

# THE **U** NITER

FREE.WEEKLY.  
VOLUME 71 // ISSUE 18 // FEB 2

## THE COST OF **GOING GREEN**

**ACCESSIBLE ENVIRONMENTAL OPTIONS  
BEYOND THE SHOPPING CART**

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THE OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

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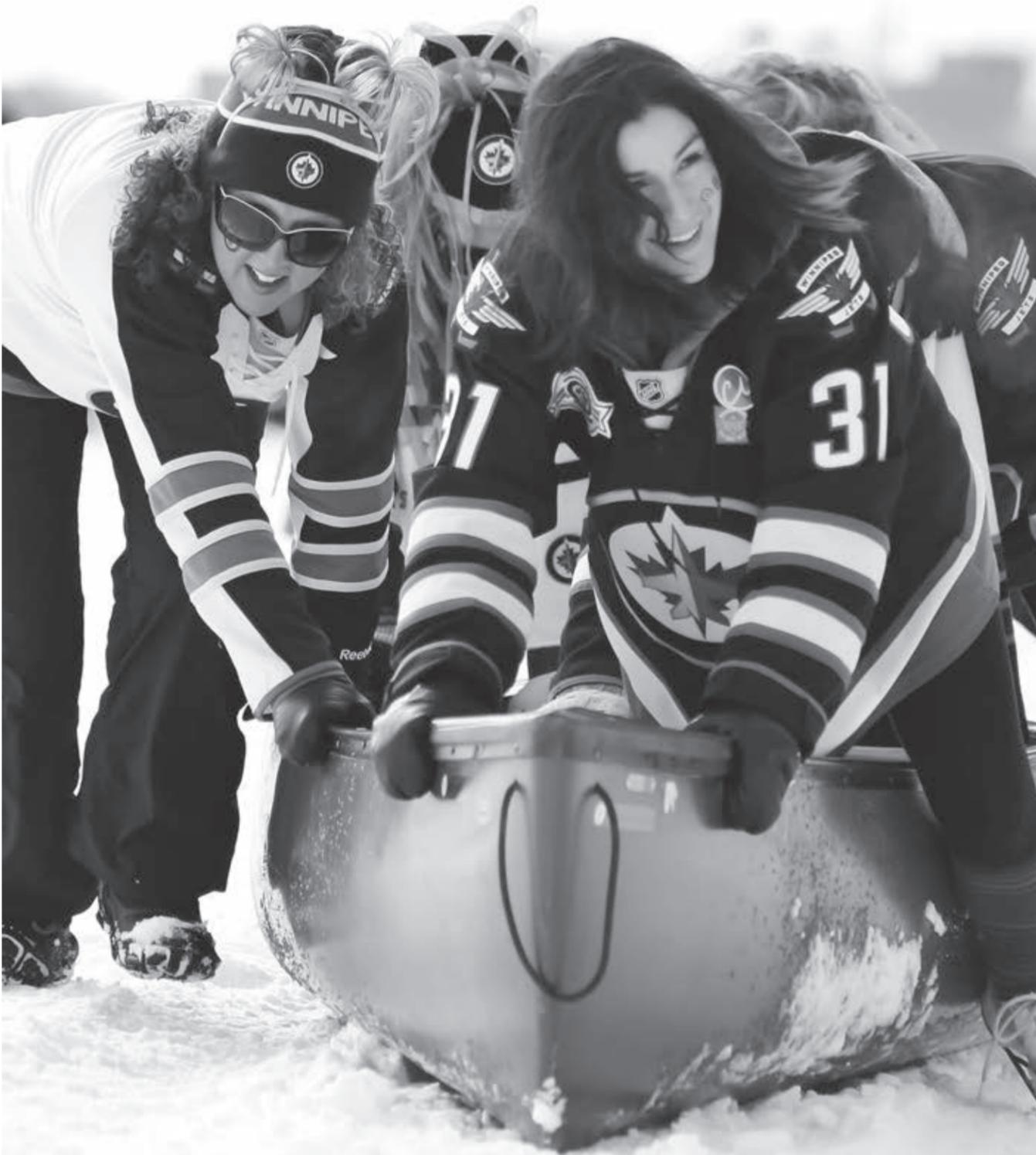
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## \* ON THE COVER

Kelly Kuryk, project manager of Compost Winnipeg, digs in a composter at the Seven Oaks School Division's composting site.

.....



Participants get their boat going for the Wild Winter Canoe Race. Read more on page 14.

SUPPLIED PHOTO

## COVERING CULTURE

While we have a section specifically titled "Arts and Culture," we could also say that everything we do in this paper is about culture.

Culture can mean art, but it also includes beliefs, ways of life, patterns of thinking and all the behaviours specific to a smaller or larger group. But let's leave the defining to the dictionary - why are we so focused on covering culture at *The Uniter*?

There's a lot of buzz around terms like cross-cultural exchange and cultural understanding. Usually we think that means across larger nation- or religion-based cultures. But on a smaller scale, we're all part of a number of different cultures, and they influence the ways we see the world.

When we read about cultures different from our own - whether that's a musical culture, a food-based culture, a sports and fitness culture or a culture based on sharing a particular space on campus - we can get out of our own heads for a minute.

Perhaps we can un-stick some of our tired ways of thinking and be a little more open to new ones. Perhaps we can see that there are others in the city doing cool things that we'd like to celebrate along with them. Perhaps we go out and do something new, or perhaps we also just read and explore new worlds through words.

When we share our cultures with others in a framework of honesty and respect, there's nothing to lose and everything to gain. We all have something to learn, something to share, something to teach.

Every time we put an issue of *The Uniter* together, our world and our understanding of it gets broader and richer. We hope you feel the same.

- Anastasia Chipelski

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# WHOSE

# HOUSE?

## ANDRÉ'S HOUSE



PHOTOS BY CALLIE MORRIS

THOMAS PASHKO

@THOMASPASHKO

FEATURES REPORTER

André Lewis is a spontaneous kind of guy. The artistic director of Canada's Royal Winnipeg Ballet (RWB) has been with the company for more than 40 years, but he says he may never have wound up with them if not for a fluke.

"I first came to Winnipeg in 1975," Lewis says. "My girlfriend at the time, with whom I'd trained in Ottawa, said, 'Why don't we go visit my parents in Australia?' We planned on taking the train out west to fly there, but stopped in Winnipeg to do the (RWB's) summer school. She ended up hurting her back and went back to Ottawa, but I just stayed here."

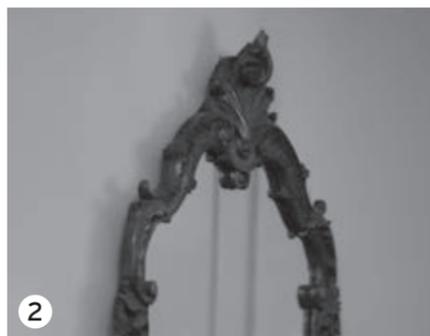
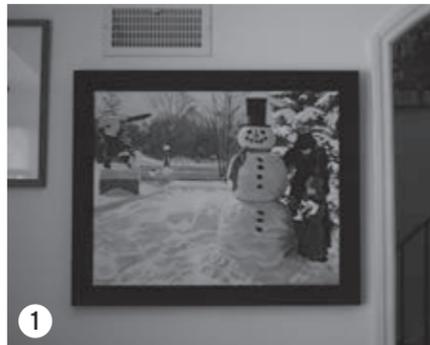
Despite having no plans to stay and not knowing a word of English, Lewis fell in love with the RWB and became a lifer with the company. He worked his way up, becoming artistic director in 1995.

Lewis' home of 16 years was acquired in a similarly spontaneous manner.

"(My wife and I) were desperate to find a house," Lewis says. "We'd looked at 40 or 50 houses but couldn't find the right one. I happened to be on tour in the Maritimes when my wife called and said, 'I think I found one.' She faxed me some info, and I gave her the okay to make an offer without having seen it."

Lewis and his family take a clean, uncluttered approach to their home, with an emphasis on art over objects.

"It's important to feel comfortable at home," Lewis says. "I have an intense work life, so keeping the home calm is important."



### 1) SNOWMAN PAINTING

"This is a painting of my wife and daughter. It was done as part of a fundraiser for RWB by the artist Shannon Lovelace. My wife really wanted it and bid for it in the auction. The funny thing is, she was bidding against some people with very deep pockets, but because they knew it was her and our daughter, they didn't outbid her. The organizers were a little upset, because we could've gotten more money!"

### 2) MIRROR

"The mirror also comes from Caroline's mom. It originally came from Caroline's grandmother who was a socialite in Manhattan in the early 20th century."

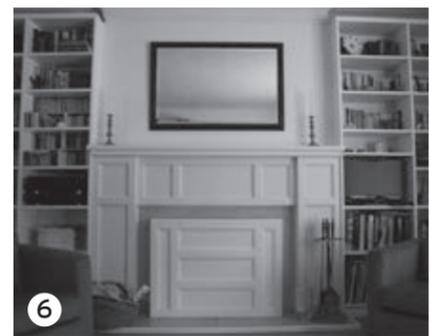


### 3) DINING ROOM PAINTING

"This painting belonged to my wife's father when she was growing up in England. Although she's American, born in New York, she grew up and studied in London. We have no idea where he acquired this painting. The botanical sketches around it also belonged to her mother."

### 4) HENNY'S PAINTING

"This is one of two paintings that were done by a dancer at the Dutch National Ballet, where my wife danced for many years. These paintings belonged to her friend Henny Juriens, who was at the Dutch National Ballet with her and eventually became artistic director at RWB. He and his wife were killed in a car crash in 1989, and these paintings were left to us."



### 5) MUSIC LIBRARY

"Music is obviously a big part of our lives. We both love opera, though my wife Caroline is the real aficionado. Me, not as much. Although, I remember as a kid I loved a CBC show called *Saturday Night at the Opera* that ran for years and years."

### 6) MANTELPiece

"I built this myself, actually. It's my claim to fame in this house. We had some shelves that didn't fit correctly, so Caroline suggested I build something. The guys in the RWB shop cut the materials carefully for me, then I built it."

## ARTS AND CULTURE BRIEFS

MEG CRANE // ARTS AND CULTURE EDITOR

@MEGCRANE

### YouTube Party

The Good Will Social Club is hosting a free YouTube party. Sam Neal and Graeme Wolfe will host the event, which runs from 8 p.m. until 2 a.m. on Feb. 2. They'll be playing their favourite YouTube videos on the big screen, but they'll also take requests. The YouTube Party at the Good Will is 18+. For more info, go to [thegoodwill.ca](http://thegoodwill.ca).

### Here's My Canada

Historica Canada wants Canadians to share 30-second videos about what Canada means to them. The video contest is called Here's My Canada. The winner in the adult category will receive a \$10,000 cash prize. Cash will also be available to the second and third place winners. Manitoba's film festival Freeze Frame is accepting entrants under 18 years old.

### Flashback Film Fest

The Flashback Film Fest is taking place from Feb. 3 to 9 in cities across Canada, including Winnipeg. The 17 films – including *Fight Club*, *Jurassic Park*, *Pulp Fiction* and *The Running Man* – will play at Scotiabank Theatre Winnipeg. Prices are \$7.99 per movie, \$6.99 each for five or more films or \$69.99 for a pass to all movies.

### Randy Bachman documentary

A feature-length documentary about music legend Randy Bachman is in the works. Fairpoint Films and Paquin Entertainment partnered to produce the film, which follows Bachman as he works on his next hit, while taking a look at his past. The award-winning team behind the project includes director John Barnard and music journalist Larry LeBlanc. It is expected to be released in late 2017.

### Best original song in film

Royal Canoe's Matt Schellenberg was nominated for a Canadian Screen Award for best original song. The song, "Draw Blood," is on the *Lovesick* soundtrack. Schellenberg wrote at least part of all 13 songs in the film, which required him to write a variety of genres, including samba and club music. The music was performed by mostly Winnipeggers.

## DIG INTO NATURAL WELLNESS

Getting curious about medicinal plants

MELANIE DAHLING  @SUGARDAHLING

ARTS AND CULTURE REPORTER

With easier access to information about health and wellness online, plant-based medicine is becoming more popular. Consumers who may have been curious about the benefits of plants can now find research, local greenhouses and helpful people to guide them in their search.

Dave Hanson, founder and lead educator at Sage Garden Greenhouses, says this isn't a new way of doing things, just a lifestyle people have returned to over time.

"Years ago, there was a really strong interest in a lot of the medicinal (herbs). Echinacea was huge, licorice root, St. John's wort and a lot of more obscure medicinal type herbs were being popularized."

Hanson says many people became more curious about plant-based wellness as a result but were quickly overwhelmed.

"One week, you'd hear a study that says echinacea was awesome. The next week, you'd hear it doesn't work at all," he says.

Working with plants can be tricky, because it's not a linear process, Hanson says.

"It's not just about a single alkaloid, for example. It's often that there's many things going on in a raw plant," he says.

There has been a rise of interest as people have more access to tutorials and are able to research sources for plant life of interest, Hanson says.

In addition to Sage Garden Greenhouses, Living Prairie Museum (LPM) is a local source for information about earth-based wellness.

"Living Prairie Museum is really unique, because we've got both natural habitat and an interpretive centre for people to see," Sarah Semmler, director of LPM, says. "The habitat is tall grass prairie, and it's a very endangered, rare type of habitat. Only about one per cent remains in North America."

Visitors typically walk through the habitat and view the wildlife, then they're guided into the interpretive centre to learn more from displays and the experts on staff, Semmler says.



Sarah Semmler, director of Living Prairie Museum, works to preserve tall grass prairie.

Beginning Jan. 24, the museum is hosting a weekly speaker series featuring experts on different environmental topics, including medicinal plants. The series runs until March 21 and has been filling up fast, Semmler says.

"We've been having the series for quite a number of years now," she says. "It seems like in the last two or three years, it's really been picking up momentum, and I think it's because we've been getting more active on social media."

Hanson says having an inquisitive, hands-on relationship with plants can really empower and change a person's relationship with their health. This is especially true when they start to grow the plants themselves in place of commercial supplements.

"Having the ability to be totally in charge of how the plant material is grown is huge," he says. "Sometimes supplements that are mass-marketed products, or even more from specialty herb stores, might

or might not have 100 per cent accurate identification on them."

Whether it comes from a book, online or a local expert, it's important to do the proper research.

"Even when we're collecting plants or starting to get into habitat with the best interests in mind, sometimes we forget the impact that we can have on that site," Semmler says.

Semmler says even the most well-intentioned plant collector can have a negative impact on a site by trampling the habitat or over-harvesting.



For more information about workshops at Living Prairie Museum, go to [friendsoflivingprairie.org](http://friendsoflivingprairie.org).

## THE TREBLE BACK WITH A NEW SOUND

Local band took a break for self-discovery

JUSTIN SARIDES  @JUSTINSARIDES

VOLUNTEER STAFF

Previously described as a pop/rock/folk band, The Treble is set to release their debut album *Modernaires* on Feb. 10 with a markedly different sound than their earlier music.

They say they've evolved since their earlier EPs, losing the folk descriptor and moving toward a more alternative pop/rock sound.

"I think having made this new record and having spent so much time on it, we kinda figured out exactly what The Treble is to us and the kind of songs that we feel represent us best," lead singer Mark Brusegard says.

In 2012, after a successful showcase in Los Angeles, The Treble caught their first big break and were signed to The Agency Group, now United Talent Agency.

They quickly followed up this success by releasing their second EP and touring Canada, concluding the tour with a stop at Edgeland in Toronto alongside The Lumineers and Band of Horses.



The Treble is moving towards a more alternative pop/rock sound with their new album, *Modernaires*, which will be released on Feb. 10.

It was only after opening for Hedley at the MTS Centre in 2014 that the quintet realized they had to stop and catch their breath.

Opening to an arena-sized crowd was something totally new to them, and it was a wake-up call for the busy band.

"That was when we were like 'Okay. We gotta get our heads on straight and figure out how to do this,' and that was really when we started putting *Modernaires* together," Brusegard says.

Reflecting on their older music, keyboardist Colin McTavish admits that it was geared more towards the live performance, specifically in bars.

"When you're playing in a bar at midnight to people that haven't heard you, you have to find a way to get them to listen to you," McTavish says, "and I would say

that a lot of that EP (*Northern Lights*) was a product of that."

They say what really differentiates *Modernaires* from their previous music is the fact that they were able to hole up in their jam space and write almost every day for eight months.

"*Modernaires* is more of the songs that we would've written if we were left to our own devices for a really long time," Brusegard says. "Whereas with *Northern Lights*, we put it together while we were on the go."

They also largely credit their change in sound to having worked with the prominent Canadian music producer Rob Wells, who has worked with Justin Bieber, Ariana Grande, the Backstreet Boys and many others.

To them, working with Wells was always about having a push and pull between

their rock roots and Wells' pop influence.

"I think our goal, when we started working with him, was to have that tug of war and, if we all fight for what we want, we'll get this thing that's right in the middle, and that's kinda what we got," Brusegard says.

He says Wells brought many of the songs to life in a really neat way.



Described as a dark, alternative pop/rock album, *Modernaires* can be found on iTunes, Google Play and Spotify on Feb. 10.

# CKUW TOP 20

January 23 - 29, 2017

TW = This Week // LW = Last Week // ! = Local content // \* = Canadian Content



TW	LW	C	ARTIST	ALBUM	LABEL
1	1	!	Duotang	New Occupation	Stomp
2	3	*	The Evaporators	Ogopogo Punk	Mint
3	4	!	The Catamounts	St Nuomatac	Transistor 66
4	2	!	John K Samson	Winter Wheat	Anti-
5	5	!	Royal Canoe	Something Got Lost Between Here And The Orbit	Nevado
6	RE		Luisa Maita	Fio Da Memoria	Cumbancha
7	6		Drive By Truckers	American Band	ATO
8	10	!	Moon Tan	The Faceless Knight	Self Released
9	7	*	The Pack A.D.	Positive Thinking	Cadence
10	8	!	Zrada	Legend	Self-Released
11	13	*	Duchess Says	Sciences Nouvelles	Bonsound
12	11	*	Loscil	Monument Builders	Kranky
13	18	!	Kayla Luky	Back To Dirt	Self-Released
14	15	*	Manitoba Hal Brolund	Live In Ghent	Self-Released
15	NE	*	Aurochs	Another Helpful Medicine	All Set
16	26	*	We Are Wolves	Wrong	Fantome
17	17	!	JD And The Sunshine Band	Soaking Up The Rays	Transistor 66
18	20	*	Tanya Tagaq	Retribution	Six Shooter
19	12	!	A La Mode	Perfection Salad	Self-Released
20	14		Automat	Ostwest	Bureau B



## PUP: Pathetic Use of Potential

You've probably heard of PUP by now. In just a few short years, the band has established their importance to the Canadian punk scene, as well as solidifying a well-earned spot in Canadian music as a whole. Formed in Ontario, PUP has absolutely zero apologies about how Canadian they are.

As a Canadian, it is obviously important to recognize when a band born at home makes big splashes across our borders. It's practically a part of our collective identities. We can all recall at least one time in recent memory when we have had a discussion with our friends about a great new band, and sure enough, someone chimes up, "you know they're Canadian, right?"

This usually stirs up a warm, almost celebratory reaction from everyone. This familiar feeling is key in understanding the tight-knit attitudes and the strong sense of community that are so prevalent in the Winnipeg music scene.

Last November, PUP played at The Good Will Social Club, ending the Canadian leg of their tour. 2016 saw the release of the band's second album, *The Dream is Over*. The album is dripping with expressions of anxiety, uneasiness, insecurity and generally somber themes.

It's pretty amazing that, somehow, they manage to come off sounding hopeful because of just how honest and unrepentantly open it is. I can without a doubt tell you that there was not a single sad face at The Good Will that night.

Stepping outside into the familiar cold Winnipeg air for a moment and talking to friends and strangers about how content and happy the atmosphere made them feel solidified the sense of community and passion. After the first step back inside the venue, you immediately melted back into exactly what the band wants to tell you.

PUP refuses to hide from the negativity or monotony that life sometimes brings. They instead embrace it and express it confidently, more like a badge of honour than a battle scar.

PUP has not just received acclaim here in Winnipeg. The band was nominated for a Polaris Music Prize, joining fellow Canadian punks Fucked Up in the national spotlight. The band, famously and hilariously, sent their parents to the Polaris gala in their place, as they were busy on tour in Europe.

This perfectly embodies the kind of attitude PUP has toward their music and their energy. The band is accessible not just to punks, but has a broader appeal that has a unifying effect on their audience. Sincerity, as well as sticking with some of the more fun and silly aspects of punk, has earned the band a truly endearing reputation.

PUP is technically an acronym. A "pathetic use of potential" is how some family members of the band described their dreams of becoming professional musicians. It represents the band's bold clinch of criticism, and obvious refusal to give in is what concretes them not simply as punks, but also as strong entertainers and musicians.

We can learn a lot from a band that sticks so adamantly to its integrity. PUP may not be from Winnipeg, but they more than embody the attitude, community, and spirit of our city.

It doesn't matter what kind of music you're into. If you've been to a hip-hop show at the Pyramid, or a rock show at the WECC, you have unquestionably felt the enthusiasm our city has to offer. PUP may not be from here, but they were phenomenal guests, and I cannot wait for them to come back and light Winnipeg up again.

-Ash Khan



SUPPLIED PHOTO FROM *LOVESICK*

## LOVESICK

THOMAS PASHKO

@THOMASPASHKO

FEATURES REPORTER

★★☆☆☆

*Playing at Cinematheque until Feb. 5*

There's merit in the idea of a genre exercise. There's nothing inherently wrong with making a romantic comedy that doesn't aim to subvert, break new ground or be anything more than a great entry in the rom-com genre. Unfortunately, *Lovesick* doesn't quite achieve those modest goals.

Shot and set in Winnipeg, the film stars Jacob Tierney as a dejected artist obsessed with his now-engaged ex-girlfriend (Jessica Paré). He struggles to get over her, meeting a new flame along the way (Ali Tataryn).

The trope of the self-pitying man-child as rom-com protagonist is noth-

ing new, but it's especially poorly served here. Whether intentional or not, the unlikeability and downright creepiness of Tierney's Dash is a huge problem. His rival – the ex's new fiancé (Jay Baruchel) – is not only more charming, but more interesting.

Fortunately, the picture is rounded out with an excellent supporting cast. Ross McMillan as Dash's therapist and Adam Brooks as his misguided best friend do exceptional jobs filling standard rom-com archetypes.

Writer-director Tyson Caron has an eye for location, shooting and framing his spaces with unobtrusive but undeniable style. Most of the time, he gets the look and feel of Winnipeg right. However, he's at his best when capturing the atmosphere of neighbourhoods, sidewalks and alleys more than when he's running through the tourist brochure checklist.

*Lovesick's* greatest strength is the excellent soundtrack, with a musical score and original songs by Royal Canoe's Matthew Schellenberg. The film always sounds fresh and alive, pulsing with thoughtful and infectious music.

## SOUL SISTERS

THOMAS PASHKO

@THOMASPASHKO

FEATURES REPORTER

★★★★☆

*Playing at Cinematheque Feb. 3 to 11*

Cultural depictions of nunhood and Catholic sisterhood are a rarity. The few that gain popular attention (*The Sound of Music*, *Doubt*) present an image of the practice rooted more in the past than the present.

Perhaps that cultural void is what makes writer-director Danielle Sturk's *Soul Sisters* feel so refreshing. This new documentary examines the personal lives of the Catholic Sisters of Manitoba, presenting an earnest portrait of women spirituality. It's a topic so thematically rich that it's hard to believe it's been so thoroughly ignored by film.

The picture follows various Manitoban nuns and sisters, chronicling

their humanitarian work with children, people with disabilities, incarcerated individuals, at-risk youth, recent immigrants and the terminally ill.

While films examining Catholic men's spirituality (*Mean Streets* and *Raging Bull*) are stories fraught with guilt and pain, *Soul Sisters* presents a view of spirituality untethered from dogma. Instead, the women onscreen dedicate themselves to serving those in need, regardless of religious or ethnic background.

The film's most moving portions explore the difficulty in reconciling the sisters' humanitarian present with their damaging historical role in residential schools. Some of the sisters actually taught in the schools, and we see them participating in reconciliation workshops with survivors and their children.

One nun, who has worked as a teacher in multiple settings, speaks openly about the conflict between the love she felt for her students and the knowledge that what she was engaging in was actually abuse. Thankfully, the film doesn't try to offer up easy answers to these complex problems.



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Stephanie Sy, who plays Whatsername in the Winnipeg Studio Theatre's production of *American Idiot*, with Michael Cox, one of her co-stars.

## REVISIT *AMERICAN IDIOT* WITH WINNIPEG STUDIO THEATRE

### The Sound of Hysteria

MELANIE DAHLING

 @SUGARDAHLING

ARTS AND CULTURE REPORTER

Winnipeg Studio Theatre's presentation of *American Idiot* comes at a time when Canadians can relate to angsty lyrics about a country divided.

"Green Day's not afraid to talk about politics," Stephanie Sy, who plays Whatsername in the musical, says. "I think they celebrate open discussion about it ... that's why Green Day works. They're looking at it from everyone's point of view, and they're saying how they feel about it honestly."

The *American Idiot* album was originally released in 2004 – the year George W. Bush was elected president – and was written as a response to the pop culture and politics of the time.

Josh Lakatos, one of Winnipeg's self-proclaimed biggest Green Day fans, has loved

the band since his childhood when his older brother would play the music around the house.

"I learned guitar just because they were my favourite band," Lakatos says. "I just think (Billie Joe Armstrong) is a really good songwriter. He writes really simple music, obviously, but it's just catchy."

As he got older, he started to pay more attention to the content of Green Day's songs. Originally, he was only listening for the melodies, he says.

Living in the world as an adult and making contributions to society helped Lakatos pick up on themes in Armstrong's lyrics.

"I see what the world actually is compared to just being a kid living at home," he says.

The musical follows a cast of mostly men through their dissatisfaction living in suburbia.

*American Idiot* is about a community of young, lost, confused and frustrated

Americans who are all looking for their place in the country and what they really stand for," Sy says.

The lead character is Johnny who, in the Broadway presentation of the musical, bears a resemblance to Armstrong.

"(Johnny) has this epiphany that the world and the generation in which he lives is not the one he wants. And so, he makes a move from his small town, the suburbia, to the big city where he meets new people who open up different worlds to him," Sy says.

Lakatos says he first heard about the musical when it came out in 2009 and is definitely going to see Winnipeg Studio Theatre's production.

"I'd love to see it. I thought it was really cool that it's actually coming to Winnipeg," he says.

Though he is emotionally attached to the original music, he doesn't think that will hinder his enjoyment of the show.

"I am such a big fan of Billie Joe, so I guess I'd be a little bit critical if I heard someone else singing his songs 'cause it's never as good as him singing it," Lakatos says. "But I think, overall, it'd be interesting just to see how they tell the story."

Sy says although some of the musical's content is not appropriate for young audiences (the event is 14-plus), she feels *American Idiot* speaks volumes on the current political climate in the United States.

This is an opportunity to express confusion and frustration through art while opening up communication, she says.



*American Idiot* runs Feb. 23 to March 5 at Winnipeg Studio Theatre. For more info, go to [winnipegstudiotheatre.com](http://winnipegstudiotheatre.com).

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## POPULARITY OF TEA IS GROWING

Winnipeggers want more hot beverage choices

RACHEL BARBER

VOLUNTEER STAFF

 @RACHELBAEB

Tea is hot, and local shops are opening all over town to meet the demand.

Last year, the Amsterdam Tea Room opened on the corner of Bannatyne Avenue and Albert Street as a tea retail store with plans to eventually expand its purview into a tea room.

“Our plan was always to do a licensed tea room for spring/summer of this year, but when we found this space, we had to move fast,” co-owner Mark Turner says.

With the licensed tea room, Turner says their intention is to cultivate a European street cafe culture locally.

“You can come in and relax. You can have a tea or a tea cocktail and just sit and watch the world go by,” Turner says.



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Tea-lovers choose the beverage for the range of choices, health benefits and stories behind tea selections.

Joy's Tea, located on the corner of Westminster Avenue and Evanson Street, opened a month ago, and is a tea-only cafe with a '60s glam aesthetic.

Owner Jesse Keeper says he wanted to open a tea shop in Winnipeg partly because there was nothing like it around, and few local cafes cater specifically to tea drinkers.

“I personally don't want to go out for tea at the end of the night and have to choose Red Rose,” Keeper says. “For the variety, you could go to David's Tea, but you are in and out in a food court. It's not somewhere that you can go and relax or meet someone.”

According to Turner, research shows a lot of people are starting to feel this way. He says he learned at the 2016 World Tea Expo that over the last five years in North

America, there has been a shift: millennials now split their hot beverage consumption 50-50 between coffee and tea.

Turner says predictions are in favour of tea consumption winning out over coffee in the next five years.

“Part of the reason for that is people love the choice available in tea. Of course there is choice in coffee, but the spectrum is a lot narrower,” Turner says.

The health benefits of tea, both obvious and unexpected, are another reason for this shift.

“I feel like people are also trying to get off of coffee,” Keeper says.

Turner agrees, noting that customers who are habitual coffee-drinkers will still have that morning cup but then transition into drinking a variety of teas throughout the day and into the evening.

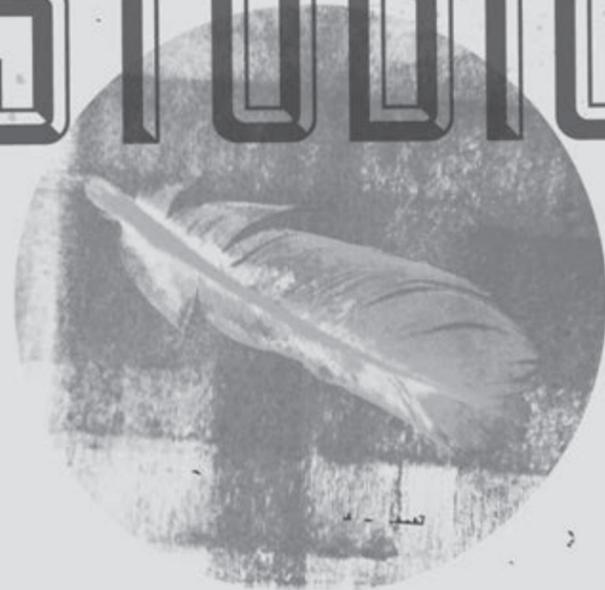
Turner has also done research on the benefits of tea drinking as a contemplative, restful practice.

“Basically, if you don't drink tea, you'll fail your exams,” Turner says, laughing.

When visiting Joy's Tea, Keeper recommends trying their organic superior matcha. At Amsterdam Tea Room, Turner recommends their coffee leaf tea made from the leaves of coffee plants or their Kangaroo Lapsang (Taiwanese, triple-smoked).

One last piece of advice when wading into the world of tea: always ask for the backstory.

“A lot of teas are surrounded with mystery and legend,” Turner says. “We have a good story about most of our teas.”



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# THE COST OF GOING GREEN

WORDS BY TIM RUNTZ

 @TIMRUNTZ

PHOTOS BY DANIEL CRUMP

 @DANNYBOYCRUMP

It's not always easy being green, but several Winnipeg organizations are working to make environmental initiatives more accessible across the board.

“The unofficial face of trendy environmentalism is a smiling white woman meandering through a sunny farmers’ market, leafy greens popping up through her reusable shopping bags,” Madeleine Somerville writes for *The Guardian*.

That’s an uncomplicated vision of a multifaceted issue, she goes on to suggest. The picturesque ideal of lifestyle environmentalism ignores factors like class, education and ability that prevent many from living the apparent green dream.

Electric cars, solar panels and organic granola bars are no longer fringe markets for only the most enthusiastic eco-advocates, and, according to a Nielsen global survey, a growing number of consumers are factoring in environmental impact when they’re making purchases.

But given their increased costs, green-marketed products and initiatives tend to be marketed to, and purchased by, people who have the time, physical ability, education and financial capacity to invest in them.

Jaret Olford works as a compost courier with Compost Winnipeg.

COVER FEATURE continues // NEXT PAGE



The Social Enterprise Centre in Winnipeg's North End neighbourhood is home to many businesses and organizations trying to affect local social change, including the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (CCPA).



A Peg City Car Co-op vehicle parked in Osborne Village.

“Green’ lifestyles don’t resonate with low-income communities,” activist Marc Bamuthi Joseph writes. “Being ‘green’ involves a set of behaviors that are financially or culturally inaccessible.”

A new Nissan Leaf may reduce gas bills in the long run, but the \$37,000 price tag means it’s only an option for the rich.

And a new energy-efficient dishwasher may reduce expenses eventually, but the upfront cost can be prohibitive, and landlords whose tenants pay for utilities have little incentive to make the upgrade.

### SOMETIMES DRIVE

Several Winnipeg social enterprises are working to move toward a more accessible, community-oriented form of environmentalism.

Philip Mikulec of the Peg City Car Co-op says the car-sharing initiative makes not owning a car a more viable option for Winnipeggers who walk, cycle or take public transit most of the time.

The co-op has about 20 vehicles stationed throughout the city, which members can book in 15-minute increments.

“This being Winnipeg, most people drive. And if we can chip away at that picture of the car from an individual status item that you own to a collective good that you share when you need, it’s another way we can look at car usage in Winnipeg,” Mikulec says.

According to Environment Canada, transportation is the biggest climate culprit in Manitoba, accounting for 39 per cent of the province’s greenhouse gas emissions.

It’s not so clear cut that buying the latest eco-gadget is the best solution to climate change anyway.

“We see a lot of people who are talking about going green, and yet they’re talking about green consumerism, talking about still wanting to go and do the shopping trip and buy all these things,” Curt Hull of the Manitoba Eco-Network says.

“You can buy these things with fancy packaging. They’re organic or whatever, but it turns out they come from halfway around the world.”

One study showed that in similar scenarios across the U.S., each car share vehicle took up to 11 personal vehicles off the road.

Though Mikulec admits that most of their users are young professionals, and the co-op hasn’t expanded into low-income areas of the city, he says it has the potential to provide vehicle access to people who might not be able to afford one.

Members pay a \$500 deposit up front or a monthly fee, plus usage fees for time and mileage, which can be a significant savings compared to the \$7000-8000 per year it costs on average to own a car in Canada, according to CAA.

Mikulec says Winnipeg Transit is a good way to get around, but it’s limited by its budget and the city’s low-density design.

“We want to be part of changing the urban pattern that has been occurring in Winnipeg. And we’re just one small piece of the multi-modal transportation pie,” he says.



Jaret Olford, a compost courier with Compost Winnipeg, weighs a bucket he's picking up. After making weekly pickups of full buckets, Olford leaves a fresh one for the household.



An example of the average contents of a compost bucket. These buckets are collected weekly and the contents are taken to a recycling facility near Route 90 in Winnipeg.

## ORGANIC WASTE PROCESSING

Transportation isn't the only area where the social sector is providing additional eco-options.

"There's all kinds of reasons that people don't have an ability or willingness to compost on their own," Kelly Kuryk of Compost Winnipeg says. Many people live in apartments, have physical disabilities or simply don't have the time or knowhow to process their own organic waste, she says.

When organic waste breaks down in a landfill, it lacks oxygen and attracts bacteria that release methane and other greenhouse gases. But when they break down in an ideal environment, they release far fewer harmful gases, and the resulting compost can be used on crops instead of harmful chemical fertilizers.

Compost Winnipeg, a branch of the Green Action Centre, has been working with schools, businesses and community groups since last April and started offering household pickup last month.

Kuryk admits it's not a perfect solution, recognizing that the \$25 monthly price tag makes the service out of reach for some Winnipeggers.

"We're keeping all our costs absolutely as lean as possible, because we do want it to be something that's as accessible as can be," she says.

While many cities across Canada have comprehensive organic waste programs that include citywide curbside pickup and municipal processing plants, Winnipeg's capacity is limited to seasonal yard waste.

"We are completely looking at this as a temporary solution that will fill in a gap until the city moves forward," Kuryk says.

Plans for an expanded municipal program were met with opposition from several city councillors last April due to cost, and Coun. Brian Mayes, chairman of the city's water and waste committee, said it would likely take another four years for an organics program to get up and running.

A new report presented to the city's water and waste committee on Jan. 29 suggests the city set aside an additional \$200,000 for further consultation.

The report also calls for an inquiry into how a carbon tax could help fund greener waste management in the city.

Lynne Fernandez of the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives sees this as an opportunity to create good jobs for people who would otherwise struggle to find work.

If coordinated by the city or a non-profit, she says "organic waste pickup is the perfect kind of entry level job for somebody who has no training. There should be some sort of cross-fertilization there so that ... it's dealing with both greenhouse gas issues and environmental issues at the same time as it's dealing with poverty and job training."

## ENERGY POVERTY

It's this type of integrative approach that was the impetus behind BUILD – Building Urban Industries for Local Development. The social enterprise trains and employs multi-barriered workers who would otherwise be unable to find a job.

Among other contracting and retrofit jobs, BUILD partners with Manitoba Hydro's Affordable Energy program to install insulation, high-efficiency furnaces and low-flow plumbing for low-income tenants and homeowners.

"So we're increasing the income and creating more sustainable employment for individuals, jobs that could have a future, but at the same time reducing energy costs, reducing the likelihood of energy poverty," Art Ladd, executive director of BUILD, says.

"So many people are energy poor," Fernandez says. "They're spending so much money on heating, they're living in these old leaky buildings, that they might as well just be throwing money out the window."

She also notes that when it comes to climate change, it's usually low-income communities that feel the impacts first.

According to Ladd, environmental factors have been a priority for BUILD since the beginning.

"We've always looked at ways that we could use the green economy to address social issues," he says.

Their partnership with the provincial government, and Manitoba Hydro in particular, has been central to BUILD's success.

"None of that would have happened if the government hadn't had the legislation under the Energy Savings Act to support that, hadn't had champions within the government who supported this kind of

holistic way of doing business and also had champions to think about lowering greenhouse gasses," Fernandez says.

Hydro offers free insulation and energy saving products to qualifying low-income individuals and financing and rebates on major investments like geothermal systems. But many Manitobans aren't aware of the programs or struggle to access them without help from social enterprises like BUILD.

The provincial PCs have promised to move Hydro's energy efficiency programs out of the crown corporation and into an independent agency, but some Manitobans are concerned this will be cost-ineffective or lead to further privatization.

"I worry about this being a slippery slope because I worry about Hydro being a target for privatization and starting to carve off little portions of it is actually how it begins," Fernandez says.

"Even if they don't carve it out, even if it stays under Manitoba Hydro, they do have to find ways to make that more accessible, and more people have to be willing to buy into it," she says.

In a recent Probe research poll, commissioned by the Canadian Union of Public Employees, 78 per cent of Manitobans said they would prefer to see Power Smart remain within Hydro.

The crown corporation has been criticized for its exploitation of Indigenous communities in northern Manitoba, and Fernandez says its funding and financing programs need to be made more widely available. But the partnership between the province and social enterprises like BUILD is a model that she and Ladd say could be expanded into other fields, including public transit and waste management.



Lynne Fernandez works on policy with the CCPA.

## WRITING GREEN POLICY

These types of initiatives require individuals and non-profit organizers, as well as government funding and collaboration.

"Reducing the cost of environmental innovations, new products, new technologies so that there's broader uptake is certainly really important, and relying on a market system may not be the best way to disperse such innovations," Alan Diduck, acting associate dean of science at the University of Winnipeg says.

"There's an important role to play through environmental law and policy to create incentives."

Mikulec says Peg City Car Co-op has collaborated with the city on parking variances related to new developments, but its relationship with Transit is arm's-length.

"One of the things we're going to need to see is a fuller development of rapid transit. With the full development of rapid transit, we start to see transit-oriented growth, and then with transit-oriented growth and higher density, then there would be possibility for a greater integrative relationship between Transit and Peg City," he says.

Kuryk agrees that governments in Manitoba need to prioritize green initiatives.

"It's sort of exciting in Winnipeg, because there is so much growing to do in the world of waste management and increasing composting, but at the same time, it's just also very frustrating because we are so far behind almost every other major municipality or city in Canada, so ... we're desperately encouraging the city and the province to continue moving forward so that we're not so far behind the rest of Canada," she says.



Kelly Kuryk, project manager of Compost Winnipeg, digs in a composter that's part of a partnership with the Seven Oaks School Division.



## LEZ BE HONEST

WITH ALANA TRACHENKO

@ALANA\_WPG

### QUEERLY ABSENT FROM CINEMA

It doesn't sound like a big deal not to see yourself represented in the latest teen drama or popular blockbuster.

And in a way, it's not significant in the way that basic rights are for the LGBTQ+ community. However, it does represent another level of belonging within society that straight people automatically have.

One of the reasons I didn't realize that I was gay for such a long time is because I never saw myself reflected in media. I didn't see girls who dressed or acted like me. What I did sometimes see were Hollywood's lesbian prototypes – the short-haired, soft butch, the couple in matching denim cutoffs drinking cans of beer, the suited-up power dyke.

When there are gay women in movies and TV, they're so pigeon-holed that we already know what to expect from them on the screen before they even say anything. Being gay is their character – it's not, like in real life, just a part of who they are as a bigger person.

It seems like LGBTQ+ people have to make a choice to be a sort of caricature that people will understand, or to try to be their own person. But straight people have that freedom. Being straight doesn't limit you to any personalities, hobbies, preferences – and being gay shouldn't either, but that's the message that's out there.

LGBTQ+ people only get a couple of cookie cutter options to choose from, and if we don't identify with any of them, we may start feeling like we don't belong.

Even when we do see lesbian and queer characters, they're disproportionately killed off. This is such a well-known phenomenon that an online publication

has compiled all 173 of them into a detailed list. And that might not sound like a lot, in the history of all the characters who have died in cinema, but when you consider how many we even get to begin with, it's significant.

I don't think any director goes and thinks, "someone's gotta die – let's make it the gay one." They're probably thinking we need to get rid of someone that the audience likes but isn't overly attached to. And often the answer is the lesbian. But why are lesbian characters so dispensable?

Maybe it's because the straight guys who tend to write and direct don't feel as intrigued by a lesbian character. *Blue is*

*the Warmest Colour* is touted for its honest depiction of lesbianism, and yet the girl ends up cheating with a dude. And guess what? It's directed by a man.

There's isn't going to be a straight sex scene with a lesbian character, ever. She doesn't have the same holding power, the same potential story arc as a straight character. And when it comes to gay characters in shows and movies for youth and teens, we seem to have collectively agreed that it's safer or morally better not to show kids what queerness is.

And then all of these queer kids and youth are sitting there wondering, 'where is someone like me?'



COLLAGE BY BRYCE CREASY



## CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

**Writers, contact the Volunteer Coordinator:**  
Stephanie Berrington >> volunteer@uniter.ca

**Illustrators, contact the Creative Director:**  
Bryce Creasy >> creative@uniter.ca

**Photographers, contact the Photo Editor:**  
Daniel Crump >> photoeditor@uniter.ca

## NEWS BRIEFS

ALANA TRACHENKO // CITY EDITOR

@ALANA\_WPG

### Tanya Tagaq to give lecture

Don't miss the fourth installment of The Axworthy Distinguished Lecture Series, which will have Nunavut throat singer Tanya Tagaq presenting on the importance of arts for public life. The performer will also speak about Inuk and Indigenous artists and their contributions to justice and reconciliation. The presentation takes place on Friday, March 17 at 7 p.m. and is free for all. No tickets or reservations are necessary.

### Helping with the cost of transit

The City of Winnipeg is working with UMSU (University of Manitoba Students' Union) and UWSA (University of Winnipeg Students' Association) to help students access transit. The U-Pass was introduced to full-time students this year at the cost of \$130 per term. Universities will now receive 0.5 per cent in commission for issuing the passes, in addition to 50 per cent for implementation of the program.

### Housing supports essential for refugees

A University of Winnipeg (U of W) report finds that housing is integral to the short- and long-term success of refugees arriving to Canada. Dr. Carlos Colorado, Dr. Ray Silvius, U of W student Dylan Chyz-Lund, alum Emily Halldorson and community researcher Hani Ataan Al-Ubeady authored the report, titled *What Does it Take to House a Syrian Refugee? Supporting Refugee Housing and Resettlement Beyond the Syrian Refugee Crisis*.

### Black History Month events

Check out the following events taking place for this year's Black History Month: The annual luncheon is happening on Sunday, Feb. 5 at the Jamaican Culture Centre (1098 Winnipeg Ave.); Celebration of Music - Bob Marley is Friday, Feb. 19 at X-Cues (551 Sargent Ave.); Valentine's Day dinner banquet on Saturday, Feb. 11 at the Truth and Life Worship Centre (51 Richfield Ave.). For more info, call Rhonda at 204-509-7726.

### Love your body

As part of the Eating Disorders Awareness Week (Feb. 1 to 7), Riddell Hall will have a 'Love your body' photo booth set up on Monday, Feb. 6 from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Organizers are challenging participants to name what they love most about their bodies. On Wednesday, Feb. 8, come grab a self-care package in Duckworth from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., happening as part of the week's events.

### Warming huts heating up

This year's warming huts, to be located on the ice of the Red River Mutual Trail at The Forks, have been chosen. A total of six huts will be completed this week, and submissions include designers from Nova Scotia, Chicago and the Netherlands. Anish Kapoor, known for his Chicago piece *Cloudgate*, is currently constructing a hut made from Red River ice.



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## CAN YOU FROZEN RIVER CANOE?

Canoe race raises awareness and funds for charity

TALULA SCHLEGEL

NEWS REPORTER



Inclusion Winnipeg, a charity for individuals with intellectual disabilities, is on their mark and getting set for its second annual Wild Winter Canoe Race as a part of Festival du Voyageur.

"I thought this would be a fun thing to do ... and a great way to talk about inclusion in a fun way," Karen Menkis, chair of the organizing committee for the canoe race, says. "Inclusion is about empowerment and belonging and making it a part of our everyday life."

On Louis Riel Day (Feb. 20), competitors and volunteers alike take to the frozen water of the Assiniboine River by The Forks to raise funds and awareness for the charity, which focuses on enhancing the lives of children, youth and adults living with intellectual disabilities.

"People with intellectual disabilities (are) working the event as volunteers, both

at the registration desk and on the course itself," Menkis says. "There are teams with people who have intellectual disabilities. Every aspect of running the race, they're involved in, so it's fully integrated."

Last year, the event focused on demonstrating what the canoe race was and more on "friend-raising" than fundraising, Menkis says. Even in its first year, the event had quite the turnout.

"There were 18,000 people at the race. Those numbers rival Canada Day numbers," Menkis says. "It's great fun (and) truly is insanity. It is such a happy time. People are open to experiences they haven't had, so again it facilitates inclusion."

This year, however, the goal is to raise awareness and funds.

"We've set a target. I'd love to see \$40,000 come out of this, but ... it's entirely dependant on how successful



Participants launch their canoe at last year's Wild Winter Canoe Race.

each one of the team members is ... raising funds," Menkis says.

Inclusion Winnipeg has existed for 60 years as a smaller charity that's been working on serving vulnerable members of the community, but Menkis says that they want to raise awareness and grow to be a better known resource.

"We haven't been loud (and) we're trying to get louder," Menkis says.

Menkis and Inclusion Winnipeg focus on the abilities that these individuals have to offer instead of on the disorder, which she says people tend to do. This event is one way of doing that.

"It's doing what we hope it would do, which is bringing people together in a really happy environment," Menkis says.

Jamie Felsch was last year's first-place winner. Felsch and his four teammates won 10 round-trip tickets to Churchill on

VIA Rail. This year's first prize is all-inclusive trip to Churchill, second is two nights at the Alt hotel, Thermea spa experience and dinner for 10 at Carne Italian Cop-house, and more.

"(Last year), it was a new event you kind of didn't know what to expect. But once you got there, you could tell that not many people were there to win. They were there to have fun," Felsch says.



This year's canoe race will be held on Feb. 20 from 12 to 4 p.m. For more information, see [inclusionwinnipeg.org/event/wild-winter-canoe-race/](http://inclusionwinnipeg.org/event/wild-winter-canoe-race/).

## RETAIL REVOLUTION AT THE MCC

Thrift store outlet now selling items by the pound

TALULA SCHLEGEL

NEWS REPORTER



Early this January, Kildonan Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) Thrift Store opened a second clearance location on 396 Edison Ave. that offers the chance to buy clothing and other items by the pound.

"Its 99 cents a pound, period," Robin Searle, chief operating officer of the Kildonan MCC, says.

Searle hopes the new system will make second-hand buying more affordable for individuals who can't always afford the basics.

"My goal was to reach out to those in our community that are low income, marginalized and are new settlers to our country," Searle says. "It's very expensive to buy clothing, so if you buy it by the pound, five dollars buys you a lot of clothing."

The clearance centre also offers items beyond clothing, such as housewares, books, purses, shoes and more, also available to purchase by the pound. Searle explains that these aren't just toss-off items in poor condition.



The MCC location at 396 Edison Ave. offers a unique thrift store model where items are sold by the pound.

"(The volunteers) and I always said that the clothing that's coming off the 75 per cent off rack is in such great condition. The stuff that's on there is name-brand stuff. It's really, really good clothing."

Now with the option of offering these items at the clearance centre, Searle explains she's able to offer more at a more sustainable price.

"We're (also) starting to sort the clothing into two different piles," Searle says. "We want to make sure that we are still sending the best."

MCC's larger mission is to keep clothes out of landfills by promoting reuse of products and, as a non-profit, relying on thrift stores to make money to optimize on the funds they can return to the community.

"(Clothes) are outgrown so quickly," Searle says. "It's appalling that people aren't donating, (and) it's just going into the landfill. That seems like such a waste."

She says there's no other thrift store in Winnipeg that sells by the pound, and this will fill a need in the community.

Kristen Andrews, curator of Ragpickers Antifashion Emporium, thinks the introduction of new ways to buy second-hand is necessary in a changing economy.

"The old retail models and how we used to do things (are) dead," Andrews says. "If we don't remake ourselves (and) look at new ways to reach out to people or utilize the glut of what we've got in a disposable consumer society, we're going to be drowning in stuff."

The idea of systematically marking down stable merchandise is a way to capture those products that would potentially end up in a landfill, Andrews explains.

"When you have a department thrift store (selling used goods) at a higher price sometimes than what it is to get (them) brand new, then you have a place that's interested in capitalizing and not recycling," Andrews says.

Bringing people out of chain retailers and into second-hand stores encourages ethical and environmentally sustainable practices, Andrews says. She feels that offering an affordable rate for second-hand goods should be the primary motivator of the recycler.



## WINNIPEG TO HOST NATIONAL DODGEBALL TOURNAMENT

Local league amps up the competition

DANIELLE DOIRON @DMDOIRON

COPY AND STYLE EDITOR

Canada's top dodgeball players will head to Winnipeg next year. In January, the city won the bid to host the third annual Canadian National Dodgeball Championship Tournament in April 2018, a move event director Mat Klachefsky calls a "huge win" for the local dodgeball community.

The two-day tournament, held at the University of Winnipeg Duckworth Centre, will serve as a tryout for Team Canada for the 2018 World Dodgeball Federation Championship. Klachefsky says he hopes the event will also help people realize that dodgeball can be a competitive sport.

"Once you get to a certain level, it can be competitive," he says. "There's a reason your gym teacher got you playing once a week."

Dodgeball Winnipeg, with Mayor Brian Bowman's support, helped bring the tournament to Manitoba for the first

time, but local interest in the sport has been growing for the last decade.

The Winnipeg Rec League (WRL) first offered dodgeball in fall 2006, general manager Jeff Turenne says. In 10 years, the league grew from four teams to around 100. This year, the WRL hosts 70 dodgeball teams.

At the time, the WRL was just looking for new program options, and dodgeball took off.

"We were just looking to introduce a variety of leagues – somewhere you could play for fun, somewhere for people who wanted to meet people," Turenne says.

"It's not a sport you grew up playing. Players who play volleyball grow up playing. It's a specific skillset you learn ... no one grew up playing minor dodgeball. It's something new everyone feels comfortable trying."



Local dodgeball teams get ready for a game.

But some players wanted something more. In 2015, they founded Dodgeball Winnipeg, a more competitive league that subscribed to international rules instead of the WRL's more flexible regional rules.

"(The international rules) treat it as a sport rather than a game," Klachefsky says. "The 'prairie rules' we were playing with focused on fun ... (and) almost discouraged strategic attack plans. It's just a different style of play."

He says the movie *Dodgeball* helped "kickstart everything" and raise awareness about the sport, but he'd still like to see the sport taken more seriously. Klachefsky, who now plays three times a week,

says he realized Winnipeg's competitive potential after he put together a team and won a small tournament in Las Vegas.

"We got that competitive glimpse where we wanted to practice and have Manitoba excel as a dodgeball mecca," he says, noting the sport is still growing. In November 2015, Dodgeball Winnipeg had eight teams. Just over a year later, the league hosts 80 teams made up of 577 players. Manitoba will send teams to the national tournament for the first time in 2017.

He encourages people to join Dodgeball Winnipeg, which hosts drop-in sessions on Tuesdays. Pre-register at [dodgeballwinnipeg.com](http://dodgeballwinnipeg.com).

## WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A CANADIAN MUSLIM?

Muslim youth to share their experiences through on-campus forum

JUSTIN LUSCHINSKI

CAMPUS REPORTER @SCHOLARJ

Muslim youth are gathering at the University of Winnipeg (U of W) to share their experiences of following Islam in 2017.

The Islamic Social Services Association (ISSA) and the Canadian Muslim Leadership Institute (CMLI) are hosting a series of forums for Muslim youth to discuss the challenges and concerns that come with living in Canada.

On March 18, they will showcase the results of these forums at the university.

William Barr is the coordinator of Preventative Family Support Services at the ISSA. He's helping collect the stories, thoughts and hopes from young Muslims. He says they are starting to take another look at the Qur'an, Islam's religious text, and bringing in new ideas, such as LGBTQ+ inclusion.

"There's a lot of issues around gender, gender identity, the sort of budding relationship between the Muslim group and certain LGBT groups," Barr says. "It's a learning process. Sometimes there's pushback from groups of people who are less into that stuff."

Barr says that they do not want to advertise the forums too much, as it may hinder the chance to hear from young Muslims, who might be afraid of speaking their mind. He adds that if a random person outside of the community were to hear what some Muslims were discussing without context, it might bring more discrimination towards all Muslims.

Maya Summers, a university student and self-described atheist, says that while she understands the need for these forums, she can't ignore how patriarchal some Muslim countries are.

"I understand that there's a lot of hate towards Muslims in our society. Nobody should feel terrible for being who they are," Summers says. "But I don't think we should ignore the fact that some (countries) that come from Islam are some of the worst places for women to live in."

Summers says that many other religions face the same problems, and many of them are looking at ways to keep up with the times and adapt to today's culture.



The forums presented by ISSA gave youth a chance to discuss their faith without outside scrutiny.

Barr says that Muslim youth need a chance to ask these difficult questions in peace, as he believes there's an unfair focus on Islam in the media.

"There's a bit of a microscope put on the (Muslim) community," Barr says. "You look at the Orlando nightclub incident ... If it was a Christian who shot up that nightclub, would they be saying the same thing?"



The final forum will be on March 18 - see [issacanada.com](http://issacanada.com) for more details.



## U OF W SORORITIES LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS

Alpha Gamma Delta wants to introduce people to Greek life

JUSTIN LUSCHINSKI

CAMPUS REPORTER



Forget *Legally Blonde* - Alpha Gamma Delta is one of Winnipeg's real life sororities. However, being a sorority girl isn't just about drinking and parties - it's actually a lot of work.

Joelle Preston is the president of the Panhellenic Council, the ruling body that governs all sororities in Winnipeg. She says sorority life isn't exactly how it's portrayed in movies.

"When people think 'sorority' they think like *Legally Blonde* or some random movie where sorority girls just prance around at frat parties. That's not at all the case," Preston says. "We have weekly business meetings, we all hold offices ... we have minimums for fundraising that we have to meet."

Preston says members are expected to work for the sorority, while also keeping up with their studies. There's a finance officer, who organizes charity and phil-

anthropic events, and other duties. All members are expected to pay dues and attend events put on by their chapter.

The Panhellenic Council issues a series of guidelines for each sorority to follow. The five pillars for a sorority to follow are fostering sisterhood, supporting academics, social bonds, giving back to philanthropic causes, and developing strong leaders. The guidelines focus on several tenants that help members become what the organization considers "stronger women."

However, not all students understand why sororities need to exist in Winnipeg.

Jamie Hatfield is a sociology student at the University of Winnipeg (U of W). She says she just doesn't see why anyone would join a sorority, especially when you have to pay money to be a part of one.

"I don't think I'd ever join a sorority. I already have friends that I hang out and study with. I don't see what they offer,"



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Local sororities are less about a lifestyle inspired by Hollywood depictions and more about building a support network for members.

Hatfield says. "If you're going to the University of Winnipeg, you probably live downtown, and there's so many places where you can meet people."

Preston says joining a sorority isn't just paying money to have friends. Some of the benefits she listed were academic assistance, volunteer opportunities both locally and abroad, networking with members around the world. It's joining an organization that will support you for your lifetime.

"One of my alumni started her own promo company, and she just started hiring the younger girls who were still in school, and it was perfect for us," Preston says. "It's like this instant connection to the real world, forever ... It's not four years, it's a lifetime."

"You are joining this group of women who will be a support network for the rest of your life."

For more information about sororities, visit [mbsororitylife.wixsite.com/home](http://mbsororitylife.wixsite.com/home).



PHOTO BY ALANA TRACHENKO

## THE PROFILE - DR. SYLVIE ALBERT

DEAN OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS AND PROFESSIONAL, APPLIED AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

ALANA TRACHENKO

CITY EDITOR



The University of Winnipeg's (U of W) Dr. Sylvie Albert took a winding and eventful road to get to where she is today as the dean of the university's business and economics faculty.

Albert only became an academic 13 years ago, before which she ran a management consulting firm. Originally from New Brunswick, Albert has travelled to over 40 countries and lived in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario and even Africa.

"This was my first foray west in terms of living somewhere," Albert says. "What the future holds, who knows? You can't predict it, but I'm very happy here."

However, Albert does know that things will change for her next year as she steps down from her position as dean and heads back into the classroom. She says teaching has been a highlight for her during her time at the school.

"Right now my course is on Friday afternoon, so I find when I leave for the weekend, I'm so pumped up and I love working with the students," Albert says. She adds that she also enjoyed the

community aspect of being the dean of business - it's been a way for her to stay connected and current with what associations and businesses are currently working on.

"My role is to keep in touch and look at what we might do with them," Albert says. Bursaries, internships and job placements with Winnipeg companies are a key component for students in business, she says.

### WHAT WAS THE LAST BOOK YOU READ?:

I have about six books on the go on innovation. I'm very interested in that area, and how that process gets implemented. But I also read for fun. I'll read things that I call mind candy, like *Da Vinci Code*.

**DO YOU HAVE ANY PETS?:** An old English sheepdog named Pepper ... I love those dogs. Very loving, non-shedding, big babies.

### WHAT WAS YOUR WORST GRADE?:

Worst would have been in undergrad, because I didn't learn English until I was 18, and I chose to go to a Western pure English university ... My first language was French.

## NEW GYM HOURS AREN'T OPPRESSIVE

Offering a safe space is a step toward equality

CHARLIE FRASER

VOLUNTEER

The University of Winnipeg (U of W) will offer new gym hours exclusively for females and non-binary persons beginning next September. This past fall, the University of Winnipeg Students' Association (UWSA) organized a student survey, with about 700 participants involved, that gathered perspectives on the possible change.

The new hours have sparked some criticism, with some people asking "When will the male-only gym hours be?"

"I assume men will get a discount on what they pay for the gym, since they are denying them service based on their gender identity. This is a step backwards," reads one comment on the U of W website.

But offering these new gym hours is neither unfair nor sexist. According to the UWSA survey, 50 per cent of female gym users indicated discomfort when using the gym facility.

"The gym is traditionally a 'masculine' place, and because of that masculine atmosphere, I find it can be very intimidating

to even begin going to the gym," Micaela Stokes, a community member, says.

"You feel as though it's not the place for you, you're not welcomed, you'd be judged and you don't feel comfortable enough to ask questions. If there were female and non-binary persons-only gym hours, that odd masculine atmosphere will be filled with people like you, so you'd know that you were safe and welcome, because all these other people like you were going," she says.

A quarter of female-identified persons have stopped exercising outside as a result of male harassment, sexism and sexual violence. This isn't to say male-identifying persons never face harassment or violence, but female-identifying and non-binary persons are often the primary targets.

There have been "male-only" clubs and positions more often than there have been "female-only" positions. There has never been a female U.S. president, only eight per cent of the world's CEOs are females,

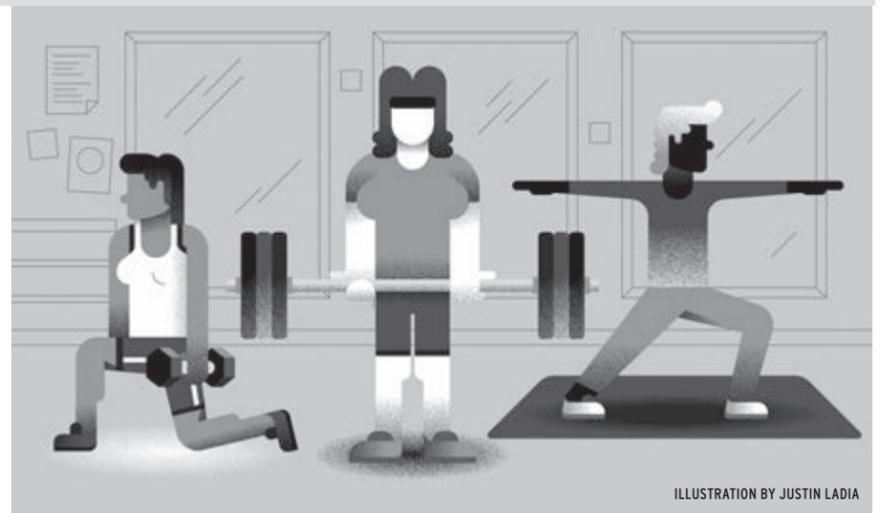


ILLUSTRATION BY JUSTIN LADIA

and women in Canada didn't have the right to vote until 1916 (though some provinces didn't allow women to vote until the 1940s, and Indigenous people couldn't vote until 1960).

So is it wrong for female-identifying persons and non-binary persons to want one safe space for them after being excluded for most of history?

"It's like saying whenever a business adds handicap parking they have to add another able-body parking spot. It doesn't make sense. You've been parking in able-body parking spaces your whole life," Emily Reis, a U of W student says.

As one popular aphorism puts it, "When you're accustomed to privilege, equality feels like oppression."

Historically, men have had power and women have been oppressed, but now that women are starting to be seen and treated as equals, some men are so used to being in power that they don't know what equality feels like.

Offering gym hours to a historically marginalized group so that they can feel safe is not taking away anyone's right to use the gym. It is purely opening a small time slot for female-identifying persons and non-binary persons to go to the gym and feel safe. It isn't closing down the gym completely or accusing all male-identifying persons of being predators.

We can't take rights away from groups that have always had those rights, but we can give rights to a historically oppressed group.

It's time to realize that offering a group something that another group has always had is not taking away anyone's rights. It's equality.

*Charlie Fraser is a first-year student at the University of Winnipeg. They are passionate about women's rights and won't let anyone dissuade them from standing up for what they believe in.*

## YOUR FEEDBACK. YOUR UNITER.

We make *The Uniter* for our readers, both on campus and in the community. So we want to hear from you. What do you like? What do you want to see more (or less) of? We also want to know that you're getting the paper and know where to find it (including online).

You can also fill out this survey at [uniter.ca/vote](http://uniter.ca/vote). Paper copies of the survey can be dropped off at or mailed to *The Uniter* office: Room ORM14, University of Winnipeg, 515 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3B 2E9.

**Are you a post-secondary student?**

- Yes
- No

**How often do you read *The Uniter*?**

- Every issue
- Most issues
- Occasionally

**How do you read *The Uniter*?**

- Paper copy
- Online
- Both in paper and online

**Where do you pick up a copy of the paper?**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Is *The Uniter* distributed at convenient locations for you?**

- Yes
- No

If no, where would you like to see it delivered?

\_\_\_\_\_

**What's your favourite section of *The Uniter*?**

- Arts and culture
- City
- Campus
- Comments and the column
- Diversions

**Would you want to see an event listings section in *The Uniter*?**

- Yes
- No
- Doesn't make a difference to me

**Would you want to see a full page of comics in *The Uniter*?**

- Yes
- No
- Doesn't make a difference to me

**Would you want to receive a weekly newsletter with highlights from the paper and updates about upcoming events?**

- Yes
- No
- Doesn't make a difference to me

If yes, what's your email address?

\_\_\_\_\_

**What would you like to see more of (or less of) in *The Uniter*?**

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**Do you follow *The Uniter* on social media (check all that apply)?**

- Facebook
- Instagram
- Twitter
- Nope, I don't follow you

**What would you like to see more of from *The Uniter* on social media?**

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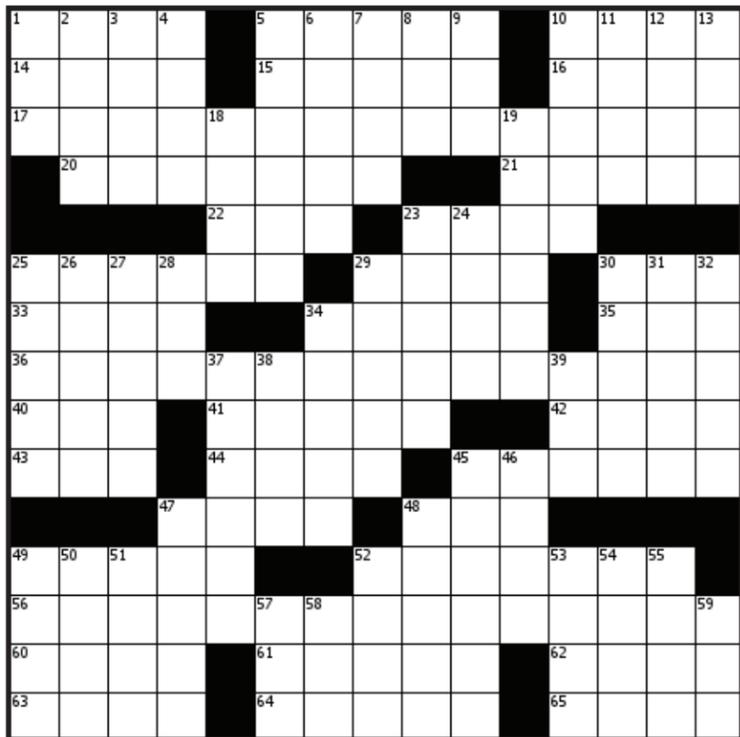
**Other than *The Uniter*, where do you get your news from?**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# DIVERSIONS



onlinecrosswords.net

## ACROSS

1. Word with who, what or where
5. Subdued
10. Pump, e.g.
14. Completely convinced
15. Model's asset
16. Grabbed by force
17. "Smoking hasn't affected me a bit . . ."
20. Basis of reasoning
21. Lightens the load
22. Choice words?
23. Iron attachment
25. Thunderstruck
29. Serb or Croat, e.g.
30. War stat
33. Loathsome one
34. Nonchalant
35. Auberge
36. "Hand me that fly swatter . . ."
40. Lemon addition
41. Polly and Rhody

42. "The Magic Mountain" locale

43. Abe's son
44. \_\_\_ ex machina
45. Loss of the certifiable
47. Be nostalgic for
48. That lady yonder
49. Poker phrase
52. Prevent from being seen
56. "Let's see your swan dive . . ."
60. Sacrum or radius
61. Place for a Chicago touchdown?
62. Kind of pool
63. City north of Des Moines
64. Zephyrs, e.g.
65. Carangid fish

5. Casual garment

6. Accrue
7. They might squeak by
8. Antlered critter
9. Morning deposit
10. Home extension
11. Tills the soil
12. Flow oh so slowly
13. \_\_\_ out (barely gets)
18. Med. insurance groups
19. Billows
23. Where one makes the grade
24. Secure with cord
25. Casey was here
26. Mild Holland cheese
27. Terrorized pledges, in a way
28. Wood-shaping tool
29. Taj Mahal attractions?
30. Vanilli's partner
31. Unfitting
32. Fidgety
34. Additional remuneration

37. Kind of pool

38. Spectrum bands
39. No-star review
45. Common, horse and sixth
46. Spot for a keystone
47. Lode abodes
48. Hidden cache
49. Benny and three others
50. Hover threateningly
51. Script unit
52. Family group
53. Roe
54. Baldwin or Waugh
55. Russian spacecraft series
57. Farm mother
58. Upsilon follower
59. River bottom

## DOWN

1. Computer key
2. Closed circuit
3. Talk like a toper
4. Drop-off spot

## SOLUTIONS TO LAST ISSUE'S PUZZLES

9	8	4	1	6	7	3	5	2
7	2	6	5	3	8	1	4	9
5	3	1	9	4	2	7	8	6
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THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

## Student Services

### STUDENT SERVICES

The Student Services staff of The University of Winnipeg provides the student body with current information and opportunities. This information is updated weekly.

### AWARDS AND FINANCIAL AID

#### Revised Hours Jan. 30-Feb. 3, 2017

Open for Drop-ins Monday-Thursday, 8:30-4. Available Friday by appointment only. Email awards@uwinnipeg.ca to make an appointment.

### T4A Tax Forms

If you received an award through The University of Winnipeg in the 2016 calendar year, a T4A income tax form will be mailed to you in February. T4A's must be submitted to Canada Revenue Agency. However, the award money only needs to be reported as income if:

- a) You are not eligible for the full-time or part-time education amount, then any awards above \$500 must be claimed;
- b) You are full-time and can claim the full-time education amount, then awards are not taxable up to the total amount required to support you in the program.
- c) You can claim the part-time education amount the scholarship exemption is up to the tuition fees and costs incurred for program-related materials.

This information was obtained through CRA website: [www.cra-arc.gc.ca](http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca). Please visit their website or speak with an accountant or tax professional for more information.

### Award Applications Currently Available

Graduate and Professional Studies Expenses Bursary

For students in their final year of an undergraduate degree program applying for Graduate or Professional Studies. Deadline: Once funds have been exhausted.

To obtain application forms, go to [www.uwinnipeg.ca](http://www.uwinnipeg.ca) -> Click "Student" -> Click "Awards and Financial Aid" -> Click "In-Course Awards (current students)"

### EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

Looking for an exciting international experience? Do you want to explore the world? Participate in a UWinnipeg Exchange Opportunity!

Information sessions for studying abroad on UW Exchange will be held on Friday February 3rd, 12:30pm-2:15pm, Room 3D04. For more information visit: [uwinnipeg.ca/study-abroad/index.html](http://uwinnipeg.ca/study-abroad/index.html). If you have any questions, contact [je.michaluk@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:je.michaluk@uwinnipeg.ca).

### STUDENT CENTRAL

#### June Graduation

Finishing your courses in April? Interested in graduating this June? The deadline to apply for spring graduation is Wednesday, February 15. Go to the "Student Planning/Registration" link on WebAdvisor. Click on the "Graduation" tab and apply to graduate.

#### Reading Week

Reading Week is February 21-25. The University is closed Monday, February 20th for Louis Riel Day, but will be open for the remainder of the week.

### Tax Receipts

T2202a tuition tax receipts for 2016 will be posted on WebAdvisor on February 28th.

### Rent a locker today!

#### To rent a locker:

1. choose a locker location & type - see below - or specify a couple of locker numbers
2. choose a rental time frame - see below
3. go in-person to Student Central, OR fill out the form online: [www.uwinnipeg.ca/lockers](http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/lockers)

#### Locker Locations & Types Available

Student Central rents various sizes and types of lockers including full or half size, single or two-person.

- Riddell Hall Tunnel - full-size
- Lower level Manitoba Hall - full-size
- Third floor Richardson College for the Environment and Science - half-size

Locker Rental Time Frame: Winter Terms (now - April 21, 2017) - \$20.00/person

#### Locker Regulations

1. All locker assignments are FINAL and NON-REFUNDABLE. No switching permitted. Choose your preferred locker area(s) or number(s) before you request a locker.
2. All full-sized lockers can be rented by up to two people. If you have a locker partner, they MUST pay the \$20.00 per student per term fee and register as your partner with Student Central. They will need to be able to tell us the locker number and location, as we cannot pair people up only by name.

3. Lockers are to be provided by students. We advise that you invest in a good-quality lock.

4. Unauthorized use of a locker will result in the lock and contents being removed.

5. Check your locker and contents as often as is practical.

6. Lockers must be emptied at the end of each rental period.

Unauthorized use of a locker will result in the lock and contents being removed.

PHONE: 204.779.8946

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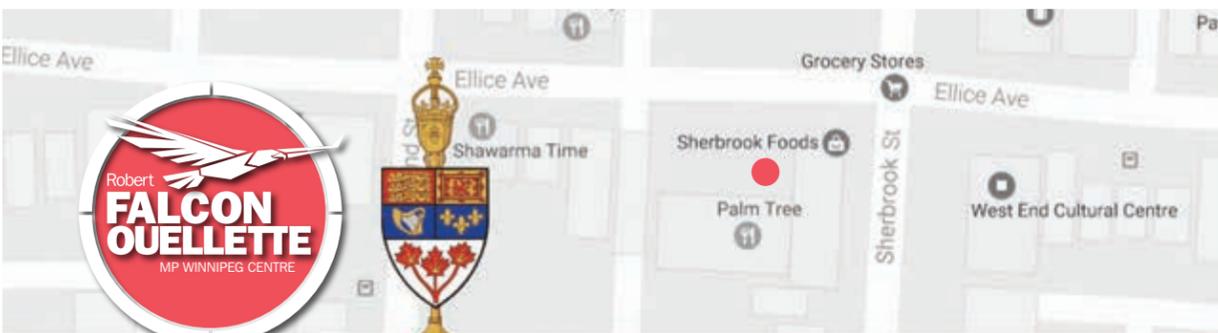
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