

# THE ONGOING STUDENT STRUGGLE

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Will this year's TEDxVictoria be the last?

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# NEXUS

camosun's student voice since 1990

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OVERHEARD AT NEXUS: "This is unbelievable." (Said 200 times)

COVER PHOTO: Jill Westby/*Nexus*

## student editor's letter

# Camosun support network

Hello fellow students,

I hope you all managed to make it through midterms without too much stress. I know it's hard to do this time of year, but take some time for yourself. Maybe pick up a *Nexus* and kick back for a few while you learn about what's been happening on campus and around town. This issue has some really good stories written by some really talented writers—but first, before I get into that, I have to take a moment to thank some people.

During the Thanksgiving weekend my father suddenly died. Through the heartbreak, the people in my life have been incredibly supportive, and I need to let them know just how grateful I am.

To Adam Marsh, Greg Pratt, and Jayden Grieve: thank you so much for picking up the slack at *Nexus*; it was a huge relief to know that you guys were on it and that I was off the hook.

To my program instructors and cohort: I really don't think I could have continued with school if it weren't for the support you guys have provided—and continue to provide—me, so thank you.

Back to this issue, contributing writer Adam Marsh interviewed the NDP's Murray Rankin to find out what Rankin will fight for when it comes to us students; see the story on page 6. On a related note, contributing writer Jayden Grieve covered the results from the recent student elections; read all about it on page 3.

Flip to page 8 to read contributing writer Jake Wyatt's story about TEDxVictoria, and over on page 4 contributing writer Wendy Snedden has written about sexual assault on campuses; find out about Camosun's security measures and policies.

As always, good job, volunteers: you make the paper what it is, and it is awesome!

Your dedicated student editor,  
Pascale Archibald

## flashback

# 25 years ago in Nexus



**Tough times for profs:** "Expansion long overdue at Lansdowne" in our November 13, 1990 issue talked about Camosun profs who were in dire need of new office space. For example, English instructor Bill Jensen: "At the office door, students lining up to see Jensen mingle with women heading to the washroom next door," writer Frances Hunter said in the story. "From time to time the washroom floods... Jensen says he has placed an order for a supply of air freshener."

**Textbooks were always too pricey:** Even in 1990, students didn't like their textbook costs, as "Carey Road students get Dial-A-Book" proves (Carey Road was a satellite campus of Camosun). The Dial-A-Book program was a network of students selling used

textbooks once they were no longer needed. Things are slowly (very slowly) getting better on the textbook front with free online texts, but there will be a network of students selling their used textbooks in one form or another for a while yet.

**Big words for the arts community:** In "Phoenix presents challenging theatre," writer David Gordon-MacDonald talked about Victoria's theatre community at the time, and he didn't hold back: "What is lacking... is challenging, stimulating theatre," he wrote. "We're getting a steady diet of recycled Neil Simon, and his pop-theatre ilk, starring such theatrical giants as ex-cast members of *The Ropers* and *Gilligan's Island*." Well, at least it wasn't someone from *Three's a Crowd*.

## open space

# Student workers should know their rights

MIKAYLA RUSSELL  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Like many students, I have a part-time job. One problem with being new in the workforce is that it's easy to be oblivious when it comes to workers' rights and the labour laws in Canada.

Establishments sometimes take advantage of us young workers, as

This is against labour laws, as they were, essentially, getting free work out of me. Because it was a big, reputable Canadian organization, I had high expectations when I got hired. This situation has made me lose respect for the company.

Moving from an office job to retail, where my workers' rights were again stripped, has me wondering

## More and more BC businesses are ignoring and abusing the code of conduct that has been set out for them by the BC and Canadian governments.

we have no previous experience; this leads them to believe they can get away with paying us less and not giving us the right information when it comes to our rights.

Recently, I went through the experience of trying to get the last paycheck I was owed from a company. It took over two weeks. Working for a big organization whose headquarters are located in Toronto, with scheduling done from an American office, made it very difficult to retrieve my money.

Starting to get frustrated after talking to three managers, Toronto HR, and Victoria HR, I called for the fourth time to try and get some answers. The response I got was both unprofessional and unfair: I was told that with the amount of work they had, I would have to wait an extra four days for the already-two-week-late payment.

how some of these places stay afloat with all the rules and regulations they break.

More and more BC businesses are ignoring and abusing the code of conduct that has been set out for them by the BC and Canadian governments. The BC Labour Relations Code is getting ignored and pushed aside; young workers need to educate themselves on what businesses can and can't get away with.

Read up on your rights as a worker so you can help prevent the abuse of young workers. Don't be blind to what could be a business breaking the law. Minimum wage is now \$10.45; if you're making below minimum wage, talk to your manager and resolve it.

For more information on your rights as a worker in this province, check out [workbc.ca](http://workbc.ca) and [worksafebc.com](http://worksafebc.com).

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



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

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# SPEAK UP

How do you feel about the federal election results?

BY SARAH TAYLER



**SHYAN BUENO**

"I was really surprised with a lot of the federal results. I'm actually really glad that Steven Harper is now out of office; everyone should be excited about that."



**GORDON WALKIEWICZ**

"I kind of expected that. It just seemed like Trudeau was going to win, just sort of from popularity. It seemed more of a popularity contest than about politics, really, in this election."



**NIKKI BEAUDOIN**

"I thought it was good. I thought we needed a change, for sure. On the west coast a lot of people are anti-Conservative for a lot of reasons, especially environmental reasons."



**ZACH SNOW**

"I was interested. It's gonna be an interesting time. I hope they keep their promises."



**HIBA SIDKI**

"I'm pretty happy with it. I think we needed that change, to be honest, and we just needed a fresh chapter, fresh page, and new faces."



**DAVID LOWE**

"I think it's a little surprising to us out west. We're NDP-focused."



student politics

## Camosun College Student Society elections bring in new student representatives, referendum goes through



GREG PRATT/NEXUS

A student voting at the recent Camosun College Student Society elections at Lansdowne campus.

**JAYDEN GRIEVE**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Camosun College Student Society (CCSS) student bi-elections were held on Wednesday, October 28 and Thursday, October 29.

Huy Ho, Carlos Suarez Rubio, Kimberley Banfield, and Gavin Howie were elected as directors at large for the Lansdowne campus, while Bobby Tiet, Vikas Verma, Mehtab Saluja, and Ellen Young were elected as Interurban campus directors at large.

Chris Marks was elected as Interurban executive, Darwin Scott was elected as international director, and Mark Rosini was elected as sustainability director.

CCSS external executive Andrea Eggenberger says each new wave of executives brings fresh ideas to the table.

“We get them oriented and make sure they know everything to do with the society and all their responsibilities, and then we start building ideas,” says Eggenberger. “The newly elected board members always bring a lot of excitement, and I’m really excited to get into all of their ideas.”

Rosini says that the election was very exciting for him.

“It felt great,” he says. “It was really quite a moment because I won by 11 votes, and the other person running was my friend from the

same class. We were like, ‘Yeah, we can just work together to implement our ideas.’”

Rosini says that he will be teaming up with CSEA (Camosun Students for Environmental Awareness) to work toward making the campuses greener.

One project that he hopes to work on is helping to provide better transit options to those coming to Camosun from Langford and Colwood.

“There’s a lot of opportunity to make an actual change,” says Rosini. “I haven’t done a lot of organizing in the past, but I think I’m ready for it now. I don’t feel overwhelmed by it. These are all

“The newly elected board members always bring a lot of excitement, and I’m really excited to get into all of their ideas.”

**ANDREA EGGENBERGER**  
CAMOSUN COLLEGE STUDENT SOCIETY

things I’m very interested in and want to get involved in.”

Likewise, Naomi Arato—who ran unopposed, so became the off-campus director by default—feels passionate about her new duties (Arato represents students at the Victoria Conservatory of Music, a Camosun satellite campus).

“It’s a great opportunity; it feels like I can actually have input and see what’s going on behind the scenes and be more involved,” she says. “I have more say and, in turn, the students on my campus have more say; a lot of people forget about the off-campus students, which bothers me a lot.”

Arato plans to make sure the students at the Victoria Conservatory of Music are well represented; she says everyone on the board has been very helpful so far.

“I’ve never done anything like this, so I was really nervous and worried I was in over my head, but they’ve been really great,” she says. “I’ve been to a couple meetings where I’ve been really inspired by them.”

Eggenberger says that the voter turnout this year was good, with 490 out of 8,400 students (5.83

percent of the student body) voting. The election ballot also had a referendum question on it that asked if students are in support of helping to bring a refugee student to study at Camosun. It passed, with 83.58 percent of students voting in favour of the idea, which will add 44 cents per month to each student’s student fees.

“The team that put that together, which was a class at the Lansdowne campus, really pushed it very hard,” says Eggenberger. “That’s why it passed with such flying colors.”

Eggenberger says that while the student society does do a lot of fun events, they are also very serious when it comes to making sure students get everything they need on campus.

“We ensure that students know about their services,” says Eggenberger, “so we are all very informed about things like the U-Pass or the medical services plan, and even when we don’t know all the details we know who to direct students to. We make sure that they’ve got really good student life on campus.”

See [camosunstudent.org](http://camosunstudent.org) for more info on the elections and the CCSS.

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Camosun carpentry students kick butt

Two Camosun Carpentry Foundation students, Derek Vally and Kendall Foster, won first and second place, respectively, in the third annual BC GameChanger Youth Expo, held in Vancouver. The competition challenges students to impress with their mad carpentry skills as they work against the clock in teams of two. This year had an additional twist: the teams were tasked with supervising a randomly selected high-school student helper during the contest. The teams, over the course of a day, had to build a full-sized wishing well, starting with blueprints and completing with a finished project. Go to [camosun.ca](http://camosun.ca) to see pictures of Vally and Foster working on the wishing well.

### Camosun Chargers teams also kicking butt

Both men’s and women’s Camosun Chargers volleyball teams defeated the Douglas Royals on November 6 and 7. On November 6, the women’s team won 3–2; on the same night, the Chargers men’s team won 3–1. The Chargers kept that energy into the weekend: both

the men’s and women’s teams were victorious against the Douglas Royals on November 7, with the men winning 3–0 and the women winning 3–2 in another five-set match. On Friday, November 13, the Chargers volleyball teams hosted the University of the Fraser Valley Cascades (UFVC); the women’s team defeated UFVC 3–2 and the men defeated them 3–1. The next night, the women’s volleyball team defeated the Cascades again, this time 3–1; the men’s defeated the Cascades 3–2. Meanwhile, the Chargers women’s basketball team recently lost 69–58 to the Columbia Bible Bearcats in Abbotsford; the Chargers men’s basketball team defeated the Bearcats 81–60. The women’s basketball team went on to get their first win of the seasons, defeating the Kwantlen Polytechnic University Eagles in Surrey 67–56, and the men’s basketball team defeated Kwantlen 91–66 in their third consecutive win.

### New choices for Camosun Criminal Justice students

Starting September 2016, graduates of Camosun’s Criminal Justice program will have the opportunity to complete the Bachelor of

Law Enforcement Studies from the Justice Institute of British Columbia (JIBC) at Camosun. This is a collaborative effort between Camosun and JIBC based on a memorandum of understanding signed by both institutions earlier in the year. Applications for 2016’s fall term are currently being accepted through JIBC, with the option for students to complete the degree at Camosun, JIBC’s New Westminster campus, or Okanagan College’s Penticton campus.

### Joint purchasing expected to save BC postsecondary schools

Camosun College, along with ten other public postsecondary institutions in British Columbia, are expecting to save up to \$400,000 collectively through joint purchasing agreements for welding trades equipment. An additional collective savings of \$100,000 is expected on the joint purchase of electrical equipment for BC postsecondary schools. This agreement, in addition to the \$12 million promised to 14 BC postsecondary institutions to purchase new industry-standard trades equipment, is part of BC’s Skills for Jobs Blueprint initiative.

### Enbridge interference in academia?

The Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT) is looking into charges against the University of Calgary involving violation of academic freedoms. Senior academics at the university claim Enbridge inappropriately interfered in the university’s Centre for Corporate Sustainability after the company provided a donation to the university. A former chair of the centre claims to have been fired after raising concerns to the university’s administration on Enbridge’s inappropriate influence in the centre. Another staff member of the centre quit in protest over the university’s failure to defend academic freedom. The executive director of the CAUT, David Robinson, said in a press release that there will be further discussions within the CAUT, and that a formal investigation may need to be taken up in the future.

### Ex-Victorian one of three finalists in PEAK

The Alberta PEAK Performance Project, which aims to support and promote regional musicians, has narrowed down its competition to three candidates; one of them once called Victoria home. Leeroy Stag-

ger was raised in Victoria and will move on to the finale, scheduled for the end of November. Regardless of the results, he will be walking away from the competition a bit richer, as all of the three finalists get a nice cash prize for their efforts.

### Black History Month gala calling for nominations

The Victoria African and Caribbean Cultural Society (VACCS) invites Victoria’s public to nominate a candidate or candidates for the Vancouver Island Black History Month Closing Gala and Recognition Awards. This event will feature local speakers and performers and pays tribute to distinguished members of the black community. For information on the event and to find out how to nominate a candidate, visit [vaccsociety.com](http://vaccsociety.com).

**-PASCALE ARCHIBALD**

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See an expanded version of these News Briefs at [nexusnewspaper.com/](http://nexusnewspaper.com/)



## local news

## IFCon's Ken Twyman addresses cancellation concerns



PHOTO PROVIDED

## IFCon's Bill Code.

**GREG PRATT**  
MANAGING EDITOR

On Tuesday, October 27, the plug was pulled on Victoria's Island Fantasy Conference (IFCon), which was to be held on Friday, October 31 and Saturday, November 1.

At the time, event organizers went silent, their online presence was deleted, and would-be attendees and vendors, some of whom aren't getting refunds, were up in arms.

Conference organizer Bill Code was allegedly admitted to a local hospital for a serious condition, which was the reason given as to why the conference was cancelled. Attendees and vendors who are out the money they spent on the convention are wondering why the convention had to stop because Code was ill.

Shortly after organizers gave the notice on Facebook, things got heated online. A Facebook page for people to talk about the situation

was created under the name Hurt by IFCon 2015.

A main point of concern was event spokesperson Ken Twyman's online behaviour, which some people were calling harassment. But Twyman says his behaviour was a result of having allegations directed at him online; he says he reached his breaking point.

"They're entitled to say what they want," says Twyman. "That being said, so am I. It's up for debate whether it's respectful or not, but calling me a con man and a thief without proof... You can ignore something for so long, and then you're going to go on the offensive, and that's what I've done."

Code's business is IFC Productions; they did not return a request by phone to make a statement before this issue went to press.

At the time of cancellation, a Facebook post from organizers told people not to call the hospital, adding that they had asked the hospital to lie and say that Code was not admitted (at the time, the hospital confirmed to *Nexus* that he was admitted).

Shortly after the cancellation announcement, the IFCon website and Facebook page were taken down, leaving people wondering who to contact. Twyman says that while the websites came down shortly after the cancellation, they came down for a reason.

"They came down because the event was cancelled," he says. "The website was used as an informative descriptive thing for people, you could purchase tickets there. Why promote an event that's been cancelled? We did have it up there for a day or two days that the event has been cancelled."

Many people are concerned that there is no point of contact for IFCon, but Twyman says that people can contact him via Facebook.

"I can't speak for Bill, but they can contact me through Facebook. If the message is respectful, I'll respond to it. If it's not respectful, I won't respond to it, and I'll block them."

One local retailer who had sold tickets urged people in a Facebook post to not ask local stores for refunds, as many stores had already given the ticket money over to the IFCon team, meaning the stores would be paying for the refund themselves. Local retailer Lyle's Place has said it will honour all refunds for tickets sold, and another, Legends Comics & Books, has also said it will refund and deal with the financial loss; people who bought tickets online through Eventbrite are also getting refunds.

"In order to ensure IFCon ticket buyers were refunded in full," an Eventbrite spokesperson told *Nexus*, "Eventbrite covered a portion of refunds. Part of the money

"Things spiralled out of control extremely fast and a lot of things were said from numerous people, myself included, that probably shouldn't have been said. Had I been able to look in the future a few days and look at the repercussions, I never would have said it."

**KEN TWYMAN**  
WAS INVOLVED WITH IFCON

refunded to IFCon attendees came from the organizer, and part came from Eventbrite."

This doesn't help all ticket-buyers, though.

"I was supposed to attend, and my mom and I paid \$90 in person to Bill Code," says would-be IFCon attendee Justine Robson. "They said they are offering refunds to people who ordered online and through Eventbrite but didn't mention anything about the people who purchased in person. Now all of the IFCon Facebook pages are deleted and I can't get a hold of anyone who was supposed to run the event."

The event was to be held at Pearkes Recreation Centre; in an interview with the *Times Colonist*, facility manager Steve Meikl confirmed that they were paid some of the rental fee in advance.

But trouble started earlier than this for IFCon, when would-be guest Troma Films' Lloyd Kaufman an-

nounced on Facebook on October 27 that he wouldn't be at the event, as he said IFCon could not honour his contract.

Twyman (who says Code is out of the hospital) says this is "a very sad situation for a lot of people."

"Things spiralled out of control extremely fast and a lot of things were said from numerous people, myself included, that probably shouldn't have been said," says Twyman. "Had I been able to look in the future a few days and look at the repercussions, I never would have said it."

As of November 5, a police file for IFCon had been started with Saanich Police. IFC Productions has a Power Rangers Cruise scheduled for May 2016.

*This is an updated version of a story from our website. See [nexusnewspaper.com](http://nexusnewspaper.com) for our complete interview with Ken Twyman.*

## campus safety

## Camosun College vigilant on safety after UVic sexual assault

**WENDY SNEDDEN**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

On September 26, a female student was sexually assaulted on the University of Victoria campus. In light of this, Camosun College has undertaken a review to uncover any and all reports of sexual assault either on campus or at college-sanctioned events.

"According to our campus security office records, Camosun College received no sexual assault reports during the 2014 calendar year," says Camosun director of student services and registrar Nichole Greengoe.

Greengoe says the risk of on-campus sexual assault is noticeably lower on a college campus such as Camosun due in part to a lack of on-campus residences and significant late-night activities.

She also lists infrequent and restricted service of alcohol on campus as another factor of decreased risk.

Unfortunately, there are barriers to reporting a sexual assault. According to Greengoe, shame, stigma, and fear of engaging in the process are three common reasons for not reporting. Greengoe also highlights the fear of not being believed and concerns regarding confidentiality as being significant. According to Statistics Canada, 91 percent of sexual assaults are not reported to the police.

Camosun does not have a specific sexual assault policy. Acceptable behaviour on campus and at college events is outlined in Camosun's Student Conduct Policy, Code of Conduct Policy, and Respectful Workplace Policy. All three documents can be found at [camosun.ca](http://camosun.ca).

Camosun has taken steps to protect students from sexual assault both on and off campus. There are Emergency Blue Phones located around both the Lansdowne and Interurban campuses; the phones

immediately connect with emergency responders.

"Camosun also keeps an ombudsperson on campus as a point of contact for students in need of assistance in any way," says Greengoe.

There is also the Walk Safer program. "We partner with the Camosun College Student Society to offer evening campus patrols and escorts throughout the academic year to walk students and staff to their cars. Volunteer Walk Safer escorts are screened with a criminal record check and complete a training session," says Greengoe.

The Peer Connections program group receives a four-hour training session on healthy relationships and consent delivered by agents of the non-profit group Project Consent. There is also a free on-campus counselling service available for all students, including those who are survivors of sexual assault. Camosun counsellors are



FILE PHOTO

## Camosun College is continually striving for student safety.

knowledgeable about all community resources and supports that may be available to sexual assault survivors.

Second-year Pre-Social Work and University Transfer student Amanda Houniet says she feels safe on campus due to the large amount

of people here. However, she says she feels safer during the day than at night, and stresses the importance of lights on campus for maintaining a sense of security at night.

"Normally, the campus is pretty boomin'," she says. "There are a lot of people around."

As part of our 25th anniversary celebrations, we started an Instagram account! Come see our pictures of student life and Camosun happenings.

While you're at it, we're also on Facebook and Twitter, you know...

Find us as [nexusnewspaper](http://nexusnewspaper.com) on all three. See you there!

N<sup>25</sup>



college

## Camosun's science club helps people ask critical questions



JILL WESTBY/NEXUS

Camosun Applied Chemistry and Biotechnology student Zachary Snow runs the Camosun Science Club.

**SCOTT JOHNSTON**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

There's nothing quite like having a few drinks and talking about all the puzzling questions of the universe. That's exactly the kind of thing the Camosun Science Club gets up to.

The club has been active for a year and has over 100 members. It's run by first-year Applied Chemistry and Biotechnology student Zachary Snow and is open to anybody who has an interest in science; you don't have to be a Camosun student to be a member of the science club.

"I'm keeping it open to allow anyone who is interested in science to join the science club," says Snow. "It allows people who aren't in the sciences to ask their critical questions."

The science club has irregular meeting times, as a professor—

"This year, I'm looking at doing an infectious disease lecture and then doing a microbiology lecture, as the two go hand in hand."

**ZACHARY SNOW**  
CAMOSUN SCIENCE CLUB

who isn't getting paid—and lab are required. The club also does pub nights and socials at McRae's Bistro.

"I plan out the events with profs beforehand, go over practicing an experiment together, and move forward into the testing phase," says Snow.

In the past, the science club has done labs where they made soap from essential oils, and they've also cloned plants. They've had professors lecture about subjects like Tesla coils; last year they had Bob McDonald from CBC's *Quirks*

& *Quarks* come to the school to do a presentation on science journalism and his TED talk, "What if everything you know is wrong?"

"This year, I'm looking at doing an infectious disease lecture and then doing a microbiology lecture, as the two go hand in hand," says Snow.

As for the labs this year, if anyone is familiar with MiniMelts, there's at least one lab that might be of interest.

"I'm planning on guiding the class to make liquid nitrogen ice cream," says Snow.

The Camosun science club also goes on field trips; last year they went to Triumf, which is a nuclear physics facility in Vancouver. This trip has inspired Snow's second lab idea for this year.

"We got to see a radiation detector that you can build with 99.9 percent isopropyl alcohol and dry ice," says Snow. "It forms this gas layer where it detects the radiation from space."

The Camosun Science Club can be found on Facebook; email [scienceclub@camosunstudent.org](mailto:scienceclub@camosunstudent.org) for more info.

know your profs

## Camosun's Alison Parker crunches the numbers

**JAYDEN GRIEVE**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

For this *Know Your Profs* we talked to Camosun's Alison Parker about respect, typos, and counting beans... or not.

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

I teach Intermediate Financial Accounting (second year) and Accounting Theory (fourth year). I have taught introductory and accounting technology courses in the past. I came to Camosun in August 2007 on a year's leave from Canada Revenue Agency, but I never left!

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

Teaching has made me a technically strong accountant and up to date on accounting standards. For working professionals it can

be hard to find time to stay aware of the changes in accounting standards, but, as I teach them, I need to know them. But, personally, teaching is a chance to make a difference in people's lives, if only for a short time, and that is incredibly rewarding.

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

I wish (and hope) my students know the deep respect I have for them and what they are trying to do at school. I will mark but never judge, as everyone has a story that may impact their performance that day. People and their lives are complex things.

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

I'm a perfectionist, so when they find a typo or an error in my materi-

als it really bothers me. I often mark questions twice to make sure I have been accurate and fair.

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

There are so many wonderful things that have happened. I think the best was the first group I taught for their first four financial accounting courses (introductory and intermediate). I felt like I watched them all grow up, and most of them I see now as designated accountants working in Victoria.

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

Having to talk to students about cheating and catching students cheating is devastating.

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

Education is taking its cue from the world of communication; I see a lot of innovation in tools to assist in learning. I hope we take the best of these tools but stay connected as people learning together.

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

I cross-stitch and started quilting baby quilts; I just finished making a cross-stitched baby blanket for my niece's little boy. I also do yoga and hang out with my husband and three kids (one is at university and two are teenagers). It's great having kids old enough to debate with me!

**9: What's your favourite meal?**

I love Thai food—ginger chicken and Tom Kha Gai soup. I also love a bison burger with goat cheese and kale.



JILL WESTBY/NEXUS

Camosun's Alison Parker.

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

My biggest pet peeve is that people think accounting is "bean counting" and all about the math. Accounting must be considered and mulled over like a jigsaw puzzle to solve. At its core, accounting is critical thinking and communication, which is why it continues to fascinate me.



Kevin Light Photography

**CHEER ON YOUR TEAMS!**

**HOME OPENER**

**CAMOSUN CHARGERS BASKETBALL**  
Friday, Nov 20 vs Quest - 6pm & 8pm



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[camosun.ca/chargers](http://camosun.ca/chargers)



# The system has changed

## What the federal election results

By Adam Marsh, contributing writer

Photo of Camosun student Celine Hume by Jill Westby/Nexus

The citizens of Canada have spoken in the loudest voice that the current political system allows them to: their words are “get him out.” And after the recent federal election, Stephen Harper is indeed out.

A slogan that Camosun College students may have heard is “ABC,” which stands for “anything but Conservative.” Such a phrase is worrisome, as it can serve as an excuse to be swayed one way or another without even doing the required research to make an informed opinion or an informed vote.

Did students vote because they wanted Justin Trudeau in, or because they were sick of Harper? Regardless of why the results of the 2015 federal election are what they are, there are going to be changes to postsecondary education as a result. Whether these changes are good for students—many of whom have outrageous loans, debts, and full, busy lives on top of being students—remains to be seen. One thing is for sure: Canadians wanted a change. And they got it. But what does this mean for students?

### CHANGES FROM INSIDE

Vancouver Island NDP candidates were elected in six of seven island ridings. Victoria MP Murray Rankin (who is known for being the only candidate who wants to get rid of Bill C-51 entirely) got in with over 42 percent of the vote. He says he is committed to holding the Liberals to their promises, and to easing the financial burdens of students.

“I find it really unconscionable, the amount of debt that students are graduating with,” says Rankin. “Costs cannot be a barrier, in a meritocracy like Canada, to allowing the best and the brightest people to go to college. We can’t, as a society, let this become a playground for the wealthy.”

Rankin says that funding for postsecondary is a priority for him. He says he wants to make sure that no qualified Canadian who wishes to go to college or university is prevented due to cost.

“We provide funding, and the federal government could provide more funding,” he says, “therefore, the provinces, or Camosun, for example, would not be required to feel compelled to get more and more foreign students because they use that to float the college in order to allow more Canadian kids to go. That’s got to be job one.”

Rankin (who says that he is going to make sure he holds the Liberals to their goal of creating more jobs for younger people) says that he will hold to some of the student-focused issues that the NDP talked about during the election.

“I’m going to continue to work on some of the priorities we raised in our NDP platform: cracking down on unpaid internships, creating new work through co-op positions, eliminating interest on federal student loans.”

### THE JUGGLING ACT

Trudeau talks a lot about helping middle-income families, but for now Camosun Early Childhood Education student Celine Hume is still struggling. She has a two-year-old and brings her newborn, Isla, to class with her every day, because paying for both childcare and school is not an option. She says most of her classes “are spent up and walking around the classroom, trying to keep [Isla] sleeping and happy.”

Still, despite her life/school juggling, she remains upbeat and optimistic, and she knows she is doing what she has to.

“I could very easily see myself falling apart and just not going back to school, but at the same time, there isn’t a choice,” she says. “I mean, Isla was born on the sixth of September, and classes started on the eighth. If I don’t graduate on time, then I can’t have that extra income and

provide properly for my children and take the career path that I want to.”

In the meantime, Hume (who has appeared in NDP promotional material) wants to see more from the new government than they have promised.

“As much as I like the idea of increasing grants for students, as rough as it is to say, that’s just not good enough. Even with those grants, you’re still looking at tens of thousands of dollars in student-loan debt. I mean, as a single person with no family, that in itself is daunting, much less with two kids.”

As we’re talking, Isla stirs, and Hume begins to sway her back to sleep.

“It doesn’t make sense that we should have to pay so much for an education,” she says. “I mean, we’re building for our future, making responsible choices for ourselves and for our community. It doesn’t make any sense to me that you should have to choose between having a postsecondary education and having a decent quality of life, or giving your children a decent quality of life. It also doesn’t make sense because in order to pay for the things to have that decent quality of life, you need that postsecondary education. Something has to give.”

As she talks, she grows flustered and red in the face. She understands how imperative these changes are. She looks up to the sky for a moment, gathering herself.

“I would love for the cost of tuition to, if not be eliminated, at least go down, not just for low- and middle-income [students], but for everybody, because education is a right. I don’t think that there should be so much income segregation.”

Despite the stress and doubt that her postsecondary education brings her, Hume still carries with her a large amount of optimism and determination.

“I enjoy the opportunity to be here and have an education,” she says, “and I hope that Isla and my son have the same opportunities when they grow up. I just wish that in the future, it doesn’t have to be such a fight. It seems to be really stereotypical to be the starving student... why are those words associated with being a student? This is a time when our brains are rich and ripe, and we’re so dedicated to our future and bettering ourselves, and yet there are no jobs in your field, or they don’t pay you enough.”

### SYSTEMIC WOES

Second-year Associate of Arts student Chad Hartley says that he believes that Canada’s first-past-the-post system is fundamentally flawed.

“If there’s one thing I hope Justin Trudeau holds on to, I hope he changes the electoral system,” says Hartley. “The first-past-the-post system is ridiculous; Harper got in so many times mostly because of non-voters.”

Hartley shakes his head and sighs; his frustration at the system is evident.

“It doesn’t matter how many people vote Green here; it depends on how many ridings get it,” he says. “I knew so many people here that said, ‘I want to vote Green, but they’re obviously not going to win, so I might as well vote NDP.’ But it should be directly proportionate to the amount of votes that party gets.”

Hartley says that he wants to see an increase in the education of registered student voters.

“I want people to be more educated about the electoral system and how our politics work,” he says. “It’s annoying, and it’s shitty, and it’s a nightmare to understand, but once you do, then with very little effort, you can actually go out and very minutely change the world. I want our election system to change to the one that many people think we have, which we don’t.”

Hartley says it’s important to educate people before they are eligible to vote.

“I think that at 15 and 16, society assumes you don’t have the capacity to deal with your future, and that’s just not true. You just don’t have the understanding of the why. All you know is that your parents tell you to do it.”

Camosun student Hume agrees that education is important: she says that hopping on what she calls the “I hate Harper bandwagon” is better than not voting at all, but isn’t too far away from spoiling your ballot.

Camosun College political science prof Mona Brash says that because previous generations had better-paying jobs, they can have a hard time understanding what students are going through today. And while it’s tempting to look to Trudeau’s government to change that, she says there are limitations on what can be done federally versus provincially.

“The boomer generation came through a time where there were lots of good-paying jobs and we went to school, and now lots of people don’t understand how hard it is for young people,” she says. “[Trudeau] has the potential, then, to transfer money for bursaries or scholarships, or something like that, but he can’t intrude on our system, because it’s not his jurisdiction.”

Still, Camosun student Alexander Nadon says that the recent federal election results should be good for students.

“The thing with Harper is that he was coming up with all these taxes, but it was going fucking nowhere,” says Nadon. “At least with Trudeau, they’ll be going toward things that support and help us.”

Camosun second-year Associate of Arts student Christian Callahan says that while he doesn’t have a good grasp of politics, he knows that something needs to be fixed. Maybe with that fix will come more hope for students.

“I admit I’m not the most political creature,” he says. “I don’t really have ideas on how to fix it, but I can see what’s broken.”



# mean for students

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“We can’t, as a society, let this become a playground for the wealthy.”

**MURRAY RANKIN**  
NDP

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“I could very easily see myself falling apart and just not going back to school, but at the same time, there isn’t a choice.”

**CELINE HUME**  
CAMOSUN STUDENT

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**CHAD HARTLEY**  
CAMOSUN STUDENT

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ideas

## TEDxVictoria returns to talk about impact

JAKE WYATT  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Impact.

That's the theme of this year's TEDxVictoria event. Featuring an array of speakers from all walks of life, TEDxVictoria is the largest TED event on Vancouver Island, and this year's conference is shaping up to be the biggest, and most impactful, TEDxVictoria yet.

Camosun (and *Nexus*) alumnus Dylan Wilks is the creative and licensing director for TEDxVictoria, which will be held at three venues, including Centennial Square.

"The main event is in the McPherson Playhouse," says Wilks, "where we'll also be putting a lounge upstairs where people will have an opportunity to chat and interact with our speakers. We're also taking over City Hall with interactive art we call the 'active space,' which is hands-on stuff for people who are looking to be more hands-on and engage with something."

In addition to the main events at the McPherson Playhouse and City Hall, a multitude of food trucks will be at this year's event, as well as a surprise event taking place in Centennial Square ("You'll be able

"The only time a doctor and a scientist see each other is when the scientist is sick.

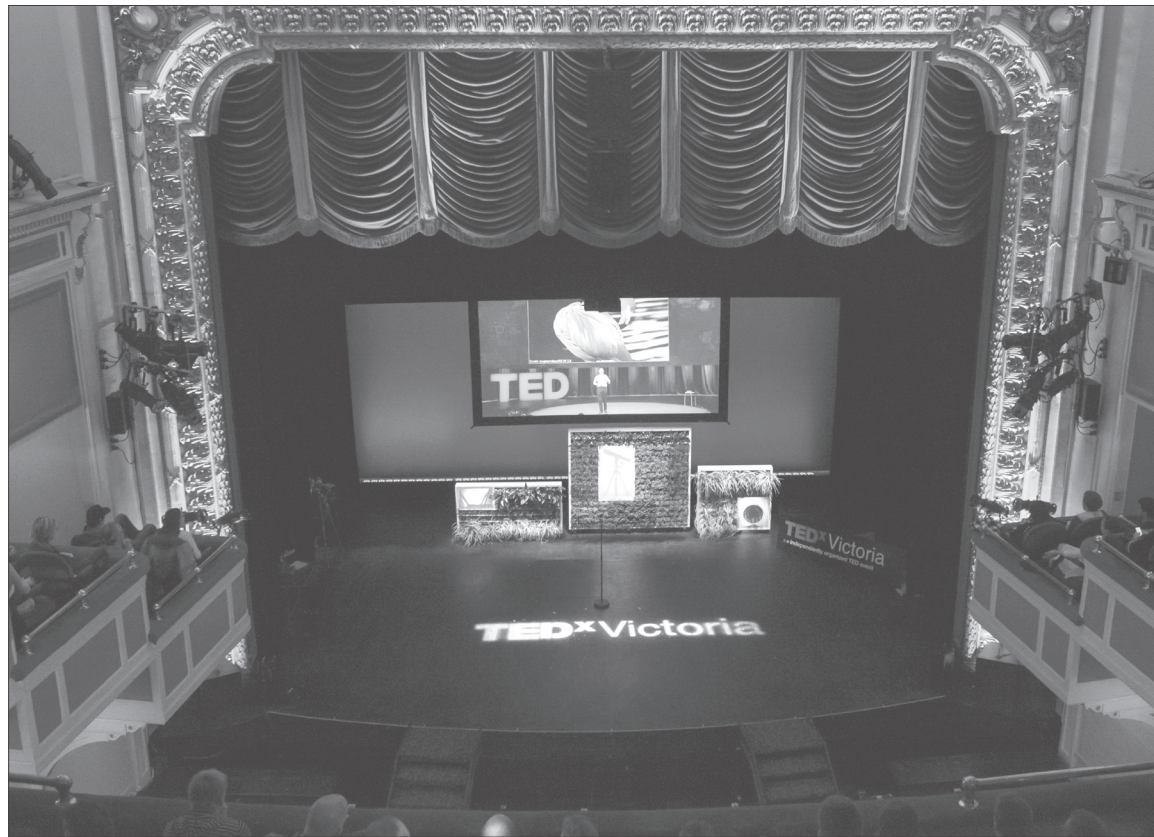
But that's the miraculous part of the TED platform—you've got the doctor and the scientist in the same room."

DYLAN WILKS  
TEDXVICTORIA

to hear it from Esquimalt," teases Wilks).

True to its theme, Wilks hopes that this year's event will leave participants with the desire to make an impact themselves.

"What is the point of all this? What does it mean? This year we wanted to make sure the ideas being presented are less abstract, less about the change you wish to see in the world but more about the practice, something you could get



ALSMITH

A scene from last year's TEDxVictoria event; the theme of this year's local idea conference is "impact."

involved in if you wanted to," says Wilks. "A lot of people attend just to passively observe, and that's cool, but if you wanted to get involved it's there."

Even if those attending TEDxVictoria aren't intending to get involved, the purpose of the event is also for people to make an impact in their own lives.

"The lasting impacts are the conversations, the connections you make with others while you're there," says Wilks. "The only time a doctor and a scientist see each other is when the scientist is sick. But that's the miraculous part of the TED platform—you've got the doctor and the scientist in the same room, along with the engineer, the businessman, the community leader, the politician, and so forth."

One aspiring young scientist is speaking at this year's event. Nathan Kuehne, a Grade 12 student at Glenlyon Norfolk school, received

a gold medal at the Canada-Wide Science Fair for his work developing a home diagnostic tool for PKU (phenylketonuria). He hopes to use his innovations to impact people's lives in a meaningful way.

"Health sciences can have a wider scope than people first believe," says Kuehne. "When I do disease detection and management, not only does it affect those with the disease, but their families and children and the support networks around them as well. My ultimate goal is for this detection process to be in the homes of PKU patients all around the world. It might not happen soon, or at all, but my goal is to make that impact on patients real at some point."

Kuehne is excited to inspire people at this year's TEDxVictoria event, as he believes that is the TED platform's primary purpose.

"At a base level people should be entertained, but the nature of TED

is to inspire people. It's rare for a high-school student to be involved in the things I am. I know that 'It's never too late to start' is a cliché, but you can impact people in ways you might not realize and without much prior knowledge. It's not hard to make an impact."

Another speaker at this year's event is Nicole SoroChan, the driving force behind *Amplify Her*.

"*Amplify Her* is first and foremost a documentary film that focuses on women in the electronic music industry," says SoroChan, "but the whole thing is a feature film, six-part graphic novel, and a six-part motion comic series that features 19 women. My presentation is about my own personal transformation working on the project. This project was really challenging for me because I would have to interview women and deal with some things I had kept buried and hidden."

SoroChan will use her experiences working on *Amplify Her* as the heart of her presentation. She hopes to use this experience to impact people in the same way it has impacted her.

"Part of my message is that a lot of the traits we view as weak, maybe it's time to unlock that and unleash it. Sometimes our biggest wounds are ultimately our greatest gifts. Impact, for me, is about reaching out. It's about change."

TEDxVictoria is shaping up to be an impactful one. While it is slated to be the largest Victoria event yet, Wilks warns that this may be the last.

"This has been a volunteer effort for five years, and many thousands of hours have been put into this event. We're getting to the point now where our team could use a break. We love it, but we could use a vacation, and that will probably happen after this one."



PHOTO PROVIDED

Nicole SoroChan is one of the speakers at this year's TEDxVictoria.

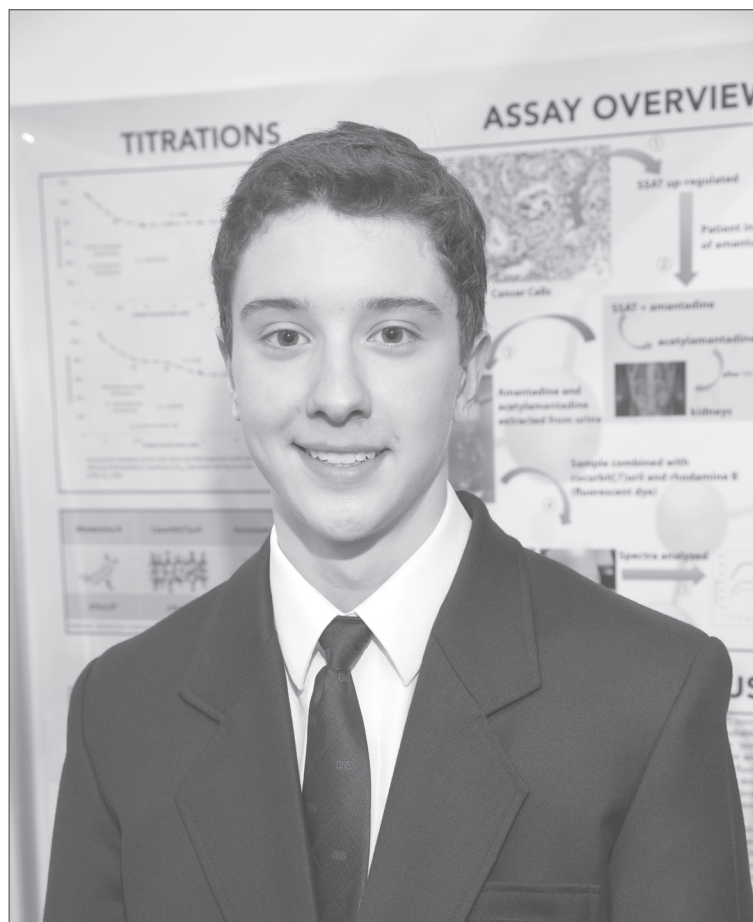


PHOTO PROVIDED

Local high-school student Nathan Kuehne is speaking at TEDxVictoria.

### Dunlop House Pub

At Camosun College



November 19 - Gone country

November 26 - Mele Kalikimaka



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Off Lansdowne Road,  
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ARE MADE

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Int: 5:15 Tue, Campus Ctr 320

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TEDxVictoria  
Saturday, November 21  
\$80, McPherson Playhouse  
[tedxvictoria.com](http://tedxvictoria.com)



stage

## Cold Reading Series comes to Victoria to help writers with their craft



ANDREA SMITH-PEAK

A scene from a recent Cold Reading Series night in Vancouver; Victoria's will launch in November.

**REBECCA DAVIES**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Cold Reading Series (CRS) has been a successful live script-reading event for writers for 10 years in Vancouver. During the events, writers can receive feedback and network with actors and filmmakers. After attending the series, Victoria's Andrea Smith-Peak wanted to bring the unique event to Victoria, so she did: a local chapter will begin on Monday, November 31.

"It's an opportunity for writers to have their plays and screenplays read out loud by professional and

community actors," says Smith-Peak. "It's such a valuable part of the re-writing process. Writing is re-writing, so that's the idea behind it. Everyone gets to practice their craft, everyone gets a chance to collaborate, and hopefully some projects are born out of this."

The night begins with community and professional actors gathering at the Victoria Event Centre at 6 pm on November 30. They're interviewed and cast for up to 40 roles in plays and scripts written by local writers of all levels. Actors read live at 8, with little time to prepare,

in front of an audience. Smith-Peak says that comedies do well in the improvisational environment.

"Everyone is welcome to come. The idea is to have an audience there so you can judge how an audience is feeling about your stuff," says Smith-Peak. "With comedy, sometimes you can change the order of two words, and it makes it funny or not funny; that's why it's so important for actors to stay true to the words on the page, so the writer can figure out what's working and what isn't."

Not only does the audience lend

"With comedy, sometimes you can change the order of two words, and it makes it funny or not funny; that's why it's so important for actors to stay true to the words on the page, so the writer can figure out what's working and what isn't."

**ANDREA SMITH-PEAK**  
COLD READING SERIES VICTORIA

feedback to writers, but the actors also make choices about characters that writers may not have seen before. Writers live with their characters for so long it's sometimes difficult to see them clearly; it can be beneficial to the re-writing process to see how someone else interprets the scripts.

"The great thing about cold reading is the actors themselves can bring so much life to roles that have been living in your head for weeks or months. I find when actors read your work, it's even better than you could imagine," says Smith-Peak. "We have this vision in our heads—what their flaws are, their sanity, what their perspective is on life—but then an actor will make some decisions and add a whole new depth to that character."

With a bar in the venue, the organizers stress that they try to maintain a welcoming environment for all. Smith-Peak herself has her

own work—about aliens coming to Earth in the form of Suri—in the series. She says she knows how vulnerable it can feel to have work read in public, but she hopes that doesn't discourage artists.

"We really try and make the writers comfortable. We're there to hold your hand," says Smith-Peak. "It's a way to see where your expertise comes from. You've got to put yourself out there to get the feedback. You have to start putting it out there, and you'll get better and better."

The writers' submission deadline has passed for the November show, but the Victoria reading series will host more events or table-readings if there is a large turnout. All actors are welcome (email coldreadingvictoria@gmail.com for info) and admission is by donation to encourage a large audience to support the artists in a relaxed atmosphere.

review

## The Threepenny Opera tackles big issues with grace



DAVID LOWES

The Threepenny Opera threatens to be too long, but its many good aspects make up for it.

**MIKAYLA RUSSELL**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

*The Threepenny Opera* is a musical satire set in a future dystopia. Known as a "play with music," it tells the story of villain Mack the Knife and his marriage to Polly Peachum, despite her parents' dismay.

The play, directed by Brian Richmond, starts off strong, with an entertaining beginning scene featuring "footed" boxes running frantically around the stage to the first musical number.

The first act has a much slower pace compared to the rest of the show; at one point, I was beginning to wonder when it would end.

The costumes in the show are very original, featuring accents of

plastic garbage bags and netting, painted cardboard, and duct tape, which was a very clever way to upcycle the costumes.

The characters' vocals are very impressive, reaching high notes cleanly and staying in key.

One particularly enjoyable scene was when Polly meets Mack's mistress, Lucy Brown, while he is in jail; their duet is quite enjoyable, and seeing Polly's at-first oblivious reaction is entertaining.

At the end of the show, when Mack is about to be publicly hanged, Mr. Peachum stops and tells the audience that the ending is going to be happy, and the fairy-godmother-esque character comes out, which makes for a cheesy ending.

But the cheesiness is redeemed

in the last song, which features the lyrics "Not all endings turn out happy/Most happy endings happen on stage."

*The Threepenny Opera* also covers heavy topics such as homelessness and rape, and it managed to talk about religion without being offensive.

Although *Threepenny* was rather long and had a few dry spots in the first half, the vocals, certain songs and scenes, and the end number made up for it.

*The Threepenny Opera*  
Until November 21  
\$15, UVic's Phoenix Theatre  
finearts.uvic.  
ca/theatre/phoenix/

### New Music Revue

#### Two solid Canadian EPs reviewed



**Claire Coupland**

*For You*  
(Independent)  
4/5

Camosun (and *Nexus*) alumnus Claire Coupland brings slow and deep folky chords to all three tracks here on her debut EP. Coupland has come a long way since her time at the college, getting positive feedback from noted music industry insiders like Bob Ezrin, and for good reason: these songs brought a wave of calm across me.

"Alone," the first song on the EP, brings time to a halt when I listen to it; it has me forget about the world around me for three and a half minutes as it plays. "For You" is sung beautifully; Coupland's voice here reminds me of Fleetwood Mac's Stevie Nicks. With a catchy chorus, this song stuck strong in my head.

Coupland has set the stage for her success through these incredible folk songs.

-ADAM BOYLE



**Blue Sky Miners**

*Blue Sky Miners*  
(Independent)  
3.5/5

This debut EP from Canadian folk band Blue Sky Miners has an entrancing and mystical sound; the song "Cold Water," which starts off the EP, is the perfect track to draw listeners in.

The band refers to their sound as "Rocky Mountain desert rock," but "folk rock," something we're all familiar with, works just as well.

For a band just two years into their career, they have an impressively established sound and quality to their music.

This EP features a variety of sounds and instruments played by their five members, including lead female vocalist Jena Gogo, who has a smoky voice that's perfectly accompanied by her male counterparts.

This EP is a perfect introduction to this band.

-MATT O'CONNOR



review  
**Chantal Kreviazuk uses personality to put on unforgettable performance**



Chantal Kreviazuk won over the crowd at her recent Victoria show. PHOTO PROVIDED

**JESSICA WILLIAMSON**  
 CONTRIBUTING WRITER

It's rare that I find myself with tears in my eyes at a concert, bursting out with laughter and being moved by incredible vocals and heartwarming stories. But on Friday, November 6, everyone in the audience at the McPherson Playhouse was engaged and loving every moment of Chantal Kreviazuk's performance.

Apart from being a musician, Kreviazuk, who is indeed a complete vocal powerhouse, is also an ambassador and supporter for various charities and causes around the world, such as human and animal rights and mental health, and is a founding artist of the War Child campaign.

But despite her positive community influence, she had no problem telling the audience a recent

story about losing her cool at a woman on the plane to Victoria, who swore at Kreviazuk's young son.

Kreviazuk went into detail about the insults, curse words, and comebacks she used to defend her son as she described going into "mama-bear" mode in this hilarious monologue. Laughter filled the theatre; she wrapped up it up with an inspirational twist, then got back to the music.

Kreviazuk was more down-to-earth than any other artist I've ever seen, interacting with the audience, making sure the front-row audience members could see her over the edge of her large grand piano, and talking to the people in the closest balcony seats.

Everyone felt so comfortable that some audience members made comments about Kreviazuk's ankles during the concert; she cracked

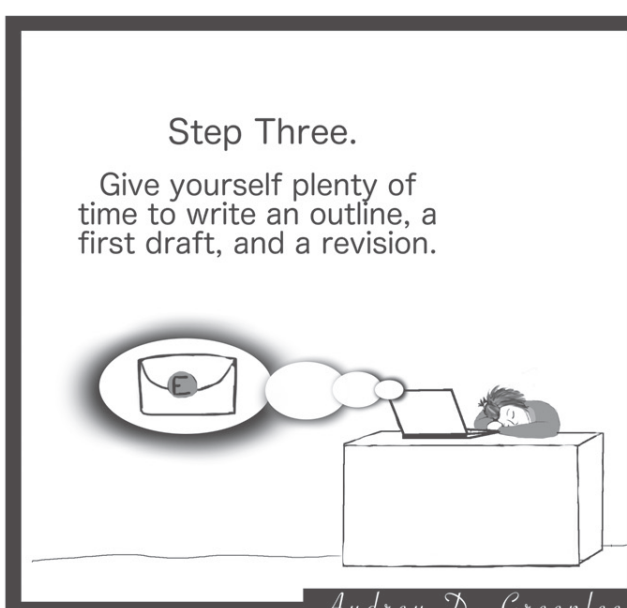
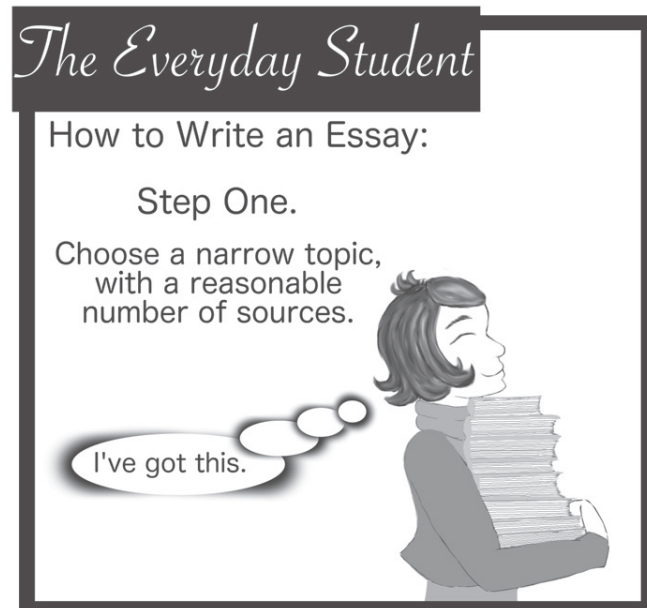
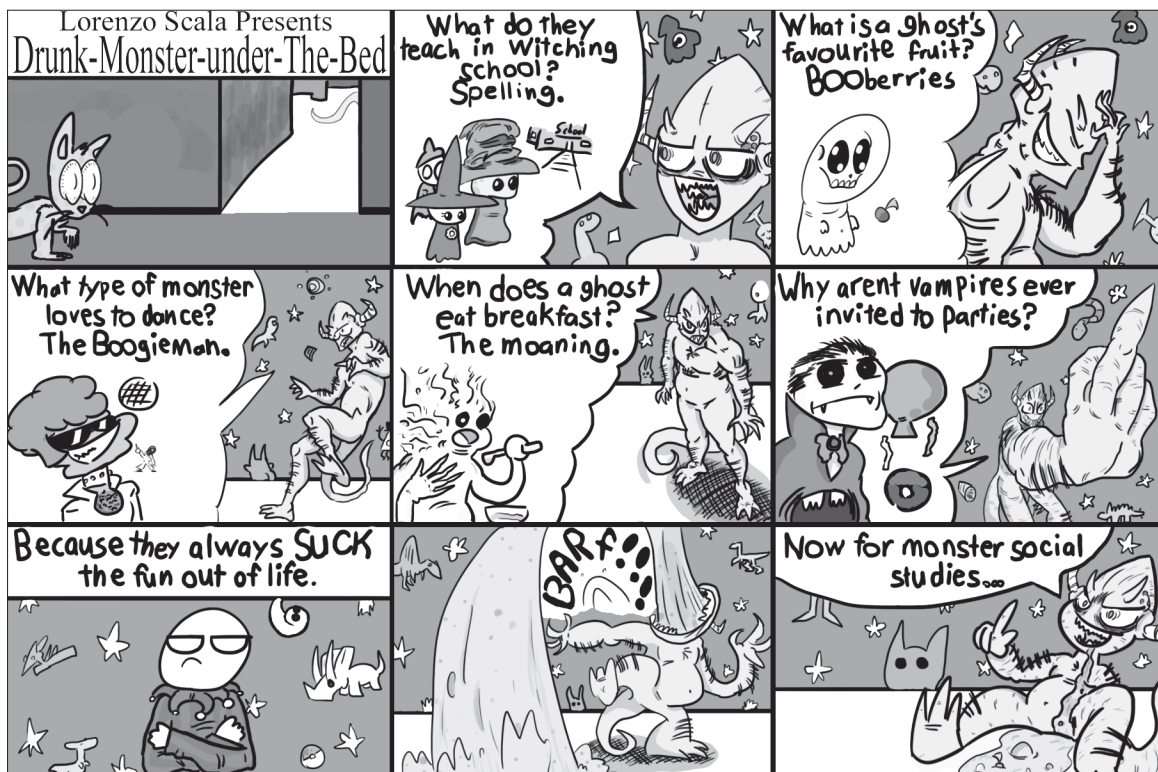
jokes about that fact throughout the night.

Not only was she funny and passionate on stage, but her vocals were spot-on the entire concert. She always sang in tune and floored me with her jaw-dropping vocal range and raspy runs.

When she became out of breath during the ending of one of her songs, she stopped the tune and joked about jetlag with her drummer and guitarist before restarting the verse, finishing the song where she had left off.

She ended the song better than she started it, and I wasn't bothered that she stopped for a moment.

Her newest singles were the best songs of the night, especially one of my favorite songs, "I Will Be." Hearing it live was incredible; this will be a night I won't easily forget.

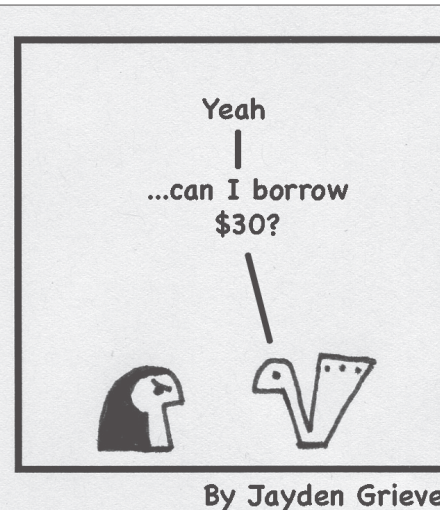
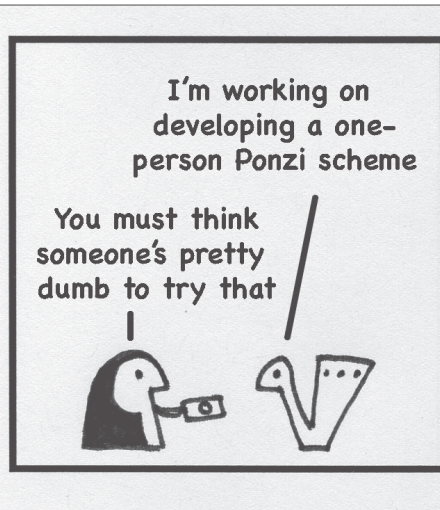
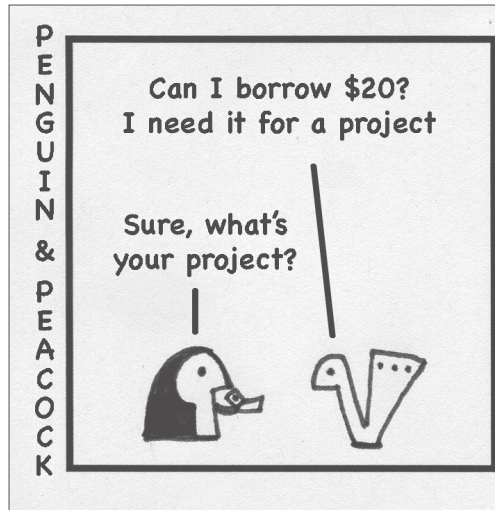


Audrey D. Greenlees

**NEXT ISSUE**

Part one of our exclusive two-part series examining the usage of ADD and ADHD drugs as a study tool by Camosun College students who do not have ADD or ADHD.

On stands December 2.



By Jayden Grieve

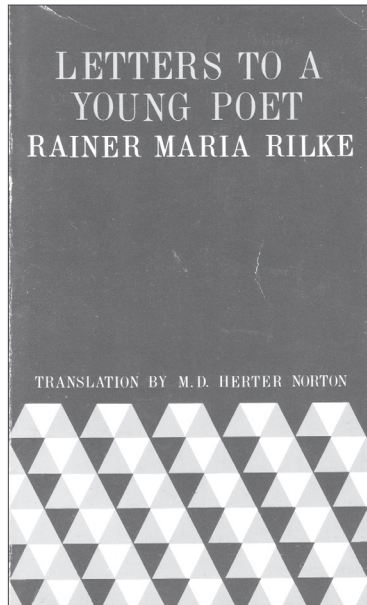




## Lit Matters

by Keagan Hawthorne

## Rilke on seeking answers to tough questions



Rilke wrote about the struggle to find inner peace in an external world that was constantly in flux and full of tensions, a preoccupation as pertinent today as it was 100 years ago.

ope's most celebrated poets in the first quarter of the 20th century. But even though he achieved fame in his own lifetime, his life was often marked by emotional turmoil and poverty. He died of leukemia at age 50.

Rilke wrote frequently about the struggle to find inner peace in an external world that was constantly in flux and full of tensions, a preoccupation as pertinent today as it was 100 years ago. He found answers to life's tough questions by not seeking answers at all. Instead, he embraced the experience and opportunity for an expanded knowledge of the self that difficulty and challenge present us.

"Surely all art is the result of one's having been in danger," he wrote, "of having gone through an experience all the way to the end, to

where no one can go any further."

Although he was known as a poet during his life, much of Rilke's most enduring writing is to be found in the many volumes of his letters that survive. He wrote about many things but always returned to his favourite topic: love. He wrote that all of life—literature, art, civilization itself—serves no other purpose than to prepare us for the hardest of all tasks, and the most important.

"For one human being to love another: that is perhaps the most difficult of all our tasks, the ultimate, the last test and proof, the work for which all other work is but preparation."

**Rainer Maria Rilke must-read:**  
*Letters to a Young Poet*  
(Public Library Central Branch:  
Non-Fiction 831.912)

"Have patience with everything unresolved in your heart and try to love the questions themselves," wrote Rainer Maria Rilke, the German poet best known for his inspiring letters and mystical visions of the transformative power of art. If there were ever an advocate for why literature matters, surely Rilke was one.

Born in Prague in the late 19th century, Rilke became one of Eur-



## The Functional Traveller

by Sera Down

## Why so kawaii?

As I traipse through the 24-hour grocer on a late-night hunger-fuelled purchase-capade, I jaunt past the refrigeration cabinets stocked with cured meats. Then I double back.

Sandwiched between Vienna sausage and Italian ham is a package of tiny Vienna sausages shaped like octopus, complete with edible smiley faces. Despite their innocent grins compelling me to adopt them, I take a step back to contemplate my bizarre attraction to a product I honestly have a slight distaste for.

Why are products so attractive based solely on the merit of cuteness?

As someone who regularly shops at Victoria's Secret, I acknowledge that sex sells. It's the driving force behind most Western advertising, and for a good reason. As human beings we are addicted to comparing ourselves to others, and we live vicariously through social media. Any semblance of similarity we can

simulate from our digital idols gives us a rush of validation.

Of course, sex sells in Japan. The entirety of *Akihabara* (also known as Electric Town) is draped in massive billboards, with scantily clad anime girls advertising anything from *pachinko* (Japanese slots) to car insurance. Young women and men in costume flank the sidewalk, handing out fliers for maid cafes and host clubs. Most wait quietly until they catch the eye of a passerby, who then meekly accepts their brochure for fear of being rude. It's remarkably effective, as they need not say anything at all to attract potential consumers.

There is a unique dichotomy to Japanese marketing, however. With every provocative image is a component of innocence: girls appear vulnerable, their body language shy. This extends far beyond advertising with women, as instead of using sterile emblems to symbolize

national districts, adorable mascots are the centrepiece.

As a comparatively traditional culture, Japanese culture still promotes the passiveness of femininity and the suppression of overt sexuality.

Western sexuality is often considered too forward and aggressive, so a more subversive form of sex appeal has emerged: cuteness.

Consumers are attracted to these passive undertones, and the market perpetuates; even foreigners cannot resist the plethora of adorable merchandise Japan has to offer.

I left the grocer that day lighter in pocket and heavier in thought. While my purchase didn't include grinning Vienna sausage, I returned home to a desk full of stuffed animals vigilantly expressing their constant approval.

In the end, we're all suckers for plush.



## Look

by Melanie Didrich

## Time

What is time, anyway? I want to pinpoint this question down very narrowly because time seems to be this illusion that never stays on track. When I need time, I don't have it; when I don't need time, time seems to stand still. Always.

I know this sounds very meta-physical. I only ask because there are times in my life as a student when I swear someone is playing with the clock. I am amazed how all of my timepieces seem to jump ahead unanimously.

Maybe time is just an illusion. When I think of the lists of activities, responsibilities, jobs, homework, tests, and work that I have to do, I often panic, and the clock speeds up suddenly; the deadline has come and all I've done is worry and fret. Yet, when I engage myself in the moment, in the here and now, and find my space in the present physical form, I become a magician and time slows down.

Life moves fast. Time needs to

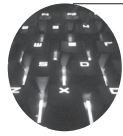
slow down. I need to taste, touch, smell, feel, sense, and see. Already it is November and the cold air has become best friends with the rain and fog. I wake at four and I fall asleep long after eleven. Time ticks on like marching minions.

Sometimes I wake with the impressions of textbooks ingrained in my face. Sometimes I forget that I should have read more of my textbooks. Sometimes I promise myself that when I find more time I will *put in* more time.

Do we ever find more time?

We are at week 10. When did that happen? So, suddenly, one project has morphed into a whirlwind of activity like leaves caught up in the swirling wind.

And I take a deep breath and hold it in my chest before exhaling it slowly and looking around. I recite the objects in my mind as I count my breaths. Then I bring myself back to the moment so I can be present in my beautiful life.



## The Bi-weekly Gamer

by Adam Boyle

## Revolutionizing the market

Leading up to October, there was a ton of hype around the popular *Guild Wars 2*. A massively multi-player online roleplaying game (MMORPG), it's a huge online game in which the player creates an avatar and is thrown into a digital realm with thousands of other players with the task of levelling up, completing quests, fighting against other players, or collecting unique "skins" for your items.

MMORPGs are incredibly social games, and you will almost always encounter players no matter where you are in the in-game world.

*Guild Wars 2* tasked itself with the challenge of differentiating from the ever-growing collection of MMORPGs that are "traditional." The vast majority of MMORPGs all try to be like one of the world's most popular games, *World of Warcraft*.

Often taking many of the basic features of *WoW*, clones tend not to change a whole lot in terms of gameplay and usually just personalize the game's graphics, story, and player classes.

*Guild Wars 2* threw the whole market on its head three years ago when it was released. ArenaNet, the

company behind the game, vowed to change how players experience MMORPGs forever. Were they successful? Yes!

I remember playing the game for the first time and being blown away. Combat was more interactive; traditional quests such as "kill 10 rats and return for your reward" were non-existent and were instead replaced with dynamic events that involved the player in a changing world around them. Through regular updates, new content and story was pushed out in large-scale events and individual content.

Now, the game has transitioned from buy-to-play to a new business model of free-to-play. This change flooded *Guild Wars 2* with thousands of new and eager players.

The other new change was the release of an expansion set to change the way players play *Guild Wars 2*. Both were executed superbly and brought both new and returning players into the fantasy world. If ArenaNet continues to revolutionize the market as they have been, I would go so far as to say that *Guild Wars 2* will surpass the popularity of *World of Warcraft* in the future.

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feature story word search

We grabbed some prominent words from our feature story (see page 6) to create this issue's word search. Bring the completed puzzle in to the *Nexus* office and grab a surprise prize for your hard work! Hint: it's a *Nexus* T-shirt!

ANNOYING  
BANDWAGON  
BOOMER  
BROKEN  
CHANGED  
CONSERVATIVE  
ELECTIONS  
FEDERAL  
FLUSTERED  
GRANTS  
HARPER  
JUGGLING  
LIBERAL  
LIMITATIONS  
QUALITY  
SLOGAN  
STRUGGLING  
STUDENT  
SYSTEM  
TRUDEAU

R J S N B T K O G M D R I K J  
U H N A R R B H C N N C Q M U  
A B O G O L P D O Z P D S B G  
E Q I O K U A I N C E T E L G  
D U T L E U V R S R N L I Z L  
U A C S N B T A E A S M T P I  
R L E Z C N N T R D I J O B N  
T I L M E N S G V T E T Y E G  
D T E D O U S V A T B F C K Y  
V Y U Y L Y B T T R E P R A H  
B T I F S N I L I B E R A L V  
S N Y T Z O I Y V B O O M E R  
G D E G N A H C E G K G V A C  
Q M Q S G N I L G G U R T S V  
B A N D W A G O N Z C Y F K K

what's going on

by pascale archibald

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18  
UNTIL SATURDAY,  
NOVEMBER 21

Three useless coins

Head over to the Phoenix Theatre at UVic for some musical satire in *The Threepenny Opera*. In an absurd dystopian future and a society where money corrupts, law is fickle, crime pays, and Mack the Knife displays his broken moral compass in song. For ticket prices and show times visit [finearts.uvic.ca/theatre/phoenix/](http://finearts.uvic.ca/theatre/phoenix/).

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18  
UNTIL TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24

Personified

Why not take some time out of your day to stop and admire some art? Head over to Dales Gallery, located at 537 Fisgard Street, where seven talented local artists have their works displayed in *Rain-coast Reflections Exhibition; Beyond Persona*. More info can be found at [dalesgallery.ca](http://dalesgallery.ca).

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Protecting endangered plants

Victoria's Native Plant Study Group is presenting Thomas Munson's talk on Victoria's endangered plants on November 19. The evening's presentation looks at the protection and management of the natural areas and parks within the city. The focus will be on the recent project in Beacon Hill Park, where funding has been granted to protect and enhance the populations of five red-listed species. The talk, which is free for students, starts at 7 pm in room D116 of UVic's MacLaurin building. More info on this event can be found at [npsg.ca](http://npsg.ca).

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Dining for a cause

Join Victoria's Conservatory of Music and local restaurants in From Breakfast to Beethoven, a day of fundraising aimed at feeding local schoolkids. The option to donate at one of the participating restaurants will be available. According to the organizers of From Breakfast to Beethoven, up to 30 percent of children arrive at school hungry every morning. For a list of participating restaurants and more information on the program visit the Victoria Conservancy of Music website at [vcm.bc.ca](http://vcm.bc.ca).

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27

Boogie woogie blues

Spend an evening grooving out to some amazing blues and jazz performed by Michael Kaeshammer and his band. Kaeshammer is a talented Canadian pianist and singer who has earned international success for his charismatic style and swinging tunes. The show is at the McPherson Playhouse, starts at 7:30 pm, and tickets are \$32-\$39. For more info check out [rmts.bc.ca](http://rmts.bc.ca).

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28

Doors fan?

Head over to the Duke Saloon, located at 502 Discovery Street, for The Unknown Soldiers, a tribute to The Doors. Tickets are \$15 in advance or \$20 at the door. Event starts at 8 pm, but doors (the physical ones with knobs and stuff) are at 7. Check out [thedukesaloon.com](http://thedukesaloon.com) for more information.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28

Cook Street crafting

The annual Christmas craft sale and silent auction on Cook Street runs from 9:30 am until 2:30 pm at 380 Cook Street. This free event features 30 craft vendors. The silent auction features prizes from 60 businesses; lunch will be available for \$5 and Santa will be there, so bring your kids along! Visit [cookstreetvillageactivitycentre.com](http://cookstreetvillageactivitycentre.com) for more information.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29

Winter birding!

Get out into nature with a birding adventure at Witty's Lagoon Regional Park in Metchosin. Find out just how many birds call southern Vancouver Island home for the winter with a guided identifying session by a CRD regional parks naturalist. Bring your binoculars and enthusiasm for birding to the nature centre meeting place. This free event runs from 10 am until 12 pm and is recommended for ages 9 and up (all you 8-year-olds are just plain out of luck). Find out more by visiting at [crd.bc.ca](http://crd.bc.ca).

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1

Book launch

Award-winning Victorian author Mark Zuehlke launches his new book, *Through Blood and Sweat: A Remembrance Trek Across Sicily's World War II Battlegrounds* at Munro's Books at 7:30 pm. More information on this free event can be found at [munrobooks.com](http://munrobooks.com).

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Michael Kaeshammer is bringing his music to town on November 27.

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