

THE

# UNITER

FREE WEEKLY  
VOLUME 74 // ISSUE 08 // OCT. 31

## International health-care plans at the University of Winnipeg

**HOW FOREIGN STUDENTS AND THE U OF W ARE COPING  
WITHOUT MANITOBA HEALTH**

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# WEWENI

INDIGENOUS SCHOLARS  
SPEAKER SERIES

2019/  
2020

## “FOR FUTURE LANDINGS/ WHEN WE ARE ALWAYS ON THE MOVE”:

INDIGENOUS URBAN LAND-ING AS THEORY

**DR. KARYN RECOLLET—**

Dr. Recollet is Associate Professor at the University of Toronto's Women & Gender Studies Institute, and is a Cree woman originally from the Sturgeon Lake First Nation in Saskatchewan. Her research and writing explores Indigenous performance, hip-hop culture, and Indigenous hip hop feminism, with a particular focus on new Indigeneities produced in urban hub spaces as they shape solidarity movements and social activism.



**NOVEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup>**      **12:30–1:30PM**

Convocation Hall

The Weweni Indigenous Scholars Speaker Series will present distinguished Indigenous scholars and celebrate the success of UWinnipeg students throughout the academic year 2019–2020.

MEDIA INDIGENA will be recording a live podcast at 7:00 pm in Convocation Hall, hosted by Rick Harp.

[mediaindigena.com](http://mediaindigena.com)



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WINNIPEG

[UWINNIPERG.CA/WEWENI](http://UWINNIPERG.CA/WEWENI)

## \* ON THE COVER

Erfan Hardanian, an international student at the University of Winnipeg, is one of many affected by provincial cuts.

Read more on page 9.



PHOTO BY CALLIE LUGOSI

Jackie Hogue, who has worked in community development for 25 years, is hosting the workshop Working among Racial Difference on Colonized Land. Read more on page 5.

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## MANY NATIONS UNDER BRIAN

Winnipeg is an international city. From the many ancestral nations of Indigenous Winnipeggers, to the many far-flung countries of origin for settlers, Winnipeg is a meeting place for people from across the globe.

Unfortunately, those in power often take steps to reinforce a status quo that envisions a much more homogenous idea of our city and province. Before the 1940s, when voting rights were extended only to those who owned property, the City deliberately zoned North End lots too small to allow the Slavic and Jewish immigrants who lived there to vote. When voting rights were expanded, they applied only to "British subjects over the age of 21," - a qualifier which excluded those with treaty status.

When Brian Pallister's government cut health care for foreign students, they carried out another attack on Winnipeg's international populations. In this issue, *The Uniter*'s city editor Lisa Mizan examines the repercussions of these cuts, which represent another drop in the already overflowing bucket of the local establishment making life harder for those who fall outside their status quo.

I'm one of many Manitobans who grew up around family from "the old country." If any member of my family had been denied their basic human right to health care because of where they were born, I'd be outraged. Manitobans would do well to meet this abuse of power on our government's part with the same outrage.

-Thomas Pashko

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## SUBMISSIONS

Submissions of articles, letters, graphics and photos are encouraged, however all new contributors (with the exception of letters to the editor) must attend a 45-minute volunteer orientation workshop to ensure that the volunteer understands all of the publication's basic guidelines. Next volunteer workshop takes place **Wednesday, November 6 at 5 p.m.**, in room ORM14. Please email [volunteer@uniter.ca](mailto:volunteer@uniter.ca) for more details. Deadline for advertisements is noon Friday, six days prior to publication. The Uniter reserves the right to refuse to print material submitted by volunteers. The Uniter will not print submissions that are homophobic, misogynistic, racist or libellous. We also reserve the right to edit for length/style.



PHOTOS BY AMOL SAMRA

Hera Nalam in her home

## ARTISTIC ABODE

AMOL SAMRA

@SAMRAAMOL

FEATURES REPORTER

"I just know that I love the arts."

Hera Nalam is a performing arts fanatic actively involved in the local arts and culture landscape.

"There's an ongoing joke in my life right now, because I have so many jobs. I consider myself a multidisciplinary artist. I act, I sing, I write songs, I teach kids songwriting, I am a sales associate, stylist and also a program facilitator," she says.

Nalam's love for the arts developed during her childhood. She grew up seeing her mom perform music and direct plays.

"My mom has always been involved in the arts and was always doing something creative," she says. "If there's one person who I really look up to, it's my mom."

Nalam is a self-taught musician who started playing at the age of 13 on her mom's old guitar. The best part about being a self-taught musician, she says, is that "when I picked the guitar, I did it because I wanted to. It was personal, and I got to know how I work."

Though Nalam is often seen with a guitar, her heart really lies in acting, which led her to join the acting program at the University of Winnipeg.

"I hadn't realized until acting school that I loved performing so much," she says. "I had sung in choirs, but acting was something I enjoyed the most and is my bread and butter."

As an actor, a question Nalam often gets asked is if she still gets nervous before going on stage. To prepare for a performance, she said she trained herself "to ride the (nerves) and let the energy flow."

Her musically energetic persona is reflected in her home, which is filled with guitars, tiny Yodas and cozy vibes. She makes music and jams sitting by the window on her bright, orange couch, while her cactus "Charlie" shimmies to her tunes.



### 1) CHARLIE BIT MY FINGER

"Charlie is a cactus that I bought for my own self. We have a lot of plants, but I wanted one that's mine."

### 2) MIRROR, MIRROR ON THE WALL

"My aunt gave this to me."

### 3) PIVOT

"That beautiful, orange couch, I am keeping that couch forever. It holds a lot of memories."

### 4) TIARA

"This is a Mexico memory. It was (from) the first bachelorette party I've ever gone to. We all wore tiaras and were taking over the night."

### 5) LIGHTSABER

"I have a lightsaber. It's the weirdest thing, but I like it. I turn it on when I'm bored."

### 6) CHEESECAKE

"This is a container of the cheesecake I had bought from *Waitress*, the musical, during intermission. It was the first musical I had ever watched on Broadway. I kept the container for (the) memory."

### 7) PHOTO

"My sister saw this and asked 'why do you have a photo of a different family in your room?' This family photo is a prop from the first feature film I (did)."

"This is Andrea Macasaet, who is debuting on Broadway really soon. I feel honoured that I got to work with her."



# CARBON-NEGATIVE CONSUMPTION

Manitoba farms practising regenerative agriculture

**MARK TEAGUE**

**VOLUNTEER**

 @BIKEWITHOUTWHEELS

Cultural awareness surrounding food security and its relation to climate is growing, and some Manitoba farmers are choosing to make use of agricultural methods that provide an actively positive impact on their land and animals, instead of just maintaining the status quo.

Zinn Farms, owned and operated by Monika and Andreas Zinn, uses such methods on their land southwest of Winnipeg.

"The main goal is to sequester carbon into the soil by growing grass and grazing it ... and if you manage your farm well, there are farms that become carbon-negative. In other words, they sequester more carbon than they emit, including their fuel and everything," Andreas Zinn says.

He explains that the regenerative method he uses for ruminants (grazing animals such as cows and goats) involves allowing the animals a smaller portion of the land to graze on, while moving them more often. This way, the animal does not eat only what they are initially drawn to, but all plant life within the area, and the portions of land not being grazed are given more time for regrowth. The growth and death of the root systems become the sequestered carbon.

Another farm using regenerative

methods is Fresh Roots Farm, which is owned and operated by Troy Stozek and University of Winnipeg alum Michelle Schram. They describe this method as imitating the way that grasslands were naturally grazed.

"For us, it mostly takes the form of managed intensive grazing on our perennial grass and legume pastures, which mimics the way bison herds roamed on our grasslands long ago: moving frequently in larger groups, providing adequate recovery on a piece of land before returning to graze it again. The animals used to be moved in this way by predators. Now, with our domesticated ruminant animals (like cattle and sheep), we use electric fencing to keep them where we need them to be," Schram says.

She says it's necessary to have a relationship with the land and understand the implications of climate on agriculture for the future.

"We try to be observant of what is happening on our land and adapt what we are doing from week to week, season to season, instead of being prescriptive," she says. "Nature likes disruption, and we have to learn to play her game instead of fighting against it."

"I think a lot of (agricultural) producers are seeing how we need to be a lot more resilient in the face of our climate change reality, and this will mean making some changes if we want our land and



Michelle Schram and Troy Stozek of Fresh Roots Farm

SUPPLIED PHOTO

businesses to stay viable. We'd really love to have a viable, thriving land base and business to be able to pass along to the next generation, our kids or otherwise."

Both Zinn Farms and Fresh Roots Farm supply local restaurants, are regulars at the summer farmers' markets and supply to independent buyers through their online order systems.

"All of our products are available through our online store" Schram says. "We do monthly deliveries into Winnipeg where we meet up with customers at four different locations throughout the city."

Zinn Farms uses similar distribution methods.

"We do the St. Norbert Farmers' Market on Saturdays throughout the winter, and we do private sales through our website, and we have drop locations in Winnipeg."

*For info on how and where to buy from Fresh Roots Farm, visit [freshrootsfarmmb.com](http://freshrootsfarmmb.com). Find Zinn Farms at [zinnfarms.com](http://zinnfarms.com).*



PHOTO BY CALLIE LUGOSI

Jackie Hogue, host of Working among Racial Difference on Colonized Land: Strengthening Cultural Competency in our Organizations and owner of J. Hogue and Associates

## 'THE STATUS QUO IS NOT GOOD ENOUGH'

Workshop tackles cultural and racial issues in the workplace

**NAAMAN STURRUP**

 @NAAMANSTURRUP

**ARTS AND CULTURE REPORTER**

Working among Racial Difference on Colonized Land: Strengthening Cultural Competency in our Organizations takes place on Nov. 13 and 14 at United Way Winnipeg. This workshop focuses on recognizing racism and systemic oppression in the workplace while encouraging change and cultural sensitivity.

Jackie Hogue, the workshop's host and owner of J. Hogue and Associates, says she created the event after witnessing the harm caused by oppression and racism.

"I have worked in community-building for

(25) years and, especially in inner-city Winnipeg, I saw the effects of colonization and racism on people in their everyday lives," she says.

Hogue attributes her awareness of issues of marginalization to her Métis background and says when these social issues collide, they can create many barriers that make life difficult for people.

"I wanted to work with the community to encourage people to do (more effective work), (teach them) how to be more intentional and show them how to address and dismantle these issues," she says.

Originally a one-day event, Hogue says that she extended this year's workshop to spend more time analyzing lessons from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) and the Missing and Murdered

Indigenous Women and Girls Inquiry.

Among the many lessons taught in this event is cultural competency, and Hogue points out three aspects of this that can encourage change.

"We must first recognize that we are situated in the community, and there are different people in it," she says.

"We must also recognize our history and context. There are things that happen in the distant and near past that inform the things we experience, such as colonization and systemic oppression.

"Last, we must recognize that we need change. The status quo is not good enough, and it is not serving people. Rather, it is harming them."

The workshop is designed for executive directors, program staff and others in community leadership roles, and Hogue

believes change starts with leaders addressing issues that can be difficult to recognize.

"Because racism and oppression are often deeply rooted, we often do not notice that they are happening," she says.

To help kickstart this change, Hogue suggests that people become more aware of their actions and surroundings and listen more.

"Notice who the leadership in your organization is, who your friends are and if you become scared when someone of a different identity group passes you on the street," she says.

"The first step is recognition and then becoming a good listener, because there are people that are telling us what they want and need."

"Before TRC, there were other reports of what Indigenous communities are calling for to create change, but we have not been collectively good listeners."

*The workshop takes place at United Way Winnipeg at 580 Main St. from Nov. 13 to 14. Registration can be done through Eventbrite.ca.*

## CRIT PEG



CAM SCOTT

SUPPLIED IMAGE

## POETRY BOOK IS HEAVY READING

*Romans/Snowmare*

Cam Scott

104 pages, ARP Books,  
September 2019

HANNAH FOULGER

@FOULGERSCOVFEFE

ARTS AND CULTURE REPORTER

*"It had been an education, nights inhaling cumulus of wiseacre dissension"*

*Romans/Snowmare* has good intentions in its attempt to critique capitalism through experimental poetry. The text alternates between shorter sections of free verse and prose poetry, which gives a sense of continuous movement. The free-verse sections are short, some with no more than a few stanzas each. Some are only one or two sentences, spread out between a stanza or two.

The prose poems vary from half a page to a full page long. These dense walls of text have some spectacular turns of phrase, such as "The boulevards become our commons, under threat of picturesque dissensus." Some of them veer into stream-of-consciousness territory.

The poetry contains hints of capitalist critique and romance, but for most of the book, the poetry lives outside of itself. Some of the text lacks an internal logic and instead requires readers to have an extensive knowledge of critical theory and a passing understanding of the Italian language. Readers should keep both English and Italian dictionaries on hand to help decode portions of text. The language is often abstract, and without an image to cling to, it can become shapeless.

Halfway through the book, Scott

starts to work with imagistic language of urban and prairie landscapes, but shifts back to a more abstract construct, with some images. When working with concrete imagery, the poems find shape and meaning, but they are often over-encumbered with complex language and academic theory.

Certain poems show a deft and sophisticated relationship with language and approach politically left-leaning theories, such as a living wage. The book is concerned with the concept of how poetry lives both on the page and as a spiritual ideal. The idea of the poem and of poetry wafts in and out of the book, as the speaker tries to shape what poetry is:

"A new constraint: the poem must contain the words 'the poem,' in the same way the Ramones or Motorhead exalt the benefits of rock 'n' roll."

*Romans/Snowmare* is most interesting when the poems are self-contained, and the intertextuality works within the poem. In one of its several untitled sections, the speaker drives through rural Manitoba, describing the green-and-yellow drive and the daydreams it inspires.

Parts of the book may require a graduate-level understanding of critical theory and politics. Folks without a background in critical theory would be hard-pressed to understand some of the poems. Instead of sharing an understanding of critical theorists Zizek and Foucault, referencing their names without elaborating on their meaning or context creates an exclusive world for poets and readers with a certain level of education. Large sections of this book are not for the casual poetry reader or those who prefer more imagistic or self-contained poetry.

## CKUW TOP 30

October 21-27, 2019



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

TW	LW	C	Artist	Album	Label
1	1	!	Begonia	Fear	Rex Baby
2	2	*	PUP	Morbid Stuff	Little Dipper
3	4	*	The Rheostatics	Here Come The Wolves	Universal
4	3	*	Fly Pan Am	C'est Ca	Constellation
5	5	!	Absent Sound	Hola Sol	Transistor 66
6	7	!	Glassreel	Unalike	Self-Released
7	6	*	Shotgun Jimmie	Transistor Sister 2	You've Changed
8	21	!	The Bros. Landreth	'87	Birthday Cake
9	12	*	Lightning Dust	Spectre	Western Vinyl
10	19		The Babe Rainbow	Today	30th Century
11	16		000,000,1	A Love Story	Don't Be Nasty
12	RE	*	D.O.A.	1978	Sudden Death
13	15	*	Orville Peck	Pony	Royal Mountain
14	8	!	Big Dave McLean	Pocket Full Of Nothin'	Black Hen
15	13		Le Rex	Escape Of The Fire Ants	Cuneiform
16	24		(Sandy) Alex G	House Of Sugar	Domino
17	NE		Fred Hersch And The WDR Big Band	Begin Again	Palmetto
18	22	*	Fred Fortin	Microdose	Grosse Boite
19	10	!	Jaywood	Time	Self-Released
20	NE		Patrick Cowley	Mechanical Fantasy Box	Dark Entries
21	25		Chastity Belt	Chastity Belt	Hardly Art
22	RE	!	Apollo Suns	Dawn Offerings	Self-Released
23	9	!	Holy Void	Naught	Self-Released
24	NE		Peach Pyramid	Bright Blue	Oscar Street
25	RE		Cy Dune	Desert	Lightning
26	RE	!	Micah Erenberg	Love Is Gonna Find You	Sleepless
27	14		Ian And Sylvia	The Lost Tapes	Stoney Plain
28	28	!	Smoky Tiger And The Manitobandits	Royal Rumpus	Self-Released
29	27	!	Jacob Brodovsky	Sixteen Years	Self-Released
30	30		Iggy Pop	Free	Loma Vista

## ARTS BRIEFS

BETH SCHELLENBERG // ARTS AND CULTURE EDITOR

@BETHGAZELLENBERG

## Real Love Halloween

Real Love presents Virgo Rising, The Castle and Pisces on Thursday, Oct. 31 for their biweekly showcase. This week's showcase is, of course, Halloween-themed. Bonus points if attendees' costumes speak to their zodiac signs. The show starts at 7 p.m., and cover is \$10 or pay-what-you-can.

## Full Gestures

Mentoring Artists for Women's Art (MAWA) is hosting a group exhibition, *Full Gestures*, with artists from their 2018/19 Foundation Mentorship Program. The show has a diverse range of media and explores themes of care, relationality and culture. The opening reception is on Friday, Nov. 1 from 6 to 9 p.m. at MAWA (61 Main St.), and the exhibition runs from Nov. 1 to 29.

## Mystery Slunt Theatre 3000

Local drag showcase Slunt Factory is one year old and will celebrate its anniversary on Thursday, Oct. 31. Head down to Club 200 (190 Garry St.) to see local queens, regulars and débütées alike and pay homage to all things Halloween. The show starts at 9 p.m., and "Skareoke" with Anita Stallion will follow. Cover is \$5.

## Jordan Stranger at aceartinc

Jordan Stranger's exhibition, *Firekeeper*, opens on Friday, Nov. 1 at aceartinc. Stranger uses various visual media to illustrate Anishinaabe peoples' sacred ceremony and destigmatize Indigenous cultural practices, while inviting the viewer to engage in self-healing and reflection. The reception is from 7 to 10 p.m., and the exhibition will be up until Dec. 6.

Gimme Some Truth:  
Freedom Road

*Freedom Road* is a series of NFB films documenting the lived history of band members from Shoal Lake 40 Anishinaabe First Nation, the source of Winnipeg's water, and a community that has been under a boil-water advisory for decades. This project, led by Shoal Lake community members, has its world premiere on Nov. 5 at the Muriel Richardson Auditorium (in the Winnipeg Art Gallery at 300 Memorial Blvd.). The screening is free, starts at 7 p.m. and will be followed by a panel talk with band members.

## Apps and more!

Local musician and tech guru Kevin "Digital" Doole is hosting a workshop about building user interfaces, which to people who are not tech-savvy means "making apps." Participants will collaboratively create an app and learn about software development. The workshop is on Tuesday, Nov. 5 from 6 to 9 p.m. at Video Pool Media Arts Centre (100 Arthur St.) and is \$60 for members or \$80 for non-members. Visit Video Pool's website to reserve a spot.

## THIS IS WHO DREAMS ARE MADE FOR

How class and income affect who will enjoy *Lizzie McGuire's* return

HANNAH FOULGER

@FOULGERSCOVFEFF

ARTS AND CULTURE REPORTER

*Lizzie McGuire*, the beloved 2000s TV show, is back in business. In August, Disney announced that a new installment in the series, again starring Hilary Duff, would return to screens over the new Disney+ platform. But who is this reboot for, and what income level is required to access and appreciate it?

*Lizzie McGuire*, which ran from 2001 to 2004, was shown on the Disney Channel in Canada, a paid cable channel like HBO.

Jade DeFehr, a University of Winnipeg (U of W) alum, says "I liked watching this preteen girl having this ideal life but basic struggles ... Looking back now, the things that frustrate me about those kinds of shows is part of why I loved watching (them) ... She has this perfect life."

DeFehr says the show was "geared toward a white, middle-class, preteen-girl audience," whose parents could afford the subscription price of a premium channel.

Matthew Flisfeder, associate rhetoric professor at the U of W who specializes

in film, television and popular culture says with premium channels, "you pay for access to the channel, so that is different to the traditional broadcast model, which is free and open to anyone."

*Star Trek: The Next Generation* is also seeing a new installment with *Picard*, which premieres in January 2020. While *Picard* will premiere on the CBS All Access streaming platform in the United States and Amazon Prime Video internationally, Bell Media earned the series' exclusive Canadian broadcast and streaming rights. New episodes will premiere on Bell's CTV Sci-Fi Channel (formerly known as Space) and be available to stream on Bell's Crave platform the following day.

*Star Trek: TNG* was a syndicated show, which meant it ran first on more general channels like CBS and CTV, allowing for a larger viewing audience of a broad range of incomes, whereas those who will see the new *Lizzie McGuire* are more likely to come from a higher income bracket.

"If we're talking about a program which was still only available to an upper-middle or upper-class audience 20 years ago, it is going to be a different type of nostalgia that's going to come back. There is going to be a different type of audience that is going to



SUPPLIED PHOTO

*Lizzie McGuire*, which aired from 2001 to 2004, has a new reboot premiering on the new Disney+ streaming platform.

remember," Flisfeder says.

"When we add on the premium feature of (Disney+), (only people who can afford it are) given access to their own nostalgia, so (it) almost appears (as if) there is almost a classed barrier."

DeFehr says she is tempted to watch the new *Lizzie McGuire* but feels like

she'll hate it.

"(It's) like *Gilmore Girls*," she says. "I'm still going to watch it for my own curiosity and nostalgia. I heard that they will still have the little animated Lizzie character, and I loved that growing up. I would watch it just for that."

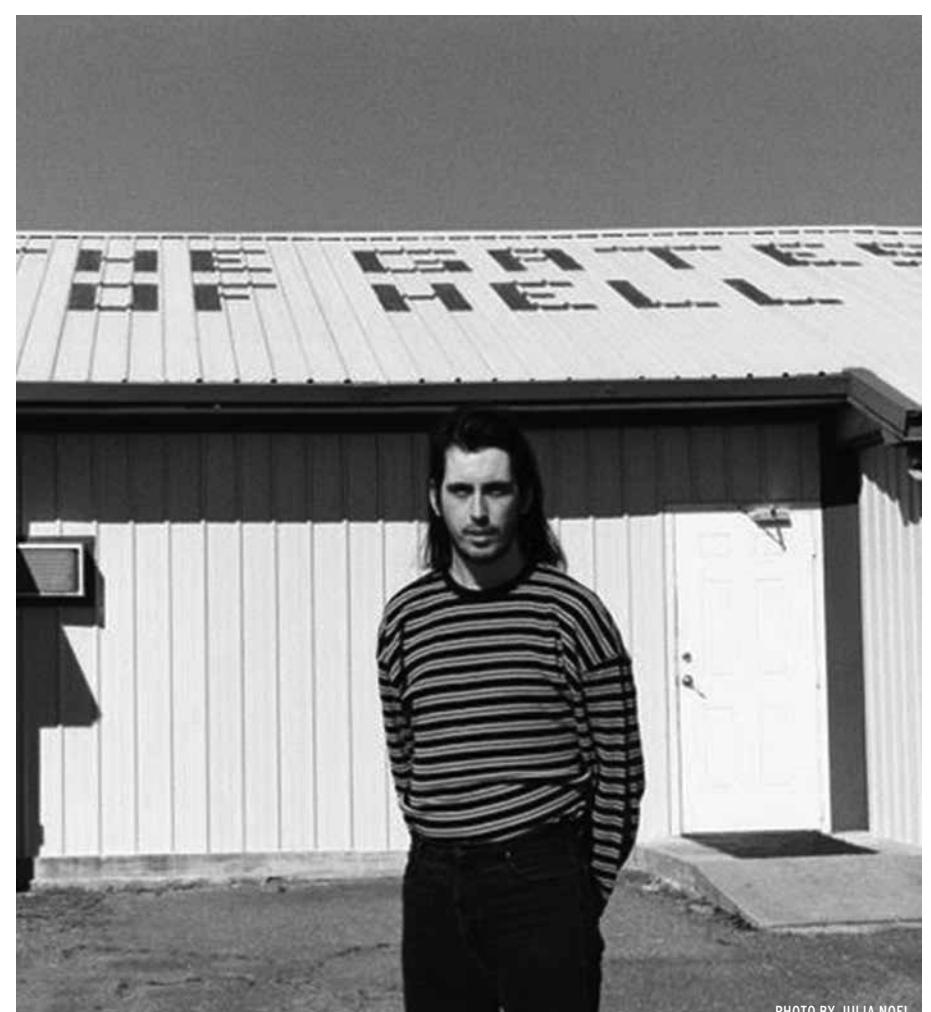


PHOTO BY JULIA NOEL

Brandon Williams, leader of Ontario-based alt-rock band Chastity

## ANGER, COMPLACENCY, CHASTITY

Brandon Williams seeks to use his platform to create awareness

NAAMAN STURRUP

@NAAMANSTURRUP

ARTS AND CULTURE REPORTER

Ontario-based alt-rock band Chastity performs at the Good Will Social Club on Nov. 5. Its leader, Brandon Williams, who is from Whitby, Ont., says the concert will be comprehensive and include much of his past work.

"(We will perform) 13 songs, some from the new record and some from (2018 album) *Death Lust*," he says.

Chastity's new record, *Home Made Satan*, was released on Sept. 13, and Williams describes the album as lyrically focused.

"I wanted to make a lighter record with harder, more divisive lyrics," he says. "I wanted to juxtapose hooks with dark lyrics."

The songs are focused predominantly on the current social and political landscape in the United States. Williams points out that the record was inspired by "political complacency," which he notes is a negative influence on society.

This complacency led "people to become afraid of each other, unreasonably afraid of immigration and things that are normally easy to get over once you are educated (properly about these things)," he says.

Williams notes that although this record tends to refer to the United States, Canada experiences similar social issues.

"I saw the wealth disparity in America, and when I came back to Canada, I saw the same thing. We have many of the same issues and overall bad political leadership."

Williams says he draws inspiration from The Smiths and My Chemical Romance and mentions that he believes "an artist should rip off 10 artists, not just one or two."

"Songwriting is so visceral to me, and there is only so much that you can control," he says. "I think that my instincts are so informed by those that I listen to and welcome into my songwriting process."

In this process, Williams points out that it is important for him, and by extension, other musicians, to speak out about social issues, noting that different types of media can play a role in creating social and political awareness.

"We are at the intersection of frustration and information right now with the internet," he says.

"A lot of people know more and have access to more information. We can see what is going on in Chile with the protests and can connect with these people around the world and stand in solidarity with them."

"Given my platform, I would be misusing it if I did not speak up for certain people who do not have this platform and are often oppressed otherwise."

Good Will's talent buyer David Schellenberg agrees and says, "now more than ever, young people are getting involved and starting to pay more attention to what is

happening (domestically) and globally."

"So, I think that Brandon does great work in using his artistry to enlighten people of these injustices."

Schellenberg notes that though this is a feat for Brandon, he and other Canadian artists struggle with local support.

"It is hard being an artist from Canada," he says.

"We do not have the population nor culture based around music like New York or Chicago. Canada struggles to keep art-

ists here in the country, and I hear a lot of artists feeling burnt out about playing and touring in Canada."

"We can change that as an audience in coming to the shows, buying merchandise and engaging in their art."

*The Good Will Social Club* is located at 625 Portage Ave., and doors open at 7 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at [showpass.com](http://showpass.com) for \$12.

# LEARNING TO COEXIST WITH COYOTES AND BEAT THE BEETLES

The challenges facing Winnipeg's biodiversity

ALEX NEUFELDT

CITY REPORTER  @ALEXEJNEUFELDT

Not everyone is aware of all the plants, insects and non-human animals that reside in Winnipeg, which is part of why Sustainable Development Manitoba will run several public awareness sessions about coyotes in Winnipeg in the upcoming weeks.

The next session is on Nov. 4. at the Transcona Library.

Janine Stewart, a human-wildlife conflict management biologist with the Government of Manitoba, says, "a lot of people are encountering coyotes for the first time, so they're kind of uncertain of how to respond, what to do, whether we're aware that they are in the city. They seem to need information about what coyote behaviour looks like in the city and how to coexist with them."

"I think some people are aware of the benefits that coyotes bring to urban centres" in their regulation of rabbit, rodent and goose populations.

"We need to learn to coexist with coyotes. They've been adapting to live

in urban environments all across North America over the last 15 to 20 years, so now the onus is kind of on the people who live in those areas to learn how to live in their midst as well, because (the coyotes) are there to stay."

The City of Winnipeg and environmental groups like Trees Winnipeg have worked hard to make sure that there are publicly available resources to help inform decisions that impact Winnipeg ecosystems and what the best choices they can make in their environmental interactions are, but as the city spreads out, resources don't always follow.

Richard Westwood, who teaches urban forestry at the University of Winnipeg, says the City and community groups like Trees Winnipeg have developed good resources for educating people about tree care and neighbourhood biodiversity needs. However, the increase in Dutch elm disease, which Westwood says was held at bay until the 2000s, and the presence of emerald ash borers is taking a toll.

"I think the City's requirements for



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Coyotes help regulate rabbit, rodent and goose populations within the city.

looking after the city's forests have grown exponentially. They have so many more commitments," he says.

Westwood notes that Winnipeg still has a comprehensive and diverse urban forest, which is mostly pretty healthy and good for supporting other organisms. But while trees are important to many neighbourhood's identities and many community groups monitor their health, they aren't always a high priority for the City and compete with things like road development.

Stewart says that Sustainable Devel-

opment Manitoba's plan for educating Manitobans about how to interact with wildlife has three parts: "helping people to understand why we might have conflicts with wildlife, what sort of actions people can do to reduce their risk of conflicts with wildlife and also how to respond appropriately in a wildlife encounter."

*The upcoming Coexisting with Coyotes session will be held at the Transcona Library from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Nov. 4. It is open to the public with no cost to attend.*

# SOCIAL GAMES FOR SOCIAL GOOD

Raising money through new games and old

ALEX NEUFELDT

CITY REPORTER  @ALEXEJNEUFELDT

On Nov. 2, two fundraisers for children's charities will happen with very different types of activities at their centres: Lee-Ann's 5th Annual Pool Tournament to benefit Snowflake Place children's advocacy centre and the Extra-Life Charity Marathon (a worldwide gaming marathon fundraiser for local children's charities), in which Ctrl V Virtual Reality (VR) will take part.

While these two types of games might seem extremely different, the co-ordinators of both local events emphasize that social games tend to work better for fundraising, and both pool and VR meet that criteria.

Robert Fedoruk, the owner of Ctrl V Winnipeg, says that "virtual reality might not seem like it on the surface, but it's a very social activity," with groups of people playing together or sharing a VR setup. Because many people haven't used VR, have used a cheaper version using a phone and cardboard headset or have used someone else's system, people often come to a VR arcade like Ctrl V in groups and are interested in trying out a lot of experiences.

"If you're going to an escape room, you know you're going to do an escape

room," but "you walk into an arcade, you can choose from 50 different games and experiences," he says. "The flexibility is probably the biggest differentiator between some of the other events that are out there."

Lee-Ann Snydal-Bock, the founder of the Pool Tournament for Snowflake Place, says pool has been an important source of community.

"I play pool twice a week. Six years ago, when I started volunteering with Snowflake Place, we were looking for fundraising ideas, and I said 'huh, what about a pool tournament?'" she says. Since then, Snowflake Place has held an annual pool fundraiser. Snydal-Bock says she is also friends with the owner of Crazy 8 Billiards, who donates space.

"It's a good social game," she says. "For most people who join the pool league, it's a social night out."

While both of these activities might be a little intimidating for people who haven't played much pool or haven't used a VR system before, the hosts say fundraisers like these are good chances to learn a little bit about the activities while supporting a good cause.

"Even if you don't play pool, come on out. You'll meet a lot of people, get in on the draws and maybe pique your interest for next year's (tournament)," Snydal-Bock says.

Fedoruk says that for people who haven't tried VR before or who have tried a phone setup and got dizzy or had ver-



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Virtual-reality arcades can be a good way for newcomers or skeptics to experience VR for the first time.

tigo, "the equipment that (Ctrl V) is using is set up in a way that gives you the best experience possible" and the staff can accommodate and tweak things for people who have had bad experiences with VR in the past.

Both fundraisers are also running side activities in addition to their main events. Ctrl V has a side station set up for Beat Saber, a VR rhythm game, for \$5, and Snowflake Place's Pool Tournament

has a silent auction and 50/50 draws.

*Lee-Ann's 5th Annual Pool Tournament takes place at Crazy 8 Billiards and Lounge (42-480 Berry St.) from noon to 10 p.m. on Nov. 2. Register to play at Crazy 8 or by emailing snowflaketournament@gmail.com. The 24-hour Extra-Life Charity Marathon will take place from Nov. 2 to 3 at Ctrl V (G-1045 St. James St.).*

# International health-care plans at the University of Winnipeg

How foreign students and the U of W are coping without Manitoba Health



Erfan Hardanian is an international student studying at the University of Winnipeg.

According to the Bureau of International Education, Canada's global image as a tolerant and non-discriminatory country is what makes it a top destination among foreign students looking to make it their new home. But today, as international students face increasing obstacles and burdens for the duration of their study, Canada's image is not looking as bright in the near future.

When Manitoba's provincial government passed the Health Services Insurances

Act that would repeal access to universal health care for international students in March 2018, universities scrambled to find alternatives to protect their share of students studying on visas. The change to the Health Services Insurances Act came into effect on Sept. 1, 2018 and was estimated to save the province \$3.1 million. Now, more than a year since its implementation, various private insurance agencies have filled that gap across the province, but with a cost.

: continued



Iresha Hewa Wellalage, co-ordinator of the IIRSS

The clause under the Health Services Act that granted international students universal health care was first established in 2012 (by what was then the provincial NDP government) as an incentive for foreign students to consider studying in Manitoba and add to the growth of its economy. According to the Government of Manitoba, international students contribute upwards of \$400 million to the economy through their tuition, labour and “diverse skills and talents.”

The International, Immigrant and Refugee Student Services (IIRSS) provides information to foreign and newcomer students at the University of Winnipeg (U of W) and lists three mandatory health plans based on a student’s duration and area of study.

International students studying on a permit for more than six months are registered under Manitoba Blue Cross and the University of Winnipeg Students’ Association Greenshield Coverage, while students studying in the English Language Program (ELP), Professional, Applied and Continuing Education (PACE) and University of Winnipeg Collegiate students or those who are studying for less than six months are enrolled under the guard.me plan.

Iresha Hewa Wellalage, co-ordinator of the IIRSS, says international students who studied in Manitoba between 2012 and 2018 were “lucky” in that they were able to access free universal health care, as the students before and after them did not.

“Every single student had to pay for private international health care alongside the Greenshield Coverage (before 2012),” she says.

Hewa Wellalage also says “the university paid for the Manitoba Blue Cross portion for the first year after Manitoba

Health was taken away, but now students have to pay for that.”

“This was not the university’s fault. It is a provincial thing, so when the government decided to stop giving coverage to international students, the university was able to at least provide that coverage free of charge for the first year, which was great.”

Now that the U of W is no longer covering this insurance, students pay \$849 per year for Manitoba Blue Cross, along with \$296.28 for the UWSA Greenshield Coverage. Both plans are mandatory for international students, while domestic students can opt out of the UWSA Greenshield and are not automatically enrolled in the Blue Cross program.

“This is to ensure that foreign students are fully covered while in Canada, (because until students) have an emergency, they will not know how much it is going to cost them. Actually, while we were having our soccer tournament, a student got injured, and we had to take him to the hospital, and it cost him over a \$1000. This was not for the treatment, just for the visit. But thankfully, he had the Blue Cross coverage. This made him understand the importance of having health coverage,” Hewa Wellalage says.

The IIRSS has not held any specific workshops for students regarding how to navigate the current health-care plan and system, but they did speak about it to students at orientation.

Hewa Wellalage says that if she were an international student, she would “love” to have this coverage despite the high cost, because she has seen students going through “so many medical issues and problems, especially in the cases of unexpected emergencies.”

## STUDENT PERSPECTIVES

The Canadian Federations of Students’ Manitoba chapter (CFSMB) currently runs the Fairness for International Students campaign, which includes advocating for universal health care for all and describes the repeal as “regressive” and “inhumane.”

On Sept. 4, 2019, CFSMB launched the Health Has No Borders initiative, which took place in the form of a rally in front of the Manitoba Legislative Building. The Facebook event for the rally demanded that “the government work with the regional health authorities to reduce the non-resident health care surcharge back down from 200 per cent to 75 per cent immediately and commit to reinstating funding for international student health care in the 2020-21 provincial budget.”

The campaign has yet to make a difference to the current legislation, and CFSMB’s chairperson, Brenden Gali, didn’t respond to *The Uniter*’s request for comment.

Gourav Kumar, an international student from India who has been in Canada since Aug. 17, 2019, is enrolled under the current mandatory health plan. He was not aware of the new legislation while making plans to study in Winnipeg nor CFSMB’s campaign to rally against it. Kumar thinks that the plan “is too much money for health care” and feels that people “don’t use much of their insurance.”

“I will use it for sure if I go through any medical conditions, but probably only one or two times. The whole \$849 premium is not worth it,” Kumar says.

“A friend of mine (has lived) here (for) one-and-a-half years, and he has only used this insurance three times.”

“We already pay around \$1,700 per

“When the government decided to stop giving coverage to international students, the university was able to at least provide that coverage free of charge for the first year, which was great.”

—Iresha Hewa Wellalage

subject, so it has turned out (to be) over \$8,000 per semester (for a full course load), and then we are also paying an extra \$800 for health insurance, and that just makes it too much,” he says.

“I’ll be glad if the federation succeeds.”

Erfan Hardanian, an international student from Iran who first studied at the University of Winnipeg Collegiate in 2018 before enrolling in a biochemistry undergraduate program at the U of W, has been registered with both the guard.me and Blue Cross plans.

Like many international students, Hardanian overworked himself through the summer to be able to afford international tuition fees, as his visa only permits him to work 20 hours per week during the school year, making the extra \$849 for health care a big burden.

“I haven’t used the insurance once. I didn’t use it once last year, and I haven’t used it once this year,” he says. “I believe they can change it in a way that only students in need can use them, and they could cover international students with some sort of emergency insurance. That’s what I think would be better.”

“A big incentive for me to come here was because the (U of W) was cheap. So, at first, \$800 for insurance wasn’t that big of a deal, because it was still cheaper than many other universities in Canada. But ultimately, students have chosen the (U of W) for its affordability, so adding premiums is not helping anyone.”

Hardanian will be here for another few years as a student and is “not optimistic” about the Progressive Conservative government. International students cannot vote in Canada, so their future on the matter of their tuition and health care is up to eligible voters to decide.



**"A big incentive for me to come here was because the (U of W) was cheap ... at first, \$800 for insurance wasn't that big of a deal, because it was still cheaper than many other universities in Canada. But ultimately, students have chosen the (U of W) for its affordability, so adding premiums is not helping anyone."**

—Erfan Hardanian

#### A NATIONAL ISSUE

Manitoba is not alone when it comes to international students facing increasing burdens with changing governments. During the 2019 federal election, no party gave any specific positions on international tuition and health care. Further, situations like Doug Ford's government in Ontario increasingly cutting off post-secondary funding and making universities more reliant on international students is a prime example of using international students to fill in the decreasing level of government subsidies.

Under the current Manitoba government, international students will now only be eligible for coverage under Manitoba Health once they apply and are accepted for their post-graduate work permit (PGWP), but this process could take months and leave students in limbo.

This is a situation where they neither have their Manitoba Health card nor coverage under private insurance through their educational institutions, due to the long processing times associated with receiving a PGWP.

Private insurance plans like guard.me and Blue Cross run a yearly course, and if a student is found waiting beyond the expiration of their insurance and their PGWP has not arrived yet, they will be left uncovered for that duration of time. This flaw in the system seems to only apply to health care, since international students on an "implied status" awaiting a new permit can still work even if their SIN has expired with their permit.

#### MOVING FORWARD

Ultimately, the issues international students face throughout the province and Canada are complex and vary from student to student. I came to Canada as an international student in 2015 and was covered under Manitoba Health for every year of my undergraduate degree except my last.

Personally, as someone who has struggled with health issues, being covered was imperative to me, and it would be very beneficial to make health plans mandatory, especially in cases of emergencies and repatriation, the second of which is only available to students through private insurance plans. However, the root of the problem could be addressed with the fact that all these decisions made regarding international students are done without them at the table.

International students represent 9.5 per cent of the U of W's student body and 12 per cent of Canada's. They are able to vote in their student union elections and also ones that the Canadian Federation of Students holds, but they are unable to voice their concerns at provincial and federal ballot boxes. It is up to student organizations to both advocate for and represent international students and their interests. This has been successful in the past, such is the case of the 2012 Health Services Insurances Act.

"International students contribute a lot to the economy, and it's about time we are recognized for that," Hardanian says.



"While we were having our soccer tournament, a student got injured, and we had to take him to the hospital, and it cost him over a thousand dollars." - Iresha Hewa Wellalage

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## Winnipeg Transit Master Plan

### Public Engagement Phase Two – Proposed Network Design

Major changes are needed to Winnipeg's transit system to move the most people where they want to go, quickly and reliably. In Phase Two of public engagement for the Winnipeg Transit Master Plan, we are sharing proposals for the future of Winnipeg's transit system based on data about how Winnipeggers move around the city and public input from the first phase of public engagement.

The City of Winnipeg invites you to attend a public event to learn about the proposed network design and share your thoughts to help shape Winnipeg's transit system for the future.

### Workshops

Learn about the proposed network design, ask questions of the project team, and share your feedback. Please RSVP by email to [transitmasterplan@winnipeg.ca](mailto:transitmasterplan@winnipeg.ca)

**Date:** Tuesday, November 5  
**Time:** 10 a.m. – noon  
**Location:** United Way

580 Main St.

**Date:** Wednesday, November 6  
**Time:** 10 a.m. – noon  
**Location:** Forks Market – Room 201

1 Forks Market Rd.

### Community conversations – Let's talk transit

Community conversations will include a presentation of the proposed network design and a facilitated discussion where you can provide your input. Refreshments will be served. Please RSVP by email to [transitmasterplan@winnipeg.ca](mailto:transitmasterplan@winnipeg.ca)

**Date:** Tuesday, November 5  
**Time:** 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.  
**Location:** Barbara Mitchell Resource Centre  
51 Morrow Ave.

\*French language services will be provided.

**Date:** Thursday, November 7  
**Time:** 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.  
**Location:** St. James Civic Centre  
2055 Ness Ave.

**Date:** Tuesday, November 19  
**Time:** 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.  
**Location:** Cindy Klassen Recreation Complex  
999 Sargent Ave.

**Date:** Wednesday, November 20  
**Time:** Noon – 2 p.m.  
**Location:** Win Gardner Place  
363 McGregor St.

### Drop-in events

Join us at a drop-in event to learn about the proposed changes and share your feedback.

**Date:** Saturday, November 16  
**Time:** 10 a.m. – noon  
**Location:** Kildonan Place  
1555 Regent Ave. West

**Date:** Saturday, November 16  
**Time:** 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.  
**Location:** Grant Park Shopping Centre  
1120 Grant Ave.

**Date:** Wednesday, November 20  
**Time:** 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.  
**Location:** St. Vital Centre  
1225 St. Mary's Rd.

**Date:** Saturday, November 23  
**Time:** 10 a.m. – noon  
**Location:** Garden City Shopping Centre  
2305 McPhillips St.

For inquiries or for those who require alternate formats or interpretation in order to participate, please contact [transitmasterplan@winnipeg.ca](mailto:transitmasterplan@winnipeg.ca)

For more information, visit us online at: [winnipeg.ca/transitmasterplan](http://winnipeg.ca/transitmasterplan)





# CANADIANS ELECT LIBERAL MINORITY GOVERNMENT

Climate change top issue among young people

CALLUM GOULET-KILGOUR

CAMPUS REPORTER @CGOULETKILGOUR

On Oct. 21, Canadians elected a Liberal minority government, giving Prime Minister Justin Trudeau a second term. His new cabinet will be unveiled on Nov. 20.

Many Manitoban elected members of Parliament (MPs) have ties to the University of Winnipeg (U of W). Daniel Blaikie (Elmwood-Transcona), Jim Carr (Winnipeg South Centre), Leah Gazan (Winnipeg Centre) and Kevin Lamoureux (Winnipeg North) are alumni of the U of W or the U of W Collegiate. Furthermore, Carr, Terry Duguid (Winnipeg South) and Gazan have been employees of the university.

Gazan, elected in the riding in which the U of W is located, says in an email to *The Uniter* that she will be “forever thankful” for her time at the U of W working in the Faculty of Education.

“It was the bold support I was granted by the faculty, including academic leaves, that allowed me to actively engage in community advocacy,” she says.

“At this critical time, I think it’s important for post-secondary institutions to support staff and students to fight for

a better world,” the newly-elected NDP representative says.

When asked about her take on the biggest issues facing Canadian youth and post-secondary students, Gazan mentions “precarious work, inadequate amounts of affordable social housing, transportation, student debt and the climate emergency.”

According to a recent Ipsos poll, climate change was the most important ballot-box issue for Canadians aged 18 to 34, with 29 per cent of respondents ranking it as their No. 1 concern. Health care (28 per cent), affordability and cost of living (27 per cent) and taxes (24 per cent) closely followed.

During the campaign, the Liberal Party made promises about climate change that included a vow to plant two billion trees over 10 years, plans to invest profits from the Trans Mountain Expansion Project (a pipeline expansion widely criticized by environmentalists) in “Canada’s clean energy transition” and a goal of achieving net-zero emissions by 2050.

Gazan, however, says that “it is time that the federal government divest from corporate welfare and instead invest in people and a Green New Deal and a just transition,” referring to moving away from reliance on fossil fuels.

Future Majority, a nonpartisan orga-



SUPPLIED PHOTO

The recent federal election results leave many unanswered questions surrounding the issues that matter to young voters.

nization, says that Canadians aged 18 to 37 made up the largest portion of the electorate for the first time since 1868. Nevertheless, voter turnout among young people has, in the past, been lower than other age groups.

Jackson Anderson, a U of W student and president of the U of W History Students Association, says in an email to *The Uniter* that any strategy aimed at increas-

ing youth turnout needs to address the fact that many people from marginalized communities feel they are underrepresented in Canadian politics.

Total voter turnout for this election was 65.95 per cent. No data is yet available for voter turnout by demographic group.

## CITY BRIEFS

LISA MIZAN // CITY EDITOR

@LISA\_MIZAN

### Thrive Week

Thrive Week will take place on the University of Winnipeg campus from Nov. 4 to 8. There will be various wellness-themed events to help the U of W community “thrive.” Activities will mostly take place in Riddell Hall and the Centennial Auditorium and include meditation, mindfulness exercises, mental health awareness events, career and academic advising and game nights.

### Introduction to Bluegrass

The Manitoba Conservatory of Music and Arts (MCMA) on the U of W campus will offer a class called “Introduction to Bluegrass” in the form of four workshops running on Saturdays from Nov. 2 to 23. The classes will cover a variety of bluegrass tunes and ensemble playing. The instructors are Ed Byard, Jim Hildred and Zohreh Gervais. The cost is \$90 for four weeks or \$30 for single sessions.

### Winter Storm Benefit Concert

The Winter Storm Benefit Concert will take place on Thursday, Nov. 3 at the Pyramid Cabaret. The community fundraiser exists to enhance community resilience in handling emergencies, especially during the cold and harsh winter months in Winnipeg. The event is pay-what-you-can, and cheques can be made payable to the Southern Chiefs Organization with “2019 Winter Storm Emergency Fund Relief” in the memo line.

### Radicalism-Driven Violent Extremism

The talk “Radicalism Driven Violent Extremism: In Search of a Pedagogical Model for Conflict Transformation” will happen on Wednesday, Nov. 20 from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. in Room 2C15 (Centennial Hall). Dr. Kawser Ahmed will provide perspectives on combating hate in the current political climate and innovative solutions to counter radicalism. The talk will take an interdisciplinary approach between political science and global studies.

### Canadian Transplant Games

Winnipeg will hold the Canadian Transplant Games for the first time ever next summer. The competition offers platforms to Canadian organ and tissue transplant recipients from all ages and walks of life to engage in athletic activities. Mayor Brian Bowman was present to offer his support at the official kickoff on Oct. 28, alongside Thomas Miles of the Winnipeg Blue Bombers.

### Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU) Canada launches campaign

On the first anniversary of the closure of Greyhound services, the ATU is launching a new campaign which will call on the federal government to create intercity public transit. Speakers include journalist Emily Leedham and Tom Lindsey, MLA of Flin Flon. The event will take place on Thursday, Oct. 31 at 10:30 a.m. in Winnipeg (Union Centre, 275 Broadway) and 2 p.m. in Brandon at the previous Greyhound Terminal (141 6th St.).

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# DR. SAMIR GANDESHA TO GIVE PUBLIC LECTURES

Topics range from identity politics to free speech

CALLUM GOULET-KILGOUR

CAMPUS REPORTER @CGOULETKILGOUR

Dr. Samir Gandesha, director of the Institute for Humanities at Simon Fraser University, will give three public lectures at the University of Winnipeg (U of W) next week.

Dr. Gandesha's lectures are entitled "Identity Politics: A Fanonian Critique" (Nov. 4 from 12:30 to 2:20 p.m.), "The Political Rhetoric and Social Psychology of the Authoritarian Populist: 'A Composite of King Kong and a Suburban Barber'" (Nov. 4 from 7 to 9 p.m.) and "Free Speech and its Discontents on Campus" (Nov. 5 from 10 to 11:15 a.m.).

These events are organized by the political science department and co-sponsored by the criminal justice and philosophy departments.

Dr. Gandesha says in an email to *The Uniter* that his lecture on free speech "looks at the claims and counterclaims surrounding the supposed crisis of free speech on campus."

"My claim is that the pressure on free speech and academic freedom have less to do with censorship than the structural transformations of universities over the

past few decades," he says.

However, he claims there have been many cases where individuals "who may cause offence or may complicate simplistic ideas and positions" have been "shut down."

This, according to Dr. Gandesha, is "symptomatic of a general scepticism directed at reasoned argumentation and debate which ultimately stems from a dismissal of Enlightenment universalism and the revolutions to which it gave rise."

Dr. Matthew Flisfeder, associate professor in the Department of Rhetoric, Writing and Communications at the U of W, believes that it is "inaccurate to say that campuses are these major spaces of censorship."

In an email to *The Uniter*, he says it sometimes looks like academics "fighting for social justice are against free speech and free expression," which he thinks "couldn't be further from the truth."

"We are not against free speech. We are against racism. We are against sexism," Dr. Flisfeder says.

He says "Dr. Gandesha's talks on these topics are timely and appropriate to our situation today.

"It's only by debating ideas that we can



Dr. Samir Gandesha will give three public lectures at the U of W in early November.

SUPPLIED PHOTO

inform ourselves about the problems, contradictions and flaws that do exist in our society and the factors that may be involved in blocking us from realizing our goals for equality and freedom," Dr. Flisfeder says.

"Guest speakers bring in new and perhaps unrealized perspectives that can add to the conversation, both for faculty and for students."

Dr. Gandesha says giving lectures such as these is one of the "best things" about his job.

"Being able to speak to colleagues, stu-

dents and members of the public in different locations throughout the world is an excellent reminder of the productive tension between universalism of concepts and ideas and the particularism of local contexts, concerns and vernaculars," he says.

*For more information on Dr. Gandesha's lecture, visit [uwinnipeg.ca/political-science-speaker-series.html](http://uwinnipeg.ca/political-science-speaker-series.html).*



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
WINNIPEG

## Student Services

### ACADEMIC & CAREER SERVICES

#### UManitoba Medical School Information Session

Mon., Nov. 4  
7:00-8:30 p.m.  
Room 1L12

### AWARDS & FINANCIAL AID

#### Indigenous Youth

Indspire Awards disburse funds to Indigenous youth across Canada, covering all disciplines in funding categories in post-secondary education. Those who apply are considered for all Indspire awards including the University of Winnipeg/Indspire Indigenous Award. Go to [uwinnipeg.ca/awards](http://uwinnipeg.ca/awards) and click on "Indigenous Students."

Deadline: Fri., Nov. 1

#### On-campus Part-time Jobs

UWinnipeg's Work-Study Program provides on-campus part-time job opportunities for full-time students with financial need. These jobs are available from October to March. Various faculty and administrative departments participate in this program so there is a broad range of jobs from which to choose. Apply now for the best selection! Go to [uwinnipeg.ca/awards](http://uwinnipeg.ca/awards) and click on "Work Study Program."

Deadline: Fri., Dec. 6

### ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROGRAM

#### One-on-One Tutoring

The English Language Program at UWinnipeg offers one-on-one tutoring in IELTs preparation, speaking, pronunciation, essay writing, reading, listening, grammar and vocabulary. Please contact [s.poole@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:s.poole@uwinnipeg.ca) for more information.

#### Wanted: Volunteer Language Partners

Language partners are fluent English-speaking volunteers who give English as an Additional Language (EAL) students a chance to practice English outside of the classroom and learn more about the Canadian way of life.

This volunteer opportunity is a great way to learn about other cultures, help other students and gain practical experience for careers in teaching, international relations, or tourism.

To volunteer, please call 204.982.1151, email [elpstudentlife@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:elpstudentlife@uwinnipeg.ca) or stop by office 1C18 to apply today.

#### EXCHANGE OPPORTUNITIES

#### Information Session

If you are thinking about going on an exchange, please join us for an information session:

Wed., Nov. 13  
12:30-2:10 p.m.  
Room 2M70

You can also visit our website at [uwinnipeg.ca/study-abroad](http://uwinnipeg.ca/study-abroad) or drop in to the Exchange Opportunities Resource Area, 2nd floor, Rice Centre, 2Ri55, Mon - Fri, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Note: The main deadline to apply is March 1. Those applying for University of Bamberg should apply by Jan. 17.

#### INTERNATIONAL, IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE STUDENT SERVICES (IIRSS)

#### International Cultural Day

Join us for this annual celebration of world cultures as students, staff, and community members showcase their heritage through dance, music, food, and cultural displays:

Thurs., Nov. 7  
5:30-8:30 p.m.  
Bulman Student Centre  
Admission is free.

#### STUDENT CENTRAL

#### myVisit App

Need to see an academic advisor for a 10-minute drop-in session? You can now add yourself to the lines at Student Central, Campus Living, or Academic & Career Services virtually! Download the myVisit app today. The myVisit app allows students to check the queues, add themselves to a line, or book an appointment with an academic or career advisor. Appointments with advisors can be booked through [www.myvisit.com](http://www.myvisit.com) as well.

#### Undergraduate Tuition Fees

Fees for U2019F and U2019FW were due Sept. 19. Please see Student Central immediately to discuss if you have not paid your fees yet.

#### Dropping Courses

The last day to drop a U2019F class is Nov. 12. No refund is applicable.

The final day to withdraw from a U2019FW class for 50% refund of the base tuition, UWSA, and UWSA Building Fund fees is Nov. 28. No refund is applicable from Nov. 29 - Feb. 14.

#### STUDENT RECORDS

#### Graduation

Finishing your last courses in December? Interested in graduating in absentia in February? (You may attend the convocation ceremony in June.) The deadline to apply for February graduation is:

Fri., Nov. 1

To apply for graduation, go to the "Student Planning/Registration" link on WebAdvisor. Click on the "Graduation" tab and complete the form.

#### Letter of Permission

Are you planning to take a course at another accredited institution in the Winter Term 2020? If you would like to receive credit, please complete a Letter of Permission Application Form by:

Fri., Nov. 15

For more information, please go to: [uwinnipeg.ca/student-records](http://uwinnipeg.ca/student-records) and click on "Letter of Permission"

#### STUDENT WELLNESS

#### Thrive Week

November 4 - 8

Join us for a week filled with wellness-focused events to help you Thrive at UWinnipeg!

Connect to all 7 dimensions of wellness including: spiritual; emotional; career/financial; physical; intellectual; environmental; and social/cultural.

Tables with information and activities will be in Riddell Atrium and in Centennial Hall (near the escalators) as well as around campus.

Check out posters and our website: [uwinnipeg.ca/thrive](http://uwinnipeg.ca/thrive)

# PROFILE



PHOTO BY KEELEY BRAUNSTEIN-BLACK

## PHIL BAKER

INSTRUCTOR, ACCESS EDUCATION, U OF W

AMOL SAMRA

FEATURES REPORTER  @SAMRAAMOL

Phil Baker is an instructor for the Access Education programs at the University of Winnipeg (U of W). This is his 50th year as an educator.

"I've taught for 31 years in the public school system. I worked as a teacher, school psychologist, special education co-ordinator and principal," he says.

After his time in public schools, Baker joined the U of W in 2000 as an instructor and academic advisor in Access Education. He was soon appointed as the executive director of the department.

During his time at the U of W, Baker developed the Community-based Aboriginal Teacher Education program, Immigrant Teacher Education program and the Winnipeg Education Centre program. With curriculums like these, Baker aims to pave paths forward for disadvantaged communities, immigrants, innercity students and Indigenous groups.

"We try to make a difference in people's lives," he says.

In 2013, he was given the Marsha Hanen Award for Excellence in Creating Community Awareness for his efforts in

providing opportunities through education to Indigenous communities, marginalized groups and disadvantaged people.

"I've always been interested in students of all ages. The WEC (Winnipeg Education Centre) program is 50 per cent Indigenous, 25 per cent newcomers and 25 per cent low-income students," Baker says.

He shares a connection with his students and stays committed to his role as an instructor. Though he's been a teacher for 50 years, he says he still learns a lot from his students.

"I've learnt how strong my students are," he says. "If I had the issues they've had, I wouldn't be able to function. These are stories of resilience and how they overcome."

Through his teaching and programs, Baker continually urges and motivates his students to grow and excel.

"Everybody needs opportunities. I call my students in the Access programs diamonds in the rough. With opportunities and a little bit of polishing, they shine and do remarkably well," he says.

### WHAT WAS YOUR WORST GRADE IN UNIVERSITY?

"It was in chemistry. I got a C. I am an arts teacher and found out quickly that science is not for me."

### WHAT IS ONE PIECE OF ADVICE YOU'D LIKE TO GIVE TO YOUR STUDENTS? "Have a dream (and) pursue it. It might be hard, but keep trying. It will be worth it."



# WRITE FOR US!

NEXT  
ORIENTATION  
NOV. 6, 5 TO  
6 P.M.

## The Uniter is seeking writers.

Are you looking to develop your writing style or develop a portfolio? Writing for *The Uniter* is a fun and collaborative opportunity to grow your journalistic or creative writing skills and a chance to see your work in print!

We send out story lists to volunteers on a weekly basis, or you can pitch your own ideas. You can write as often as you like - weekly, biweekly, monthly, once or twice a year - it's up to you. Writers can be students or community members.

All new writers are required to attend a volunteer orientation to learn more about the paper.

**See [uniter.ca/volunteer](http://uniter.ca/volunteer) for a full schedule of orientations. The next orientation is Nov. 6 from 5 to 6 p.m. in ORM 14 in the Bulman Centre at the University of Winnipeg.**



# VOTE FOR YOUR FAVOURITES



## The Uniter year end readers poll 2019 is here!

It's back! The Uniter readers poll aims to put the spotlight on your favourite local people, places and things of 2019 - and we do stress LOCAL. Anything non-local (or non-2019) will not be counted.

We want to make this list as inclusive as possible, just like the rest of the paper, so we ask that you please write an answer for each of the 30 categories - but if you don't have an answer, feel free to write "N/A" or "I dunno" to fill the spot.

Ballots will be considered spoiled if they contain blank spaces, or if they contain any derogatory, homophobic, misogynistic, racist or libellous content. Let's keep it positive! Remember, you're voting for your favourites.

### 1. Favourite local writer (includes playwrights, poets, journalists etc.)

### 2. Favourite local athlete

### 3. Favourite local comedian

### 4. Favourite local filmmaker

### 5. Favourite local activist

### 6. Favourite local photographer

### 7. Favourite local visual artist

### 8. Favourite local dancer

### 9. Favourite local DJ

### 10. Favourite local politician

### 11. Favourite local baker

### 12. Favourite local chef

### 13. Favourite local achiever under 30

### 14. Favourite local achiever over 60

### 15. Favourite local social media presence / content creator

### 16. Favourite local grassroots community group

### 17. Favourite new local place to eat or drink (opened in 2018 or 2019)

### 18. Favourite new independent business (opened in 2019)

### 19. Favourite public gathering place

### 20. Favourite local gallery or artist centre

### 21. Favourite local establishment that no longer exists

### 22. Favourite local performance of 2019 (includes music, theatre, performance art, etc.)

### 23. Favourite local radio show or podcast

### 24. Favourite local independent publication (that's not The Uniter)

### 25. Favourite local public art piece

### 26. Favourite local album of 2019

### 27. Favourite University of Winnipeg prof

### 28. Favourite activity to do on a date

### 29. Favourite Winnipeg winter activity

### 30. Favourite political moment

**VOTING DEADLINE IS NOV. 7 AT NOON, 2019 WITH WINNERS BEING ANNOUNCED IN THE NOV. 28 ISSUE OF THE UNITER.**

TO SUBMIT YOUR VOTES, FILL OUT THIS FORM AND DROP IT OFF IN THE UNITER MAILBOX, ROOM ORM14, AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG,  
**OR CHECK OUT UNITER.CA/UNITER30 TO VOTE ONLINE.**

# THE IVORY TOWER, THE VAST AND THE AIMLESS

Post-secondary institutions need to prioritize employment outcomes, or else the free market will

HALEY PAULS

COMMENTS EDITOR

Economic factors are significantly impacting the lives of post-secondary graduates in Canada.

If universities do not begin to prioritize the employment outcomes of their graduates, allocate funding accordingly and carve out a space for meaningful work experiences, then it seems as though post-secondary graduates in Canada are at risk of having their careers determined by capitalist market forces and the laws of supply and demand.

Statistical analysis of the labour market in Canada is pointing more and more toward the fact that a university degree does not necessarily lead to work in a related field. Accordingly, the youth unemployment rate in Canada is 11.2 per cent as of January 2019, which Scott Stirrett and Parm Gill write in the *Globe and Mail* is “nearly double the national average.”

And this is not because young people in Canada are uneducated. Youth unemployment probably has more to do with the fact that the national mindset has not quite caught up with the economic realities Canada is facing. Stirrett and Gill write that “there is increasing feedback from employers that graduates are lacking the skills they need.”

A 2018 Statistics Canada analysis found that about 18 per cent of all Canadian youth between the ages of 24 and 34 who have a university degree are working jobs that require a high-school education or less.

This number drastically increases to about 39 per cent for newcomer youth who hold university degrees from outside the United States or Canada. Though university education is increasingly promoted as being for everyone, it

remains valued primarily along Eurocentric and exclusive lines and does not necessarily translate into work in a desired field.

At the same time, college and polytechnic programs, many of which have extremely high post-grad employment rates, remain stigmatized.

Ken Coates writes in an article for CBC that “far too few Canadian families take time to examine the alternatives” and instead “have accepted the mantra about the extraordinary value of a university degree.” In fact, Canada boasts a number of high-quality polytechs and colleges that prepare students rigorously for specific fields of employment. Some of these programs are actually much harder to get into than university.

Ultimately, both universities and colleges offer invaluable forms of education and provide students with increased chances of employment and financial success. Although employment outcomes are sometimes more obscured in academic disciplines (such as the humanities, social sciences and abstract science and math), students with bachelor’s degrees still “make on average an additional \$25,000 dollars per year compared to high school graduates,” write Stirrett and Gill.

Fighting for equitable education and ensuring the success of graduates working in Canada requires action on a number of fronts. Though access to a university education should be nationally prioritized, universities should also increasingly work to emphasize career counselling and employment outcomes. Work must also be done to de-stigmatize the advanced college and polytechnic programs that are available in Canada.



ILLUSTRATION BY GABRIELLE FUNK

Debunking the elitist ivory tower mythologies does not mean resolving post-secondary education to the ebbs and flows of free-market capitalism or only funding programs that lead directly to economically beneficial careers.

If universities are to remain relevant, they must find ways to foster and fund campus environments that connect students to meaningful employment opportunities.

Work must be done to develop uni-

versities and colleges alike as spaces of dialogue, where students are supported to explore their options, get work experience and vet their options, regardless of the programs they are in.

*Haley Pauls is a writer, editor and academic working in the fields of cultural studies and communications. She is based out of Winnipeg, located on Treaty 1 territory.*

## THE UNITER IS SEEKING VOLUNTEER ILLUSTRATORS

Are you an emerging illustrator?  
Do you want to see your work published and distributed across the city?  
For more info, contact Talia at creative@uniter.ca.

# THE COLUMN



## FEEDING DIASPORA

Embodying resistance:  
Feminist killjoys at the table

CHRISTINA HAJJAR

COLUMNIST  @GARBAGEBAGPRINCESS

What do you think of when you think of tables? Does the physicality of being seated at a table invoke memories of shared meals? Leisure? Meetings? Work? Your imagined self at a table is always characterized by context: where you are, who you are with and why.

At work or at family dinners, we often find ourselves spending time with people who hold different political views, values, boundaries and communication styles. When faced with a remark that is ignorant or oppressive, feminists are forced to decide how they will respond.

Writer and independent scholar Sara Ahmed coined the term “feminist killjoy” to describe experiences such as this, where a feminist who calls someone in (or out) is seen as disruptive and as killer of joy.

Ahmed’s equation “rolling eyes = feminist pedagogy” describes the looks and eye rolls we get for speaking out or for simply being known to be feminist.

During Ahmed’s Winnipeg lecture on Oct. 3, 2019, and in her most recent book, *Living a Feminist Life*, she describes the

consequences of complaint. By exposing a problem, the killjoy then becomes the problem themselves, she explains.

It is as if people think feminists are oppositional or argumentative for the sake of it. Feminists of colour “do not have to say anything to cause tension,” Ahmed adds, manifesting into racist experiences in both mainstream and feminist/queer spaces.

In institutions, “some, more than others, are at home in these gatherings,” Ahmed says. Being a feminist killjoy is a disorienting feeling, because of the ostracization that is felt as a consequence. Being a queer or trans diasporic killjoy of colour is even more difficult because of the way it amplifies vulnerability and risk, as well as feelings of alienation and displacement.

Because sharing meals is so often a tool of resiliency for diasporic people, it can be devastating to feel misunderstood or misaligned with your family at a dinner. Ahmed describes the way feminists are experienced as disruptive: “another meal ruined” and “another meeting ruined.”

To be a feminist killjoy is to make personal sacrifices for our values when we can afford to. This is necessary if we are to disrupt systems of power. We must do the work around the table, in the spaces we already occupy, behind closed doors.

Diaspora is characterized by a sense of fragmentation and void. However, diaspora is also characterized by gestures of reaching toward: gestures that carve out spaces of belonging, that challenge ourselves and others and that nurture

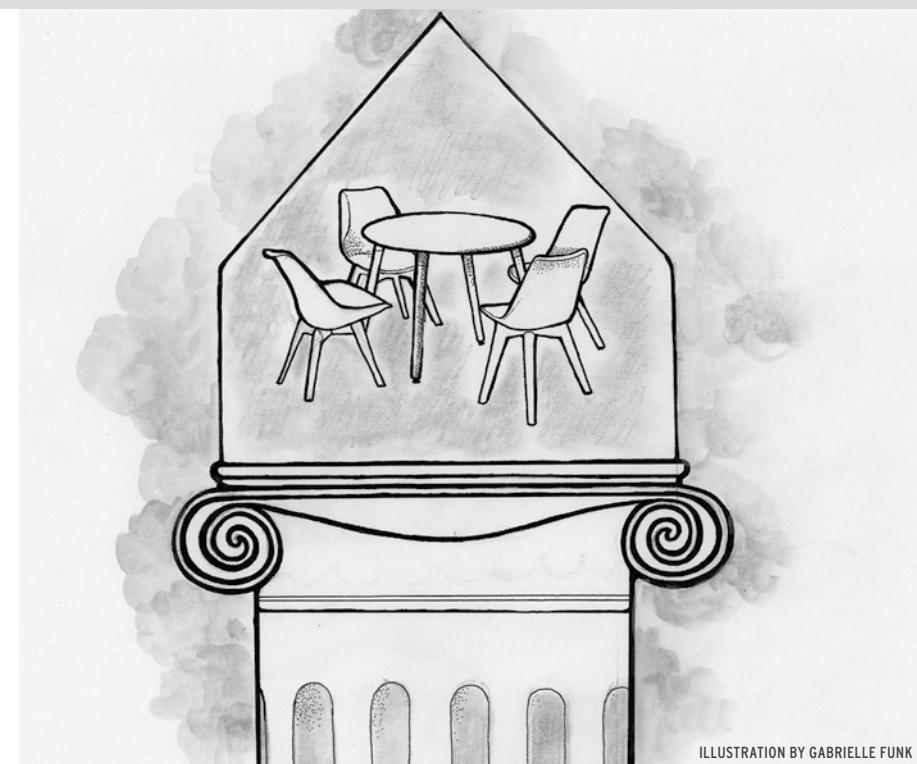


ILLUSTRATION BY GABRIELLE FUNK

intimacies of hope.

For queer and trans killjoys of colour, to feed diaspora is to learn about ourselves in relation to space and place.

Ahmed leaves me with the hope that to be inquisitive – to transform our pain into questions – is a powerful form of resistance. We embody resistance when we roll our eyes, when we turn to art and writing to find (and create) ourselves, when we sit around difficult tables and decide how to react.

When killjoys gather, the table becomes a different site of resistance – one of nourishment.

Though not without its own conflict, the killjoy gathering is more focused on

listening, affirming and uplifting one another. When queer and trans killjoys of colour do this, we create fragments of home and belonging. The table itself is subverted, making way for resiliency, kinship and solidarity.

*Christina Hajjar is a first-generation Lebanese-Canadian pisces dyke ghanouj with a splash of tender-loving rose water and a spritz of existential lemon, served on ice, baby. Catch her art, writing and organizing at christinahajjar.com or @garbagebagprincess.*

## CITY ROOTS

‘We must have trees’

KATHRYN BOSCHMANN

COLUMNIST

Over the past year, I have been learning about the history of colonialism on the prairies, and I have begun to wonder: how do trees fit into the early settler vision for the plains?

Most of the prairie surrounding Winnipeg before European settlement would have been treeless, largely due to dryness (although there would have been the occasional bluff in spots with more moisture) and because of prairie fires. Fires before European settlement occurred naturally but were also regularly set and controlled by local Indigenous communities. As bison and deer were vital to Indigenous ways of life, maintaining and even expanding prairie habitats was extremely important.

Along the rivers grew ash, basswood, elm and Manitoba maples. However, with the establishment of the Red River Colony in 1812 came the increasing need for lumber and firewood.

In 1840, Isobel G. Finlayson, wife of the Hudson’s Bay Company governor of Assiniboia stationed at Upper Fort Garry, recounted her journey to the Red River Colony in her memoir. She recalled the small homes of poorer settlers, describing them as “invariably situated on the banks of the river and all (having) a cold and naked appearance, as scarcely a tree or shrub has been left standing near them.”

The lack of greenery along the river seems to have been an ongoing issue. Thirty-six years later, a contributor to the *Manitoba Free Press* expressed concern about rapid erosion around the Red River and suggested the planting of willows to shore up the banks.

Articles from the *Free Press* during the 1870s and ’80s make it clear that European settlers had a very different vision for the prairies compared to that of Indigenous people. Rather than a vast grassland full of grazing animals, settlers envisioned neatly ordered farmlands with plenty of trees.

This is evident in the regular encouragement published by the *Free Press* for Manitoba farmers to plant trees, along with advice on how best to do so. Trees on a farm were viewed as a sign of an industrious farmer who was ready to alter the landscape in order to better suit their needs. One journalist praised these settlers, saying “These are the right sort of men. They mean business.”

While prairie fires were useful tools for Indigenous communities on the plains, European settlers viewed them as purely destructive, with one commentator bemoaning that “their constant recurrence prevents the land from being clothed with timber.” Another article recommended planting trees to act as a barrier against fires and argued that the enjoyable presence of trees would also “create a popular desire to preserve them, and will thus lend to renewed vigilance on the part of all concerned.”

Interestingly, this same article, entitled “How to prevent prairie fires,” went on to encourage city dwellers to plant trees as well, but for different reasons. While trees in rural areas were seen as a resource and a sign of civilization, trees in city spaces were valued primarily for their beauty and shade.

The Winnipeg city council was eager for inhabitants to grow trees, introducing a bylaw in 1874 that offered a \$1 reward per tree



ILLUSTRATION BY GABRIELLE FUNK

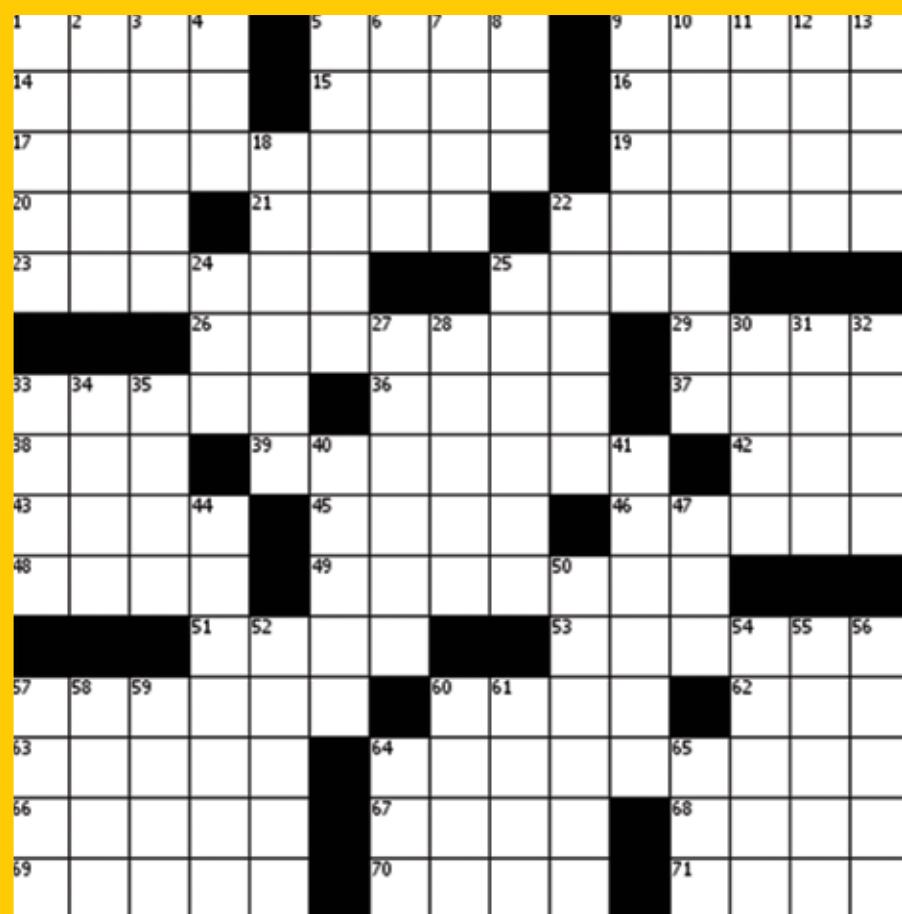
planted. However, as a *Free Press* reporter noted in exasperation, few city dwellers had taken advantage of this reward as of 1887. They advised their readers that “(if) Winnipeg is ever to be made a highly attractive and beautiful city, this must be done. If we are to have any protection from the sunlight which beats down upon our pavements and thoroughfares in the summertime, we must have trees.”

Indeed, “we must have trees” seems to have been the general attitude of settlers on the prairies during the late 19th century.

Trees became both a sign of a successful settlement and a marker of a beautiful city, and the landscape of the plains would be significantly altered to fit this vision.

*Kathryn Boschmann is a doctoral student in the history department at Concordia University whose research focuses on the relationship between religious communities and Indigenous activism in Winnipeg. She was born and raised in Manitoba and has made Winnipeg her home.*

# DIVERSIONS



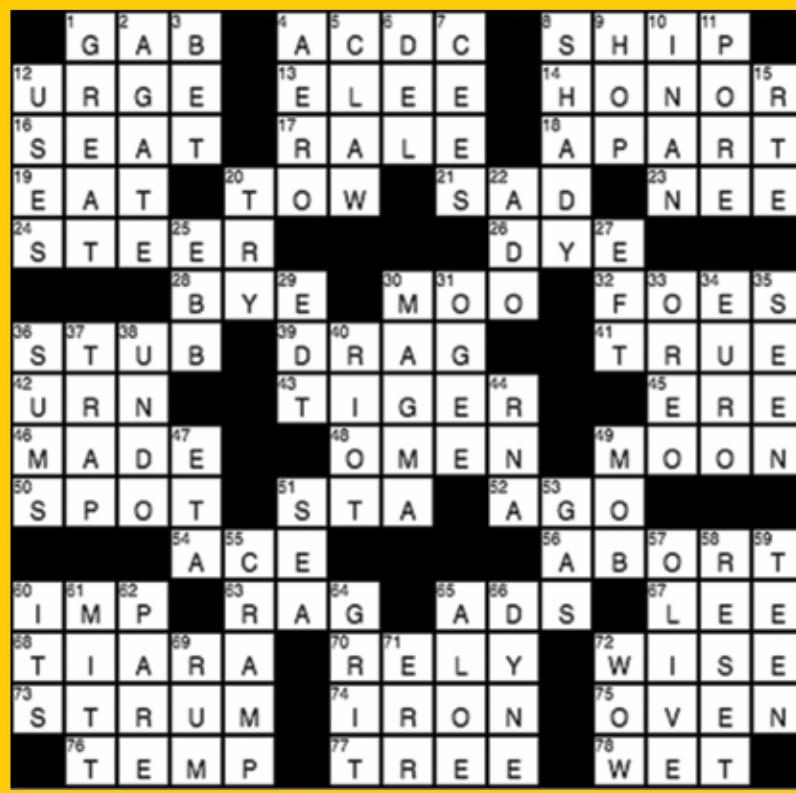
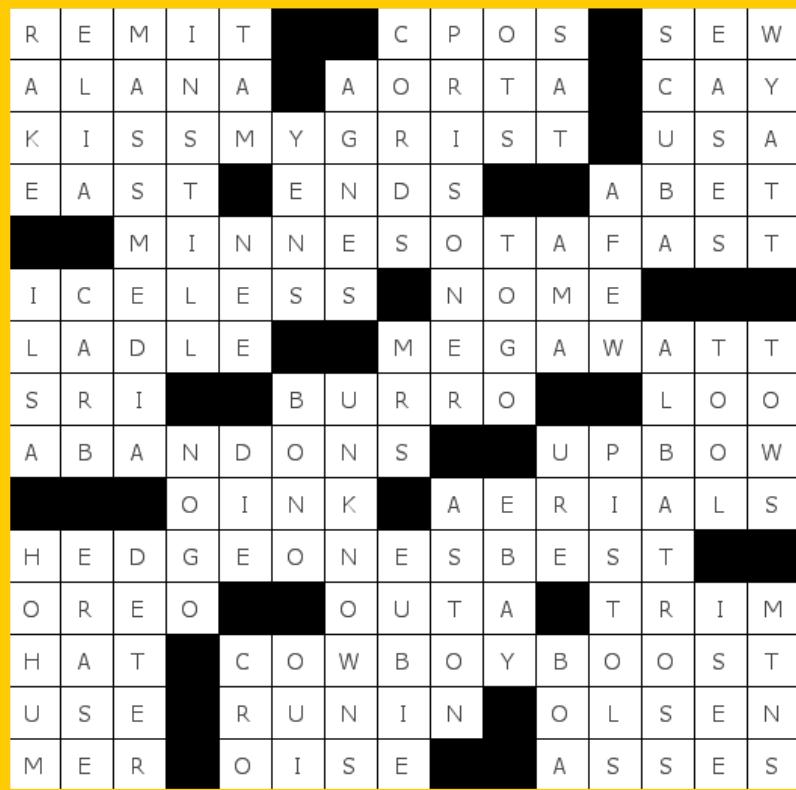
## ACROSS

- |                            |                             |                        |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. ATTIRE                  | 26. CHEWY CANDY             | 51. LINCOLN AND VIGODA |
| 5. CONNECTING WORDS        | 29. ADVANTAGE               | 53. EXPAND             |
| 9. TYPE OF POPLAR          | 33. SUGARY                  | 57. HI-FI SYSTEM       |
| 14. SHARPEN                | 36. LETTERMAN'S RIVAL       | 60. PLOT               |
| 15. ORDERLY                | 37. GAMBLING CITY           | 62. PAVING MATERIAL    |
| 16. BACKBONE               | 38. MOUTH PART              | 63. WIPE OUT           |
| 17. SOUTH AMERICAN COUNTRY | 39. EATING AWAY             | 64. BEGIN              |
| 19. SMOOTH WOOD            | 42. BIG BOY                 | 66. PRYING BAR         |
| 20. PERCEIVE               | 43. GUITARIST ___ CLAPTON   | 67. NAUGHT             |
| 21. SHE, IN NICE           | 45. CLEVELAND'S LOCALE      | 68. A BALDWIN BROTHER  |
| 22. SLIGHTEST              | 46. GIVES FORTH             | 69. OGLES              |
| 23. INFURIATE              | 48. ART ___ ('20S MOVEMENT) | 70. CERTAIN POEMS      |
| 25. BECOMES FIRM           | 49. YARN CRAFT              | 71. CHEEKY             |

## DOWN

- |                             |                                  |                                 |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Run after                | 25. 12th-grader                  | 55. Spud                        |
| 2. Sophia ___               | 27. Oahu greetings               | 56. Build                       |
| 3. Wrath                    | 28. Army doctor                  | 57. Vend                        |
| 4. Fourth letter            | 30. ___ Moore of "Ghost"         | 58. Wood source                 |
| 5. Deer's horn              | 31. Bothersome insect            | 59. Roof projection             |
| 6. Astronaut ___ Armstrong  | 32. Ages and ages                | 60. Goad                        |
| 7. Copenhagen resident      | 33. Winter vehicle               | 61. Draw the ___                |
| 8. Train terminal (abbr.)   | 34. Electrical cord              | 64. Lennon's spouse             |
| 9. Plus                     | 35. Long story                   | 65. Short snoozee               |
| 10. More thinly distributed | 40. Juliet's beloved             | 53. Words of comprehension      |
| 11. Cone-bearing tree       | 41. Zodiac twins                 | 54. Chain components, for short |
| 12. Finishes                | 44. Less refined                 | 56. ___-Magnon                  |
| 13. Bird's home             | 47. ___ Gibson of "Braveheart!"  | 57. Avignon assent              |
| 18. Deny                    | 50. Old sayings                  | 58. Feathered wrap              |
| 22. Cantaloupe, e.g.        | 52. Malt brews                   |                                 |
| 24. Top card                | 54. "___ of Two Cities" (2 wds.) |                                 |

## SOLUTION TO ISSUE 73-07 PUZZLES



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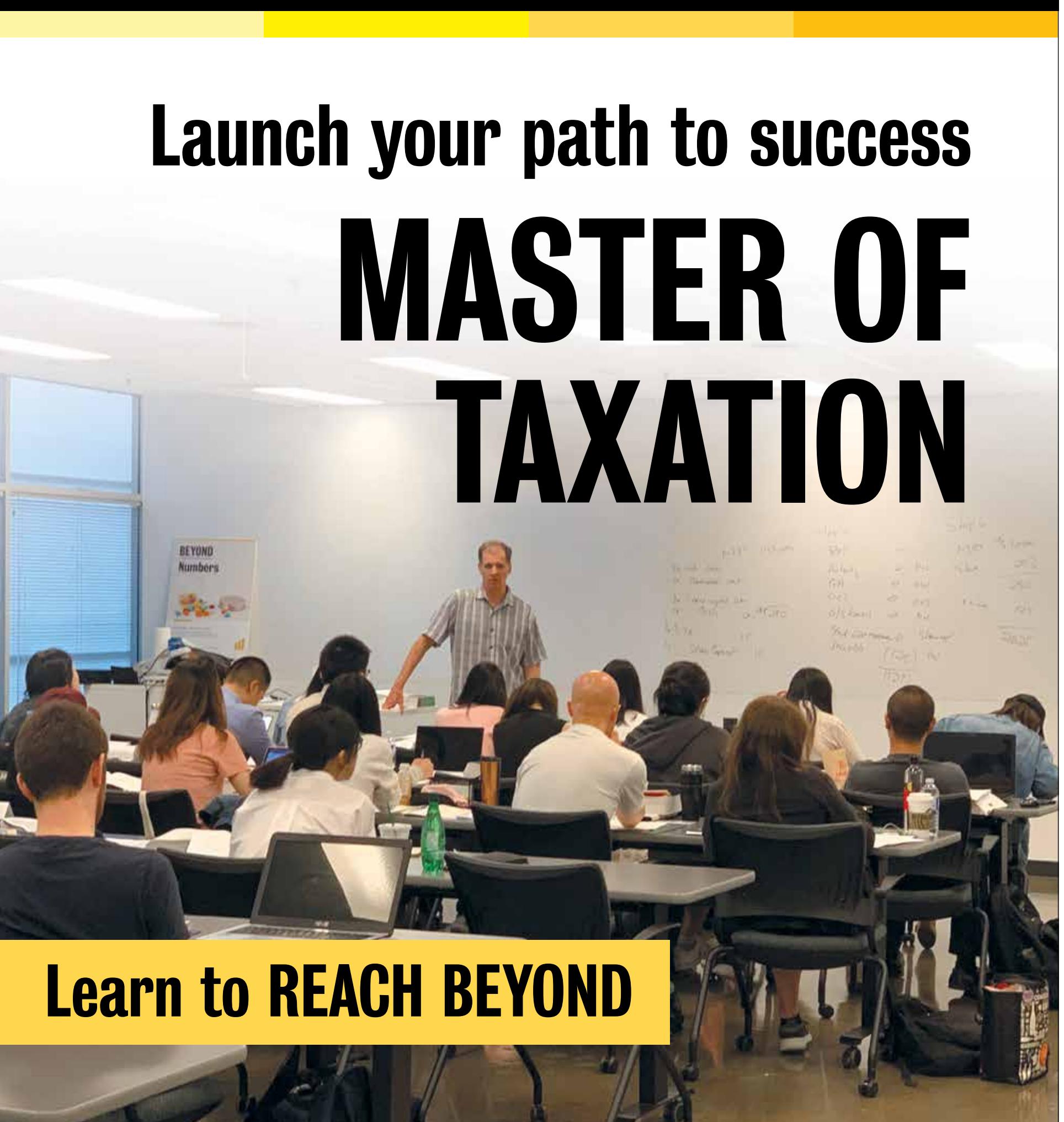
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