

# NEXUS

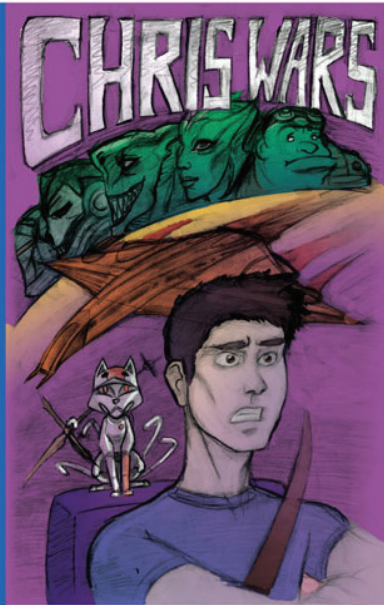
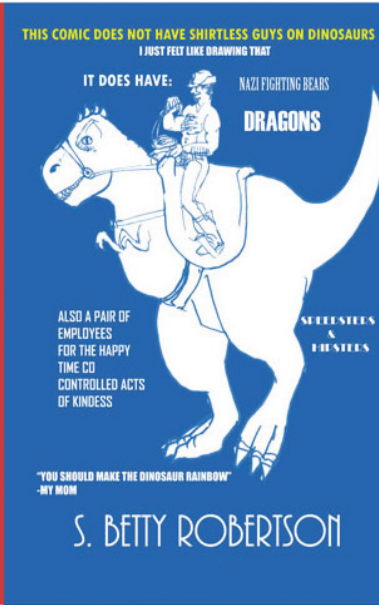
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camosun's student voice since 1990

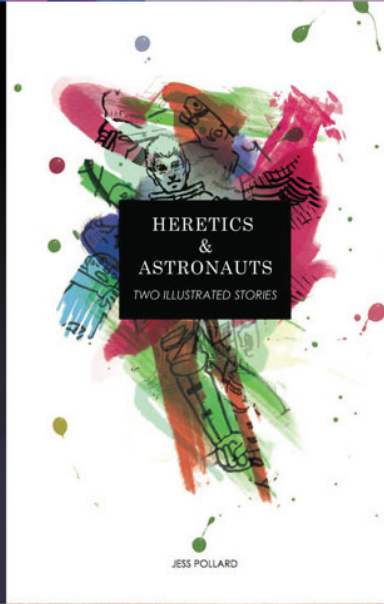
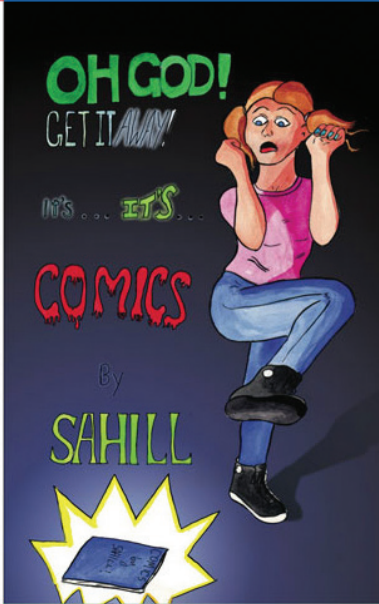
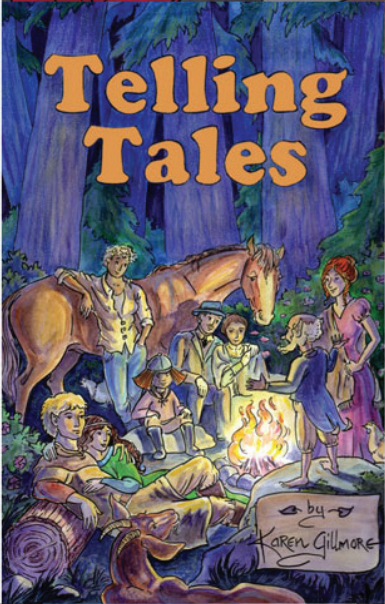
## COMIC COOL

### Convention highlights work of Camosun students

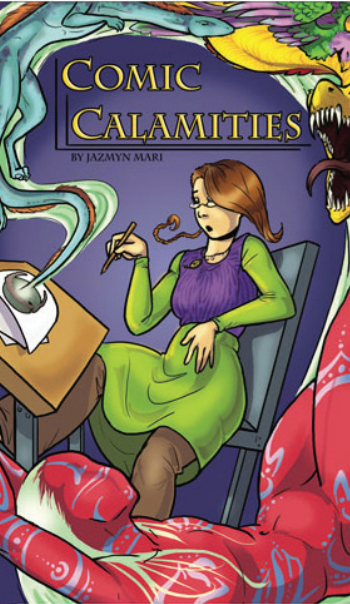
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# NEXUS

camosun's student voice since 1990

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

OVERHEARD AT NEXUS: "It's serious business, staring down holes."

COVER PHOTOS:  
Comics: Provided  
Golf: Kevin Light  
Alcohol: Jason Schreurs/*Nexus*  
Suicide: Provided  
Opera: Provided

## editor's letter

### From hard-hitting to hilarious

In this space last issue I talked about asking questions. The feature story this issue is long overdue, and came about from lots of questions that were being lobbed around the office a few months back about media coverage of suicide.

There's plenty of behind-the-scenes debate about covering suicide in media, and for this issue we brought it forward so you can see some of the debate for yourself. Head over to page 8 to read contributing writer Jean Oliver's feature story about the media's role in suicide prevention and awareness.

Because this is our last issue for this semester, we wanted to be sure we gave the readers lots of variety to pick and choose from. New contributing writer Aisha Goulden joins the fold this issue with her compelling opinion piece right here on page 2, which reminds us that no matter how open-minded we think we are, we could probably benefit from stepping back and evaluating our own behaviour now and then.

Then over on page 3, contributing writer Damen Korkoras examines the contentious claims of a recent study saying that lower alcohol prices would benefit everyone. Same page, same writer: a story about our student society's efforts to get students out to vote next month.

We've got stories about the Camosun golf team and their recent victory, an upcoming comics conference at Camosun, and a successful Camosun alumni.

There's an illusionist, an opera, and a hilarious transcription of a less-than-perfect interview with the Cowboy Junkies.

There's just lots of great stuff, which is exactly how we wanted to leave you for now. We'll be back next month to provide more great reading for your spring semester.

-Greg Pratt, editor-in-chief  
editor@nexusnewspaper.com

## flashback

### 20 years ago in *Nexus*



**Camosun student takes bank hostages:** So the headline said on page 2 of our April 5, 1993 issue. But while that seems like an incredibly unlikely and interesting story, it only got a few paragraphs of space. As it turned out, an 18-year-old Camosun student had an eight-hour standoff with police in the Pacific Coast Savings Credit Union in Broadmead Shopping Centre. Witnesses said the gunman "appeared to be depressed or tired," according to the article, and "later it was discovered he was despondent over his grades at school." There were no injuries or shots fired.

**Green times:** Call us lugnuts, but I didn't realize that even back in the old days of '93 there were green initiatives happening. But there, as evidenced by a story in this issue explaining how enviro-tech and automotive students had participated in an event called the 1993 Fuel Smart Challenge, which took place out at Tillicum Mall. It was all about conserving energy and lowering pollution levels, which weren't exactly on the top of everyone's mind back then, proving that Camosun students, like they are now, were ahead of the curve, even in 1993.

## open space

### An open mind is still the only way to grow

It's clear we need to protect the diminished resources left in Canada and get off fossil fuels, but when we continue to blame and separate "us" from "them" this only pushes us backwards.

**AISHA GOULDEN**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

"Shut down the tar sands!" Those were the words on a bumper sticker I placed on my computer last fall during a semester at UVic. The everyday struggle was getting tough and I needed family support, which happened to be in Fort McMurray. I got a one-way flight in the dead of winter.

Imagine the change from beautiful sunny Victoria to the grey evil tar sands of Alberta. At first it was hard, but soon I was on a mission and couldn't wait to argue tooth and nail about oil with my uncle, an engineer for Shell. My opinion did not change during that year-long experience; it was excavated. I barely knew anything.

A summer job as a research assistant with Environment Canada fell in my lap and I discovered we would be collaborating with a major oil sands company. I felt like an undercover investigator, both mesmerized and appalled by those giant smoke stacks. I had remorse towards all the poor souls taken by that sweet-smelling McMoney.

But, after time, I was forced to admit that Fort Mac is home to exceptional, brilliant people who work hard and do what is right for their families and communities. They value the safety and well-being of their employees, and care immensely about the environment. I learned the cold hard truth that

the world today depends on crude oil, and some of us chose to face this reality by doing something about it.

When I came to Victoria I was excited to share my newfound knowledge but was greeted with scoffs and accusations about my accepting oil money like all the other rednecks. I couldn't help but recollect that I was receiving the same government money many Victorians enjoy. Do we really know where that money comes from?

Honestly, after moving here from the prairies I expected to find a place notorious for open minds, and was disappointed to find hipster snobs. But now I see that view was wrong, too. Perceptions can and should always change, if we let them.

It's clear we need to protect the diminished resources left in Canada and get off fossil fuels, but when we continue to blame and separate "us" from "them" this only pushes us backwards.

For many, a life spent in academia is not an option. Although *Fubar II* was an epic movie, watching it doesn't give you an opinion. Keeping an open mind is difficult, like the reality check that moving from BC to Alberta and back provides. But it's the only way to grow.

We can all learn that for every finger you point, you always have three pointing back.

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

## SPEAK UP What's your dream job and why?

BY DAMEN KORKORAS



**LEAH GEORGE**

"A dentist, because it's important to have clean teeth."



**GUTHRIE PRENTICE**

"I want to become a theoretical physicist because I actually have some ideas on how to make the string theory falsifiable."



**AMY LEE RADIGAN**

"I would choose Batman because he's sexy and I like to unconventionally help people."



**ROBERT MCMOHEN**

"I'd like to be a musician because that's what I love to do"



**TREVOR SCHEURMANN**

"Civil engineer. I'd like to build some crazy bridges in crazy places."



**CHRISSE PHELPS**

"A doctor, because I want to help people."

## health

# Alcohol price increase would benefit BC, study claims

“Because the price increase is larger than the reduction in consumption, people make more money.”

**TIM STOCKWELL**  
UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA

**DAMEN KORKORAS**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

New research claims that raising the price of alcohol will have positive social and economical effects on British Columbia.

Last month, a study from the University of Victoria indicated that increasing the price of intoxicants would reduce the number of alcohol-related deaths, hospital admissions, and crimes.

UVic psychology professor and director of the Center of Addictions Research British Columbia (CAR-BC) Tim Stockwell led the research, in association with the University of Toronto and the University of Sheffield in the UK. The studies concluded that increasing the average minimum cost of a standard drink from approximately \$1.25 to \$1.50 would improve public safety and raise government revenues. (\$1.25 is the approximate cost the public and drinking establishments pay at retail outlets.)

“The kind of price rises we’re talking about [minimum prices] would actually have benefits,” says Stockwell. “There’s a simple reason for this: because the price increase is larger than the reduction in consumption, people make more money. The government makes more revenue, the retailers make more money, and everybody wins...

except people don’t get quite as drunk.”

Student opinions are mixed on this issue. While some support the idea of improving public safety and avoiding provocative mischief, they aren’t very keen on raising alcohol prices. According to physics student Alexander Jensen, a rise in alcohol prices could force him to avoid the bar scene.

“For me, personally, it’ll make me want to go out less because I don’t have a lot of money and it’s already expensive for me to out and have a drink,” says Jensen.

Nursing student Ashley Thompson shares Jensen’s opinion on raising alcohol prices and says raising prices will only take more money away from students and young people.

“Most students don’t have much money and most of them spend most of their time studying full-time and working part-time,” says Thompson, “raising prices on the one thing they do in their limited free time isn’t a good idea, in my opinion.”

But not all students share the same beliefs; some support the idea of raising alcohol prices, and among them is environmental science student Jacky Smith. “If actual research concluded that raising prices will improve things, then I don’t think it’s such a bad idea,” says Smith.

Ben Scotley, assistant manager of Felicita’s pub at UVic, isn’t concerned with a small price hike. According to Scotley, as long as his business maintains its low prices and stays focused on its student demographic, Felicita’s won’t be significantly affected. “We’re not that worried about such a small price rise,” says Scotley. “We pretty much have the lowest prices in the city and we’re literally on the UVic

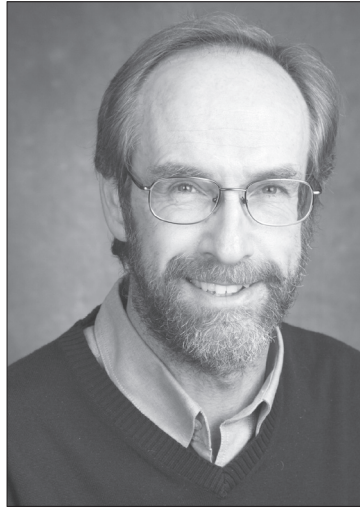


PHOTO PROVIDED

UVic’s Tim Stockwell.

campus, so I don’t think we’ll be severely affected by it.”

Despite his support for higher alcohol prices, Stockwell believes that more must be done to inform consumers about the health hazards of alcohol.

“We need to have restrictions on marketing and advertising and we need to have better labelling,” he says. “Why is it that a product like alcohol doesn’t inform consumers that it might give them cancer?”

Stockwell explains that the more someone drinks in his/her lifetime, the higher probability that person is to develop cancer.

“Somebody who drinks one drink per day has a higher risk of getting cancer, breast, throat, prostate, mouth, stomach, colon, and it’s directly related to the amount of alcohol you consume,” he warns.

Alcohol is also popular due to its perceived social benefits and cool image; according to Stockwell, the public is still largely unaware of the hazards of alcohol.

“Most of us drink and most of us love it,” he says, “right now, with alcohol, I think we’re where we were with tobacco 50 years ago.”

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Camosun students named all-Canadian academics

The Sport Information Resource Centre (SIRC) and Canadian Collegiate Athletic Association has named six Camosun Charger student athletes Academic All Canadians for the 2012–2013 season. “This is a great accomplishment by our student athletes,” says Camosun College recreation and athletics coordinator Graham Matthews. “It is a testament to their commitment both on and off the court.” Basketball players Jordan Elvedahl, Ella Goldschmid, Elyse Matthews, Jarred Callbeck, golf player Alex Sadowski, and volleyball player Hillary Graham were recipients of the prestigious awards for their achievements in collegiate athletics and academics. In total, 130 students across the country were named All Canadians. “The student athletes who have achieved excellence in both athletics and academics are role models for the youth of today and destined to excel in their future careers,” Debra Gasewitz, SIRC president and CEO, said in a press release.

### United by tragedy

Parents Carol Todd and Barb Kozeletski are speaking out in support of parents who’ve suffered the tragedy of children’s mental health issues, including endorsing Kelly and Owen Bradley’s petition for better emergency care for children in crisis. The Bradleys claim their 11-year-old daughter was recently sent away from Victoria General Hospital three times while having a serious, violent bipolar episode. “Since we launched our petition we’ve realized there is a whole network of families with children with mental illnesses across BC supporting each other when the health system and the government fails them,” says Kelly Bradley. “It’s a comfort, but it again proves that the Ministry of Health needs to step up and support us.”

### BC encourages public to stay active

Key elements of the Capital Regional District’s (CRD) recently completed Pedestrian and Cycling Master Plan (PCMP) will soon be implemented thanks to a contribution of \$780,950 from the Government of Canada’s gas tax fund transfer. A series of projects will be undertaken over the next two years to increase walking and cycling in the community. To encourage residents’ use of sustainable transportation, the PCMP will implement pedestrian and cycle-friendly infrastructure, such as bike-activated warning signals, advisory bike lanes, and traffic calming for bike boulevards. Other elements include solar-powered signage, automated count stations, and secure lock-up systems that support dual-mode trips such as cycling and transit. The CRD will contribute an additional \$87,600 to complete the project. Since 2006, the Government of Canada has made unprecedented investments in infrastructure. Through the Gas Tax Fund, municipalities across Canada received over \$10 billion in transfers for local priority initiatives.

### Federal budget ignores student debt crisis, says CFS

The mission to make postsecondary education affordable for Canadians isn’t being helped by the federal budget, according to the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS). “Continuing to download the cost of postsecondary education onto students is a short-sighted policy that will harm Canada’s economic recovery,” said Adam Awad, national chairperson of the Canadian Federation of Students, in a press release. “The 2013 budget is not an economic action plan for students and recent graduates.” If the current trend continues, student debt is expected to surpass \$19 billion before 2016. Simultaneously, the federal government has written off over \$700 million in unpaid student loans in the last three years. Unfortunately, the 2013 budget contains no new student financial assistance measures to address the increasing student debt loads carried by students and their families.

### Permaculture club launches

Spring marks the commencement of the Permaculture Design Club at Camosun. Meeting three times a week running from May 7 until June 20, students and participants will be learning the fundamentals of permaculture design. Instructor Chris Norseth will be offering the course at a highly discounted and subsidized rate, for students and non-students alike. Topics covered in the class will include, among other things, the principles of natural systems, sustainable design methodologies, patterns in nature, culture and society, reading the land and understanding natural processes. Permaculture is a branch of ecologically minded design that seeks to offer sustainability in all human endeavors. The movement is gaining traction internationally in large part as a practical response to the present threats faced by humanity and the life systems on earth. Through mimicking and working with nature, permaculture designers seek to implement systems that are economically viable and ecologically sound.

-DAMEN KORKORAS

Got a news tip? Send an email to [editor@nexusnewspaper.com](mailto:editor@nexusnewspaper.com) to let us know what you know!

## politics

# Rock the Vote encourages student involvement

**DAMEN KORKORAS**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Camosun College Student Society (CCSS) is urging students to vote in the upcoming provincial election. More than half a million eligible BC voters chose not to vote last year on election day and student groups says a mobilized student voice could have a huge impact on elections.

One group of optimists is Rock the Vote BC, a non-partisan voter registration campaign to increase voter turnout among BC’s postsecondary students.

The campaign is run by the Canadian Federation of Students British Columbia (CFS-BC) and is supported by the CCSS. Rock the Vote BC says students have a strong reason to vote and if more young people show up on election day, bigger changes and new ideas would emerge and benefit everyone.

According to Madeline Keller-MacLeod, external affairs executive

of the CCSS, Rock the Vote BC is an important event for students because it gives them a chance to raise awareness for matters that are important to them. The government won’t change anything unless it’s given reason to, says Keller-MacLeod.

“The provincial government has jurisdiction over many issues that are important to students, such as postsecondary education and poverty reduction,” says Keller-MacLeod. “When students don’t vote, sadly, many politicians take that to mean that they do not need to take our concerns seriously.”

Rock the Vote and Keller-MacLeod say it’s in students’ interests to start voting and paying closer attention to their communities. If students and younger people continue to stay home on election day, they shouldn’t expect to see any big changes, they say.

“In the last BC election there were over 500,000 eligible BC resi-

dents under the age of 34 who did not vote,” says Keller-MacLeod, “these are many of the students who are currently dealing with the negative consequences of a government that is shifting the responsibility of funding postsecondary institutions onto students.”

For most students, among the most important issues are tuition and education-related problems. According to Keller-MacLeod, if students hope to make education more adequately funded, accessible, and better managed, it has to start in the voting booth.

“It is possible that more young people voting could have put more pressure on the government to make an accessible postsecondary education system a reality,” she says.

It’s unknown how many young people and students will vote on May 14, but one thing is certain: Rock the Vote BC and the CCSS want to see a stronger voter turnout this time around.

### STUDENTS!

Want to write for Nexus over the spring and summer semesters? We’re especially looking for news writers, so if you’ve made it this far into the news page, we want to talk to you.

Get in touch by email to find out how you can volunteer for us (no previous writing experience required, and we help you every step of the way). Email [editor@nexusnewspaper.com](mailto:editor@nexusnewspaper.com), call 250-370-3591, or stop by our office at 201 Richmond House, Landsdowne campus.

alumni

## Moore's work with children started at Camosun

"Every child is different—they're unique, diverse, dynamic, and incredibly creative."

**KIRSTEEN MOORE**  
CHILD THERAPIST



PHOTO PROVIDED

Camosun alumni Kirsteen Moore says your career has to follow your heart.

**ALEXIS NIEUWKERK**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Now holding a bachelor's, master's and doctorate in psychology, Kirsteen Moore says that it was actually her two-year diploma from Camosun College that helped prepare her for the academic journey ahead.

Moore, who specializes in child and youth therapy with high-risk children between the ages of 5 and 19, started out at Camosun getting her Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) diploma before obtaining honours in her educational pursuits at the University of Victoria.

"I wasn't a fish out of water," explains Moore. "There was a lot of theory and it was an intense two and a half years at Camosun. It was a lot of work and, quite frankly, it was more work than my degree."

Moore has had to work diligently to ensure that her goals could be accomplished. At a time when the ECCE certificate was usually followed by a career instead of more education, she was pushing to go farther.

"Back then people just stopped, they didn't go on to get a degree," she says. "Now it's pretty commonplace, but I had to make a big case for that, I had to get letters of

support. So, it was a big deal to take the entire program at Camosun and say, 'I've done half a degree, count it.'"

Moore's decision to further her education can be traced to a passion for her work with children, as well as a belief that as someone who works so closely with them, she should have a say in decisions that were being made.

"I had a really good pulse on what was happening because of my training from Camosun and I felt equipped to write care plans or program plans, but I was always overruled by someone with a degree," says Moore. "So, I thought,

'Okay, I'll get a degree and I'll be fine,' and as things evolved it would be someone with a master's degree who made all the decisions, so I wanted to get one of those. So I just kept adding. I was on the frontline and I felt like I knew the kids best and I had a really good relationship with them."

It's obvious that helping children and youth is Moore's passion and it's also obvious that she loves her career. And just as she gives to the children she helps, she feels that she gets back just as much from them.

"It keeps me young and vibrant," she says. "Every day is a new day,

every child is different—they're unique, diverse, dynamic, and incredibly creative. I love that energy. I get the one job in the world where I can say for sure that I get as much as I give. I don't know how many people can say that."

The best advice Moore says can give students when focusing on education and career choice is to follow their hearts when choosing a career path.

"Make sure you are where you're supposed to be, make sure it's a fit, not your parents idea of a fit," she says. "It's really hard to plug in if you don't feel connected or excited about what you're doing."

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE NEXUS PUBLISHING SOCIETY

FRIDAY, APRIL 5, 2013, 1 PM,

NEXUS OFFICE, RICHMOND HOUSE 201, LANSDOWNE

#### AGENDA

- I CALL TO ORDER
- II INTRODUCTION TO RULES OF ORDER
- III APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- IV APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS AGM
- V REPORTS
  - 1.) PRESIDENT'S REPORT
  - 2.) FINANCIAL REPORT
- VI ADOPTION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT
  - 1.) ADOPTION OF MAR. 31, 2013 FINANCIAL STATEMENT
  - 2.) ADOPTION OF APRIL 1, 2013 TO MARCH 31, 2014 PROPOSED BUDGET
- VII RESIGNATION OF CURRENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS (EXCLUDING PRESIDENT AND TREASURER)
- VIII BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTIONS
- IX ADJOURNMENT

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

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Toastmasters Info: <http://camosuncollege.toastmastersclubs.org>

#### New Camosun Hiking Group!

Get closer to nature, get a great workout, and make new friends. How would you like to go hiking? Contact Forrest Kilgour at [forrestkilgour@gmail.com](mailto:forrestkilgour@gmail.com) to learn more about where we meet to decide where to hike, along with figuring out transportation arrangements. Space is limited so do not wait!

visual arts

# Comic convention to showcase Camosun talent



PHOTO PROVIDED

Camosun comics and graphic novel students showing off their stuff.

“Comics and graphic novels are categorically entertaining, but they go far beyond that function, and are now used to educate, inform, and empower.”

**KEN STEACY**  
CAMOSUN COLLEGE

**GREG PRATT**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Asking students to go to school on a Sunday is the most difficult thing to do in the world. Anything would be easier. It will rain money before a gaggle of Camosun students could be convinced to head back to campus on a Sunday.

Just don't tell that to Ken Steacy, program leader of the comics

and graphic novels program at Camosun. On Sunday, April 7, the program is hosting the first Camosun College Comics Conference. And he'll probably prove the Sunday/students theory wrong, knowing how dedicated comic fans are. As far as Steacy is concerned, those who aren't comic buffs should head out, too.

“In spite of—or perhaps because of—the proliferation of digital content delivery, traditional media like comics and graphic novels are increasingly filling shelves in libraries and bookstores, attracting legions of new readers, young and old,” he says. “It's the very nature of holding and interacting with these physical artifacts that makes them so attractive, and the best comics leverage that value to a high degree. Furthermore, the range of content has never been more diverse, so there's now something for everyone to learn from and enjoy.”

The main goal of the conference is to showcase the achievements of the 16 students in the comics and graphic novels program. They will have comics on display, and

there will also be guest speakers, such as *Concrete's* Paul Chadwick, *The Magical Life of Long Tack Sam's* Anne Marie Fleming, *Haida Manga's* Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas, and *Sam & Fuzzy's* Sam Logan.

“Comic events like these are great,” says Logan, “because they're a rare chance for new and aspiring creators to meet actual working professional comic writers and artists. Being a cartoonist isn't a very visible job, and because of that a lot of younger aspiring cartoonists get discouraged and just assume right out of the gate that making comics as anything more than a hobby isn't possible. That's not true.”

Steacy—who has been a freelance comics artist for four decades and has done work for *Batman*, *Spider-Man*, *The X-Men*, *Astro Boy*, and *Jonny Quest*, among others—says he hopes that the conference helps make the community aware of the power of visual storytelling and also its presence in a global context. He also points out that comics aren't just ha-ha funny or superhero action-packed.



R. ST. ARNAUD

Camosun's Ken Steacy has a passion for comics.

“Comics and graphic novels are categorically entertaining, but they go far beyond that function, and are now used to educate, inform, and empower,” he says. “Works can be easily translated for delivery in a limitless number of languages, thereby dramatically increasing their audience and bringing readers together. One of our program's most important learning outcomes is the creation of edutainment comics, those works whose content educates in an entertaining way; as a wise guy once said, whatever pleases teaches more effectively.”

And what does Steacy himself get out of the medium?

“More than anything, it's a fascination with the beautiful language of visual storytelling,” he says, “and the synergy that's created when words and pictures collide and coalesce.”

**Camosun College Comics Conference**  
11 am to 6 pm, Sunday, April 7  
Young building, third floor,  
Lansdowne campus, free  
[camosun.ca/learn/programs/vist/conference](http://camosun.ca/learn/programs/vist/conference)

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chargers

# Camosun golfers win local tournament



“This home advantage helped our team take home the victory.”

**JARED HUNDZA**  
CAMOSUN CHARGERS

KEVIN LIGHT

Camosun's Jared Hundza stepped up to help the Chargers take home a recent victory.

**JASON SCHREURS**  
MANAGING EDITOR

The defending champion Camosun Chargers went into the recent Bear Mountain Collegiate Golf Tournament without their top player, the injured Jarred Callbeck. Luckily, another Jared stepped up with the performance of his collegiate career to lead the Chargers to their second consecutive title.

Jared Hundza, who calls Edmonton, AB his hometown, shot a 142 to lead Camosun to a five-stroke lead over the other BC and Alberta teams in the first Chargers tourney of the year, held March 23 and 24.

“It was great to see,” says head coach John Randle. “Our number

one guy was injured and Jared did great. It's early in the year, so it was terrific to see him perform like that.”

Hundza finished at the top of the leader board in a three-way tie with golfers from Vancouver Island University and Grant MacEwan University. He says part of his success was due to not setting his expectations too high so early in the season.

“I think this helped me as I didn't put too much pressure on myself,” says Hundza. “It felt really good to be able to shoot a low round, but more importantly help my team get the victory.”

For Randle, who's also acad-

emy director at the Bear Mountain Resort, having home course advantage made a difference. But the victory wouldn't have been possible, he says, without the kind of performance he got from his players: Hundza, Kevin Walz (Qualicum, BC), Brady Stead (Vernon, BC), Grant Maskewich (Smithers, BC) and Kevin Bredy (Calgary, AB).

“We live in Victoria, so we do have a distinct advantage, but you still have to go out and play the golf, and for me personally, I don't make the shots,” says Randle, “so it's really good to see them do it.”

Hundza agrees that home course advantage played a part in the win, and can work in many ways.

“The biggest advantages that I see is knowing the club selection of tees, as well as the break on the greens,” says Hundza. “This home advantage helped our team take home the victory.”

Camosun finished the two-day Bear Mountain tournament with a final combined score of 583. Grant MacEwan University (588), Vancouver Island University (601), Lethbridge College (608), and Douglas College (613) rounded out the five teams who played.

Although it wasn't as staggering as last year's epic 25-stroke Bear Mountain win, the victory once again gets the Camosun team off to a strong start.

Unfortunately, the Chargers golf squad now goes into a spring/summer break with not much else on the horizon until the fall, says Randle.

One Chargers player, Walz, hopes to turn professional soon and will undertake a full amateur schedule this spring and summer. Meanwhile, Randle will continue to coach his team the best he can for their staggered season.

“You do your best to get them prepared, then you have to stand back and let them do their thing, so it is a bit of a helpless feeling,” says Randle. “But it helps when they have great performances like this first tournament.”

## NEXUS

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observations

# Online shopping growing in popularity, but still not foolproof

So I was set. I placed the order. Then I waited, and waited. Then I waited some more.

**KATE MASTERS**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

You know when you go into a store and you want to like it, but can't? You give it more chances than a misbehaved puppy, but still nothing. The store has poor customer service, or they never have your size left, and you just can't like it, no matter how hard you try? This is what happened with me and online shopping.

According to the Financial Post, in 2010 online sales accounted for 3.4 percent of Canada's \$18-billion dollar retail spending. By the year 2016, online shoppers are expected to contribute to 5.3 percent of total retail Canadian spending. Seeing as almost every store has an online shop nowadays, I wanted to give it a chance.

One night, instead of spending my time procrastinating doing homework by looking at cat videos, I decided to give the online store ASOS a chance. After all, I have my graduation ceremony coming up, I

had my dress and now all I needed was some cute shoes. So I had a purpose to shop.

I had been drawn to the online store ASOS by some of the blogs I follow shopping there and from a couple of friends who have shopped there. They have the latest trends and even had a number of ASOS boutiques where people sell their handmade clothes online through ASOS.

Before purchasing my shoes I made sure I would get free shipping because ASOS is based in the United Kingdom. I also made sure I would get a full refund if the shoes didn't fit or the colours weren't right. The only thing I would have to pay for if I didn't like the shoes would be the return shipping.

So I was set. I placed the order. Then I waited, and waited. Then I waited some more. The expected delivery date of the shoes came and went. In the meantime I went shopping in Victoria; most of the spring styles had arrived in the stores and it reminded me of how nice touching and trying on shoes was, and let's not forget the customer service.

I emailed ASOS to tell them my order hadn't arrived a week after their expected delivery date. They told me to wait another week, so I did and still nothing came. I emailed them again and they acknowledged that my order probably got lost in the mail, even though they didn't



AERIAL PHOTO BY HANSUELI KRAPP, GRAPHIC BY KATE MASTERS/NEXUS

### Shopping online isn't without its unique set of perils.

know for sure because they didn't have a tracking number on my order.

Instead of just brushing me off, they offered to ship my order again. However, they didn't have my size this time, so they refunded my money and gave me a discount code for my next purchase. If the shoes don't arrive before April 12, I guess I'll have to walk across the graduation stage and present my

final project barefoot. Wish me luck.

#### Online shopping tips:

- Make sure the shipping is free; if you don't like the items then you will have to pay for shipping again to send the shoes back.
- If you can, shop at online stores in Canada, or stores that have warehouses in Canada. Your order will be processed and sent to you within days and you can

track your order.

- Look at the sizing guide of the online store. This is really important because every store's S, M, and L are different. Also, the sizing guide was really useful at ASOS because UK sizing is completely different than Canadian. In Canada I'm a size nine, but in the UK I'm a size seven.
- Search for a coupon code, you might get lucky!

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social issues

# Pass it on: responsible media coverage of suicide

“You never ‘commit’ suicide, which is the go-to term for the uninformed and is stigma-reinforcing.”

**ERIC WINDELER**  
THE JACK PROJECT



Jack Windeler, who died by suicide; his father, Eric, founded The Jack Project to help educate about suicide.

**JEAN OLIVER**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

As a kid one of my favorite group games was Pass It On. How exciting it was to pass a message along from between carefully cupped hands (to keep anyone from overhearing) by whispering it into the ear of the kid next to you, the “rumour” making its way around the circle in moist, tickling breaths. Back at the first person the garbled results are reported out loud, along with the original sentence, the message twisted beyond recognition. Blew my mind every time.

In reporting on suicide, passing on the message is seen as dangerous and taking breaks between stories is a form of suicide prevention. Research, beyond any doubt, has proven that covering suicides can lead to copycats, but evidence is mounting fast that supports talking about suicide as also being crucial to prevention.

With social media forcing us all to come to grips with the theory of contagion, researchers now suggest that answers might be found in how and when suicide is reported on in the media.

Eric Windeler chooses his words very carefully as he spares a few minutes over the phone. He’s come up with scripts he uses to educate journalists.

Windeler is the founder of the Jack Project and a father who knows what losing someone to suicide feels like; he lost his son Jack to suicide in 2010. As Windeler educates me, I listen hard.

“I make sure the journalist uses the right language, I insist on ‘die by suicide’ or ‘lose your life by suicide.’ You never ‘commit’ suicide, which is the go-to term for the uninformed and is stigma-reinforcing,” says Windeler. “Suicide should never be glorified in headlines. According to the stats, 90 percent of the time there is something else going on, the person is struggling. Stories that don’t bring in mental health

are generally not as responsible as they could be.”

The idea of suicide as stigmatizing possibly arose during the struggle between ancient Rome and newly forming Christianity. Suicide in those days was thought to be the ultimate act of piety, a sacrifice, and Christians were killing themselves faster than the Romans could find hungry lions.

Alarmed, Jewish authorities came up with a cover story: because Judas Iscariot sacrificed himself trying to atone, and as he was such a rotten apple, anything he did (ergo “commit” a suicide) was “logically” a sin. The decree worked. The Christians stopped doing the work of the Romans for them, and systemic stigma stuck.

Media headlines tend to shoot first and ask questions later. It just sells more papers. But the media is not alone in spreading shock and awe. We all play into contagion when we share certain details on social media. Wendeler wants to see less of this kind of sharing.

“A basic of suicide reporting is the means and method are not reported. Avoid disturbing words, especially in the headlines. In a perfect world, provide supports to people potentially affected by the article,” he says. “If links are included, an article is a respectful piece.”

Over the phone, Jack Knox, columnist with the *Times Colonist*, spoke with me about conventional wisdom and media’s habit of dampening down on covering suicide.

“We always default to openness, believe in the free exchange of information, so not talking about something goes against the grain of journalism,” says Knox. “But when it comes to suicide, we often go the other way. Until more is known, the consequences of openness, of breaking the taboo and inspiring copycats: few journalists want to take that chance.”

Constable Mike Russell of the

Victoria Police Department believes there isn’t enough empirical evidence getting through to the ranks.

“If I had empirical evidence on reporting or not, and it went up the chain of command, I’m sure it would change things tomorrow. And more conversations would seem a good idea,” says Russell.

As it turns out, loads of research is out there on the theory of contagion. But in many cases it’s effectively blocked from reaching the frontlines. There are barriers barring access to the research, much of it held in hawk by university memberships, or hidden in books, or inches deep in studies.

“I got into journalism to save the world, to create change, but reporting on suicide is a conversation that never seems to go anywhere.”

**JACK KNOX**  
TIMES COLONIST

To unravel the common threads is painstakingly meticulous, slow work few have time for. And often statistics conflict, or are hard to trace to their source. And there are breakdowns of communication at the borders of each township, too—until it all finally drops into the bottomless gap between the provinces and Ottawa.

It would seem, in this dawn of education-by-feelings on social media, there’s an opportunity for the citizens and journalists to pull off suicide prevention in a big way. Traditional reliance on media dissemination as a one-way street is

over. We are being forced to interact with each other, with the kids who are posting about suicide way out in front, in a so-far largely unsupported free-for-all.

“I got into journalism to save the world, to create change, but reporting on suicide is a conversation that never seems to go anywhere. But how do you quantify contagion theory? How do we find out when reporting is effective, and who for? I wouldn’t mind seeing those numbers,” muses Knox.

In the US, the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention has produced guidelines called “Reporting on Suicide: Recommendations for the Media,” as part of a public-private partnership project recommended by the Office of the Surgeon General’s National Strategy for Suicide Prevention.

The report opens with the declaration that “suicide contagion is real,” then goes on to warn against scaring people with shocking headlines.

“The media can play a powerful role in educating the public about suicide prevention,” it says. “Implementations of recommendations for media coverage of suicide has been shown to decrease suicide rates.”

The report lists some main points on what might contribute to contagion: Certain ways of describing suicide; romanticizing or idealizing by portraying suicide as heroic or romantic; exposure to suicide method (detailed description of the method, pictures of the location); and presenting suicide as the inexplicable act of an otherwise healthy or high-achieving person.

There’s a lot more in the report, on how to interview surviving relatives and friends, reporting on contributing factors, language, and exceptions to the rule. It also provides tips on “angles to pursue.”

The report does a very good job of informing and attempts to convey a balance of research. But most people won’t read it. Among

editors, journalists, citizens, and in the offices of suicide prevention, in the stigma-reinforcing phenomena Wendeler warns against, many, ironically, won’t get past the report’s first headline, and may even go on to cite the report based only on the headlines it contains.

If the message is to come through unhindered, time has to be set aside to clear the line, beginning by clarifying what exactly suicide is and what causes it.

Professor Michael J. Kral is a Canadian researcher with an extensive background in the complexity of suicide, and a focus on First Nations youth. Kral views suicide from a cultural perspective, as something internalized by a community, and pokes holes in common beliefs in suicide.

His work encourages us to shift from thinking of suicide as something an individual does alone to something that’s a product of a collective. He notes there’s a lot of research on media and suicide and provides links to two papers. One by S. Gould, called “Suicide and the Media,” and a second, T. Niederkrotenthaler’s “Copycat effects after media reports on suicide: A population-based ecologic study.” More eye-opening, and dare I suggest, required reading.

Essentially, we need a new game of Pass It On. It would appear the message is starting on down the line, and that’s encouraging. People like Windeler have an idea about how to get that information safely through to the people who most need it.

“My son Jack was struggling, but there wasn’t anyone around him trained to identify it,” explains Windeler. “At the Jack Project we let young people take ownership of this issue: they will shine a bright light on something we all need to be prepared to talk about. This is the number one threat young people are facing. It can’t be ignored any longer.”



field sports

## Soccer players suggest league improvements



THOMAS KOLODZIEJ

“You have to ensure the mediums of communication and administration are extremely user-friendly.”

**TONY DROLET**  
LOCAL SOCCER PLAYER

With a new soccer league coming to town, local players are piping up with their suggestions on how to run things.

**JASON SCHREURS**  
MANAGING EDITOR

In the wake of a new soccer league starting up in Victoria, local players are chiming in with their own ideas on how to run a successful and player-friendly league in town.

As reported last issue, Vicsoccer is a new league beginning this spring that prides itself on more casual play. The upstart league enters the circuit with the long-running Vancouver Island Soccer League (VISL), a FIFA-associated soccer organization and division of BC Soccer, which has dominated local fields for decades.

But talk of a new league coming in has raised some issues about the VISL amongst players. Not only its dominance on the local soccer scene (the word “monopoly” has been thrown around a lot), but an overabundance of rules from what they claim is a top-down league management style.

“As the only real league around, the VISL has a monopoly on organized soccer,” says 12-year VISL veteran Doug McDannold, a public servant by day. “This means that they have little motivation to try and do things to improve things for players and clubs.”

Vince Greco, VISL president,

isn’t denying that the longtime league has been monopolizing Victoria’s soccer scene for a long time, but he says it’s just fact: right now the VISL is the only game in town. He also explains that the league is run for the members, by the members, and although it’s up to the league to enforce the rules, the management style is far from top-down.

“For example, members come to the meetings and they say, ‘We want all of the teams to wear uniforms,’ so we say, ‘Fine, that’s cool, we’ll make a rule about it,’ but there has to be follow-up to it,” says Greco. “So if a bunch of guys show up in different coloured shorts the next game, they get fined \$50. And as with any organization, the bigger you get, the more rules you have to follow.”

So many rules, in fact, that players like McDonnald are starting to question the need for some of them. And while fines can work well for rule-breaking of the physical infraction kind, what about fines for things that are out of the control of some players?

“It’s very bureaucratic and the people in charge often make bewildering decisions, such as disproportionate fines for very minor rule violations,” says McDonnald. “The

scheduling is poor, with games constantly being changed in the days leading up to them and teams then being fined if they are unable to field enough players to play. There seems to be a belief that people should just clear their entire schedules for soccer since the games can be moved to any time or place.”

Tony Drolet, a VISL player who’s been in the league for 25 years, says the best way to improve local soccer leagues is open up competition among leagues, such as new leagues like Vicsoccer, in order to welcome players with open arms. He also says it’s key that every league’s administration is easy to get a hold of and communicate with.

“You have to ensure the mediums of communication and administration are extremely user-friendly,” says Drolet. “Currently, if you want to play organized soccer in this city you must ensure that you are associated with one of the teams that is already in existence, or risk being left out.”

Vicsoccer is coming into town with a different approach. While VISL prides itself on being an organized league with a set structure and a dependency on rules, the new league is looking at a “fun first” approach to get more people interested in the sport.

“We like to emphasize that this is a fun environment and a lot of times we see more smiles in this league than we do in a traditional league setting,” says Vince Cryne, Vicsoccer advisor. “It’s still competitive, but these guys have to get up and go to work the next morning. And the beauty of this is it attracts ages anywhere from 16 to 76. We’re competitive, but the disciplinary action is just based on peer pressure. Some of the games are even non-refereed.”

Everyone seems to agree that having more soccer leagues in Victoria is a good thing: the more people playing the game, the better. But existing soccer organizations are hesitant about any new league coming in without doing their homework first. A limited number of fields and a relatively small player base are just two of the challenges for a blossoming soccer scene in town.

“I would just hope that any new leagues would be looking to connect with the existing leagues to make sure that they’re offering something that’s new that’s isn’t already being offered,” says Karen Hood-Deshon, executive director of the Lower Island Soccer Association, the body in charge of Victoria area youth soccer. “If you split teams

then neither organization can operate, because half the people would be over here, and half the people would be over there.”

Meanwhile, Greco isn’t sure exactly how a new league would impact the VISL, and poses unanswered questions.

“Would you be robbing from Peter to pay Paul? Would there be that many more players coming in?” asks Greco. “I don’t think there’s a tons more players; there’s probably some room for growth. So if another league wanted to come, I don’t think there would be a huge issue with getting fields, etc.”

As for advice for any new soccer league starting up in Victoria, Greco has a warning about running a league with many different teams’ interests in mind.

“It’s really tough to please everybody, so try not to take it personally when you’re getting pulled in several different directions by a bunch of different people,” he says, “because they are just looking out for their own best interests, where as a league we look out for the majority.”

Longtime league player Drolet also has some advice for running a local league: “Keep democracy to a minimum. The more decisions that are made by many, the harder it is to get anything accomplished.”

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opera

## Tosca new challenge for local director

**INSU KIM**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

After, or during, an opera, singers receive applause from the audience; however, there are many people who work very hard for the show that the audience doesn't see. In particular, a director of an opera may have a different view and perspective of it from the actors. Amiel Gladstone, the stage director for *Tosca*, is excited about this opera, as it's a new challenge for him.

Gladstone, who has a lot of experience directing shows, says his job is "basically coming up with an overall concept of the opera and the style and working with individuals—the conductor, designers, and singers, and putting it all together."

*Tosca* is one of the most fabulous operas of all time. In it, Floria Tosca, a singer and main character, is in love with Cavaradossi, an artist. They are in Rome, at the time of the revolution. Rome is under the thumb of Scarpia, the ruthless and evil chief of police.

"Scarpia is ruling maybe not in the most legal and upright of ways," says Gladstone, "and so the revolutionary, Cavaradossi, who escapes from the castle, hides and Scarpia finds out. So through various methods he tries going after Cavaradossi and Tosca. He gets in the way of their love."

Like the characters' journey,

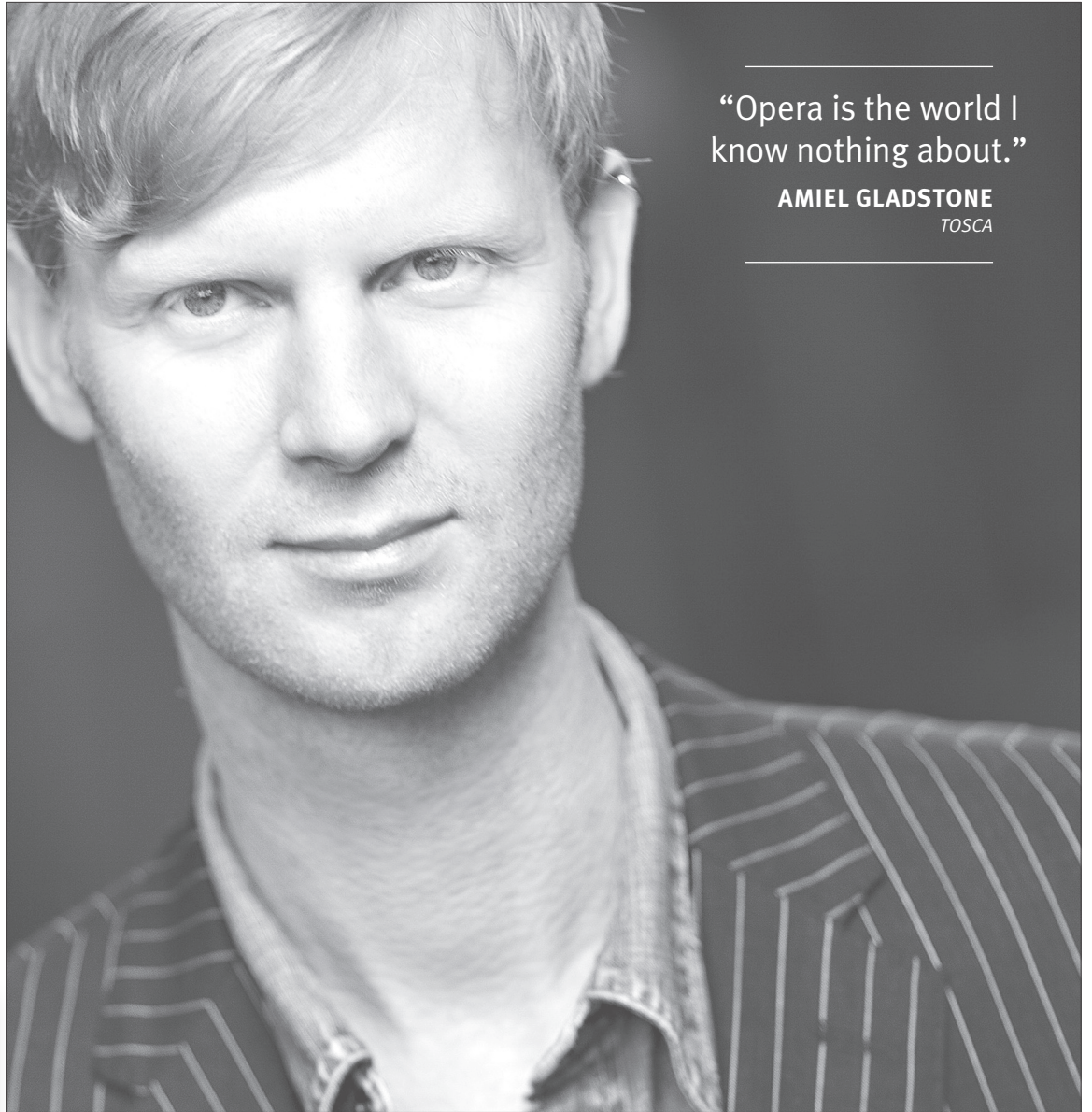
Gladstone's own career-path journey was quite uneasy. Even though opera is a little bit new to him, he decided to come back to Victoria from Vancouver, mostly in order to learn about this new world and to take on a challenge in a new field.

"It's the world that I know nothing about," he says. "I am learning the opera world. It is important to me to be always learning. It's also an enormous, much larger, theatre. That's important to me, because sometimes theatre shows are very small. It's an opportunity to work big."

Although working for opera is new to him, he fully understands what composer Giacomo Puccini wanted to tell through his piece. Conveying the ideas of Puccini to the audience is important for him, as Gladstone wants the audience to feel and experience them.

"I think that what we are trying to do with this opera is create a performance that allows the original Puccini to be shown, to be heard, and to be experienced," says Gladstone, "but also, that has a contemporary and modern spin on it."

*Tosca*  
8 pm, April 4, 6, 10  
2:30 pm, April 14  
Royal Theatre  
rmts.bc.ca



"Opera is the world I know nothing about."

**AMIEL GLADSTONE**  
TOSCA

*You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* has some deeper messages underneath the silliness.

DAVID LOWES

magic

## Illusionist wants to take Victorians off their driver's licences

"Coming up with new stuff that I've never done before excites me."

**VITALY BECKMAN**  
ILLUSIONIST

**INSU KIM**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Achieving any single dream requires a huge amount of effort and time; it's no surprise then that people find it easier to get a steady job rather than run after their dreams. Vitaly Beckman, a Vancouver-based illusionist, hopes to inspire people to take the hard path by sharing his story through his imaginative illusions and magic.

"The show is really about making the audience feel anything is possible," says Beckman. "I hope when the audience goes home, maybe it inspires them to think of what they thought in their life impossible or difficult. Maybe even so, they can follow their dream. I really

try to encourage them to follow their own personal dreams because a lot of people are afraid to do that, so they go for security."

Beckman was one of these people who chased after security. Before he became a creative and well-known illusionist, he went to study engineering and he worked as an engineer. But he never liked it. As a result, he decided to pursue his own dream of being an illusionist, which he had wanted to be after watching David Copperfield's show. He succeeded in achieving his special dream.

When he was 15 years old, Copperfield's illusions really made him wonder... then made him try his hand at illusions. "I tried, but I couldn't," he says. "I sat at the table for a couple of days and I just thought, 'How would I do it if I had to perform it for somebody?'" says Beckman.

Beckman tried very hard to figure it out, and he eventually did it. He started showing his family and friends. He truly enjoyed performing in front of people because they loved it and also wanted to see more his magic and illusions. As he was learning, he discovered he would rather invent his own magic and illusions than copy others.

"Coming up with new stuff that I've never done before excites me," he says. "All of the magic in the show comes from my own imagination. It's really exciting for me to try new



How does he do it? Photoshop? Well, how does he do it in reality? Magic!

things. [At the Victoria show] I am going to attempt to make people disappear from their driver's licences. I will try to put someone else on it instead, anybody you want. It could be a very famous person, like George Clooney. I'll put it on your licence and you can take it home. Just make sure that you bring a bus pass or another driver's license," he

says with a laugh.

For Beckman, there's a strenuous effort not only to achieve his dream, but also to show the audience new illusions. The amount of time and effort he puts into practicing and creating new illusions are quite astonishing.

"I try to think about new illusions all the time," he says. "I try

to get inspired by everything all the time on a daily basis. I think about it 24-7. I always try to come up with new ideas all the time and everywhere. I just never stop thinking."

Vitaly  
7:30 pm, Saturday April 6  
Metro Studio  
eveningofwonders.com

PHOTO PROVIDED

music

# Family of the Year continue to grow with their music



PHOTO PROVIDED

Family of the Year aren't a family at all. They're a band! Well, there are two brothers. We know, it's hard to keep up. Just look at the striped sweater.

**CRYSTAL DERRY**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Currently on tour and promoting their second album, *Loma Vista*, Family of the Year has come a long way since they first got together just four years ago.

Drummer and vocalist, and former University of Victoria student, Sebastian Keefe made a quick decision right after his first year as a student to quit academia and follow his passion for music instead, heading off to Boston with his brother/Family of the Year guitarist Joseph (the only two family members in the band).

"I quit to join my brother's band," says Sebastian. "It was really weird, because I had my whole next year planned out and I had courses paid for and registered, I had my apartment, I had a girlfriend, and all my friends. It was one of those weird decisions where, maybe if I had woken up in a different mood that day, I would have waited. But I did make a decision, and it's obviously changed my life forever. But sometimes when I sit around, I wonder what it would have been like if I had stayed, and not made this decision. Its kind of crazy."

While things are going well

now, they weren't always so smooth. After a year playing in Boston and a break from music to work in television, Sebastian rejoined his brother to start up Family of the Year in California. It was these life experiences that have shaped Family of the Year into a tight-knit group and form their up-beat and optimistic indie-folk.

"Our environment has always influenced our music, our life experience that has influenced our lives and the way that we do things," he says. "That's the largest influence. Also our relationships, members of the band and friends

and family. A lot of songs on the album are just like, 'we're going to get through this together' kind of songs, you know. A 'whatever it takes' kind of vibe."

Family of the Year made their first album, the self-recorded *Songbook*, available to fans by donations. They are continuing this with *Loma Vista*, also making it available by donation.

"Our number-one priority is to get the music in peoples' hands if they want it," says Sebastian. "While we're on tour, people can get the album for however much they can afford to pay."

The pay-what-you-can model is the same, but what has changed is how the band approach composing their songs.

"We spent a lot more time with the arrangement of the songs and working on bits and pieces, as opposed to our first album," he says. "I think the songwriting reflects better what we are like live; it has just evolved, kind of a natural progression bands go through."

Family of the Year  
Tuesday, April 23  
Upstairs Cabaret, \$16.50  
[familyoftheyear.net](http://familyoftheyear.net)

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## music

## When interviews go sideways, with Cowboy Junkies



PHOTO PROVIDED

The Cowboy Junkies, stuck in a flight of stairs, looking at the camera for help.

## JEAN OLIVER

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

My recent interview with Cowboy Junkies bassist Alan Anton began badly. But in the easygoing way common to all bassists I've met, Anton didn't seem fazed. In fact, he was so laid back it was like having a conversation while one of their songs is playing. Can't be done.

As Anton deadpanned his answers, I attempted to glean from him the answer to the mystery that is the band's mesmerizing sound. And as we chatted, I had a possible glimpse at why the secret behind the band's longevity might just be in the accommodating habits of their bass player. So be a fly on the wall for this awkward, hilarious, and occasionally revealing conversation.

*So how would you describe the Blue Rodeo sound? Oh, god, I knew I was going to do that!*

(Laughing) No, I get it.

*How would you describe the Cowboy Junkies sound? Is there a formula the band uses to produce that easygoing vibe?*

The sound is unintended; it just happens.

*A happy accident?*

Yeah, it's always amazing when things just do that.

*Hmm. Do you still use the Calrec, or Ambisonic mic? Does it contribute in some way, add to the echo, that sense of longing effect?*

We did try it but it didn't work

on the third album. We used it for the first two albums, it captured what we were at the time, but now things are more complicated with our sound.

*You have kept your garage band freshness in some ways, that jam-session thing...*

True, like we're all just getting together to play.

*Hmm. Did you have a moment when you were all playing together back in the beginning and suddenly knew—there, that's it, that's the sound?*

We did, actually. There was a third brother on guitar [the group is made up of one Anton and three members of the Timmins family],

sound was full. But he left. When we got together without him, that was our moment, when we knew.

*What made you choose the bass guitar? What influenced you?*

I like everything about the bass, completely, it's hard to explain. It has a lot to do with what I listen to, when I play I look for a sound that I like... but other players play well, I don't.

*Oh, I'm sure that's not... I mean... Oh, okay. Let's see... I'm surprised to find you living here, in Sooke. I assumed you were all in Toronto. How did you end up here?*

We all lived in Toronto, but then my wife and I had a child with allergies, a friend recommended

the coast, and Sooke specifically, and the weather is better here, so we decided to move.

*I'm floored. I mean, how do you practice? Not by Skype, surely.*

No, by plane. Yeah, by plane. I go there.

*Okay. What has held you all together for so long—and with such a long commute for you?*

Personal friendship is the biggest thing, also the fact we're really happy with what we're making together.

Cowboy Junkies  
Thursday, April 25  
Alix Goolden Hall  
cowboyjunkies.com

## local, live, and loud

by Dan Darling

## eye on campus

by Damen Korkoras

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3

## Lucero, Shovels &amp; Rope

CLUB 90NE9, \$15, 9:30 PM

I'm constantly being reminded of the fact that I'm getting old. Take skateboarding, for example. At one point in my life there was barely a day that I didn't hop on one of my boards for something. Even if I wasn't "going skateboarding," I was taking a cruise to the store for groceries or riding one around at work. These days if I get to hop on a skateboard more than once or twice a month, I'm stoked. To be fair, I think if I didn't live on a farm with very little smooth pavement I might roll around a bit more often. Maybe I should park the tractor outside and build a mini-ramp in the garage.

## THURSDAY, APRIL 4

## Billy Bragg, Kim Churchill

ALIX GOOLDEN HALL, \$30, 7 PM

I can't wait for my slow-pitch softball season to start. I know, right? You're thinking, "Man, this guy really is getting old." But if you've ever enjoyed playing baseball or softball as a kid and haven't played in a while, then slow-pitch is where it's at. You get all the fun parts of a ballgame but hitting the damn ball is a 100 times easier. Awesome. I like to pitch, just so I'm involved in the game the entire time. Not everybody wants to be the closest guy to an easily hittable ball the size of a grapefruit, but, hey, I like to live life on the edge.

## FRIDAY, APRIL 5

## Stars, Said the Whale

ALIX GOOLDEN HALL, \$25, 7 PM

We watched *The Hobbit* and had a Middle Earth-themed dinner the other night. My wife glazed a big ol' ham with some marmalade and mustard, tossed some root veggies in the roasting pan, and I bought some wine from New Zealand. It was the best I could do. At least the movie was filmed there. There was no way I was about to try mead for the first time, although I did consider it. Regardless, our evening was great. So much better than picking up Thai and trying to watch *The Man with the Iron Fists* the following evening. RZA should stick to making music.

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10

## The Casualties, Dayglo Abortions

CLUB 90NE9, \$15, 9 PM

Did I ever tell you about the time the Dayglos played in the back of the Brickyard? We didn't have bouncers, just me and a buddy working that night. Somebody came in carrying a bat. We politely asked them to leave it with us. At one point I went downstairs to get another bag of flour and was offered cocaine, which I respectfully declined. One of the band members pissed in the garbage can in the washroom, rather than the toilet. And only one person got a bottle to the face that night. All things considered, a fun evening.

## THURSDAY, APRIL 11

## Pickwick, Jordan Klassen

LUCKY BAR, \$15.50, 8 PM

My youngest is just starting all sorts of things. He's starting to get teeth. He's starting to crawl. His little hands slap all around our laminate floor as he goes. Actually, he's started pulling himself into a standing position with the help of anything he can reach. He's started eating bits of the same food we're eating. He started clapping today. Then there's his low, demon voice grunt and grumble that he's started doing. It's as if he's possessed by a geriatric beast attempting to push out a turd. I'm pretty sure that at least half of that is true most of the time.

## FRIDAY, APRIL 12

## Ladyhawk, Popcorn Park

COPPER OWL, \$13, 9 PM

That Kernels place in the mall may be the death of me. Not to be confused with The Colonel; I'm not talking KFC here. No, this place has one item done dozens of different ways. Popcorn. Coat it in something tasty and sell it for a huge markup (like KFC!). Anyhow, this stuff is coated in savoury or sweet flavours, and every time I walk by with my family we are forced to stop. Not physically forced or anything, but it is almost impossible to convince a three-and-a-half year old that they don't need popcorn. And, honestly, do I want my kid to be sad? Mmm, popcorn.

## WEDNESDAYS, APRIL 10 AND 17

## Sierra Club screening

Check out the gripping documentary *White Water Black Gold*, being held in Colwood and Esquimalt on April 10 and 17, respectively. The film explores David Lavallee's three-year journey learning about the oil industry. Admission is free at both locations and it takes place at Church of the Advent, 510 Mt. View Ave, Colwood and United Church, 500 Admirals Road, Esquimalt.

## FRIDAY, APRIL 12

## African micro-loans fundraiser

A money-raising event for micro-loans to women in Africa. Money raised from this event will be transferred to African women by Camosun sociology professor Francis Adu-Febiri. The fundraiser also includes Hawaiian dancing, snacks, video documentary clips and some words from Adu-Febiri. Takes place 7-11 pm at Discovery Coffee (664 Discovery St.).

## SUNDAY, APRIL 14

## Scotiabank MS Walk

Grab your lucky shoes and join over 600 participants in the fight to end multiple sclerosis. Celebrate your incredible fundraising efforts at Willows Beach Park and choose any of the following routes: 3km or 6km, for those walking or using wheel-

chairs or scooters, or 9km if you're running. Your fundraising efforts are rewarded with fabulous prizes, such as gift cards to some of your favourite places to shop, a great event T-shirt, lunch, and entertainment on event day.

## MONDAY, APRIL 15

## BC Hydro seeks First Nations

BC Hydro is seeking First Nations students to join their work program. As part of their Aboriginal Education and Employment Strategy (AEES), BC Hydro is offering a number of exciting positions to prospective First Nations students. They offer an opportunity to work directly with their AEES team and they can also offer support with the online application, interview preparation, and more. Application deadline is April 15.

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 1

## Dare to Dance

Groups from Camosun are encouraged to participate in a free flash mob contest promoting healthy body image and self-esteem. Part of the Provincial Eating Disorders Awareness (PEDAW) campaign, the province-wide contest is searching for groups willing to learn a pre-recorded dance routine and perform it in their own community. Winners will receive the official PEDAW "love our bodies, love ourselves" wristbands and "perfect is boring" T-shirts. Deadline for submissions is May 1.



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Sour Grapes

by Nicole Beneteau



## Hot dog heaven

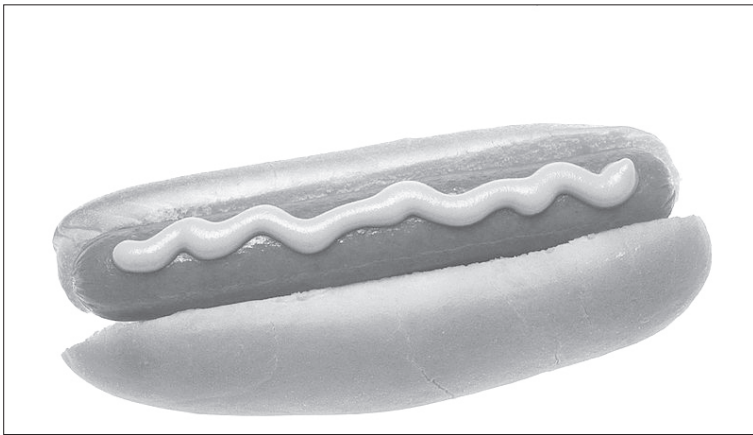


PHOTO PROVIDED

Last issue we talked about pig anus here. Now, hot dogs. What next?

With just a glance around at all the burger joints in Victoria, it's easy to see that this town has no shortage of love for meat-on-a-bun-based cuisine. In recent years, Victoria has experienced something of a burger boom, with new restaurants like Bin 4 and Big Wheel Burger attracting lineups of hungry customers with a hankering for everything from the basic burger to gourmet variations.

So it should come as no surprise that the burger's classic comrade, the hot dog, is following along in the same footsteps, becoming the next big thing for comfort-food craving Victorians.

The rise of the wiener has been slow and steady. Years ago, pioneers like Japadog, specializing in Japanese-themed dogs, proved that a hot dog could be more than a vehicle for ketchup, mustard, and synthetic bacon bits. Many other carts followed suit, like Victoria's own Dog Nation and Sea Dog, offering up worldly selections for those with elevated tastes.

Now, the humble hot dog has risen from the ranks of common street meat to become a popular item in sit-down restaurants around town.

The aforementioned Big Wheel Burger has a classic all-beef dog on their daily menu and regularly features souped-up versions like the Big Chop Dog, made with salsa, mozzarella, and bacon.

At local watering hole The Sticky Wicket you can get a super-sized tube steak for three times the price of one you'd get from a cart. But, this foot-long doggie comes slathered in smoked cheddar, onions, and the obligatory bacon, all with a heaping side of fries.

New downtown hang-out Cenote Lounge has a menu that includes sandwiches, salads, and desserts, but there's no denying that the stars of the menu are the stuffed dogs.

These indulgent concoctions start with a hollowed out baguette, surrounding a wiener of your choice, which is then filled with obscene amounts of cheese. Other toppings include tortilla chips, chili, pastrami, fried onions, and, of course, bacon. And just in case your dog isn't stuffed enough, you can double the meat for an extra two bucks.

Looks like the burger had better step aside while this latest culinary bandwagon rolls through town.



Noms!

photos and words by Patrick Hallihan

## Beach House tasty but pricey



The Beach House Restaurant, located on Cordova Bay Road in Saanich, is exactly what its name implies: a restaurant on the beach. As one may expect, they do quite a bit of seafood fare, usually with an Italian spin.

The Beach House is situated right on the beach with a gorgeous view of the ocean from the windows that span nearly an entire wall. The layout is quite nice, with a mix of upper-class looking areas and a lounge-style area. They definitely ran with the ocean theme, with a collection of fish mounted on the wall to appear as if going out to sea and a large metal shark's skeleton mounted on the wall.

The menu offered good variety of the seafood/Italian-style fare, as well as a good range in prices to pick from. You can choose from the burger side of the menu and eat for about \$14, or go higher end and have a seafood dish for around \$20.

I was here on a work dinner, so I had a salmon steak (the daily special, advertised as market fresh). It was a Cajun-style steak with a lime sauce and some vegetables. While I didn't care much for the sauce

(much too sour for my taste) the salmon itself was fantastic.

My coworkers had an equally impressive array of foods, ranging from seafood pastas to pizza. One coworker had a clam linguine; holy cow (or holy clam?), they did not skimp on the clams. The pizza was quite good as well, and due to my gastral fortitude and my other coworker's toothache, I ate half of that, too.

Of course, we also partook in appetizers and dessert. For appies, we had a blue cheese sauce and house-made chips, some god-awful mushroom thing, and calamari. The calamari was especially good with a crunch and seasoning.

As for dessert, I split a gelato and doughnuts with someone while the others had a towering slice of chocolate cake.

The Beach House Restaurant is a pretty solid place to eat and they hold the ocean-side theme very tightly. The décor and view is fantastic and the food is top notch. The only major downside is that if you hope to venture away from a simple burger, prepare to fork out some coin.

### In Search of Lost Time

by Daphne Shaed

camosun college pride centre



## US should look to Canada's same-sex marriages

In 1996, then US president Bill Clinton signed into law the Defence of Marriage Act (DOMA). This act restricted federal accessibility to only opposite-sex couples and if any state did allow same-sex unions it wouldn't be recognized across state lines.

The past few weeks have seen the marriage debate in the US heat up with the Supreme Court reviewing DOMA. Should the court decide to repeal DOMA then interstate recognition of same-sex marriages would be applied even if the state doesn't allow such unions.

Also, same-sex couples would have access to federal benefits such as filing joint tax returns, immigration, social security, and insurance claims. The repeal of DOMA would not make same-sex marriage a requirement across the US.

It's doubtful that the court will rule in favour of

making same-sex marriages the law of the land, but a repeal of DOMA would still be a win. Although if the US looks north to Canada they may take note that we have had legal same-sex unions for eight years and Canada has not fallen into disarray, birth-rates haven't declined, and the sky hasn't fallen.

The Supreme Court will more than likely repeal DOMA and leave the federal marriage debate for another court to decide.

We still have a long way to go before we can really refer to ourselves as truly civilized anywhere in the world.

We live in a society of privilege and disadvantage. Our social evolution toward an egalitarian society is a slow movement against a tide of privilege seeking to maintain their lofty positions.



### Speaker's Corner

by Jean Oliver

camosun college toastmasters

## The last word

Since Dale Carnegie wrote *The Quick and Easy Way to Effective Speaking*, other teachers have taken his lead in the school of public speaking.

With online tutorials, and a Toastmaster's club around every corner, improving your communication skills today is as easy as, well, A-B-C.

I thought I'd let Carnegie's wife, Dorothy, finish this final column. Her words, like Carnegie's formulas, are as apt and predictive today as his methods are.

In 1992, in an introduction to his book after his death, she wrote Carnegie's basic philosophy is "ef-

fective public speaking... is the revealing expression of a human personality."

She went on to explain, "It is through speech that we assert our distinctiveness... it is through the quality of our speech that we best express our own individuality, our essence. When we are unable to say clearly what we mean our personality is blocked off, dimmed out and misunderstood. And now, as never before, in an atmosphere of international tensions, fears, and insecurities, we need the channels of communication among peoples kept open."



### Ability's Muse

by Rachael Grant

camosun college students with (dis)abilities collective

## Hello, my name is (dis)ability

It takes no effort to see a pair of crutches or a wheelchair, to mark someone exclusively as a (dis)abled person if they meet our society's criteria as so, but it's a painstakingly difficult process to learn to stop categorizing and to begin the journey to look deeper. Imagine a world where we are individuals before classifications. By nature, we group; we catalogue and sort, and, in doing so, remarkable attributes and beauty are lost.

No one is a (dis)ability: it's just that simple. Those who have a (dis)ability are people first, and to let a difference in ability engulf an individual in their entirety is a common practice in our society, and also an incredible injustice. The many facets of who we are should be honored and cherished and should never be simplified

to a single-word definition.

To trust that there's more than a diagnosis, despite the constant reinforcement that's perpetuated, labelling each individual and simplifying the complexity of the human existence, is to allow the space to address stigma, and to be aware of the diversity that each one of us can contribute.

Denying anyone the right to individuality is an incredible hindrance to society and its progress. There's input that has yet to be heard and resources yet to be acknowledged that lay stagnating in those we assume aren't able. If we invite each other to look past the limited scope we so often limit ourselves to, perhaps we can introduce a new standard of interaction.

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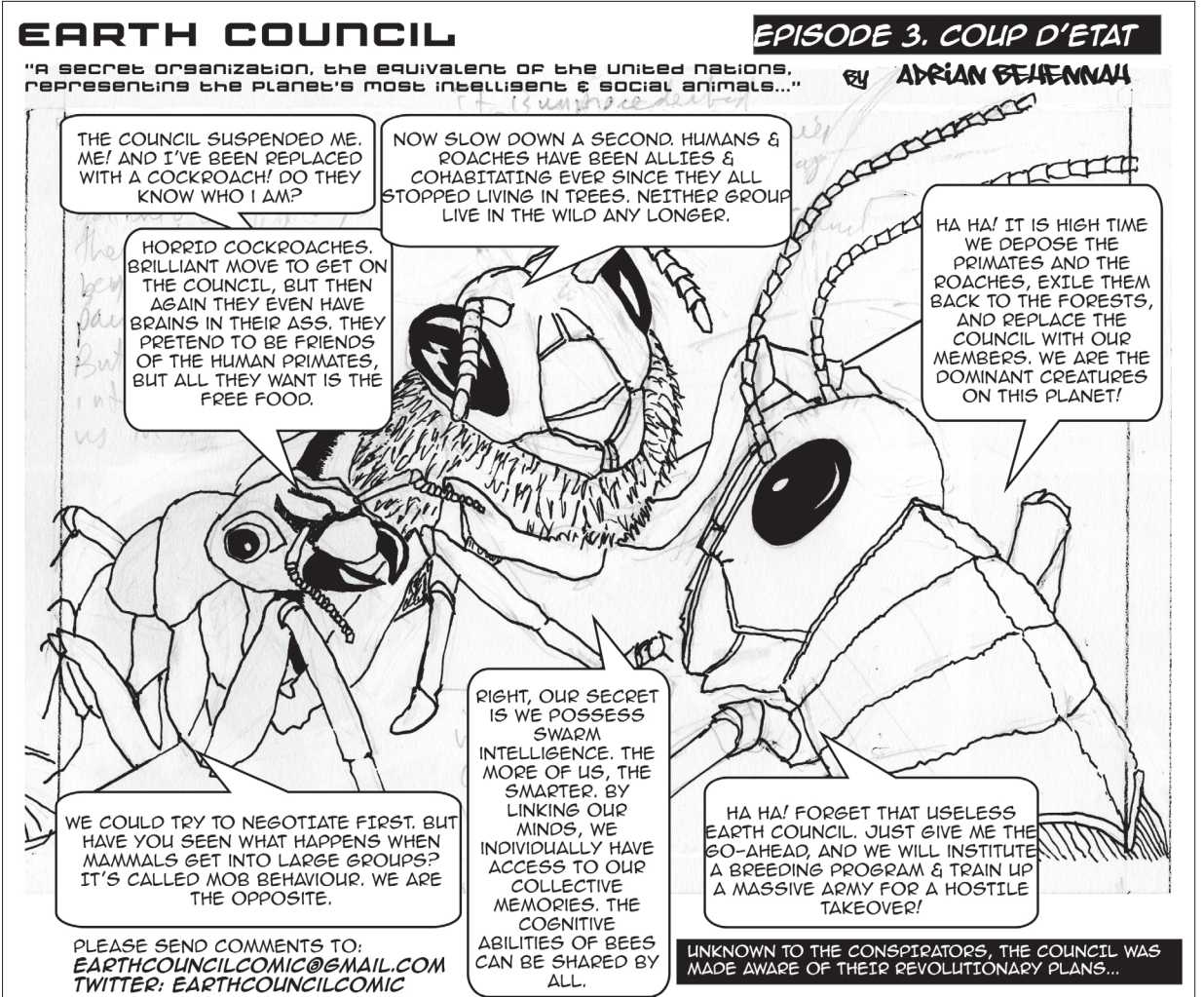
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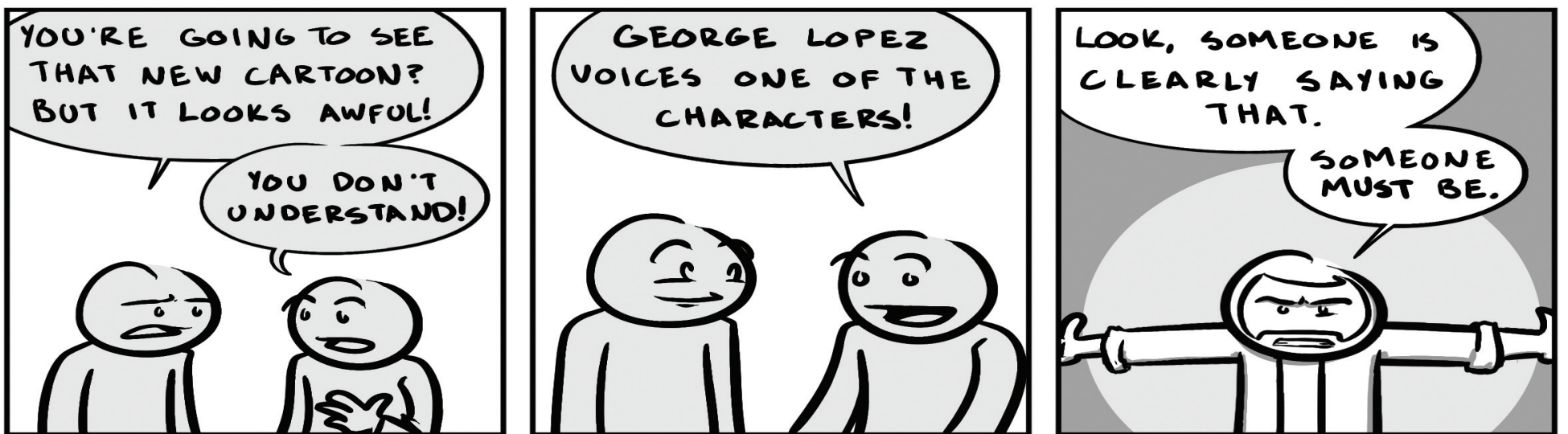
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