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SEND A LETTER

Nexus prints letters that are 250 words or less.

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

OVERHEARD AT NEXUS: "I can't stop bleeding. When does

editor's letter

Spring cleaning

If it feels like something's different since the last time you picked up an issue of Nexus, that's because things are different. It's not that you made it through a few more exams and survived a few more stress-induced crises (but you did, and so did all of us around here), it's that there are new bylaws in place as of the day this issue comes out concerning the air we breathe outside.

Clean-air bylaws are a very touchy subject, and one that both sides feel very strongly about. Add to that a lot of middle ground, grey area, and unanswered questions, and it's exactly the kind of thing worth spending a couple pages examining. Head on over to page 6 to see contributing writer Sera Down's feature story about the new bylaws, how smokers feel about them, and what they mean for everyone.

We've got a lot of other jam-packed pages for you to dive into here, as well, investigating topics of relevance to students. The Canadian Federation of Students has faced allegations of corruption, so we contacted them to get their stance on things (see page 3). Student groups are not happy about the minimum-wage increase (see page 4), and, because a little good news never hurt anyone, for crying out loud, we've got a piece about Camosun Chargers coach Chris Dahl taking home a national Coach of the Year award (see page 4).

There's lots more to check out, so, as always, enjoy and let us know what you think!

> Greg Pratt, managing editor editor@nexusnewspaper.com

flashback

20 years ago in Nexus



Usually bathroom graffiti is much more intelligent: The main cover story in our April 3, 1995 issue, "Hate graffiti sparks student outrage," was about how graffiti targeting "people with disabilities, women, ethnic groups, and homosexuals" had been popping up around campus. "It's scary that people have these ideas," said student Nick Yaremchuk, who brought the graffiti to the Camosun College Student Society (CCSS)'s attention. "We've got to let whoever wrote this know that we are not going to

Students weigh in: Both Shane Calder, who was then the CCSS students with disabilities execu- job coming up with filler material, tive, and Sara Kemp, then CCSS he wrote.

chair, wrote in this issue about the aforementioned graffiti. The anonymous scrawler, in a nutshell, got owned and did not step up to defend him/herself in a public forum, to the surprise of absolutely no one.

What a good sport: Chris Siver, who wrote our Sports Comment column 20 years ago, admitted in this issue that "this was a crappy year to be spending my time pontificating about the world of athleticism. Last year there was no baseball strike, no hockey lockout, the Supersonics were the undisputed kings of the hardwood." But, hey, he was honest, much to the chagrin of his editor at the time, I'm sure: "I did a good

open space

Decolonization, divestment, and Camosun College

ANDY CHEN

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

With all the protest on the ground regarding Bill C-51, people are still not talking about the biggest elephant in the room: colonization.

Colonization has done more harm to society than the "anti-terrorism" bill. Just think of those who are actually forced to live with real terror on a daily basis.

Coming from an institution such as Camosun College that supports indigenization and interculturalization, I'm shocked by how little dialogue there is about Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri and other similar situations. Why are people so concerned about Bill C-51 when an unarmed 18-year-old boy is gunned down in broad daylight and the media circus that follows paints the police officer who shot and killed him as the victim?

Upon joining the Diversity Advisory Committee (DAC) last year, I queried as to why the college didn't formally commemorate Black History Awareness on campus, despite the University of Victoria having annual events. To my disbelief, it was implied that we could just put students on a bus and transport them to these external events as a show of solidarity.

At the Camosun College Student Society (CCSS) level, it took two face-to-face meetings of intense debate to shore up a \$250 donation to the Victoria African and Caribbean Cultural Society (VACCS)sponsored Black History Awards Reception; yet, in a single phone-in motion with hardly any discussion, the CCSS approved a non-repayable \$5,000 donation toward a student's veterinary costs.

If we can be so callous and unaware of the harm colonization visits upon racialized communities here in Canada, what is our effect abroad? At a recent Amnesty International film night we explored the lives of African slaves brought over to colonize the country of Colombia during the 1600s.

Today, that Afro-Colombian community, in spite of being classified as the country's rural poor, built a thriving artisinal mining industry which utilizes a less invasive extractive process that doesn't require blasting away entire mountainsides.

However, the US-backed regime that brought an end to warring drug cartels turned the paramilitary and resistance fighters into the government death squads that ultimately terrorized poor ethnic communities to make way for foreign mining corporations.

> Camosun College needs to support decolonization for all marginalized groups.

Would it surprise you to know that 75 percent of the world's largest mining corporations are Canadianowned and likely supporting genocide of world's poorest indigenous populations?

Colonization and white privilege are sewn into the fabric of the North American culture. We are instilled at a young age with the principles of equality and social justice. Sadly, as adults, we eschew any notion that we ourselves could be oppressive in our nature. Therein lies the

If we cannot see the plight of African-Americans as Africa's indigenous who were forcibly enslaved through colonization, how can we claim to support indigenization? How can we as Canadians be so averse to the notion of being branded terrorists by Bill C-51, yet ignore the undulating genocide of Canadian mining corporations in its entirety?

Camosun College as a whole, to reclaim its soul as an institution of higher learning, needs to support decolonization for all marginalized groups, as well as ongoing divestment efforts within its mandate. To say otherwise would be to acknowledge our complicit nature in the terrorizing of other cultures.

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



KATLYN SPENCER

"I've always wanted to go to England, just because of the history there, and I've always wanted to see the buildings."



CAMILLE HENRY

"I've promised my kids we'll go to Disneyland."



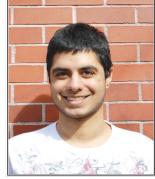
TAMARA CROSBY

"China, because I love the thought of the atmosphere and just everybody there."



LIAM TILITZKY

"I would go to England. I've got heritage there and I want to explore a mountain, and I might be moving there in a couple of years."



SUKHVEER SANDHU

"I think if I wanted to vacation somewhere, it would be something totally different like Antarctica."



BY SARAH TAYLER

KEENAN BROCK

"I guess Amsterdam, so I could party and smoke weed in a café."

economy

Canadian Federation of Students national office denies corruption allegations



All Camosun students are Canadian Federation of Students members.

GREG PRATT

MANAGING EDITOR

The national office of the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS), based in Ottawa, is the target of recent allegations of internal corruption and union-busting. The organization's chairperson has denied to Nexus the allegations.

The allegations stem from an anonymous email sent to people associated with the CFS and its provincial branches, such as the Canadian Federation of Students-BC (CFS-BC), which are a separate legal entity.

The email claims the corruption started in October of 2014 at the CFS AGM, when the democratic election process was changed at the last-minute, claims which Rachael Grant, external executive of the Camosun College Student Society (CCSS) says are true.

Grant was at the meeting and says she saw the democratic process get undermined. (As part of the external executive position, Grant is Federation representative for CFS-BC.)

"There were several people present who can attest to the voting process not playing out like it normally does, as outlined in the email," says Grant. "I can definitely confirm that the process that is normally taken on at the national level to ensure that at the very least there is a competent individual running for each position, it was overtaken, and BC was left out of the loop last minute. Normally there's communication across the country, and last minute things were changed, and different individuals were put forward for the positions than originally arranged. That I can confirm is true, having been there."

But CFS national chairperson Jessica McCormick says that their election was "democratic and occurred just like in previous years."

"The Federation's election process is quite simple," says McCormick. "Interested candidates collect nominations and submit forms by a deadline, an elections forum takes place where candidates can present their ideas and respond to questions from members and voting is conducted by secret ballot during the closing plenary of each fall general meeting. A chief returning officer oversees the process."

However, a source close to the national office of the CFS who wishes to remain anonymous describes what is happening as a "hostile takeover" and "essentially, a coup." This person says that the email's allegations that the CFS has hired security to keep people away from the national office is true.

"The plainclcothes officer stuff, that's true. There's certainly an attempt being made to intimidate staffpeople, to intimidate those who are not in the know with this new clique of people that's running CFS. And it's an exceptional change in the culture that existed in this office in previous years."

But McCormick says that the national office only had security for six days in November 2014 due to "ongoing human resource issues" that she cannot comment on.

"This decision was not undertaken lightly and ended immediately upon determining our national staff were safe," she says. "It was undertaken strictly as a precautionary measure. Given the nature of ongoing human resources issues, the Federation required legal advice. This is a common practice for organizations going through similar situations."

The email says that the national office is engaged in union-busting activities by hiring on the firm MediaStyle to do work that unionized CFS employees should be doing. McCormick says accusations of CFS union-busting are "absurd," pointing to the CFS' "long and proud" history of unionization and relations with labour unions.

"The Federation's staff and executive are collaborating with MediaStyle to assist primarily with the design work for the It's No Secret campaign and to provide recommendations on ways to improve "I can definitely attest to communication on the part of the national [CFS] office being pretty much non-existent at this point."

RACHAEL GRANT

CAMOSUN COLLEGE STUDENT SOCIETY

communications with members and the general public by strengthening communications processes," she says. "The Federation works with vendors from time to time to assist with a variety of projects, including design work. For example, our BC component recently worked with a communications firm in the development of the provincial Squash the Squeeze campaign, and the Ontario component recently worked with a developer in the creation of its Generation Vote website."

Further allegations include many CFS employees being put on, as the email put it, "administrative leave" "without cause."

"The issues relate to specific individuals and their actions and has nothing to do with the fact that they are represented by CUPE," says Mc-Cormick. "The CFS is proud to be a union employer and wholeheartedly supports the rights of its employees to union representation."

The email was brought to the attention of *Nexus* by former Camosun student Tyler Cooke. Cooke attended the college between 2007 and 2009; he says he did not write the email that was sent out with the allegations but is very concerned by the allegations in it.

"I think it is hypocritical for the CFS to be fighting with its workers when the CFS is supposed to be a supportive union for students," says Cooke. "The CFS is either a progressive student federation or it is a backwards and hurtful

bureaucracy... there is not much in between."

The email has opened up dialogue about what members see as problems with communication between the national office and the provincial branches. Grant says that there is pretty much no communication left at all.

"I can definitely attest to communication on the part of the national office being pretty much non-existent at this point," says Grant. "When this email was first sent out we sent an email, as the student society here at Camosun, to Jessica McCormick and have yet to hear a response, although a general email was sent out, to most locals, I'm assuming, and that email just briefly addressed some of our concerns but didn't answer any of our questions."

McCormick says that communication levels and quality of service remain consistent.

"We remain committed to working with members to address any issues around communications or services," she says. "I do not believe communications or services have broken down at any level."

Camosun students are members of the CFS and CFS-BC, as part of their student fees go to the organizations.

Go to nexusnewspaper.com to read an expanded version of this story.

NEWS BRIEFS

Camosun students win awards

The 2014 College Co-op Student of the Year award, presented by the Association for Co-operative Education-BC/Yukon, was awarded to Kyle Nelson, a Camosun Environmental Technology student. Camosun BBA-Accounting student Jasmine Giesbrecht was awarded the Honourable Mention. The students were recognized for their community involvement, academic achievement, and letters of support.

New Camosun Digital Marketing program to start in fall

A new program is set to begin in Camosun in the fall for those interested in digital marketing. The Digital Marketing Certificate is a 10-month program designed with the working student in mind, with evening classes offering training in marketing brands and using

social media. The program is 210 hours and will be two evenings a week. Call 250-370-4565 for more information.

Business students' fundraiser

Graduating students of the Bachelor of Business Administration-Marketing degree are being given a chance to apply their freshly learned skills with one of their final assignments, a fundraiser project for Victoria International Development Education Association. Money raised will go towards Zambian

Camosun Women in Trades classes donate benches

Camosun Women in Trades classes recently donated handcrafted wooden benches they made as a part of their Fine Furniture unit to the International Women's Day fundraiser luncheon silent auction. All funds were donated to the Bridges for Women Society, which hosted the event.

Nimbus awards \$100,000 in scholarships

The annual Nimbus Mix Contest is back this year and is offering musical students a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to win a \$25,000 scholarship to go towards tuition at Nimbus School of Recording Arts in Vancouver. Competitors are expected to remix sounds from Mother Mother, Wes Mack, and SonReal and upload the mixes by May 1. The winners will be announced on June 1. Visit nimbusmixcontest.ca for more information.

Bursaries for those in government care

Students under the age of 24 who were in the care of Ministry of Children and Family Development are being offered a chance at receiving bursaries. Students must 19–20 to help eradicate and debe enrolled in a full-time certificate program. One male and one female student will be awarded \$5,000 each. Students can apply until December 31

University of Victoria students petition for grants

UVic students had over 3,000 signatures on a petition demanding the provincial government create a needs-based grants program to help offset the Finance Minister's proposal to revoke driver's licenses of former students who are unable to pay off debt. The UVic students presented the petition to the NDP's advanced education critic, MLA Kathy Corrigan, on March 24.

Students from across Canada discuss rape culture

Students from across Canada were sent to Ottawa on March velop strategies to fight against rape culture at colleges and university. According to the Canadian Federation of Students, one in five female students in North America is sexually assaulted.

Project grants available for artists

The CRD is continuing their plans to invest in the art community by offering project grants to 20 organizations, with funds totalling \$90,000. The organizations must have developmental projects being produced on a one-time, recurring, or project-to-project basis. Visit crd. bc.ca/service/arts-funding for more information.

-ERIN BLONDEAU

Head to nexusnewspaper. com/category/news to read more News Briefs than we could fit here!

sports

Camosun Chargers women's volleyball coach Chris Dahl named Coach of the Year



Camosun Chargers women's volleyball coach Chris Dahl was recently named national Coach of the Year.

JASON SCHREURS

ASSISTANT EDITOR

The head coach of the Camosun Chargers women's volleyball team has won the national Coach of the Year award, an honour that his players and coaching staff agree is well overdue.

Chris Dahl, now in his fifth year coaching the Camosun Chargers

women's volleyball squad, was awarded Coach of the Year while his team was playing at the recent national championships.

"I've been fortunate in my career to work with a lot of successful teams, where we've had the opportunity for success, and that includes individual accolades as well," says Dahl. "But you take it

all in stride, and you don't let good things like this veer you off your path to success, just like you don't let failures and times of struggle do the same."

This has been Dahl's most successful year with the team, and the team's best-ever showing, with a bronze medal in their first national championship appearance. Dahl

"We have a symbiotic relationship; the coaches are more successful with the athlete's assistance and support, and vice versa."

> **CHRIS DAHL CAMOSUN CHARGERS**

says that when he first came into the position he was instrumental in shaping the team program, but now that he's established it, his athletes have a huge part in the team's success.

"Five years ago I came into this program with a coaching staff and had a vision of where we'd like to take this," says Dahl. "And we're fortunate to have two athletes who have stuck with us for the duration. We have a symbiotic relationship; the coaches are more successful with the athletes' assistance and support, and vice versa."

One of the athletes who has been with the team as long as Dahl has is Hilary Graham, a provincial first-team all-star player who says that Dahl's Coach of the Year title is long overdue.

"He should have gotten the award in past years, but the team has to do well for the coach to win, and we haven't had the same success in previous years," says Graham. "But it's amazing to see how much a difference he's made in the past five years with this program, and this award tops it all off. He's deserved it more than for this year; he's deserved it the entire time he's been here."

One of Dahl's assistant coaches, Chris Koutougos, says that Dahl's success is due in part to his coaching style and personality, his attention to detail, and the close relationship he has with his players.

"He's a great guy and he's an exceptional coach. Not only does he know volleyball inside out, he knows people," says Koutougos. "He really sets up a program to be not just about the game; he's tireless and he provides a really good overall experience for the players."

Charger Erika Sheen, a firstteam all-star at the national championships, says she would have been shocked if Dahl didn't receive the award.

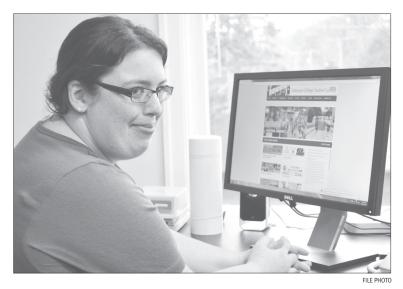
"He does so much behind-thescenes work that only the players see, so when we heard he was nominated we all knew he deserved it," says Sheen. "When he won the award it was pretty emotional thinking that our coach was Canadian Coach of the Year. And it's about time that he got recognized."

Dahl downplays the importance of the award and places the emphasis on team success. Riding high off the best showing the Camosun women's volleyball team has ever had, he's looking ahead.

"To take this crew and this program to their first ever national championships and to perform as well as we did, it's definitely a highlight of my time as a Charger," says Dahl. "But like every season, it's an experience I'll never forget, and now we're looking ahead to next season."

economy

Student groups say minimum wage increase not enough



Rachael Grant of the Camosun College Student Society.

JASON SCHREURS

ASSISTANT EDITOR

A two-percent increase to British Columbia's minimum wage will go into effect in September, but student groups are complaining that the 20-cent-per-hour hike isn't nearly enough to keep students and families in BC above the poverty

"Students are looking for a

meaningful increase to minimum wage. It doesn't make sense for anyone, whether they are a student or a single mom or anyone else in our society, no one should make poverty wages despite the fact that they are working full time," says Zachary Crispin, chair of the Canadian Federation of Students-BC (CFS-BC). "It's a very slight increase that's being proposed right now, and it's insulting to all the people who are scraping by, trying to feed their kids and scrape by on minimum wage, and they're just not able to

The proposed 20-cent increase is the first in three years. Currently, the minimum wage is \$10.25 per hour, and it has been frozen there since 2012. The BC Federation of Labour and student groups are currently campaigning to have the minimum wage raised to \$15.

"We're very much in support of the BC Federation of Labour's Fight for 15 campaign because this would be much more adequate to address the poverty that BC residents currently face," says Camosun College Student Society (CCSS) external executive Rachael Grant. "The minimum wage at its current level does not address the needs that students have, with the price of living in general being so high. This is failing BC families and it's failing BC students."

BC Jobs Minister Shirley Bond agrees that families in the province need well-paying, "family-support-

"The minimum wage at its current level does not address the needs that students have, with the price of living in general being so high. This is failing BC families and it's failing BC students."

RACHAEL GRANT

CAMOSUN COLLEGE STUDENT SOCIETY

ing" jobs. She points out that BC's average hourly wage is just under \$25 and the hourly youth wage is just shy of \$15.

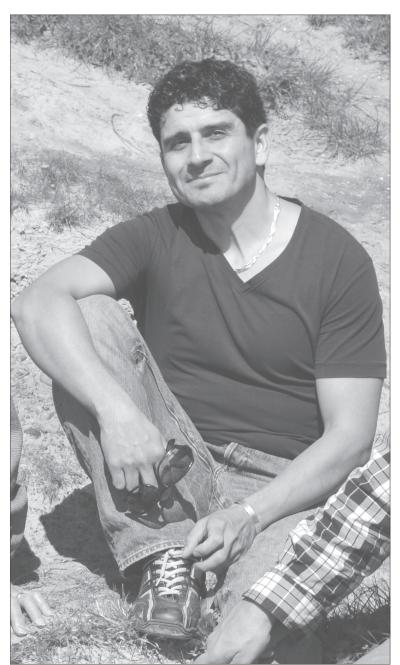
"Both of these numbers are trending in the right direction, a sign that our plan to grow the economy is working," says Bond. "We have increased the minimum wage and are committed to reasonable and predictable yearly increases linked to BC's Consumer Price Index."

Meanwhile, the CFS-BC and CCSS are planning to keep campaigning for a larger increase to \$15, with actions and rallies on the 15th of each month.

"If you look at the public opinion polling from the BC Federation of Labour it's very clear that British Columbians are looking for a meaningful increase to minimum wage," says Crispin. "And whether the provincial government is going to listen to British Columbians on this issue, I can't say. But I'm confident that working with other student and labour organizations and community groups, that we are going to be successful in putting immense pressure on the government to put the hardest working British Columbians at a rate above the poverty line."

science

Camosun student makes unique discovery during Geoscience field trip



JILL WESTBY/NEXUS

Camosun student Julio Flores recently found a rare bone fragment.

PASCALE ARCHIBALD
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Camosun Geoscience student Julio Flores made an interesting discovery during a recent field trip with Tark Hamilton, a professor in the department of Chemistry and Geoscience. Flores found half a maxilla of some species of canid, and he was determined to identify the species and age of the bone fragment.

With the help of Hamilton and Annette Dehalt, instructor of Biology and Environmental Technology, Flores managed to contact several relevant experts. After a month of meetings and a subsequent field trip to the site of discovery, it was determined that the fragment is most likely from an extinct Salish Wool Dog, a breed the Salish First Nations people kept from approximately 9,000 to 300 years ago.

Flores will present his find as a Poster Paper Project at the National Association of Geoscience Teachers' Conference on June 15.

"It is so cool," says Flores. "I'm so excited with this. It's taking me so far away from student life, and this is what I want to do."

Grant Keddie, curator of archaeology at the Royal BC Museum, has headed many archaeological digs in Victoria. He and other experts were able to compare Flores' find with catalogued fragments, and significant similarities were found. "Early domestic dogs are characterized by an overall reduction in size relative to wolves, as well as some closely spaced or absent teeth," says Keddie.

Both characteristics are clearly seen in the bone fragment that Flores found. Keddie and the other experts Flores contacted independently identified the fragment as one possibly from a Salish Wool Dog.

"The dogs were kept mainly for the production of wool from its thick, soft inner coat," says Keddie. "It would have resembled a cross between a small dog and a version of a Northern Spitz."

Hamilton says that he is glad to be able to mentor a student in the scientific process and adds that he is excited by Flores' recent discovery. "Students find neat things, and what a unique opportunity to let students participate at a beginning level," says Hamilton. "The conference will provide him with an opportunity in presenting information in such a way that without being at the site where the fossil was found you can put people at the cliff and in the context. That's the kind of writing I would like to foster."

Not every first-year student gets to have an experience like this, and Flores understands the interest and time Dehalt and Hamilton have put into this project.

"If it wasn't for them," says Flores, "I wouldn't have gone this



JILL WESTBY/NEXUS

A close look at Flores' finding, determined to be from a Salish Wool Dog.

know your profs

Camosun's Michele Agostinelli sticks on bright side of nursing education



JILL WESTBY/NEXUS

Camosun College Nursing instructor Michele Agostinelli.

JASON SCHREURS
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Know Your Profs is an ongoing column where we ask the instructors at Camosun College the same 10 questions in order to get to know them and their teaching styles a little better.

Do you have an instructor that you want to see interviewed in Nexus? Maybe you want to know more about one of your teachers, but you're too busy, or shy, to ask? Email editor@nexusnewspaper.com and we'll add your instructor to our list of teachers to reach out to.

This issue we talked to Nursing

instructor Michele Agostinelli about her positive outlook on teaching and how the challenges of nursing education push her and her students to always do better.

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

I've been teaching at Camosun since 2005, when I started teaching first-year nursing students in clinical nursing practice. I have taught most courses in year one and two of the Nursing program. I really enjoy teaching the professional practice course in year one.

2: What do you personally get out of teaching?

I appreciate the student perspective on nursing. It's fresh, and often the classes are made up of a very diverse group of people with unique life experiences. In different Nursing classes we may talk about health, health care, lifestyle, and all of these components of people's lives that are greatly affected by health and illness. Bearing witness to many people's health experiences can be challenging. As a nurse educator, it's very exciting to listen to students express experiences, their learning, and making the connection between what they may have learned in the classroom to an experience with a patient or a group of people in the clinical setting. I also love those moments of intense learning in the classroom, punctuated with a good dose of humour. When there's a humorous moment in the classroom and then everyone is reset and ready to work again, it's like an energizing breath of fresh air.

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

I have high expectations for myself about nursing practice and nursing education and a love of learning. I learn a lot from the students I work with, and we're working toward the same goals in the

educational setting. Students say the most amazing, profound, intelligent, and complex things sometimes in class. I will often pause and think about what a student has said to appreciate the comment and give some thought to what was said. The comments are often so extremely valid and relevant that they deserve quite a bit of time to digest.

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

That I have high expectations about nursing education.

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

Being able to teach so many different courses, and the ongoing education. For example, I heard Margaret Wheatley speak at a Camosun education session; the educational opportunities on campus have really positively influenced my teaching and my nursing practice.

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

My positive outlook makes it difficult to think of a "worst ever" moment. I've been fortunate, I suppose. I think the changing nature of health care and the changing aspects of postsecondary education

have presented challenges in nursing education. Change and growth can be challenging, so as a nurse educator navigating that change with students isn't always easy, but very rich in terms life experience and learning.

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

I hope to see a growth in both accessibility *and* academic rigour. Learning is such a beautiful thing to be able to do and take pride in doing well.

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

I spend time with my family in a small cabin beside a lake in the woods, I bake, and I love to run... a lot.

9: What is your favourite meal?

I love kale. Kale salad, homemade kale chips, kale braised with chickpeas... Really, any meal with kale is perfect!

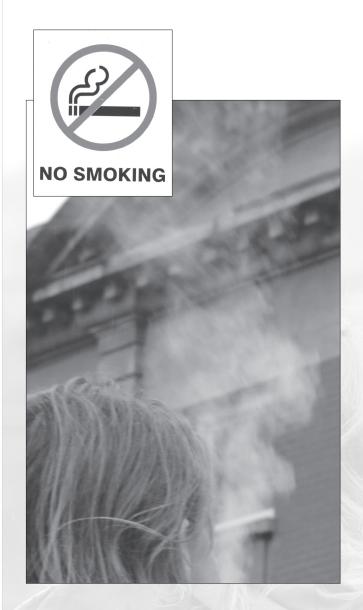
10: What's your biggest pet peeve?

When I feel rushed. I like to be in the moment with students, patients, myself, and my family. I find it much more challenging to be in the moment when I feel rushed.

CRD clears the air on the new clean-air bylaws

by Sera Down, contributing writer

photos by Jill Westby/Nexus



moking in Victoria is about to become a lot more difficult. The Capital Regional District (CRD), in collaboration with Island Health (VIHA), has updated the existing Clean Air Bylaw, which currently prohibits smoking three metres from businesses, patios, and bus stops.

The CRD is a government-regulated organization comprised of elected members representing the multiple municipalities on South Vancouver Island, including Esquimalt, Saanich, Duncan, and Sooke. VIHA is also regulated by the government and has collaborated with the CRD to enforce the new bylaw in the interest of public health.

As of April 1, Clean Air Bylaw No. 3962 will include a complete smoking ban in public parks, playgrounds, sports fields, and public squares, with an increased buffer zone of seven metres from business entrances and air intakes.

Bus stops, while already smoke-free, will now have a seven-metre buffer zone measured from the transit pole. The bylaw, which bans the use of tobacco indoors, doesn't apply to traditional aboriginal cultural activities and events, where tobacco may be burned ceremonially. The bylaw was originally passed September 10, 2014 by the CRD.

"Our goal is to keep rates of smoking as low as possible in the region," says Eric Berndt, communications officer for Island Health, iterating that the bylaw isn't intended to ostracize smokers, although it is designed to encourage them to quit.

"The bylaw is an opportunity to let everyone know there are free resources available to anyone looking to quit," says Berndt. "Any resident of BC can call 811 and access nicotine-replacement therapy free of charge if they'd like to quit."

Although 70 percent of smokers are looking to quit, according to Berndt, there are worries that the bylaw is underestimating the difficulty of overcoming a smoking addiction, and assuming that wanting to quit means being ready to quit.

Also, low-income individuals and homeless who smoke may not be aware of the new bylaw and could be restricted in their access to online resources provided by VIHA and the CRD.

Enforcement and consequences

hile repeat offenders can be fined up to \$2,000 for violating the new bylaw, there's likely to be a more progressive approach taken to enforcement.

The Vancouver Island Health Authority, in conjunction with Tobacco Enforcement Officers, will be responsible for enforcing the bylaw while citizens adjust to the new rules. As with the previous bylaw prohibiting smoking indoors and on patios, the hope is that citizens will politely conform to the new restrictions. Tickets will be a last resort for non-compliant individuals with multiple complaints against them and for repeat offenders.

"After observations or investigation by a Tobacco Enforcement Officer, there might be a verbal warning. Second, we could write a written warning. If the person still did not comply we would issue a ticket fine," says Berndt, hoping smokers will acknowledge the bylaw and police themselves. "To give a bit of context, in the past five years under the previous Clean Air Bylaw there was one ticket issued, for \$50."

As with the previous bylaw, police won't be involved in enforcing the new provisions. However, individuals who witness a violation of the bylaw can contact Tobacco Enforcement with their complaint at 250-360-1450.

Non-smoking areas will be equipped with proper signage to inform smokers where they can and cannot light up. It's unclear how visually impaired smokers will be informed of non-smoking areas.

Smoking and students

any Camosun students aren't pleased with the new bylaw, even those who have recently quit. Many feel as though it is effectively

stonewalling smokers into quitting by making lighting up virtually impossible.

"Smokers have become increasingly marginalized, despite making up a large portion of society. Yet no smokers will dispute the increasing restrictions because they've been effectively shamed into submission," states first-year Public Administration student and ex-smoker Megan Greentree. "It's outrageous to prohibit smoking in a big, open area, where people would literally have to walk into a smoker's space to be subjected to secondhand smoke. One of the

biggest sources of air pollutants is transportation: to crack down on driving vehicles? I think not. Smokers are an easier target."

The bylaw states environmental secondhand

smoke (residual smoke lingering in areas after a cigarette

First-year Bachelor of Athletic and Exercise Therapy student Dean Sipos says that while he does agree with some provisions of the bylaw, he finds them too harsh. As

has been extinguished) as a target to eliminate.

an ex-smoker, he knows making the decision to quit is a difficult and lengthy process, even when one is ready. "It alienates people who smoke and makes them feel like a dirty smoker," says Sipos. "I am in full agreement with smoking seven metres away from business doorways,

windows, and air intakes. This is simply because a business

has a certain image to keep up and when smoke enters a building, it cannot disperse as easily as outside."

Berndt, while empathetic to students' concerns, says that the bylaw is meant to benefit everyone.

"The bylaw is not designed to accommodate smoking habits. It is intended to reduce the incidence of secondhand smoke and encourage people to quit smoking," says Berndt. "Bylaws such as the CRD's Clean Air Bylaw are intended to protect and promote health and safety for all citizens. There is no safe level of secondhand smoke."

Others fear the new bylaw will effectively shut off the downtown core from smokers, especially those in the city's nightlife, such as clubs and bars. VIHA was unclear on the options available for these individuals, as previous popular smoking spot Beacon Hill Park will become a nosmoking area.

"Tack on a few more by-

laws and it will be effectively impossible to smoke anywhere in public," says Greentree. "I think the city has begun its descent into the criminalization of smoking."

While Berndt couldn't comment on whether designated smoking areas in Beacon Hill may be a possibility, he urges smokers to pursue other avenues to cope with the new bylaw.

'We would encourage people to take advantage of the resources available to help you quit," says Berndt, referencing the programs directed towards smokers such as QuitNowBC.

"Smokers have become increasingly is the CRD going marginalized, despite making up a large portion who work and participate of society."

MEGAN GREENTREE CAMOSUN COLLEGE STUDENT

Voting stations open from 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Interurban Campus Centre 2nd floor **Lansdowne** in the Fisher Foyer

Rachael Grant **External Executive**



My name is Rachael Grant, and I'm running for re-election as your External Executive. Over the past year, I've worked hard as the person responsible for your student society's public and partnership outreach, including media communications and coalition building. My election pledge to you is simple. I'll use my nearly three years of experience with the student society to maintain our strong ties with community

groups and advocate for students' rights. With your vote, I will continue to contribute to ongoing efforts in pressuring government to reduce tuition fees and student debt, as well as advocating for increased government funding to end pass-ups and improve transit. We need an experienced voice to make sure we're heard loud and clear, and I would be honoured to carry on as that voice. Thank you for your consideration.

Andrea Eggenberger **External Executive**



This year, as Interurban Executive, I brought you a range of events, including the recent Blarney Bash at Interurban campus. As the DECA Jr. VP of Events Management, I opened up a new national competition opportunity for Camosun's business students. Last year, I sat on the board of Nexus Newspaper and co-wrote the column Mind Your Business, along with several articles. My name is Andrea Eggenberger and I would like to continue building community on campus as External Executive.

I will create spaces for students to build discussions and relationships, providing free food and affordable beverages. I will bring engaging speakers and panels on campus to stimulate conversations on current events, and give students the opportunity to network with people in the community. Getting involved with the CCSS has made a huge impact on my experience at Camosun College. I would love the opportunity to share this experience with you, and be the voice of the student body.

Chris Marks Interurban Executive



I am running for the position of Interurban Executive this upcoming year and would welcome the opportunity to work for you.

I am a fourth year business student at Interurban and will be returning in September to finish my degree.

I have several years experience with the student society in a number of roles and also at the Board of Governors level which has been an amazing experience. Thank you for your continued support.

Please consider voting for Chris Marks when you mark your ballot, good luck with your studies!

Shayli Robinson Lansdowne Executive



'uy skweyul! Shayli Robinson thunu sne, tuni tsun Le'eyqsun, ut'l Taat'ka. 'ii' ch 'oo' 'uy 'ul? Hello! My name is Shayli Robinson and I am Lyackson, from the Cowichan Valley. How's it going? This election season I hope you'll make me your Lansdowne Executive Director. I've been on the CCSS Board of Directors since 2012; I started as a Lansdowne Director-at-Large and I'm currently in my second term as First Nations Director. I want to use my experience to make this position as beneficial to Camosun students as possible - amp up campus life with clubs, events, and lots of fun campaigning to make education as accessible to our students as possible! Let's keep campus active and not just a place for academics. Huy ch g'u for considering me!

Sarah Lindsay Finance Executive



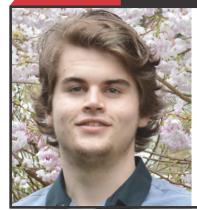
Hello! I am Sarah Lindsay and I would be honoured to be your Finance Executive on the Camosun College Student Society. Ensuring that your money is being spent to benefit your time at school is my top priority, as your Finance Executive.

I am finishing up a Finance Diploma as well as the 2nd year of my BBA in Accounting. I have been an active member of the CCSS since last July, and I hope to be for the next several years. My goal is to help the CCSS run effectively now, and in the future. In addition to managing the finances, I will collaborate with my fellow board members to run on campus events. (Hurray for free food!)

With my education, experience with CCSS, and drive, I know I would do a great job as your Finance Executive! I am always open to your ideas and questions; get in touch with me at <Vote4Sarah@sarahlindsay.me>

I would really appreciate your vote, and this opportunity to give back to my school. Thank you!

Adrian Maclaren Finance Executive



Hey Camosun! My Name is Adrian Maclaren I am currently a Director at large for the Camosun College Student Society. I want to move up the ranks and become more involved at Camosun! I think moving into an Executive role is just the way to do that. I have taken a couple finance courses at Camosun and I am a fast learner making me perfect for the job. My current project for Camosun is the end of the semester "Camosun House Party" which you all better be going to if you enjoy Beer pong, Flip cup, free food, free drinks, performance by a rapper of SWOLLEN MEMBERS, lots of prizes, and great people! I support increasing Campus life at Camosun, because I feel that is where we lack most in comparison to other colleges and universities. I hope we get a chance to meet and talk please say "Hi" if you see me and introduce yourself, I love meeting new people.

Jordan van Thiel Finance Executive



My name is Jordan vanThiel and I wish to express my strong interest in the Camosun Student Society Finance Executive position. I am currently a Camosun student, in finance, economics and business. I am passionate about building and long-term career in finance and will take the role Camosun Student Society Finance Executive seriously.

For the past two years, I've worked in the banking industry, where I have learned a lot about business, finance and leadership and consistently exceed sales targets. In August 2014, I completed the Canadian Securities Course to further my knowledge in finance and financial management.

I also offer you my strong background in fundraising for several non-profit organizations including: United Now!, Restorative Justice Victoria and Victoria Hospice, where I currently serve as a Director. I am a hard working, self-motivated and reliable. Through my volunteer work, I strive to be an active mentor for youth in our community and I am proud to be a member of a youth oriented organization like Camosun DECA. I really want to add my experience and energy to making Camosun College an even more valuable and enjoyable student experience.

I hope you will vote for me today to be your new Finance Executive. It would be great to be part of your leadership team.

Andy Chen Finance Executive



My name is Andy Chen and I am a Camosun graduate in both Mental Health & Addictions as well as Human Resources Management. With the BC government's announced cut back to ESL and Adult Upgrading totalling \$3.2 million dollars to the college's already beleaguered operating grant, public post-secondary is quickly becoming more inaccessible to the community and its vulnerable populations. After many years of austerity to a point now where the BC government has started posting actual surpluses, are we to believe, in good faith, that colleges and universities will continue keeping the "public" in public post-secondary? Absolutely not.

As Financial Executive, I will campaign to restore funding to public post-secondary and reduce any barriers to further entry. I will ensure that the Society's building fund is used for improvements to the Interurban gym and shower facilities, and any other projects that arise. I will advise that any retained earnings (including the Clubs & Events budget) go toward building community and solidarity on all our campuses.

Lastly, I will use my previous External Executive experience and knowledge of Social Justice Advocacy to safeguard transparency in all financial transactions of your Student Society. Thank-you for your vote!

Jackson Traplin First Nations Director



Wilihowtek! Hello! My name is Jackson Traplin and I am a proud member of the Cow Creek Band of the Umpqua Tribe. My traditional grounds are located in southwestern Oregon and I was raised in the beautiful Okanagan Valley. I began my studies at Camosun's Lansdowne campus in 2013, and my passion for my culture has led me to enroll in the Indigenous Studies diploma program, where I am working on completing my first year. Along with my participation in the First Nations Student Association, the Indigenous Studies program has proven invaluable in my goal to better connect with community. As First Nations Director, it is my goal to not only advocate for the needs of Indigenous students on campus, but also to liaise with, and further contribute to community, thereby deepen my community connections.

Annabelle Pickering Women's Director



My name is Annabelle Pickering and I'm currently the Women's Director. I would like to be given the opportunity to represent the student body for this year's election. I am very passionate about the work I do at Camosun and would like to continue to do so. I have spent countless hours dedicated to supporting and helping our female students on and off campus. Over the year, I have been completely enamoured with creating a community of women at Camosun which has become a positive space to make friends and networking. It would be my pleasure to continue to be involved in nurturing and making this community grow. I enjoy organizing, planning, running events and activities. If you elect me, I will continue to promote safe spaces for all women and those who identify as women on campus. I have already started making plans for future events and activities for next semester should you choose to elect me. Those events will include more pole dance classes, movie nights, workshops, potlucks, clothing swaps, crafts-making, off campus activities and events that promote solidarity and empowerment. I would be proud and extremely honoured to be elected as your Women's Director. So please vote for me!

Zachary Snow Students w/ Disabilities Director



Why should you elect me?

I have experience in both management and logistics. Currently, I am the administrator of the Camosun College Science Club and have successfully facilitated numerous lectures as well as a famous guest speaker. My background with committee work at Camosun College includes a position on the School Curriculum Council. Some relevant skills include managing a 7-11, and a career with Department of National Defense in the security division. Throughout my entire life I have strived to become the best community member possible. My leadership experience makes me a prime candidate for this election.

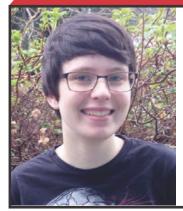
I am seeking your vote because I want to help initiate a positive change for students at Camosun. Here is as the video content to the him and what will you he is as you and now I was in I believe in making a positive impact on my fellow students and striving to improve not only our every day lives but our sense of community.

Travis Moore Pride Director



I'm Travis, your current Pride Director and hope to be re-elected. I look forward to represent the "Pride" of all students and community again. Our safe and innovative campus provides the opportunity to self-express, identify, and to be whatever and however. I care for equality, respect, and passion for our diverse genders and sexual orientations. I look forward to leading, listening, meeting, and working together. I was born and raised in Victoria, in a family of six siblings. My youth was spent developing self-esteem through structure, leadership, citizenship, and physical Fitness. I came out to my friends, family and community at a time where I was legally able to vote and felt comfortable being myself. The quality of a person in their career is the standard of their work-not their sexuality, nor gender, religion, or otherwise. For me, "Pride" distinguishes personal abilities, strengths and weakness to overcome fear with bravery. I always believe in accepting all people, no matter their capabilities. I'm a strong advocate for equality, human rights, education, and family. We are different no matter our genes or inheritance, it's your inner self-esteem, Love, and choices you decide to endure in your life on Earth with Pride!

Lillian Stearns-Smith Pride Director



My mission is to foster a safe, welcoming, informed environment for those who self-identify as part of the LGBT2IQ+ spectrum, and their allies. I believe the best defence against things like homophobia and transphobia is information; it's much easier to hate something you don't understand. Someday, I'd like things like Pride to become unnecessary—I'd like it to be boring. Someday, people won't even give it a second thought, and that is when we can stop fighting for our human rights.

Until then, we will continue to celebrate our diversity and help people make informed opinions—and to me, that's what Pride is all about. If I am elected as Pride Director, I will continue to stand against hate and ignorance, and get the information out there any way I can.

Maggie LeBlanc Sustainability Director



Being an Environmental Technology student here at Camosun College I've developed a strong passion for environmental stewardship. I believe it is our responsibility as bright intellectual individuals to preserve and protect our natural environment; whether it's through practicing proper recycling techniques, cleaning up our local shorelines, or advocating lower consumption use. As Student Coordinator for Camosun Students for Environmental Awareness (CSEA) I've dedicated my time to spreading environmental awareness and encouraging public involvement in sustainable practices, with future plans to organize a habitat restoration project within the Native Garry Oak plant garden on campus. If I am elected Sustainability Director I promise to continue my efforts towards making Camosun College, and all of Greater Victoria a cleaner, greener place.

Kimberley Banfield Lansdowne Director



My name is Kimberley Banfield and I am running for a position as one of your Lansdowne Directors. I have been an active member of the Camosun College Student Society since the autumn of 2014, as well as a diligent participant on the Board of Directors and I would be delighted to serve another term. I am eager to continue strengthening the partnership between the students and the society. I want to make our campus and our school the best it can be for all students and faculty, both in and out of the classroom. I would like to see more activities, parties and fairs hosted on campus, especially those that are more inclusive for new students. I firmly believe that, together, we can make a difference. I am confident that I will be an outstanding addition to the Camosun College Student Society.

Ellen Young Interurban Director



Camosun students need a voice of reason. Unfortunately, that voice of reason isn't running in this election so you should settle for Ellen. With voter turnout and standards at an all-time low, Ellen will meet most expectations at par.

Like every other brave and fearless politician, Ellen's vision remains the same: to get elected and continue to make promises that probably won't be kept. Listed below are some of those promises:

Exceed environmental standards by lowering expectations

Build taller schools so all student have access to higher education

Give business students real-world experience by allowing them to "outsource" their homework

Make board meetings efficient by replacing Robert's Rule of Orders with the rules of Simon Says

Have the "External Executive" position permanently renamed to "El-len Presidente," regardless of who holds the title

Bobby Teit Interurban Director

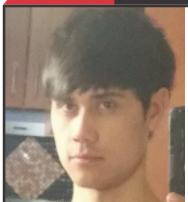


Bobby is a 4th year business marketing student at the Interurban campus. He is actively involved with Braefoot Community Association a non-profit that allows low income families to send their kids to summer camp. In addition he has also been coaching badminton at Cedar Hill Recreation Centre and Lansdowne Middle School since 2008.

Bobby is currently the president of Camosun DECA; a non-profit student run organization at the school of business.

Bobby brings ambition, execution and a possitive attitude to the Interurban Director role. He is known for being professional, genuine and going above and beyond the call of duty.

Darwin Scott International Director



Hi, I am Darwin Scott and I am running for International Director. Although, I am a domestic student, I do know the challenges an international student faces. I have experienced being an international student myself, in a country where I didn't even speak their language at first, but I pushed through barriers and made the most of my time in Japan. It became a second home to me, and I want the same for every international student in Camosun as well. Cultural diversity is a beautiful thing, but not everyone sees the beauty in it. I want to close the gap between domestic and international students to bring this beauty to light, and provide everyone with the opportunity to experience it.

If elected, I work my hardest to organize cultural events, workshops and promote participation from both domestic as well as international students at these events. I will provide a strong, transparent voice to represent international students on the college platform, in order to make their experience in Canada a memorable one. Being a domestic student with international experience gives me a clear advantage of the challenges that internationals face and the goodness of home that I can provide them, so together, we make it their home as well.

Your vote can bring change, thank you!

Vicky Qu International Director



Vicky Qu International Director Platform Statement

! Bonjour! Hello Camosun!

My name is Vicky Qu, an office management second year student and an international student from China. I have been in Victoria over 2 years.

I have been in CCSS for 2 years. Also, I was one of Peer Connections Coordinators. I have a lot of experience about student events. If elected into CCSS, I will focus primarily on a good bridge between International and domestic students. I will do my best!

Pleasure vote for me~ Vicky Qu~ Thank you:)

Andy Chen Lansdowne Board of Governors Representative



My name is Andy Chen and I am a Camosun graduate in both Mental Health & Addictions as well as Human Resources Management. With the BC government's announced cut back to ESL and Adult Upgrading totalling \$3.2 million dollars to the college's already beleaguered operating grant, public post-secondary is quickly becoming more inaccessible to the community and its vulnerable populations. After many years of austerity to a point now where the BC government has started posting actual surpluses, are we to believe, in good faith, that colleges and universities will continue keeping the "public" in public post-secondary? Absolutely not.

As your Board of Governors representitive, I will campaign to restore funding to public post-secondary and reduce any barriers to further entry.

Lastly, I will use my previous External Executive experience and knowledge of Social Justice Advocacy to safeguard transparency at Camosun College.

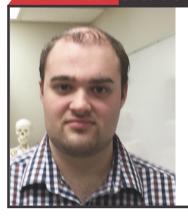
Thank-you for your vote!

Shayli Robinson Lansdowne Board of Governors Representative



'uy skweyul! Shayli Robinson thunu sne, tuni tsun Le'eyqsun, ut'l Taat'ka. 'ii' ch 'oo' 'uy 'ul? Hello! My name is Shayli Robinson and I am Lyackson, from the Cowichan Valley. How's it going? I'm running for the Lansdowne student seat and believe I am a strong candidate. I'm currently serving my second term as the First Nations Director on the Camosun College Student Society Board of Directors, have previously served one term as Lansdowne Director-at-Large, and have been active with the Canadian Federation of Students since 2012. All of this experience has made me well-versed in the issues facing students and post-secondary institutions, including but not limited to student debt, changes to courses and programs, and the challenges our institutions face as a result of governmental budget cuts. I want to bring a strong student voice to the Board of Governors and make education at Camosun as accessible as possible for all students! Huy ch q'u for considering me.

Zachary Snow Lansdowne Board of Governors Representative



Why should you elect me?

I have experience in both management and logistics. Currently, I am the administrator of the Camosun College Science Club and have successfully facilitated numerous lectures as well as a famous guest speaker. My background with committee work at Camosun College includes aposition on the School Curriculum Council. Some relevant skills include managing a 7-11, and a career with Department of National Defense in the security division. Throughout my entire life I have strived to become the best community member possible. My leadership experience makes me a prime candidate for this election.

I am seeking your vote because I want to help initiate a positive change for students at Camosun. I believe in making a positive impact on my fellow students and striving to improve not only our every day lives but our sense of community.

continued from page 6



"We would encourage people to take advantage of the resources available to help you quit."

> **ERIC BERNDT** ISLAND HEALTH

Some students feel as though the new bylaw is a case of "it takes one to ruin it for everyone," with inconsiderate smokers lighting up in inappropriate locations bringing negative attention to the habit.

While many smokers opt to smoke away from public, it's not uncommon for some to light up under bus shelters if it's raining, or on patios if they have purchased food at an establishment. The students noted "Most students know that smoking poisons the that open spaces such as parks and fields were ideal, as their secondhand smoke could disperse easily.

it does little to nothing to affect people's health who are in the vicinity," says Dean Sipos, who as an exsmoker notes that he would always make sure he was away from children and groups of people when he smoked.

This seems to be a running commentary amongst Camosun students. Greentree, who currently uses a vaporizer, concurs with Sipos, stating that most smokers understand the implications of their habit.

"I would argue that most smokers are conscientious about where they light up. You'll notice most smokers already stand as far away from bus stops as possible. It's rude to smoke in business doorways, and I think most smokers would agree with me," says Greentree, frustrated that the bylaw aims at forcing

smokers to quit, rather than allowing individuals to make an informed decision. "The inconsiderate smokers who light up in congested public spaces are simply inconsider-

Daniel Reeve, chair of Camosun's Social Sciences Department, notes that most students who smoke are conscious of the dangers, but the bylaw is in congruence with changing social attitudes towards smoking.

"Most students know that smoking poisons the body," says Reeve. "They may not know, however, that there is a demographic tendency that links the likelihood of smoking with education levels. The highest percentage of smokers in Canada are, statistically, the least well educated. The smallest percentage of smokers are those with a degree. Smoking rates in North America have been in decline since the 1980s, yet youth smoke at the highest rate of any section of the population. If the bylaw discourages youth smoking, I'm for it."

body," says Reeve. "They may not know, "When smoking outside in an open area, I feel however, that there is a demographic tendency that links the likelihood of smoking with education levels. The highest percentage of smokers in Canada are, statistically, the least well educated."

> **DANIEL REEVE** CAMOSUN COLLEGE

Targeted ban?

s mentioned by Berndt, the bylaw is aimed at targeting youth smokers in order to project a healthier image on children. While the highest incidence of smoking in Canada occurs in youth aged 24–35, this statistic declines as individuals attend postsecondary and

In this respect, the bylaw fails to address older, long-term smokers who also have an impact on youth, including family members and community members such as coaches and teachers.

Reeve's statistics are in line with a University of Waterloo study, which notes that smoking prevalence varies greatly between education levels. It also notes that the majority of smokers smoke daily rather than casually.

With the bylaw effectively shutting off the downtown core for smokers, the bylaw seems to forget the large population of homeless, low-income, and indigenous individuals who access resources such as the Victoria Cool Aid Society and shelters. Many of these individuals use smoking as a method to cope with their situation, and forcing them out of the downtown core may be an accidental consequence of the new bylaw.

The previous bylaw targeted patrons of businesses and high traffic areas, which may be why the low-income demographic has been forgotten in the new bylaw.

While education and awareness are an appropriate route for targeting youth smoking, there's the issue of awareness amongst individuals who don't own media devices, such as the homeless.

It's unclear what the response to the updated Clean Air Bylaw will be, but some speculate it may run along the lines of backlash against the criminalization of marijuana, with low enforcement meaning many individuals will simply continue smoking. The added difficulty associated with the addictive properties of nicotine means simply putting down the pack and quitting is not as easy as the bylaw seems to assume.

The response to the Clean Air Bylaw is yet to be observed, and while many hope for a measurable decline in smoking in the Capital Regional District, it may provoke an unforeseen backlash in the community. Still, Island Health's Berndt remains optimistic that it is a step in the right direction.

"We have a high rate of compliance for smoking bylaws in the CRD," he says, "and we believe, over time, the same will be true for the current Clean Air Bylaw."

festival

Camosun Comics students host year-end festival



A collection of covers from comic books that students of Camosun's Comics and Graphic Novels program will be showcasing at the upcoming Camosun Comic Arts Festival.

MEGAN DUNN

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

An upcoming festival will allow the students in Camosun's Comics and Graphic Novels program the opportunity to network with professional visual storytellers who will share their experiences and skills in a mentorship environment.

The annual Camosun Comic Arts Festival (CCAF), taking place April 11 at Camosun's Lansdowne campus, is a free event open to the public.

Students and alumni will present and sell their published works, original art, and sketches.

Co-created by Ken and Joan Steacy, the program offers careerfocused, skills-based training in the language of visual storytelling, which includes the creation of comic books, graphic novels, comic strips,

webcomics, storyboards, and edutainment comics.

In the festival's first year, Camosun College provided the funding, and for the second year the program received a grant for the festival. This year, the CCAF has started an Indiegogo campaign to raise money for the festival. The goal was to raise \$5,000; the campaign ran from March 2 to April 2 (the campaign was still running as of press time).

Ken Steacy says comic conventions, such the San Diego Comic-Con, are still important for artists, but they have changed over the years.

"They are more focused on licensing now," he says. "They are shifting away from the source materials, such as the creators of comics."

CCAF is different from those types of conventions and has used the same model as Toronto's TCAF and Vancouver's VanCAF, which focuses on the creator of the comics and the arts and literature, says Steacy.

"In addition to the students showcasing their original artwork, and the comics they have produced, CCAF will have 12 professional artists that will mentor the students," says Steacy. "They will spend the morning with the students, and in the afternoon they are here to meet with the public audience and share their experiences in the industry."

Some of the program's alumni have been asked to join the festival as well, to share what they have been doing in the years since they graduated from the program.

"Some have gone onto higher

education, and some have gone onto self-publishing, webcomics, or building their brand online, so it's going to be fabulous," says

The main objective for taking the program for Camosun student Jesse Blanchard is "to hone my own skills in visual storytelling."

CCAF will give the students the opportunity to showcase the skills they have acquired through the program. Blanchard and Kay Prosser are two students who will be graduating this year, and they have also been part of organizing the Indiegogo project, along with alumnus Karen Gillmore.

"We were so fortunate that Karen volunteered and stepped in to organize our Indiegogo campaign," says Prosser. "She has been phenomenal."

Something that CCAF has changed from previous years is the keynote speech, which is a roundtable discussion this time around, with four author-illustrators. It will be held on the Friday night at the Nellie McClung branch of the Greater Victoria Public Library.

Approximately 300 people attended last year's festival, and Steacy is hoping for even more this year.

"We are really trying to do more of an outreach to the community, and get people all fired up about it," he says.

Camosun Comic Arts **Festival** Saturday, April 11 Free, Lansdowne campus camosun.ca/learn/programs/ comics-graphic-novels/

profile

Camosun instructor Kari Jones talks about her career as an author

ISABELA SASAKI

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

When I recognized her crossing the street to meet me, I immediately grew nervous and my brain went chaotic; suddenly everything went

quiet, including my usually turbulent head, as she walked into the busy coffee shop. She seemed different that afternoon; out of context she was simply Kari, as opposed to Kari Jones, writer and my professor

at Camosun two days a week. However, that transformation made her more intimidating. She was much less of a title, and much more human. She became very real.

Jones has been a writer for as long as she can remember. Although she might say that her 14-year-old journals are hardly considered art, they helped her write her most recent book, So Much for Democracy, which tells the story of a young Canadian girl who moves to Ghana with her family and starts to innocently question the ideas of racism and privilege.

The story is roughly based on Jones' life as the daughter of a diplomat who found herself travelling and moving quite a bit, until she moved back to Canada seven years later only to realize a whole new kind of culture shock.

"I looked and sounded as a Canadian, but I really wasn't, and that culture shock was difficult," remembers Jones.

Jones' first contact with writing took place in elementary school; she was asked to write a story, and at that moment she realized it was something she enjoyed doing. It translated well to paper: she was rewarded with an A.

"I remember that even though it was more than 30 years ago. It meant a lot to me," she says, "and I

just have been writing ever since."

The story helped her understand the new world she was living in, she says. "I was living in West Africa and I remember the story was about a woman who had to make a choice; she had one egg and had to choose which child to give it to. There was so much poverty around me and that was something that, as a child, I didn't really have any way of making sense of, so writing really helped me through that."

As a young mother, Jones chose to stay home with her son for a few years; during that time she decided to expand her writing abilities. She was writing fiction as well as nonfiction magazine articles.

"It was a way that I could work and be at home at the same time," she says. "I still needed to contribute to the household income, so I just started writing stories for my son."

But her involvement with the writing community became more serious when her friends invited her to join a writing group.

"I think that just by being around and spending time with other writers I started thinking I should try to publish my stories," she says.

Between J.K. Rowling and Margaret Atwood, it's easy to get carried away by the romanticized idea of what being a writer really means,



IILL WESTBY/NEXUS

Camosun's Kari Jones.

but Jones makes sure her Camosun students understand that being a writer requires a tough skin and a pile of rejection letters.

"I failed for many years," she says. "I have a lot of rejection letters at home, and I keep them because I'm proud of them in a perverse kind of way, but I'm also proud to have passed that phase."

When it comes to reading other authors, Jones says the books she has read have affected her in immeasurable ways.

"I've been to so many places in the world through reading, I've lived in other people's shoes through reading, and I've understood perspectives that I would never be able to understand through reading," she says. "A good book can really make you think and can make you question your own morals, your own ethics, and the world around us."



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opera

Madama Butterfly conductor's love of music started early

TORI DMYTAR

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Mozart composed his first opera at age 12, but Giuseppe Pietraroia, the conductor-in-residence at Pacific Opera Victoria, discovered a fascination with singing at an even younger age than that. Pietraroia remembers loving all music and singing when he was three years old.

"I used to enjoy listening to music from playing records, and I used to like to sing when I was a young child," he says. "I always had this sort of attraction to music."

When Pietraroia was in Grade 5 he fell in love with the sound of the saxophone. He took lessons through middle school and high school and eventually did his undergraduate degree in saxophone performance.

When he graduated, a new conductor program was starting, so he decided to try his interest in conducting as a way to get involved in opera. He says that he went full circle when his love for vocal music came back all those years later.

Now, Pietraroia is an established conductor. He's currently working on Puccini's *Madama Butterfly*, presented by Pacific Opera Victoria.

The story is about a woman's faithfulness and complete devotion to a man. Pietraroia says all of Puccini's stories have central female characters that are strong, even if they may have a frail side to them.

But are love stories revolving

Turner's sixth disc sounds like

A lot of these songs resemble

a heavy, dark beer would if you

could bring it to life through Disney

drinking music that a Scottish

pub would be playing. They're fun,

short, and full of catchy melodies

that beg to be sung along to after

a drinking album, and it features

some pretty intimate glimpses into

bit melodramatic, but this is easily

forgivable when considering just

how plain fun The Third Three

Years a listen if you're looking for something to take your mind off of

Definitely give *The Three Third*

But this album is more than just

Sometimes it can come off as a

one too many beers.

Turner's life.

Years is.

your worries.

"I used to enjoy listening to music from playing records, and I used to like to sing when I was a young child."

GIUSEPPE PIETRAROIA

PACIFIC OPERA VICTORIA

around a female lead appealing to men? According to Pietraroia, as long as you have some sense of romance in your heart, this story isn't just relatable to women.

"I think you can relate either way if you're a romantic at heart," he says. "Whether you're male or female, I think a story like this is really touching."

The story of Butterfly is a sad one. As a young geisha, she turns her back on her family to marry an American man who doesn't quite understand how devoted she is. When he returns home he leaves his life in Japan behind, and that includes her, his now-pregnant wife.

Butterfly waits with her son for her love to return, and years later, with a new wife, he does. When the man discovers the love she's harboured for him all this time, he truly realizes the mistakes he's made.

Pietraroia says that sometimes the man is referred to as the moral

Kathryn Calder

(File Under: Music)

Kathryn Calder

conscience of the piece, as he embodies the audience's mind. He represents the human condition of making mistakes and going through a process of realization that makes him relatable; it makes him lovable, and, most of all, it makes him human, which is how Pietraroia connects with him.

It also helps that the story is told through music and voice, which is even a bigger dealmaker for Pietraroia.

"If you don't like him right from the beginning, none of the love duet, none of that part makes any sense," he says. "You have to almost believe, like Butterfly, that this is the right man; you almost, as an audience member, have to fall into it in order for the heartbreak to be even harder."

> Madama Butterfly 8 pm April 9-17 \$25, Royal Theatre pov.bc.ca



Giuseppe Pietraroia is passionate about music and *Madama Butterfly*.

New Music Revue

Winners from Turner and Calder



Frank Turner.

Frank Turner
The Three Third Years
(Xtra Mile Recordings)
3.5/5

The Third Three Years is a very fun and gritty collection of rarities from British singer/songwriter Kathryn Calder's third album is all love songs, but in the broad sense.

Anyone who has been in love, burned by love, or is currently in love will be able to relate to the tracks.

The Canadian indie rock musician and New Pornographers member has a soulful voice that's undeniably beautiful, but I was left feeling a tad melancholy after listening to the album.

The second track, "Beach," really showcases beautiful lyrics about a big love that was lost along the way; it should have been easy, but it wasn't.

The song really pulls at the heartstrings, and the title is fitting: I had visions of someone walking along a sandy West Coast beach at sunset, longing for the one that got away.

Kathryn Calder's self-titled album in its entirety is charming; just have a box of tissues at the ready.

-JOSH TRAILL - MEGA

- MEGAN DUNN

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art

Camosun Visual Arts students prepare their final exhibit



"We're here 24/7.
Teachers meet and give us the amount of work that will fill our time, sometimes too much, so we can concentrate on nothing else other than art."

LAURA RECHWAN
CAMOSUN STUDENT

A Visual Arts student signs his prints in preparation for the students' grad exhibition.

ERIN BLONDEAU

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Camosun Visual Arts students have been working long days leading up to their year-end exhibit.

The Visual Arts graduate exhibition, *Within the Menagerie*, will be taking place on April 24.

The exhibition will showcase the students' exploration of artistic media and the hours of planning

that took place leading up to the show

"Because we're in such a generalist program, we're sampling a little bit of everything. So the work is a little bit of everything," says Laura Rechwan, graduating student and president of the Visual Arts Club. "There will be full sculptural installation and 2-D paintings, printmaking, photography, and film."

Rechwan's passion radiates as she describes her experiences at Camosun, speaking alongside Visual Arts Club treasurer Tavis Johnson-Dorman.

It's very clear that the Visual Arts students have devoted their entire lives to art.

"We're here 24/7. Teachers meet and give us the amount of work that will fill our time, sometimes too much, so we can concentrate

on nothing else other than art," explains Rechwan.

Art takes more than painting an idea onto a canvas, the club members say. It takes practice, patience, and knowledge.

Learning which medium to use takes time, and according to Rechwan and Johnson-Dorman, the instructors at Camosun have taught their Visual Arts students how to do so effectively.

"As an artist, your concepts are the first thing you have. Then you decide which medium to express them through," says Rechwan.

Johnson-Dorman adds that this multitude of media makes things more interesting.

"It makes for a richer experience than just using one medium," says Johnson-Dorman.

Students can often end up being caught in an infinite spiral of retouching artwork before finally deciding to finish the piece, they say.

"At a certain point you need to realize, it's just not going to get any better," says Johnson-Dorman. "The great thing about this program is that it grinds the perfectionism out of you."

The Visual Arts program is meant to be hands-on, enabling the students to grow with their talents. The students' energy is not only

spent on creating the art, but also on planning and organizing their final show and fundraiser.

"There was a ton of planning," says Johnson-Dorman, with an exhale.

The Visual Arts students organized a pizza-box fundraiser to help offset the cost of the final art exhibition.

"We got these pizza boxes and we filled them with five pieces of art each," says Johnson-Dorman. "But you wouldn't be able to tell what you were getting before you got it."

"It's like a mystery box, like the lottery," adds Rechwan.

According to Johnson-Dorman, the first fundraiser was a huge success and the students sold out. However, there are still pizza boxes that can be purchased, and the fundraising isn't over for the students yet.

"We're still selling pizza boxes," says Johnson-Dorman. "The art show is free admission, and it's open to the public. Drinks and food are by donation."

Within the Menagerie
April 24
Units 47 and 49, Market
Square
facebook.com/
withinthemenagerie

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE NEXUS PUBLISHING SOCIETY

FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 2015, 1 PM,

NEXUS OFFICE, RICHMOND HOUSE 201, LANSDOWNE

AGENDA

- I CALL TO ORDER
- II INTRODUCTION TO RULES OF ORDER
- III APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- IV APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS AGM
- **V** REPORTS
- 1.) PRESIDENT'S REPORT
- 2.) FINANCIAL REPORT
- VI ADOPTION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT
- 1.) ADOPTION OF MAR. 31, 2015 FINANCIAL STATEMENT
- 2.) ADOPTION OF APRIL 1, 2015 TO MARCH 31, 2016 PROPOSED BUDGET
- VII RESIGNATION OF CURRENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS
- VIII BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTIONS
- IX ADJOURNMENT

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

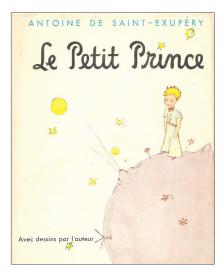
FREE PIZZA!



ıs.

Visual Arts students fundraising at the Lansdowne campus.

Antoine de Saint-Exupéry's flights of fancy



The Little Prince is ostensibly a children's book about a little boy who lives on an asteroid and travels to Earth, but the deep philosophical implications of his adventures lend the story a rich complexity that's appreciable by readers of all ages.

"All grownups were first children, but few of them remember it," wrote Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, a French novelist and pilot who is best remembered for his moving children's fable The Little Prince.

Saint-Exupéry was an aviation pioneer in the 1920s and 1930s, flying at a time when being a pilot was a rough and adventurous profession.

He flew mail routes in Africa and South America and once, during a race, crashed in the Sahara desert, where he nearly died of dehydration.

The high-altitude solitude and the dangers he encountered there gave Saint-Exupéry plenty of time and fodder for musings on human nature and how to live one's life. His literary genius was in translating these experiences into profound yet often humorous and always accessible tales, as in the autobiographical Wind, Sand and Stars.

When France surrendered to the Germans during WWII, Saint-Exupéry went into exile in America.

It was during this time he wrote The Little Prince. Although ostensibly a children's book about a little boy who lives on an asteroid and travels to Earth, the deep philosophical implications of his adventures lend the story a rich complexity that's appreciable by readers of

Like in many children's books, the boy encounters enchanted flowers and talking animals, but in Saint-Exupéry's world foxes have such memorable lines as "you

become responsible, forever, for what you have tamed."

Saint-Exupéry rejoined the war and disappeared over the Mediterranean in 1944. He remains a national hero in France, and The Little Prince is one of the best selling books of all time.

Despite his storied life, Saint-Exupéry was able to keep sight of his inner child. One of the most enduring lines from The Little Prince rings with child-like simplicity and truth: "It is only with the heart that one can see rightly; what is essential is invisible to the eye."

Antoine de Saint-Exupéry must-read:

The Little Prince (Lansdowne library code: PQ 2637 A274 P43713)

Ability's Muse

by Andy Chen

camosun college students with (dis)abilities collective

Searching for authenticity

Have you ever gazed upon a portrait of a person and had the figure stare back at you? Did it give you a creepy chill or a warm sense of belonging? That effect is the kind that organizational culture has on us.

A truly diverse organizational experience should be much like a painting; every brush stroke that runs along (or against) the grain of the canvas should convey the mood and depth of character of those who created it.

This is why, at times, I dislike politics.

We are often debating semantics and word choice while referencing the "spirit" of the motion. We develop a policy or document and congratulate ourselves for having the privilege of drafting it. But, when it comes time to act on those beliefs, I find we often come up short. Very short.

When it comes to organization culture, I have found toxic elements from one organization after another. We can espouse the need for respect in our workplaces and back it up with focus groups and surveys, but ultimately it comes down to one thing: an emotion.

Do you feel connected to your colleagues? Do you feel that your identity was acknowledged and respected? If not, is there a safe place to go to decompress or find vour centre?

The more our actions fit the words we use, the more authentic the experience will be.



Bite Me

by Megan Dunn

Garrick's Head tops the English-style pub heap

In Victoria we have so many options for places to go to experience the traditional English pub atmosphere, but my top choice out of them all would be the Garrick's Head Pub

Garrick's has been a local fixture since 1867, is known as one of oldest English-style pubs in Canada, and is located in the top corner of the historical Bastion Square.

What makes the Garrick's Head different from the other Englishstyle pubs in Victoria is the people who work there.

I often sit at the bar and chat with the bartenders and make pals with my neighbour sitting beside

It's one place I can go on my own and not feel like I am flying solo. The staff are educated on the 50-plus beers on tap, and they want to chat about beer with you.

I find that this is important. I have my go-to drink, but I like to shake things up a bit every once in a while and try something new.

The nightlife is always a good time, but often it's so busy that it's hard to find a table; it seems that this pub is where everyone wants

On a recent day downtown, I was dodging the rain, looked at the time, and sure enough it was still happy hour: perfection!

I walked into the Garrick's Head, and by the time I walked out it was with a full belly and the satisfaction of having to pay a bill that was only \$10.

The Garrick's menu is described as traditional pub fare, and everything is offered in generous portions.

I often order the poutine, which is generously loaded with cheese curds, along with a lager.

If I'm there for a full meal I always order the Club Smoked Turkey. with cheddar, bacon, lettuce, and tomato piled between three slices of multigrain bread.

Any of the burgers are worth a taste, too, and there is a long list of choices, including beef, chicken, and even lamb.

The Garrick's Head Pub offers it all: food, drinks, and a good time.



The Prodigal Planeswalker

by Andy Chen

camosun college magic: the gathering club

Let's not forget Timmy

In a previous column I delved into the different player archetypes of Magic: The Gathering.

I exalted the virtues of being a "Johnny" player and how my 60-card deck is an expression of my creativity, versus the "Spike" player with their in-it-to-win-it competitive nature.

But it's common to forget about "Timmy."

According to Magic: The Gathering's head designer, the Timmy is often characterized as "young and inexperienced." They are often the ones who avoid the Friday Night Magic (FNM) competitive scene. On limited budgets, they seek out the \$1 overstock or "junk" rares that everyone else has seemingly forgotten about or discarded.

Timmy knows that they will not win them all, so they set their motivation to achieve something different: make the big plays or cast the biggest creatures that affect the game.

In a multiplayer game, they randomly add chaos to the board state by throwing the game completely into an opponent's favour, or fuel a kamikaze run that can knock themselves out of the game, while taking down another.

Despite being overlooked and dismissed, Timmy is an integral member of the community. We all discovered this game at some point and enjoyed the simple wonderment of opening our first booster pack to find out a spell's true potential for the first time.

They remind us that having fun doesn't necessarily involve winning.

If we were all able to channel our inner Timmy, what a great place the gamer landscape would be.



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what's going on

by erin blondeau

SATURDAY, APRIL 4

Volley for funds

Don't miss the Camosun Business students' volleyball tournament fundraiser for the Victoria International Development Education Association. The fundraiser is one of the students' final assignments, testing their newly learned project management skills. The money raised will be donated to help Zambian youth attend the Teen Vision Conference in Lusaka, Zambia. The event goes from 9 am to 5 pm and the cost is \$210 per team. See facebook. com/volley4videa for info.

SATURDAY, APRIL 4

Walkers will walk

Meet other walkers (no, not zombies) at Central Saanich Municipal Hall for a 5/10 km walk. Registration is at 9:30 am and the walk begins at 10 am. Contact Pat for more information: 250–598–2325.

SUNDAY APRIL 5

Walkers still walk

Walkers have yet another chance to meet walkers; another walk is taking place at Cattle Point. The registration is 9:30 am; the walk starts at 10 am. Contact Helmut at 250–479–3163.

MONDAY, APRIL 6

Suicide Girls pop-culture burlesque show

A unique and anticipated burlesque show is happening at Distrikt Night Club. The Suicide Girls: Blackheart Burlesque show has tributes to pop culture like *Orange Is the New Black, Star Wars*, and *A Clockwork Orange*, all incorporated into a sexy striptease routine. Tickets are \$29.50 or VIP for \$99.50. Tickets can be purchased at ticketfly.com.

THURSDAY, APRIL 9

Musical twins to perform at UVic

Twin Kennedy, a musical group native to Powell River, BC, will be

To celebrate April Fool's Day

we put together a list of words,

barely words, similar words, and

non-words for this issue's word

to the Nexus office and grab some

Bring the completed puzzle in

search. Have fun!

prizes!

performing at their former school, the University of Victoria. Twins Carli and Julie Kennedy each earned their BA in Music Performance from UVic. The twins grew up in a musical family and have devoted their lives to music. Tickets are \$18 and can be purchased online at tickets.uvic.ca.

Thursday, April 9 and Sunday, April 12

Shakespeare in HD

Shakespeare would be amazed to see his extraordinary story, *King John*, shot and produced in HD and presented in theatres across Canada. *King John* is produced by the Stratford Festival and was shot live as actors performed on stage with a full audience. The Victoria screenings will take place at Cineplex Odeon and Silver City.

FRIDAY, APRIL 10

Canadian, eh?

Five of the most Canadian artists you'll probably ever see have released their third album as a band called Shred Kelly. Shred Kelly is a folk band that represents Canada's individuality. The band is completing their Canadian tour with a final stop at Lucky Bar.

SATURDAY, APRIL 11

Explore the mysterious forest

Join a CRD Regional Parks naturalist and embark on a whimsical walk through the Devonian Regional Park in Metchosin. Discover mysteries, clues, and riddles that could lead to ancient giants. Participants are to meet at the information kiosk in the William Head Road parking lot. The walk runs from 1 to 3 pm.

Thursday, April 16

Kathryn Calder tour starts in Victoria

Kathryn Calder is starting her spring tour in Victoria at the Copper Owl to support her latest self-titled album.

april fool's day word search

APRIL

APRILPROOF

APRILS

FOIL

FOOL

FOOLERY

FOOLHARDY

FOOLING

FOOLISH

FOOLPROOF

Her sounds explore ideas from pop to classical, encouraging her listeners to lose themselves in her vocals and songwriting. Tickets are \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door.

THURSDAY, APRIL 16

JUNO jazz nominee at Hermann's

Laila Biali is a jazz musician who has been taking the jazz world by storm; she has been nominated for a JUNO, awarded SOCAN Composer of the Year, and Keyboardist of the Year at Canada's Jazz Awards. Biali will be releasing her new album, *House of Many Rooms*, on April 14 and will be performing at Hermann's Jazz Club at 8 pm. Tickets start at \$22.

FRIDAY, APRIL 17 TO SUNDAY, APRIL 19

More walking!

Walkers can really redeem themselves with an ultra-walk hosted by Volkssport Clubs of South Vancouver Island. The Phoenix Walking Festival goes down at the Greek Community Centre on Friday, 11 am to 5 pm, or Saturday and Sunday from 8:30 am-5 pm. \$10 is mandatory from participants with an additional \$2 per walk. For more info, visit vvpf.ca.

SATURDAY, APRIL 18

Learn about nature's medicine

Learn about the natural medicine used by First Nations people and European settlers at the healing land of Witty's Lagoon in Metchosin. CRD Regional Parks guest naturalist Joe Percival will be exploring the healing powers of nature. The guided walk is for adults 18 and over and runs from 1 to 2:30 pm.

SATURDAY, APRIL 18

Vic Chamber Orchestra ends Anniversary Season

The final Victoria Chamber Orchestra concert in their 20th Anniversary Season will be taking place at First

FOOLS

FOOLSCAP

LOOF

LOOFPROOF

LOOFS

NEXUS

PROOFAPRIL

PROOFFOOL

PROOFPROOF

TINFOIL

Metropolitan Church. The winner of the 2015 Louis Sherman Concerto Competition, Andrew Montgomery, will be playing Violin Concerto in D by Hoffmeister. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$15 for students. Visit victoriachamberorchestra.org for more information.

SATURDAY, APRIL 18

Singing mandatory at Vic Theatre

Sing along to the Academy Awardwinning 1964 film, *My Fair Lady*, that will be playing at the Vic Theatre. The movie will feature lyrics and a movie props bag, and audience members are highly encouraged to dress up and sing along (loudly). This is a one-time only screening. The doors open at 5:30 pm and the show starts at 6 pm. Tickets are \$20; visit thevic. ca for more information.

SATURDAY, APRIL 18

Westshore band's fundraiser

Around 45 amateur musicians have come together to create the Westshore Community Concert Band, based in Langford. The group is holding their eighth annual fundraiser and concert, which will feature the band's music, snacks, desserts, prizes, and a silent auction with items donated from Victoria merchants. Tickets are \$12 and can be purchased by calling Andrea at 250–382–2781.

Sunday, April 19

More than jazz

Latin music, bop, blues, and swing have melded together to form something magical: the Codi Jazz Quintet. Combining vocals, keyboards, guitars, and horns, the band brings a fresh element of music to each of their shows. The Codi Jazz Quintet is playing at Interfaith Chapel at UVic. The show starts at 7 pm.

Monday, April 20

Upcoming, epic stars: Priory

Rising alt-pop group Priory is beginning their tour, and Victoria is one of their first stops. The group's epic single, "Weekend," has been making its way up the top 40 pop charts, and the group has even been named MTV 2015 Artist to Watch. The show takes place at Distrikt Nightclub. For more info, visit prioryband.com.

Until Tuesday, April 21

Artist's Little Tragedies exhibit

Artist Stephanie Harding embraces the idea of life's "little tragedies" in her new series of paintings. Harding uses colours to bring a blank canvas to life. She values being able to see the bright side of life, regardless of negativity. Her exhibit runs until April 21 at Dales Gallery and Framing Studio. Call 250–383–1552 for info.

Thursday, April 23

Film to raise domesticabuse awareness

National Victims of Crime Awareness

Week's purpose is to raise awareness about women who are suffering from domestic abuse. The Victoria Women's Transition House is hosting a screening of *Heaven on Earth* at Cinecenta UVic. The show starts at 7 pm; admission is by donation.

Friday, April 24 and Saturday, April 25

Salt Lake City's ballet comes to Vic

Ballet company Ballet West will be performing in Victoria at the Royal Theatre. Ballet West is from Salt Lake City and was established in 1963 by William F. Christensen, a ballet pioneer. Tickets start at \$62 and can be purchased at rmts.bc.ca. Visit dancevictoria.com for more information.

SATURDAY, APRIL 25 AND SUNDAY, APRIL 26

Endless entertainment at Earth Week

The Fourth Annual Earth Week Festival is happening at the English Inn. Guests can expect to see over 70 exhibitors showcasing their technology, art, music, and creative projects. The event will have activities for everyone, from an organic tea party to a yoga workshop. The event is free and starts at 12 pm, running until 9 pm on Saturday and 4 pm on Sunday.

SUNDAY, APRIL 26

Birdwatching education

Birdwatching basics will be taught at Island View Beach Regional Park in Saanich. With binoculars, field guides, and a CRD Regional Parks Naturalist, you can take your knowledge from novice to expert. Ages nine and up are welcome. The event takes place from 10 am to 12 pm.

Tuesday, April 28

Ian Kelly on tour

Montreal's Ian Kelly is touring Canada, with over 25 gigs across the country. Each show will feature just Kelly, his piano, and his guitar. See iankellysmusic.com for info.

Sunday, May 3

2015 MS Walk

The 2015 Scotiabank MS Walk is taking place at Marigold Elementary School. The check-in time is 8:30 am and the walk starts at 10 am. With route lengths from 3 km to 9 km, there is a walk for everyone! Unless you don't like walking, of course. The MS Walk is accepting volunteers; contact lily.fawn@mssociety. ca for more information.

Thursday, May 7

West Coast orca fable

In a beautifully illustrated fable about our precious West Coast oceans and nature, authors Roy Henry Vickers and Robert Budd tell the tale of orca warriors set out to protect their ocean against the damage of man. *Orca Chief* is a story of courage, beauty, forgiveness, and responsibility. Vickers and Budd will be having their book launch at Legacy Art Gallery at 7:30 pm.





Register now: http://endpointvisualization.wordpress.com Toastmasters Info: http://camosuncollege.toastmastersclubs.org