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## \* ON THE COVER

Cover illustration done by Lauren Wittmann, a Winnipeg-based artist and printmaker who appreciates playful design and loves all things arts + crafts.

See more from her on Instagram @laurenjellydonut and on her website, rileygrae.com.

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# FRACTURES AND BRIDGES

This year's capstone issue, the Urban Issue, has a theme of Fractured City. *The Uniter's* editorial team chose this theme after much discussion, and while at first read this may echo more divides and destruction, it can also point to spaces of hope, or areas that may simply be under construction and in need of more work.

Some news stories point to divides that are surprisingly obvious, while others can be more insidious. Last fall's failed vote to reopen Portage and Main was followed by a well-circulated infographic displaying the geographic disparity between those who voted to open the intersection, and those who chose to maintain the status quo.

This was one of many instances of the various "bubbles" Winnipeggers live in - alongside others who might think, work, act and vote similar to them - and the literal intersections where these bubbles bump up against each other. The intersection looks a lot different from a car window than from street level, but in many ways, it's a sort of metaphor for the city as a whole.

In this special issue, we take a look at a few of the lines along which the city and its citizens experience a fracture or divide. But we're also examining ways to bridge these gaps, the work individuals or organizations are doing in their specific areas to bring people together. There's a lot of work to be done, and this issue is just a start. Let's keep going together.

- Anastasia Chipelski

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PHOTO BY DANIEL CRUMP

Geese forage and watch passersby beneath a bridge near The Forks in downtown Winnipeg.

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# WHOSE

# HOUSE?

## MANNON'S HOUSE



PHOTOS BY CALLIE LUGOSI

Mannon Smalley in her home.

THOMAS PASHKO

ARTS AND CULTURE EDITOR

@THOMASPASHKO

Mannon Smalley has been fronting local band Silence Kit for the past three-and-a-half years. The group has accomplished a lot in that short time, releasing the EPs *Started as a Whisper* and *Kitty Kitty*, the latter of which was recorded with producer Jesse Gander (Japandroids) and mastered by Noah Mintz (Broken Social Scene).

"To me, (our sound is) aggressive rock and roll," Smalley says. "But we don't fall into the tropes of it, really. We don't take ourselves too seriously. We have a sense of humour in what we do. The emotions are very dynamic. It's not just like, 'Oh, we're badassess.'"

Smalley cites bands like Yeah Yeah Yeahs and The Kills as major influences on Silence Kit's intense style of live performance.

"It's very spontaneous, but purposeful ... Just

that fronted energy. Iggy Pop and all that, we're all inspired by it. The live show is really important to us."

In addition to her time recording and touring with Silence Kit, Smalley still finds time to study English, bartend at The Handsome Daughter and create visual art.

"I paint acrylic and oil paintings ... but I'm more into pastels now," she says. "I describe my art as 'punk kids drawings.' It's kind of messy, but purposeful."

Smalley and her partner have been in their home since May 2018, managing to balance her enthusiasm for antiques with his minimalistic aesthetic.

"My mom and I always go to the (Selkirk Ave MCC Thrift Shop). They always have beautiful furniture."



### 1) MORE FAMILY FURNITURE

"We absolutely do not (eat meals here). We just sit here and watch *Queer Eye*. The two benches, my grandpa actually handmade (them) when I was a kid. They're made for children. One is mine, and my brother allowed me to take his."

### 2) ORIGINAL ART

"This is kind of my art room, where I have some punk art that I worked on. I'm inspired by Alison Mosshart. Her visual art is really cool. So many other ones (Sally Bourke, Emilio Villaiba, Lewis Rossignol), I just know them through Instagram."

### 3) BOOKS

"My partner is a big reader. Half of them are probably mine, but a lot are from school, or things people loaned me that I've never given back. I was very into Stephen King when I was younger."

"Nick from Moon Tan loaned me *Please Kill Me*. I read it in high school, because I was obsessed with the '70s punk rock scene ... I totally forgot all these stories, and they really influenced me when I was young."

### 4) RECORD COLLECTION

"I've got some Margaret Price here which I really like. The Interpol one was gifted to me, which was sweet. And I have my own here, because why not."

### 5) THRIFTED FURNITURE

"For my birthday, my mom bought me this beautiful emerald wooden antique chair ... They've got that antique store in Johnston Terminal, (and) we found this there. I loved it immediately."

### 6) EASTERN EUROPEAN INSTRUMENT

"This is a guitar I found on Kijiji. I'm not a huge guitarist, but I only had one (guitar). It was a hollowbody, it was cool, but it wasn't really my style anymore. So I found one for \$300, this Czechoslovakian guitar. It's so rare that you can't really find it anywhere. It's junk. It's not great. But it's just so cool, and I wanted to buy it. I call it Jolana."

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**BOOTS RILEY** is a prominent black American rapper, producer, screenwriter, community organizer and director whose pro-labour feature film debut, *Sorry to Bother You*, received universal acclaim from audiences and critics alike — topping the National Board of Review's best films of 2018. Founder of the political Hip Hop group The Coup, Boots' radical roots were forged from a young age by way of the International Committee Against Racism and the Progressive Labor Party.

A portion of evening proceeds from May 11th's event will be shared with **Fight for \$15 and Fairness Manitoba**, a local group working to advance fair and progressive living wages and the rights of precarious workers.

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## CKUW TOP 30

March 25–31, 2019

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



TW	LW	C	ARTIST	ALBUM	LABEL
1	7	!	Living Hour	Softer Faces	Kanine
2	1	!	The Electric Cows	Wheatfield Fuzz	Dub Ditch Picnic
3	3	!	Sean Burns + Lost Country	Boots And Saddle & CKUW 95.9 Present A Night Of Country Music	Stringbreakin
4	2	!	Monday-Friday Idiots	Who Done What Now?	Self-Released
5	16	!	Trampoline	Happy Crimes	Self-Released
6	NE	*	B.A. Johnston	The Skid Is Hot Tonight	Transistor 66
7	5	!	Rock Lake	Rock Lake 5	Eat 'Em Up
8	4	*	Homeshake	Helium	Royal Mountain / Sinderlyn
9	10		Mark Masters Ensemble	Our Metier	Capri
10	6	!	Housepanther & Wrecker	Homewrecker	Transistor 66
11	12	!	Royal Canoe	Waver	Paper Bag
12	14	*	Fucked Up	Dose Your Dreams	Arts & Crafts/Merge
13	8	!	Tunic	Complexion	Self Sabotage
14	NE	!	Softswitch	Happiness	Self-Released
15	23	*	Joni Void	Mise En Abyme	Constellation
16	RE		Northern Haze	Siqinnaarut	Aakuluk
17	NE		Devin Gray	Dirigo Rataplan II	Rataplan
18	NE		Guided By Voices	Zepplin Over China	Guided By Voices Inc.
19	RE	*	Daniel Romano	Finally Free	You've Changed
20	11	*	Jean Nicolas Trottier's Acid Bunny	High School Fantasy	Bent River
21	13	*	Sawchuk	New Arena	Transistor 66
22	NE		Martyn	Voids	Ostgut Ton
23	NE	*	Apollo Suns	Dawn Offerings	Self-Released
24	NE		Juliana Hatfield	Weird	American Laundromat
25	NE	!	Bazooka Joe And Rob Crooks	Schadenfreude	Eat Em Up
26	NE	*	Light Conductor	Sequence One	Constellation
27	NE	*	Pink Noise	Avenue	Not Unlike
28	NE		Half Waif	Lavendar	Cascine
29	NE		The Fibs	The Fibs	Self-Released
30	RE	!	bartley knives	lone goose	new wild

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20  
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NICOLE OWENS & STUDENTS  
PHOTO BY KRISTEN SAWITZKY



## Restless EP

Malcolm-Jay  
Independent

Amidst the monsoon-like flood of rap music drops in springtime, a truly vast sum of releases are dropped, resulting from the solidarity of Winnipeg's bitter cold.

Malcolm-Jay's EP *Restless* is that conscious, self-contemplative style and namely his modesty in practice. The prevailing topic of *Restless* is sincere reflection and illustration of some trauma he went through recently, and the ensuing existential crisis he experienced.

The range of emotions and self-critical thoughts are outlined in the first track, titled "Who Am I?" With lyrics like "still workin' hard, never feelin' satisfied ... so I run from myself, tryin' get some help. Therapist tellin' me there's some shit I haven't dealt with."

This album is a triumph over his existential crisis, and a realization of how damaging it is having one's trauma - and presumably all kinds of invisible pain or mental health problems - downplayed.

Track 2, "Whippin," refers to his realization that many people tend naturally to minimize mental health problems as perhaps a lack of virtue or being weak-willed. Malcolm



SUPPLIED PHOTO

is prepared to take the proverbial whippin'!

*Restless* tells a story about mental health problems. Though not original, what is unique is his story of how damaging downplay is by the observer or by one's own self.

Production quality needs be mentioned here. He produced and composed this EP, and it's a stark improvement from already peer-esteemed production and personal style form in his previous releases.

by Jesse Meush

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US

# HOLDING SPACE

Jeremy Dutcher, the Arkells and dreaming of reconciliation in the music industry

DAVIS PLETT

@UNKNOWNING\_CLOUD

ARTS AND CULTURE REPORTER

Jeremy Dutcher won once, but spoke twice.

The winner of the 2019 Juno for Indigenous Music Album covered a lot of ground in his 60-second acceptance speech, celebrating his fellow competitors, commenting on the constricting structure of the Indigenous award category itself and delivering a diatribe against Justin Trudeau's treatment of Indigenous peoples and lands. Dutcher was just about to begin speaking on reconciliation when music played him off stage.

The irony of an Indigenous artist being interrupted while speaking about colonial violence was not lost on Canadian rock band the Arkells, who won Rock Album of the Year. The band gave up their speech slot so Dutcher could finish speaking.

When he returned to the stage, Dutcher said, "This is what holding space looks like."

Colonialism is fundamentally a form of violence against space and those who inhabit it. Dutcher's choice of words – "holding space" – evokes a different kind of relationship: holding space as a pause; holding space as a gentle gesture; holding space as reserving something for someone else.

*The Uniter* spoke with three local Indigenous music-makers about their music practices, watching Jeremy Dutcher speak and what holding space might mean in the music industry.

## DJ REN

Dutcher's second speech concluded with him speaking, untranslated, in Wolastoqey: "Nihkaniyayon ktpitahatomonen, ciw weckuwapasihtit - Nit leycic (When you lead us, think of all of us, for the ones yet born - may that be the truth)."

For local Indigenous DJ Renata Meconse (DJ Ren), hearing these words was significant.

"I have a shared experience with a lot of other Canadians in that we didn't understand the language, but we understood what that meant," she says.

"It was important for him to acknowledge his territory, his culture, and by listening and by being open to that, we, too, were being a part of what should be happening."

Meconse agreed with Dutcher's critique that the Indigenous music category treats the music made by Indigenous musicians as "niche," erasing their contributions to the evolution of any number of musical genres.

Indigenous artists are "kind of limited (to) that one category," she says.

"That kind of puts them all against each other just because of their Indige-

neity ... In terms of reconciliation at the arts level, there's opportunity to expand on how Indigenous artists are recognized and acknowledged."

Meconse's own DJ practice begins with her love of music across many genres, her steadfast support of Indigenous music-makers and her desire to create great dance parties.

"When I did a gig with Folklorama with the First Nations pavilion, I made sure to include Indigenous music in the music that I played," she says.

"I made sure that I wasn't just playing one certain type of music, or just pow wow music. I made sure that I played music that I thought people would dance to, or that people would like to feel upbeat about. I did research looking into what sorts of artists are out there across Canada, making sure that I included that in the music that I played."

Meconse would like to see this approach practised more widely in the arts scene, making music made by Indigenous artists something that is common and expected.

"In terms of reconciliation at the local level, I think it's really important to encourage integration of Indigenous music in other events," she says.

## STRIFE ASAAKEEZIS

Ava Sun / Rainbow Moonchild is a Two-Spirit Indigenous artist, a rapper, singer, producer and mentor working in both Anishinaabemowin and English under the alias Strife Asaakeezis.

"I do all my own stuff, right from the ground up. Every high-hat, every kick, (I) play guitar, sing, layer all the vocals, clean them up, equalize them," she says.

"I've taught a lot of people how to make beats, how to produce, how to use their voice, how to sing, how to rap."

Ava Sun says their recent work is focused on sending a positive message into a chaotic world.

"Life inspires me. Everything about life, the ups, the downs, the crazy dynamics, all the simplicity," they say.

"These days I'm working on a lot of positive-based music with good messages, all original music."

The reasons behind Rainbow Moonchild's desire to make positive music resonate with the final lines of Dutcher's speech, where he called leaders to "think of all of us, for the ones yet born."

"When you look around at the world today, there's so much division between people. People are confused, people are not seeing with their hearts, they're just seeing with their eyes," she says.

"The people that suffer the most aren't really adults. They're ... the youth. I'm trying to have that (hip-hop) quality sound that's going to draw on that crowd, but then feed them and plant good seeds, so ... my kids and everybody else's kids don't have to come up with all the crazy shit that I did."

## ILA BARKER

When DJ Ren was researching Indigenous Canadian artists, it's unsurprising that one of the names she came across was Ila Barker.

Having released her self-titled debut album in 2013 with two No. 1 hits on the Indigenous Music Countdown, currently acting as the Indigenous music development program co-ordinator for Manitoba Music and working on a new single, the folk-soul singer-songwriter is quickly becoming a force on both the artist and industry sides of the music scene.

For Barker's upcoming album, she decided to centre Indigenous women as her collaborators.

"What I've come to bring to fruition is I'm going to do the whole project Indigenous and female," she says.

"It's really really easy to just grab the first white male producer, grab the first recording studio owner, and it takes a lit-

tle more thought and a tad more effort to find out who the movers and shakers are that are Indigenous and that are women in our industry."

For Barker, watching what happened at the Junos created a sense of possibility where there had been none.

"Seeing (Jeremy Dutcher) up on the stage accepting his award made me as an artist feel like I could get up on that stage and be there. Seeing him on the stage made me see myself there, in the sense that it seemed like this big, faraway, mythical thing to be at the Junos, and now that I've seen a relative be on stage and accept one that he's won, I see myself having that in reach."

## "EDUCATE YOURSELF"

When Dutcher re-took the stage, he picked up where he had been cut off.

"As I was saying," he said.

"Réconciliation. Réconciliation. It's a lofty goal. It's a dream. It doesn't happen in a year."

For Barker, holding space for Indigenous artists in Winnipeg is the responsibility of those in positions of power.

"I think that's up for the space-holders to speak about and not us," Barker says.

"I think it's up to them to figure out how to recognize their own privilege and figure out how they can practically give some of that up. For far too long, the onus has been put on Indigenous people to educate and to inform and give our opinions ... The time is now for us to say, 'Well, no, you need to go figure out what's going on yourself, educate yourself and figure out what your part in reconciliation is.'"

*Strife Asaakeezis's music can be found on YouTube, SoundCloud and ReverbNation. Stay tuned for new music from Ila Barker on Instagram and YouTube @ilabarkermusic or at ilabarker.com.*

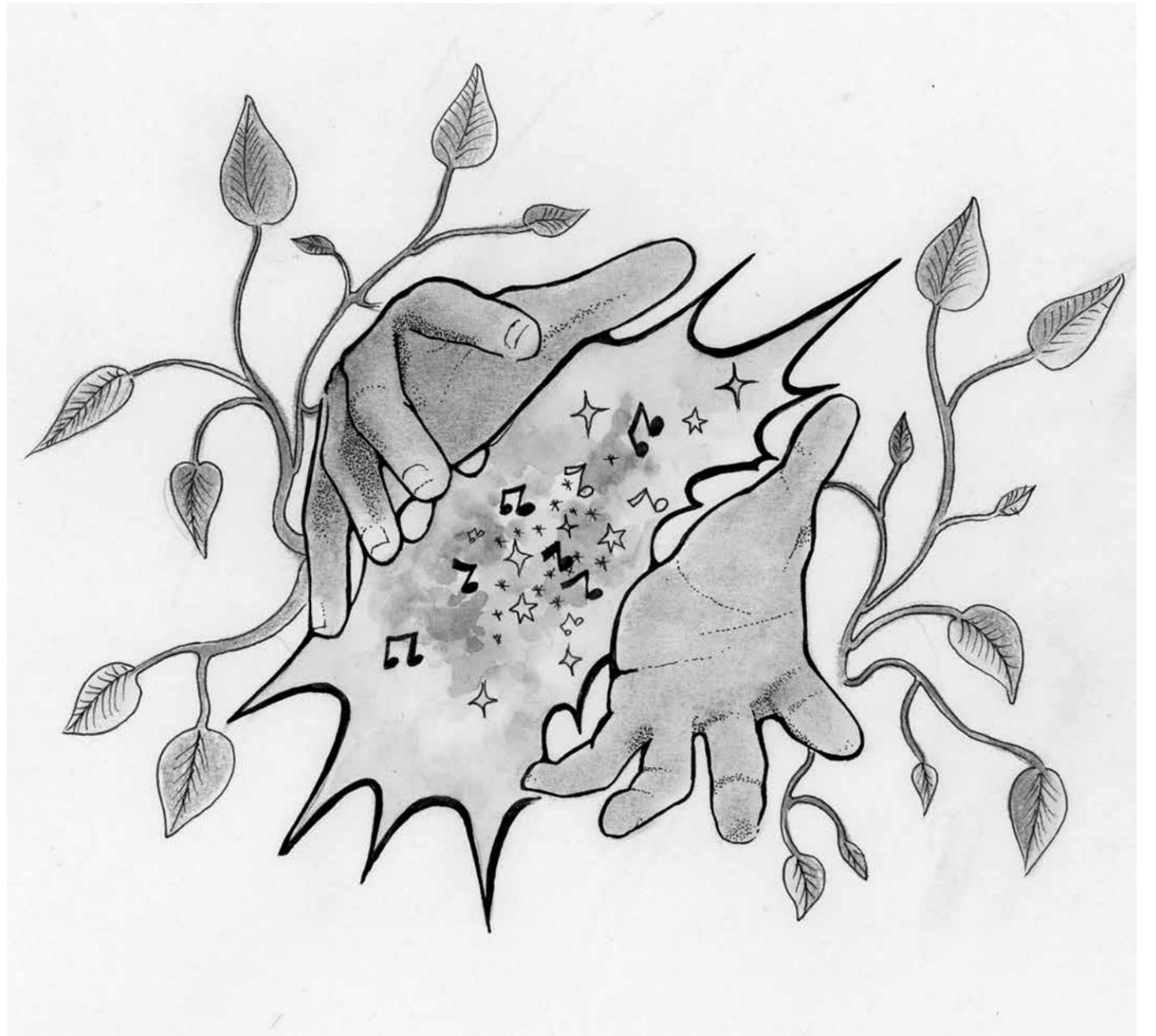


ILLUSTRATION BY GABRIELLE FUNK



ILLUSTRATION BY GABRIELLE FUNK

# ANTICIPATING AFTERMATH

Winnipeg is a fractured city, but it also receives regular new cuts

ALEXANDRA NEUFELDT

CITY REPORTER

[@ALEXEJNEUFELDT](https://twitter.com/ALEXEJNEUFELDT)

The Government of Manitoba's new budget will cut the provincial sales tax (PST) from 8 per cent to 7 per cent, increase the amount of basic tax exemption and significantly decrease funding to programs and organizations reliant on provincial support.

Those who rely on provincial funding are working to figure out how these cuts will affect Manitobans and who will pay for what the province will not.

Lynne Fernandez, who holds the Errol Black Chair in Labour Issues with the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, says most people in Manitoba will feel the impact of the cuts as they begin to impact services.

"In a negative way, I think it affects almost everybody except the wealthy, because the eventual erosion of services, health care and education affect almost everybody," she says. "It will have a particularly negative effect on low-income people."

Though, in the long run she says even wealthy Manitobans will see its effects.

Fernandez says the new provincial budget is "very much an austerity budget, in the sense that they're worried about the effect of the deficit and debt on the province, and their way of dealing with that is to cut revenues and services.

"It's also very much concerned with tax. It's a very anti-tax government, and they are, I would argue, illogically cutting taxes such as (the PST) and increasing the amount of the basic personal exemption, which ends up doing more damage to our

fiscal situation than improving it," she says.

These cuts will not only affect services provided by the provincial government, but they will also affect independent organizations, institutions like universities and incentive programs that rely on government grants.

"Tuition is going to go up, and there's a decided lack of investment in things that are required," she says. "They're also leaving money on the table that they could be accessing from the federal government, money for health care and housing but which requires matching funding from the Province, and their refusal to match that funding means that they're throwing money away from the feds."

Dr. Annette Trimbee, the president of the University of Winnipeg, released a statement regarding the 0.9 per cent cut to the school's operating budget, which mirrors the cut from last year's budget and its expected effect on tuition.

"According to legislation, tuition is projected to increase by 7.5 per cent. While our students pay much less than the national average, a student taking a full-time course load will likely pay \$250 more than last year," the statement reads.

While these are significant and impactful changes, Fernandez says the party is delivering on promises it made before the election and that this is consistent with the government's attempts to look fiscally responsible.

"They see this as speaking to their base and even beyond their base, because it seems that a lot of people get excited about a tax decrease without necessarily thinking about what the implications are," she says. "I think a lot of their messaging is misleading."

The new budget comes shortly after

Winnipeg's municipal election and about a year-and-a-half before Manitoba's next election, which will have new restrictions on provincial voting.

Fernandez says depending on what happens in Alberta's election, there may be a shift to the right for Manitoba's Progressive Conservative party in line with what seems to be happening in other provinces.

"I think there's a chance that (Pallister)'s looking at the reforms that Ontario is going through in education in particular and in health care and the labour market," she says. "We've speculated that he's watched very carefully what Brad Wall was doing in Saskatchewan."

"We can only speculate, but you have to wonder if he's watching how things are going in other provinces and wondering if he can get away with it here, too," she says. "I would be surprised if he weren't looking."

One of the areas cut was the roads and highways budget.

Councillor Scott Gillingham, chairperson for the City's standing policy committee on finance, says from the City's perspective, "the challenge is that the City was not informed of this decision by the Province of Manitoba until long after the City had passed its 2018 budget. In fact, the City did not receive written confirmation that the Province was not intending to fulfill the 2018 roads budget funding until January of 2019."

Gillingham stresses the City really values consistent communication with the Province and having certainty of what kind of funding will come from the Province.

Unlike the provincial and federal governments, municipalities cannot run deficit budgets, and they have to adopt a balanced budget every year.

"What the City needs and what municipalities need is a long-term, predictable, growth-oriented funding model" that invests in the services and infrastructure that governments are responsible for and provides room for grant programs to third-parties, Gillingham says.

Gillingham says when the City is working on their budget, they adopt an operating budget, a capital budget and a five-year capital forecast, which allows city council to do more long-range plan-

ning of major projects.

They are also moving to a model of adopting four-year budgets, "and so when the City finds out 13 months after adopting the capital budget that funding we relied upon is not going to be there, it's very problematic," he says. "Ultimately, it's Winnipeg taxpayers who are left to pay the bill, and that makes it very challenging for council to make plans and rely on funding."

Mayor Brian Bowman has been publicly critical of the cuts and the fiscal stress it imposes on the City of Winnipeg.

While Fernandez isn't sure that voters are going to get the message, she thinks "it's super interesting what's happening here with Bowman coming out on the offensive. I think he's been quite clever to connect the problems Winnipeg has with lack of funding from the provincial government.

"Bowman is going with the knee-jerk citizen concern, which is roads, but he could be going with poverty reduction or talking about climate change. The fact that the Province is doing nothing about those things means that the municipalities are left holding the bag," she says.

"There's a whole suite of things that the City needs help from the Province for that it's just not getting," she says, citing the City's \$7 billion infrastructure deficit as a prime example.

"The provincial finance minister said that Winnipeg has a spending problem and doesn't have a revenue problem, and that is the most ridiculous statement that's been made this year. And at the same time, if the City increases taxes at the necessary amount, the Province would be critical of that, too," she says.

The ultimate takeaway here is to see through the Province's rhetoric and look at what their policies will do, she says.

"They keep talking about how the PST decrease and raising the personal exemption is putting money on the table, but it's putting really ridiculously small amounts of money on the table unless you're spending a lot of money," she says. "These are not policies that are going to do anything about poverty in Manitoba."

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# STREET-LEVEL PERSPECTIVES

Photos by Daniel Crump

DANIEL CRUMP

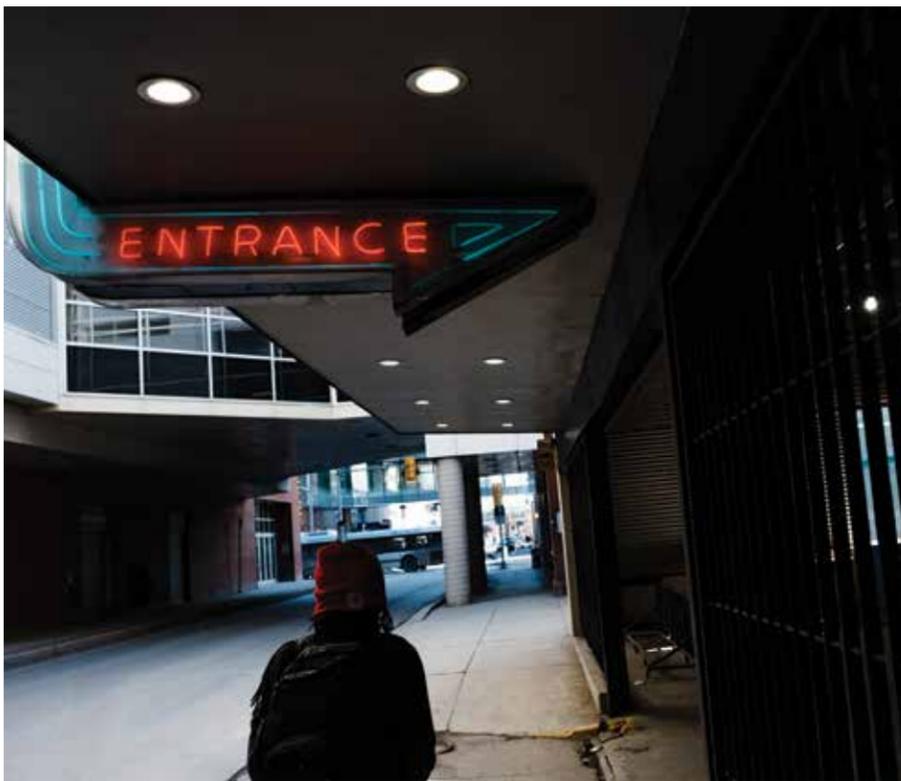
PHOTO EDITOR  @DANNYBOYCRUMP

Different vignettes of city life are visible from different levels - on foot, on buses, on a bike, from a car. Add the photographer's eye to any of these modes, and one may find a different vision of the city than is normally displayed in the media. These snippets of everyday life show a few variations of life in Winnipeg.

-Anastasia Chipelski



Passengers board a bus at the stop at the corner of Graham Avenue and Vaughan Street in Winnipeg.



A neon sign beckons those looking for parking to enter a parkade near Bell MTS Place.



A person with an interesting sense of style walks down the sidewalk in downtown Winnipeg.



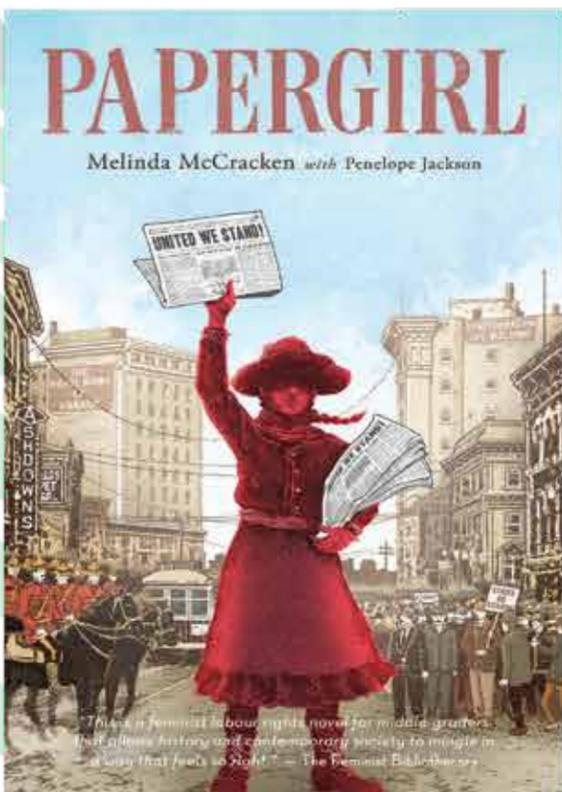
A resourceful person has built themselves a place to live under a bridge near downtown Winnipeg.



Spring melt leaves interesting patterns and textures on the Assiniboine River Walk.



The bicycle lane is closed, and the racks are sandbagged. Summer riding season is almost here.

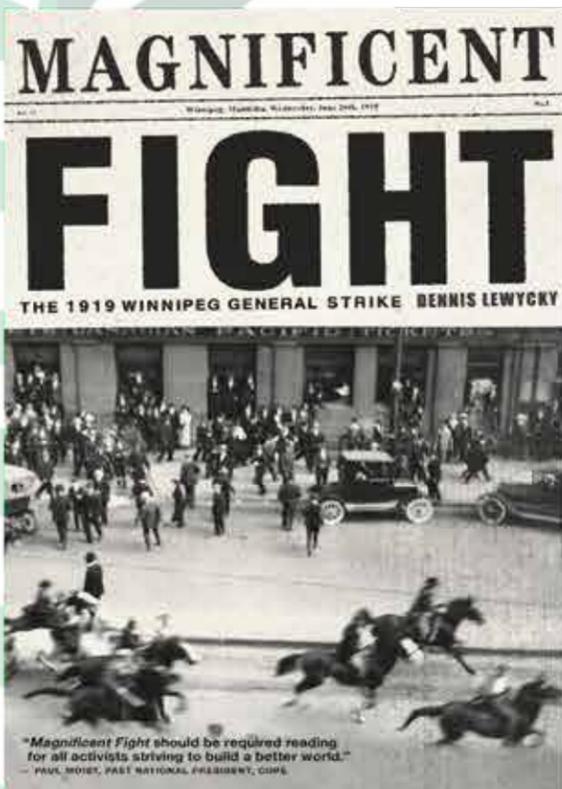


**Papergirl**

Melinda McCracken, with Penelope Jackson

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– The Feminist Bibliothecary



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# THE CITY'S CRACKS AND FISSURES

Photos by Keeley  
Braunstein-Black

KEELEY BRAUNSTEIN-BLACK

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

 @KEELEY\_IMAGE

The tourist-friendly vision of Winnipeg is a little more polished than the version many of us encounter daily. Decay of infrastructure is an inevitable part of life, especially in our harsh climate. With the City's current pause on maintenance, fractures and cracks like these may become slightly more commonplace. Depending on perspective, elements of disrepair could be seen as a negative sign of the times - or they could add character to our urban scene. It all depends on how you see it.

-Anastasia Chipelski



Ice cracks across the surface of a shallow puddle.



Water pools in areas where concrete has fallen apart in this local back lane.



This brick wall decorated with fading paint barely hides a pile of refuse.



A crack interrupts the solid line of these limestone steps.



This wooden pole bears relics of posters past.



A puddle in a local roadway shares a tree's reflection.



Voter turnout in this year's UWSA elections was lower than past years, but some U of W students believe these elections should be more engaging.

SUPPLIED PHOTO

# HAVE A SAY AND FILL A BALLOT

## Strategies for increasing turnout at UWSA elections

RYAN HAUGHEY

CAMPUS REPORTER

[@RY\\_HAUGHEY](#)

The University of Winnipeg Students' Association (UWSA) 2019 general election was held from March 4 to 6. The election saw favourable results for the UWSA Empower Slate, who were voted into the executive team positions. This year's election also showed a significantly lower voter turnout than past years' general elections.

Several other candidates were elected to the positions they campaigned for, but only the position of business and economics director was contested between two candidates.

The 2018 general election had a 6.8 per cent voter turnout. The 2017 general election, which saw several contested positions, had a 13.8 per cent voter turnout. This year showed significantly lower numbers, according to the unofficial voting results.

Bronwyn MacLean, a student at the University of Winnipeg (U of W) was involved in collecting and counting votes this year. MacLean worked at one of five voting locations.

"I was in the Buhler Centre. I want to say we got less than 10 votes a day," she says.

MacLean says the polling station in Riddell Hall was more successful at bringing in voters.

Even though the positions to be filled were broadly not contested, students have the option of voting yes or no for each candidate. MacLean says most people she spoke to were unaware that this was an option.

Additionally, many ballots were spoiled,

because they were filled out incorrectly.

"You have to check with an 'x,' and a lot of people didn't know that," MacLean says. "There should have been more clear communication about filling in the ballot correctly, because a lot of people that did come out and vote had their ballots thrown out."

MacLean says it was disappointing to see how few people voted.

"It literally takes under a minute. I wish more people would vote," she says.

Janelle Gobin, a political science student at the U of W, has a strong belief in democracy and electing the people who will represent the student body.

"I think it's important for every student to have a say and a vote, because we have the right to vote," she says. "These people are representing us, and part of our tuition is going towards running the UWSA, so I feel like it's our responsibility to have a say in this."

Evan Krosney, another political science student at the U of W, says he felt an obligation to vote as this was the last election in which he could cast a ballot before he graduates.

"Part of the reason I was motivated was that I think it's really incredible that we have such a diverse slate of really amazing candidates who are going to be able to bring a progressive vision to this university," he says.

Morgan Brightnose, a member of Tarasquey Cree Nation and the current UWSA executive president, says he has confidence in next year's executive team, which is entirely made up of Women of Colour.

"The next executive team is the most qualified executive (team) the UWSA has ever had in terms of both professional and

lived experience. Meagan Malcom, Natasha Reimer, Mahlet Cuff and Noelle Sagher are amazing people who will accomplish great things," Brightnose says. "The student population and UWSA are very fortunate to have these four as executives."

Brightnose says it's hard to pin down one specific reason for the low voter turnout.

"For this election, we increased the election budget by 10 per cent, one of the biggest increases in our budget," he says. "We've increased the election budget yet again (for the coming year), and we passed a motion to have online voting for the 2020 UWSA general election."

**"These people are representing us, and part of our tuition is going towards running the UWSA, so I feel like it's our responsibility to have a say in this."**

**-JANELLE GOBIN**

Gobin says it's difficult to get students to feel engaged with student elections.

"As someone who has been involved in student groups over the past few years, I think that the struggle for student groups and for the student government is getting students engaged," she says. "That's just the perennial struggle of trying to get people involved and trying to grow the base of people that are engaged and willing to go vote and spend more time on campus than just going to class and leaving."

Gobin says the students who reach out to get information and get involved are the students who are already motivated to do so.

"I like the idea of trying to build bridges between students that wouldn't necessarily consider themselves engaged or wouldn't feel that natural inclination to seek out more information," she says.

Krosney says he would wholeheartedly support any push to engage the larger student body with the political process, "whether that's increased hours for polling stations, more locations or even in-class presentations so that folks around the university know why it's important to vote."

Gobin and Krosney say they also voted because of the referendum that was included on the ballot, which asked

whether students supported increasing the Student Refugee Program student levy by \$1.69.

Krosney says the small increase in tuition would build a more inclusive university that supports refugee students.

"This university, and really this city, represents an amazing place for all people no matter where you come from or what your background is, and I wanted us to continue that vision by making sure this referendum passes," Krosney says. "I think overall, as a university, our values would definitely be on the same page as that referendum."

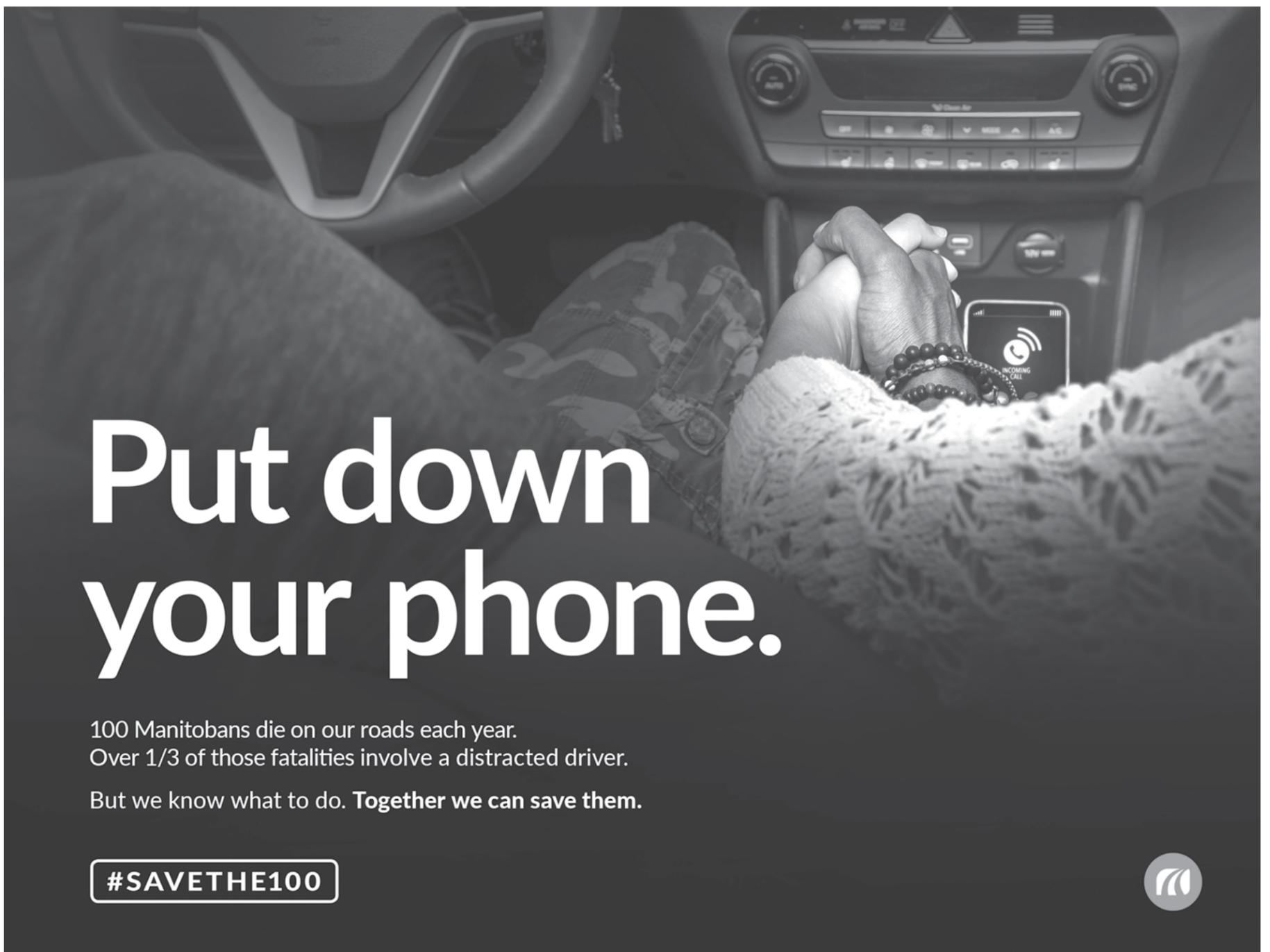


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# DON'T BRUSH OFF THESE 280 CHARACTERS

Provincial government's tweets symptomatic of a deeper gender bias

DANIELLE DOIRON

@DANIELLEDOIRON

COPY AND STYLE EDITOR

Earlier this year, the provincial government launched a campaign to try and attract nurses to Manitoba. And, for the most part, their recruitment tweets went unnoticed – until late March, when their official Twitter account shared an image of three women getting facials, including one wearing scrubs.

It's a move the Manitoba Nurses Union called "demeaning to women and Manitoba's nurses," especially since, as many nurses who shared the tweet on their own social media pages pointed out, the current nursing shortage means longer hours and more stressful working conditions for Manitoba's nurses – leaving them little time for sleep, let alone facials.

And, thanks to the provincial government's decision to drop Manitoba's health-care budget by \$120 million, that situation likely won't improve anytime soon.

But this Twitter campaign goes even further than laughable commentary from the out-of-touch local Tories. It's symptomatic of how women are devalued, demeaned and disrespected in the workplace.

In 2017 (the last year for which statistics are available), women accounted for 91.3 per cent of all registered nurses in Manitoba, and similar patterns of mistreatment are evident in other wom-

en-dominated professions. The sports world is fraught with gender bias, as women's games are relegated to the back pages of the sports section and the final seconds of highlight reels – if that.

Days after the Province posted the image of nurses getting facials, the Canadian Women's Hockey League (CWHL) announced plans to cease operations on May 1, leaving women who want to play with few options.

In March, 28 members of the United States women's soccer team filed a gender discrimination lawsuit against their national soccer federation for institutionalized bias that impacts everything from their salaries to where and how often they play, the medical treatment they receive and how their team travels to matches.

As March Madness (and Women's History Month in the United States) drew to a close, coverage of the college men's basketball tournament dominated sports media channels, while the women's bracket only really drew a few, sporadic headlines as they reached the Final Four.

As Barry Svrluga wrote in *The Washington Post* as a response to the US women's national team's lawsuit, "stop thinking about equal compensation as the result of (systemic changes), and start thinking of it as the reason change happens."

So stop trivializing women's contributions with insensitive tweets. Across the board, we're overworked and certainly underpaid – and these disparities only



The Manitoba Government has since taken down this tweet promoting nursing careers in Manitoba.

become more pronounced as billboards promoting the Winnipeg Whiteout pop up around town and provincial health-care cuts loom on the horizon. It's time to truly share the wealth and realize our teams are also worthy of celebratory street parties – and that we all deserve the funding and respect we need to actually get our jobs done.

*Danielle is a writer, editor and marketer who has spent years working in sports media and more than enough hours waiting in Manitoba's emergency rooms. In both*

*those industries and beyond, the treatment of women needs to change.*



The Manitoba Nurses Union encourages anyone worried about the nursing shortage and impact of health-care budget cuts to sign their Put Patients First petition, which is available online.

# All the best for Spring and Summer 2019 to the Students and Staff at the University of Winnipeg

# A HEALTH CRISIS OF OUR OWN MAKING?

Pallister government will look everywhere to solve crises, except in the mirror

THOMAS PASHKO

 @THOMASPASHKO

ARTS AND CULTURE EDITOR

Manitoba is currently in the grips of multiple health crises. The highly publicized increase in local crystal meth use and addiction, the broad opioid epidemic and a local syphilis outbreak are some of the issues that have been given particular attention by the provincial government, who are responsible for the health care of Manitobans.

But while Premier Brian Pallister's ruling Progressive Conservative government has been quick to place the blame for these crises on any number of behaviours, they seem unwilling to examine the role played by their own catastrophic gutting of health care in Manitoba.

In February, the Government of Manitoba announced that the province is in the midst of a serious syphilis outbreak. Dr. Michael Isaac, the acting chief provincial public health officer, spoke at a press conference, reporting that there were more than 350 syphilis cases in Manitoba in 2018 (a marked increase from 118 in 2014), and that 10 infants were born with the infection.

The language that Isaac used to advise Manitobans on syphilis prevention was troublingly moralizing. The first measure he suggested for reducing the risk of contracting syphilis was "being in a long-term, mutually monogamous relationship with a partner who has been tested for syphilis and does not have syphilis." The only other suggested preventative measure was condom use.

Isaac also noted that this outbreak was especially troubling in that it showed an increase among heterosexual women, because "in the past, syphilis outbreaks have occurred mainly in urban areas of Canada between men who have sex with men."

The provincial government linked the outbreak to another health crisis gripping Manitoba: the increase in intravenous drug use, evident in Winnipeg's growing meth and opioid addiction epidemics.

"We've noted that some of the moms with congenital syphilis have been using crystal meth and injecting drugs, so that certainly could be exacerbating the situation," Isaac said.

Isaac also pointed to the fact that several of the mothers who gave birth to babies with congenital syphilis did not access prenatal care. While this statement stressed the importance of seeking prenatal care during pregnancy, it neglected to acknowledge the massive gaps in access to treatment that have opened in the wake of the Pallister government's health-care cuts.

Since its election to a majority in 2016, the Pallister government's cuts to health care in Manitoba have been sweeping and constant. For instance, in July 2017, the Province announced the closure of all but one of Winnipeg's QuickCare Clinics. These walk-in clinics served as a crucial resource for Manitobans without family doctors or quick access to treatment.

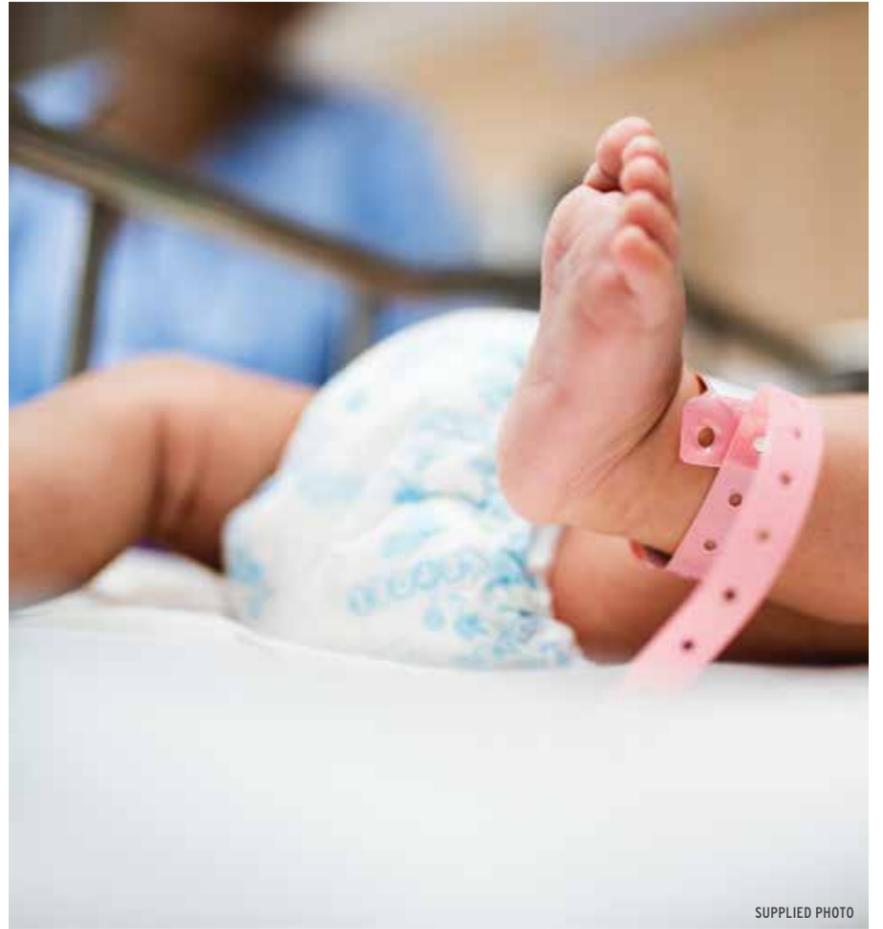
These were followed by emergency room closures: Misericordia's ER closed in October 2017, with Seven Oaks and Concordia Hospitals to follow this July. At that point, the only ERs in Winnipeg will be at Health Sciences Centre, St. Boniface Hospital and Grace Hospital.

The staff at existing hospitals have also been slashed to a bare minimum, a move that has disproportionately had a negative effect on the care of newborn infants and those giving birth.

Despite the province's alarm over babies being born with syphilis, inadequate medical care for newborns since the Pallister government took power has skyrocketed, including an instance in which a lack of proper equipment and staff led to a child being born with a spinal cord injury, brain damage and paralysis.

Can it really be a coincidence that major health crises are arising at the same time as the Province is making it harder to access the necessary care to mitigate those crises?

The Province has stated that their stripping away of health care protections is a "streamlining" of the system meant



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Concern over babies being born with syphilis has not been matched with reinstatement of services for newborns in Winnipeg.

to reduce wait times and cost. But there's no evidence suggesting that the Province is tracking the demographics of those affected by the syphilis outbreak, or how those demographics intersect with populations losing access.

While there's no data to indicate that Pallister and company's cuts have improved the health of Manitobans, there are plenty of examples that suggest their conduct is causing real harm.

Despite widespread concern about meth use, there seems to be more enthusiasm to penalize drug users than to help them access treatment. Following a rise in meth-related violence in hospitals, the Province was quick to announce their intentions to give security guards sweeping new powers to detain patients.

However, their action on addictions treatment has been much slower on the uptake. Press coverage of the meth and opioid crises have been full of reports of Winnipeggers seeking addictions treatment being forced to wait months for treatment, if they're even able to access treatment at all.

Despite an increase in intravenous drug use and its alleged role in the syphilis

crisis, Pallister has remained steadfast in his opposition to safe injection sites in Manitoba, stating as recently as December that "I don't think safe injection sites work, and I don't think experts agree on the issue," despite the fact that evidence overwhelmingly shows that they do, both in terms of saving lives and increasing access to treatment.

The provincial government has taken some positive steps toward increasing access to addictions treatment, such as selling the old Vimy Arena at low cost to Manitoba Housing to facilitate the creation of the Bruce Oake Recovery Centre. However, multiple groups fought tooth and nail to oppose the opening of the treatment centre, including MLAs within the Progressive Conservative party.

When all is said and done, the Pallister government hasn't made it easy to quantify the impacts of their health care cuts in raw numbers. There isn't available data to concretely examine the overlap between health-care cuts, addiction, illness and access to care. But it doesn't take a rocket scientist to see the ways in which their health-care policies serve to exacerbate Manitoba's health crises, not solve them.

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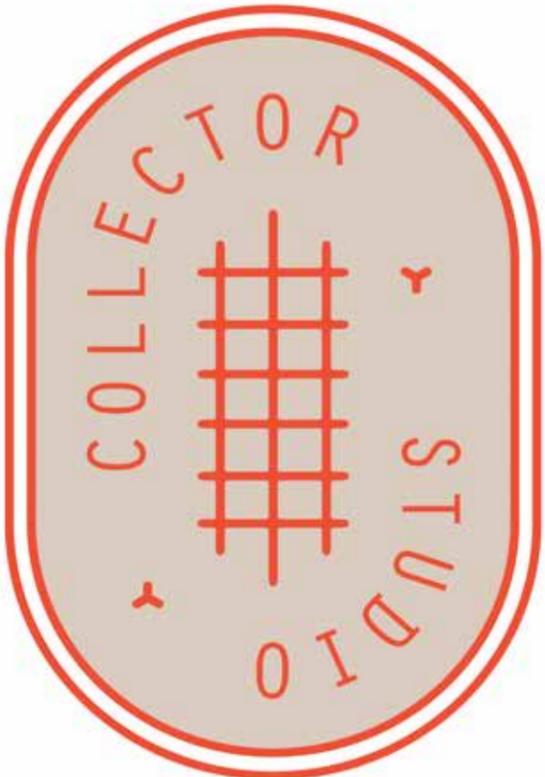
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Student Evaluations of Teaching (SETs) are now being done online for all eligible courses in **Arts, Business and Economics, Kinesiology, Science, and Graduate Studies** in the Winter and Fall/Winter Terms, ending in April.

Courses with very small enrolments will not be eligible because anonymity of response could not be guaranteed.

For each course, you will have received an email to your UWinnipeg webmail account with a link to a survey in Qualtrics.

The survey will remain open to you until **midnight of the day of the last class meeting of the course.**

Online courses will have a default last "meeting date" of April 5, the last day of classes.

If you do not see the emails, Outlook may have put the email in your "Other" folder rather than the "Focused" folder, so please check both folders.

### STUDENT CENTRAL

#### Tax Receipts

T2202a tuition tax receipts for 2018 were posted on WebAdvisor at the end of February.

#### Winter Term 2019 - Last Day of Undergraduate Classes

Lectures end for the 2019 Winter Term on Fri., Apr. 5.

#### Exams

The Examination Period is Apr. 9-23.

Please check the exam schedule online now and notify your professors of any time conflicts immediately.

Then the day before each of your exams, check the daily exam schedule to confirm the location.

Please visit: [uwinnipeg.ca/exam-schedules](http://uwinnipeg.ca/exam-schedules)

#### Locker Rentals

Students who rented a locker for the Winter Term must clear it out by Tues., April 23. All lockers must be emptied and locks removed.

Looking to rent a locker for the Spring Term? See [www.uwinnipeg.ca/lockers](http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/lockers). Students must be registered for Spring Term classes first in order to be eligible to rent a locker.

#### Spring Term (U2018S) Registration

The Spring Term Timetable is posted for undergraduate courses between May - August. Go to [uwinnipeg.ca/timetable](http://uwinnipeg.ca/timetable).

Tiered registration is now complete. Open registration began on April 3.

All fees for Spring Term (U2018S) courses between May-August are **due May 6, 2019** -- no matter the start date of the course.

Pay the easy way - online through your bank's website!

1. Log on to your bank's website and go to the bill payment section
2. Add The University of Winnipeg as a bill payee
3. Use your seven-digit student number as the account number

No additional fees to pay this way.

#### On a Wait List?

#### Check Your Webmail Daily!

If you've placed your name on a wait list for a course section that is full in Spring Term, please check your UWinnipeg Webmail account daily. This is the only way you will be notified if an open seat becomes available for you.

We run the wait list processing program every Monday and Thursday morning, so these are the best days to check your UWinnipeg Webmail.

Upon notification, you will have three (3) days or 72 hours from the date/time stamped on the email to claim your reserved seat before it is offered to the next student on the list. Don't be disappointed - claim your seat right away!

Get into the habit of checking your UWinnipeg Webmail every day. All emails about registration waitlists, course changes, new labs, new sections, and cancelled courses will be sent to this account.

#### Changes to SC's Hours

Friday, April 19 - closed for Good Friday

Friday, April 26 - open 9:00 am - 4:15 pm

Thursday, May 2 - closed from 8:45 am - 12:15 pm

Monday, May 20 - closed for Victoria Day

Friday, May 24 - open 9:00 am - 4:15 pm

#### Address/Phone Updates

Moved in recent months? Changed cell phone providers?

Please make sure you update your address, phone number, and other contact information with the University.

Update your address, phone number and other details in WebAdvisor through the "Address Change" link.

### TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS CENTRE

#### New Wireless on Campus

Wireless network service on campus is changing.

The old network UW-WIRELESS will be shut down on **May 1.**

For instructions on how to connect to the new service called "Eduroam," please go to: [uwinnipeg.ca/wireless](http://uwinnipeg.ca/wireless)

PHONE: 204.779.8946

EMAIL: [studentcentral@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:studentcentral@uwinnipeg.ca)



## WINNIPEG FOLK FEST 2019 LINEUP

DEATH CAB FOR CUTIE • KACEY MUSGRAVES • JASON MRAZ  
 HALF MOON RUN • THE SHEEPDOGS • K'NAAN • ALVVAYS  
 CHARLOTTE DAY WILSON • KATHLEEN EDWARDS • COLTER WALL  
 THE LONE BELLOW • THE DEVIL MAKES THREE • CAR SEAT HEADREST • SNAIL MAIL  
 JOHN SEBASTIAN • MT. JOY • HAWKSLEY WORKMAN • RAYLAND BAXTER  
 WILLIAM PRINCE • JULIA JACKLIN • CASS MCCOMBS • MOLLY TUTTLE  
 TIM BAKER • LUCY ROSE • COURTNEY MARIE ANDREWS • ZIGGY ALBERTS  
 REBIRTH BRASS BAND • JOHNATHAN RICE • THIS IS THE KIT • TAL NATIONAL

**PETE SEEGER'S 100TH B-DAY  
 HOOTENANNY**  
 JOHN COHEN & ELI SMITH • JIM KWESKIN  
 JERRON "BLIND BOY" PAXTON  
 STEEL CITY JUG SLAMMERS & GUESTS

**ICELANDIC  
 SOUNDS**  
 SNORRI HELGASON • MAMMÚT  
 YLJA • FM BELFAST

DE TEMPS ANTAN • SAM LEWIS • TOUBAB KREWE • LARKIN POE  
 HALEY HEYNDERICKX • ALTIN GÜN • LUCA FOGALE • DEVON GILFILLIAN  
 LOS PACHAMAMA & FLOR AMARGO • CHRISTINE FELLOWS • SARAH SHOOK & THE DISARMERS  
 MDOU MOCTAR • WILLIAM CRIGHTON • BEBE BUCKSKIN • COMBO CHIMBITA • SAMANTHA CRAIN  
 DANNY MICHEL • MARIEL BUCKLEY • ROMAN CLARKE • THE YOUNG'UNS • STEVE GUNN  
 LIVING HOUR • EILEEN IVERS • SEAN MCCONNELL • THE CACTUS BLOSSOMS  
 JESSE MATAS • SUNNY WAR • TAYLOR JANZEN • THE SWINGING BELLES • THE TILLERS  
 RUPLOOPS • SEANSTER AND THE MONSTERS • GUSTAVO & THE GREEN FOOLS • CASTLEMOON THEATRE

**SAVE WITH EARLY BIRD TICKETS UNTIL APRIL 30!**

**BIRDS HILL PROVINCIAL PARK**  
 TICKETS AVAILABLE AT WINNIPEGFOLKFESTIVAL.CA AND 203-211 BANNATYNE AVE.



# Working *for* Students



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 YourFortRouge.ca



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