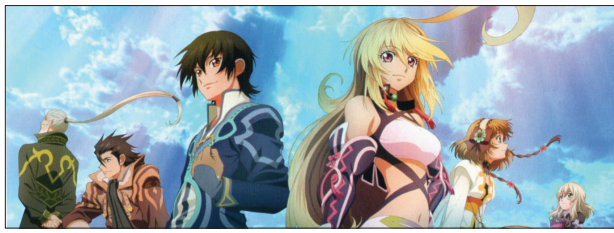


Culinary master honoured: 4



Summer gamers rejoice: 5



The Cat Empire get real: 9

# NEXUS

camosun's student voice since 1990

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# The passion of Ska Fest's Dane Roberts: 6

# NEXUS

camosun's student voice since 1990

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

COVER PHOTOS:  
Dan Roberts: Tristan Shouldice  
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## editor's letter

### Less talk, more talk

Not much time to blab on here, because we have not one but two opinion pieces on this very page fighting for space. What else is in this issue?

We profile Dane Roberts, the man who helps to bring Ska Fest to Victoria every summer; head over to page 6 for a look at what makes one of Victoria's sunniest characters tick. We also look at how a Camosun grad has brought a summer music festival to the Cowichan Valley over on page 8. And are video games a summer thing? Well, either way, we've got a preview of some upcoming games on page 5.

It's not all fun in the sun, though. For example, the news that the BC government has put down \$4.4 million in funding for programs for Aboriginal learners in 11 post-secondary institutions across BC, including Camosun, wasn't met with just cheers and smiles. Find out why, and what issues some people think this funding won't address, on page 3.

We're always particularly happy to showcase a new contributing writer, and this time around we have Samantha Pettifer, who is making her *Nexus* debut with an opinion piece about big-box retail stores that may turn a few heads. Check it out right here on page 2.

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

## open space

### The world is moving forward

INSU KIM

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

A recent announcement of bus and metro fare hikes triggered a series of protests in the Brazilian city of São Paulo. After these protests, I was astonished to hear from my Brazilian friends of a protest being held in Victoria. I would like to call it a movement. My friends participated in this movement to help contribute to changing the politics in Brazil.

Through social media, this movement has spread all over the world. Even though the protests started in Brazil, Brazilian students abroad have voluntarily organized protests and mobilized people through social media in the countries they are in. Eventually, they started achieving what they were hoping for.

Through these events, I saw the power of social media. A few years ago, without social media, this movement couldn't have spread so quickly. Since social media has connected people all around the world, people can share news or ideas with others anywhere almost instantly.

While discussing this with my friends, we just thought, Why don't we use social media to work on our problems and help each other? For example, when a country suffers from political trouble, we should help and support each other after sharing the information.

It would be very powerful and helpful if people in other countries could push their politicians to speak up for the people in countries that are suffering.

All international students who study together, not only in Canada, but also all over the world, could work on our home countries' issues and help each other defend against political or social problems caused by the government, corporations, or other people in power.

As single people we are weak; however, when many people work together, we become a powerful and formidable force. I believe we should pay attention to other people and other countries. History has taught us that when we are indifferent, corruption becomes prevalent in political circles and the government turns a blind eye to the people's problems. We shouldn't allow this to happen.

We live in a new world now because of the internet.

We may see a brighter future because of social media, which has the power to tie us as one.

As soon as my friends and I finished lunch together that day, we shook hands and promised that we would cooperate and help each other when needed.

There is power in people supporting each other and standing united as one, a power that social media is allowing us to spread across the world.

## open space

### Target store openings good for students

Walmart moved quickly to lower prices to coincide with Target's opening. For those who don't have much spare cash, students especially, this means more affordable options.

SAMANTHA PETTIFER  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

American megastores such as Walmart are often maligned for their aggressive business expansion and homogenization of local marketplaces. This is an issue again this year as discount retail giant Target opens stores across Canada.

Many Canadians feel some resentment at yet another big-box corporate invasion of our retail space, bringing with it some echoes of Walmart's move here in 1994. Walmart's strategy, which included taking over Woolco stores in Canada, turned out to be a huge industry game-changer, sparking major debate over the local side effects.

As far as having another big American retailer here, the key is competition, and competition is good for consumers. For example, Walmart moved quickly to lower prices to coincide with Target's opening. For those who don't have much spare cash, students especially, this means more affordable options.

We all know buying used is better and cheaper, but not every student has time to hunt through thrift shops for clothes and other household items. And you can end up leaving with more than you wanted: an apartment can only have so many macramé hangings

and coconut monkeys before... well, ideally, it should have none at all. This is where the discount stores come in, and Target is known for having a focus on clothing and decor trends. This is good news for people who don't wish to play mix-and-match with yesteryear's fashions, but who also don't have a huge budget to play with.

One of the big arguments against the big-box stores back in the '90s was that they choked out small retailers through unfair pricing tactics. This did happen with Walmart in a lot of small communities and caused backlash in both Canada and the United States. The loss of retail diversity also caused people to feel that they had fewer choices.

However, the marketplace has changed since then, and both consumers and smaller retailers have adjusted to the ubiquitous megastore presence. The big retailers are now battling each other, leaving a niche for the small stores as well as an emerging market for the people who prefer to buy local.

It's easy to lump a large corporate expansion into the who-needs-it category, but Target's move into Canada is bringing consumers what they want: better choices for bargain-hungry shoppers. Bring it on!

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

## SPEAK UP What is your wildest summer memory?

BY INSU KIM



ANDY YU

"I took part in a lifeguard program for 10 days."



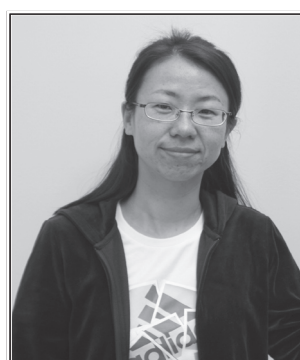
SENA ITO

"I went to New York by myself. I made a friend, an American guy. He played for a band. He taught me how to play."



JOE W.

"No comment. I don't know. I don't want to think about it."



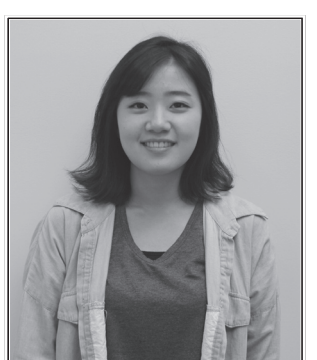
LEI LEI

"I had an embarrassing memory in summer. When I went to the store, I made an embarrassing vocabulary mistake. I asked for 'body location' instead of 'body lotion.'"



MIKE HOFMANN

"I worked at Banff for two summers. These were the best summers in my life."



INHYE PARK

"When I was in high school I participated in the army cadet program. It was awesome and the wildest experience."

funding

# Camosun receives provincial funding for Aboriginal learners

“If governments and institutions really want to be serious about Aboriginal recruitment and retention, then they need to come up with long-term strategies, and the government has to pony up the funds.”

**TONY NELSON**  
CAMOSUN COLLEGE

**GREG PRATT**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

In late June, the BC government announced that they were investing \$4.4 million in postsecondary institutions in 2013. The money will go towards programs and other activities that improve Aboriginal students' experiences at universities and colleges across the province. Eleven institutions received the funding, including Camosun.

The funding will go towards supporting postsecondary institutions' work with Aboriginal communities, institutes, and organizations, according to a BC government press release. The goal is to develop and deliver culturally relevant courses,

programs, and supports to help Aboriginal learners' education and employment goals.

“Our government is committed to ensuring that Aboriginal learners can succeed in a postsecondary system that is integrated, relevant, and effective,” says BC Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation minister John Rustad. “By facilitating and encouraging access to postsecondary education and training programs, Aboriginal communities and postsecondary institutions will play an important role in meeting BC's labour market needs, and in supporting the BC Jobs Plan.”

Tony Nelson, Aboriginal education and community connections admissions and enrolment facilitator at Camosun College, says the funding is good news but would like to see an emphasis on long-term instead of short-term.

“That way real work and real plans can be made to truly embark on building a program that can truly reflect the retention and education goals that this college so desperately wants to put forward,” he says.

Nelson says that one-off funding is helpful but has an inherent short-sightedness attached to it when it comes to larger goals for Aboriginal learners.

“Providing one-off funding or in three year blocks just isn't going to cut it, because nobody can plan beyond three years,” he says. “Why would you want to build up a whole infrastructure for something that could go away in one or two or three years, if that funding is based on the will of the day, so to speak? If governments and institutions really want to be serious about Aboriginal recruitment and retention, then they need to come up with long-term strategies, and the government has to pony up the funds.”

Some feel the funding may be good news, but it doesn't address larger issues. Simka Marshall, Camosun student and Aboriginal students liaison for the Canadian Federation of Students-BC, says it's definitely good to see money going into Aboriginal programs, but the government should be focusing on making sure Aboriginal students can get into school in the first place.

“I definitely think it's good to see money going into these existing programs,” says Marshall, “and it is a big amount of money that's going into these services that support our Aboriginal learners. That's really important, because it is really challenging being an Aboriginal student in postsecondary. The one thing about this action the provincial government is taking is that it doesn't actually address the issue of access to postsecondary education for Aboriginal students, and it doesn't ensure that students who are already in postsecondary school have continued access to that education.”

Marshall says that removing the two percent annual cap on expenditure increases that the Postsecondary Student Support Program (PSSSP) has would be a big step towards improving access. The program assists First Nation and Inuit students with funding; Marshall says if that cap were gone, it would be a great step to providing access. She says the other thing that would improve access would be lower tuition fees.

“Reducing tuition fees is the only thing that will increase access and remove some of those barriers,” she says.

Shayli Robinson, Camosun College Student Society First Nations director, agrees with Marshall. She



NORI SINCLAIR

**Simka Marshall, Aboriginal students liaison for CFS-BC.**

says the funding is “progress” and a “small step in the right direction.” But she too feels that more needs to be done, particularly in regards to removing the PSSSP cap, which she feels is “unacceptable” to even have today.

“I can't speak for all the institutions, but I feel it to be a positive move,” says Robinson about the funding. “However, it is not enough, and I feel the government may be trying to take attention away from

the PSSSP.”

Nelson agrees with Marshall that lowering tuition fees is part of the larger picture surrounding issues of access.

“That's part and parcel with everything,” he says. “If tuition fees are a barrier to coming to school like they are for a lot of people, then some of the most disadvantaged portions of the population, by logical extension, are not going to be able to come to school.”

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Camosun a solar leader

You've heard of Camosun, but have you heard of CamoSUN? Um, it's the capitalized “s” there... anyway, Camosun's plumbing/pipe trades department, working with Pacific Solar Smart Homes, is developing a solar thermal heating system for residential housing, called CamoSUN. The system was developed by Camosun solar thermal heating instructor James Smyth and Camosun plumbing/pipe trades instructor Darren Vaux, with help from mechanical engineering technology chair Ross Lyle. Because this sort of thermal heating is only starting to gain popularity in Canada, Camosun looks set to help lead the way.

### New part-time courses at Camosun

Camosun has recently updated its online calendar with new courses for part-time students. They got weekends, they got evenings, they

can make it work if you're busy doing whatever it is you do all day. About 40 courses are starting up in July and August, but you may have missed the boat on that. Not to worry: hundreds more are coming in fall '13 and winter '14. Head over to [camosun.ca/ce](http://camosun.ca/ce) for the full scoop.

### Cyclists wanted for rally

Register by July 23 for the Tour de Disaster Rally, which is part cycling rally and part emergency exercise. Learn how to search for lost people, move supplies, and conduct damage assessments while going through a simulated damaged and congested transportation system. I must admit: this sounds awesome. The event itself goes down on July 27 from 9 am to noon, starting at the Topaz Park parking lot. Did we mention obstacle courses that simulate disaster areas? And you get to ride them on your bike? Could this sound any more fun? I doubt it. See [preparevictoria.ca](http://preparevictoria.ca) for registration info.

### New report says First Nations schools in BC underfunded by 50%

A new report from the Parliament Budget Officer claims that on-reserve schools are being underfunded by 50 percent, and there is a \$13 million gap annually in capital infrastructure development, according to a press release sent out by the NDP. The report also says that on-reserve schools in BC are on average five years older than schools funded by the province, and that an additional \$4.5 million each year would be needed to bring First Nation schools up to the same standards as off-reserve schools.

### Cool Aid Society releases annual numbers

The Victoria Cool Aid Society has released their annual report and financial statement, and it shows they've been up to tons of great things lately. For the year ending March 31, 2013, they had 36,400

health and dental visits, welcomed 1,123 new patients to the Access Health Centre, opened 23 new supportive apartments, provided 119,000 hot meals and 53,200 shelter bed nights across three shelters, connected 327 workers with jobs, and laid down groundwork for their next supportive housing project—45 apartments in Saanich for seniors. The Victoria Cool Aid Society aims to make opportunities for people who are homeless or living in poverty; the society was founded in 1968.

### New venue opens in old room

I've lived in Victoria for a long time, so I've actually witnessed a bizarre cultural transformation when it comes to Paul's Motor Inn. I used to go there for coffee sometimes as a young man, when it was just me and the truckers. Then hipsters started going there for irony's sake. Then, as with all irony, it stopped being ironic and became real. Which is how young people stop being cool

and end up being old men hanging out in trucker joints. No prob; you owe me one. Anyway, none of that is too relevant here, except we thought we'd give a shout-out to those involved for keeping a space for live music going under a new name; what was at various points the Copper Top, the Q Club, and the Castle Video Bar is now the Copper Owl. And it's not just live music: they also have film nights, art events, and more.

**-GREG PRATT**

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

Contact us to find out how you can volunteer for *Nexus* (no previous 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 Richmond House 201, Landsdowne campus. For more info, go to [nexusnewspaper.com/volunteer](http://nexusnewspaper.com/volunteer) and read on.

faculty

# Camosun culinary chair receives national honour



PHOTO PROVIDED

Camosun's Gilbert Noussitou stands beside his award.

“As an employee of the college I’ve been involved in the federation working on culinary issues that affect everyone across the country.”

**GILBERT NOUSSITOU**  
CAMOSUN COLLEGE

**JASON SCHREURS**  
MANAGING EDITOR

When a colleague of Camosun culinary arts chair Gilbert Noussitou insisted that Noussitou attend a recent national conference of the Canadian Culinary Federation (CCF), he kind of knew something was up. But little did Noussitou realize that he’d be coming back home from the conference as a prestigious member of the CCF’s honour society, a lifetime achievement award.

“This award feels quite special in the sense that it’s coming from colleagues from all across the country, so it means so much to me,” says Noussitou from his summer

holidays in France, where he spent many of his early years training in the culinary arts and honing his chef skills.

Noussitou, who began working at the college in 1987, has been a member of the CCF for 37 years. The CCF honour society recognizes leadership, professional excellence, lifetime commitment, and significant contributions to the profession and the federation. The federation, which was founded in 1963, is the biggest federally chartered professional chefs’ organization in Canada.

Besides his work at Camosun, Noussitou has been involved with fundraisers, community events, and

culinary competitions, including a run as team captain of a Victoria culinary team that went to the Olympics in 1988.

“I’ve been very involved with the industry all along, in the professional side of things, and as an employee of the college I’ve been involved in the federation working on culinary issues that affect everyone across the country,” he says.

Although Noussitou now only acts as a chef occasionally for catering functions and community events, he’s been able to keep himself rooted in the work that he loves.

He admits that he does miss being a restaurant chef, but the

truth of the matter is that his role as culinary arts chair at the college is more agreeable to him these days, he says.

“Yes, it’s something that’s still in my blood somehow, and I’ve had my own catering business for many years as well,” he says. “I do love it and I love serving the public and sometimes I do miss it, until you look at the time off we get and the hours at the college. This is not what the industry is about: the industry is very demanding and quite cruel sometimes in terms of working nights and holidays and weekends, so as we get older we appreciate the regular schedule that we have in the college.”

Noussitou will be back from his holidays in August to begin preparing for another crop of upstart culinary students at the Interurban campus’ Helmet Huber building starting in September.

In the meantime, he’s enjoying his holidays and basking in the honour bestowed upon him by the CCF.

It’s just a good thing his colleague convinced him to attend that national conference.

“He was very persistent, so I knew something was happening,” explains Noussitou, “but it was still a surprise when it was announced, and a great honour. It was really quite moving.”

camosun

## Know Your Profs: Bijan Ahmadi

**GREG PRATT**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

*Know Your Profs* is an ongoing series of articles helping you get to know the instructors at Camosun College a bit better. Got someone you want to see interviewed? Email [editor@nexusnewspaper.com](mailto:editor@nexusnewspaper.com) and we’ll get on it. This time around we caught up with economics instructor Bijan Ahmadi and talked about robot teachers, cell phones, and taco night.

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

I teach in the economics department. Micro and Macro, mostly. This September I will have been here a year.

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

I like to watch the students applying what they have learned to the real world. That’s when they start thinking like economists.

**3: What’s the one thing that you wish your students knew about you?**

I see patterns in everything, kind of like that *Numb3rs* guy. But I’m not such a dork... or maybe I’m more of one.

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

I might seem cold and calculated, but I’m actually a big softie at heart.

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

I had a student change their schedule so they could take my class the next term.

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

I recently read a scathing review on [ratemyprofessors.com](http://ratemyprofessors.com) and it really hit me hard.

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

Robot teachers. Well, hopefully not, but I definitely see the virtual classroom idea opening up.

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

I pack in as much fun and excitement as my kids can handle. There’s lots of running around and screaming.

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

Innovation is the cornerstone to gastronomy, but I do love build-your-own taco night at our house.

**10: What’s your biggest pet peeve?**

The intrusion of cell phones into the classroom, and our lives in general, has led to a real social disconnect. I’m all for digital learning, but it still irks me to watch a student staring blankly at their phone the whole class.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Camosun instructor Bijan Ahmadi

gaming

## Summer titles heat up Playstation 3 and Nintendo 3DS



PHOTO PROVIDED

*Tales of Xillia* promises excellent animation and an involved storyline.

**STACEY YOUNG**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

No more books, no more cramming for tests: summer is finally here, which means we have more free time on our hands (unless you're in summer classes, that is). We can finally play our favourite video games and not feel guilty about picking up the controller. Here's a look at some of the games being released this summer; it's going to be a good one, full of games with enticing storylines that are also filled with action and adventure.

### *Tales of Xillia*

This PlayStation 3 game is a Japanese role-playing game that will be released on August 6. *Tales of Xillia* is about a fictional world called Rieze Maxia, where humans and spirits coexist in harmony, but the

world is in turmoil when a powerful device is discovered. Milla and Jude, the two protagonists, embark on a journey to restore balance and save the world. After viewing the trailers for *Tales of Xillia*, I found the animation of this game very interesting. It looks more like an animated movie than a video game. Besides the animation, the storyline sounds like it's going to be an epic tale for gamers to play.

### *Metal Gear Solid: The Legacy Collection*

To all the *Metal Gear Solid* fans out there: did you ever wish for all the MGS games to be put into one individual box so you had access to all the MGS adventures you wanted? Well, that day is finally here. *Metal Gear Solid: The Legacy Collection* was released on July 9. To cele-

brate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of *Metal Gear Solid*, the developers decided to release *The Legacy Collection*, which contains *Metal Gear Solid*, *Metal Gear Solid 2: HD Edition*, *Metal Gear Solid 3: HD Edition*, *Metal Gear Solid: Peace Walker HD Edition*, *Metal Gear Solid: VR Missions*, and *Metal Gear Solid 4: Trophy Edition*, all in one PlayStation 3-exclusive package.

### *Mario & Luigi: Dream Team*

For those who are travelling this summer, do you need a new travel game? Well, look no further. *Mario & Luigi: Dream Team* will be available on August 11 on the Nintendo 3DS. Mario and Luigi embark on a journey that takes them back and forth through Luigi's dreams and the real world in order to save Princess Peach. The *Mario & Luigi:*

*Dream Team* trailer reveals that Luigi can multiply into 30 Luigis and can merge with parts of the environment to overcome obstacles in his dreams. This game is good for those who need some entertainment during airport delays and long car rides.

### *Final Fantasy X/X-2*

It has been announced that *Final Fantasy X/X-2* will be reconstructed on the PlayStation 3 and PlayStation Vita. The remake will hold a high-definition remastering of the classic PlayStation 2 version and will include a new 30-minute ending sequence to play out during the credits. The two games will be converted onto a single Blu-Ray disc for the PlayStation 3, but sold separately on the PlayStation Vita. It's set to be released later this year.

### *The Last of Us*

The PlayStation 3 game *The Last of Us* came out about a month ago, but it's still definitely worth mentioning. The game is about how the human race crumbles as an outbreak overtakes civilization. Survivors scurry through the cities fighting off threats that pose a risk to their lives. The survivors fend off not only the infected but also other survivors to gain substantial materials that ensure their survival. Sounds like every other zombie game, does it not? Okay, it kind of does, but if you are a zombie lover, like many of us, you will want to play this game. The storyline reels you in, the characters have depth, and the graphics are amazing. This zombie survival action-adventure is rated M for mature and is now in stores.

Nexus newspaper

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Hey, students!

come have fun with your fingers:  
write epic stories  
gain killer experience  
beef up the Nexus crew

editor@nexusnewspaper.com

festival

# Ska Fest founder Dane Roberts reflects on 14 years

“Maybe it’s because of the message it’s traditionally shown, or maybe it’s because the music is so cheerful and positive. Ska feels good, you know? And people lose their inhibitions.”

**DANE ROBERTS**  
VICTORIA SKA FEST



MARIELLE MOODLEY/NEXUS

The Victoria Ska Fest’s Dane Roberts, who founded the popular summer music festival in 2000, celebrates its 14th year with the rest of the crowd.

**JASON SCHREURS**  
MANAGING EDITOR

Dane Roberts might just be his own festival’s biggest fan. This strong possibility, along with the hard work of over 200 volunteers, is very likely the secret to the success of the Victoria Ska Fest, which recently celebrated its 14<sup>th</sup> year.

Taking place at a variety of different venues in downtown Victoria, including the amazing Ships Point outdoor venue, Ska Fest has grown into one of the area’s premier music and cultural festivals. But, 14 years? Can you believe it?

“Yeah, man, I can believe it. It’s my life!” laughs Roberts uproariously between meetings at the Ska Fest headquarters. “Everything that we do, we always have Ska Fest in mind. This is the grand finale of all of our efforts throughout the year.”

The “we” Roberts refers to is the Victoria Ska Society, a non-profit society formed in 2004 after Roberts saw Ska Fest growing larger than he ever thought possible when he put on the inaugural festival in 2000. Inspired by the 1998 death of his good friend Matthew Bishop, with whom he co-hosted the CFUV radio show *Skankster’s Paradise* up at UVic, Roberts was determined to keep the ska scene alive in Victoria.

“At the time, ska was such a craze. I always liked reggae music and wanted to promote it, but [Bishop] introduced me to ska,” explains Roberts. “When I went to UVic I was so into ska and I thought we should make a ska festival, so I did it as a work term placement.

My advisor said to me that if the festival did well, I would pass my work term, and if it didn’t do well, I didn’t pass. And that was how the first one started.”

Back then Roberts wasn’t thinking ahead to what the festival might look like 5, 10, or even 14 years later, but here we are in 2013 and Victoria Ska Festival is now globally renowned and has a number of large sponsors. Bands from all over the world go out of their way to come here every July and play the festival. Some even do it for travel expenses alone.

“We’re totally excited and to get to play again is super cool,” says Matt Colyer, lead vocalist/guitarist of The Planet Smashers, a Montreal ska punk band who first played the festival in 2011. “Dane’s been good to us and it’s expensive to get everyone out, but he covers the flights and we come out and basically play for free and it’s lots of fun. The last time we played the festival it was crazy good.”

Slowly, over the years, the Victoria Ska Festival has expanded beyond ska bands and into other related genres such as reggae, hip-hop, dub, soul, and punk rock, among others. Roberts says this has been a natural progression and is another key to the longevity of the festival.

“Had we only focused on ska, and ska alone, and nothing else, then we would definitely have a much more limited market,” he says.

Colyer, who also runs a record

label called Stomp Records out of Montreal that predominantly releases ska-related bands, says branching out into other musical genres that are still somehow connected to ska is a great approach for a music festival. In fact, he’s used the same approach for his record label.

“You have to. If everyone is too similar, it just gets boring,” says Colyer. “When you do a live show that’s a traditional ska night, by band three you’re like, ‘Ah, fuck, someone change the tempo, please!’ You need to mix it up. And there are a lot of variations within ska, but adding other elements freshens things up to a nice level. Besides, any festivals that have been around for years, like the Montreal Jazz Festival, it’s like 10 percent jazz; but hopefully that won’t happen to Ska Fest.”

This year’s Ska Fest lineup included big-name acts such as hip-hop icon Mos Def, dub/reggae beat looper Dub FX, influential reggae artist Tanya Stephens, and ska punks The Mad Caddies alongside a host of local and smaller bands in many ska-related genres. The definition of an underground, genre-specific festival, Ska Fest has succeeded by eschewing the trappings of the mainstream music industry and focusing on a community of bands that support each other.

“I don’t think any of our artists are featured on commercial radio,” says Roberts, proudly. “I’m looking at the poster right now and I can’t see anything that would be in regu-

lar rotation on the radio.”

You don’t need radio play, it seems, to play a style of music that gets people excited and dancing. One of the most noticeable things about the festival is how much people get into it. From the skanking dance moves to the many different ways in which attendees express themselves, it’s never a dull moment at Ska Fest.

“Definitely, it’s huge,” confirms Roberts. “It’s a dancing kind of music and people are not afraid to express themselves. They like to dress in costumes, and there’s a lot of good energy, and maybe it’s because of the message it’s traditionally shown, or maybe it’s because the music is so cheerful and positive. Ska feels good, you know? And people lose their inhibitions.”

Collyer, whose home of Quebec is also known for its strong ska scene, has a theory about why ska has caught on in what may seem like an unlikely place on the west coast, and it leads right back to Roberts and his team’s enthusiasm for the festival they run every summer.

“When it comes down to it, the passion is there from the people who are putting on the shows,” says Collyer, “and I think people just pick up on that. It’s a well-run festival, so that’s why it’s had longevity.”

Kristie McCracken, co-founder of Vancouver’s eight-piece soul/funk/reggae/R&B band The Ponderosas, agrees that the people behind Ska Fest are essential to its success, and that starts with Roberts. “We love Dane. I admire

his passion for music and how enthusiastic he is at every single show, to the point where he completely loses his voice,” she says.

The laid-back west coast vibe coupled with a community that’s politically minded may be other reasons why Victoria Ska Fest has taken off, according to Roberts. Plus, he’s just not the kind of guy to take full credit for Victoria’s healthy ska scene.

“There’s definitely more of a free-thinking, left-wing vibe here, and that really fits with the music, which is about freedom, about social injustice,” says Roberts. “Ska music addresses a lot of those things, in addition to it being fun and jumpy. And there’s a lot of love here for other music that ska’s been connected to. Our efforts have been to make people aware that even though ska is the grandfather, it’s related to other genres.”

A huge fan of dancing at shows, Roberts does his best to find time to truly enjoy the festival amongst all of the hard work. But, more importantly, the man who wanted to bring ska to Victoria always takes time to reflect on what’s being accomplished in a city he loves, and within a genre of music he holds so close to his heart.

“When I’m in between dealing with the challenges of the festival, I always try to take a step back and go up to the top of the hill where everyone watches it for free,” he says. “I take a deep breath and thank god and the people in the community for supporting it.”

## music

# KISS hit Victoria, editor eyes Paul Stanley from audience

**GREG PRATT**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

On July 5, 2013, rock band KISS played Victoria for the first time. Nexus editor-in-chief Greg Pratt, a long-time KISS fan, went down to the show to review it. Below is the review, which originally appeared at nexusnewspaper.com, and some of the strong reactions that people had against—or for—it.

When KISS played the Save-on-Foods Memorial Arena recently, what I really wanted was to get some time to sit down and talk face to face with singer/guitarist Paul Stanley. I even went so far as to jokingly put together a moderately successful online petition (hey, 57 people signed, not bad, if you're asking me) to help make it happen. But it didn't happen; management said no, and I was left watching the show, dreams thwarted, still having the time of my life.

KISS know what they're doing. They played the hits. They played a few new songs that people pretended to enjoy; they pulled out "War Machine," a killer kinda-deep cut. They've been doing this for so long it's impossible to think of anything negative to say about it that isn't glowingly obvious. They know what they're doing, and they did it perfectly this night, just like the night before, and the night after. KISS put on one of the best, most fun and enjoyable concerts in rock music; they did in Victoria and they will continue to.

But, to you, Paul Stanley, I say this: I really wanted to sit down and look you in the eye, and I wanted to have a conversation as two grown men. I wanted to ask what you think of the fact that other grown men consider you a god when you sing kinda buffoon-ish rock songs while wearing funny makeup for a living. I wanted to ask what it's like living in the shadow of a man like Gene Simmons.

Paul Stanley, I wanted to ask about your art, about your musicals; I find this fascinating that a rock star has this side to him, but it's so rarely discussed.

Paul Stanley, I wanted to talk

about the dark spots in KISS' past, but I know you don't like talking about that too much. I'm sorry, but I find it extremely interesting; I wanted to ask about how you're so proud of the current incarnation of KISS when I don't really think many people really have too much interest in the current incarnation of KISS. I understand that line of questioning makes you a bit upset, but it's what would have happened.

You see, Paul Stanley, when I was a kid I was one of those guys who thought you were a god. I don't anymore. You seem nice, and you seem down to earth, and I kinda feel bad that you have to deal with being in a band with Gene Simmons. I wanted to talk about that.

Paul Stanley, I would have liked to have told you about the kinda embarrassing collection of KISS stuff I had as a kid. I would have liked to have told you about how listening to your records when I was a kid totally informed my music listening choices for the rest of my life. I would have liked to have told you about how I spent hours wondering why the spines of some of the lesser-loved albums in my KISS cassette collection were yellow (imports, I guess, because no one in North America wanted stuff like *Unmasked*).

When it all comes down to it, Paul, I'm not really a KISS guy anymore. I mean, some great albums back in the day, yes. And some very underrated ones later (I actually kinda love *Unmasked*). Saw you play once, when you were touring *Revenge*, which was the last album you made that had any songs on it that I could actually remember. It was a really good album, and I would have liked to have talked about that briefly. But, yeah, I'm not really a KISS guy anymore. You know, the makeup, Gene Simmons, the endless selling of absolutely anything you guys can possibly think of selling (I would have asked about how you can sleep at night, and that would have been awkward)... it's all a bit much for a 36-year-old man to handle. But, man, if it wasn't for KISS, my life would be drastically different than it is today, so I wanted



PHOTO PROVIDED

Long-running rock band KISS recently made their Victoria debut.

to thank you for that.

I wanted to ask about how you're actually transcending being a rock band and how one of you said once that when you're all dead and gone you want four other dudes to be behind the makeup, being KISS (at least I think one of you said that; maybe I made that up, feel free to use that). It's like you're almost immortal, and you're just a guy who sings rock songs about being in a rock band.

And, Paul Stanley, I wanted to ask you what it is I really ask all wildly successful rock stars: are you happy?

Maybe next time. Until then, thanks for finally coming to Victoria and putting on a kick-ass, classic rock show, filled with insane pyro, silly stunts, and timeless tunes. Come back any time.

Derek on July 8, 2013 at 6:29 am said:

Boy, this sounds so whiney, angry, entitled, and hurt. You sound like a girlfriend trying to find out why your boyfriend dumped you... 20 years ago. Move on, man. You want to sit down and "look him in the eye" and have a conversation "as two grown men" and find out if he's happy? You want to ask if he can sleep at night? Lol. Oh boy.

Dave on July 8, 2013 at 9:02 am said:

This sounds more like a whiney child complaining that he didn't get his way. You say you really "aren't a KISS guy anymore," yet you complain about being told you aren't important enough to talk to Paul. Neither am I. Neither are a LOT of other people. Why WOULD Paul want to talk to a guy who can't remember the names of songs on ANY of the albums they put out in the last 21 years? *Revenge* is seriously the last album you paid attention to? You've missed out on a lot of good stuff since then.

Darryl on July 8, 2013 at 2:56 pm said:

Greg, I really liked your article. The few comments found here are just the tip of the iceberg as to the response on some KISS fan sites; you're really getting put in the grinder. I, on the other hand, related to your letter. I found your letter sincere. I thought it brave. I understand, Greg, why you feel you could have a conversation with Paul Stanley—we, the remaining diehards after the KISS peak, were called upon by the band to remain, and to remain loyal at that. It was almost like we were asked personally to stay; we were, after all, family. Your words echo words I have heard and thought about. Somehow, and

in some strange way, being a KISS fan became something more than it should've been. It's what the band demanded from us. It's a twisted hero worship that doesn't exist anywhere else that I'm aware of.

It appears you're trying to find a boundary as to where KISS stands in your life; I know because I'm at that same place. It's almost as if we were hooked on KISS young enough to not understand what being an addict was. You almost couldn't be a KISS fan; you had to be a fanatic.

I think the band has forgotten how they built their army. It's almost like we've been turned against, or they don't want to address anyone from that period, because we know just a little too much. We could ask the questions that nobody wants to address. We have the power to expose a truth that is hidden to the new wave. It's like we've been left at the front. I was happy that your article spoke from a place that I recognized.

Georgie Doll on July 9, 2013 at 9:54 am said:

Is Paul happy? His voice is one of the most recognized in music... one of the top frontmen... wrote some of the most incredible rock anthems... sold millions of records, adored by millions, and KISS is one of the most popular bands ever. So I would say, yeah, I think he's happy!!!

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## music

# Rock of the Woods brings Cowichan Valley to festival fans

**JASON SCHREURS**  
MANAGING EDITOR

Location trumps everything else. And for Rock of the Woods, which takes place every July in the picturesque Cowichan Valley, nothing could ring more true.

Now in its third year, the upstart music festival has had its share of challenges with dealing with bureaucracy, changing locations, and marketing the area to urban centres, but the purpose of the festival has remained intact: bring a cultural music experience to the Cowichan Valley, and bring the Cowichan Valley to those who enjoy music and culture.

But it hasn't been easy. This year's festival is again in a new location, the festival's third in as many years. And the growing pains festival organizers have experienced within the Cowichan Valley are only now beginning to subside.

According to festival director Dave Bain, a graduate of Camosun College who grew up in the Cowichan Valley, it's taken this long to forge a relationship between the music festival he's envisioned and the community he was raised in. It's a community that, until now, never had a cultural or music festival and really didn't know what to do with one.

"The first year we ran into some troubles with the Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD), and it went through my mind to do it somewhere else, like Victoria, but the whole idea when I started this was to support the people that supported me in my education and growing up there, so I don't think Rock of the Woods could move out of the Cowichan Valley because I really want to see it grow into the high schools and the community," explains Bain. "We could do it somewhere else, but for me personally it wouldn't have the same effect."

As well as securing licensing from the CVRD, Rock of the Woods has to get approval from the agricultural land commission. Now with a couple of years under their belts and their good reputation well known in the area, festival organizers are able to navigate the logistical hurdles a bit easier.

"The main reason why he needs us is getting the liquor license and that triggers our involvement," says CVRD bylaw enforcement official Nino Morano. "I haven't seen any issues at the last two festivals and the feedback has been positive. At first we took a chance, and now it's not much of a chance anymore because it's worked out. We even had elected officials attend the event last year and they seemed to be really happy with it. Of course, there's always room for improvement, but I don't see anything that's a deep concern or safety issue."

According to Bain, dealing with bureaucracy is a year-long process, something that will start up again for next year immediately after the 2013 edition, which runs July 26–28 in Glenora. This year's Rock of the Woods will be located at the Godfrey

Brownwell Vineyards, where the festival has signed on to a five-year lease. Previous installments have taken place in Bamberton (2011) and Glenora Farm (2012).

Although it's gotten a lot easier and smoother as the festival has gained recognition in the community, both the festival organizers and the Cowichan Valley went into the undertaking of hosting a music festival in the region without a lot of previous events to base their models on.

"We've been kind of learning how to do this together and that's been a struggle, and until this year it was mind-blowingly hard to do," says Bain of his annual partnership with the community, "but we've finally proven that it's a safe and positive thing for the Cowichan Valley."

Now able to draw larger musical acts to the area, the festival seems to be hitting its stride and creating a vibe of its own that goes beyond the music, according to Bain. This year's lineup includes Seattle folk-rockers The Cave Singers, San Francisco psych-soul band Monophonics, Canadian indie-pop darling Hannah Georgas, UK-born Whistler DJ Mat the Alien, and Victoria folk/reggae group Jon and Roy, among dozens of others.

"Rock of the Woods is special because it takes place in a beautiful, pastoral valley and the vibe is right," says Jon and Roy vocalist/guitarist Jon Middleton. "Dave Bain has managed to get some great acts this year. It's also unique in that there is no event like it taking place in the Cowichan Valley area."

With a new long-term home at the Glenora winery, Rock of the Woods now hosts at a 70-acre farm, including 30 acres of vineyards, 30 acres of fields, and the remaining acres of forest, with a view of the rest of the Glenora Valley.

Because of this, festival-goers are able to celebrate music and culture in an area Bain believes is hard to beat in natural beauty.

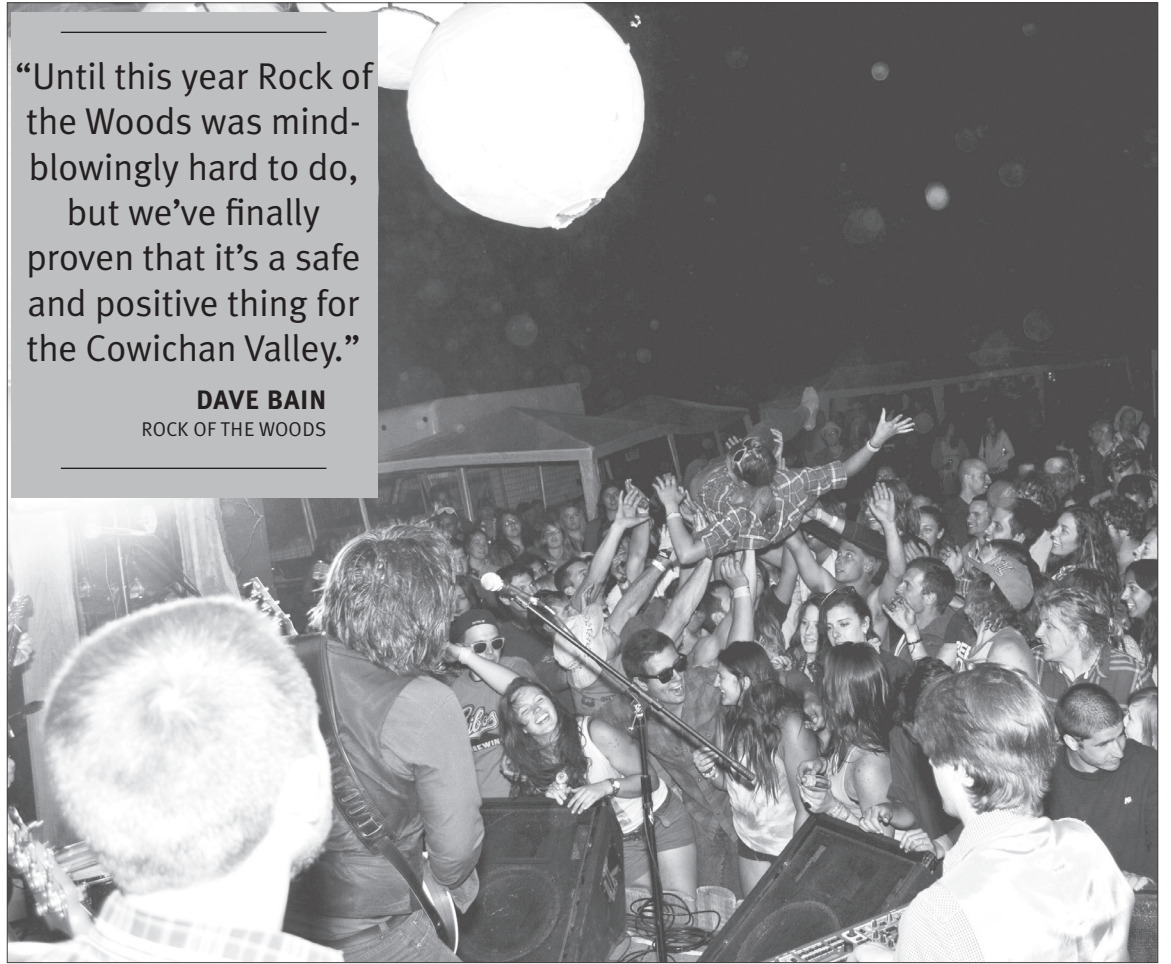
"In the Cowichan Valley we have six different swimming holes that are minutes away from each other. It's a very relaxed atmosphere, but also a very positive one," he says. "It's a pretty interesting place and you can go for hikes or do whatever you want, and that paired with all of the amazing music and artists that have come out of it... it's inspirational to me, and that's where I started growing the idea of the festival."

Matt Longpre, vocalist and multi-instrumentalist for Victoria indie rock band Sunhawk, has been a longtime supporter of the festival. Longpre has helped the festival with graphic design and played it with his band every year since its inception. He says he's seen the festival grow a lot in three years.

"Rock of the Woods has a unique flavour to it," says Longpre. "The lineup is always a great mix of artists on the rise, and I think there's a culture developing more each year. It's a perfect location, too. Somehow

"Until this year Rock of the Woods was mind-blowingly hard to do, but we've finally proven that it's a safe and positive thing for the Cowichan Valley."

**DAVE BAIN**  
ROCK OF THE WOODS



The British Columbians and an energetic crowd rocking out at last year's Rock of the Woods.

SAM THOM



The Rock of the Woods audience never stops having fun.

SAM THOM

the Cowichan Valley in July feels like California."

Bain says creating the culture that Longpre mentions has been a conscious goal of his entire team. In order for the festival to be successful, Bain says the community feel of the Cowichan Valley needed to transcend to the Rock of the Woods festival grounds.

"We all know that music festivals are about people creating relationships with each other in a musical setting. What's different with our festival is that we cultivate that, so we focus on making sure people are comfortable, and we provide them with options to interact with each other," says Bain. "What we've seen from that is we've

created this culture where people can have positive experiences and reflect back on them afterwards. It's created a family and a community. So, instead of people thinking they are coming for one element of a music festival, we try to wrap it all together with the community."

Bain graduated from Camosun's Interurban campus in 2009 with a BBA, majoring in Marketing Communications Management, and still helps Camosun with alumni strategy. He says festivals aren't profitable businesses in the short-term, and he credits what he learned at Camosun for helping him to see the big picture of Rock of the Woods. That big picture includes long-term community partnerships

and stability, both things that could be achieved with the festival's five-year agreement with the Glenora winery.

"We got such a warm welcome from the Glenora community, it's unreal," says Bain. "Everyone knows our names and is asking about everything that's going on. You get quite the sense of a small-town community once you're there, and it has all the amenities of what makes a music festival great."

Rock of the Woods  
Friday, July 26-Sunday, July 28  
Glenora, Cowichan Valley  
\$39.95-\$125  
rockofthewoods.com



music

# The Cat Empire know their surroundings

“We’ve come to Victoria a few times and in some ways it feels like home—a beautiful city, nice people, good food, and everyone’s up for good music.”

**WILL HULL-BROWN**  
THE CAT EMPIRE

**JASON SCHREURS**  
MANAGING EDITOR

It’s a very real possibility that when a band spend as much time on the road as Australian jazz/ska/funkers The Cat Empire, they could lose track of where they are on any given night. That’s why we’re impressed when drummer Will Hull-Brown not only knows exactly where he is, he’s also well aware of the fact that he’ll be in Victoria on July 19 as part of the the Phillips Backyard Weekender, a two-day music event taking place at Phillips Brewery.

“Yeah, we’re just playing a cultural centre in Minneapolis tonight and then we’re on our way over to see you guys in Victoria in a couple of weeks,” says Hull-Brown when we reach him by phone. “It’s a six-week tour and it’s lots of travelling, but we’re pretty lucky that we have a good driver and we can just chill out in the back of the bus.”

The group is touring for their recently released album, *Steal the Light*, which is a return to the partying, dancey ways of their earlier material, and Hull-Brown says they are eager to bring those vibes to our fair city again.

“We’ve loved it there. We’ve come to Victoria a few times and in some ways it feels like home,” he says. “A beautiful city, nice people, good food, and everyone’s up for good music. We love that part of the world.”

Now that The Cat Empire has been together for over 12 years, they’ve had lots of time to reflect on what it is that’s made them such a popular touring band, as well as their creative strengths and weaknesses. The result of this reflection brought them to their latest and fifth album, which has brought their career full circle.

“The natural thing for us was to always make upbeat, feel-good, danceable music,” says Hull-Brown, “so we wanted to get back to our roots, have fun, and do a party album with bangin’ tunes that people can go nuts on the dance floor to.”

Another consideration the band made when writing *Steal the Light* was to make an album from which they could play every song in a live setting, rather than having to pick and choose which ones to include in their shows.

“On previous albums we had to pass up certain songs, but with this new one we’ve played most of the songs, and by the end of the tour we’ll have played them all,”



PHOTO PROVIDED

**It’s always a party for the six fellows in The Cat Empire.**

says Hull-Brown. “We’ve got the luxury now of mixing up set lists depending on where we are or what we feel like doing.”

The Cat Empire is an eclectic band that gets pulled in a bunch of different musical directions on stage, but they always hold things together, and that almost-chaotic energy is what keeps them exciting. Hull-Brown credits some of this frenetic onstage energy to vocalist/trumpet player Harry James Angus.

“Harry leads a lot of that. You never know when you’re going to do a solo; he’ll just point to you and say, ‘Alright, drum solo! Bass solo!’ So sometimes we don’t have much choice,” he laughs. “But it really depends on how we feel, like what kind of music we’ve been listening to that day, and we might start a

jam based on that during the set. We always want to have freedom to mess about during the songs. It’s an important part of our live set and it’s essential for us to do that, otherwise I’m not even sure we’d exist.”

Maybe some of that impromptu energy will translate nicely to their upcoming show here. And the best thing of all is the beer will be close and in much abundance.

“Yeah, I know,” chuckles Hull-Brown. “Great, man; I really look forward to the show and trying the beer there!”

**The Cat Empire (at the Phillips Backyard Weekender)**  
Friday, July 19, doors 5:30 pm  
Phillips Brewery  
(2010 Government), \$35  
atomiqueproductions.com

New Music Revue



Jay-Z  
*Magna Carta... Holy Grail*  
(Roc Nation/Universal)  
3.5/5

Jay-Z’s 12<sup>th</sup> solo album may come as a disappointment to any fans that are looking for depth and meaning.

The lyrics are consistently laced with corporate references, he compares his music to the Bible, and in the track “Heaven” he calls himself a “prophet.” The constant self-praise and self-references to Da Vinci and other famous artists get a bit old.

Here’s the good news: the beats, production, and Jay-Z’s legendary lyrical flow almost make you forget about the lack of lyrical depth.

“Part II (On the Run),” featuring Beyoncé, is a perfect follow-up to “03 Bonnie and Clyde.” “Crown,” which is produced by 16-year-old Canadian WondaGurl, has a gritty, New York feel to it, reminiscent of some of Jay-Z’s older material.

While the lyrics feel like they could use a bit more work, the rest of the album is so well put together that it’s definitely worth a listen.

**-ALEXIS NIEUWKERK**

events

by greg pratt

**THURSDAY, JULY 18 AND FRIDAY, JULY 19**

**Park program paradise**

At least it’ll feel like paradise for these two days if you’re into park programs. “Going buggy” goes down on Thursday from 11 am to 2 pm at Elk/Beaver Lake and is an all-ages event looking at bugs. On Friday, there’s “Nature babies in backpacks,” from 10:30 am to 12 pm at Francis/King Regional Park, a guided walk for parents and babies where you can learn about other accessible regional park trails. Also on Friday, “Evening campfire at the beach,” which may lack a unique name but will be fun nonetheless: from 6 pm to 8 pm at Island View Beach Regional Park, this all-ages event will include a beach walk and campfire stories (bring a beach chair). No pets; head over to crd.bc.ca/parks for more info.

**THURSDAY, JULY 18**

**Channel surfing**

The artists’ talk and reception for *Crossing Channels* goes down at 7:30 pm on July 18 at the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria. The exhibit itself runs until November 11. This show features five artists, each of whom will have their work displayed for three weeks. For a full itinerary and more information, hop on the interwebs and head over to aggv.ca. And sorry about that headline: “channel surfing,” I really probably could have done better than that. Maybe next time.

**FRIDAY, JULY 19 AND SATURDAY, JULY 20**

**The Phillips Backyard Weekender**

Join De La Soul, Buck 65, Sonreal, The Cat Empire, and others as they play in a giant vat filled with Phillips beer, struggling for their lives. No? Well, geez, that’s boring. 5:30 pm, head over to ticketweb.ca for tickets.

**FRIDAY, JULY 19 TO SUNDAY, JULY 28**

**Abstractions**

The opening reception for *Blue—Azul* is at 7 pm on July 19 at Dales Gallery and, judging by all the nice colours I see in the ad for this exhibit of “west coast contemporary abstract expressionism,” it’s going to be great. The event, that is, not the opening reception! Well, I’m sure that’ll be great, too. Or, I don’t know, I’d guess it will be. No, no, I’m sure it will be.

**SATURDAY, JULY 20**

**Not, I repeat NOT, a 3D paint in**

Oh man, corporate sponsorships and multidimensional trickiness got mixed up *yet again* when I read “26<sup>th</sup> annual 3D Art Gallery Paint-In,” and I thought, wow, that sounds like a lot of fun. Maybe I’ll pack up the family and get down there. You know, if the kids can stop screaming and running around naked and generally being barbarians for more than three goddamn minutes. But then I read

it again: “TD,” not “3D.” I’m assuming the bank, but I can’t bear to read on to find out. Anyway, it’ll still be 3D, in a manner of speaking, right? I mean, life is 3D, no? Anyway, just go down and check it out at the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria, 11 am to 4:30 pm on Moss Street; 10 am to 6 pm at the gallery; and 5-9 pm there will be music by Kumbia. Find out more at aggv.ca, where you can also find out about the many different exhibits they have happening in July and August.

**MONDAY, JULY 22**

**Merengue master accordionist**

Well, that says it all. Joaquin Diaz will be hitting the Butchart Gardens at 8 pm on July 22, and if you’re at all like me you live here but have only been to the gardens once or twice in your life. You know, it’s cool out there. I was there recently. I love the parking lot, and the way it’s kinda like boarding a ferry when you drive through, with the little booth and the lanes and the turns and the slight feeling of butterflies and loss of gravity as you try to navigate through it all to find a space to park. Sometimes men and women with those glowing sticks point at you to help you out. But what way are they aiming those things? Man, hard to tell when they’re moving them like that. Them flowers are purty, too.

**THURSDAY, JULY 25**

**Breakwater rock**

Inlet Sound will be bringing their show to Lucky Bar and, if you go, let us know if they really sound as positively west coast as that name implies. I imagine, like, Jon and Roy

but even more subdued. Just the sound of waves crashing while the band takes a nap on the stage. I mean, ugh, I hope it’s not that. That would be so boring. I bet they’re more exciting than that.

**SATURDAY, JULY 27**

**Purple haze**

Lavenderfest is a fundraiser for the Canadian Cancer Society and up until this very moment I didn’t realize it was actually somehow related to lavender. But, look at that: held at Damali farms in Cobble Hill, which specializes in lavender and wine, according to their very lavender-y website. I don’t even know what to do with lavender myself, but I suspect I could learn a lot at this, all while supporting an obviously worthwhile cause. Go to damali.ca for more information on this event, which only costs you \$5 to get in, and \$2 if you’re under 12!

**SUNDAY, JULY 28**

**60 years of revolution**

Fiesta Cubana will celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Cuban Revolution from 4-8 pm at the Mitranekean housing co-op, located at 1241 Balmoral. Dinner at 5 pm, music, stuff to keep the little ones occupied, and much more. Note: if it rains, the event will be moved to the BCGEU Hall, at 2994 Douglas. \$15, kids are free; all proceeds go to the Cuban Association for the Blind. Check victoriafriendsofcuba.wordpress.com for more info.

**TUESDAY, JULY 30 TO SUNDAY, AUGUST 25**

**Three of Wingfield**

We’re just as confused as you’re

about to be, so bear with us here. Head over to the Belfry for not one, not even two, but three related plays happening between them there above dates. *Letter from Wingfield Farm*, *Wingfield’s Progress*, and *Wingfield’s Folly*. That’s a lot of Wingfielding! Tickets are \$25 to \$40 and available at tickets.belfry.bc.ca.

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 2**

**Entercatement**

People like to say “edutainment,” but I vote that we use “entercatement” as the portmanteau of choice when talking about people like hip-hopper Talib Kweli, who will be playing Club gone9 along with Georgia Murray and DJ DWWhiz on this most hot night. Hot in a entercatemental sense, that is!

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 13**

**Go to Gogo**

Okay, hands up if you know anything about David Gogo. Alright, let’s change that: head down to the always-amazing Alix Goolden Hall on August 13 to see what he’s all about. Here’s a story: one time, when I was a younger man, I tried to hitchhike across Canada. Oh, it totally sucked. Got stuck in the middle of BC somewhere for days. It was miserable. Kerouac is amazing, my ass. I slept on bags of fertilizer outside a train station in Kamloops or Kelowna or whichever one has a huge hill in it. A huge hill which is horrible to walk up with a big bag of stuff when you’re pretending to be a carefree nomad wanderer early-’20s goof, but anyway, a relative of David Gogo’s picked us up and drove us for a while. That was nice, and I feel like I’ll never forget that.



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**BRUNCH 11AM UNTIL 2:30PM**

\*SOME CONDITIONS APPLY

SUNNY PATIO!

3810 SHELBOURNE ST AT  
CEDAR HILL X RD

ON BUS ROUTES  
27 AND 28

FREE WIFI

MAUDEHUNTERSPUB.CA 250-721-2237



"MAUDE HUNTERS PUB"

Earth Council By Adrian Behennah

**EARTH COUNCIL** by ADRIAN BEHENNAH  
 "A secret organization, the equivalent of the United Nations, representing the planet's most intelligent & social animals..."

**EPISODE 5: SEIGE & KUNG-FU STARFISH**

PREVIOUSLY: DISSATISFIED WITH THE LACK OF PROGRESS MADE BY THE EARTH COUNCIL, QUEEN ANT RECRUITED HER ALLIES QUEEN BEE AND THE LOCUST NATIONS TO STAGE A COUP. A SEIGE IS NOW UNDERWAY. THE OCTOPUS RECRUITED A RAG-TAG ARMY OF SEA CREATURES TO DEFEND THE COUNCIL...

DO YOU THINK MY BRIGHT TERRIFYING APPEARANCE WILL FRIGHTEN THEM? I'M REALLY ONLY GOOD AT EATING.

SPEAKING FOR MYSELF, DESPITE MY SCARY LOOKS, I'M REALLY QUITE SENSITIVE AND MISUNDERSTOOD.

BRING 'EM ON. I PLAN TO KICK FIVE TIMES THE AMOUNT OF ASS!

HA HA HA! BACK TO PERFORMING SHOWS AT THE AQUARIUM!

THIS IS WAY OUT OF MY "DEPTH".

COME BACK YOU COWARDS! I AM ABOUT TO UNLEASH MY PENTA-RADIAL KUNG FU. BUT I NEED BACKUP!!

PLEASE SEND COMMENTS!! TWITTER: EARTHCOUNCIL.COM  
 EMAIL: EARTHCOUNCILCOMIC@GMAIL.COM  
 PAST EPISODES: EARTHCOUNCILCOMIC.BLOGSPOT.CA

MEANWHILE..

YOUR ARMY HAS DESERTED YOU, AND YOU ARE OUT OF OPTIONS. I CAN USE MY INTELLIGENCE, GOOD LOOKS, AND CHARM TO MANIPULATE THE COUNCIL AND SAVE IT. BUT AFTER, YOU NEED TO GIVE ME A SEAT. DEAL?

I SUSPECT I WILL REGRET THIS, BUT IT'S A DEAL.

...!!! HEY, PARROT FISH, SHARK, EELS, WAIT UP!!!!

**TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL**

**WHERE LEADERS ARE MADE**

**Find Your Voice. Speak Your Mind.**  
 Lan: 6:45 PM Thur, Paul 216 Int: 5:15 Tue, Campus Ctr 320  
 Info on the web: <http://camosuncollege.toastmastersclubs.org>

**You draw comics and we know it!**  
 (Don't ask how.)

If you think you might be able to make folks laugh with a short comic every other week, then we'd like to see your work in print

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

**NEXUS**

Ski Ninjas By Kyle Lees

EVERY TIME I SEE A HANDSOME MAN WITH A BIRD

©2013 Kyle Lees

skininjas.com

**A MESSAGE FROM THE CAMOSUN COLLEGE STUDENT SOCIETY**

by Simka Marshall  
 ccss external executive

**Bus contract could affect students**

The Camosun College Student Society is concerned that a recent contract between BC Transit and the Greater Victoria Harbour Authority (GVHA) will increase the number of buses passing by students when they are heading to class in September.

Through a private contract between BC Transit and the Greater Victoria Harbour Authority (GVHA), BC Transit has contracted out six buses to use as shuttles for cruise-ship passengers from the Ogden Point ferry terminal to downtown Victoria.

BC Transit has leased out these buses for approximately \$100,000 in revenue, and the buses are being operated by Wilson's Transportation rather than by BC Transit drivers.

The bus drivers' union of Greater Victoria, Canadian Auto Workers Local 333 (CAW 333), has noted that Wilson's has a number of buses available for use by GVHA, so the motive behind BC Transit lending out their buses is unknown.

According to the union, the six leased buses are connected to recent route cancellations in the Greater Victoria area.

CAW 333 is currently in the process of filing a grievance against BC Transit, as the act of leasing out buses on a private contract violates the collective agreement between CAW 333 and BC Transit.

The contract between BC Transit and the GVHA ends at the end of September. This means that the buses won't be in use for one of the busiest months of the year, and a particularly important one for students.

Last year, during the month of September, full buses passed up roughly 16,000 people.

In Search of Last Time by Daphne Shaed  
 camosun college pride centre

**Rape apologists need education**

This year, numerous agencies launched a campaign urging men to act responsibly and recognize the disproportionate number of sexual assaults that are committed against women by men.

The campaign, named Don't Be That Guy, focuses on debunking myths about consent that lead to rape apologist justifications of sexual assault and victim blaming.

Rape apology uses the behaviour, dress, and prior characterizations of rape victims as provocation that invites rape and is beyond the control of the rapist. This is classic victim blaming and leads women to believe that their actions have caused their rape; this becomes internalized in many women and perpetuates the assault far beyond the initial physical attack.

The Don't Be That Guy campaign has been attacked in recent weeks by unauthorized parody campaigns using the imagery and tag lines making offensive statements that condone rape and blame women for their own assaults with statements such as "Just because you regret your life choices, doesn't mean it's rape—Don't Be That Girl."

The parody campaign making rape the victims' responsibility is simply a cowardly act of those who refuse to acknowledge rape as a conscious and deliberate act.

If you see any of these posters on campus, please report them to the Camosun College Student Society offices.

# Join us.

Representing the student voice can be a lot of work, and volunteers go a long way towards making each issue of *Nexus* fantastic.

We're publishing throughout the spring and summer semesters and can always use an extra hand.

For example:

**Writers** - We cover news, sports, and entertainment on campus and throughout Victoria, from local theatre to mainstream movies, concerts, and festivals.

**Artists/illustrators** - Good artists always have opportunities to share their work through *Nexus* with comics and illustrations.

**Proofreaders** - Every issue of *Nexus* strives for perfection, but the occasional typo escapes our notice. Proofreading is an invaluable skill.

**Advertising Sales** - *Nexus* actually pays a finder's fee for any local advertising brought to the newspaper. What student doesn't need money?

If you're interested in doing some volunteering at an award-winning student newspaper, stop by our offices at Richmond House 201 on the Lansdowne campus, or contact us by email ([editor@nexusnewspaper.com](mailto:editor@nexusnewspaper.com)) or phone (250-370-3591).