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# INTERROBANG

**THE TIME IS  
NOW TO BUILD  
CLIMATE  
RESILIENT  
COMMUNITIES**

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ian. indiano





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FROM THE  
EDITOR Hannah Theodore

Dear readers,  
Welcome to Interrobang's second ever Politics Issue. This theme was first introduced last year, amidst an unhinged presidential campaign in the United States and a global pandemic.

Well, the pandemic is still here and the U.S. may have a new president, but the division left in the wake of the Trump era has only intensified. So, here we are again.

Of course, since that time, Canada saw its own election, which we covered extensively earlier this semester. But our ability to do so was limited by the fact that the issue going out at that time was our Sex issue. Now we're going all in on politics, exploring everything from climate change to Indigenous perspectives to who deserves a monument.

We hear a lot about division these days, and perhaps rightfully so. Outrage culture and deep distrust for one another have created a political landscape that at times feels broken beyond repair. We in the media often work to portray both sides of a contentious issue, but that responsibility becomes challenging when *everything*

becomes a contentious issue. That's why this issue includes a multitude of perspectives drawing on concerns that hit close to home, and ones that have the potential to spawn global and intergenerational repercussions. Rather than target the minute disagreements we encounter every day (mask mandates, anyone?), we've harnessed our team's knowledge of big picture issues, in order to explore the systematic, structural issues affecting not just young people, but people everywhere.

With our cover, we highlight the hope that our elected officials may soon start to address those issues.

Until then, happy reading!

With reverence,

Letters to the Editor: fsuleters@fanshawec.ca

KEYNOTES



**Randell Adjei**  
Transforming Pain  
into Power



**Susan Aglukark**  
Correcting  
the Narrative



**Ginella Massa**  
Exclusive interview  
with the CBC journalist

Ignite

CAREER CONFERENCE

YOUR NEXT NORMAL • NOVEMBER 3, 5 & 6

Hosted virtually via Pheedloop

Registration is FREE to all  
Fanshawe students and alumni!

Also featuring workshops, an  
employer panel, prizes and more!



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Visit fanshawec.ca/ignite for more info or to register



# Fanshawe's Ignite Career Conference is coming back

**Kate Otterbein**  
INTERROBANG

The Ignite Career Conference: Your Next Normal is coming back to Fanshawe. The annual student career and leadership conference will take place from Nov. 3-6, with different keynote speakers each day.

"The goal for Ignite is to provide a conference experience for our students at no cost, as well as to give them inspiration and tools that they don't usually get through our day to day workshops," said Darlene O'Neill, the Director of Employment and Student Entrepreneurial Services at Fanshawe College.

This conference allows students to participate in workshops, ask questions to employers, and expand their professional networks. It will be held virtually to allow students to work around their personal schedules, so students can log on when they have time in their busy school schedules.

The keynote speakers this year are Randall Adjei, the first poet laureate in Ontario on Nov. 3, Susan Aglukark, an award winning Inuk artist on Nov. 5, and Ginella Massa, the first hijab-wearing TV news reporter in Canada on Nov 6.

"Our keynote speakers over the three days are diverse, they're enthusiastic, they represent what the Canadian mosaic of population looks like, and what our student body looks like. [Students] can also look forward to some really cool workshops that are very different than we offer on day to day," said



Ignite Career Conference, 2019.

O'Neill.

Some of the workshops that will be offered are an improv workshop to exercise creativity, an opportunity to measure adaptability, five tools to change in your career toolbox to be successful amidst a pandemic, and an Adobe workshop about creating a professional brand.

"The workshops are on the second day and there are four. They're being run concurrently, so the students will have to pick one of four, which is going to be a challenge. So we've duplicated it at another time in the afternoon. If they don't get their first or second choice in the first round, they can try again in the second round."

The conference will then end off with an employer panel.

"The employers are going to talk to students about the challenges and opportunities that have resulted throughout the pandemic and as a result of the pandemic."

O'Neill said this conference is based on transitioning to a "new normal" because the work world will never be the same after COVID.

"We've got gamification through the platform, there's lots of prizes, photo booths, and networking opportunities. Even though it's all virtual, we are using feed loop through conference services here at Fanshawe, so we're using our own products. We're super excited to offer a really unique opportunity to our students."

O'Neill's hope is that students will walk away from this event feeling inspired.

"Particularly this year, there's been so much thrown at students and I want them to come together and listen to the keynotes and hear the stories of inspiration, hope, perseverance, creativity, adaptability, and see that in themselves."

Students looking to participate can apply at [pheedloop.com/igniteconf2021](http://pheedloop.com/igniteconf2021).

CREDIT: SUZANNE CARROLL

# FSU by-election winners announced

**Hannah Theodore**  
INTERROBANG

On Oct. 20, Fanshawe Student Union (FSU) president, Ricardo Souza announced the winners of the FSU by-elections. Four vacant Director seats were up for grabs, while 10 candidates vied for the positions over the course of a week-long campaign.

Candidates uploaded speeches and personal bios to the FSU website and campaigned across campus through posters and social media.

After all the votes were tallied, Souza announced that the four new FSU Directors will be fourth-year Bachelor of Commerce Digital Marketing student Cadie De Kelder, Baking and Pastry Arts Management student and FSU Class Representative Barbara Burger, Business Management student Ana Nelson and Supply Chain Management and Logistics graduate student Prakhar Kapoor.

Over 1,100 students voted in the by-election, which was held via FanshaweOnline from Oct. 18-Oct. 20, ending at 2 p.m. The margin of votes between the fourth place candidate and the fifth place candidate was just 11 votes.

Souza said he was pleased with the turnout, but said the college still has a long way to go in getting students involved in college politics.

"I think we're getting better... and I was super joyful to know the number of candidates we had, we had 10 candidates and I think the numbers are rising...but I think we still have a lot of work to do to have more students voting in the next elections," he said.

The candidate with the most overall votes was Cadie De Kelder, who has been a student at Fanshawe for seven years. De Kelder successfully clinched 602 votes.

"As a Fanshawe student for seven years I have had many experiences

with Fanshawe, some highlights being an international exchange where I studied in Clermont-Ferrand, France as well as took part in the inSPIRE Mentorship program virtually throughout the pandemic," said De Kelder in her candidate bio.

Souza said De Kelder's experience as a domestic student with years of Fanshawe expertise would be a welcome addition to the Board.

"She's going to represent a portion of the student community that was not represented until now so I'm very excited," said Souza. "Also with her experience, I think she's going to add a lot of good stuff for our students."

The newly-appointed Board of Directors will represent all full-time Fanshawe College students on the Student Administrative Council (S.A.C.) Board of the FSU. Directors are responsible for defining the strategic goals to be implemented by the operations of the FSU. Directors are a major policy-making body of the FSU, allowing students to voice their opinions and concerns in all areas of the FSU and College affairs.

"The Board of Directors are the policy-making group in the college so they are very, very important," said Souza. "They are a big deal and they have such an important role here at the FSU."

See below for a complete breakdown of how students voted.

- De Kelder, Cadie: 602
- Burger, Barbara: 522
- Nelson, Ana: 485
- Kapoor, Prakhar: 313
- Gurram, Lakshmi Sai: 302
- Sannidhanam, Anurag: 271
- Bhardwaj, Sarah: 252
- Purohit, Abhishek Singh: 95
- Adeniyi, Adefolake: 88
- Ahmad, Muzammil: 62
- Spoiled: 3

Visit [fsu.ca/elections](http://fsu.ca/elections) to learn more about the candidates and winners for the FSU Board of Directors.

# Sexual and gender-based violence committee chairs aim to change campus "party culture"

**Rebekah Rodrigues**  
GAZETTE

Western's new sexual and gender-based violence committee co-chairs are looking to change the university's reputation for "party culture" with the hopes of making campus a safer place.

Western University president Alan Shepard appointed Terry McQuaid and Nadine Wathen to lead the committee. Both McQuaid and Wathen emphasized the need to address growing concerns that the university's culture leaves students vulnerable to sexual and gender-based violence.

"Several people that I've known across the secondary landscape do see Western as a party community," said McQuaid, director for wellness and well-being in Western's student experience portfolio. "Nadine and I are here to understand where that is coming from and how we take the goals of the committee to help to change that story. We heard from the student community a couple of weeks back on the walkout that they want [the culture] to change."

The committee co-chairs said they

will seek out student perspectives and recommendations to understand what needs to be done to change Western's party culture.

"I think that many of our students actually have some terrific ideas and we want to create a safe space for them to be shared.... I would like to have students really tell us what they see as potential solutions," said Wathen, a professor and Canada research chair in mobilizing knowledge on gender-based violence. "We're not anti-fun but we want people to be safe on our campus."

Western created the new action committee in response to reports of sexual violence during Orientation Week. The committee is part of the university's safety response plan that also includes increased security and mandatory sexual and gender-based violence prevention training for students in residence.

According to McQuaid, in addition to tackling the broader campus culture, the committee will also aim to analyze gaps in current sexual and gender-based violence policy.

The committee is hoping to present actionable recommendations to Western's administration by spring.

The committee also comprises



CREDIT: LIAM MCINNIS (GAZETTE)

Western created the new action committee in response to reports of sexual violence during Orientation Week.

University Students' Council president Zamir Fakirani and other campus leaders. Fakirani said the committee is a "good first step towards tangible change," in a statement to the Gazette.

"I am thankful that our community

and administration is waking up to Western's deep-rooted campus culture that has promoted and enabled gender-based violence," said Fakirani. "I'm pleased to have the opportunity to represent the undergraduate student voice on this

committee. ...We deserve a campus that is safe and inclusive."

The committee is also calling on community members that may have relevant research, data and publications to share them with the task force.



# Western cancels travel abroad programs for winter 2022

**Sheetal Vemannagari**  
GAZETTE

Western University suspended all international university-sanctioned travel for students until April 30, 2022 in response to Canada’s continued Official Global Travel Advisories.

The move is a continuation of suspensions to university-sanctioned international travel since March 2020.

University-sanctioned international travel refers to “any activities approved, authorized, and/or supported by a Western University unit, department, staff, and/or faculty member,” according to a statement from Western International.

This includes exchange programs, internships, faculty-led study abroad courses, research placements and conference travel.

Students who planned to participate in exchange programs abroad have the option to either complete the program remotely, defer their application or withdraw from the program.

Rupert Beggs, a third-year Geography student, said he was disappointed at the cancellation of his semester abroad, where he was supposed to study at Seoul National University in South Korea.

“The reasoning for cancelling [the exchange program] didn’t really seem like that valid, especially if

Seoul is open. ... I could travel right now if I wanted to on a student visa,” he said. “If the school says yes to me, why can’t I go if I’m okay with the vaccination [and] if I’m okay with putting myself at risk?”

Beggs said he spent \$50 on his original application with Western to study abroad and around \$125 upon his acceptance.

In a statement to Gazette, Western International explained that the \$165 placement fee paid upon acceptance to the program will be refunded to students upon withdrawal.

Those who need to travel for academic reasons this year may fill out a Special Authorization to Travel form, where they must list out all risks associated with the trip and detail the academic necessity of the trip.

“What significant negative consequences to your academic program will occur if you don’t complete this international activity now?” asks the form.]

“It is a very big application. You have to put a lot of risk management and analysis in it,” said Beggs. “They’re trying to make people jump through hoops. ... I think there’s a lot of people that might ... see that massive form and [say], ‘I don’t want to fill this out, this is a lot of work.’”

An email to students explained the decision was made due to Canada’s Global Travel Advisory, ongoing risks associated with travel in the pandemic and impacts of program



CREDIT: GAZETTE ARCHIVES

Students who planned to participate in exchange programs abroad have the option to either complete the program remotely, defer their application or withdraw from the program.

cancellations abroad.

“Though it was a difficult decision, it was made in line with the Government of Canada’s continued Global Travel Advisory and Western’s Safety Abroad policy,” read Western International’s statement to Gazette.

Official travel advisories encourage Canadians to “avoid non-essential travel outside Canada until further notice.”

The responsibility to determine essential travel is up to the traveller, according to the government’s advisory.

“It is up to you to decide what ‘non-essential travel’ means, based on family or business requirements, knowledge of or familiarity with a country, territory or region and other factors,” reads the travel advisory.

Western continues to plan for

international programs in the summer term despite repeated cancellations to international travel.

“At this time, we are planning for summer 2022 international programs and experiences to go ahead,” said Western International. “We will continue to monitor and assess the situation and will advise on any changes to summer 2022 travel by the end of March.”

# Mental health first aid training offers support and strategies for crisis

**Jessica Gould**  
INTERROBANG

Similar to when physical aid is needed for an injured person before medical treatment can be done, mental health first aid will be replicating that care for mental health crises.

Mental health first aid (MHFA) will be returning in a hybrid format through FanshaweLearns to provide help for people developing or experiencing mental health struggles.

Nikki Ross is the Acting Manager for Personal Counselling Service at Fanshawe College and highlighted the importance of discussing care for mental health in a similar way as physical care.

“Mental health first aid is a training course that was designed to help people provide help to someone who’s experiencing challenges or a decline in their mental wellbeing, or in the case of a mental health crisis to help them get to appropriate supports,” said Ross.

However, Ross also noted the training does not teach people how to be therapists. The training is to help recognize the signs and symptoms of mental health problems and provide guided steps towards more appropriate professional help for someone in need.

“I often say much like someone who’s providing physical first aid is not expected to be a doctor, someone who’s providing mental health first aid is also not expected to be

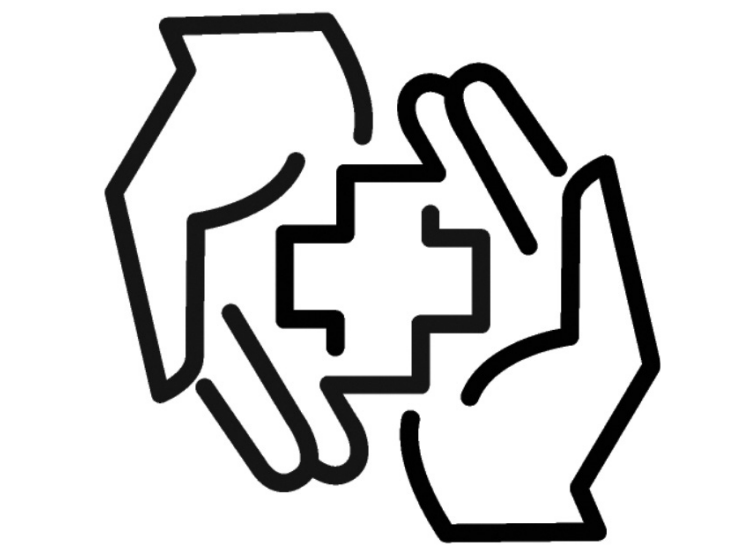
a professional in the field. In terms of communities in Canada, we know that statistically, one in five Canadians are likely to experience a mental health problem within a year,” shared Ross.

With the specially designed first aid training focused on mental health, a goal to increase the capacity for people to support each other in the case of a crisis will then provide an increased likelihood to recovery and saving lives.

“MHFA focuses on some of the most common and most stigmatized mental health problems and disorders that people experience,” said Ross. “It also includes information about the signs and symptoms that someone may be struggling, the risk factors associated with that that might increase the likelihood and crisis first aid for specific situations. So in terms of disorders that are focused on in the training, we talk about substance related disorders, mood related disorders, anxiety and trauma related disorders, and psychotic disorders.”

The MHFA course is approximately 12 hours long over a period of two days. Participants will receive a course manual and certificate from MHFA Canada upon completion.

“We know that within the college population, we’re seeing increases in our students struggling with mental health,” said Ross. “And the skills and strategies that this program offers are relevant to supporting friends and family members and our colleagues and our co-workers as well.



CREDIT: MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID CANADA

One in five Canadians are likely to experience a mental health problem within a year.



**Have any questions or comments about Fanshawe’s Mission, Vision, Values or board policies?**

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**Tom Hutchison-Hounsell**

Student Representative to The Board of Governors

I would just really encourage people to consider taking the training if they haven’t already or retaking it if they have in the past. And if this isn’t the right opportunity, [we] will continue offering it and making it available to people.”

With steps to break down the stigma and fear of mental health, MHFA can open up conversations and discussions about mental health.

“The things I hear from people in training at the beginning all the time are, ‘I’m afraid to say the wrong thing,’ or, ‘I won’t know what to do or how to help.’ And the feedback that we’ve gotten from people later is that this has been helpful, it does

make it easier to feel equipped to have some of those conversations,” said Ross. “And also, you’re engaging with other people who then can be a support if it’s needed. In terms of encouraging conversation, I think the more we can take away the fear that can be associated with the unknown or with how to say something or how to ask, the better we open up those conversations, and that’s exactly what works to reduce stigma in general.”

For those interested in joining the sessions taking place Oct. 27-28, or for more information please contact nross@fanshawec.ca.



# Forest City Film Fest to celebrate Indigenous creators

**Savannah Bisailon**  
INTERROBANG

This year, the Forest City Film Festival will be celebrating Indigenous creators. As part of the Ontario Screen Creators Conference, a multitude of Indigenous produced programs will be presented in competition on Oct. 23. The Indigenous program was curated by Judith Blaire and sponsored by the Canada Council for the Arts.

The Indigenous program consists of eight short films produced by Indigenous filmmakers across the southwestern Ontario region. The screening will take place on Oct. 23 at the Wolf Performance Hall.

Blaire discussed the importance of Indigenous voices needing to be heard, especially today.

"It's always been important that we include Indigenous voices and First Nations voices and perspectives in Canada as the first peoples but most importantly, as a part of reconciliation, we definitely have to always take our voices and perspectives along with the rest of Canada

when we're talking about how things have affected us."

Some of the lineup includes Taye Alvis and their film *When Shadows Dance at Night*, and *Beans* by Tracey Deer. Blaire further explained why Indigenous representation in cinema is so important, since there has been misrepresentation of Indigenous people in a lot of mainstream cinema.

"It's super important that the representation is authentic and misrepresentation has been huge in cinema more recently, I mean it's always been there actually, it's not even just something that's new, it's always been there, since the invention of the camera. Non-Indigenous people have been dressing native people up into what they thought we looked like."

With over 10 Indigenous-produced or Indigenous-centric films in competition outside of the special screenings of a few, the line-up includes documentaries, narratives, music videos and experimental films. 2021 is the largest year for the Forest City Film Festival and it also includes a multitude of Indigenous-produced content as part of the Ontario Screen



CREDIT: FILMRISE, MONGREL MEDIA, MÉTROPOLE FILMS DISTRIBUTION

The Indigenous program was curated by Judith Blaire and sponsored by the Canada Council for the Arts.

Creator's content.

"We're at a really, really great time in cinema right now," said Blaire. "Because the native people, the First Nations people are not only in front of the camera, but we're also behind the camera writing the scripts, we're directing the films, and that brings authenticity, and stops the

misrepresentation of who we are."

The Forest City Film Festival runs from Oct. 19-30 with both an in-person experience and online option. From Oct. 25-30, the festival will be moving online where people can screen all 92 films featured in the festival anywhere in Canada on demand.

If you are planning to attend the festival in person, there will be COVID safety protocols in place.

For tickets or to review the COVID safety protocols check out [forest-city-film-festival.myshopify.com](https://forest-city-film-festival.myshopify.com) and click on the curated Indigenous program tab for more information on the Indigenous portion of the festival.

# London's last-minute internal crisis

**Ian Indiano**  
INTERROBANG

Early this year, Canada held a snap federal election. The most common criticism of the election was that it was too much work for virtually no change. The government remained a Liberal minority. In the House of Commons, not much changed indeed. Liberals won a mere three more seats, Conservatives lost two, and the New Democratic Party (NDP) won one more seat. However, to say that nothing changed seems like an oversimplification. The real impacts of this election are still being identified. For us, here in London, surprisingly, it created an internal crisis. Arielle Kayabaga left her seat in London's city hall to occupy one in Ottawa. Not much time later, Councillor Phil Squire also announced his resignation from London City Council. London now needs to figure out how to replace two empty seats. But how to do it?

Before we answer that, it's important to make sure we understand how the municipal government works. In London, we have a Mayor, Ed Holder, a Deputy Mayor, and 14 ward councillors that serve a four-year term. Each member has one vote on items before council, which is why two vacant positions are so impactful. In Canada, the municipal government, as a public service provider, can provide any service they consider necessary, and recover the costs of those services. It also has the authority to regulate people and property and impose property taxes. The municipal government is responsible for community water systems, libraries, parks, local police, roadways, and parking.

And who are these two former councillors? Kayabaga won her



ian.indiano

CREDIT: IAN INDIANO

The real impacts of the 2021 federal election are still being identified. For us, here in London, surprisingly, it created an internal crisis.

riding to be the councillor of Ward 13 after London's 2018 municipal election. She was elected as a Liberal Member of Parliament for the London West riding in the 2021 federal election. Phil Squire was the councillor of Ward six and announced his resignation after being appointed a member of the provincial Consent and Capacity Board, a provincial tribunal that deals with issues of health care consent in Ontario.

So how to solve this issue? Well, there are mainly two options, as the Municipal Act of 2001 states in Section 263(1). The vacancies can be filled by "appointing a person who has consented to accept the office if appointed" or "require a by-election to be held." But both options have their problems.

The first option, which is by appointment, raises concerns about democracy, as Ward 11 Councillor Stephen Tuner said on his Twitter

account.

"No other level of government in Canada fills vacancies for elected representatives through appointments. They hold by-elections. That's because it's the only way to truly determine the will of the citizens," he wrote in a series of tweets.

However, to hold a by-election is not as easy as it seems. The estimated cost of such an election is \$165,000 to \$180,000. Plus, the

next regular municipal election is due to take place in Oct. 2022, while the by-election would take place March 2022. As determined by law, no election shall be held before March 31 in the year of a regular election, which means that City Hall could operate with two less seats for five more months.

The matter was referred to full council's next meeting on Oct. 26, where an official decision should be made.



# Off the radar: What's going on in the world

Ian Indiano  
INTERROBANG

To achieve a successful legitimate democratic state, it is fundamental to guarantee the independence and the sovereignty of what we call “the three powers,” i.e., the legislative, the executive, and the judiciary. In layman terms, their responsibilities are, respectively, making the laws; executing the laws; and judging the crimes. It is also common to add to this list a fourth power, which is the press. In theory, the independence of each one of these branches, including the fourth one, is what prevents the monopoly of power, because they necessarily supervise each other. And our role in this system is to watch carefully each one of these powers, and make sure the government remains of the people, by the people, for the people.

To help you stay informed, here are four news stories from around the world you should be paying attention to:

## Elections in Iraq

After massive protests against government corruption, high unemployment, and dire public services in 2019, the Iraqi people finally had the chance to vote. The election happened on Sunday, Oct. 10. Partial results point to a possible victory by the nationalist Sauron movement, led by Shia Muslim cleric Muqtada al-Sadr. His party wants to end U.S. and Iranian influence over Iraq's politics. The election was supposed to happen last year, but it was postponed after the protests, during which more than 550 protestors were killed by security forces. Although it might take many weeks of negotiations to form a governing coalition, Sadr is already promising a government free from foreign interference.

## Cambridge University returning bronze cockerel to Nigeria

The bronze sculpture, known as an “okukor,” was donated to Cambridge University's Jesus College in 1905. The statue was looted in 1897 in a British raid on what is now Nigeria.



CREDIT: IAN INDIANO

Elections in Iraq, African art finally returning to its home, and new immigration laws in Poland. This and more this week on Off the radar!

In 2016 it was removed from display after the Legacy of Slavery Working Party (LSWP) recommended it be returned. The LSWP was formed by the college to investigate historical links it might have to the slave trade. The artwork will be returned to Nigeria's National Commission for Museums and Monuments on Oct. 27. The ceremony will be at Jesus College.

## New law allows migrant expulsions in Poland

A new law has passed in Poland's parliament allowing border guards to

immediately expel illegal migrants and to refuse applications for international asylum without examination. Many human rights groups are accusing Poland of trying to legalize migrant pushbacks and breaking the international law that says that anyone seeking international protection must be given access to the asylum process, even after crossing the border illegally. At least six migrants were found dead near the border with temperatures falling below freezing overnight. The EU and Poland are accusing Belarus' authoritarian

President Alexander Lukashenko of facilitating an influx of thousands of migrants as a form of retaliation against sanctions. Since August, more than 16,000 people attempted to cross the Belarusian border illegally.

## Columbus statue to be replaced by Indigenous woman in Mexico

Mexico City's governor Claudia Sheinbaum has announced that a replica of a pre-Columbian statue, known as the Young Woman of Amajac, will replace a statue of Christopher Columbus. Sheinbaum said that this change is part

of a “decolonization” project. The announcement was made on Oct. 12, the anniversary of Columbus' discovery of the Americas. Christopher Columbus is viewed by many as a symbol of colonialism and oppression, and many monuments in his honour have been attacked recently, like this one, that was daubed with paint during protests last year. The original Young Woman of Amajac was discovered in January and lives now in Mexico City's Anthropology Museum. The statue of Columbus will be moved to a park in another area of Mexico City.



## HAVE AN OPINION? SUBMIT YOUR STORY!

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# STUDENT UNION FINANCIALS 2020 - 2021

Report of the Independent Auditor on the Summary Financial Statements

To the Members of Fanshawe College Student Union

Our Opinion

In our opinion, the accompanying summary financial statements of Fanshawe College Student Union (the Student Union) are a fair summary of the audited financial statements, on the basis described in the note to the summary financial statements.

The summary financial statements

The Student Union’s summary of financial statements derived from the audited financial statements for the year ended April 30, 2021 comprise:

- The summarized statement of financial position as at April 30, 2021;
- The summarized statement of operations for the year then ended; and
- The related note to the summary financial statements.

The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. Reading the summary financial statements and the auditor’s report thereon, therefore, it not a substitute for reading the audited financial statements and the auditor’s report thereon.

The audited financial statements and our report thereon

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the audited financial statements in our report dated September 23, 2021.

Management’s responsibility for the summary financial statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of the summary financial statements on the basis described in the note.

Auditor’s responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the summary financial statements are a fair summary of the audited financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Canadian Auditing Standard (CAS) 810, Engagement to Report on Summary Financial Statements.

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

Chartered Professional Accountants, Licenced Public Accountants

London, Ontario

September 23, 2021

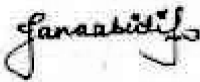
Fanshawe College Student Union  
Summary Financial Statements  
As at April 30, 2021 and for the year then ended

	2021	2020
<b>Summarized Statement of Financial Position</b>		
<b>Assets</b>		
Current assets	3,804,785	4,569,591
Investments	7,350,300	6,188,373
Capital assets	4,075,664	4,841,407
	<u>15,230,749</u>	<u>15,599,371</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Current liabilities	2,609,790	3,687,886
Long-term debt	1,757,822	1,959,551
	<u>4,367,612</u>	<u>5,647,437</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>		
General fund	2,774,938	1,573,140
Reserve funds	2,554,758	2,193,916
Capital fund	5,533,441	6,184,878
	<u>10,863,137</u>	<u>9,951,934</u>
	<u>15,230,749</u>	<u>15,599,371</u>
<b>Summarized Statement of Operations</b>		
<b>Revenues</b>		
Net student fees	6,780,767	7,892,542
Organizations and programs	781,911	2,502,781
Interest	317,017	64,952
Rental	6,143	33,343
Other	133,499	124,276
	<u>8,019,337</u>	<u>10,617,894</u>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Health plan	2,652,342	2,875,574
Organizations and programs	2,325,898	4,444,477
General and administrative	1,957,186	2,253,640
Student relief	-	400,000
Impairment of capital assets	172,708	-
	<u>7,108,134</u>	<u>9,973,691</u>
	<u>911,203</u>	<u>644,203</u>
<b>Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses for the year</b>		
General fund	1,201,798	545,878
Reserve funds	360,842	(26,295)
Capital fund	(651,437)	124,620
	<u>911,203</u>	<u>644,203</u>

Approved by the Board of Directors



Chair, Board of Directors



Secretary, Board of Directors

The accompanying note is an integral part of these summary financial statements.



# Who Is Kateri Tekakwitha?



**Michael Veenema**  
RELIGION

*It can be tempting to look back on Indigenous/non-Indigenous history and see it in very simple terms. But reality is not simple; it is better to look for details.*

Consider the story of Kateri Tekakwitha. Her journey is that of both a Native person and a convert to a faith that was brought from Europe. It illustrates that past relations between Native people, European settlers, and Christian missionaries are a complicated mix of grace and hope, as well as missteps and pain.

Even though she lived only 24 years (from 1656 to 1680), Algonquin-Mohawk woman, Kateri Tekakwitha, left a very big impression.\*

Over 300 books have been written about her. You can find statues of her in Sunbury, OH, in Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupre, Quebec, and in Santa Fe, NM. Other statues and images of her have been set up throughout Canada and the United States. She has been featured in Leonard Cohen’s *Beautiful Losers*, and in historical novels and film. Pope John Paul II beatified her, and Pope Benedict XVI canonized her. By 1991 there were 130 *Kateri Circles*, small communities of Roman Catholic and Indigenous members dedicated to reconciliation and to helping Native North Americans adopt and understand the Catholic faith.

Who was Kateri Tekakwitha?

Kateri was born centuries before Canada and the United States existed, in what is now New York State. She was the daughter of a Mohawk chief and an Algonquin woman. Her mother had been baptized and educated by Catholic missionaries in Trois-Rivieres (near Montreal). The village Kateri grew up in provided space for many who survived smallpox and other epidemics, as well as captured natives from tribal battles.

During Kateri’s early years, Catholic missionaries made a strong impression on her. As they worked, they discovered many bridges between Christian and Native traditions. At other times they worked to end certain spiritual practices such as the Feast of the Dead. Once, Mohican warriors attacked Kateri’s Mohawk village,



CREDIT: HELOVI

Statue of Kateri Tekakwitha in front of the Saint Francis cathedral, basilica in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

provoking a successful defense and the torture of captured Mohicans. One of the missionaries, Jean Pierron, pleaded for the torture to stop, but he was not successful.

And then in 1671, the Mohawk chief Ganeagowa, after returning from a long hunt, announced that he had become a Christian. During his trip he had made friends with Jesuit missionaries who had set up a Catholic mission among Iroquois people at La Prairie (near Montreal). The Christian life of the Iroquois impressed Ganeagowa. At the same time, a priest, Jacques Fremin, instructed him in Catholic life and faith.

When Kateri was 18, her aunts tried to set her up in a marriage. She endured so much ridicule for resisting this that she fled the cabin in which her family lived. One day, home because she was injured and therefore not harvesting corn with the other women, she met a missionary named Jacques de Lamberville. He was visiting the village. Lamberville and a number of others listened as she told her story and expressed her desire to become a Christian. After instructing

Kateri for some months, Lamberville baptized her. Kateri was 19.

Because some of the Mohawks persecuted her, Kateri joined other Native new believers in Kahnawake (south of Montreal) in 1677. Soon afterwards she was influenced by the Jesuit, Pierre Cholenec, who introduced the tradition of the direct “mortification of the flesh.” This involved hair shirts (very uncomfortable), iron girdles and whips to restrict the pleasures of the body (This may have been well-intentioned, but still I regard it as a serious distortion of the Christian life; it should not be imposed on believers).

In the following years leading up to her death, Kateri became known for her Catholic devotion. She sometimes overdid her “mortification” of the flesh, until another Jesuit, Claude Chauchetiere, instructed that she should no longer do so.

Kateri became a close friend with another very devout believer, Marie Therese Tegaanguenta. Even though the Jesuit leaders did not think they were mature enough to start a support group for new native believers, the women continued in their spiritual journey together.

One day she became ill. Very soon friends realized that she was unlikely to survive. Cholenec and Chauchetiere provided the last rites. Kateri died in the arms of her dear friend, Marie Therese. It is written that her last words were, “Jesus, Mary, I love you.”

After her death, there were reports of her being seen and heard. And during the many years that have come after, there have been healings attributed to her. One of them concerns a Protestant child, Joseph Kellogg. Seemingly about to die, a Jesuit gave him a piece of wood, a relic, from Kateri’s coffin. The child recovered. Likely, many people early on believed in Kateri’s healing power, either in this way, or by prayer.

Kateri’s legacy continues on. Her desire to found a support group for new native believers has become fulfilled in the creation of *Kateri Circles*. And her Christian faith continues to provide guidance for Indigenous and non-Indigenous people alike.

\*I am relying on the Wikipedia article, *Kateri Tekakwitha*, for the historical content of this article.

# Every missing and murdered case should get the same attention as Gabby Petito’s

**Emily Waitson**  
THE CORD

When the news of Gabby Petito’s disappearance and subsequent homicide broke, internet sleuths and armchair true-crime experts on TikTok took the opportunity to analyze her case and pose their theories.

Petito was officially reported missing on Sept. 11 and her body was found on Sept. 19.

Her case received wide-spread attention from people online and through the media, which significantly aided and impacted the discovery of her remains.

Petito’s story is a tragedy. She was only 22 years-old and should not have had her life horrifically taken from her.

But she is not the only person worthy of justice.

In 2020, more than 540,000 people went missing in the United States.

Crowdsourced crime-solving can clearly have a positive impact in helping law enforcement find a missing person.

However, the same treatment and urgency should be extended to other unsolved missing persons cases as well.

According to the Native Women’s Association of Canada, there are over 2000 Indigenous women missing and murdered in Canada.

For BIPOC victims, the focus from the media and general public is rarely, if ever the

same as it is for white victims.

Petito’s family did not have to beg to receive media coverage of their daughter. They didn’t have to fight with the police to take their concerns seriously so their child could be found.

“Missing white woman syndrome,” highlights this notion. It’s mainstream media’s apparent fascination with white women who have gone missing and their disinterest regarding women of colour in the same or similar situations.

More than 400 Indigenous women have gone missing in the state of Wyoming over the past decade where authorities also found Petito eight days after her disappearance was reported.

I, like many people today, have a fascination with true-crime. But if you’re going to listen to two white women talk on a self-made podcast about the murders and mysteries surrounding the disappearances of other white women in your spare time, why not diversify your scope?

Engage with stories about missing and murdered women who aren’t popularized and exploited in newspapers like the *Daily Mail* and *Sun*.

Pressure should be put on law enforcement to address these countless cases with the same devotion they gave towards finding Petito. It shouldn’t take public fascination and conspiracy theorists to push action forward when people’s lives are at stake. News outlets, most of which are owned and run predominately by



CREDIT: CONTRIBUTED IMAGE

According to the Native Women’s Association of Canada, there are over 2000 Indigenous women missing and murdered in Canada.

white men, should not be dictating which lives are more worthy of people’s care and concern.

“I want to ask everyone to help all of the people that are missing and need help,” Petito’s father said in a public statement on Sept. 28.

“It’s on all of you, everyone that’s in this room, to do that. And if you don’t do that for

other people that are missing, that’s a shame because it’s not just Gabby that deserves that.”

“So look to yourselves on why that’s not being done,” he concluded, addressing members of the media who were also present in the room.



# The trials and tribulations of working minimum wage jobs

**Aisha Javaid**  
INTERROBANG

Remember when you were preparing for an interview for your first job? You thought about your skills and how they'd be beneficial to the employer. You basically worked on persuading your future employer into thinking that you're the ideal candidate for that specific position. When they asked why you wanted to work at a fast-food restaurant or in retail, you had to tell them something convincing, like you enjoyed multi-tasking and working with people.

But it wasn't until you were actually employed that you realized how much you absolutely hated multi-tasking and people.

I've worked in various industries that paid a living wage. Along with that, like most people, I also have stories about being mistreated by management and customers, battling safety hazards at work, and much more. But throughout every shift and workplace, I gained a lot too. I learned and enhanced my skills in time management, communication, organization, problem solving, and more.

On multiple occasions, I remind myself how truly grateful I am to be employed here in a country like Canada. In many parts of the world, there are limited resources, rules, and regulations to protect employees. Although the country does struggle with subsidizing injured workers, equal pay, and other labour-related issues, it still exceeds other nations with respect to working conditions.

## How we see minimum wage

At times, I become attentive as to how locals view minimum wage jobs, both as employees and as customers.

A specific event that stood out to me was when a customer at my retail job was trying on clothes and tossing them on the floor. When her boyfriend went to pick them up after her she glanced over at me and said, "babe, why are you picking those up? That's *their* job."

It was hurtful. Although I'm only a part-time worker, I imagined how upsetting it would've been if she had said that in front of an employee who was dependent on this job for their living



CREDIT: MANTOSH

Currently, minimum wage in Ontario is \$14.35 per hour, and is set to rise in Jan. of 2022 to \$15.

expenses. And that's just a minor example of some of the things retail workers hear.

Furthermore, the corporation that I'm employed with has implemented a reward system. It is free of charge and is intended to help customers receive discounts on their purchases. When beginning to mention the program, most customers cut off my coworkers and me by yelling, "No! I just want to pay and get out of here!" The only time they're willing to listen to us is when we mention anything about discounts and coupons. Following our spiel, they become enraged when there aren't

any coupons available when they feel entitled to a discount.

From all this, I mentally gathered how some locals feel about their time and money. Their thoughts and feelings reflect on their spending, patience and how they treat employees. Each customer sets their own expectations for the workers. Some individuals demand immediate assistance, while others favour approaching workers for help when needed.

As workers, we receive training on utilizing the cash register, fitting room protocols, Workplace Hazardous Material Information

System (WHMIS), health and safety, and basic customer service. The rest, we improvise and learn from one another, while doing our best to assist customers with purchases, cleaning, finding products, returns, and more.

Currently, minimum wage in Ontario is \$14.35 per hour, and is set to rise in Jan. of 2022 to \$15.

Although it is an increase in pay, there may be economical consequences and effects in consumer consumption. In essence, any effects on prices will influence how minimum wage workers are treated.

# The power of political ads and how different nations use them

**Svitlana Stryhun**  
INTERROBANG

In Ukraine, political advertising in most cases is not aimed to solve problems, but to "search for the guilty."

Political advertising originated in ancient Greece and ancient Rome more than two and a half thousand years ago. Heralds informed citizens in the streets about the affairs of the state, the beginning of wars and major military campaigns, and then partook in the recruiting of volunteers for the army. Statues of political rulers and generals would also act as a kind of advertisement. Various inscriptions and slogans helped to understand the main points of their political program.

Today's political advertising is very different from ancient times. Instead of statues there are billboards, banners, radio, television, and the internet which are all used as important fighters in political wars.

The main goal of a political campaign is the recognition of politicians without discussion. What is more, a campaign can be used to spoil the reputation and ratings of other candidates, but it's not done directly. Political TV ads make suggestions that perhaps the money of taxpayers was not used properly by

the leader of the official government.

According to the classic model, political advertising should clearly emphasize how the ideas of a political party or candidate will improve the lives of ordinary citizens in order to interest voters. However, in Ukraine for example, in pre-electoral political advertising, most parties focus on the negativity of opponents.

Political forces are attempting to prove to the voters who is to blame for what is happening now. Positive thoughts are not often well perceived; people now have great aggression towards political parties. But the ads also tend not to offer any hope, and this tactic is wrong, because in any format, no matter the advertisement, people vote for those who give a way *out* of a bad situation. That's why political advertising in Ukraine is considered uninteresting and meaningless, and that might be because it is based on the USSR's system from the 60s.

In Canada, the situation seems to be similar. Every candidate tries to blame the other, the one who seems the most popular. Political experts say the worst time in a campaign is the week before elections. Party leaders search for compromising evidence on each other and use it to hit one another. Sometimes the "dirt" comes from years and years ago.



CREDIT: LIBERAL PARTY OF CANADA VIA YOUTUBE.COM

Political smack ads tend not to offer any hope, and this tactic is wrong, because in any format, no matter the advertisement, people vote for those who give a way out of a bad situation.

But the main difference between political advertisement campaigns in Ukraine and in Canada is that Canadian political leaders mention a way out from the current situation. They not only blame each other but also show a positive way of acting. Voters perceive the information and see the way out in other candidates; government saves the trust of people.

However, experts argue that the negative aspect of campaigns do not increase the ratings of political forces. They recommend changing the content of political advertising because people don't like information that emphasizes the negative, they tend to appreciate the positive plans projected into the future.



# Why don't more young people vote?

Amy Simon  
INTERROBANG

It's the question that's asked every year come election time. We often hear how the younger generation is politically disengaged or apathetic towards politics. But I believe that may not entirely be the case.

As a member of the younger generation myself, I feel the reality is that most of us are neither apathetic nor ideologically disengaged. Young people are not turning out to vote because our lives are not set up for it.

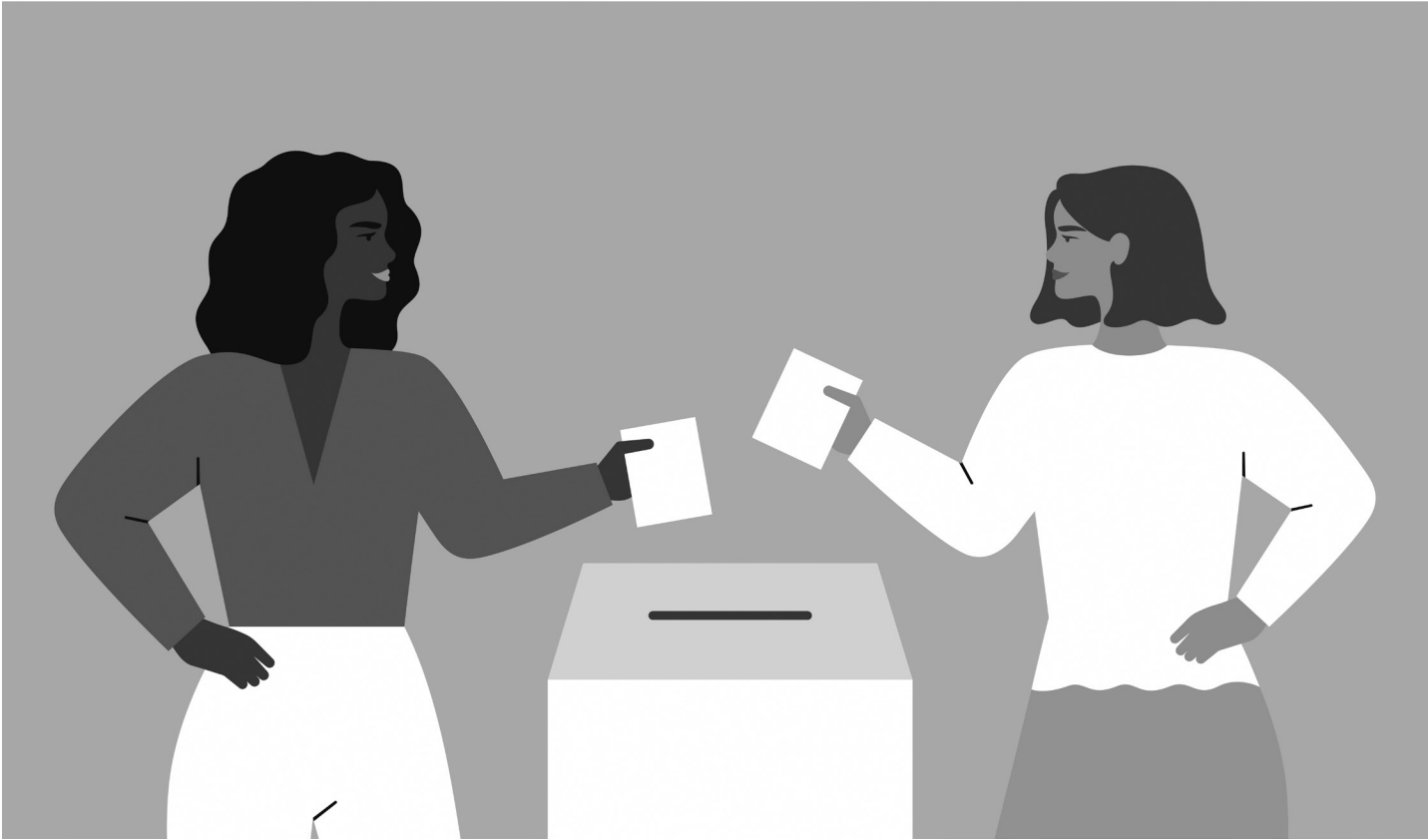
We're attending college, most of the time in a different location from where we grew up. On top of that, young people are working full-time or part-time jobs, often those of minimum wage with unstable hours which can bring up financial concerns and loads of stress.

With the lingering presence of upcoming due dates and deadlines peering over our shoulders, even researching on the various political campaigns may be entirely forgotten. That's where the rebuttal of, "I don't even know who to vote for," comes into play.

Moving around a lot can also come with the price of being a student. Changing schools, majors, or, in a normal world, even studying abroad. Half of us don't even know where we'll be living in six months' time.

So, figuring out how and where to vote may not be as easy as it is for the older, retired generation who've lived in their familiar area for many years. For students, especially finding that place to vote may be more of a challenge than most people realize.

Take this year for instance. Normally, Fanshawe College holds their own on campus voting come federal election time. But this year Elections Canada did not offer voting on campuses. That affects the location of where young people can vote, and for those who are coming to school in an unfamiliar area, finding another place to fill in their ballot may add on another layer of stress, one that could



CREDIT: PONOMARIOVA\_MARIA

With the lingering presence of upcoming due dates and deadlines peering over our shoulders, even researching on the various political campaigns may be entirely forgotten.

possibly lead to a disinterest in participating.

According to Elections Canada, in 2020, "youth aged 18 to 24 made up 8.9 per cent of the population and those aged 18 to 34 made up 22.8 per cent of the population." Although there is still a portion of the younger generation trying to navigate their way to the polls, we can't ignore the fact that there is a rather large group of young people who simply don't care enough to vote.

In 2019, and before the call of the election, 64 per cent of "youth aged 18 to 24 were less likely to view voting as a duty than as a choice." Compare that to those aged 25 and older, where 74 per cent thought the same way.

But just because some in the younger generation don't "choose" to vote, that doesn't mean politics are entirely out of their conversations.

The younger generation has been seen taking to social media platforms to share their political views. Whether that's intergenerational issues such as addressing climate change or inequality, or creating memes out of political candidates, everything seems to get bundled into the internet's subheading of politics.

Does this mean there is no hope for youth who want their voices heard? No, not at all.

Intergenerational issues that the younger generation is raising awareness about can only be addressed if those who are affected by them recognize the importance of shifting the generational narratives that circle around voting.

And while I know finding clear instructions on where to cast your vote may seem hard to schedule in the lives of postsecondary students and the younger generation, shaping your own future is hard to accomplish without helping to secure our societies future in the process.

# Political opinions should remain private

Kate Otterbein  
INTERROBANG

In a world full of technology, it's hard to keep anything private. You know everything about everyone. But one thing that shouldn't be public information is your political opinion.

The past election, Facebook was covered in many different colours of political parties. People would put their frames up on their profile pictures to show off to their friends who they were voting for, and this creates a divide. People on your friends list may think they can never speak to you if they have a different political view — depending on how intense it comes off. For some, it even instills fear.

"It's scary honestly," said a source who preferred to be kept anonymous. "Your own social media should be a safe place, but it's not. People who are really into politics make comments all over posts. It makes you scared to ever post because you don't want people like that coming at you. I am personally very into politics, but I don't enjoy seeing other people's posts."

When there is conversation on social media about politics, it tends to just make people angry. You have two people wanting their country run in very different ways and for many people, politics are a very passionate subject. It is okay to have a civil debate about political opinions, but they tend to get out of hand.

Then we run into the issue of "echo chambers." Echo chambers are when a person surrounds themselves with information or people who have the same view on something and they are constantly validating each other's opinions. It is healthy to form your own opinions from seeing both sides of the story and using your own resources to come to a conclusion. It can be dangerous to only see one side of the picture all the time.

There have been studies done on this topic, but most are based in the United States. This might not be representative of Canada, but it still shows how social media can have negative effects.

In Oct. 2020, the Pew Research Centre did a study on how Americans think social media affects the way the country was running at the time. Between both Republican and Democratic supporters, the majority said social media had a negative effect on how their country was being run. Many surveyors expressed concerns about social media users believing everything they read without fact checking and about the creation of echo chambers. This study was done before the rush of the Capitol in Jan. 2021, but that is proof of how strong social media can be. With one quick tweet sent, that day will go down in history.

Someone's political opinion should not matter and should not be relevant on social media. Social media should not be the home of toxic behaviours and conversations that



CREDIT: KATE OTTERBEIN

Political opinions on social media can cause feelings of being attacked or unsafe.

make some people feel unsafe and fear the people they are interacting with. It is okay to be passionate about politics, have your own opinions, and feel very strongly about them.

But it is not okay to attack other people for their beliefs. Keep the political talk private and in your own home.



HAVE AN OPINION? SUBMIT YOUR STORY!  
Letters to the Editor: fsuleters@fanshawec.ca



# MARY SIMON:

## Canada's first Indigenous Governor General

**O**n July 26, 2021, Mary Simon was appointed Canada's 30th Governor General. This was a huge victory for the Indigenous community as Simon is the first Indigenous woman and Indigenous person to ever be appointed to the position in Canada. Simon was formerly a broadcaster, civil servant and diplomat.

Simon has gained attention nationally and internationally for her work as an advocate for Indigenous issues and Inuit rights and culture. Earlier this summer, when Simon was appointed, a huge debate sparked regarding the fact that Simon does not speak French fluently. She is, however, fluent in both English and Inuktitut. Language is a huge part of who we are as humans and for the Indigenous community, words hold so much meaning and knowledge, whether they be conveyed through songs, stories, or dances. A lot of this language has been taught and passed down from generation to generation.

Simon's language abilities have sparked a debate on which languages 'count' in Canada. In 1969, Pierre Trudeau's government passed the Official Language Act, which was revamped in 1985. The legislation ensured that English and French were the official languages of Canada and ensured equality of the status and equal rights/privileges as to their use in all federal institutions.

Although Simon does not speak French, Inuktitut holds a great meaning not only to her but the Inuit community. Simon speaking her native language shows the power it holds.

Canada has always been at odds with its claims of multiculturalism and what is considered bilingual. Simon is a prime example of the importance of Indigenous languages.

Christine de Clercy, an associate professor in the political science department at Western University discussed the importance of Simon and her role as Canada's first Indigenous Governor General.

"I think one of the ways that past Prime Ministers, whether they're Conservative or Liberal, have been using the Office of the Governor General is to signal that politics ought to be accessible to more than just white men," said de Clercy. "So I fully expect that First Nations, Inuit, and Métis women will find [Simon's] assignment to be a wonderful example. And also, performance will demonstrate to them hopefully, that there are some doors opening for more diverse kinds of people, and particularly First Nations, Inuit and Métis people within federal politics. When it comes to Simon and the language barrier, if she wasn't qualified for the position, the Prime Minister would not have appointed her."

Another important thing about Simon being appointed Governor General is that it is a breakthrough, not only for Indigenous people in Canada, but also for women in the political field.

"It's quite a welcome breakthrough that Mary Simon has been appointed to the role of Governor General," said de Clercy. "I would say, if you look back at the long history of Governors General that Canada has had since 1867....first of all, if you notice, most of them are men. So the sort of informal eligibility and sort of suitability of women just as a group that she represents, is pretty recent. There

Savannah Bisailon | [Interrobang](#)

have not been that many female Governors General. So that's a recent innovation. And in fact, if we look across the role of the Governor General, the presence of more diverse representatives beyond just the standard old French and English, white male representatives is again, a relatively recent trend."

When looking back in history, we can see that even as far back as 1986 that this role was given to a male and that it was uncommon for a woman to be in a position like this. And, up until recently, the political world overall has been driven by men.

"So I would put her appointment in this lineage that there has been a welcome shift in the sorts of people who are appointed to the highest office in the land," said de Clercy. "The Governor General is the head of state and the most prestigious and symbolically important position we have. So it's excellent, of course, that she was appointed in that there are many more kinds of people who are now apparently eligible to be populated in that into that role, but it is again, in the context of the time since Confederation, a relatively recent phenomenon."

Overall, Simon's appointment is a huge step forward, but one that comes far too recently in the overall history of Canada. Additionally, Simon using her language to bring awareness to her culture and background is important, not just to the Indigenous community, but to the world.





# Politicians THE POWER OF SOCIAL MEDIA

*Savannah Bisailon*

**W**hen it comes to politics, especially in Canada, there are many politicians currently using social media, particularly apps like TikTok and Instagram. But why? When it comes to the younger audience, does politicians using social media really work? TikTok could actually be helping shape a new generation's political identity, especially now, during these unprecedented times.

Federal New Democratic Party (NDP) leader, Jagmeet Singh has been using TikTok as a platform to share his voice and reach the younger generation of voters. Back in July, Singh performed a TikTok dance that has since gone viral and he clearly connected with the younger audience that primarily uses the app. Most days, everyone has access to social media in one way or another, so it is a lot easier for people to stay connected with one another.

Social media has an effect on everybody these days and makes for a simple and effective way of reaching young voters. Singh in particular has shown that he knows how to attract his audience. Since a lot of the people using TikTok are closer to the age of first-time voters, it is easier for Singh to connect with them and express the importance of voting through apps like TikTok.

NDP MPP for London North Centre, Terence Kernaghan discussed the power of social media and how politicians are using it to connect with their audience on the importance of voting.

With Singh using TikTok as a way to reach his voters, it could be considered a campaign in and of itself. It also makes us connect the relationship between politicians and social media.

"In politics [you] need to really....be talking to young people, meeting them where they're at, and talking to them about issues that are important to them," said Kernaghan. "Because young people are the future. So it's really, highly important that politicians also look at the ways in which they communicate."

"I think he's very much communicating his ideas and communicating his personality through TikTok, I think it's phenomenal," said Kernaghan. "He's really shown the power of that medium as a means to communicate with folks. I think it's really amazing what he has done. He's really a force to be reckoned with."

Using TikTok as a platform has many great benefits, especially when it comes to swaying your audience and getting your voice heard. But, there is also a chance that your original message can get re-worded and not have as much meaning as you had originally intended.

"It [TikTok] allows you to really pinpoint information for viewpoints that you ought to consider," said Kernaghan. "We're sort of bombarded with a great deal of information, a great deal of media, you know, especially with the COVID pandemic. And I think it's really important that we also have social media to use as a tool. Unfortunately....we need to look at some news articles or ones that masquerade as new news articles, which require a little bit of critical thinking. Unfortunately, a lot of people will not do their secondary background search or fact checking....and then that can lead to some misinformation."

When it comes to voting, it is important for people to do research especially knowing that a politician's term is usually four years. With Singh using his platforms to reach his audience, he is giving people a view into what we should know.

"Voting is incredibly important, it is a right that people fought for, people have died for," said Kernaghan. "Myself, as an openly LGBTQ person, I realized that my safety, my existence depends upon good policy and upon good governments. A lot of our rights that we kind of take for granted are not ones that are inalienable. Those are rights that, through a bad government, could be taken away. So I think it's important.... to be politically engaged, and make sure that the people you elect will represent your values and speak to what you need and the hope you have for future."

Overall, social media can be extremely effective when it comes to politics because it keeps us all in the loop and keeps us all connected.







# Women in **MUNICIPAL POLITICS**

*Aisha Javaid*

**T**he City of London's Council is made up of 15 individuals, which includes 14 councillors and one mayor. All members are responsible for local matters pertaining to libraries, parks, water systems, policing, roadways, parking, and more. Of the 14 councillors, only three serving are women. The under-representation of women in municipal government, and in politics in general, presents several disadvantages.

Councillor for Ward 12, Elizabeth Pelosa is currently serving her first term as councillor for the City of London.

"We do bring a different perspective; we have the traditional roles and qualities of what society believes a woman should have and these qualities exemplify how we should be, by staying at home and providing care for children," said Pelosa.

Moreover, issues pertaining to sexual assault and harassment are concerns frequently encountered by women. Problems like these are less likely to be acknowledged in fields dominated by males.

Pelosa recounted an incident during a council meeting where she voiced a concern which predominately served the safety of women in London.

"I had a colleague who was very excited by the prospect of autonomous vehicles being apart of London Transit Commission (LTC)," she said. "What you can do with it [autonomous transit] is that you can extend routes and lower the cost of operation because there's no physical persons paying to drive the bus, which is great, other major cities have done it. Then, they asked me, what I thought.

"I said, 'what happens if a woman who's assaulted or a safety issue occurs, what happens? How would they get home safely?' As we know, LTC bus drivers receive great media coverage in a way that they are always going the extra mile to either help someone with a disability issue or a mother pushing a stroller. They are usually the people that riders feel the utmost safe around on a bus. There have been incidents where people tell the bus driver that they suspect someone is following them, and a driver has waited to watch them safely get home."

Pelosa is married with three children of which two are sons, and one is a daughter. She confessed her kids were responsible for her role as a city councillor and for inspiring her.

"To be very honest, I never cared about politics until I had my first child," she said. "At which point, I felt that I had a responsibility to create the environment that they're going to inherit and grow up in. My kids were still somewhat young, and I didn't want to leave town.

"As well, my kids ask me questions like, why don't we have better neighborhoods? Why are there no bike lanes here? Why doesn't this park have a basketball court? That's when I realized that municipal government has the largest impact on everyone's day to day lives. When you turn on your light switch, that's London Hydro. When you use water, that's our water system. When you walk on the sidewalk, the roadway, intersections, signs, pedestrian sidewalks, and bike lanes, that's all city programs. We have an opportunity to help either fund or not fund how we want things done. So for me, municipal government was the only option," added Pelosa.

As a mother, and more so as a woman, Pelosa feels that women in politics is extremely important. She invited anyone interested in being a part of local government to speak with her and ask her any questions that they are unsure of.

"There is a group in town called 'Women & Politics', I strongly encourage people to find them on social media and connect with them."





# THE TIME IS NOW:

## Governments must build climate resilient communities

AISHA JAVAID | INTERROANG

**O**n June 27, 2021, Canada reached its national heat record of 46.6°C (116°F). Then, in early Aug. of 2021, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released the findings of a new study, confirming once again that the world was in a climate emergency, and that the efforts put forth by countries thus far to reverse the effects of climate change has not been enough. Changes to the Earth's climate, they said, have already been set in motion.

Climatologist and Western University professor, Gordon McBean has, for years, studied matters concerning the rise in the frequency of heat waves due to the acceleration of greenhouse gas emissions.

"Canada is warming at about twice the global average," he explained. "The Canadian Arctic, which I used to do research in, is warming a lot more, but this warming will continue, because of the way the climate system works, at least for the rest of the century, we're going to continue warming."

Moreover, McBean discussed the Global Risk Report, a document which is produced by the World Economic Forum, an independent organization dedicated to improving the condition of the world by engaging members within the political and business fields.

"The two that are near the top [of the global risk report] are most likely extreme weather events. And the one that has the biggest impact is climate action failure. Which is the action taken to reduce our vulnerability or adaptation to climate change and reduce our greenhouse gas emissions," said McBean.

"When COVID-19 happened, they moved it from being a low impact event in early September. They said that infectious pandemics applied with climate action failure are the two most impactful events in the 2021 report," he added.

McBean also recently published and conducted a report on Building Climate Resilient Communities. He led a team of 22 scientists, including engineers, medical professionals, climate scientists and Indigenous community experts. The report contains sections on urban environment and heat, infrastructure, and health.

His findings also revealed that multiple regions have organized high-level adaptation plans, but only a few of these areas have an actual comprehensive performance strategy with established funding frameworks. Moreover, actions to build community resilience in Canada are not well prepared and usually take a long time to recover when they undergo tragic loss events such as tornadoes and other natural disasters.

"The idea is to lay out a series of plans and actions as to how to build a climate resilient community," said McBean. "We partially wrote that report not only to synthesize things that are of my interest and most of my colleagues' interests, we wanted to stimulate the government....to take action."

McBean further discussed the issues in politics that contribute to climate action failure. For example, he mentioned the ambiguity of governments overseeing building codes and the forecasting of floods.

"You get issues in politics as to which government is responsible for building codes," he said. "And then you get other issues like who forecasts floods in Canada? I've worked with the people of the Toronto Regional Conservation Authority, and they have a flood forecast office in Toronto that forecasts the floods. But in some regions of the province, the conservation authorities either don't exist or they don't have enough resources to actually have people doing the forecasting."

Today, numerous reports are being released on rebuilding after COVID-19. McBean hopes that the government and society acknowledge climate change in the same manner.

"Let's not build back the way we were, let's build back better."



# WHO DESERVES A MONUMENT?

AISHA JAVAID | INTERROBANG

**M**any local committees, like Heritage London and City of London, work to sustain London's historic culture. Educating, inspiring, and financing the city's heritage offers a high return on investment.

To help preserve the city's inheritance, community members use public art to express stories. Manager of culture services at City of London, Robin Armistead said public art is essential to building community.

"[Public art] is an expression of identity of your community," said Armistead. "Public art can be a way to remember people or events that have happened. Whether you love it or hate it, at least you're talking about it. What we spend on public art is someone's employment and services. We also want to encourage local artists to be able to make a living in our community."

Over the past year, advocacy groups have fought to topple statues and monuments that commemorate historical figures that played a role in colonialism, racist ideologies and injustices against Indigenous people.

But Armistead emphasized that the monuments and public art that the city uses may not always have historical significance.

"Some of them are pretty grey," she said. "For example, Pro Patria in Victoria Park (pictured left) is a war memorial related to London's fallen of the South African Boer War in 1900.

But war memorials, such as the Victoria Park Cenotaph and the Boer War commemorate the sacrifices made for Canada and are considered open graves for those lost.

"So, whether we approve of that war or not is one thing, because there was a lot of colonialism involved in it. But, in terms of what is right, when you see the monuments, in municipalities, you want to learn more. It has some sensitivity to it, but to me, it's how you tell the story. That's where your role comes into play and it's very important to tell the truth and explain things to people as opposed to tearing down a monument, like the Sir John A. Macdonald monument," added Armistead.

Armistead mentioned that the committee avoids the use of public figures in public arts and monuments as the background of certain individuals may still be unknown.

"We have Terry Fox Following His Footsteps, again, we try and stay away from particular people because you never know what their background may be. But, Terry Fox, you know, related to the Canadian Cancer Foundation, and he's considered like, a national hero."

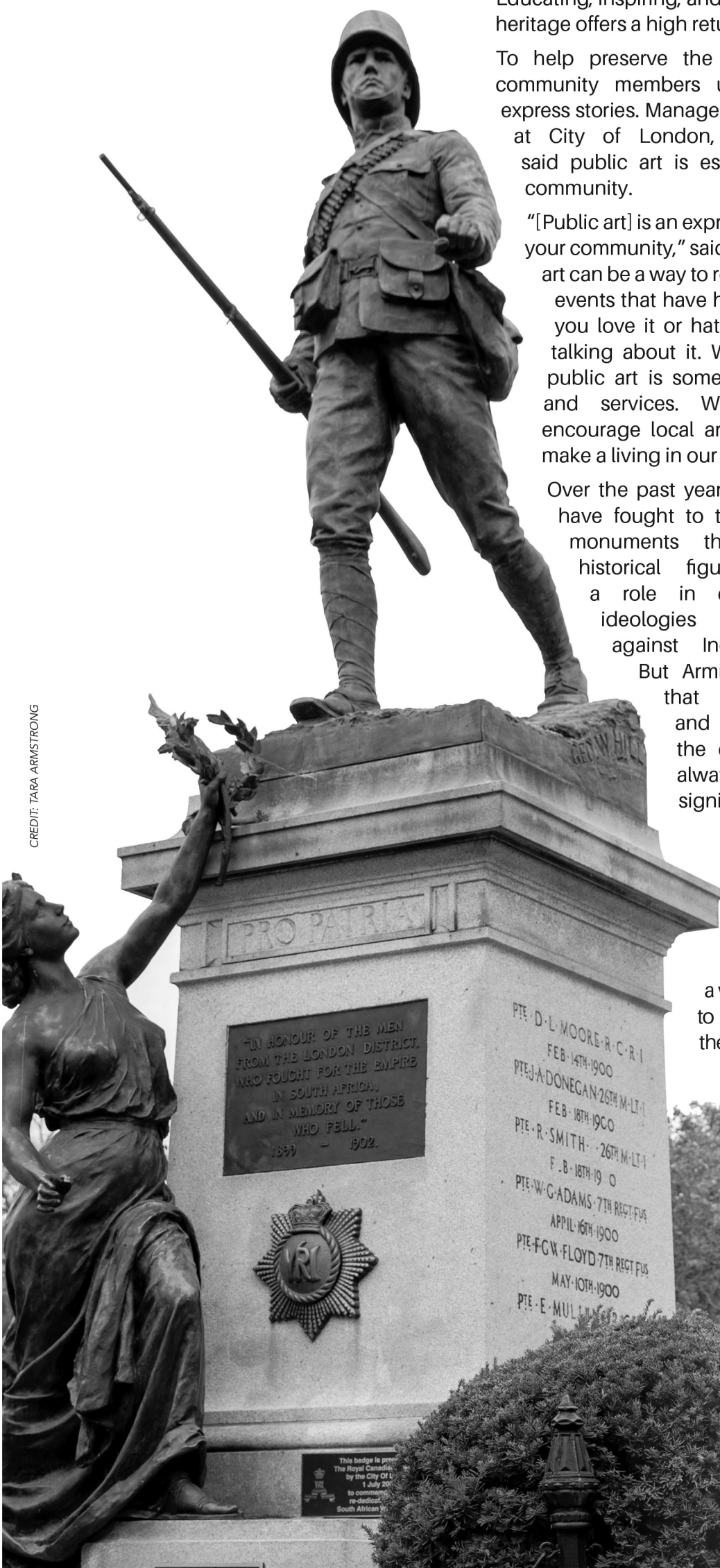
Peter Ferguson of Terry Fox Run London gratefully complimented the Terry Fox memorial.

"Everybody agreed that this was a really good way to memorialize Terry Fox," he said. "It's got footsteps that does two hops and a step footprint in the concrete. It has rocks from different parts of Canada and flowers are to bloom in different times of the year, and it's a really pretty sight. There's a lot of great information there, if you get a chance, you have to see it."

As part of the City of London, Armistead has partnered with multiple institutions and committees across the city. One of their most prominent affiliates is London Arts Council. Some of their notable work includes Beethoven Bronze Buff in Springbank Park, Charlie Fox memorial in the roundabout at the intersection of Hale and Trafalgar streets, and People in the City (sculpture featuring 20 famous Londoners) on Wellington Road.

Armistead is currently working on multiple ongoing projects throughout the city. She encouraged the public to visit [londonarts.ca](http://londonarts.ca) for their online inventory to view some of the public art and monuments in London.

"We use the London Arts Council when we're creating new pieces and we're commissioning, I use them especially when there's an artist involved. Because, I believe in the philosophy of selecting artist fairly and paying them."



CREDIT: TARA ARMSTRONG





# OH CANADA! Our (New) Home & Native Land!

Ian Indiano | Interrobang

**T**he fight for the full integration of immigrants in Canadian society can be pessimistically described as an eternal struggle. Here many immigrants have to face excessive bureaucracy and governmental abandonment. Ironically, many people move to Canada trying to run away from these issues. And this moment in time doesn't help either.

It is during crises that society shows its true colours. The very best and worst of us emerges from our pores and suddenly we can see clearly the problems and the areas we need to improve. Canada is a beautiful country that is ready to accept anyone, but at the same time, with an unclear path of entry.

Although arguable, all the governmental bureaucracy exists to protect any country's institutions and social structures (which is not inherently bad), they are also philosophically redundant. And a lot of times, also frustrating. In my case, for being Brazilian, after a quick check on Google Maps, I can confirm that I was actually born in the very same portion of land that this paper is being published. Only very far south.

Apart from the Panama Canal, which was manmade, the American continent could be one big country where we are all connected. This logic can be expanded to easily justify the philosophical inexistence of the concept "foreign." However, I still need extensive paperwork if I want to enter this country. And if I want to stay, even more. The fact that immigration officers are not usually interested in my cheap philosophical daydreams doesn't help either.

For a country where immigration is such a fundamental part of its DNA, Canada still has a long way to go to construct a truly fair system. And please don't think I only have eyes for the bad side. It is my duty to praise the government for all the good things too.

We have to remember that Canada is still accepting and processing immigration applications, now with much longer wait times. And

that the government is offering help to immigrants, like extending work permits for international students amid COVID-19. We must comprehend that there is no manual on how to deal with a pandemic like this and it is perfectly understandable that all the government sectors are doing their best to keep working. But we also have to remember the families, including my own, and individuals that had to leave Canada, or are considering doing so, unwittingly.

I believe that during this period unfortunately there's not much we can do. However, I think that the best thing we can do is to get informed. To take an analytic approach to these issues and to understand how they surround us.

For example, right now all our focus is turned to the healthcare system and immigrants are an important part of this system. Around 41.3 per cent of orderlies and nurses and 42.8 per cent of specialist physicians in Canada are immigrants. Still, racism in their workplace is not uncommon. It can be manifested explicitly or discreetly, by not trusting the doctor's opinion or asking to see a different professional. In moments like this, discrimination against healthcare workers should be tackled as a priority.

But the future is bright. The number of immigrants accepted every year in Canada has been growing for years, we accept five times more immigrants than the U.S. And we also know that immigration will be fundamental for the post-pandemic economic recovery.

Canada's population growth would probably be in decline or have stalled if it wasn't for immigration, and we are likely to go back to the exponential growth of the employment rate for new Canadians that we had before the pandemic after things go back to normal. Canada is a beautiful country, and a land that I'm learning to love. And with or without the pandemic, we must continue to get stronger socially, culturally and demographically.



# British owned, British made: The global impact of the fuel crisis

**Dee-Dee Samuels**  
INTERROBANG

If I were to describe the current state of the UK right now (lack of food on shelves, lack of products, and especially lack of fuel), you would think I was describing a wartime era, not the one they are currently experiencing. Especially after Prime Minister Boris Johnson, and his catchy campaign slogans promised a new and improved UK post-pandemic.

“Build back better” and “Build back stronger” were being spouted off to the public as if some auditory cheesecake being scuffed by a nation in need of auditory comfort food. But now the promised light at the end of the tunnel is at the back of a three-hour long queue, waiting to fuel your car to make your way to work, or to a hospital emergency, or even to buy some food for a hungry child. It’s not a Netflix drama, it’s real life and it needs to be looked on as such.

## Brexit the Bleak House

Bleak yes, but this is more than just a fuel crisis and perhaps at the end of this very long queue is a place to ponder and use this particular crisis as a catalyst to re-examine how not just Britain, but the world’s political policies and strategies need an immediate overhaul. Johnson seems to garnish no repercussions for his actions and mistakes, according to UK assembly member and Green

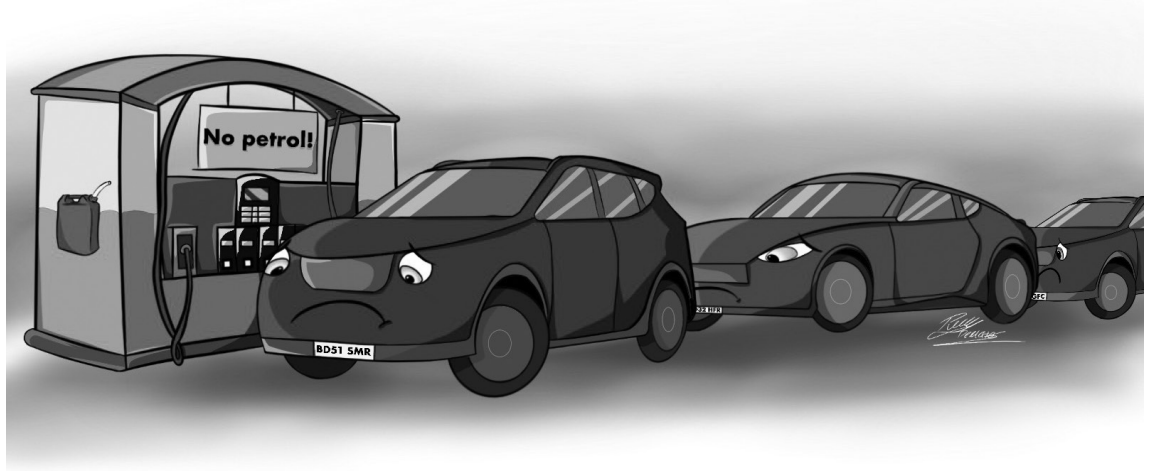
Party candidate, Zach Polanski.

“Here in the UK, we’ve got the perfect storm at the moment of COVID and Brexit,” said Polanski. “We’ve got a shortage of HGV drivers (truck drivers) which is the most obvious thing to say, but it’s not just HGV drivers, we’ve also got a shortage of fruit pickers, shortage of cleaners, the hospitals are running out of supplies and the hospitality industry in England is struggling to fill jobs as well. We’ve got this weird moment where we’ve got job insecurity but loads of jobs, just there aren’t the people to do them.”

Brexit was a promise of a better, stronger Britain. Johnson proudly spouted off slogans of “British owned and British made,” and that is exactly what the fuel shortage is: British owned and British made. Polanski expressed how despite that, the consequences of Brexit still have global impacts.

“So the problems we are seeing with drivers and their inability to deliver fuel and goods is a problem they don’t have in countries like France, Germany and even Scotland for instance. It brings a spotlight to our government because they’ve decided to have an anti-immigration law,” he said.

For Polanski, the Brexit problem is a global problem. When we don’t view the world as a community, working together and holding value for each human, the consequences are bleak. The failings of Brexit and



CREDIT: RILEY DE MATOS

Brexit was a promise of a better, stronger Britain. Johnson proudly spouted off slogans of “British owned and British made,” and that is exactly what the fuel shortage is: British owned and British made.

its lessons for the world have the potential to create a healthier more considerate global community.

When asked about the fuel crisis, Boris Johnson’s reply has remained ‘Crisis? What crisis?’, blaming the shortage on panic buying. But Britain has not experienced a shortage like this since the 1970s — from food, to building materials to medical supplies. Supermarkets are warning of empty shelves ahead of Christmas.

COVID and Britain’s departure from the European Union have created chaos. Not only disrupting Britain’s supply chains but also the lives and mental health of a nation by placing the already fragile emotional

states of the citizens of Britain under more stress. Key workers not being able to get to hospitals to take care of loved ones because of a lack of fuel is bleak. Driving tests are not being able to be performed, industry after industry is at a standstill.

## Mixed messages

Johnson is likeable and entertaining to watch, but politics is not a reality show, it affects everyday lives. Who we put in our government represents us, so it would be a good idea to get a little involved and consider your leader and his or her ability to lead you through all storms. How a leader does one thing is how he will proceed in all things.

Situations change but responses to them rarely don’t. Despite Brexit being a UK problem, there are lessons we can all learn from how the UK ended up where it is now.

“It’s much better if you have been educated and come from a middle classed back ground; you are more interested in investigating the other, but I think when you are really struggling on being paid enough or you don’t have a job, or are struggling to access health services the infrastructure already isn’t in place, and I think it’s then very easy for a right wing government to then scapegoat the other and they can very quickly turn into your enemy,” surmised Polanski.

# No space for Indigenous voices in politics amid Truth and Reconciliation

**Jessica Gould**  
INTERROBANG

The first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation occurred on Sept. 30, 2021. It was a day for Indigenous voices to be heard and a step to raise awareness and heal Indigenous communities amid decades of mistreatment.

However, Indigenous voices are still brushed off in today’s political climate, creating a crucial barrier for Indigenous communities to make calls of action from the government empty with no real action taken. Indigenous people were not even given the right to vote until Parliament enacted the Canada Elections Act granting all “registered Indians” the right to vote in 1960.

Initially founded in 1971 as the Native Council of Canada (NCC), the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples (CAP) is a national Indigenous organization recognized by the Government of Canada. The advocacy organization represents Métis, status and non-status Indians living on and off-reserve.

CAP national vice-chief Kim Beaudin of Métis descent of the Callihoo Reserve served in political and administrative roles as an Indigenous political advocate for over 30 years. Beaudin emphasizes the government’s lack of priority for Indigenous people.

“We’ve really never been a priority for the last 155 years now with

respect to including Indigenous people. It doesn’t seem to matter who’s in power, federally or provincially for that matter; we tend to be an afterthought,” shared Beaudin. “Instead of building a plan or strategizing what we should have in the future, they’re too busy reacting to issues that impact their government. With visiting some of these territories, they don’t address the Indigenous people, they don’t speak to them, and they should.”

With Indigenous people making up five per cent of the Canadian population and close to 80 per cent of Indigenous people living off-reserve, there is a massive gap for equality of Indigenous people in various ways, including funding and resources for programs and schooling.

When vaccines began to roll out in March of this year, Indigenous people were granted priority to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, marking the first time Indigenous health was brought to the forefront by the government.

“When the pandemic hit, COVID-19 had really shined a light on the policies pertaining to Indigenous people,” said Beaudin. “Health Canada and federal health leaders act like we don’t even exist. We should be considered a priority because Indigenous people are more vulnerable with health issues because of poverty and housing.”

With rights violated for decades by the federal government, a prominent demand that CAP is advocating

for is how Indigenous people have been treated within the prison system involving mass incarceration rates of Indigenous people.

“For the last 155 years, we have seen a massive increase of Indigenous people that have been imprisoned. Federally, sitting at 32 per cent as of today, in some provinces as high as 88 per cent. A massive increase of Indigenous women are going into prisons and jails across this country; there’s something wrong,” Beaudin said. “The government with their policies, the process, even how they do things in terms of governing their organizations like their relationship with the police or RCMP, it’s just not working.”

In a system built on a colonial design with little Indigenous voices having a say in it, Beaudin suggested policies need to be re-examined.

“I can’t even think of anybody I ever spoke to in relation to the justice system who doesn’t believe that it is nothing more than a commodity. Indigenous people are a commodity to the government because they need these prisons, building new prisons, adding more people.”

Beaudin further wondered if the federal government is trying to incarcerate “100 per cent” of Indigenous people.

In hopes of respecting and protecting Indigenous people, Beaudin emphasized the importance of actions over words from the government and allies for a stronger



CREDIT: CONGRESS OF ABORIGINAL PEOPLES

Photo of CAP national vice-chief, Kim Beaudin.

reconciliation.

“They are so focused on keeping Indigenous people in jail for issues around poverty or addiction issues instead of providing a plan of assistance for help. I’m not talking about a hand out, but a hand up to get them out of there. No, they rather keep them incarcerated. It’s a huge undertaking, and with the Sixties

Scoop, children in foster care, it’s like a pipeline directly to the prison system and I keep wondering when the insanity is going to end.”

CAP continues to provide political action and uphold the rights of constitutions protected and respected for Indigenous people, in hopes of creating a better future than a continuation of trauma and neglect.



# Canada vs. Brazil: How they choose their representatives

Ana Lustosa  
INTERROBANG

Canada and Brazil. They're two huge countries. One is located in North America and the other, in South America. Even though they are distant and historically different, they have a similarity inside the political field. There are some major differences; Brazil does not have a Queen, like Canada. However, both countries are divided into three different levels of government with almost the same responsibilities: federal, provincial/territorial, or, in the case of Brazil, state, and municipal.

With more visibility and power, the federal government is occupied by a Prime Minister in Canada.

The federal government tries to make things fairer among the provinces, according to the official Parliament of Canada website.

"Through equalization payments (extra money) given to provinces that are less wealthy, the federal government tries to make sure that the standards of health, education, and welfare are the same for every Canadian," read the site. Justin Trudeau is the leader of the Liberal Party and is the current Prime Minister. Among his responsibilities are to handle international matters such as immigration, borders, currency, and domestic issues. In Brazil, this position can be compared to a president.

More locally and closer to

residents, the municipal level includes a mayor in both countries, with the focus of a municipal government being on matters within each city. In London, the present mayor is Ed Holder. If you have problems with libraries, fire protection, and parks, for example, the city will be responsible for fixing them. In Brazil, there are more than 5,000 cities and mayors.

At the provincial/territorial level, the head of Ontario is Premier Doug Ford. Road regulations, health care, and education are inside the scope of his activities and his ministries. Instead of a Premier, Brazil has governors. They are responsible for articulating with the federal government and mayors.

**Electoral system**

The manner of choosing the representatives is different in both countries. For the president, government, and mayoral elections, the system in Brazil is known as the "two-round system." To summarize, the politicians are elected directly every four years after receiving the majority of valid votes.

Jair Bolsonaro, the president of Brazil, for example, won the 2018 election after he received 55.13 per cent of valid votes in a second shift. It happened because in the first shift, with 13 candidates, the first place candidate did not receive more than half the valid votes. When this occurs, the two politicians with the best results face off again.

During the choice for deputies and

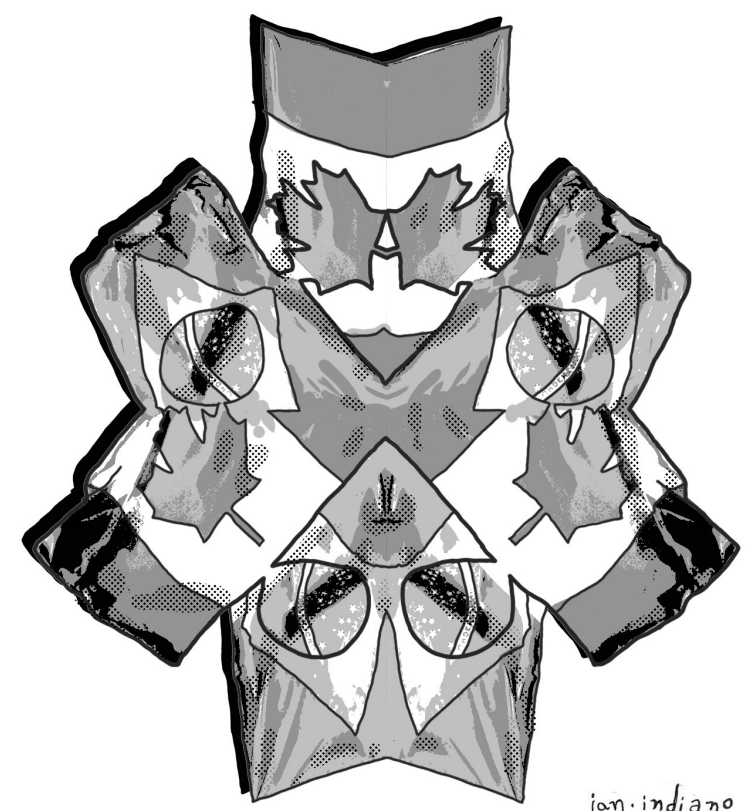
senators, responsible for representing states and regions, respectively, the electoral system changes. Called "proportional representation (PR)," the current rules were adopted in 1932. The votes can be given to a politician or a party.

For Paulo Kramer, a retired professor of Political Science with the University of Brasilia, Brazil, PR has "perverse" effects.

"The runaway proliferation of political parties (over 20 in the Lower Chamber and over 15 in the Senate), [makes] it extremely difficult to build viable majority coalitions to support the executive's proposals submitted to Congress; an arcane methodology for allocating seats to different parties results in a situation where citizens vote in the candidates they see, but end up electing those they never saw. In sum, Brazil's political system makes a mock of the sacred principle of "one citizen, one vote," Kramer opined.

Nowadays the National Congress in Brazil has been analyzing possible changes such as threshold rule setting a minimum number of votes for a party to be entitled to congressional representation.

On the other hand, Canada's political system is based on the United Kingdom system: a constitutional monarchy with a House of Commons, Senate, and a Governor-General representing the Queen of Canada. In general terms, during federal and provincial elections, electors choose a candidate for their



CREDIT: IAN INDIANO

Both Canada and Brazil are divided into three different levels of government with almost the same responsibilities: federal, provincial/territorial, or, in the case of Brazil, state, and municipal.

electoral district. The winner can become a Member of Parliament or a Member of Provincial Parliament. In a municipal election, the mayor and his councils are elected directly. Last month, after a recent dissolution of the House of Commons,

Canadians voted in a federal election, earlier than expected, and elected 338 politicians. More than 17 million votes were registered. The next federal election in Brazil, meanwhile, will happen next year.

# STI rates higher now than pre-pandemic

Jessica Gould  
INTERROBANG

The pandemic created a force for people to become more aware and protective of their health, yet many people are also neglecting to take care of proper sexual health practices.

Lower numbers accessing sexual health resources such as STI testing are partly due to people not feeling comfortable attending a clinic during the pandemic. With an already heavy stigma regarding STIs and testing, health officials are urging people to be more mindful of their sexual health and to take steps for proper testing.

Before transitioning to pandemic cautionary measures, the Middlesex-London Health Unit (MLHU) used to have three clinics a week, which have now been reduced to two, for sexual health resources.

Despite the clinics being available by appointments only, MLHU has been mindful that many in the community do not have access to a phone or cannot book an appointment. For these cases, the MLHU provides some space for walk-ins.

MLHU Sexual Health Manager Shaya Dhinsa highlighted the rates of STI infections might be higher now than pre-pandemic, despite calls for social distancing and stay-at-home orders.

"My one concern is that the STI rates might be higher than what they actually are. Because I do feel



CREDIT: DYLAN CHARETTE

Lower numbers accessing sexual health resources such as STI testing are partly due to people not feeling comfortable attending a clinic during the pandemic.

people are still having sexual contact, but they are not comfortable coming in and getting tested, and therefore unknowingly, they may not have symptoms. Then they are unknowingly spreading that STI."

In the United States, 2019 marked the sixth consecutive year for record-breaking STDs reported by

the CDC, with 2.6 million cases. "That is concerning to me, so I do hope in the future we can add back our third clinic, which will make it another day or time that would work for individuals to access our services," said Dhinsa. "Or that we can have more ability to have walk-ins. I do know that is a barrier for some

individuals. But I do have a concern that post-pandemic, there might be an influx of STIs."

Although MLHU has lost a sexual health clinic, Dhinsa called London lucky, as some areas do not have STI clinics available and shared the MLHU is open to any individual who chooses to come by and access them.

The sexual health clinic is currently open Monday and Wednesday, beginning at 4:30 p.m., with the last available appointment booking time at 7 p.m. Clients can call to have their nursing assessment done over the phone and will be able to see the physician upon their appointment time.



# Examining the varied responses to the Pandora Papers

Svitlana Stryhun  
INTERROBANG

Earlier this month, the Pandora Papers were released to the public. This was the largest leak of offshore data in history that involved 600 investigative journalists from around the world. The names of world-famous businessmen and politicians, past and present, were revealed in the documents.

British Virgin Islands, Belize, Cyprus or Samoa are not just sunny islands with palm trees and beaches. These are “pipelines” where billions of dollars flow free from taxes every day. Offshore companies create a parallel economic system that is actively used by world-class businessmen, politicians and celebrities. For nearly a year, 600 journalists from 117 countries verified the information that leaked through a huge international web.

**Ukraine**

Among the names that appeared in the documents, more than 10 of them were Ukrainians, including president Volodymyr Zelensky himself. In 2012, he and his entourage set up a network of offshore companies that now own millions of dollars in real estate in London. Before the first round of the presidential election, Zelensky transferred his part of the funds offshore in the Virgin Islands to his partner, Serhii Shefir, for free. Commenting on the current investigation, the President’s Office complained about corruption under Victor Yanukovych, which supposedly forced Ukrainian businessmen to do what they did.

**Czech Republic**

The Prime Minister of the Czech Republic, Andrej Babiš, turned out to be the most unlucky. Now, with the ongoing elections there, the investigation about secretly acquired villas on the French Riviera came out just in time. It gave weapons to his opponents during the last debates.

“These are the events of 2009, I wonder how they chose the time. It’s two hours before the debate and now they say that I laundered money. But let me answer, it’s important. The money came from a Czech bank, I paid taxes from them, it was

my money and it went back to the Czech Republic,” Babiš explained.

And that’s the key: the investigation doesn’t say that the people named have broken the law. It simply gives an idea of how politicians and businessmen conduct their transactions. King Abdullah II of Jordan has reacted in the calmest manner of all world leaders so far. A spokesman for the monarch said: His Majesty does not try to hide his wealth in the United States and Britain.

**Great Britain**

In Britain, the people who have the biggest infractions according to the Pandora Papers are the entire Conservative party, including Prime Minister Boris Johnson. The documents revealed that Russian oligarch Victor Fedotov is now suspected to have financed the cam-

paigns of at least 34 conservative deputies.

“All I can say is that the donations to our party are carefully checked, in accordance with the rules that were set during the last government,” said Johnson in response.

**Russia**

The publication of the Pandora Papers did not go unnoticed by the Russian media and officials.

Dmitry Peskov, spokesman for Vladimir Putin, said that the Kremlin reviewed the documents and did not see anything special in it.

“To be honest, we did not see any hidden wealth of Putin’s inner circle,” Peskov said. He added that the presidential administration saw no reason to conduct any investigations in connection with the publication and called it all a set of “unconfirmed statements.”



CREDIT: DYLAN CHARETTE

This was the largest leak of offshore data in history that involved 600 investigative journalists from around the world.

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# INTERROBANG

## COLOURING PAGE



Illustration by **Dylan Charette**

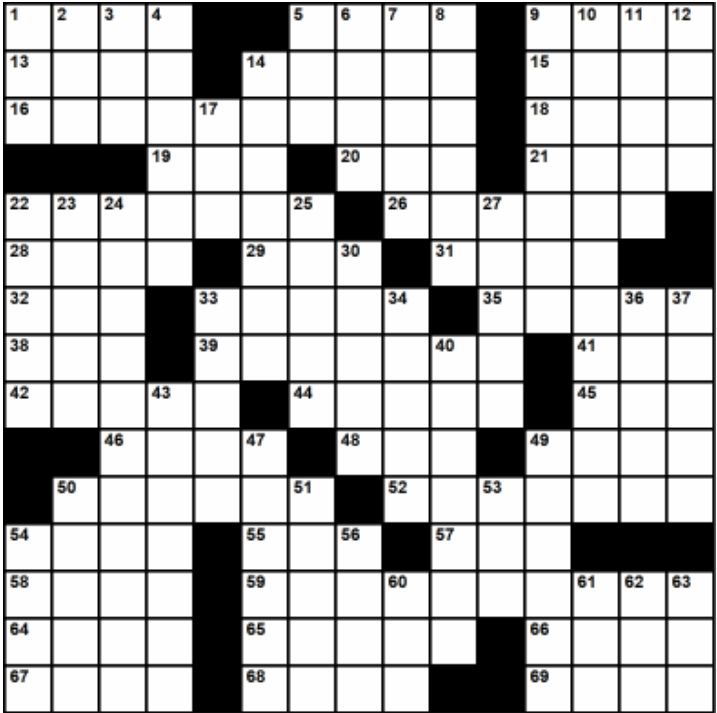
In honour of October being Mental Health Month, we're sharing some past Interrobang illustrations that have been specially redesigned for colouring. De-stress and get in touch with your creative side with these templates and be sure to visit [fsu.ca/mental-health](https://fsu.ca/mental-health) for more helpful resources.



CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1. Top rung of word ladder or money unit
- 5. Second rung of word ladder or New York neighbour
- 9. Third rung of word ladder or dog command
- 13. Galileo's birthplace
- 14. Milk-Bone biscuit, e.g.
- 15. Roswell sightings
- 16. Constantly (3 words)
- 18. Country addresses, for short
- 19. Alter, in a way
- 20. " \_\_\_\_ Girls"
- 21. Perlman of "Cheers"
- 22. C equivalents (2 words)
- 26. Current
- 28. Weather word
- 29. Bible book after Galatians (Abbr.)
- 31. Irish party word
- 32. Having five sharps, perhaps
- 33. Astrological ram
- 35. N.J. home of the "Ultimate Weapon" monument
- 38. Before, in verse
- 39. "Laverne and Shirley" star
- 41. Author LeShan
- 42. Iran's official language
- 44. Chicago airport
- 45. Nov. follower
- 46. Evening, in ads
- 48. M.D.'s specialty
- 49. Garden spot
- 50. Royal bride of 1981
- 52. "Sounds good to me!" (3 words)
- 54. Der \_\_\_\_ (Konrad Adenauer)
- 55. Seuss's "The 5000 Fingers of \_\_\_\_"
- 57. Add-on
- 58. Sony notebook brand
- 59. 1951 play that inspired "Cabaret" (4 words)
- 64. Knowing, as a secret (2 words)



- 65. First month after a nuevo ano
- 66. "Boola Boola" singers
- 67. Fourth rung of word ladder or finished
- 68. Fifth word of word ladder or eat
- 69. Bottom rung of word ladder or example of 1 Across
- 22. Succinct
- 23. It won't keep you up
- 24. Deep winter sleep
- 25. Vice president before Gerald
- 27. Hunter's firearm
- 30. Pronoun for both genders (2 words)
- 33. Mutual understanding
- 34. Olympic speed skater Davis
- 36. Creative output
- 37. Kind of knife
- 40. Early modern style (2 words)
- 43. What a record collector might flip over (2 words)
- 47. Swirled
- 49. Hid, as a coin in a magic act
- 50. Grassy plain
- 51. Khomeini, for one
- 53. Radical '70s organization (Abbr.)
- 54. All fired up
- 56. Counterfeiter catchers
- 60. " \_\_\_\_ we having fun yet?"
- 61. Biblical priest
- 62. Part of a basketball hoop
- 63. Chemical ending

DOWN

- 1. Book reviewer, for short
- 2. Black gold
- 3. Body of land (Abbr.)
- 4. Eponymous hot dog guy
- 5. PC monitor type
- 6. French for 'eye'
- 7. Directory contents
- 8. Powerful militaristic displays, for short
- 9. Happening now
- 10. In a casual manner
- 11. Data-transmitting device
- 12. She, in Italy
- 14. Painting technique
- 17. "And I Love \_\_\_\_"

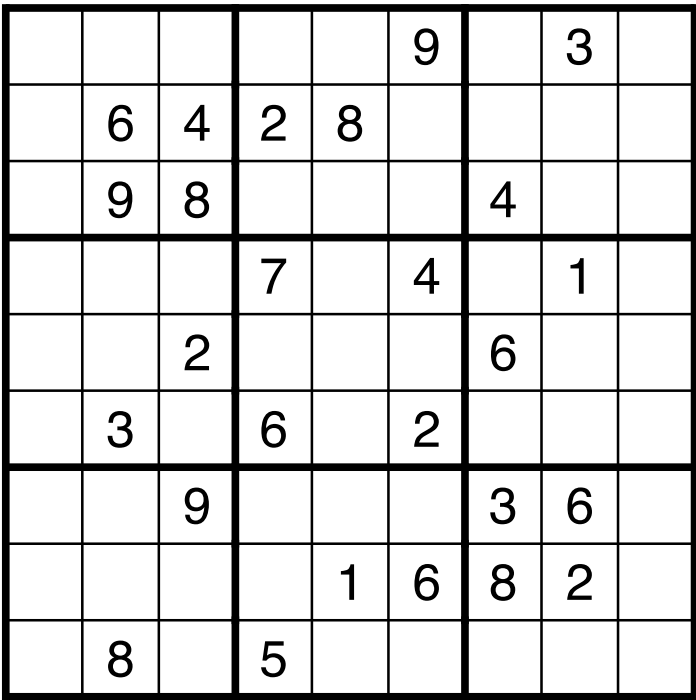
WORD SEARCH



AP GOVERNMENT & POLITICS

- |             |             |            |            |
|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|
| Impeachment | Bureaucracy | Referendum | Initiative |
| Reprieve    | Recall      | Safe Seat  | Veto       |
| Progressive | Pluralism   | Hatch Act  | Platform   |
| Realignment | Factions    | Primary    | Elector    |
| Amtrak      | Republic    | Caucus     | Cabinet    |

SUDOKU



Puzzle rating: Very Hard

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 grid contains the digits 1 through 9. That means no number is repeated in any column, row or box.

CRYPTOGRAM

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
23						16														21					

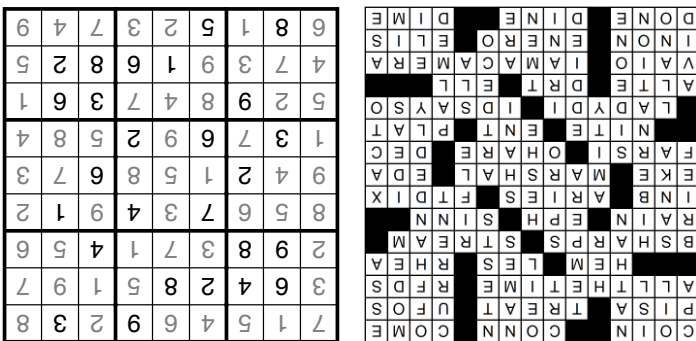
“ 24 22 23 4 12 22 26 23 3 24 22 26 5 12 25

9 26 12 5 16 1 26 11 11 26 19 23 4 12 14 17 26 18 17 11 26

8 23 3 12 5 16 11 18 21 19 11 1 23 4 25 26

11 26 14 11 12 26 10 5 18 17 26

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS



"What I hear when I'm being yelled at is people caring loudly at me." — Leslie Knope

FREE INTERROBANG

NEW ISSUE ON STANDS

Bi-Weekly



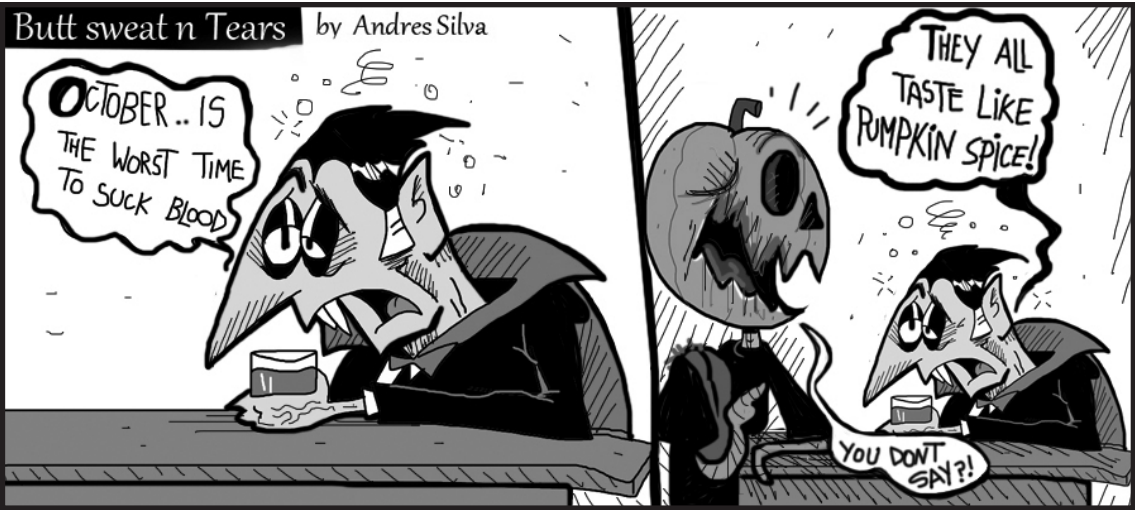
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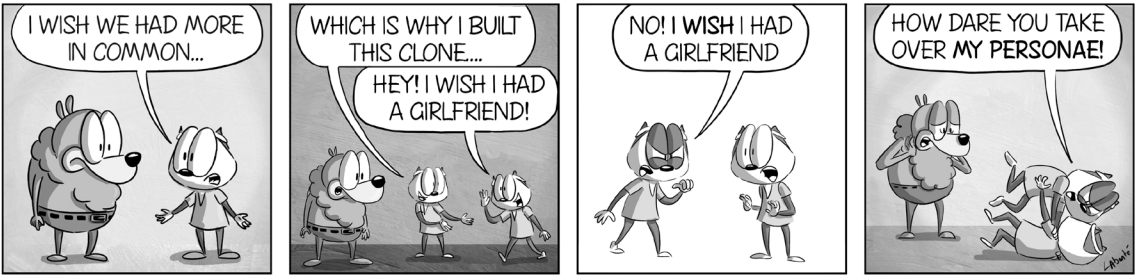
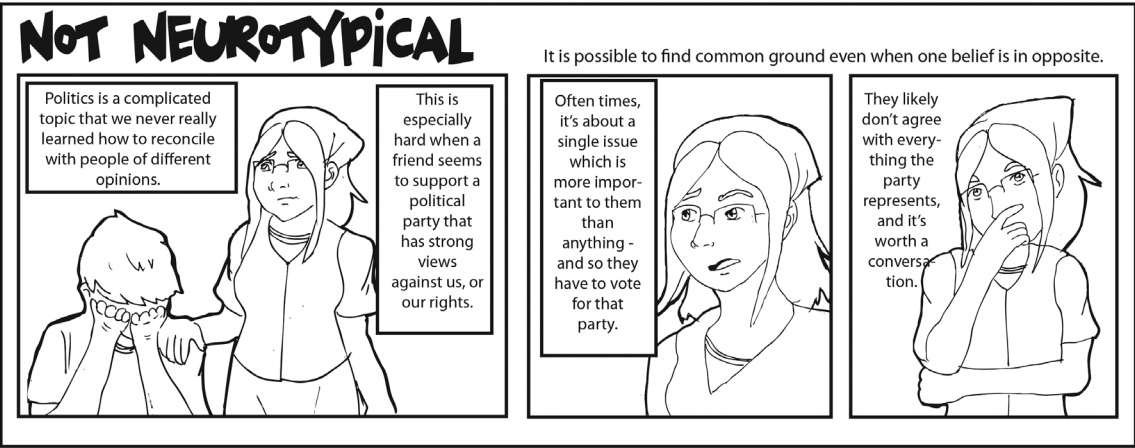
By Christopher Mischczak © 2021



Freshman Fifteen



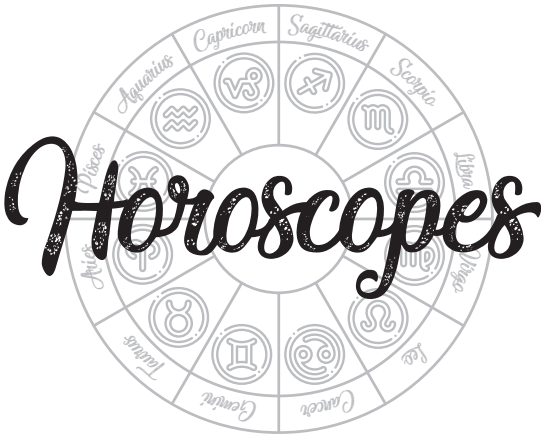
By Alan Dungo



@FibertCartoons



By Dylan Charette



Aries

Discussions with people who share your sentiments will lead to options that help you budget and save for something that will make your life better. Engage in something that includes someone you love. An adventure will bring you closer together and encourage plans that will improve your living situation. Make self-improvement and romance a priority. Choose to do your own thing when dealing with someone not being realistic. An exciting proposal will capture your attention. Check out the logistics and do what makes the most sense. Romance will tighten a meaningful relationship.

Taurus

Sit back and relax. Mull over your situations and choices, and you'll gain perspective and perhaps even make a decision that will give you peace of mind. Listen to suggestions you receive from someone who has helped you in the past and you'll outmaneuver someone standing in your way. Check out the pros and cons and abide by the rules, and you will navigate your way through whatever you encounter. A positive attitude will help you avoid being targeted by someone who is overreacting. Put more emphasis on getting things done.

Gemini

Get the lowdown before you team up with someone. Know your limitations and make yourself clear regarding what you are willing to do. Take time to research and verify information and you will feel better moving full steam ahead. When you feel confident, what you can accomplish will bolster your reputation and put you in a good position. Don't make decisions based on hearsay. It's essential to do things by the book if you don't want to face repercussions. You'll be up for some fun and games. Make reservations or plans in order to avoid being disappointed.

Cancer

Consider what you enjoy doing and look for a unique way to combine what you love with school. Use your imagination and discuss your plan with someone who can offer sage advice. Don't act in haste or you'll end up in an awkward position that can result in disrupting an influential relationship. Bide your time and choose your words wisely. Learn from your mistakes and you will avoid getting into a something that is costly and time-consuming. Nurture relationships you treasure, and you'll have no regrets. A money matter will require rational thinking.

Leo

Observe what's going on around you and it will help you make better decisions. Learn all you can about the people you associate with, and you will avoid being generous to someone who doesn't appreciate you. You'll accomplish the most if you reach out to someone who shares your goals. Put money, time and elbow grease into your surroundings, and clear a space that promotes productivity. Don't be surprised by an unexpected change of plans. You'll be pleasantly surprised by a connection you make if you participate in something that will make a difference.

Virgo

It's OK; change your mind if it will positively influence how you feel. Change can be good if done correctly. Taking care of your physical and emotional well-being will be beneficial. Money matters will surface. Do whatever you have to do to budget wisely and put your mind at ease. It's up to you to invest in your happiness. Do what's best for you. Embrace educational pursuits, research and individuals who can offer insight into something you want to pursue. Don't be shy or fear taking the path less traveled. Emotional matters will surface.

Libra

Added discipline will help you take care of responsibilities quickly. Plan to spend valuable time with people you love. A positive attitude will encourage others to see things your way. Romance is favoured. You'll gravitate toward someone who can enlighten you about your heritage or offer background on someone or something that interests you. The information you gather will change the way you view a personal situation. Put a budget in place and be cautious around anyone who tries to get you to be indulgent. Put your heart and soul into your surroundings.

Scorpio

Look for simple, affordable ways to utilize your skills and come out ahead and you will be able to make a positive change to the way you live and how you challenge and entertain yourself. Make sure you have all your documents in order before proceeding. Red-tape issues will arise if you leave such details in someone else's hands. Tie up loose ends and explore new possibilities. Dealing with an older friend or relative will pose a problem. Don't take on something you don't have the time or patience to handle. Control your emotions.

Sagittarius

Take better care of your health and well-being. Don't get involved in emotional situations that will put you in a compromising position. Self-discipline will be necessary. Lighten up and be charming and you will attract positive people who are ready, willing and able to help you make your dreams come true. A change you make at home will pay off. Consider the wear and tear of everyday chores and responsibilities and make adjustments to ease stress. Discussing options with someone you love will resolve an issue and help put a plan in motion.

Capricorn

You'll encounter an unusual opportunity to use your skills that can change the way you live moving forward. Check out the possibilities. Confusion will set in if you get into an emotional spat with someone you live with. You are better off holding your thoughts until you can present a workable alternative. A change will be inevitable. Pick the path that will boost your morale the most, and don't look back. Personal growth will lead to better days ahead. Plan to have some fun but don't go overboard.

Aquarius

Research will pay off. The more you know, the less likely you are to be taken for granted or fall into a financial trap. Educate yourself and set boundaries and a tight budget. You can wheel and deal and you'll find plenty of opportunities that fit into your budget and lifestyle. Invest more time in yourself and what you want to pursue. Confusion will set in if you let negative influences get to you. Don't let someone's uncertainty stand between you and your long-term goal. Designate a space specifically to serve your needs, and you will excel.

Pisces

Emotions will run high when dealing with personal issues involving a friend, relative or your lifestyle. Take a step back and reevaluate what's best for you. Look at the fine print before you pursue something that will have an impact on your emotional or physical aspect of life. When in doubt, sit tight. Touch base with someone you trust to offer sound advice and you'll see things differently. Knowing where to put your energy will help you get ahead. Distance yourself from anyone trying to manipulate you to head in a direction that isn't right for you.



# Sports and politics coverage continues to intertwine: Is it good or bad?

**Brad Kraemer**  
INTERROBANG

The popularity of sports has existed for a very long time and that will not be changing anytime soon. Due to the amount of sports fanatics - like myself - out there, sports media has thrived ever since its inception and in turn, made sports even more famous globally. However, the media coverage of professional sports has also transformed athletes into idols and role models, even if they have no interest in being one. For example, Michael Vick, one of the best, most polarizing quarterbacks in National Football League (NFL) history became the cover model for the Madden 2004 video game and sold the most jerseys over the 2003 and 2004 seasons according to ESPN. In just a few years' time, Vick was sentenced to 23 months in jail for his involvement in a dog fighting ring, putting his NFL future at risk.

I know what you're thinking - how does this have anything to do with politics? Well to get to the crux of the issue, something has to be understood. Professional athletes, especially the elite ones, have what is commonly called "a platform." A platform is essentially an avenue to communicate to a large group of people and anyone with a degree of celebrity has one. How the person chooses to use their platform is up to them and it is not new or rare for athletes to use it to raise awareness for particular political issues.

Before the days of social media, mainstream media was the main platform athletes had, but now, all it takes is a couple clicks on a smartphone to make a statement for millions to see. Someone like NBA legend LeBron James has over 50 million followers on Twitter, not to mention, he is known to be a great father and a trustworthy

friend. In the eyes of many, he is a hero. James could say "don't vote for Donald Trump" in a simple five-word tweet and influence thousands, if not millions of his followers. Formula One superstar Lewis Hamilton has 24 million followers on Instagram and constantly uses his platform for an array of political reasons. From the environment, to racism, to civil rights in other countries, he wants to be more than just a racing driver.

It's not only the athletes that have been utilizing their platform. The media members themselves have used political issues to propel their brand. Black Lives Matter consumed sports networks over the course of 2020. One of ESPN's most popular shows *First Take* continuously debated the issue and even opened their show with it. The NBA cancelled playoff games after the shooting of Jacob Blake. In the end, whether you're famous or not, everyone is human and has to live in the same world as the rest of us. Wanting change is allowed.

The question still remains, is the overlap of politics and sports beneficial or toxic? Last year, ESPN released a poll that showed the majority of their viewers dislike when the network discusses political issues. However, there's a difference between simply discussing politics and covering sports when they intersect. Sports in general have always crossed paths with politics. From the Jesse Owens story when he won four gold medals in Nazi Germany to Colin Kaepernick kneeling for the United States anthem, the magnitudes of these stories were massive. Sports networks were not going to shy away from these events.

The problem sports fans seem to have is not when networks cover these big stories, but when athletes or employees of said networks go against the grain and stand up for what they believe in.



CREDIT: OSTILL

The problem sports fans seem to have is not when networks cover these big stories, but when athletes or employees of said networks go against the grain and stand up for what they believe in.

what they believe in. The toxicity comes from the nature of debating politics in the first place. In today's day and age, you're either "red or blue" and the other one is wrong. Society has a hard time taking someone's values for what they are. Not everyone is going to think the exact same way. When a journalist or athlete speaks their mind, it's not the overlap of sports and politics that is the problem. It's the senseless hate that runs through the veins of people that can't open their minds to another ideology.

Aforementioned athletes such as James and Hamilton are legends of their respective sports, yet are hated by a large group of supposed fans who can't accept their desire to be more than just athletes. James was told to "shut up and dribble" by Fox News' Laura Ingraham on national television for what he said on a podcast regarding the presidential election solely based on the fact James skipped college to go to the NBA and his comments didn't match Ingraham's biased agenda. Every time it's mentioned

that Hamilton is vegan or he makes a statement about his passion for conservation of the environment, thousands of comments are made about his hypocrisy because he races cars for a living and flies private jets. They don't look at what he does for those causes positively, purely because he doesn't shut up and drive. Sports and politics will continue to intertwine. This so-called sports and politics problem wouldn't exist without hatred. Stop hating, and get used to it.

# Falcons' regular season baseball ends on a high note despite two blowout losses

**Brad Kraemer**  
INTERROBANG

The Fanshawe baseball team finished their season on Saturday, Oct. 16 when their final two games on the schedule were cancelled due to rain. The doubleheader was to be played against Seneca College at Pulham Park in London after a disappointing outing at the same venue against Humber just three days prior. The back-to-back losses against Humber wound up being the last two games for the Falcons' regular season, having gone into the doubleheader riding a seven-game winning streak. The Falcons ended up 7-5, meaning all seven wins came during that streak. Regardless, to win seven games in a row is an amazing achievement, especially after opening the season with three defeats. According to Falcons' first year corner infielder Liam Carson, they have a talented squad but the roster is inexperienced with very few veteran players. With a

shortened season due to COVID-19, the rookies had to adapt quickly to overcome their growing pains.

"We're a very young team," said Carson. "We're pretty much all first-years. There's four veterans, so we were all not used to college baseball. We weren't prepared for the 85 [miles per hour], guys throwing hard. Once we finished the first three games and realized what we're up against, our team chemistry got better, our practices got harder, everyone bonded and became a family rather than teammates and communication became so smooth....we went on a roll."

The team was riding the high of consecutive victories when the Humber Hawks came to town and beat the Falcons by a combined 19 runs over the doubleheader, the second game being a six inning mercy (10 run lead). Carson said that losing the two games against Humber did not hurt the team's momentum and was actually beneficial for them, as they got to face some adversity.

"Those games really didn't matter," said Carson. "It just [changed] who we were playing [in the playoffs]. I think it was a reality check to be honest, Humber is one of the best teams out there and for us to win seven straight, I think we needed to get humbled a little bit. We all know we're capable of winning."

Carson did not dismiss the challenge his team faces if they want to achieve their goal of winning the provincial tournament.

"We can win OCAAs," said Carson. "Humber and Seneca are crazy good teams but I think we still stand a chance."

The task in front of the Falcons is daunting, but it is not insurmountable. In order to climb to the top of the OCAA mountain, the team needs to be locked in, playing their best ball. Carson said the team knows what they have to do to win.

"The only thing I see holding us back is errors. There's obviously going to be errors, there's no baseball game without them but I think



CREDIT: MATT HISCOX

Fanshawe's Liam Carson fielding a routine ground ball and making the throw to first. |

we can't let them get in our head. We have to let it go and be ready for the next play. You want the ball to be hit to you so you can bounce back from [the last error] and carry

momentum into the next inning." No matter the outcome, the men have no reason to hang their heads. They should be proud of what they have accomplished this season.






# GAME NIGHT CHESS TOURNAMENT

## MONDAY, OCTOBER 25TH

ALUMNI LOUNGE 7PM

SIGN UP IN ADVANCE AT [FSU.CA/EVENTS](https://fsu.ca/events)

LIVE ON    @ FANSHAWESU

# HALLOWEEN SPECIAL WITH

## MAGICIAN NICHOLAS WALLACE

As seen on America's Got Talent, Penn & Teller Fool Us



# Tuesday, October 26

## Oasis | 7 pm

Register in advance at [fsu.ca/events](https://fsu.ca/events)

LIVE ON    @ FANSHAWESU


"I Loved It." Simon Cowell


"Damn Entertaining." Toronto Star

"You Are Amazing." Howie Mandel

"Totally Mind-boggling." Stagedoor

# PSYCHIC FAIR





# 7 PM

## FREE PSYCHIC READINGS

ONLINE AND IN-PERSON EVENT SIGN UP IN ADVANCE @ [FSU.CA](https://fsu.ca)

# THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28TH

## OASIS & FOUNDRY ON FIRST


# ACOUSTIC AFTERNOONS

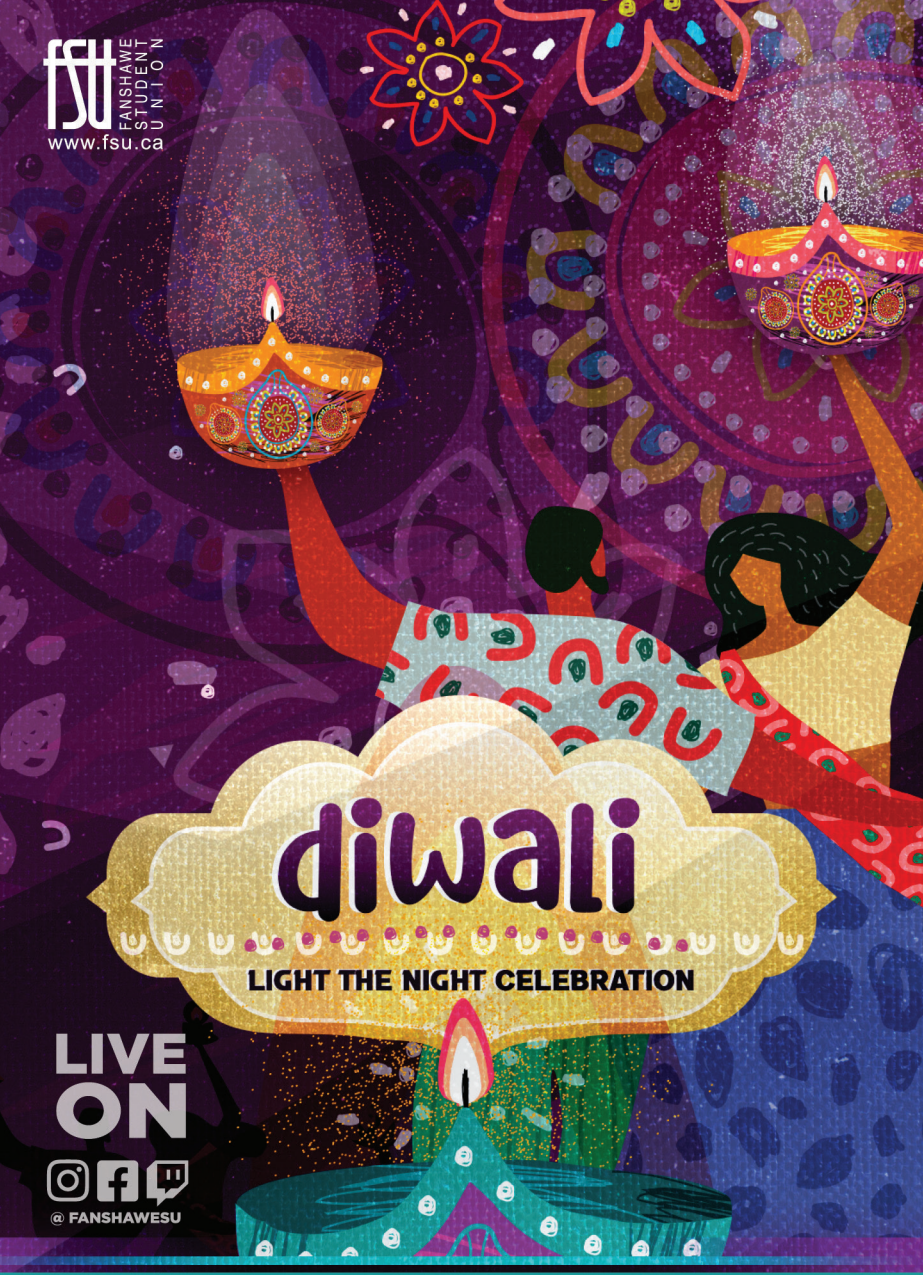
LIVE ON    @ FANSHAWESU

# 2PM

# EVERY WEDNESDAY




[www.fsu.ca](https://www.fsu.ca)





# diwali

## LIGHT THE NIGHT CELEBRATION

LIVE ON    @ FANSHAWESU

# thursday, November 4th

ONLINE @ 9AM EST, 6:30PM IST, 7PM EST

REGISITER AT [FSU.CA/EVENTS](https://fsu.ca/events)





# GAME NIGHT TOURNAMENT

## MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1ST

ALUMNI LOUNGE 7PM

SIGN UP IN ADVANCE AT [FSU.CA/EVENTS](https://fsu.ca/events)

LIVE ON    @ FANSHAWESU





Sex Trivia with Prizes!






# SEX & ROCKY DRUGS ROAD

# TUESDAY, @ THE OUT BACK SHACK

## NOVEMBER 27 PM

register in advance at [fsu.ca/events](https://fsu.ca/events)

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