennon's and his lonely, sentimental melodies.

Each song on this album is around one minute long but, despite their brevity, each tells a story of love and loss that transitions beautifully into the next, creating a short but impactful listening experience.

If the aim of this collection of songs was quality over quantity, mission accomplished. Molina has made it clear that he isn't afraid to create something groovy and different using his raw talent.

If you're a retro fan, this album is definitely worth checking out; *Kill the Lights* is even available on vinyl.

—TRULY HUNTER



The Rolling Stones

From The Vault: No Security, San Jose '99
(Universal Music Canada)
4/5

My fears of live albums being duds were quickly categorized as irrational halfway through "Jumpin' Jack Flash," the first song on The Rolling Stones' new archival live album *From The Vault: No Security, San Jose '99*. This is a song that has always made the hairs on my neck stand on end, and this recording of it is no exception.

"I Got the Blues" is an epic ballad, proving that the Stones are the last living fathers of blues and rock. The rarely-performed-live "Saint of Me" and "Some Girls" are high points of the album. The epic 12-minute version of "Midnight Rambler" is out of this world, and "Out of Control" is dark and eerie, balanced out with more straightforward rockers like "Start Me Up." "Brown Sugar" is a little messy this time around but still manages to keep its crowd-roaring, legendary riffs and controversial subject matter in the limelight.

As far as live albums go, this one is intimate and top quality, making it a keeper.

—ADAM MARSH



Sky Parallel

Sky Parallel
(TuneCore)
4.5/5

Sky Parallel's new self-titled EP is an essential experience for anyone who desires an alternative to mainstream pop music. Sarah Noni and Sara Fitzpatrick have taken pop music and infused it with virtuoso flavour to create something that demands to be heard.

My initial impression of Sky Parallel—who are based in Granthams Landing, BC—was that I was genuinely hearing something I'd never heard before. In an age where it is increasingly rare to find pop music that isn't so heavily produced that every track sounds the same, Sky Parallel is a fresh and unique voice above the din.

From the dark, luxurious sound of the track "Jezebel" to their beautifully distinctive cover of the classic stage song "How I Feel," this album is a great example of what can happen when two incredibly talented artists work in harmony to create magic in music form.

—TRULY HUNTER

art
UVic grad comes full circle with love of art in new exhibit

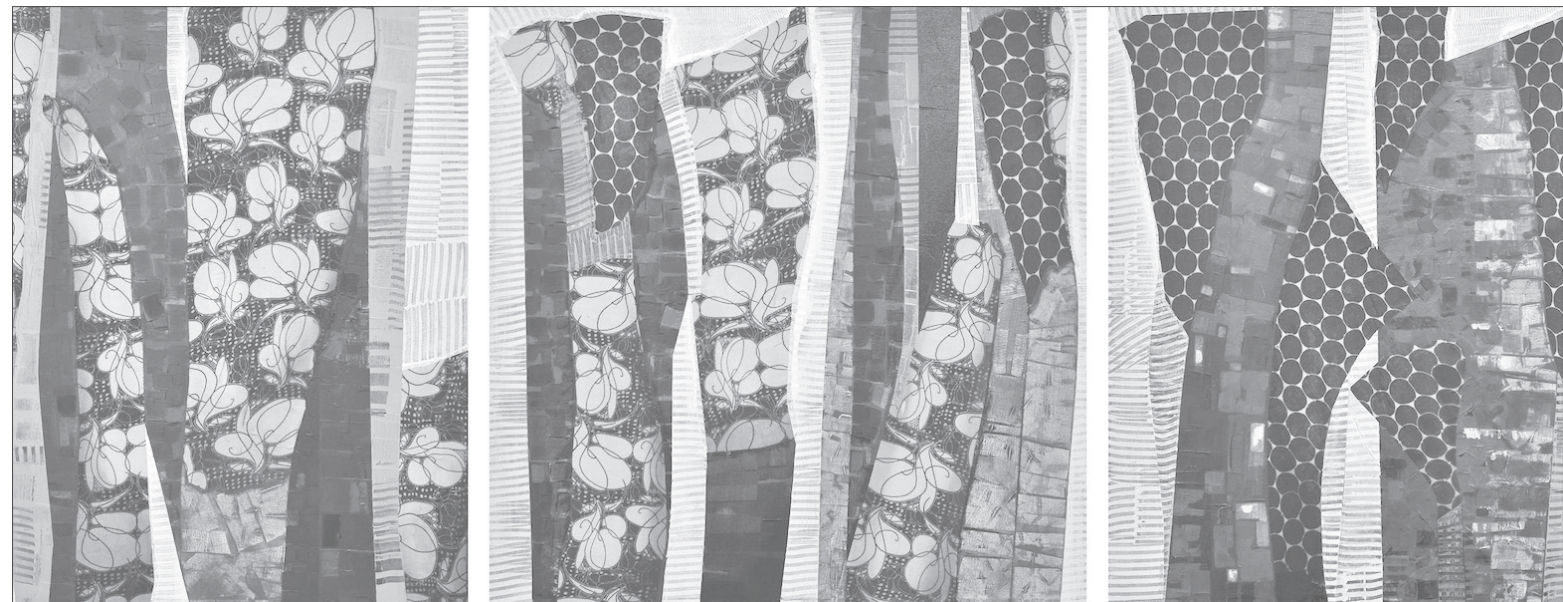


PHOTO PROVIDED

Detail of Chin Yuen's 'My Garden Paradise,' a triptych on display at her Wanderlust and Souvenirs exhibit, which runs until August 14.

DONNA RIBAROVSKI
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Chin Yuen was already drawing at a young age. Even before the Victoria-based artist started kindergarten, she knew she loved art. However, she didn't make the decision to become a professional artist until she was in her 30s.

"I just threw myself 100 percent into working as a painter," she says,

"whereas before that I was teaching art and making art on the side, never completely committed."

During her childhood, Yuen was obsessed with drawing people. She was always perfecting the human form in her drawings and paintings. As time went on, she experienced a need for change.

"If you have control over your skills, there's freedom in whatever you want to do," she says. "I think that it's easy to splash around—that's for sure—but I think there's a lot of skills involved with abstract

tion, too. It's commonly assumed that abstraction is much easier because it's formless, in some ways."

Last year, Yuen completed an artist residency in Berlin, where she created a series of 25 paintings based on her photos of things around town that interested her. She wanted to create a unique souvenir for herself that played on the idea that our memory is very subjective.

"It evolves with such a degree of abstraction," she says. "That whole enactment plays on the idea and it also exaggerates the idea that our

life. She's lived in six countries, and she currently has a second home in Berlin.

"I associate moving as a way of broadening my horizon and improving myself," she says. "With that kind of movement, I find it really excites me."

But for Yuen, wanderlust is more than getting the travel bug; it's the thirst for experiencing different cultures, absorbing different ideas, and seeing how people live. She hopes people will walk away from her exhibit with an inspiration to paint and to create, as well as with a sense of intrigue.

"I think that acrylics can do so exciting," she says. "It is such an exciting thing."

The exhibit also finds Yuen coming back to square one and embracing her love of art, as she did when she was a kid.

"It took me all that time to finally say, 'Yes, I cannot possibly live without ever giving it 100 percent.' I never regret any of the education I went through," she says. "I never regret all the detours I took because they made me a richer person."

"The souvenirs that I've collected are unique because they are not the typical trinkets that you buy," she says.

To Yuen, the concept of "wanderlust" represents the fact that she has moved so often in her

memory goes through many layers of removal, the very experience that we have."

When Yuen came home to Victoria, she was inspired to carry the idea forward, creating a solo exhibition, Wanderlust and Souvenirs, based on her travels. The exhibit has paintings that evolved from experiences in Morocco, Hong Kong, and Germany.

"The souvenirs that I've collected are unique because they are not the typical trinkets that you buy," she says.

Wanderlust and Souvenirs
Until Tuesday, August 14
Free, Fortune Gallery
fortunegallery.ca

Humour comic strip by Javden Grieve. Panels include: 'Dude, you sure you want to go out without a hat? The sun's really harsh right now. I'll be fine.' 'Even if you perfect your craft as an actor you'll never get leading roles because you simply don't reflect the image that Hollywood wants to employ.' 'The truth hurts, doesn't it?'

Nexus Web Exclusive advertisement. Features 'You draw comics.' and 'Get them published.' sections. Includes a list of top five most read stories for the week of July 30, 2018.

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!

Nexus Web Exclusive advertisement. Features 'What's happening at nexusnewspaper.com' and a list of top five most read stories for the week of July 30, 2018.



Let's Talk?

by Katy Weicker

Time to put on the big girl panties

Nine years ago, I had my first serious "big girl panties" moment: that moment when, in a fight-or-flight situation, you choose to fight, where you understand the world doesn't revolve around your snowflake idiosyncrasies.

There comes a time when you realize sometimes shitty things happen to good people. You have a choice to disintegrate or, in the words of my mother, "put on your big girl panties and get on with it."

Let me tell you, sometimes that's easier said than done. When things are going well, big-kid underwear is almost a given. Need to buy toilet paper and cleaning supplies? I got this. Light bulb in the kitchen needs to be changed? Piece of cake—I'm an independent woman. Co-worker being an asshole? My road's so high, you can call me Snoopy Dog.

Then there are moments when it gets tough. Real tough: a loved one gets sick, your relationship ends in a

Being a grown-assed human isn't easy. Pillow forts, colouring books, and dramatic exits are comfortable defaults, but big-girl panties exist for a reason: the things in life worth having require them.

blindsight, or you just really have no fucking clue what you're doing with your life. These are the moments when you realize just how big-girl panties actually are.

After months of these undergarments being a given, I've had to rely on them more than usual recently. And it has not been easy. They stayed metaphorically hitched between my ankles and knees for a good week until I realized that, as much as it was gonna suck to pull them on, I needed to. (Disclaimer: even when you finally bolster the courage to put them on, there will be moments when you want to take

them off, or when they will involuntarily slide back down.)

Being a grown-assed human isn't easy. Pillow forts, colouring books, and dramatic exits are comfortable defaults, but big-girl panties exist for a reason: the things in life worth having require them. We need them to fight for the good, overcome the bad, and know when to walk away. The reality is that putting on big-girl panties takes a lot of strength, more strength than we think we possess. But we put them on anyway. And most of the time, we surprise ourselves with just how strong we actually are.



Unpacking the Bags

by Renata Silva

Visas, permits, and a lot of tension

Only an international student knows the tension that surrounds visas. There are so many details involved that the worry about your visa does not end when your passport with the authorization to enter into Canada arrives. To stay legal in this country, we need to be well informed about the number of hours we can work, how many courses we can do per semester at college, what the schedule breaks are, and other details that may interfere with our planning.

We are always thinking about visas. If it's not the one we currently have, it's the next one that we will apply for. Visas do not last forever, and when the expiration date approaches we need to have a clear plan. This means knowing what type of visa we are going to

apply for next, what documents are needed, how long the process will take, whether we can leave the country or not, and whether we can work while we wait for our next visa to arrive.

In the case of students, when the study permit expires we have the option to apply for one of the types of work permits, extend the study visa itself, or apply directly for permanent residence. It's important to know which of these options you qualify for. Of course, if the idea is to stay in Canada, the most comfortable option is to apply directly for permanent residence; however, most of the time students are not yet eligible for this process, and we need to apply for a new temporary visa before applying for permanent residence.

You can see that the path from one visa to another is very troubled and full of uncertainties. So, my tip for you is to gather as much information as possible about the type of visa you want to apply for so you don't waste time or cause unnecessary stress.

Another tip is to never wait for the last few months to begin gathering the required documentation. If any document requires more time to be provided, this may adversely affect the timing of the application process for the new visa.

It's important to have perseverance, calmness, and good planning skills when dealing with visas. The challenges that are involved in all this are part of a student's new life and should be seen as a way to build our dreams.



Communication Error

by Nate Downe

Exploring telepathy

Have you ever imagined that you could communicate with other people using only your mind? And that, by doing so, you could have all the things you've ever desired? Well, if you had telepathy, chances are it wouldn't help you communicate better; you would just hear inner monologues about nonsense.

The majority of sci-fi films and television have led us to believe that having the ability to tap into someone's thoughts would give us the ultimate edge in our interactions and communications—and, ultimately, life.

But the reality is this: if you were to select one random person on the bus, for example, your amazing ability would pick up worries about what others might have said about them, or perhaps concerns about whether they could have said something differently in a conversation they had earlier; ruminations on what was said and what could have been said.

Communication is like a funnel: a lot wants to come out but only a small amount does. What happens is the little amount that does come out leaves us regretting what didn't come out.

So, if you could read others' minds, chances are what you find would look quite similar to your own thoughts. The question is: what's on your mind? Why are you concerned with what has been said and what could have been said? Mind reading isn't required

for being heard; in fact, it actually presupposes people are listening to you in the first place, and chances are they aren't. If others are more concerned with worries about their past communication, then why does reading their minds matter? If time travel took you back to the moment when you wanted to say something differently, would that solve everything?

Let's consider that for a second. If we always care more about what we've said, as opposed to what we're saying, then we are forever in a loop—ad infinitum. The past conversations matter more than the present ones. Well, how does that make any sense? Yet, most of us have this logic built into us—so much so, in fact, that most of our communications rely on the past in order to make sense of the present.

If telepathy were possible, would it actually help us? If communication is a mixed bag—a shot in the dark, if you will—then reading others' minds isn't a straight path.

We often forget that communication isn't neutral; that it does not jump from brain to brain naturally; that language has its conventions, like everything else.

For most of us, communicating with anyone other than our best friends or mothers can be difficult at times. But, perhaps, the ability to communicate directly into someone's mind would bypass all of communication's shortcomings. Or would it?



House of Columns

by Joel Satre

Universal basic income basics

There's a concept that's catching more attention in recent years that we need to talk about: the universal basic income. It's a social welfare concept that isn't exactly new and is having a comeback. It's time students join this re-emerging conversation.

For those who may not know, a basic income—commonly known as a universal or guaranteed income—is a system of wealth distribution that assures every citizen is given a bare minimum of money from the government, no questions asked. There are different variants, revolving around a minimum figure or the idea that everyone, regardless of income, is given a cheque.

Essentially, the idea is to eliminate poverty by giving everyone money. Proponents say this is the simplest way to combat housing inaffordability and the rising cost of living, which keeps people in a low income status. And, clearly, this should be attractive to students. While it doesn't reduce tuition, it would surely provide a lot of assistance.

Many—including SpaceX founder/Tesla co-founder Elon Musk—argue that with automation on the rise, such a system will become inevitable. It's also favoured by some conservative thinkers, notably legendary libertarian economist Milton Friedman. So this isn't

just left-wing idealism. People like it because it allows more personal freedom—and, controversially, because it allows other social welfare services to be cut.

So there are reasons to be skeptical, despite some good merits to the system. As students, there are plenty of reasons to advocate for a system that allows optimal support to ease costs of living. However, at the same time, conventional services would undergo massive cuts, effectively being replaced by a free poverty-line government cheque to everyone, without the recipients of the money having to prove anything.

Cuts aren't the only issue. What about laziness? Will people care to work or spend their money effectively, or will it largely go to consumerist waste? The idea is to allow individuals to spend as they choose, so you answer that yourself. And what about rising inflation it may cause? A basic income raises lots of questions.

We should be having this discussion more as students, looking at both the good and the bad. If it works, why not implement it? It would reduce costs for students immeasurably.

With the provincial government about to launch an experimental basic income pilot project, we need to be having this conversation. And now is the time.

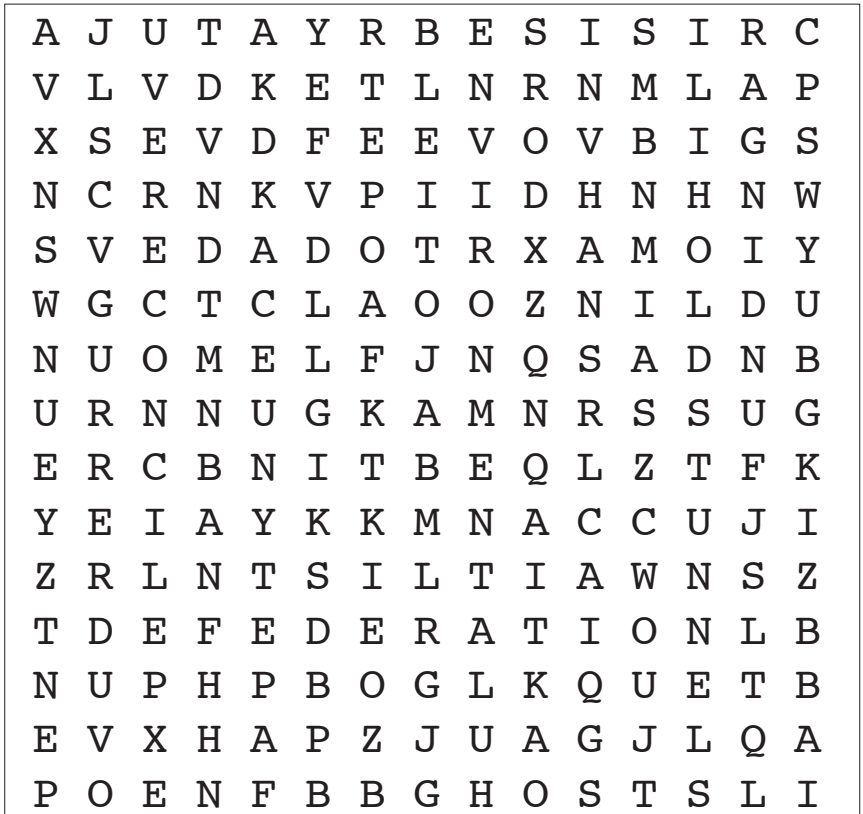
Nexus advertisement. Text: 'Ever wanted to be a columnist? Now is your chance! Email editor@nexusnewspaper.com with your column idea today!' Includes 'Nexus Web Exclusive' and 'What's happening at nexusnewspaper.com'.

sebastien sunstrum word search

This is the last issue that Sebastien Sunstrum will illustrate for us. Sunstrum has been drawing our covers for a year and we give him a huge salute for all his hard work. For this puzzle, we looked back on 12 months of covers he created for us and picked some of the words from them. Clearly, it's been an interesting year.

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 something from our pile o' prizes!

- ANXIETY
- CRISIS
- DEFEDERATION
- DIMENSIONS
- ELEVATOR
- ENVIRONMENTAL
- EXPEL
- FUNDING
- GENDER
- GHOSTS
- LANGFORD
- PORTALS
- RECONCILE
- REHAB
- TANZANIA
- TRIBULATIONS
- TUNNELS
- URINE
- VIOLENCE
- WAITLIST



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Adam Marsh
Student editor for *Nexus* newspaper. Marsh has covered issues such as students successfully protesting tuition raises and student issues surrounding the federal election.

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what's going on

by kathy weicker



JAM HAMIDI

Blue Bridge Repertory Theatre is bringing *Sweeney Todd—The Demon Barber of Fleet Street* to the Roxy Theatre; see our web-exclusive review up now at nexusnewspaper.com.

UNTIL SUNDAY, AUGUST 12
A close shave
Blue Bridge Repertory Theatre is bringing cannibalistic meat pies to The Roxy Theatre with Stephen Sondheim's musical *Sweeney Todd—The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*. This wildly popular pop opera was inspired by the horrifying, turn-of-the-century penny dreadful novels. For ticket sales and schedule, as well as information on other productions, visit bluebridgetheatre.ca.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 10
Battle of the brushes
The Victoria Event Centre is hosting Art Battle Victoria on August 10. Twelve painters will battle the clock and each other over the course of three rounds. Audience votes will determine the winner and the creations will then be up for silent auction. The event starts at 7 pm and tickets can be purchased at eventbrite.com (search Art Battle Victoria). Student tickets are available for \$15 (general

admission is \$20). For more info, check out Art Battle Victoria's event page on Facebook.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 10
Under cover
If tribute bands are your thing, head down to Capital Ballroom on August 10 to check out Alice In Chains tribute Facelift, Turbonegro tribute Deathtime, and Nirvana tribute Nevermind. Tickets will set you back \$15; more info can be found at thecapitalballroom.com.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 10 TO SUNDAY, AUGUST 12
Fire-breathing fun
Victoria Dragon Boat Festival is back for its 24th year. While the races in the inner harbour are definitely the highlight of the weekend, there are also opportunities to enjoy global cuisine, dance to local bands, and raise funds for BC Cancer Foundation. For more info, including the full festival schedule, visit victoriadragonboat.com

SATURDAY, AUGUST 11
A rolling good time
Eves of Destruction is offering the chance to check out an evening of roller derby with an admission-by-donation exhibition double-header. The event will take place at Archie Browning Sports Centre, with the doors opening at 5 pm. The Hard Cores are set to battle Cowichan Valley's Brass Knuckle Derby Dames at 5:30 pm; at 7:30 pm, it will be a match-up between the all-star A-Team and Grave Danger from Seattle. For more info on this and other upcoming games, visit evesofdestruction.com.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 14
Get yer yuk-yuks on
Logan's Pub is hosting a comedy night on August 14; come check out some of Victoria's comedic talent at 8 pm. Free; more information on this and other events happening at Logan's Pub is available at logans-pub.com

THURSDAY, AUGUST 16
Ancient metal
Metal buzz band Ancients are playing a free show in Centennial Square with Dead Quiet, Buzzard, and Under the Mountain on August 16. The show starts at 6 pm; see eventide-victoria.com for more information.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 18 AND SUNDAY, AUGUST 19
Like Lollapalooza, but hairier
A weekend of pet-friendly vendors, entertainment, and a puppy stampee awaits at this year's Pet-A-Palooza. Located at St. Ann's Academy (835 Humboldt Street) this free, pet-friendly event runs Saturday and Sunday from 11 am to 4 pm. For more information, visit petapaloozawest.com.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22
Everybody dance now
Vanilla Ice, Rob Base, Young MC, and C+C Music Factory? Oh, my! Save-

on-Foods Memorial Centre is hosting the ultimate '90s throwback party with Back to the '90s. Get ready to bust a move because these acts are gonna make you sweat. Tickets range in price from \$45 to \$79.50 and are available at the Save-on-Foods Memorial Centre box office or online at selectyourtickets.com. See sofmc.com for more info.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22 TO SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2
Life on the fringes
With 47 shows from around the world, The Victoria Fringe Festival is offering a lot this year. This long-standing live-performance festival offers entertainment at a decent price. You must make a one-time purchase of a Fringe Festival button for \$6 to attend performances (the money goes to help offset the cost of the festival; ticket sales from individual shows go directly to the performers). For full Fringe Festival schedule and ticket information, visit victoriafringe.com.