



FRACKING

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"I was puking out of my eyeballs; I was screaming at the toilet." - page 3
"I wanted to know what I was supposed to do with my banana peel." - page 4
"Almost every song is about a monster, one way or another." - page 13

NEXUS

camosun's student voice since 1990

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EDITORIAL MEETINGS

Come out to our weekly *Nexus* editorial meetings, where all Camosun students can get involved in their student newspaper. Meetings take place every Tuesday at 11:30 am in the *Nexus* office, Richmond House 201, Lansdowne. Call 250-370-3591 or email editor@nexusnewspaper.com for more information.

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editorial

A fracking good issue

DYLAN WILKS
STUDENT EDITOR

With Northern Gateway occupying so many headlines these days, it's easy to forget that there are many more methods of extracting fossil fuels other than Alberta's tar sands.

Here in British Columbia, another environmentally hazardous method is in full swing: hydraulic fracturing (also known "fracking"). And while the word may bring to mind one of television's greatest science-fiction shows, what it means to many environmentalists and First Nations is far more sinister.

For this issue of *Nexus*, staff writer Ali Hackett gets to the bottom of one of Canada's biggest environmental issues, with her feature on page 8.

Nexus also made national news recently, though not in a way anyone was hoping for. A national student journalism conference hosted here in Victoria by *Nexus* and UVic's *the Martlet* was the scene of a viral outbreak. Check it out on page 3.

Arts coverage in *Nexus* also maintains its high standard this issue, with five awesome CD reviews covering Snow Patrol, Gotye, and The Big Pink, among others, on page 13. Our writers also managed to interview Beats Antique and the Pack A.D., and you can find those stories on pages 11 and 13 respectively.

On the subject of the arts, the Victoria Film Festival is once again upon us. Contributing writer Megan Gibson has the story on what to expect at this year's festival on page 11.

As we wrap up another issue of *Nexus*, we cordially invite you, the reader, to come to our editorial meetings on Tuesday mornings at 11:30 am in Richmond 201 at the Lansdowne campus.

We want your feedback and input; tell us if we did a good job, or even if we screwed up. Your input is important to us—after all, *Nexus* is the student voice of Camosun College. And if you can't make it down, you can also email editor@nexusnewspaper.com or call us at 250-370-3591.

Call, email, stop by.
We want to hear your story tips.

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Richmond House 201, Lansdowne



NEXUS
camosun's student voice since 1990

Nexus editorial meetings are held every Tuesday from 11:30 am to 12:15 pm at Richmond House 201 on the Lansdowne campus.

The best part? You're invited! So come on down, share story ideas and give your feedback on the paper.

open space

Composting program positive step



JESSICA TAI/NEXUS

ROSE JANG
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Kudos to the Camosun Students for Environmental Awareness and Camosun College for installing compost bins at Lansdowne campus at the beginning of this term. Navigating college bureaucracy can be a lengthy and frustrating process, and it's commendable that both sides stuck with it.

1.3 billion tons of food is wasted every year, according to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization. That's about 30 percent of all the food produced in the world. The vast majority of this food waste goes straight to the landfill, where it creates the greenhouse gas methane, which is 20 times more effective at trapping heat within our atmosphere than carbon dioxide.

Not only does the consumer waste money on uneaten food, but the environment loses out as well.

We can reduce the amount of food we waste in many ways, such as checking expiration dates more carefully, buying only as much food as we need, and eating that bruised apple we dropped on the floor. We can also divert food waste from the

landfill into compost bins.

About 35 percent of household garbage is made up of compostable food waste. This waste can be turned into compost that can then be used as manure. Compost also reduces greenhouse gas emissions and reduces landfill waste.

Following in the footsteps of Vancouver's pilot project in 2011, the City of Victoria has created a new kitchen scraps and garbage program that will require citizens to separate their waste into three bins: garbage, recycling, and kitchen scraps. They believe this program will reduce landfill waste by 30 percent, as well as reduce Victoria's carbon footprint. The new program will be implemented in January of 2013.

Throwing a banana peel or the remnants of lunch into the garbage is easy, but we don't realize what a negative impact such a small gesture has on our environment.

That is why compost programs like the one at Camosun are so important: students simply have to toss their scraps into a different bin to positively affect the school's and their own environmental impact.

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

health

Student journalism conference goes viral

“I gotta tell ya, I have never puked like that—and I went to college.”

CHRIS JONES
ESQUIRE

DYLAN WILKS
STAFF WRITER

A norovirus-like illness recently infected more than 75 delegates attending NASH 74, the Canadian University Press’ national student journalism conference, at the Harbour Towers Hotel and Suites.

“It’s highly likely that a student brought it in,” says Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA) spokesperson Shannon Marshall. “There were no reports of illness from the hotel staff [before the conference], and our health protection officers have ruled out food poisoning.”

Norovirus symptoms include

nausea, headaches, muscle aches, vomiting, and diarrhea. It spreads very quickly and easily. The virus can survive on surfaces, and touching any contaminated surface and then touching your mouth can spread it. Exposure to those who have vomited due to the virus can also contaminate others.

The trouble at the event, which was co-hosted by *Nexus* and UVic’s *Martlet*, started as journalist Chris Jones, a writer for *Esquire*, gave the final keynote speech on Saturday evening. He noticed delegates getting up to leave while he was still speaking. The severity of the situation didn’t become apparent to Jones until around 11 that night, when he fell ill.

“It was just the most calamitous vomiting of my life, and there was just no holding it back,” he says. “I was puking out of my eyeballs; I was screaming at the toilet. I gotta tell ya, I have never puked like that—and I went to college.”

Delegates left Jones’ keynote to bus to the gala event at the UVic’s Vertigo nightclub. On one of the buses, delegate Brennan Bova, from *the Fulcrum* in Ottawa, had someone vomit on his head. Twitter exploded with reports of illness from dozens of delegates. Conference organizers cancelled the gala event.

Management at the Harbour

Towers and BC Ambulance Service notified VIHA that conference delegates were getting sick. People were vomiting in elevators and on stairwells.

Conference co-coordinator Kristi Sipes understands how the virus could have spread so easily before people became aware of what was happening.

“In the midst of the crisis, you can touch things and not know,” she says.

There’s no treatment for norovirus. According to Marshall, most people will recover within two to three days after becoming ill. But they will continue to be contagious for up to 48 hours after their last symptom.

By Tuesday afternoon all delegates and volunteers for NASH had checked out of the hotel. Many had waited days to leave, with WestJet and Air Canada actively discouraging any potential passengers with flu-like symptoms from boarding their planes, but also providing flight re-bookings to some delegates with no added fees. At least one delegate was turned away at the airport and returned to the hotel.

More than 75 delegates, 15 hotel staff, and two speakers became ill throughout the ordeal. More have fallen ill since their return home.

Sarah Petz, a delegate from the



DYLAN WILKS/NEXUS

Delegates wait to leave UVic’s Vertigo after the virus outbreak.

Manitoba, got sick after returning home, but she still says the conference was great.

“It was definitely an amazing conference,” she says. “Anyone that goes to the conferences will tell

you that they’re so valuable for your progression as a journalist.”

She laughs, adding, “I was kind of joking to one of my friends that the puking now was totally worth the conference before.”

education

UBC professor launches free online university

RJ REID
THE UBYSSEY (UBC)

VANCOUVER (CUP)—Money could be becoming less of a factor in getting a university-level education.

Next Generation University (NextGenU) has opened its virtual doors to become one of the first services in Canada to offer university-level education. Erica Frank, founder and executive director of NextGenU and a professor at UBC’s School of Population and Public Health, began working on NextGenU a decade ago.

“For most people in the world, secondary, much less postsecond-

ary, training is a dream,” says Frank, adding that this lack of education has created a world “grievously under-supplied with healthcare professionals.”

She has made training people for the health sector a priority for the program, which began offering courses this December in the health sciences field. It’s free of cost, barriers, and advertisements.

Though primarily directed towards people in developing countries, NextGenU.org’s courses can be taken by anyone for either credit at an accredited institution or solely for continued education and training.

A partnership with the new College of Health Sciences at the Presbyterian University of East Africa, located in Kenya, is largely geared towards that goal.

“They will provide the hospitals where trainees will practice and have labs under local supervision, and then we’ll provide the computer-based didactics and the overall direction,” says Frank.

Content for the courses comes free of charge from professors and institutions from all over the world, and evaluation is done through peer and mentor assessment in addition to quizzes and final exams coordinated by NextGenU.

David Anderson, head of the department of education studies at UBC, sees advantages to free education and the recent open access trend.

“This is an example of a modern version of extending education to the wider population, and then of course its aims are enormously high,” he says.

Anderson retains some doubt over the use of the term “university” with NextGenU site. He points out that historically, universities have been chartered and “approved by the state in some way or other to guarantee quality.”

But Frank defends the quality

of NextGenU, saying state-approved institutions have contributed greatly.

“All of these materials only exist because professors at other universities posted them online, and said, ‘Please repurpose them and use them freely,’” she says.

Ash Milton, a first-year UBC student, believes NextGenU will have a positive impact on the world and would consider taking courses from a free university.

“There’s more of a stigma attached to doing a degree online,” he says, “but I think that will go away as time goes on and more people use online degrees.”

SPEAK UP What’s your favourite app and why?

BY CLORISA SIMPSON



KERRY PUCSEK

“Slacker Radio, because it gives you a wide variety of music and helps you find new artists.”



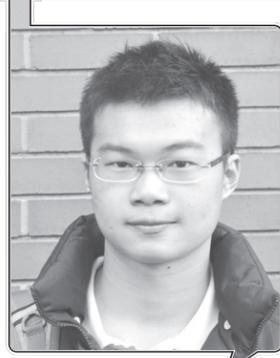
BRITTANY TAEKEMA

“Hipstomatic. It takes sweet photos and makes you look like a real photographer when you’re not.”



KEITH WINDSOR

“Clipboard. I like learning and it keeps me informed because it updates itself throughout the day.”



ERIC CHEUNG

“Skype. Talking to people online for free is an all-good.”



LEVI KARPA

“My French-to-English translator: Google Translator. It’s the most useful for my French class and my most frequently used app.”



PATRICK DAVIES

“Gas Buddy. It tells you all the gas prices in Victoria; I find it the most useful.”

environment

Camosun expands compost program

“The beauty of the anaerobic digesters is that any organics can go in. Cooked food, greasy food, dairy products, bones—it can all go in there.”

ANNA COLANGELI
CAMOSUN COLLEGE

NICOLE BENETEAU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

On January 9, students at Lansdowne campus were welcomed back with the gift of an expanded compost program. While the rest of us were sleeping off the winter-break binge, Camosun students, faculty and physical-resources staff were hard at work getting new composters installed at the school’s waste-management stations.

The little green boxes may seem insignificant, but they’re a triumph to those involved with the compost program.

“It’s like a dream come true,” says Camosun College Student Society sustainability director Richard Kao, who has been working to get the program off the ground since 2010. “After two years, it’s done. It’s a relief.”

Environmental technology chair Anna Colangeli says Camosun’s compost program is important because of the oncoming CRD ban of

organics in the landfill. The program has met this challenge by centralizing the system. Organic waste in the compost bins gets diverted to a dozen anaerobic digesters scattered around campus.

“All that waste is not going to the landfill, it’s decomposing here on campus,” says Colangeli.

Now that the boxes are installed around campus, the trick is getting students to use the composters frequently and effectively.

“I, for sure, will use the compost,” says first-year visual arts student Brianna Quinsey.

But others don’t share the same enthusiasm. Some students say they aren’t clear on exactly how the system works.

“I noticed it yesterday and I wanted to know what I was supposed to do with my banana peel,” says university transfer student John Little. “There’s no information. No pictures or words on the front of it.”

Colangeli says that answering these concerns is the current priority.

“The next phase is going to be the education component,” she says. “Making sure that everybody buys into this, so that nobody puts any compostable matter into the garbage. The beauty of the anaerobic digesters is that any organics can go in. Cooked food, greasy food, dairy products, bones—it can all go in there.”

The compost program makes for an eco-friendly campus, and it also contributes to the student job market. Samuel Jan is one of two students who have been hired to collect the green bin waste, which, due to the sometimes unpleasant nature of organics, is a daily routine. Jan says that the program has seen some success.



CAROL-LYNNE MICHAELS/NEXUS

Haj Bains and Samuel Jan, the two students who collect green bin waste.

“We’re still working out the kinks,” says Jan, “but I think it’s been pretty successful. It’s a concept that not every student has regularly practiced or is aware of. But it’s a great kick-start.”

Colangeli is also impressed by

the response to the program.

“It’s so successful here, our plan is to get something like this at Interurban,” she says. “After so many false starts over the years, we’ve finally got something off the ground that looks sustainable.”

NEWS BRIEFS

Camosun joins GreenTech

Camosun College is now part of the new GreenTech Exchange Vancouver Island, joining a network of industry, education, and funding organizations that aim to share ideas, pool resources, and support each other in the clean technology sector. GreenTech Exchange is hosting a networking event at Royal Roads on January 26 to kick off the new year, featuring companies such as Sea Breeze Power Corp—the company behind the 99 MegaWatt Cape Scott Wind Farm project. Check out greentechexchange.ca for more information.

Premiers creating national health plan without federal government

In response to comments from Prime Minister Stephen Harper, Canada’s premiers are forming a national plan for health-care innovation without the federal government. Just one day after Harper told the provinces that it’s their responsibility to reform the system, Canada’s premiers came up with their own “innovation working group.” The group intends to focus on the scope of practice: the scope of what licenced nurses and pharmacists can provide; human-resources management: taking a more coordinated approach to the competition for doctors and nurses across the country; clinical practice guidelines: developing and adapting the best clinical and surgical practice guidelines so all Canadians can benefit from the best up-to-date care.

Study says high costs cause British Columbians to skip meds

BC has, by far, the highest rate throughout Canada of patients who stop taking prescribed drugs because they can’t afford them, according to a study published in the *Canadian Medical Association Journal*. The study says that one in six BC residents didn’t adhere to their prescriptions due to cost—rates nearly double the national average.

UNICEF launches Student Challenge

UNICEF Canada is launching its first ever national student challenge, with the top prize being a trip to UNICEF’s headquarters in New York City. The challenge centers around groups of two students who are required to educate their friends, family, and classmates on the importance of UNICEF’s mission to provide safe drinking water worldwide. The teams are then required to fundraise to purchase water pumps (costing roughly \$500 each) to provide communities in need with access to safe water. Each pump purchase will earn teams a ballot in the official draw for the chance to win the trip to New York. Check out unicef.ca/studentchallenge for more details.

-DYLAN WILKS

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NEXUS

politics

Simon Fraser Student Society leaves CFS



ANTOINE TREPANIER/LA ROTONDE

Delegates at a Canadian Federation of Students national meeting.

DAVID DYCK

THE PEAK (SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY)

BURNABY, BC (CUP)—After three years of conflict and more than \$450,000 in legal fees, the Simon Fraser Student Society (SFSS) has officially left the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS).

The membership issue goes back to 2008, when 66.9 percent of SFU students voted to leave the CFS. The CFS, which is the largest student lobbying organization in Canada, contested the referendum's legitimacy, and the SFSS has been dealing with a series of legal disputes ever since.

Although a court date had been set for February 12 for a lengthy and expensive trial that was expected to last approximately six weeks, the dispute was settled out of court in late December. Both parties released a short statement that described the settlement as "amicable."

It further stated that neither party would make any public statements regarding the settlement. There was no mention made of the amount of the settlement.

"I'm glad that it's over," said former SFSS president Ali Godson.

B.C. Supreme Court judge Richard Blair, in an official court document released in August 2010, explained that he was unable to

reach a conclusion about the case at that time, citing an overwhelming amount of evidence.

Blair advised that either a second referendum be conducted, or that the dispute be settled out of court, as either option would be more financially feasible than going to trial in February.

Late last year, the SFSS board argued that the society was running a projected deficit as a result of the pending lawsuit, for which funds had to be set aside in the event the case was lost. The loss of the trial could have resulted in a payout of approximately \$1.5 million in unpaid membership fees to the CFS, not including legal fees.

The dispute began as a result of a 2008 referendum question, which the CFS claimed was not done in accordance with CFS bylaws, since it was performed by an SFSS-appointed independent electoral commission and not the CFS-mandated oversight committee. The referendum, therefore, was not considered by the CFS to be legally binding, and for the SFSS to accept it breached their contract.

Although the amount of the settlement has not been disclosed, the total amount spent by the SFSS on legal fees from the beginning of the dispute until November 2011 was \$454,149.

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Richard Braithwaite
DND MARPAC
TECH 175



CGI Careers: Industry Trends and Opportunities

Donny Groulx - CGI
TECH 177



12:00 pm

STEP Into a Skilled Trade

Lawrence Lewis
STEP BC
TECH 175



Carmen Kurushima
Fast Canadian Enterprises Ltd.
TECH 177



Kiewit will hold a special presentation and info session following the career fair.

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Resumes will be accepted from students interested in employment, and interviews for selected candidates will take place on Friday, February 3, 2011.



CO-OPERATIVE EDUCATION AND STUDENT EMPLOYMENT
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SPORTS BRIEFS

Royals trade top player

Kevin Sundher, the leading scorer of the Victoria Royals WHL Franchise and NHL draft pick of the Buffalo Sabres, has been traded to the Brandon Wheat Kings for Jordan Fransoo, Dakota Conroy, and a first-round draft pick in the 2012 WHL Bantam Draft. Sundher currently has 19 more points than the next highest player on the Royals this season, and three times as many points as both Fransoo and Conroy combined.

Local players ranked by NHL

NHL central scouting has ranked both Steven Hodges and Logan Nelson of the Victoria Royals WHL Franchise for the 2012 National Hockey League Entry Draft. Hodges, a Delta, BC native, is ranked 55th among North American skaters. Nelson, who hails from Rogers, MN, is ranked 108th. The 2012 NHL Entry Draft will take place on June 22-23 in Pittsburgh, PA.

Chargers results

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Friday, January 13
 Camosun College Chargers: 62
 Capilano University Blues: 76
 Saturday, January 14
 Camosun College Chargers: 57
 Quest University Kermodes: 68
 Friday, January 20
 Camosun College Chargers: 51
 Langara College Falcons: 52
 Saturday, January 21
 Camosun College Chargers: 68
 Kwantlen Polytechnic University Eagles: 52

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Friday, January 13
 Camosun College Chargers: 91
 Capilano University Blues: 63
 Saturday, January 14
 Camosun College Chargers: 68
 Quest University Kermodes: 58
 Friday, January 20
 Camosun College Chargers: 66
 Langara College Falcons: 68
 Saturday, January 21
 Camosun College Chargers: 77
 Kwantlen Polytechnic University Eagles: 66

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Friday, January 20
 Camosun College Chargers: 0
 Columbia Bible Bearcats: 3
 Saturday, January 21
 Camosun College Chargers: 1
 Columbia Bible Bearcats: 3

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Friday, January 20
 Camosun College Chargers: 3
 Columbia Bible Bearcats: 2
 Saturday, January 21
 Camosun College Chargers: 1
 Columbia Bible Bearcats: 3

-DYLAN WILKS

camp

Bringing baseball back to Montreal

“Baseball Empire is there to make sure the sport doesn’t die.”

IVAN NACCARATA
 BASEBALL EMPIRE

DAVID KAUFMANN

THE LINK (CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY)

MONTREAL (CUP)—On September 29, 2004, the Montreal Expos lost 9-1 at home to the Florida Marlins.

It’s been seven years and three months since the last pro baseball game was played in Montreal, but the sport received a shot in the arm recently, thanks to some home-grown talent.

Earlier this month, the Montreal Canadiens’ practice facility in Brossard was taken over by baseball pros and aspiring major-leaguers. Around 160 kids lined the halls of the Bell Sports Complex to learn tips from New York Yankees catcher Russell Martin, who played high-school baseball growing up in Montreal.

The event was part of a camp hosted by Baseball Empire, a series of baseball camps directed at every type of player, which intends to aid players aged 7 to 16.

“This is the beginning of something big that may come in the near future,” says Josué Peley, one of the camp’s instructors, who also plays for High-A Salem, the farm team for Major League Baseball’s Boston Red Sox.

The event, founded by Ivan Naccarata, formerly of the Canadian-American Association of Professional Baseball League’s Quebec Capitals, is meant to help boost baseball’s popularity in Montreal since the Expos’ departure.

“Baseball Empire is there to make sure the sport doesn’t die,” says Naccarata. He came up with the idea for doing a camp while wondering what to do with his passion for coaching during a slow off-season.

“Whenever you’re playing professional baseball, there’s a period when you’re not playing, and sometimes you have to find jobs,” says Naccarata. “During the off-season, I’ll be able to create work for these guys right here,” he says, referring to Quebec stars Jonathan Malo and Jean-Luc Blaquièrre of the New York Mets affiliate AA Binghamton, as well as Peley and other pros.

Naccarata happens to be good friends with ex-Concordia Stinger baseball player Vincent White; he called him up while planning the camp with Martin—the de facto star of the camp.

“We just thought it would be a fun thing to do, to use a bit of my



AMANDA LAPRADE/THE LINK

Montreal youth get baseball tips from Yankees catcher Russell Martin.

popularity, get some kids together, and teach them some of my knowledge,” says Martin.

Earlier this month, at least, they got the spark they were looking for, as the camp sold out all of its spots. This is something that White, now communications manager of Baseball Empire, is ecstatic about.

“We got a huge turnout and we’re very happy about it,” says White, who explained that the whole

point of this camp is to give back to baseball’s youth in Quebec.

One of the campers, Anthony Alluisi, 14, hopes to bolster his baseball skills after attending the event.

“I hope that I’m going to perform and learn something from Martin. He’s one of my favorite players,” he says.

Taking on this camp is something that also pleased his mother,

Nancy Crnich. “I think this is a good idea, to apply to this camp, because taking on sports is a good way to stay active,” she says.

Thanks to the camp’s success, White hopes more events of its kind will follow.

“The whole idea is to give a series of camps. We hope to have some in the summertime, and definitely some in the fall and the winter of next year,” he says.



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GETTING FRACKED

BC allows extensive fracking, but

Story: Ali Hackett Photo: Carol-Lynne Michaels

Jessica Ernst can light her tap water on fire.

At least, Jessica Ernst could light her tap water on fire until she recently had the water disconnected from her home because it posed such a safety risk.

Natural gas corporation Encana began drilling near Ernst's property on the outskirts of Rosebud in southern Alberta in the early 2000s. Prior to the drilling, Ernst had gas and oil-free well and surface water on her property, certified by Alberta Environment, which she used in her house. Although she was told over and over by government, regulators, and Encana that they would never "frack" (a process of hydraulic fracturing) near the water supply, it wasn't long before Ernst noticed the immense pressure of the gas in her water was forcing the taps open with a hiss. And her tap water was cloudy.

"It could easily have been mistaken for milk," she says.

Ernst is one of many Albertans affected by fracking. The process is complex, but essentially requires millions of litres of a solution made from water, sand, and chemicals. The solution is injected under high pressure, first vertically, then horizontally, underground into shale. The sand acts as a prop in underground fractures, which are created and expanded under the immense pressure of the fracking solution. When the solution is sucked out, small pockets of gas, which were previously unattainable, escape into the well and rise to the well-bore where the gas is captured for processing.

Fracking into shale is happening all over North America, and is highly controversial.

Ernst is currently involved in a lawsuit with Encana because of the contamination of her water, although they allege the contamination occurred naturally.

One issue with fracking is gas migration or communication. As the fracking solution is piped into the earth, it causes new fractures, which move horizontally underground.

The new fractures can communicate unintentionally with aquifers on private land, such as, allegedly, in the case of Ernst. The problem is that communication is both difficult to predict and difficult to prove.

The long-term health effects of contaminated drinking water are devastating. But the short-term consequence in Ernst's case is she's forced to haul her own water.

"It requires me to own a truck, which isn't what I want, and to drive over an hour to get water," says Ernst. "Not only has my independence been stripped, I'm forced to burn fossil fuel to get water, which I should never have had to do."

As the drilling in her community continues, Ernst fears more families will suffer at the hands of big oil. According to Ernst, the most devastating outcome of her water troubles and subsequent lawsuit is the destruction of the community.

Sometimes energy companies make donations to local organizations, which can cause strife in the community. Some people feel the companies bring prosperity and jobs, while others, such as Ernst, believe they are destroying the environment irreparably. She believes this is a deliberate tactic.

"I think they have to divide us first," says Ernst, "because no healthy community would allow what is happening here with fracking. It's tragic."

Waste not

Robert Howarth, a professor of ecology and environmental biology at Cornell University in New York, has concluded that drinking water wells are being contaminated in the US as well.

"There's a lot of debate about exactly how big an issue it is," says Howarth, "but there's clear evidence that drinking water wells are getting contaminated with methane at a pretty high rate if you live within a kilometre or so of a gas rig."

Howarth was the lead researcher in a report published last year called *Methane and the Greenhouse-Gas Footprint of Natural Gas from Shale Formations*. Although the fracking process is complex, it's based on fairly old technology and causes massive destruction to the environment.

"To me, the biggest problem with the water is what you do with the frack waste when it comes back up," says Howarth. "A pretty large volume of water, something like four million litres per well on average, is contaminated with the additives, many of which are toxic."

Not only is there contamination from additives, Howarth says naturally occurring radio-

active materials and toxic metals are extracted during fracking. The toxic fracking solution has to be disposed of, either into pits, old oil wells, or deep in the earth.

"I don't think there's a good solution to handling the frack waste," he says. "What industry was doing, for the most part, was disposing of the waste in municipal sewage plants, which is a crazy idea. It just goes right through the plant and contaminates the streams and rivers that are down line from it."

The Environmental Protection Agency in the US has ruled this illegal, but Howarth says it's still not clear exactly what they are doing with all the waste. In Ohio and Northeast BC there has been recent seismic activity that researchers say is linked to the frack-waste disposal that happens deep underground.

"They were trying to put a lot in," says Howarth, "and they did it along a fault line, and it did indeed cause those earthquakes [in Ohio]. There's just not enough room to take the amount of waste produced from fracking."

There's debate about whether or not fracking should be allowed to happen at the current scale. Environmental groups all over the world are calling for a moratorium on fracking. France banned it outright last year, while Quebec has imposed a partial moratorium until more research is done.

"I personally don't think the technology should be allowed until it's proven to be safer than has so far been demonstrated."

ROBERT HOWARTH
CORNELL UNIVERSITY

Howarth agrees, and says the oil and gas companies are moving in on the gas before they have developed safe disposal methods.

"I personally don't think the technology should be allowed," he says, "until it's proven to be safer than has so far been demonstrated."

The problem with regulation

It appears that consistent regulation of resource extraction is nonexistent. Besides the fact that resources are managed individually by province, there are discrepancies among experts.

Tark Hamilton, a geology instructor at Camosun College, used to work for the Geological Survey of Canada, a federal organization whose funds he says have been severely diminished. Hamilton says that prior to funding cuts, they were doing cutting-edge research that benefited Canadians.

"It was just the facts, because nobody was paying me any more to come up with a particular answer," says Hamilton. "I just wrote down the data and told it how it was, for public information. If you force the guys who stand to profit to pay for [research], they'll just pay for rubber stamps."

With minimal government research there's little to encourage corporations to be on the cutting edge of environmental technology.

Alan Boras, a spokesperson for Encana, says they operate under the legislation in the area of operations.

"Regulation is in the purview of the provincial government," he says. "We operate as required by the BC Oil and Gas Commission."

The consequence is the government often relies on outdated or industry-funded research to make decisions about resources and the environment, rather than forward-thinking, unbiased, scientific data.

"We're not looking at the big picture, or into the future," says Hamilton. "We need replacement technologies. We've got environmental wars to fight; we need water for other things, we



ACKED

ut at what cost?

need agriculture. We don't need contaminated aquifers. Yeah there's some fast profit here, but the tax on it is so little and the net long-term gains so small, why are we bothering?"

The provincial government in BC has recently created a website, fracfocus.ca, that will make public what chemicals are used in fracking operations.

George Heyman, the executive director of the Sierra Club of BC, says it's a good first step but there are still issues that need to be addressed. For example, chemicals will be reported, but if there isn't any safety data sheets attached it will be up to the citizens to put in the time and expense of doing the research.

Heyman maintains that it would be more appropriate for government to make information accessible as to what the associated health impacts of listed chemicals are.

"The companies are being asked to self-report," says Heyman. "We're not sure what mechanisms will be in place to ensure that the reporting is accurate."

Encana, however, says that fracking is a safe operation.

"We're working in the public interest on behalf of the provincial government, in a respectful manner, with the goals they've outlined," says Boras. "BC has done a very good job of developing its natural-gas industry."

While it's true that there aren't often acute injuries to workers or citizens, the cumulative effects of resource extraction are often overlooked.

"Regulation is in the purview of the provincial government. We operate as required by the BC Oil and Gas Commission."

ALAN BORAS
ENCANA CORPORATION

Another issue with regulation is pricing. The government charges royalties for both the right to extract the gas, and on the gas itself, which, technically, is a publicly owned resource. According to Heyman, the cost of the royalties has been progressively lowered, possibly due to a battle between BC and Alberta to be more attractive to investors.

"They're pursuing what I call a liquidation strategy," says Heyman. "They hope to achieve more money overall in a year by lowering the royalty price, but encouraging companies to take out a greater amount [of gas]. I question whether that's a sensible practice for a non-renewable resource."

Natural gas: Neither green nor clean

Natural gas is often touted as a clean or transitional energy source. The truth is, it does burn cleaner than carbon dioxide or coal, and that's how energy companies market natural gas.

"People see a lot of advertising about how this is a clean fuel, but that's not true at all," says Howarth.

The issue is the fracking process. Obtaining unconventional gas reserves requires immense amounts of non-renewable energy, which essentially makes it one of the dirtiest fossil fuels in terms of greenhouse-gas (GHG) emissions.

"Our conclusion is that as we get more and more of our gas from shale using hydraulic fracturing, we're largely replacing conventional gas, which came from dome formations. That increases the GHG emissions on average by about 50 percent," says Howarth, "without giving us a new net source of energy."

When you include the influence of methane, particularly looking over the time period of a few decades, the GHG footprint of shale gas in the US is worse than that of conventional natural gas, and also worse than that of either coal or oil.

Top dollar is the bottom line

Northeast BC has the biggest fracking operations in the world, and is technically part of the same petroleum-producing sedimentary basin as the tar sands. The federal Conserva-

tive government, the BC Liberals, and the provincial government in Alberta consistently use job creation and the economy as supporting arguments for fracking and other oil, gas, and mining exploration.

Caleb Behn, a University of Victoria law student and member of the West Moberly First Nations (Dunne-Za) on his mother's side, and the Fort Nelson First Nation (Eh Cho Dene) on his father's side, says jobs can't be the bottom line.

Behn worked for both the West Moberly First Nations and the Saulteaux First Nation in Northeast BC as they dealt with land sales and consultation processes regarding land use planning. He's seen firsthand the destruction of the Northern landscape and wildlife habitats.

"Anything that touches the land impacts First Nations at some level. It has to. The basis of our worldview and culture is predicated upon the land."

CALEB BEHN
FIRST NATIONS STUDENT

"We're busy fighting to maintain what we see as our unique worldview, but the attack comes from the constant pace of development," says Behn. "Anything that touches the land impacts First Nations, at some level. It has to. The basis of our worldview and culture is predicated upon the land."

According to the BC Oil and Gas Commission, the northeast of BC produces virtually all the oil and gas in the province.

"Where I'm from, a job in the oil and gas industry comes with an environmental impact that won't be felt in Vancouver or Victoria," says Behn. "It will most likely be felt in Northeast British Columbia, far from the political base, far from a dense population with voting power."

There are people making a lot of money in northeastern BC, and their support for the industry is unshakeable. Behn attributes this partially to the high number of people from other parts of Canada that go work in the oil patch each winter, and the fact that the northern communities are so remote.

Fort Nelson, and the surrounding Treaty 8 First Nation territory, is a place most southerners can't fathom. It's over 2,000 kilometres from Vancouver, or about a 20-hour drive. The closest city to Fort Nelson is five hours away and there's nothing but gas stations in between—the border with the Northwest Territories is closer.

Temperatures are often so cold that parking lots are full of multiple-ton work trucks with their engines running, sometimes for hours, while people eat, drink, and shop.

Behn feels that, because the majority of people in BC are unaware of what it's like to be directly impacted by the energy industry, the public isn't able to fully recognize the scope of the situation.

But Boras says that the socio-economic components of natural gas activities are important and shouldn't be overlooked.

"At the end of the day, development improves the living conditions of citizens and the overall community," he says.

Most politicians don't feel pressure from the major voting centers in metro Vancouver to take a stance against the environmental impacts of oil and gas exploration, and instead focus on the amount of revenue it brings the province.

"I find the rhetoric around jobs unnecessarily myopic," says Behn, "And, much like a lot of other things in the oil and gas industry, simplified intentionally to ensure divisive perspectives in the community."

Meanwhile, Boras says Encana works hard to unite communities where the corporation develops natural gas.

"Our activities, and all they entail—investment, jobs, taxes—are all important and fundamental," he says. "Economic activity is an important part of our mandate and jobs are what people are interested in."



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Canada 

cinema

Film fest celebrates local and global

“Relate locally, think globally.”

KATHY KAY
VICTORIA FILM FESTIVAL

MEGAN GIBSON
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

It may be a cliché, but sometimes there’s truth in those things: Victoria Film Festival (VFF) director Kathy Kay says to “expect the unexpected” from the 18th annual celebration of film, running February 3–12.

“There’s a lot of variety,” she says, “from Swiss films, horror films, Sarah Polley’s latest film [*Take This Waltz*], there’s an Italian highlight, there’s shorts, documentaries...”

So, to bust out another cliché, there’s going to be something for everybody. This year’s festival will not fall short of expectations. Best suggestion? Grab a program and a day planner, ’cause there’s so much to see in so little time.

Jake and Elwood fans have a chance to join legendary director John Landis in a quote-along to *The Blues Brothers*, preceded by an in-person interview.

Crucifix in hand or not, Linda

Blair will appear for an interview, as well as a screening of the mother of all horror films, *The Exorcist*. If you can shake off the images by the next day and find an appetite, Bon Rouge will host a meet and greet with Blair, pea soup and all! (Note: there may not actually be pea soup.)

Meanwhile, the VFF has expanded its horizons with a few added events. “Relate locally, think globally,” is Kay’s motto for this year’s festival.

Not only is this year stacked with international films, the Victoria Foundation helped in commissioning eight short films to be screened in front of the Canadian films.

Relating locally, a “feast and a film” will go down at Spinnakers Brewpub. During the dinner a local farmer will talk about the importance of local sourcing, followed by a film (as the title suggests) at one of the venues.

As an initiative to promote Swiss design, there will be a Swiss art exhibit, curated by filmmaker Reto Caduff. Five of this year’s screenings are Swiss films.

This year, to stimulate more interest in producing television programming, VFF teamed with KCTS9 and came up with a great prize—a \$10,000 development fund in US dollars. The idea is to give documentary filmmakers an opportunity to develop a good project and a strong trailer.

“We know that good development costs money and we are putting our money where our mouth



PHOTO PROVIDED

Take this Waltz is one of many diverse movies being shown at this year’s Victoria Film Festival.

is,” says John Lindsay, KCTS9’s senior vice-president of content. “We’re teaming with Tectoria and the Awesome Shit Club; there’s gonna be a \$3,500 prize. People are gonna pitch an innovative business idea.”

At the screening of *Venture Capitalists*, three ideas will be pitched in front of the audience and the

judges—the cool part? The audience gets to vote. (Bragging rights, perhaps?)

“Summer in February” is an event that’s a step above the think-warm mantra, complete with hula-hoops, limbos, and a screening of *50 First Dates*.

This festival keeps all individuals in mind when selecting from

thousands of submissions.

“We’re not a particular genre festival,” says Kay. “That’s the way we program it, so that hopefully for every individual out there there’ll be a highlight.”

Victoria Film Festival
February 3 - February 12
victoriafilmfestival.com

music

East meets west with Beats Antique

“It’s hard for us to sum up our style of music in a few words, but I suppose electronic acoustic or gypsy hip-hop... gyp-hop.”

TOMMY CAPPEL
BEATS ANTIQUE

MARIELLE MOODLEY
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

It all started when one of their members was asked to make a belly-dance record. The result was Beats Antique, a genre-bending band based out of San Francisco. All three members of the group—Zoe Jakes, David Satori, and Tommy Cappel—play a plethora of instruments, which helps give them their unique edge.

Fusing electronic with acoustic, Beats Antique formed when Jakes was contracted to write the aforementioned album of belly-dancing music. Jakes and Cappel had played together in previous bands Extra

Action Marching Band and Yard Dog’s Road Show and joined up with Satori to form Beats Antique three years ago.

“A lot of our musician friends are into creating heavy, bass-styled music, which is awesome, but when we formed Beats Antique we were looking to create something a little sweeter and melodic,” says Cappel. “People always seem to draw attention to our eastern world influences, and as prominent as they are, we also have many western influences that make the genre-bending so fun.”

A wide range of musical artists has inspired the band, from Amon Tobin to Dr. Dre to the jazz legends, and it’s worked to fill out their sound with elements of many different genres. But a lot of the experimentation has come from the band internally.

“When you’ve played an instrument for a while, you have the ability to hear things differently and in more depth, which makes for more creativity,” says Cappel. “This is how we’ve been able to create such an eclectic sound.”

In fact, the band is so eclectic they’ve had to invent new genre names to describe themselves. “It’s hard for us to sum up our style of



SEQUOIA EMMANUELLE

Beats Antique are proudly leading the gyp-hop genre.

music in a few words, but I suppose electronic acoustic or gypsy hip-hop... gyp-hop.”

Like Beats Antique’s style fusion, their upcoming show in Victoria will also be a fusion of electronic as well as live instruments.

“Between Satori and I, we’ll be playing lots of live percussion, piano, violin, viola, banjo, and Turkish saz, along with managing the

electronic side of our performance,” he says. “For our live performances we take our tracks and cut them all up by taking out the instruments we play live. Basically we’re playing with ourselves via our electronic tracks and live instruments.”

Cappel promises not only a fun show full of variety, but a blissful, world-y groove as well.

“Using other cultures’ music

brings positivity to our music,” he says, “and at every show I feel so energized and happy from the vibes of it. I expect there will be a lot of dancing and positive vibes at our show.”

Beats Antique
Tuesday, January 31
Club 9one9, \$20
beatsantique.com

dance

Dance Days offers passion and excitement

“The passion I get out of dance is feeling the movement.”

ELISE WREN
DANCE VICTORIA

MARIELLE MOODLEY
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Greater Victoria will become a Mecca of dance from January 27 to February 5 when it hosts a total of 70 dance events over 10 days.

The event, entitled Dance Days, will feature dance performances, demonstrations, workshops, and free classes around town, according to Elise Wren, Dance Victoria's community relations manager.

“The free classes are a great

opportunity for people to test the waters with dance and take classes with various skill levels, genres, and instructors to find out what works for them,” says Wren. “There's a wide variety of music that accompanies each genre, such as live African drumming, live classical pianos, and hip-hop on stereo.”

The event will include classes and workshops for all levels of dancers in effort to expand their boundaries, says Wren.

“So when it comes to participating in the classes and workshops, there is really something for everyone,” she says. “The passion I get out of dance is feeling the movement. I love being in a studio, learning an exercise, executing the moves, and focusing on dancing without thinking about outside distractions.”

Another way to explore dance is to observe performances, says Wren. A number of demonstrations and performances, some of which

are free, will be happening around town as well.

The international highlight of Dance Days is a performance by Ballet Nacional de Cuba on February 3 and 4 at the Royal Theatre.

“Ballet Nacional de Cuba have rounded up 25 of their most talented dancers to show us a diverse performance highlighting the best of the dancers' abilities,” explains Wren. “They will be doing excerpts from various ballets, such as *Don Quixote*, *Swan Lake*, and *The Nutcracker*.”

The LOLA Projects are a local highlight of Dance Days; they are performances highlighting two dancers, Trina Stubel and Robert Halley, working with their own choreography, as well as the input of Vancouver choreographers.

The LOLA Projects are the finale of Dance Days and will take place at the Metro Theatre on February 5 at 7:30 pm. Admission is by donation.



JACQUES MOATTI

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music

The Pack A.D. making themselves known

“We never set out a theme to this album but when it was done it just became an album about breakups and monsters.”

MAYA MILLER
THE PACK A.D.



PHOTO PROVIDED

The reluctant subjects of the Pack A.D. are striving to be known for something other than their gender.

CLORISA SIMPSON
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

After being a band for five years, releasing four albums, and playing over 200 shows in the past two years alone, Vancouver duo the Pack A.D. is hoping to finally be known for something other than the fact that they're both women.

“I've never been told so much in my life about how I am a woman, which is fine because I know that,” says drummer Maya Miller (singer/guitarist Becky Black is the other

half of the team). “It’s interesting, though—if you review a band like the Japandroids you would never start off by saying ‘this all-guys duo.’”

Unpersons, the title of the band’s most recent album, is a reference to one of the most referenced works of literature ever—George Orwell’s *1984*. An unperson is someone that has been erased from existence by the government for breaking the law.

“We never set out a theme to this

album but when it was done it just became an album about breakups and monsters,” says Miller. “Almost every song is about a monster one way or another, and those are kind of unpersons if you take it literally. Also, it relates to how we feel sometimes, being women in music.”

The band’s sound has often been compared to the White Stripes and Black Keys, but Miller believes—and hopes—that this is a thing of the past.

“When we first started out we

were doing more of a blues-rock thing, but now I don’t really think it’s comparable,” she says. “I don’t really hear it anymore, and we’ve gone with a more garage-rock punk-pop sound. If it helps people who like those bands discover us, and they like us, then I guess that’s fine. I would hate for it to be confused as something we sought out to do.”

Miller and Black had initially started playing together in that blues-rock style simply because they felt it was easier to jam with.

But playing a style of music just because it’s easy has caused some regret for Miller.

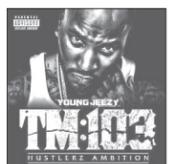
“I would erase the first two albums,” she says, “just because they’re not us now and I don’t even know if they were us at the time. Maybe that sounds harsh, but I just think they are of a different time.”

The Pack A.D.
Thursday, February 2
Club 9ONE9, \$15
thepackad.com



New Music Revue

From the worst rap sagas to the best Belgian-Australian electro-pop



Young Jeezy
TM103: Hustlerz Ambition
(Def Jam)
1/5

The third and final installment in the Thug Motivation series, *TM103: Hustlerz Ambition* is a comparatively aimless and vapid attempt to close out the TM trilogy.

Although the concept of a rap-saga gives the idea of a painstaking endeavour, it seems the only motivation the Young Hustler had in this threesome strategy was to sell three very similar albums to the public.

Lead single “F.A.M.E.” charitably features Jeezy’s fellow Atlanta native T.I. and is, unsurprisingly, one of the few reasons anyone should buy this album. The rest of the collection can be easily discarded into the grease-smear, dangerously overloaded bin behind the cafeteria labelled “really bad rap.”

Young Jeezy may be a talented collaborator and artist, but the clear lack of ambition and content on his long-awaited third installment of this series is way too anti-climactic.

-THOM McMAHON



The Maccabees
Given to the Wild
(Fiction)
2.5/5

Remember the cutsey love songs Brit indie rockers the Maccabees had on their first album, *Color It In? Yeah?* Well, that’s all gone. But it has been five years and two albums since that first album of catchy and adorable pop-rock, so one can only expect to see a change in the band’s style.

With *Given to the Wild*, the Maccabees tone down the cute stuff and deliver the kind of album that would be ideal for listening to on cold, rainy days. It’s quite dreary. In fact, it’s not just dreary: it’s a little dark.

This stylistic change on their part deserves some praise. After all, not all bands develop or alter their sound once they find something that works. Props!

However, I personally found this album to be a little drab. As said before, it would be an excellent soundtrack to a rainy day, but just as background music. Nothing more.

-CLORISA SIMPSON



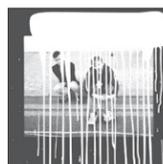
Snow Patrol
Fallen Empires
(Polydor)
4/5

Before the release of their 2003 album *Final Straw*, Snow Patrol struggled for close to 10 years to break into the mainstream music scene.

Since then, the little alternative rock band that originated in Northern Ireland has had several successes. Now, it seems they have taken their sixth album, *Fallen Empires*, as a chance to trust their fans and themselves and focus on creating music, instead of songs that will make it on to the charts. Doing so has allowed Snow Patrol to create an album that is full of raw emotion, and also exudes the great amount of well-deserved confidence the band has.

Some highlights include “New York,” “Those Distant Bells,” and the album’s prelude, “Broken Bottles From a Star,” but *Fallen Empires* is full of tracks that have an equal chance at becoming the listener’s favourite.

-CHESLEY RYDER



The Big Pink
Future This
(4AD)
3.5/5

On their sophomore album, UK’s the Big Pink crash unabashedly forth with a fresh energy. The Big Pink claim to be electro-rock, but they surprise on *Future This* with obvious noise-pop influences and hooks that would sound good on any rap album.

Future This is an intensely thick, full, and hopefully optimistic album. Its crunchy sounding guitars and gregarious nature paint an image of male responsibility. *Future This* is a young man who realizes he must take care of a sibling after the initial shock of a lost loved one. Its echoed lyrics playfully display the past, while the music pushes the future into view.

Future This has a cool duality to it that ignites later on the album, during the title track. The album gives little time for rest in its songs and, depending on the listener, that relentlessness may be positive or negative. It is, however, truly stylistic, and not a critical error.

-ADAM PRICE



Gotye
Making Mirrors
(Fairfax)
4.5/5

Most people know Belgian-Australian singer-songwriter Gotye for his song “Somebody That I Used to Know,” and, maybe, for the corresponding music video. What most people don’t know is that Gotye is pronounced “gore-ti-yeah.”

Something else the masses don’t know is that *Making Mirrors* is an album riddled with treasures that rival Aladdin’s Cave of Wonders, such as “In Your Light” and “Smoke and Mirrors.”

The music on this album stays true to Gotye’s electric-pop sound while maintaining a distinct indie style that sets it apart from the vanilla mediocrity found on the airwaves today. *Making Mirrors* creates a happy place for the listener to escape to.

By using his unique voice, innovative composition techniques, and multi-instrumental talent, Gotye develops fun, one-of-a-kind pieces that soothe and excite simultaneously.

-LUCAS MILROY



Double Teamed
by Dylan Wilks and Clorisa Simpson

A tooth for a...

We'd both heard the myth about vaginas that have teeth; then we found an article online about this myth becoming a reality for one woman due to a dermoid cyst. Regardless of if vagina teeth are real or myth, we thought it was worthy of some discussion:

Clorisa: Okay, on the count of three, say the first word that pops in to your head about vagina teeth. One, two, three...

Dylan: Scary.

C: Disgusting.

D: I think the fact that there is a factual basis for it at this point only makes it scarier. Before you weren't worried, but now...

C: It happened once; it could happen again! I just feel like teeth anywhere where you're not expecting teeth is gross. Teeth are okay in one place—inside your mouth. Nowhere else on your body needs teeth.

D: I know dudes who like getting their junk bit, so maybe for them

it's like two good things happening at once.

C: Maybe, but you can control your mouth; I can't speak to all womens' vaginal control but you're not going to be able to give a controlled bite. I don't know; I'm having a hard time even imaging vagina teeth.

D: It would probably look like that pit in Star Wars.

C: Right! That's totally what I'm imagining!

D: All the teeth are ridged in so anything going in can't get out.

C: This is the worst!

D: It's pretty gross. Granted, if I'm going to get some, it's not really on my mind. At least it hasn't been.

C: Well, don't let this get you down, Dylan. Don't let this stop you.

D: I'll tell you what, if something happens...

C: You give me a call, 'cause I want to be the first to know.



Earthy Edibles

by Keira Zikmanis

Bean dreams



KEIRA ZIKMANIS/NEXUS

Basement Dweller Bean Dip

In one of my past lives I worked in a low-ceilinged, dingy basement kitchen making dips and tapenades. We made such high volumes of these sumptuous spreads that we had to use the mother of all hand blenders, or what we dubbed the Bazooka.

This baby was three feet long and it was a workout to lift it up and down and set its thick steel blades on the beans below. A temperamental fellow, it would also tend to give off a faint smoke and the smell of burning metal if used for too long without a break.

This black bean dip is inspired by one of the dips we made in that cavernous kitchen, but with my own tweaks and additions. It also has a little more texture than “the

bazooka” would allow (and luckily you can just use a regular hand blender or food processor for it). Be forewarned: the chipotle gives it a smoky, spicy bite, so if you're afraid of heat, you might want to cut the chipotle down by half.

Prep time 5 minutes

Ingredients

1 tbsp minced chipotle (look for canned chipotle in adobo sauce)
1 medium clove of garlic, minced
Juice of 1 lime
4 tbsp olive oil
3 tbsp water (or more as needed)
1 tsp maple syrup
1 tsp cumin

2 398-ml cans black beans (or 3 cups cooked black beans)
Salt and pepper to taste

½ cup loosely packed, chopped, fresh cilantro
¼ cup red onion, chopped fine

Directions

Combine the chipotle, garlic, lime juice, olive oil, water, maple syrup, and cumin in a bowl (or in the bowl of a food processor if not using a hand blender). Blend until smooth.

Now rinse and drain the canned black beans and add them to the bowl. Blend together until fairly smooth, leaving them a bit chunky if desired.

Stir in salt and pepper to taste, as well as the red onion and cilantro.



What's Up with Her?

by Chantal Kyffin

camosun college women's centre

Professional values

Professions such as law, business, medicine, and economics have been deemed in our society as prestigious work that pays well and is well respected. These are also professions that have been and still are male-dominated and have required qualities of having a business mentality and being emotionally detached, like a bull ready to bulldoze through any obstacle and driven to compete and succeed.

Many of the qualities that are deemed positive in these fields are also understood as qualities men generally tend to have and not females. According to society, females make good mothers and do well in fields of caring for others.

Many male and female fields such as nursing and business have defined themselves as drawing in people based on set characteristics. The problem here is that these

characteristics are deemed “male” and “female.”

Nursing becomes a female field based on its high need for nurturing and personal care, and business becomes a male field based on its need for clear-cut decision-making completely detached and void from anything emotional or nurturing.

These male and female qualities that each of us are defined by are socially constructed, they are not biologically determined, and they are changeable.

Our society has added values to certain adjectives and then placed them into categories for men and women to fit into. In actuality, both men and women possess qualities deemed male or female, regardless of their gender.

Hopefully each of us can move forward in the direction we feel is right for us, regardless of gender.



Green Your World

by Luke Kozlowski

camosun students for environmental awareness

Worth the risk?

The Enbridge Northern Gateway pipeline hearings are underway in Kitimat, BC. If Enbridge and the federal government have their way, two pipelines will be built: one carrying crude oil from Edmonton to Kitimat, and another transporting condensate in the reverse direction. Their reasoning: open up the oil taps to the Asian markets and create jobs. Enbridge claims that this 1,177 kilometre pair of pipelines will create 1,150 permanent jobs and give the BC government \$1.2 billion in tax revenue over the lifetime of the project.

The two main concerns are spills and leaks from the pipeline and from Very Large Crude Carriers (VLCCs). The pipelines are to cross three tributaries of the Fraser River, which are vital salmon habitat,

while VLCCs will have to navigate the windy Douglas Channel and the infamously rough seas of Hecate Strait.

Given Enbridge's track record (over 600 oil and gas spills since 1999), it's no surprise that 130 First Nations bands in BC oppose the project. Not only does a spill threaten the diversity of terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems in the area, it threatens the livelihoods of the communities that depend on healthy salmon runs and ecotourism.

Enbridge isn't currently liable to pick up the tab when a spill occurs, leaving the taxpayers hanging.

Tell the government not to let corporations hijack the political process and submit your comments to the National Energy Board: go to forestethics.org before March 13.

AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM THE CAMOSUN COLLEGE STUDENT SOCIETY

The cost of postsecondary education is too damn high. On top of yearly tuition and ancillary fee increases, student financial aid is overburdened and under-funded, and interest rates on loans add thousands of dollars to already crushingly heavy debt loads. By this time next year, Canadian student debt will surpass \$15 billion.

In BC, the accessibility of postsecondary education is such a low priority that the government is ignoring its own commitments. Last year, citing severe under-funding, Camosun began charging tuition for many Adult Basic Education classes. While this is a violation of the Liberal government's 2007 mandate of free ABE for all British Columbians, the government has chosen to ignore it.

As a result of under-funding for status First Nations and Inuit students, thousands are denied access to a postsecondary education every year. It's estimated that in 2007 alone Aboriginal communities were unable to send 2,588 prospective students to postsecondary. Additionally, in an extraordinary act of discrimination, non-status and Métis students are exempt from this funding.

The national rate of tuition increases is over twice the rate of inflation, faster than transit, food and rent. Faculty members who have observed the

neo-liberal shift from education as a right to education as a privilege notice that students are showing up to class fatigued and unable to focus. Students are handing in more assignments late and rushed because they need to work part-time jobs in order to finance their education. As a result of faculty cuts, teachers increasingly feel an obligation to overload their classes, allowing more students to graduate on time but reducing the amount of teacher support they can access.

Every year, students are forced to work more so that we can pay more to get less out of a neglected system. Our generation is expected to support our social and economic systems, and to replace an aging workforce that outnumbers us, and to do all this with substantially less support than what students received 40 years ago.

The way postsecondary systems are being managed is completely unsustainable, but your support is vital to creating the meaningful and long-lasting changes that Canada needs.

On February 1, join your Camosun College Student Society in the Fisher courtyard at Lansdowne to help send a message that our governments need to hear: education is a right.

All Out Feb 1!

Noble Sloth Manifesto By Libby Hopkinson



Nomadic Mindset By Ken MacKenzie



local, live, and loud
by Adam Price



PHOTO PROVIDED

Bone Thugs-n-Harmony are bringing their legendary sound to town.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25

Bone Thugs-n-Harmony

CLUB 90NE9, 10 PM, \$25

There's essentially nothing I can say as a skinny white guy from Victoria that can accurately portray, let alone rep, the legend that is Bone Thugs. Don't be a dweeb—these guys are pros—go see the show.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27

Slim Sandy & the Hillbilly Boogie Gang

VICTORIA EVENT CENTRE, 9:30 PM, \$10-\$15

One should never really need a reason to go see the Hillbilly Boogie Gang; the name alone exemplifies what could best be described as a smorgasbord of Americana. This is an event to go to if you wanna dance.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27

Alcoholic White Trash, AK-47, the Keg Killers, the Hoosgow

LOGAN'S PUB, \$10

Drinker punk bands playing for a cause. Proceeds go to the BC Hospice Society. Victoria punk rock favorites, including the always-good AK-47.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27

Unicron, Fall City Fall, Take the Earth Beneath Us, Villains, Bury the Sky

VICTORIA ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION, \$10

No, that doesn't say Unicron! And how can you BURY the SKY?! Come find out at this night of metal and hardcore. All ages welcome.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29

Carolyn Marks' World Famous Hootenanny

LOGAN'S PUB, 4:30 PM, FREE

One may notice that Carolyn Marks thinks Hootenanny is an overarching theme for this column. One may also notice my desperate loneliness, sitting all quiet next to the phone. No calls today, *le sigh*.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2

The Pack A.D., No Sinner

CLUB 90NE9, \$15, 8 PM

The grrrrs are at it again in Victoria. Come put your clammy hands and beer-stained shirts together for some supreme garage action.

eye on campus
by Dylan Wilks

TUESDAYS

Fernwood University

The idea of university is awesome, but it's not always accessible. The Fernwood Neighbourhood Resource Group hopes to change that by hosting Fernwood University every Tuesday night starting at 7:30 pm at the Cornerstone Café (1301 Gladstone). Topics at Fernwood University are generally centered on community building, and are taught by some of the many local, knowledgeable speakers throughout Victoria. And it's free. Free education! If only colleges and universities were free, too...

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26

Open Door with Chef Donna

Donna Burger, director of food services for Aramark at Camosun, now hosts "open doors" once a month in the cafeterias on each campus, the next of which is January 26 at Interurban from 11 am until 12:30 pm at the Urban Diner. The purpose is to share ideas and provide feedback on food services. For more information, email burger@camosun.bc.ca or phone 250-370-3650.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27

Wikileaks: The Haiti Files

Kim Ives, editor of the newspaper *Haiti Liberté*, will talk about how America conspires against Haiti and what happened to the earthquake relief effort. 7:30 pm at David Strong 103, UVic. See victoriapeacecoalition.wordpress.com for more information.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27 UNTIL

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29

Global Game Jam

For 48 hours straight, UVic is playing host to a game development marathon! Head down to schmooze with industry insiders and work on your own game projects. If you're

a real gaming geek, you can take the challenge to make a complete game within the 48-hour duration of the event. The best time to come by is on Sunday: game development stops at 5 pm and games are showcased. This all takes place on the third floor of the ECS building over at UVic. Email coltonjphillips@gmail.com for more information.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2

Trades & Technology Career Fair 2012

The Technologies Centre at Interurban is playing host to the Trades & Technology Career Fair 2012 from 9:30 am until 1:30 pm on Thursday, February 2. Employers will be discussing face-to-face recruiting opportunities for cooperative education, internship, graduate, and volunteer positions with trades and technology students and alumni. Sounds like a pretty good deal. For more information, email employ@camosun.bc.ca or phone 250-370-4181.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11 AND

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Song and Surf

The fourth-annual Song and Surf festival is coming to scenic Port Renfrew. More than a dozen local musicians, including Steph MacPherson, JP Maurice, Mindil Beach Markets, Mother Tongue Band, Bucan Bucan, and Quoia are slated to play, as well as local DJs Murge, Perks, Generic, Blunt, Nigel, and Science of Defiance. Tickets for the two-day festival are a measly \$55 in advance—that's, like, really cheap for that many bands—and passes for the Saturday only are \$40. You can buy them at Coastline Sports (1417 Broad) and Higher Ground (760 Yates, in the Odeon Alley). Tickets for this event have always gone like waterlogged hotcakes (that means "fast"), so act fast or be left high and dry!

REDUCE TUITION FEES • DROP STUDENT DEBT • INCREASE EDUCATION FUNDING

STUDENT DAY OF ACTION

FEB 1, 2012

11 AM - 2 PM

LANSDOWNE CAMPUS

**SKIP YOUR CLASS,
HAVE SOME FUN,
FIGHT FOR EDUCATION**



EDUCATION IS A RIGHT.CA

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