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camosun's student voice since 1990

# ACCUSATIONS OF RACISM UNAUTHORIZED BANK TRANSACTIONS DEFEDERATION FROM THE CFS

...and other concerns from the frontlines of the national student movement.

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# **NEXUS**

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

V8P 5J2

Location: Lansdowne Richmond House 201

Phone: 250-370-3591

Email: editor@nexusnewspaper.com Website: nexusnewspaper.com

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STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS

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STUDENT EDITOR

Mason Hendricks

STAFF WRITER

Adam Boyle PHOTOGRAPHER Jill Westby

ADVERTISING SALES

**Greg Pratt** 250-370-3593

FREE Media (national)

advertising@free-media.com

780-421-1000

CONTRIBUTORS Sean Annable

Jordyn Goodwin

Jayden Grieve Patrick Newman

Elias Orrego

Matt Smith Aaron Stefik

Something on your mind? If you're a Camosun student, send Open Space submissions (up to 500 words) to editor@nexusnewspaper.com. Include your student number. Thanks!

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OVERHEARD AT NEXUS: "How the fuck do you spell 'kilo-

# student editor's letter

# The bumpy, worthwhile road to reality checks

There's something invigorating about writing stories on the national student movement. I strongly believe that more students would care about these issues if they knew about them in the first place. Covering every story you see in here—be it the feature or an arts preview—in a fair way and with a high regard for professional integrity from our student writers is of the utmost importance in a world that takes memes of politicians on Facebook as reliable news sources.

What I feel absolutely no hesitation in shouting from the rooftops of Camosun—or the scaffolding of the Young Building—is that part of what makes the national student movement so invigorating to cover is that it's not on the front page of *The Globe and Mail* or *National Post*. With the exception of a handful of other media outlets, you'd be hard-pressed to find this student-movement coverage anywhere else. On the one hand, it's great to have our stories about the movement be really and truly ours to hand to you, the readers. But the other side of that somewhat sticky—I swear to god, sometimes it's unflippable—coin is that issues that are important to students don't get addressed by as many people who would address them if they actually knew more about them. Hopefully this issue's cover story (see page 6) helps students learn more about what's going on out there.

Enjoy the issue. I hope it gives you a reason to care about what's happening with groups that you pay to be a part of, like the Canadian Federation of Students, the British Columbia Federation of Students, and the Camosun College Student Society. Of course, there are also comics and word searches, arts previews, and much more. However you like your paper with your morning coffee, there's something in here for you, I can almost guarantee it. If not, drop by Richmond House 201 and let us know what we should be covering. We are, after all, your student newspaper, and our door is always open for you.

> Adam Marsh, student editor adam@nexusnewspaper.com

# open space

# In memory of Christine Archibald

### AARON STEFIK

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

I've sat myself down to write about my brush with the life of Christine Archibald on many occasions since her murder on June 3. This one I'm writing today, precisely a month after that day, comes by way of apology as much as in remembrance, although in one fashion at least it is fitting: the bright-eyed and ever-smiling Chrissy Archibald has been eulogized by family, by close friends, and by dozens of the Castlegar and Calgary citizens whom she touched in years of publicly invested social work in aid of the disenfranchised and substance-reliant.

Only now that most of them have found the time to say their piece does it seem nearing appropriate, if at all, that I, who knew her for but a few hours, should offer my own ramblings about her life.

One humid summer evening on the Plein, beneath the gaze of one of a dozen statues of William the Silent that guarded The Hague, my father street to join for dinner the young presence.

couple that was Tyler Ferguson and Christine Archibald. Chrissy was my father's colleague's sister; I was quickly glad of the excuse to meet her. She talked of her social work, her adventures together with her fiancé in Europe, and her hopes for days ahead. Anyone making account of the evening's talk would have labelled her future a bright one, and I certainly did.

As our pints of the local beer wore away, the conversation somehow turned to children, and Chrissy clutched at Tyler's hand momentarily, eyes distant as she said that she hoped that they too would have a family before much longer.

Little more than a week later, Archibald was gone, the first of seven to fall in the London Bridge terror attack.

It would be small of me to make anything meaningful for myself of this chance meeting with an altogether pure-hearted and evidently so unselfish woman whose life was cut brutally short. May it suffice to offer my sympathies to a family and and I wandered down a cobbled to a world made darker without her open space

# Marijuana should not be legalized for recreational use

**ELIAS ORREGO** CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Marijuana should not be legalized in BC for recreational use because of the associated health and safety risks.

Medicinal marijuana has been recognized and legalized in BC for its health benefits; its effectiveness in pain relief, without the side effects from commonly used prescription pain medication like morphine, is invaluable. The budding gold mine has also been used to increase appetite for patients who suffer from reduced appetite as a side effect of other medication. Anxiety, depression, and PTSD have also been effectively treated by this natural alternative.

If the drug can be so helpful, why not make it available to everyone for use, without a prescription from a medical professional? This question creates a question of its own: how many of the drugs prescribed by BC doctors are legal for recreational use? Answer: none.

Marijuana is most dangerous when it's combined with alcohol. Any college student who has been to a house party could vouch that the joint and the bottle commonly go hand in hand.

Psychology Today has spoken out against the pairing of the two, claiming the substances have a reverse effect on one another at the neurological level, leading to an overuse of each that may result in death (marijuana can suppress the urge to vomit, which can result in alcohol poisoning). We're losing enough people in BC to fentanyl; there is no need to legalize something that could potentially be so destructive.

If the government legalizes marijuana, it would send members of the province, including the young and impressionable, the message that marijuana is not that bad.

According to the Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse and Addiction, the developing adolescent brain is at risk for many negative side effects of chronic use of marijuana, including difficulties with thinking, memory, and attention. Chronic use may also place adults and adolescents alike at a higher risk of developing anxiety, depression, psychosis, and lung cancer.

According to ICBC statistics on motor vehicle fatalities, 23 percent involve impaired drivers, killing an average of 66 individuals per year. THC can remain in the body for up to four weeks after use for regular users and two weeks for occasional users. Few are likely to wait the several days that may

How many of the drugs prescribed by BC doctors are legal for recreational use? Answer: none.

be necessary before driving again would be deemed safe. Accidents and fatalities are likely to increase with legalization.

The influence this drug has on increased alcohol and tobacco use and dependence for users does not need to increase further. Drug talks in public schools in BC in the past have commonly referred to marijuana as the gateway drug leading users to experiment with harder and more dangerous drugs. Where will the line be drawn?

In the interest of the safety and health of BC residents, legalization of marijuana for recreational use is one gate the provincial government should not be inclined to open.

# 25 Years Ago in Nexus returns in September



to consider billeting homeless people because of the housing crisis?



# **AVI PATEL**

"I think helping human beings in general is generally a good thing. Even though it's for free, it's still a good thing to do to help our community grow."



**NAURA EZZARANALI** 

"It's a great idea, actually. I think it will save them from drugs [and] disease."



**SAYAKA EWEN** 

"Housing prices are super expensive in Victoria, and lots of people struggle to find their own place. It isn't a bad idea."



**SELINA ZHANG** 

"It's the government's responsibility to build up some places for homeless people, and give at least some allowances to the people who provide a house to the homeless people."



**ANDREW ROBERTS** 

"I think it's a good idea. A lot of us are brought up with the idea that you have to live on your own and be independent, but if you have a mental problem or a drug addiction, you need support."



BY ADAM MARSI

**ALPHA KENNEH** 

"Maybe the person is a drug addict, and taking them in might disrupt your home; if not you, it might influence your children. I don't think that's a good idea, bringing someone in you don't know."

policy

# Camosun College institutes new 20-credit registration limit





Students visiting the Dawson building to register for September courses are facing some changes.

### ADAM MARSH

STUDENT EDITOR

As of September of this year, Camosun College will be implementing a 20-credit registration limit. This will prevent students from registering in extra classes as a safeguard, a practice that the college says is making other students unable to get into the classes they want.

Camosun registrar Scott Harris adds that this limit is coming into effect mainly to help ensure students' academic success.

"Most colleges and universities will limit the number of courses that any student can be in at any one time," says Harris, "particularly from a student success perspective primarily, to ensure that students aren't overloading to the point where they're diminishing their chances of being successful."

Harris says that it's common for many Camosun students to register in courses they may or may not want to take and then drop out at the last moment, which can get in the way of students who really need to be in that class to obtain their desired certification.

"Students will often register in up to dozens of courses and then sort of hedge their bets heading into the first couple weeks of the term. We were seeing a pretty significant number of students doing that,"

says Harris. (Harris was unable to provide numbers of how many students do this.)

There are exceptions to the credit limit: the college will allow students who maintain a B+ average or higher to enroll in more than 20 credits.

"The focus is on success," says Harris.

But Harris also points out that some Camosun programs—for example, some computer programs require more than 20 credits in one term. Harris says this is "another issue unto itself."

"We need to have some real discussions at Camosun about how we determine credits," he says.

Harris also says that students who are slightly below the required average may still be able to register in more courses, depending on circumstances.

Camosun College Student Society (CCSS) external executive Rachael Grant says that the CCSS was not directly involved in the implementation of the new credit limit, but she hopes Camosun students will respond positively to this change.

"This was causing an issue for other students in that they might not be able to sign up for a class, and I imagine it was also a financial issue for the college when people are withdrawing from classes and

there's this big empty spot where there could be students who are paying tuition," says Grant.

SCOTT HARRIS CAMOSUN COLLEGE

"Students will often register in up to dozens of courses and then sort of hedge their bets heading into the first couple weeks of the term."

> Grant says that the change could work toward the greater good for both students and for the college.

> "The intention seems to be very positive, and we hope that it will be a positive thing overall when it starts to play out," she says. "We're hoping the benefit is maintained."

> Grant says the college should remain open to student feedback about the policy.

"We hope that as this is implemented the college is open to adjusting practices if this ends up negatively impacting students in some way," she says.

# **NEWS BRIEFS**

# Camosun alumnus new Chargers coach

Former Camosun Chargers men's volleyball player Brent Hall is the new Chargers women's volleyball head coach. Hall—who graduated from Camosun with a bachelor's degree in Athletic and Exercise Therapy—played for the Chargers when they won consecutive British Columbia Colleges Athletics Association provincial gold medals in 2009 and 2010. Hall replaces Chris Dahl, who has taken  $a job \, with \, Volleyball \, BC \, as \, director \,$ of coach development.

# Students awarded at Camosun grad

Five awards were given to graduating Camosun College students at this year's grad ceremonies, held June 15 and 16 at the Interurban campus. The Board of Governors Award for Innovation went to Ben Costin, while Marcelle Lima picked

up the Lieutenant Governor's Silver Medal. The Governor General's Collegiate Bronze Academic Medal was given to four students: Mathew Mosveen, Jim Mercer, Chris Cocker, and Graeme Galloway. The Camosun College Distinguished Alumni Award was given to Phil Venoit, a 1985 trades grad. The Promising Alumni Award went to Matt Vaillant, a 2014 Business grad.

# **Ontario students** awarded for sexual-violenceprevention work

White Ribbon, an organization that works against sexual violence, recently recognized three students from Ontario for their work against sexual violence on post-secondary campuses. White Ribbon's Provincial Draw-the-Line Post-Secondary Sexual Violence Prevention Awards are given to people who "have developed innovative ways

of addressing and redefining sexual violence prevention programming on campus," according to a press release. The summer 2017 winners are Elizabeth Brulé from York University, Chris Moulton from the University of Guelph, and Sarah Wiley from the University of Waterloo.

# Liberals pledge to reverse Adult Basic **Education cuts**

The BC Liberals pledged to reverse their \$6.9-million cut to Adult Basic Education (ABE) in their recent throne speech. The Liberals made the announcement on Thursday, June 22.

# Helps calls for help with housing crisis

Victoria mayor Lisa Helps blogged in mid-June asking the public to consider billeting Victoria's homeless people. In particular, she called on those with spare rooms or vacant basement suites. Victoria's vacancy rate is 0.5 percent as of June 13.

# **Greater Victoria School District adds** new technology

The Greater Victoria School District is making a \$1.25-million investment in Chromebooks and iPads, to be available for students as of September of this year. This investment will make one device available to every four students; the current ratio is approximately one device for every six students. \$250,000 of the investment will be spent on updating the school's existing technology.

# **Low Carbon Economy Fund announced**

The Canadian federal government recently announced the establishment of the Low Carbon Economy Fund. Money from the

\$2 billion fund will be put toward initiatives supporting clean growth and reducing greenhouse-gas emissions, according to a press release.

# **CRD** says water still safe to drink

The Capital Regional District (CRD)'s drinking water is, as in previous years, of top quality and safe to drink, according to the 2016 Annual Report on Greater Victoria Drinking Water Quality. In a recent press release about the report, the CRD says that it monitors water quality closely.

-ADAM MARSH

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college

# Exhibit showcases Camosun artist-in-residence alumni

**MASON HENDRICKS** 

WEB EDITOR

A little air is a new visual arts exhibit up at Camosun College's Lansdowne campus, and it has a twist: it's made up of older works from seven of Camosun's artist-in-residence alumni. The works on display may vary in concept and design, but they are consistently thought-provoking and creative.

"I was invited to apply for the residency for the 2014 session," says artist Jess Willa Wheaton. "The work that's in the exhibit is a work that I made there at Camosun and left as a gift to the school, so that's how that came to be in the show. It's a large oil painting on canvas. I work combining very different images, and I do that in part to create a more complicated sense of space in my work. I did it in oil paintings and also in collages that are completely physical, all with found printed material. Scale is a big subject in my work; with the collages I can't change the scale of anything, because I find it, but with the paintings I can."

Wheaton completed her undergrad degree in California and then received her master's degree in fine arts while in New York, where she currently lives. She says her work in *A little air* is "overtly about the scale shift" and was created alongside other paintings using image references and silhouettes of leaves and trees, which "are represented by a photograph that I found—and then there is this foregrounded,



GREG PRATT/NEXUS

A sampling of some of the works on display in A little air, which is up at Camosun's Lansdowne campus until September 13.

kind of luminous grey element that emulates a different photogram that I found," she says.

"So it's a big difference," she continues. "Contemporary photo in the back, and a very early type of photography in front, and then sort of fused together in a painting, so that the frontal element feels quite close to the surface but there is a ton of space in the background of the painting."

Art has been a long-time love of

Wheaton's. She says she was "one of those kids that were manically drawing" whenever she could.

"But it wasn't actually until I moved to Canada to attend Camosun when I was 20 that I officially began studying art," she says.

Many of the artists featured in the show feel a strong connection to the residency and to Camosun's Visual Arts department, and it's interesting to see how the artists have honed their skills, tweaked

their techniques, and brought their visions to life.

"I've been officially making work for over a decade," says Wheaton. "All of it sort of relates to that work in the show. I've just continuously evolved, in truth, over time. This is my career; I'm in the studio as much as possible. Last year I had a temporary post teaching art in university. I have different odd jobs that I take on to get by, but art is definitely the main event; or, I should say, work in the studio is the main event. I always have more that I am thinking about and desiring to work on than there are hours in the day; I'm just thinking about my work all the time."

A little air Until Friday, September 13 Young Building, lower floor Lansdowne campus

know your profs

# Camosun's Kevin Alexander catches on fire, dislikes lateness



CAMOSUN COLLEGE A/V SERVICES

Camosun's Kevin Alexander almost got kicked out of the college as a student.

### **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

If you have an instructor you'd like to see interviewed in the paper, but perhaps you're too busy to ask them yourself, email editor@nexusnewspaper.com and we'll add them to our list of teachers to talk to.

a little better.

This issue we caught up with Camosun Welding prof Kevin Alexander to talk about travelling for lacrosse, his clothes catching fire, and the importance of not lowering the bar for students.

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

Welding. I've been here about 14 years.

2. What do you personally get out of teaching?

I like seeing students grow,

mature, and work reasonably hard to achieve their goals. Too many people these days expect instant results at everything, and in real life that's just not the case. Showing a student that's not the case is important.

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

I don't know about this one. Probably that at one time I was just like most of them. I was a young Camosun welding student who, in fact, almost got the boot out of here twice for goofing off too much. In the end, my trades training paid off with quite a few good job opportunities and, lastly, a fairly good one here at Camosun. I still have a lifelong friendship with my first instructor, Bill Murphy. Thanks for not kicking me out, Bill!

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

Well, honestly, I don't really know what they know about me, so I can't really wish for them to not know something. I think even though you want them to work hard, they know at times I can be a little too easygoing, and they may try to take advantage of that.

5. What's the best thing that's happened to you as a teacher here? Well, I think it's always fun when the students get older, have success, and come back or see you on the street and they say hello or thanks for the instruction and help you gave them to get where they are in their life journey.

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

Well, I don't think anything catastrophic has really ever happened to me around here (touch wood), but I do get mad at myself when a demo doesn't go smoothly. I also am not too thrilled every time my clothes catch fire, but those are part of the game. Although we try, nothing can be perfect every time.

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

Well, this answer could go on for quite some time, because I do have concerns. Young students coming out of high school have been "let" through most of their lives with no chance of failure. When they arrive in post-secondary it can be extremely hard to accept the fact that the reality is people can fail if they do not meet certain minimum expectations. I don't believe that lowering the bar whenever students start to struggle is the answer. To me, this seems to be a rather large issue in a lot of society in general today. Post-secondary education must prepare students for the working world, where they must understand that those who work hard and smart will be the ones who succeed. Those who do not will not. There are no free passes out there.

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

Well, that depends. In the winter months from November until April I don't relax too much at all. I am an assistant coach and director of player personnel for the Vancouver Stealth of the National Lacrosse League, a professional box lacrosse league playing games in Canada and the United States. So on weekends I am usually travelling to either Vancouver, Calgary, Saskatchewan, Toronto, Buffalo, Denver, Rochester, Atlanta, or New England. Luckily, all the games are on weekends, and Camosun and my department chair have been great when I needed a vacation day off here or there. The summers are a bit different, and I like to golf, fish, watch car racing, go to the odd Shamrocks game... just all kinds of outdoor activities.

> 9. What is your favourite meal? Undoubtedly, spaghetti!

10. What's your biggest pet peeve?

Probably "late." I hate late in

student achievement

# Camosun College student dominates national competition



"It's basically a test of your skill and knowledge: how to read blueprints, fabrication of your piping, layout, and an all-around grasp of what we do on a daily basis on the job site."

KYLE HORNE
CAMOSUN COLLEGE STUDENT

JAMIE MCPHERSON

Camosun College student Kyle Horne (centre) won gold at the recent Skills Canada National Competition, held in Winnipeg.

ADAM BOYLE STAFF WRITER

A Camosun student has once again taken home an award at a national event.

But third-year Plumbing and Pipe Trades student Kyle Horne isn't on the Chargers. He recently competed in the Skills Canada National Competition—held in Winnipeg—and pushed aside all other competitors to come out with the gold medal in the steamfitter-pipefitter category.

Horne says that the competition is at its core a test of finesse between students from across Canada.

"They take competitors from each province from across the country in their own specialized trades, and we compete against each other," says Horne. "Each year, they provide the same project for everyone. This year, our project was a steam heat exchanger that supplied a hot water heater and a steam supply unit heater. It's basically a test of your skill and

knowledge: how to read blueprints, fabrication of your piping, layout, and an all-around grasp of what we do on a daily basis on the job site."

Horne also partook in some other competitions earlier this year and did well in all of them. Naturally, others took notice, and Horne soon found himself in the sights of the other competitors as a "high priority" target in the competitions.

"I had a target on my back simply because in our union, they do their own competition yearly," he

says. "It starts out provincial and then the winners of that represent their regions nationally. So the guys I competed against in Skills Canada, a couple of weeks earlier I had beat three or four of them in our skills competition that we held here at Camosun. There wasn't any bad blood, but I already beat them in one skill set, so they didn't want to lose again."

Horne has been interested in steamfitting since high school. In addition to his studies at Camosun, he also works as an apprentice at a local plumbing and heating business. He says that this job has offered him some incredible opportunities so far.

"I was drawn to steamfitting simply because the money was the biggest draw for me and because I also like to work with my hands," he says. "Out of high school, I took on another job, and it wasn't until a little later on that I was able to pursue my interest. I've been blessed with some very good mentors, too."



lansdowne campus.



GREG PRATT/NEXUS

Camosun recently painted rainbow crosswalks at both Interurban and Lansdowne (shown here) campuses.

# Secret bank accounts, a petition to defedera

# Notes from the frontlines of the national student movement

"I pushed back. I said, 'Look, I can die. This is

not a game. I can, literally, die. Students paid

for me to come here, so that seems pretty

disrespectful to those students, and to me."

s Camosun students go about their day—running to class, studying late, drinking ultra-caffeinated cafeteria coffee—many remain unaware that they are walking on top of a tension-filled world of student politics. And it's one that they pay into through membership fees to the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) and the British Columbia Federation of Students (BCFS). Camosun students pay into both of these organizations through their Camosun College Student Society (CCSS) membership fees every semester, but what's happening behind the scenes—and with students' money—goes unnoticed by most.

But these political realities actually do affect each and every student enrolled at Camosun, sometimes just in quiet and covert—but always powerful—ways. Twice a year, any Camosun student, as a paying member of the CFS and BCFS, could walk into an annual or semi-annual meeting held by the CFS and voice any concerns or appreciations they have for the national student movement. However, generally speaking, they don't. Instead, the CCSS sends staff and elected student officials to the meetings, as they did to the recent one in Ottawa, held from June 5 to 7. And if anyone's still thinking student politics don't matter, consider that at this meeting, members received the results of an audit of unauthorized CFS bank transactions (this information was not made public, but Nexus obtained a copy of the audit) and a CCSS staffperson was allegedly perceived as being racist for asking if a smudging ceremony could be moved from the room because it was giving him an asthma attack.

CCSS external executive Rachael Grant says that the atmosphere at CFS meetings when she first started going to them was conducive to students being heard. Now, she says, as a result of political differences between the national CFS office and BC provincial member locals, alleged racism directed at members of the CCSS, filibustering, and a general lack of transparency, that is "no longer a reality."

"The meat and potatoes of the student movement aren't there anymore," she says.

CFS treasurer Peyton Veitch disagrees with Grant, saying that the CFS continues to fight for better education for students across the country and has been responsive to its members' requests for information (this has long been a point of contention for BC member locals, who claim the national organization won't reply to their requests for financial and other information).

When Camosun students paid—through their CCSS fees—for four CCSS delegates (one of whom was Grant) to fly to Ottawa last month to attend the semi-annual CFS meeting, an array of events that Camosun students should know about took place, many of which we'll discuss in this story. The semi-annual general meeting was also where Coty Zachariah stepped into the position of CFS chairperson (replacing Bilan Arte).

Zachariah says he has his sights set on listening to members' concerns.

"It was a little daunting at first," he says about stepping into the chairperson position. "I wasn't sure how effective I could be. But I also saw an opportunity to right the course of the ship and bring some cohesion back to the movement. I remember when we used to get things done. I think we have to have some tough conversations."

Also of note is that, before the meeting, a petition from Camosun students to begin the process of the CCSS defederating from the CFS was submitted to the CFS. (However, defederation will prove impossible because, as we previously reported, the CCSS has been remitting Camosun students' CFS fees to the BCFS, which has not been giving them to the CFS; because a member local cannot defederate from the CFS with fees outstanding, defederation will not be able to happen until the BCFS remits those Camosun student fees to the CFS.)

Here in 2017, we're lucky: we get to witness the fascinating progression of the national student movement in Canada. But a lot of it is going on at these meetings and behind closed doors, with few students around. So let's walk through some of the issues that are currently being dealt with. Opinions about what are the facts will, as usual, vary along the way.

# Hard to breathe

ook, I think it's good that this tradition of sage burning has started; I have no issue with it, but it is impeding my ability to represent the membership that I've come to represent. I have to leave the meeting for two hours at a time."

This is what CCSS student services coordinator Michael Glover said to the disability caucus at the CFS meeting after delegates from Ontario, whose names he was unable to provide, said that Glover having a bad asthma attack and asking if the sage burning could take place elsewhere was "whiteness being imposed."

"I reiterated that this is a health issue. This is not me trying to be racist," says Glover. "Ideally, I think students having a national voice is good; under these conditions I don't think that that's possible, but conditions could change. We're not looking to destroy anything here."

Glover, who was born with severe asthma, started having the attack after the smudging ceremony started. Glover says such a strong accusation was jumped to so quickly because a long history of disagreement exists between BC and Ontario members of the CFS.

"There's this polarization between Ontario and BC," says Glover. "Any time anybody from BC does something, the Ontarioites get all up in arms, and they're all worried that we're trying to pull something."

According to Glover, the word "whiteness" was used in place of "racism" by delegates from Ontario. Glover says the Ontario delegates played games to try to drown out British Columbia's student voice and to attack him and the people who supported him.

"[Whiteness is] a very intellectual, sort of eye-level sociology term," says Glover. "It's to say that the society has a hierarchy based on colour, and the whiter you are perceived, the higher your status is; I'm primary white, so my whiteness is pretty high."

But Glover says it's concerning to him that we live in a society where so many things—in his case, voicing concerns around the effects of smudging on his asthma—are deemed to be linked with somebody's skin colour and therefore can be interpreted as racist.

"In the anti-oppression workshop, my coordinator said, 'There are just things where the question of whiteness just cannot be questioned. We're not here to debate that. That's a fact.' And I'm like, 'Okay, hold on here. We can always have discussions about what something means and how it is.' So you've got a lot of young people with some pretty big intellectual ideas and they're throwing them around. This is what they tried to do with me, and I pushed back. I said, 'Look, I can die. This is not a game. I can, literally, die. Students paid for me to come here, so that seems pretty disrespectful to those students, and to me."

Glover adds that, despite the usual hostilities in the air, a slight speck of optimism was present at the meeting.

"By the end of the meeting I was pleased that there was at least people starting to cross the floor to say, 'Well, hang on a minute; what's going on here?' People seemed less intractable on finding, perhaps, solutions," says Glover. "I wouldn't say that there's a lot of hope, but I would say a glimmer of hope that people might try to get past this political nonsense."

Glover says that Zachariah came to talk to him while at the meeting regarding the concerns he raised. The two had a discussion around how Zachariah had perceived Glover's request to move the smudging "possibly to be an attack," says Glover.

"I absolutely understand that," says Glover. "It's very charged here; lots of things have been used by both sides in ways that maybe aren't appropriate. I said, 'I'm not doing that.'

And he said, 'I recognize that, and I'm sorry." Zachariah confirms that he initially perceived

Glover's concerns in a negative manner. "That was my mistake, and that's why I apologized to Michael," says Zachariah. "I'm really glad that we

had that conversation."

# Don't wait up

eitch says that the meeting was "positive" and productive," and says that having a space where students can unite to discuss issues is essential to the national student movement.

"A lot of students that were there were first-time delegates," says Veitch, "and I sensed that they came away from the meeting with a sense of optimism."

Grant, however, came away from the meeting with a far less optimistic view.

"The meeting was not run efficiently," she says. "The folks chairing the individual portions of the meeting were not well equipped to do so using Robert's Rules. A lot of filibustering did happen, and it's quite intentional, to prevent conversations happening that were overdue." (Grant says that there were motions from two meetings back that had still not been dealt with, meaning that the upcoming AGM happening in the fall will feature motions left over from 2016.)

But Veitch says it is sometimes a struggle to find a balance between running a meeting efficiently and making sure that each motion is dealt with diligently. (Veitch also says that leftover motions will be dealt with at the November meeting.)

"There were dozens and dozens of questions that were asked in budget committee alone, and we made sure that people were heard and had opportunities to be heard. I do think that we're really trying our best to make sure that all voices are heard," says Veitch.

Extending plenary sessions is key for Zachariah, who says he's not in favour of a session ending before all its motions have been dealt with.

"Looking at the structure of our meetings will be a critical conversation," says Zachariah.

Grant says there were a few motions requested by BC locals that were never put on the agenda because they were deemed out of order by the national executive. Why they were considered out of order was never conveyed, says Grant. (These motions included one from the Selkirk College Students' Union to remove Arte as chairperson.)

MICHAEL GLOVER

**CAMOSUN COLLEGE STUDENT SOCIETY** 

"That's not something that the national executive, in any capacity, has the authority to call," says Grant (Veitch says that they do, in fact, have the authority to do that). "That's something that the opening plenary or the body of students at that meeting can vote yes or no [to]. The decision was made by folks on the national executive in some capacity to block those motions from ever coming to the agenda."

"I remember when we used to g think we have to have so conversations."

CANADIAN FED

There was an attempt for some of them to be served as emergency motions, but Grant says this didn't happen.

"It never even got close to that because there's still motions left over from last year," she says. "It just seems like a very intentional thing."

Veitch says that people having an agenda of their own is "as it should be," but he denies that the CFS tried to prevent motions from being dealt with by using any sort of filibustering.

"I think to say that there's any intent to slow things down when our desire is to have meetings flow as efficiently as possible is not the case," he says.

# te, and asthma-induced racist accusations

Story by Adam Marsh, student editor

# \$260,000 of missing money

elegates at the meeting were presented with a summary of the findings made by accounting and advisory firm Grant Thornton about the aforementioned unauthorized transactions in a CFS CIBC bank account. Between July 2010 and December 2014, a total of \$263,052.80 in unauthorized deposits were made to this account and a total of \$262,776.13 in unauthorized disbursements were made from it, going to former CFS employees, one non-CFS employee, a law firm, and a consulting company.

The account was initially set up to provide a security deposit for Travel CUTS (Canadian Universities Travel Service), a Canadian travel agency that focuses on student and youth travellers. Travel CUTS issues the International Student Identity Card, which is free for paying members of the CFS.

A history of legal battles exists between the CFS and Travel CUTS; the Canadian Federation of Students-Services (CFS-S) owned 76 percent of Travel CUTS until a private company, Merit Travel Group, purchased Travel CUTS on October 26, 2009.

\$1.6 million was initially put into the account for a letter of credit; this amount was later taken out by Travel CUTS, then returned to CFS-S, with interest. Grant Thornton says in the audit that these transactions were authorized and "correspond with the details we have been given regarding the Travel CUTS security deposit."

Two former CFS employees knew about the account. Veitch, who was not employed by the CFS when the account was created or in use, is quick to stress that the CFS no longer has any ties to those two former CFS employees. Veitch says their behaviour was carried out with a blatant disregard for the values and procedures of the CFS.

"Staff that were involved in the orchestration and in the transactions on the account are no longer employed by the federation," says Veitch. "People that were involved in creating this account and utilizing it debased and demeaned the name and the reputation of the federation. I have no interest in defending those that were responsible."

Veitch says the people involved were held accountable for their "reprehensible" actions and subsequently lost their jobs with the CFS.

Grant says the CFS should give members "more detailed breakdowns of where this money went" and also address further what the CFS is going to do about their budget, which was approved at the meeting and has a \$1.2 -million deficit. Grant says the deficit was "normalized" during budget committee.

"A bit more information was given in this meeting about the forensic audit than we previously had, which in itself is a positive thing, but definitely not enough information," says Grant. "If you didn't have all the context, as most people wouldn't—about how non-profits run, or what the actual scope of the organization is, or what kind of deficit the CFS can get away with running and still do well financially—without that context, and to just be told it's not a big deal, why wouldn't you trust the people at the front of the room?"

Veitch, however, says there was ample time and consideration put into the proceedings of the budget committee meeting.

"I presented the summary report. I also presented a more thorough timeline about when the account was discovered, when the forensic review was indicated and reported, in addition to some of the new financial controls that have been put in place to really safeguard ourselves from a situation like this occurring again," says Veitch, adding that there wasn't a lot of time for questions regarding the budget because that time was taken up by the forensic audit of the unauthorized transactions. (The CFS brought in a member of Grant Thornton to discuss the findings.)

Veitch says Grant Thornton couldn't find out what happened to that money, so he doesn't want to speculate.

me tough

COTY ZACHARIAH **ERATION OF STUDENTS** 

"Any disbursement that lacks the proper authorization that was et things done. I unreported to both the national executive and auditor of the organization is, by that fact itself, improper," says Veitch.

> The forensic review shows, among other things, a total of \$89,500 taken out of the account by a former Canadian Federation of Students-Quebec employee. Veitch says he is not able to disclose the names of the former CFS employees involved in the bank account.

> "Due to human resources considerations, we can't reveal the names of former staff and officers who knew about the account and, indeed, were involved in its use. We've received a legal opinion to that effect," says Veitch.

> As of press time, Veitch says a lot of the reasons behind the withdrawals and deposits in the CIBC account remain unclear. As an example, a deposit in the amount of \$3,000 was made from the Federation of Post-Secondary Educators of BC on November 10, 2010. (A representative from the Federation of Post-Secondary Educators of BC declined to be interviewed on the record for this story.)

"The issue is that there wasn't documentation that established what a lot of these amounts were actually for. What you have in the report is what Grant Thornton was able to ascertain as to the purposes of them," says Veitch.

Veitch says the account was "immediately frozen" when it was discovered by the executive at large in December of 2014, and that updates were provided to members at general meetings "every step of the way."

"This report that you have was a product of members requesting additional details about the forensic review," says Veitch. "The intention here is not to protect people who acted in an utterly reprehensible way. The intent here is to make sure that the federation is not putting itself in a position of legal liability."

# Unable to defederate

n other CFS news, the organization has officially recognized a petition signed by Camosun students who want to begin the process of defederation from the CFS. CFS L bylaws state that students can, "by petition signed by not less than fifteen percent of the students," vote to have a referendum, in which Camosun students could then vote on whether or not to leave the CFS. Veitch says the CFS is willing to move forward with the process, as long as the 15-percent minimum is met.

But it can only go so far, as the BCFS is withholding \$200,000 of Camosun students' CFS fees from the CFS. (The BCFS is keeping this money because the CFS also owes them money; see our cover story in our May 17, 2017 issue for more details.)

"We're in receipt of the petition. We're working on verifying it just to make sure that it meets the 15-percent threshold," says Veitch. "Assuming that it's valid, we can move forward in working with the student society to schedule a referendum date."

That would happen in September at the earliest, because CFS bylaws prevent a referendum from taking place between April 15 and September 15, when fewer students are typically on campus. But Veitch says that a referendum cannot take place until outstanding fees are remitted.

"In order for a referendum to go forward, a student union needs to be up to date on their remittance of membership fees, and aside from the one payment of 2017 winter membership dues we are still not in receipt of membership fees from Camosun for the past two years," he says.

The reason for that is that the CCSS has been giving Camosun students' CFS fees to the BCFS, which is a separate legal entity from the national organization. Because the BCFS is not giving Camosun students' fees to the CFS, the referendum will not be able to happen. (Camosun students were being told via the Camosun website that the CCSS was paying their membership fees to the CFS, not the BCFS, during those two years).

As well, the BCFS are raising their fees; the BCFS Constitutions and Bylaws, posted on their website, states: "As of January 1, 2016 the full membership fee for each member local union shall be no less than \$8.76 per semester per local union individual member, pro-rated as per the practice of the member local union with regard to the levying of its local union fee."

The policy goes on to clarify: "For member local unions holding full member status prior to January 1, 2016, the previous full membership base fee of no less than \$3.00 per semester, or \$6.00 per academic year, per local union individual member shall remain in full force and effect until such time as the new fee is implemented, which shall be no later than December 31, 2019."

Camosun students currently pay \$1.11 per month to the BCFS, or \$4.44 per semester. A minimum of \$8.76 per semester is almost double that amount. In addition, Camosun students pay \$4.44 per semester to the CFS (in theory; that money hasn't been reaching the CFS for a while now, but either way it's out of students' pockets).

Sources tell Nexus this raise in fees is because the BCFS claims to be doing the work of the CFS. But unless Camosun students defederate from the CFS, they will be paying both the CFS fees and the new, increased BCFS fees for the same services they're already paying for through the CFS, effectively paying more than two times for one service. However, until the BCFS remits Camosun students' outstanding CFS fees to the national organization, Camosun students can't defederate from the CFS.

The BCFS did not respond to multiple interview requests for this story.

Veitch says that the BCFS raising its fees is not in dispute, as CFS member locals are allowed to do so; however, he says it's concerning if the idea behind the 2019 deadline mentioned in the BCFS bylaws is the prediction that locals in BC will no longer be members of the national organization by then.

"If this change is being made under the assumption that students in BC won't be a part of the CFS by 2019, it's very presumptuous, because no referendums have yet taken place," he says.

Veitch says that what the CFS does "is not something that is easily replicated" on a provincial scale and that it is not accurate to say that the BCFS is doing CFS work.

"The meat and potatoes of the student movement aren't there anymore."

> **RACHAEL GRANT** CAMOSUN COLLEGE STUDENT SOCIETY

"The argument that the BCFS is already doing the work of the national student organization is one that I would push pack on," he says. "We have a national lobby week every year, which brings together dozens of students from across the country. That's not something that's replicated in the same way in BC."

Veitch says that this does not mean good work isn't being done in BC at a provincial level, citing in particular the BCFS' Adult Basic Education (ABE) campaign.

"I tip my hat to them," he says, regarding the ABE campaign. "[But] to say that BCFS is simply doing everything that the CFS is already doing is not accurate."

Zachariah says he hopes he can, with changes he makes, change Camosun students' minds about defederating, but says that it's okay to disagree.

"I would hope that it's not too late to have a conversation to figure out a space that does work for Camosun," he says. "That conversation looks like sitting down with their people and hearing out their concerns."

theatre

# Shakespeare fest expands its horizons



A scene from Love's Labour's Lost, which the Greater Victoria Shakespeare Festival is putting on this year.

### **ADAM BOYLE**

STAFF WRITER

Macbeth. Romeo and Juliet. A Midsummer Night's Dream. These are just some of Shakespeare's most popular plays. But there are also other, lesser-known works by

Shakespeare. For its 27th season, the Greater Victoria Shakespeare Festival returns with two plays by the legendary playwright—one popular, and one slightly lesser known. This time around, Macbeth and Love's Labour's Lost are the plays that audience members will get to watch, laugh, and cry along to.

Love's Labour's Lost director Janet Munsil says that although it's not one of Shakespeare's most popular, she had a great time directing and setting up the play, which focuses on a group of kings and their desire to study and learn without the involvement of love to distract them.

"Love's Labour's Lost is a funny play; it doesn't get done very often," she says. "Last year, I worked on Twelfth Night, which is one that gets done all the time. It's fun to work on one of the big well-known ones, since it's fun to play around with it in new ways. This time around, since it's a less known play, we didn't want to mess with it too much because it could confuse the play for the audience that wasn't familiar with it."

Munsil did indeed play around with Twelfth Night when she worked on it: all the roles in the play were gender-swapped. Munsil says that this time around the same thing will be happening, but on a much smaller scale.

"There are four male roles in the play that are being played by women," she says, "and although it's not as explicit as how it was in Twelfth Night, where we just swapped everyone, my idea is that these roles are kind of women who are disguised as men to find themselves a place out in the world working in royal households."

Macbeth is being taken outside of the festival for the first time and will be shown a few times in Esquimalt in an attempt to extend the fest's reach. And while things are smooth sailing so far for the festival in terms of getting everything set "Last year the rain held off all night right until the last 30 seconds of the play. Kind of funny, but also concerning."

**IANET MUNSIL** 

up, Munsil does admit to being a bit worried about the weather.

"There isn't really a rain plan," she admits. "Last year the rain held off all night right until the last 30 seconds of the play. Kind of funny, but also concerning."

Macbeth director and producing artistic director Karen Lee Pickett says that the initiative to take Macbeth into Esquimalt—what they're calling "Bard across the bridge"—is progressing smoothly, and has been in the works for a few years.

"This will be our first time doing something outside of our regular venue," she says. "We've been at Camosun for 12 years now; it's just something we've been talking about for years, and it's happening. We're super excited to be bringing it to Esquimalt. I'd love to eventually see it expanded further into a year-round thing or something like that, but we have to take it slow and just make baby steps, because the funding is the main thing. We're a pretty small organization but we need to move slowly."

Shakespearean plays have been

around for hundreds of years; they are some of the most performed plays of all time. Pickett feels that Shakespeare tapped into what connected with audiences and that although times have changed, the human race has not, and so the plays endure.

"Why do we keep doing these 400-year-old plays? Why is there an industry built around these plays? I think it's a couple of things," says Pickett. "Shakespeare was able to create drama that really resonated and showed something about ourselves. He understood human nature really well, and it hasn't changed much in 400 years. We still get jealous, love, laugh, and cry. Our context has changed but we as people haven't."

> **Greater Victoria** Shakespeare Festival Until Saturday, July 29 Student tickets \$19, Camosun College Lansdowne campus lawn vicshakespeare.com

music

# The Sylvia Platters serve up fresh music



DAVIS ZAND

Abbotsford's The Sylvia Platters are bringing their dreampop to Victoria on Friday, July 14.

# **MASON HENDRICKS**

WEB EDITOR

Abbotsford dream-pop band The Sylvia Platters just released their new EP, Melt, and it's an important step for them: it's the first record they've put out since getting the band back together a year ago after some time on hiatus.

"Last summer we played a bunch of shows around BC and kind of honed that and figured out which of the songs that we had been writing really fit together as one thing," says guitarist/vocalist Nick Ubels. "In February we got together with a friend of ours, who has his own studio; he rents out this

farm in Maple Ridge. We went there and spent the better part of a week recording."

After getting the studio time booked, the members of the band found themselves snowed in once they got there; the recording sessions ended up being heavily disrupted by the storm.

"In the end, I think we did something that we are very proud of, and I feel like it's a step forward in a little bit more of a clear direction. I think the EP focuses our sound more and works better as a coherent piece."

> **NICK UBELS** THE SYLVIA PLATTERS

lost power for the whole day, so we tried to set everything up more or less in the dark. There are no windows in the studio; we just had iPhones and candles to set up as much as we could," says Ubels. "We actually had to abandon it and hope that the next day the power would be back, and it did come back, but there was more snow. Every day was really long; it's a long drive out there and we had to dig our way in and out and all that. In the end, I think we did something that we are very proud of, and I feel like it's a step forward in a little bit more of a clear direction. I think the EP focuses our sound more and works better as a

"On the first day we completely

Ubels' musical taste stretches across a broad and diverse array of genres. And while he takes influence from all these styles, he says that the

coherent piece."

band's songs don't always end up as originally envisioned.

"Sometimes our songs end up fairly different than their initial incarnation," says Ubels. "The centrepiece of the record, 'Tangerine,' is more of an acoustic, almost Neil Young-like ballad, and it turned into this distorted, heavy, fuzzed-out thing that we did. It's hard to pin down exactly where stuff comes from; sometimes it'll just be a particular phrase that will set off associations that I will try to massage into something that makes sense to me. I think on this record there is a fair amount of self discovery, which ties into what this record means for us and what it represents."

> The Sylvia Platters 9 pm Friday, July 14 \$10, The Copper Owl copperowl.ca

music

# Vancouver metal band Anciients says it's all about finding a groove



Vancouver's Anciients are touring in support of their most recent album, Voice of the Void.

ADAM MARSH

STUDENT EDITOR

Anciients vocalist/guitarist Kenny Cook answers his phone in typical relaxed rocker fashion when I call him up to chat.

"How you doin'?" he asks; before long, he says he's looking forward to kicking back with a beer and some good food before the show the band is playing that night. Cook is chill, but Anciients are busy these days, with the band's latest album, Voice of the Void, landing on the recently announced Polaris Music Prize longlist.

"We weren't really expecting it," says Cook about getting on the longlist. "It was a surprise for sure. It's pretty cool to be included with some of those bands on the list; Leonard Cohen and The Tragically Hip is pretty cool company to have."

Like many bands, Anciients have had a few speed bumps with members along the way, but Cook says that procuring a new drummer seemed to be the key to keeping a solid beat within the group. Since then, chemistry has been awesome,

"It's kind of my first tour away right now from my kid for the first time, so that's been a little bit tough."

**KENNY COOK** 

**ANCIIENTS** 

he says, and the music has been a constant sound wave of good times.

"A big mixture of different styles of metal and rock," says Cook about what listeners in Victoria can expect. "We try and have as much energy as possible when we're playing."

Anciients are currently experiencing the payoffs of hard work, namely the roar of passionate metal fans and the experience of constantly being on the road, which Cook says can be hard at times, especially now that he is a father.

"It's kind of my first tour away right now from my kid for the first time, so that's been a little bit tough, but other than that it's a pretty cool job to have," he says with a laugh.

Cook says that his two-and-ahalf-year-old kid likes music, and he hopes that it will grow on him even more in the near future.

"He mainly just likes to smash it. He strums every now and then. We got him a little drum set and a harmonica... soon he'll be forced," he laughs. "No, I'm just kidding.

He really loves music, so hopefully one day he'll pick something up; but whatever he wants to do, it's his choice."

Vancouver's Dead Quiet are the opening act for Anciients when they play here in town.

"They're an amazing band," says Cook. "Our new guitarist Brock [MacInnes] actually plays in that band as well. They're a great rock band. People should be excited for them."

Cook says it's back to the studio for the band when the tour is over.

"Basically we're just looking forward to what the next record's going to sound like, and getting these last few tours out of the way, and getting back to focus on new material," he says, "so I'm super excited about that."

**Anciients** 8 pm, Saturday August 5 \$15, Sugar sugarnightclub.ca

music

# Sarah Jickling's struggle with bipolar inspires debut solo album



NELSON MOUELLIC

Sarah Jickling is playing Victoria the day after releasing her new album.

# **ADAM MARSH**

STUDENT EDITOR

When Vancouver indie musician Sarah Jickling started singing with the band The Oh Wells, handing out cupcakes at shows and soaking up the spotlight, it sustained her for a while. But it was honesty, transparency, and being open about her firsthand experience with bipolar disorder that sustained her in the long run.

"I let go of who I was and the

kind of musician I thought I was going to be," says Jickling, whose debut solo album, as Sarah Jickling and Her Good Bad Luck, When I Get Better is all about learning to live with the mood disorder.

"As my bipolar disorder progressed I felt less and less like that happy person that I was pretending to be on stage. Everything kind of fell apart; my band fell apart, my life fell apart," says Jickling. "I was unable to go to work; I was unable "I always say that I have off-stage fright. There's something about being on stage that takes away a lot of my anxiety."

**SARAH JICKLING** 

MUSICIAN

I'm going to need to get help." Jickling is now in a relationship, performing the music she wants to perform, and advocating for

mental-health awareness. She is the recent recipient of an award from Anxiety BC's Writing and Multimedia Contest (in the multimedia/24-to-29-year-old category) for the album's title track. That makes sense, considering the subject matter of the album.

to really maintain any relationships.

And that's when I thought, 'Okay,

"The writing of the album just came really naturally," says Jickling. "It's a way that I can deal with stuff that's going on that seems insurmountable."

Jickling says that writing and performing is beneficial to her in many ways, including on a therapeutic level.

"It was a very natural transition from accepting my mental illness saying, 'Okay, I have this and I'm going to get help'—to 'I'm going to write songs about it and start talking about it," she says. "The moment I accepted it, I wanted to share, because that's how I process it."

Jickling combats the darkness in her world by writing about her experience; there is nothing more tranquil for her mind than getting ready to take the stage when it comes time to perform.

"It's one of the things that calms me down. It's a very strange thing," she says. "I always say that I have off-stage fright. There's something about being on stage that takes away a lot of my anxiety. If I start crying for some reason, it's part of the show. And that's why people are here. They're here to see me do me. My performing strategy is not 'let's do a perfect show.' It's more 'I'm going to be myself, I'm going to be a human, I'm going to show my flaws and sing my heart out."

> Sarah Jickling 7:30 pm, Saturday July 15 \$10, The Copper Owl copperowl.ca





The Stevens Good (Chapter Music) 3.5/5

The second album from Melbourne alternative band The Stevens is refreshing and calming and brings a warm feeling to rest in the listener's chest. It blends into one perfect melody for summer road trips, as well as late-night study

Opener "Chancer" is a soft and emotional song that found its way onto my personal summer playlist. Its melody is smooth while the lyrics are profound and relatable. The second track, "Grandstands," is upbeat and vibrant, but a problem surfaces shortly thereafter.

Some of the songs blend together too much, which could, sadly, make the album feel slightly repetitive unless you listen to the lyrics intently.

Thankfully, there are gems throughout the album that make The Stevens' new music a worthwhile listen. A good song that brings the listener back in is "Furnace Town," with its change of tempo and tone.

Overall, Good is a promising addition to summer soundtracks.

-JORDYN GOODWIN

opinion

# UVic Trutch building name change a step in the right direction

Trutch's skewed image of First Nations peoples led to a land decrease of around 91 percent for established reserves; his legacy includes other provincial political issues that we're still trying to fix to this day.

### ADAM BOYLE

STAFF WRITER

19th century politician Joseph Trutch—who helped bring British Columbia into the Canadian Confederation—was a racist, so it was a good decision for the University of Victoria to remove his name from what was formerly known as the Trutch residence hall (a new name has not been decided on as of press time). Trutch's skewed image of First Nations peoples led to a land

decrease of around 91 percent for established reserves; his legacy includes other provincial political issues that we're still trying to fix to this day.

The removal of his name from the UVic building is a small, local step in the right direction. Still, getting to this point took too long and doesn't bode well for the future, should the university encounter something like this again. There was a failed petition in 2010 to change the name, which is disheartening; it should be on the university to acknowledge situations like this on their own without the pushes and prods of students and the public.

This year is the celebration of Canada's 150th anniversary of confederation, and one of the big focus points for the country going forward is reconciliation; that should hold true on post-secondary campuses such as UVic and Camosun.

We shouldn't forget and erase Trutch's views and actions; instead we should confront the issues and move forward, constantly learning what we can do to help. Camosun,



GREG PRATT/NEXUS

For now, the University of Victoria has renamed the Trutch residence hall Lansdowne Residence No. 1.

too, should be constantly looking for more opportunities to become inclusive and should become a leader in reconciliation.

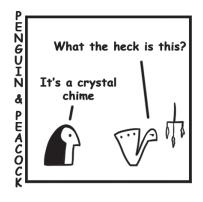
Those who live in the UVic building will no longer have to live

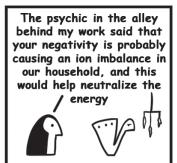
in a place with a name attributed to a racist. For post-secondary culture in general, this is a positive decision and helps bring awareness to these and other issues.

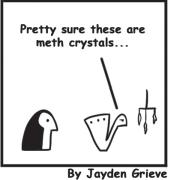
Hopefully these decisions all add

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up and send a bigger message to the government: people want change and want these issues fixed, and we should all be working together to create a future that is safe, inclusive, and healthy for everyone.









# SMITH VS SMITH







BY MATT SMITH!









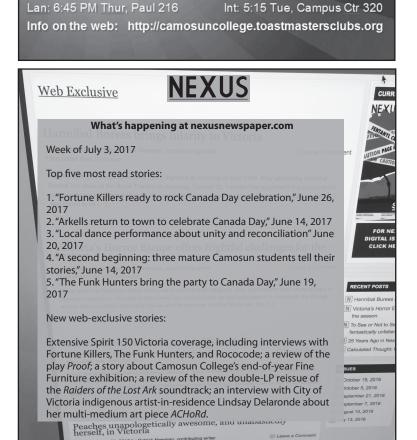












Find Your Voice. Speak Your Mind.



Dearest Reader

by Aaron Stefik

# A proposal: Camosun must offer job to displaced premier

Dearest reader,

If events in our fair province following the recently passed provincial election might be proportionately and appropriately characterized as a storm, then the BC Liberal government should be thought of as a beached whale, aging and badly suited for the waters in which it swam, now found deflating on the shoreline in a morass of melting fat and fermenting flesh.

And as we, the lice and maggots attendant on this corpse, gather to make well of the remains, let us spare a thought for this whale's hapless master, her future former premier Christy Clark.

Her place within the political arena now in question, my plea goes to any and all to take pity on a fellow local, regardless of any differences of ideology, and to offer Ms. Clark a secure place of employment befitting her abilities at our own Camosun College.

I can easily envisage the premier as our next college president, on the notion that she would offer a level of honesty and reliability at least comparable to former Camo-

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sun president Kathryn Laurin. If, however, our current president, Sherri Bell, takes this suggestion as an affront to her own position, we might instead offer Ms. Clark a newly reformed position as head of campus security, owing to her copious experience in frisking BC students

If this too is found less than agreeable, a more middling position within the faculty as a professor of political science might conceivably be offered. Both majors in the subject and otherwise would leap at the chance to learn the arts of parliament from such a figure, whose decisions therein, particularly regarding college funding,

have until now been regarded as mystifying and impermeable to the ablest of our students.

Should this pilot program of employment for former politicians be well received by all, I may be so bold, though days are yet early, to propose that the offer be expanded to all who have worked in the provincial legislature, and who may eventually find its ever-changing waters wont to capsize their careers. Take, for example, the recently cheery John Horgan and Andrew Weaver, whose future cooperation is sure to guide the province decisively for the ensuing four years.

If not, I am told our custodial staff is wanting.



The Bi-weekly Gamer

by Adam Boyle

# How VR could turn esports on its head

Escaping to another dimension or reality: it's a dream that's been around for a long time, as proved by the incredible number of movies and books inspired by the concept of virtual reality (VR).

Of course, industry tech leaders have been trying to create VR for a very long time now, and in recent years they have finally created systems that—at least partially—succeed in bringing people to that virtual place.

Virtual reality is new but powerful. And, while the concept was a novelty when it first came out, the power and the sheer size of the games available for headsets like the HTC Vive, Sony PlayStation

VR, and Oculus Rift have grown drastically in recent years and will continue to grow for a long time.

Once VR is more mainstream, the esports industry can expect that it will be coming to push its way into the forefront of leading games and systems. Sports game franchises like FIFA, Madden, NHL, and NBA could all see huge spikes in popularity, and these are not traditionally popular esports.

Of course, we don't know what will happen with technology changing so fast. Obviously, VR needs a lot of work before it gets anywhere near that level of performance, and the system will also need the player base to back it up.

However, if VR breaks through into esports, we could see stereotypes about lack of exercise go out the window due to players needing to keep up with cardio in order to maintain the stamina needed to win the competitions. In addition, traditional investors could make entrances into the industry, further pushing the wealth of the industry higher and benefiting players, teams, production values, and even venues.

It's not quite here just yet, but VR is coming, and with it the future looks bright not only for esports, but for the rest of us: the players and spectators who just enjoy playing or watching a good game.

Calculated Thought

by Sean Annable

# Cryptocurrencies are the new Wild West

After a turbulent road to the mainstream, cryptocurrencies are making headlines. Most of this new hype isn't discussing the revolutionary blockchain technology that runs these systems, but the gargantuan price rally that major coins have experienced since the beginning of 2017. Early adopters have made out swimmingly. Initially valued at \$0.0008 USD per coin—the estimated cost of computing power that it took to create—in 2009, bitcoin now trades at over \$3,000 CDN per coin. Ether, the second largest crypto-coin by market cap, was trading at around \$10 at the beginning of 2017. It is now teetering around \$350 to \$400.

Most of these currencies fluctuate drastically. Those swings in price are catching the attention of the day traders who stick to stocks and foreign currency exchanges, known as forex.

Forex trading is particularly attractive to traders for its volatility. After the gold standard was abandoned and fiat currencies were subject to supply and demand in a global market, currencies were left open to rapid changes in price, and traders took advantage of that.

The forex market is now the world's largest, at its peak trading nearly \$6 trillion per day. Forex used to be the Wild West. Fiat currencies are inextricably linked to the interest rate of that country, or to the rates of the country in which the currency is pegged. But new regulations in response to scandals, and low and stable interest rates brought on by the 2009 financial

crisis, have calmed down those variations, making it harder for traders to bank on volatility.

As digital currencies have become more palatable to the masses, the crypto market has seen a huge influx of interest. There are now over 600 actively traded cryptocurrencies, and together they have doubled their market cap since May of this year, reaching \$100 billion USD.

Crypto exchanges are increasingly adhering to the same regulatory standards as stock exchanges; now, AVAtrade, one of the largest forex exchanges, offers cryptocurrency trading on its platform.

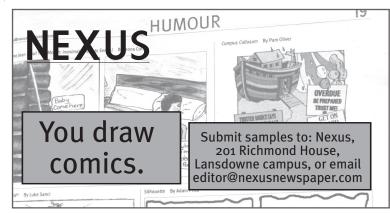
Now that cryptocurrencies are liquid, there is no telling what will happen. I've watched the market (and put in a bit of "play money") and I can say it is a rollercoaster.

Recently, due to a massive sell-off on the popular exchange GDAX, stop-loss orders and margin calls were triggered, causing a massive drop in the price of ether down to \$0.10 per coin. Anyone who had buy orders at this ridiculously low price would have seen them filled. A bet of \$100 would have bought 1,000 units of ether, which would have quickly shot back up and been worth \$350,000 only seconds later.

This behaviour brings up worry of market manipulation, which is probably going on. This market is still growing and maturing, and it's anyone's guess where it is heading.

I, for one, wish for the success of the technology and its revolutionary possibilities.

I just hope the money doesn't get in the way.



Cream of the Craft

by Patrick Newman

# The beers of summer are here

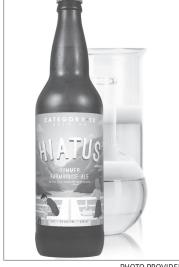


PHOTO PROVIDED

Summer is here; if any season is beer season, this is it. Our local brewers are out in full force and, while I would love to tell you about all the fabulous beers of summer,

there are just too many to cover. So, this time around, I'll offer my thoughts on two that I enjoyed during the recent Canada Day long weekend. Cheers!

### Phillips Brewing Rifflandabrau Lager 5% ABV 6 x 355 ml cans 3.5/5

Even though September is still a couple of months away, Phillips wants you to start thinking about the great event known as Rifflandia. Every year since the local music festival started, Phillips has brewed a special seasonal just for the occasion. For the first several years it was a pilsner, but they decided to change things up the last few years. Last year it was a lemon hefeweizen; this year, Phillips is releasing Rifflan-

dabrau Lager to celebrate 10 years of Rifflandia. They are releasing it early—in cans, to boot—but are only making 10,000 of them. I enjoyed this beer; it's a nice, clean lager. It smells sweet and grainy, it tastes very crisp and clean, and it will pair with just about anything. While not overly complex, it doesn't need to be just for the summer; this one is good for when you just want a cold brew to have with your friends while you relax and enjoy the weather, whatever it may be.

### Category 12 Brewing Hiatus Summer Farmhouse Ale 5% ABV 650ml bottle

Category 12 has really made something different and delicious with this one. Brewed with cucum-

Category 12 has really made something different and delicious with the Hiatus Summer Farmhouse Ale. You can taste the citrus upfront, along with some spice, but what's really interesting here is how the cucumber shines through on the back end.

ber and lemon, this farmhouse ale is zesty and refreshing. It smells a bit floral and maybe a bit astringent. It pours a nice cloudy blonde and is lightly fizzy with a frothy head. You can taste the citrus upfront, along with some spice, but what's really interesting here is how the cucumber shines through on the back end. It's really refreshing and

not overwhelming. This is a flavour combination that works well in a pitcher of chilled water, but you wouldn't think it would work well in a beer; sure enough, it does. I shared this with my wife at a barbecue and we were happy as high tide. Speaking of shellfish, this would work well with oysters or scallops on the grill. Summer is here!

# summer word search

We're all a bit obsessed with the sun this time of year, talking about if it's not here enough, if it's here too much, if it's too hot, if it's not hot enough... not to mention the matter of non-stop conspiracy theories around Nexus HQ regarding sunscreen companies. Don't get us started.

Depending on how yer noggin works, this sun-centric word search is either going to be extremely difficult or extremely easy. 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 (which includes gift cards to local coffee shops, Nexus T-shirts, books, CDs, and more).

Have fun!

**SUN SUNBEAM SUNBURN SUNBURST SUNDOWN SUNFISH SUNFLOWER SUNGLASSES SUNLAMP SUNLIGHT SUNLIT SUNNINESS SUNNY SUNROOF SUNSCREEN** SUNSHINE **SUNSPOT SUNSTROKE SUNTAN SUNUP** 

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# what's going on -

by adam boyle



PHOTO PROVIDED

The Royal Tenenbaums is screening at the Phillips Backyard on Saturday, July 15.

Until Saturday, August 26

# Open your west coast mind

Open Space's Forestrial Brain exhibit focuses on west coast flora and fauna, as well as the human mind. Impressions, visual documentation. and immersive drawings will all be on display. Admission is by donation; find all the details by heading over to openspace.ca.

> **EVERY WEDNESDAY** IN JULY AND AUGUST

# Walking the past

Congregation Emanu-El Synagogue is holding walking tours of Victoria throughout the summer. On the walks, attendees will learn about Victoria Jews, the Great Jewish Fur Rush, and more. The walks are about 90 minutes in length and happen rain or shine. Tickets are \$13 for students; find more details at congregationemanu-el.com.

Until Thursday, July 13

# Satirical dance works in flux

Liminal Visibility is an exhibit by three Canadian artists of video installations merging dance with community interactions in hopes of creating fun, calming, and satirical environments. It goes down at Flux Media Art Gallery; see medianetvictoria.org for more details.

SATURDAY, JULY 15

# Art on the streets

The TD Art Gallery Paint-In is returning to the Greater Victoria Art Gallery for its 30th year, and the organizers are bringing back the traditional beer garden and live music. As always, artists will have work on display on Moss Street and will be showing audiences their techniques.

SATURDAY, JULY 15

# Under the Tenenbaums

Under the Maltworks is back with another movie at the Phillips Brewing & Malting Co. backyard; this time around it's The Royal Tenenbaums, about a family of child prodigies getting back together when they learn their father is terminally ill. The event is 19-plus; bring your own chair. Tickets are \$20. Visit tix.thevic. ca for more info.

Until Sunday, July 16

# Enter the world of dance

Suddenly Dance Theatre's ROMP! Festival of Dance is returning for its 20th year. David Earle is this year's guest; he'll be teaching classes at the festival, which will also include a free outdoor event featuring Ballet Victoria and Suddenly Dance's David Ferguson alongside three South Korean dancers. Ticket prices vary; find all the details at suddenlydance.ca.

Until Saturday, July 22

# Unusual art for the public

Unmade Spaces is coming to Deluge Contemporary Art. The exhibit is an installation composed of five pieces that showcase environmental psychology and architecture. The pieces were created by five different artists, each of whom has their own concerns and thoughts that they can be found at deluge.ws.

> THURSDAY, JULY 20 UNTIL SATURDAY, JULY 22

# Monkeys at Langham

Nearing the end of their 88th season, Langham Court Theatre is presenting Shirley Valentine, performed by Dragon Monkey Theatre. The play is fresh off of three sold-out shows at Intrepid Theatre. Tickets are \$20; more information on this and other performances is available at langhamtheatre.ca.

> SATURDAY, AUGUST 12 AND SUNDAY, AUGUST 13

### The solo road across Canada

k.d. lang is going on tour across Canada and will be stopping off at the Royal Theatre here in Victoria. This year marks the 25th anniversary of her platinum selling record Ingénue. Tickets start at \$49.50 and are available at rmts.bc.ca.

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, the issue was half-hidden behind the baby change table in the bathroom in the Richmond House.

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

know your writers

# Nexus staff photographer Jill Westby



JILL WESTBY/NEXUS

**ADAM BOYLE** STAFF WRITER

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, we talked to *Nexus* staff photographer Jill Westby about her introduction to taking pictures, her choice of Camosun over the University of Victoria, and her love of roller derby.

What drew you to photography? Back in high school when I was signing up for classes for Grade 10, I needed one more elective class to fill my timetable. I chose an intro to film photography class because I wanted to take some sort of art course, and nothing else fit into my schedule. I loved that class; I always say I learned more in it than I did in any other class that year.

From where do you usually take your inspiration?

I tend to have long periods without taking many photos, and then being really bored one day and suddenly getting a burst of creativity and going on some sort of photographic adventure. So I guess boredom is what inspires me to get motivated to take lots of photos.

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

Best part is getting to know the professors and students in programs outside of my own, people I never would have otherwise had the chance to meet. Worst part is deadlines...

What brought you to Camosun College?

Basically I didn't want to go to UVic right away after my gap year. Camosun had cheaper tuition and smaller classes and was very close to where I lived. What's kept me here is the Environmental Technology program; I joined about three and a half years ago and found that it was a good mix of everything I had been interested in studying.

What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?

I'm hoping to do a lot of hiking, biking, rollerblading, and camping this summer. Realistically, though, a good portion of my spare time consists of watching Netflix and eating popcorn. Probably the coolest thing I've done with my spare time is roller derby—I played for a few years on the first junior team in Victoria but had to stop due to school commitments. I still try and watch as many bouts as I can!