

THE

# UNITER

FREE. WEEKLY.  
VOLUME 68 // ISSUE 12 // NOVEMBER 21

INSIDE THE HOME  
OF PHOTOGRAPHER  
*Leif Norman*

THE **IMAGE** ISSUE

# URBAN EXPLORATION

*with*

**HARRISON SAMPHIR & KEVIN LEGGE**

.....  
**SHAD**

.....  
**CHIC GAMINE**

.....  
**PUP**

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## \* ON THE COVER

Uniter staff photographer Kevin Legge put on his good shoes and braved the rubble before the snow fell.

DANIEL CRUMP

# IMAGE IS EVERYTHING.

Look around Winnipeg and you'll see all sorts of random, dilapidated buildings - places that people used to inhabit to make the things you love. Most of them are covered in glorious graffiti tags. Check out the guided tour we've prepared in our cover feature.

Leif Norman is the photog that you see at every Winnipeg event, but what goes on behind the lens - or better yet, at the place he keeps the lenses? This week's Whose House? feature answers any and all questions you may have.

There's also a profile on a band that used to go by a *Boy Meets World* reference (PUP), a piece about the late Nick Ternette's memoirs, a bit about one University of Winnipeg department's study of inner-city poverty and a look inside Bunny Ben Wa's sex toy basket.

This is a good time (and place, hey, I can really do and say what I want here) to mention that our December 5 issue will hold the results of our readers poll! Should be interesting. And hey, if you didn't vote in it, we definitely look forward to hearing about how you don't like the winners. Because that's how reader polls go.

Oh, and happy birthday to my sister Lauren! See, I remembered.

## ONLINE EXCLUSIVES

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**WHOSE  
HOUSE?  
LEIF'S HOUSE.**



## QUALITY OVER QUANTITY

Leif Norman is a constructive collector, not a compulsive hoarder

TEXT + PHOTOS BY LUKAS BENJAMIN THIESSEN

@LUKASBENJAMINT

BEAT REPORTER

In 1999, after obtaining a degree in chemistry from the University of Winnipeg, Leif Norman picked up his mother's camera, a Canonette, and started shooting.

"I decided to focus... and see where it goes," he says.

Today, Norman works for or has been the principle photographer for Manitoba Chamber Orchestra, Kids Fest, the Winnipeg Fringe Theatre Festival, Winnipeg's Contemporary Dancers, the Winnipeg Comedy Festival, the Icelandic Festival of Manitoba, the Winnipeg Arts Council and many more.

Norman's vocational and personal vision is the same: to be useful and to curate.

His home expresses these principles, from the well-maintained wood of the Danish modern furniture (1) in one room of his and partner Heather Lee Bea's apartment, to the Edwardian touches in the adjoining area. The Scandinavian pieces not only look beautiful, but ones like the three drawer dresser transform into an office desk.

His appreciation for de-acquisition – terminology for what happens to a work of art when a gallery decides it no longer belongs in their collection – clarifies his focus. I was in his home a year ago, and now he says, "Every single thing here is new."

His painting collection (2) reflects a focus on Winnipeg and one other genre.

"I have a love for bad art," says Norman, pointing a paint-by-numbers adaptation of da Vinci's *Last Supper* (3).

"I'm not collecting bad art because I'm being mean. Corniness is endearing. It's heartbreaking. It can't be middle of the road bad. It has to be atrocious. I love it."

Norman's collector's appetite for vintage items from our city is sated by matchbooks (4). He has four. He's a connoisseur, not a kitschy collector or hoarder.

"It comes down to time, money, and space," Norman says. "Sure, I wish I could adopt all the puppies, but I collect matchbooks. Maybe, if I find one more, I'll get it."

Practicality is paramount with his profes-

sional choices as well.

"I like the new technology of cameras, phones, and gear. Old if it's good, new if it's good. Things have to churn," Norman says.

When it comes to older items, he has a cache of books, some of which are over two hundred years old. On a recent trip to Iceland he brought one book, John Draper's *Textbook on Chemistry* from 1851.

"These old chemistry and physics books, they are lucid in the way information was conveyed," he says. "And they're still ninety percent accurate."



## THE INTERSECTION

WITH JODIE LAYNE  @JODIELAYNE

SUPPLIED

When something induces cringing more often than it elicits joy, it should be a fairly obvious decision to pack it in and call it quits. That said, many Winnipeggers still (financially or otherwise) support the Blue Bombers and I still tune into *The Mindy Project* every week.

The show should be all kinds of win for us feminists: a prime time spot on a Tuesday night for a show written by, directed by and starring a woman of colour who identifies as 'not skinny'. Mindy Kaling is not relegated to a sassy sidekick or a neurotic and needy stereotype of a woman. She is a doctor and loves her job and sequins with equal fervour. This should be the feminist pop culture holy grail. She should be our femme feminist heroine.

But this season, the show's second, I've been disappointed. I'm rooting for Mindy, and her character Dr. Lahiri, but they keep

striking out. The show's focus has shifted from our female protagonist to a new 'bro' doctor, it's played off date rape for laughs, and Mindy's weight is emphasized much too often in an attempt to normalize women who look like Kaling being the star of their own television show. There are lesbian jokes, fat jokes at the expense of other characters, and other characters who fill tired and offensive stereotypes. There are many other problematic elements of her writing, and feminist critics have taken her to task for them.

Kaling responded pre-eminently to this concern in an interview with Terry Gross from NPR: "This is not someone who should be winning a teaching award or being a role model," Kaling says. "Let me, Mindy Kaling, be a role model if anything — and that's pretty arguable, too — but let the character just be a funny character."

This past April at the National Conference for Media Reform, a panel of pop culture critics asked if feminists should support women or people of colour in prominent positions whose work didn't reflect the goals of feminist movements. It was a fair question: does a woman deserve our championing just by virtue of being a woman? Should we support people like Tyler Perry, Roseanne Barr or Selena Gomez?

Jaclyn Friedman spoke the line that launched applause and cheers: "We shouldn't hold [the work of] people of colour or women to a higher or lower standard than any other pop culture we'd consume."

In other words, we shouldn't give their misogyny, sex negativism, cultural appropriation, homophobia, transphobia or racism a pass, or leave any of the privilege they

do have unchecked. We shouldn't depend on them to correct the lack of representation in the media in one show or movie or book, either.

It's okay to like things that aren't perfect — being aware of the flaws and viewing things with a critical lens and not just mindlessly consuming is so important. So go ahead and watch TV and listen to music that is partially problematic. Use those things as relatable points to discuss social justice and anti-oppression with folks in your life who might never read bell hooks, but who might watch *Girls*. I'll be tuning in with you with my critical lens raised.

*Jodie Layne is a feminist activist, community development worker and freelance writer. She believes in the radical possibilities of pleasure, babe.*

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# CROSS CANADA CHAOS

Toronto punk band PUP takes its unruly reputation on the road

LUKAS BENJAMIN THIESSEN

BEAT REPORTER  @LUKASBENJAMINT

Toronto punk band PUP just released its debut self-titled album on October 8 through Royal Mountain Records, and its sophomore disc is right around the corner.

"We've been working on another record already," says lead vocalist and guitarist Stefan Babcock.

On the phone from Kelowna, B.C., the band – composed of Babcock, bassist Nestor Chumak, guitarist Steve Sladkowski and drummer Zack Mykula – is set to play a show at The Habitat.

PUP is the opening act on a musical surge across the country headlined by Ottawa indie rock band Hollerado.

Before it transformed into PUP, the band, with the same line-up, was called Topanga, but changed it after ABC Family announced it was bringing back the character of Topanga in a *Boy Meets World* spin-off. While it wrote and played songs that now belong to PUP, Topanga had a different sound. The members came to a collective realization.



YOSHI COOPER

"We wanted to make a lot heavier music," Babcock says.

In its short existence, PUP has been named a "Band to Watch" by music blog *Stereogum*, was called "Ones to Watch" by Toronto weekly *The Grid*, and its album single "Reservoir" spent two weeks at No. 1 on CBC's *The R3-30*.

The Hollerado tour provides a special opportunity for PUP as far as living with its music. On an earlier pre-album tour, the band worked out any kinks and got the songs into proper shape.

"On this tour, there's now a lot of room for creativity, so we don't bore ourselves. We're adding in jams and new parts," Babcock says.

PUP recorded its debut with producer Dave Schiffman, who's worked with the

likes of The Mars Volta, The Bronx and Rage Against the Machine.

Like the aforementioned bands, and as the new video for "Reservoir" displays, PUP has a capacity for mayhem. Babcock says that the band enjoys a rowdy show.

"We love it," he says. "We've had our fair share of onstage injuries and catastrophes."

Babcock reminisces about the audience-demanded repetition of a certain Can-Rock tune.

"One of my favourite covers was this one by Gob – do you remember Gob? – called 'I Hear You Calling,'" he says.

"Once, we were playing a house show and got way too drunk. We played that song, and then people wanted to hear it again and again. We played it five or six times in a row. Eventually we were so drunk we couldn't even play our instruments, and we made a

promise when we woke up in our hangovers that we would never play it again."



**PUP opens for Hollerado at the Park Theatre on Saturday, Nov. 23.**

**Vancouver's The Zolas are also on the bill.**

**Showtime is 8 pm.**

**Tickets are \$15 at the Park Theatre and [ticketbreak.com](http://ticketbreak.com) or \$20 at the door.**

**Visit [puptheband.bandcamp.com](http://puptheband.bandcamp.com).**

# DO THE EVOLUTION

Chic Gamine is excited to present its new beefed up, full band sound

MELANIE DAHLING  @SUGARDAHLING

BEAT REPORTER

"(It's) a bit like a recital," Chic Gamine co-vocalist Alexa Dirks says of playing in her hometown of Winnipeg. "It's mostly our family and friends, so I feel like we can have fun and make mistakes in front of them."

One of the best parts about returning home, she says, is that it's "small enough" to play music with familiar faces, but "big enough to discover new things."

The "winsome, wicked and witty" ([chicgamine.com](http://chicgamine.com)) five piece won't be settling down for too long, though. In December it's jumping across the pond to do a handful of dates in Europe.

"We said we were going to stay off the road for a while to write, but this opportunity came up and we had to take it," Dirks says.

The band isn't a complete stranger to Europe, having visited France previously.

"For a day, which is ridiculous! You don't go to Europe for a day," Dirks says.

Once returning from the short tour, Dirks says Chic Gamine – which also features vocalists/instrumentalists Ariane



SUPPLIED

Jean, Andrina Turenne, Annick Bremault and drummer Sacha Daoud – is committed with "laser focus" to putting out a new album that properly reflects the band's growth.

"[It will show] how we've evolved over the past three years," Dirks says. "Not in a purposeful way like 'Oh we're so cool, we've evolved', but there's just been a natural progress to our sound as we've gotten to know each other."

The group's most recent album, 2012's *Closer*, is a re-release of previous material intended for the American market, or, as Dirks puts it, to "buy time" while the band worked on new material. The disc was pieced together with the help of legendary producer Rick Rubin's co-horts, Andrew Scheps, Russell Elevado and Dana Nielsen (Justin Timberlake, Jay Z, Alicia Keys).

Chic Gamine fans can expect the band's modern Motown girl group flavour to be

bumped up a notch on its next release. Dirks says the next album will be less folky, and with a full band. "We've always heard it this way in our heads."

Dirks reflects on the "beauty" and the "What the fuck?" of jumping in before the sound was exactly where they wanted it to be, saying she is "proud of where we came from, but excited to show people where we are going."

The group is no doubt moving in an exciting direction, winning a Juno Award for Best Roots Album in 2009. Dirks remembers that event fondly.

"Don't go to an event like the Junos without a sense of humor," she says. "We were responsible for getting ourselves to the red carpet, and all we had was our dirty band van. So there's Shania Twain and Bryan Adams and we pop out like 'Hey! Maybe we're famous, maybe we're not!'"

Joking aside, Dirks is happy with the

amount of success Chic Gamine has had so far. "It sounds cheesy, but it's really about the journey. Being able to do this and make it a career is a big accomplishment. You don't just sit there and wait for the big thing."



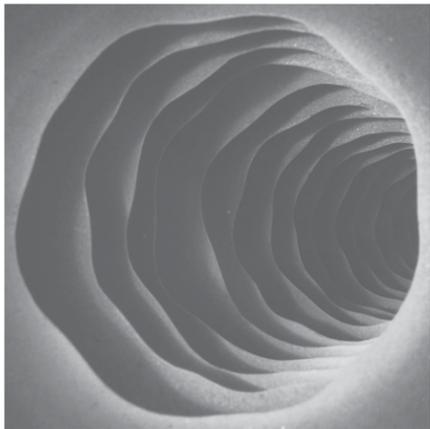
**Chic Gamine plays Union Sound Hall on Saturday, Nov. 23.**

**The Reverend Rambler opens the show.**

**Showtime is 10 pm.**

**Tickets are \$20 at Ticketmaster (plus fees) and the Winnipeg Folk Festival Music Store.**

**Visit [chicgamine.com](http://chicgamine.com).**

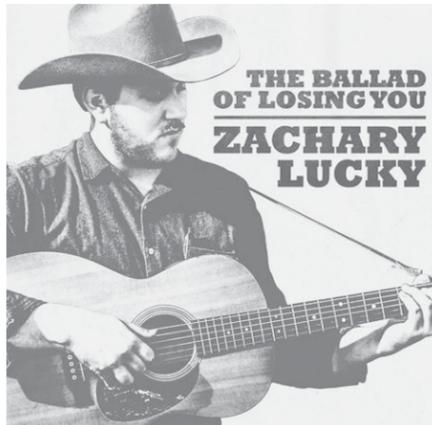
**Dog Day**

*Fade Out*  
Independent

★★★★★

Having to double check whether or not I'd popped in a mid-90s Sonic Youth disc, I was happy to find that the sombre yet menacing guitar lines were that of Halifax's favourite husband and wife duo, Dog Day. "Blackened" is a deadly crooner while "Wasted" and "Joyride" are upbeat, showcasing some spooky vocal harmonies and peppy guitar-work. "Get High" is a brooding stomper that would make Eric's Trip proud and "Sandwich" is quite filling - a wall of monotonous yet hooky noise for your head holes. The group's best effort yet.

- Nicholas Friesen

**Zachary Lucky**

*The Ballad of Losing You*  
Independent

★★★★☆

Opening with "Ramblin' Man's Lament" and skating through nine other tracks of sleepy, Nick Drake with a twang acoustic mumbling, Zachary Lucky's latest is best served with a Sunday nap and a warm blanket, listened to with a stray cat that you named after your wife who committed suicide. Yeah, it's a bit of a downer, but a beautiful downer - Julie Doiron fans can relate. As a songwriter and composer, Lucky's work is simple and effective - the sparse slide guitar/strings/banjo and back ups on such tracks as "Morning Words" are all they need. Closer "Sun's Coming Up" leaves the listener with a breath of hope - which is all you can ask for today.

- Nicholas Friesen

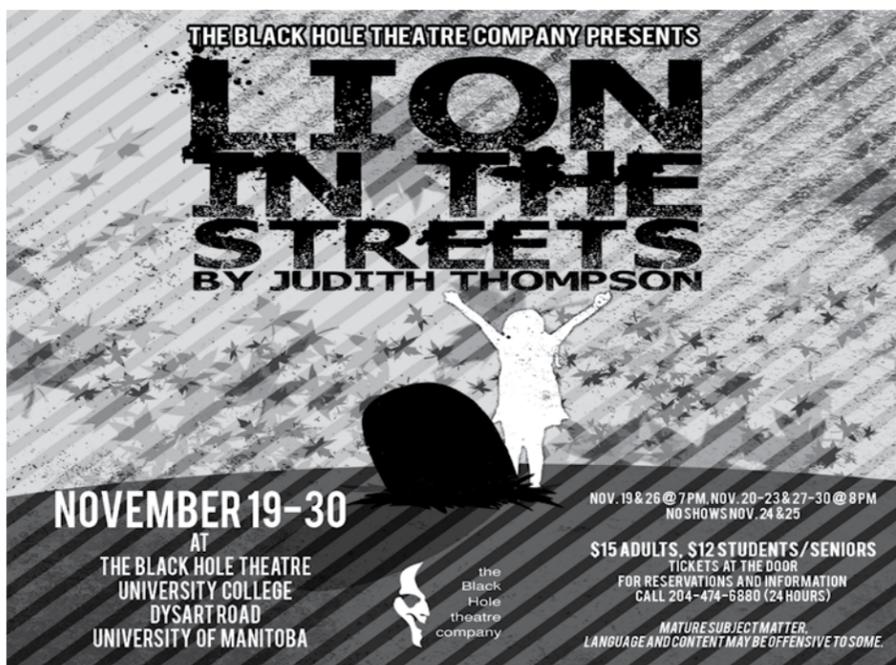
**Moon Tan**

*Moon Tan*  
Independent

★★★★☆

This one's a howler. A decade or so after The Darkness made kitsch sincere again, the children of this movement picked up instruments and unleashed a four song EP of hooky, numbing and epic space rock. "The Cure" features plucky bass, soaring choruses and devastating guitars, while "Dead Men Tell No Tales" eats away at your soul, slowly, like the Sarlacc pit. At seven minutes, "Medieval Dance" is a killer, but it's the ragtag instrumental "Supernaut" that sums things up nicely - simple in its pageantry but devastating in its execution. But, you know, fun.

- Nicholas Friesen



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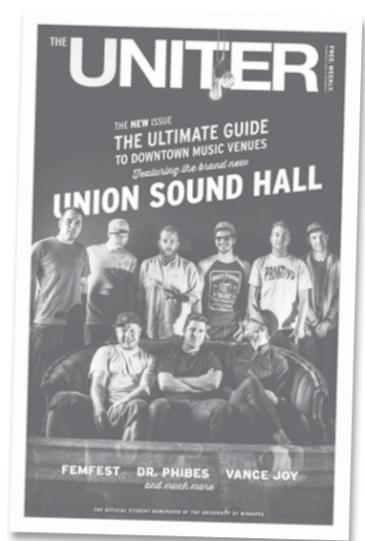
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MOUSELAND PRESS



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# SHAD KEEPS STYLIN'

Canadian emcee still on point with fourth record *Flying Colours*

HARRISON SAMPHIR

@HARRYSAMPHIR

SENIOR EDITOR

Consistency and honesty are difficult to maintain in a fickle hip hop industry. More often than not (or than we'd like to think) artists fall out of favour, disappear after a one-and-done, or simply struggle to stay relevant amidst changing tastes and attitudes.

For the Kenyan born Shad, 31, staying true to a core message has afforded him some unique and noteworthy staying power.

"We live in a small country and if you rap it's even smaller, so at some point everyone crosses paths with one another," he says. The proof is in the product, as Shad has collaborated with such Canadian acts as Hey Ocean!, Said the Whale and Dallas Green, in addition to a host of other rap stars domestic and international.

Rapping since he was a teenager, Shadrach Kabango recorded his first album *When This Is Over* with money from a radio contest while studying as an undergrad

at Wilfred Laurier University. Its success launched Shad into minor fame and much exposure in Canadian hip hop circles. Followed by 2007's *The Old Prince* and 2010's Juno-winning *TSOL*, Shad's brand of introspective rhymes, blended with smooth cuts and break beats, are as strong as ever on the freshly released *Flying Colours*.

The LP is Shad's most ambitious work to date, as it retains much of the same style – self-deprecating, reflexive lyrics and upbeat samples – but expands a personnel of guest appearances to include electropop singer Lights and Toronto-based emcee Saukrates on the single "Stylin'".

"There are definitely things on this album I've never done before" he says. "But when I set out to make [*Flying Colours*], what I was trying to get at was a common experience. That is, success and failure and the fact that we all become acquainted

with both, and we all have to figure out how to carry them forward in our story in a way that's honest."

The record's third track and second single, "Fam Jam (Fe Sum Immigrins)", reflects on those themes and the journey of immigration his own family once undertook (he was only a year old when the Kabango family made the move to Canada).

"['Fam Jam'] was inspired by a lyric I heard that we use on the chorus, and I thought it would be fun to shift into another context and talk about an experience a lot of people know in Canada" he says. "What was I trying to do with that song? *A lot*. I wanted ultimately to be joyful and celebratory, but also speak to some of the more challenging points of the immigrant experience and the Canadian experience."

Indeed, Shad's effort to tell a story, to

share common experiences, is what resonates most – a type of honesty that's respected in an industry without much of it.



See Shad perform on November 22 at Union Sound Hall.

Show begins at 9 pm.

Tickets are \$20.

Visit [jazzwinnipeg.com](http://jazzwinnipeg.com) for more information.

Read our review of *Flying Colours* at [uniter.ca/view/shad](http://uniter.ca/view/shad).

## CHARTING

CHARTS AS OF TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2013

### Bandcamp

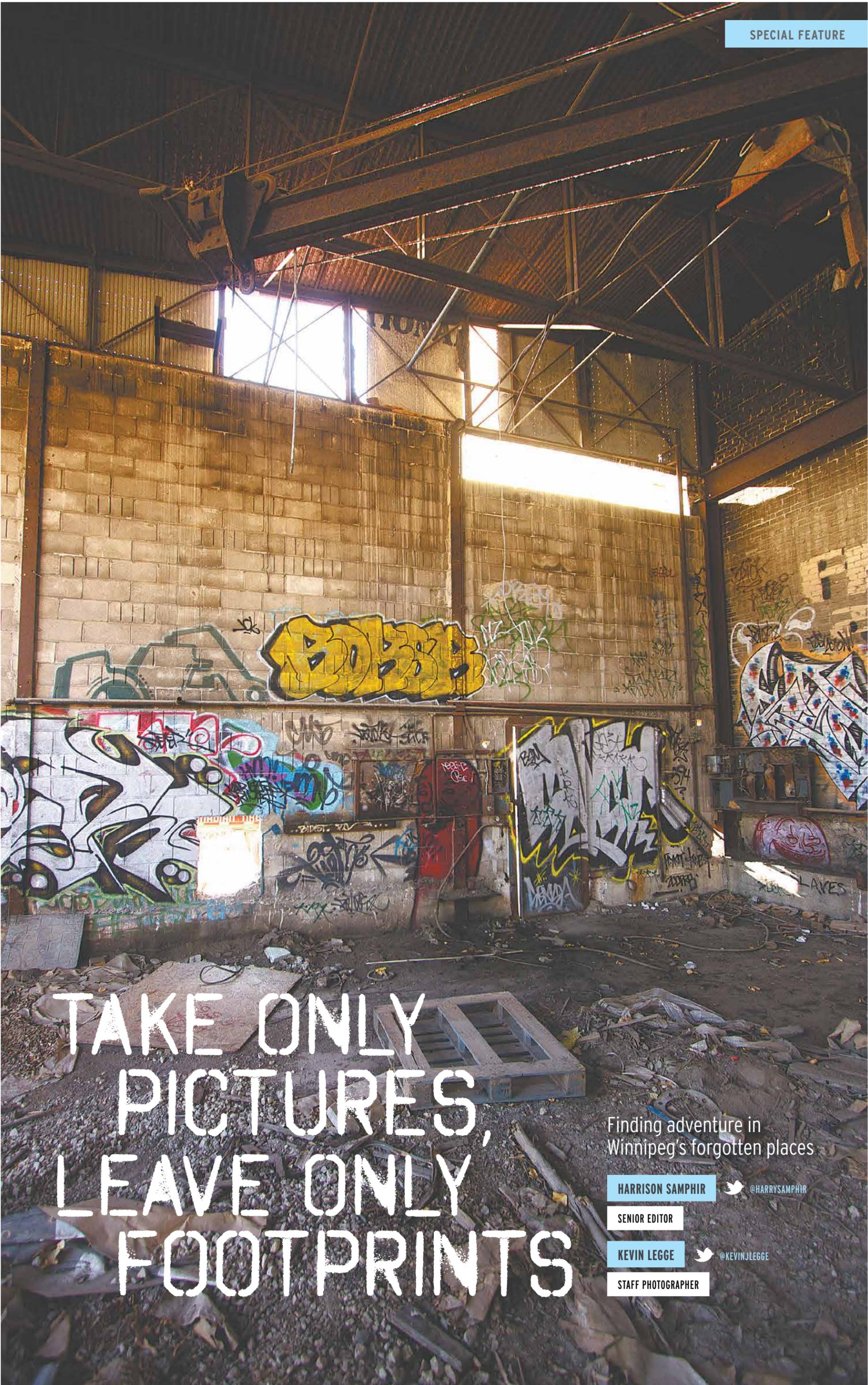
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2. KEN mode	Entrench	New Damage Records
3. Alec Holowka	Offspring Fling	Independent
4. Vikings	Vikings	Independent
5. Winnipeg Boyz	Ab Initio	Independent
6. Royal Canoe	Extended Play	Nettwerk
7. Kindest Cuts	Kindest Cuts	Dub Ditch Picnic
8. Boy's Club	Dolores	Independent
9. JMSkARED	Collection	Independent
10. KEN mode	Venerable	Profound Lore

### CKUW

1. Greg Macpherson Band	Fireball	Disintegration
2. Neko Case	The Worse Things...	Anti-
3. Tim Hecker	Virgins	Paper Bag
4. Little Miss Higgins	Bison Ranch ...	Independent
5. Yes We Mystic	Floods & Fires	Head in the Sand
6. Various	Beach Station Blues II	Real Love Winnipeg
7. Basia Bulat	Tall Tall Shadow	Secret City
8. Said the Whale	Hawaii	Hidden Pony
9. Sweet Alibi	We've Got To	Independent
10. Perpetrators	Stick 'em Up	Independent

### UMFM

1. The Sadies	Internal Sounds	Outside Music
2. Federal Lights	We Were Found ...	Aporia
3. Various	Transmissions 2013	UMFM
4. Neko Case	The Worse Things...	Anti-
5. Cheering for the Bad Guy	Next Year Country	Independent
6. Perpetrators	Stick 'em Up	Independent
7. Young Pixels	For the Love	Independent
8. Shad	Flying Colours	Black Box
9. Les Jupes	Negatives Space	Head in the Sand
10. Royal Canoe	Today We're Believers	Nevado



# TAKE ONLY PICTURES, LEAVE ONLY FOOTPRINTS

Finding adventure in  
Winnipeg's forgotten places

HARRISON SAMPHIR

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SENIOR EDITOR

KEVIN LEGGE

 @KEVINJLEGE

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



GRAFFITI ARTWORK LINE  
RAILROAD TRACKS, WHICH  
AROMAS FUMIGATE ENTIRE  
SO MUCH AS A DETECTABLE  
SELF-CONTAINED, POST

A

A city in flux, Winnipeg is always expanding *outward*. Peripheral suburbs, cul-de-sacs, IKEA. All are believed to be icons of progress and growth. They indicate the existence of ambition, planning and a middle class.

Left behind is the refuse of civilization – an urban centre of forgotten alleyways, decommissioned industry and the many different people navigating between them. Sprawl is in this city's character, and it has made downtown Winnipeg a dualistic place. It's at once a centre of business and professionalism, yet a zone of social blight and remarkable physical decay.

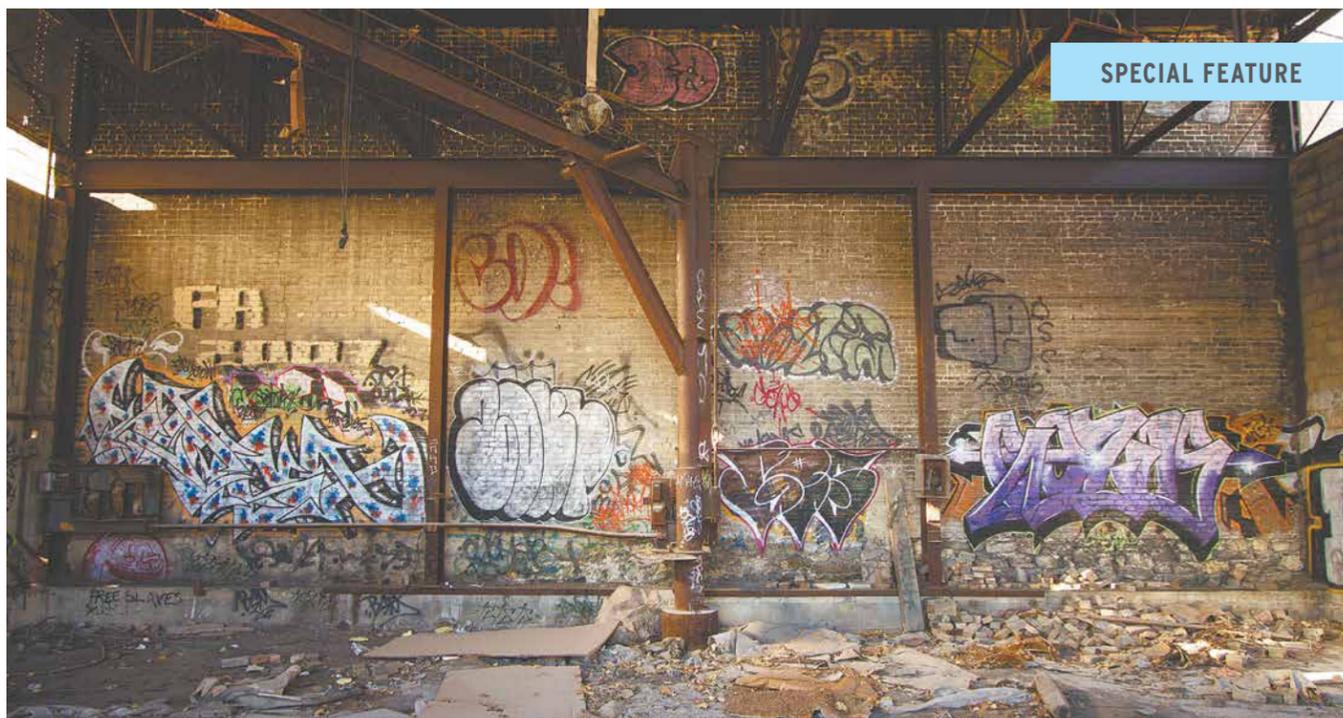
Perhaps all cities contain within their borders a similar sort of polarity. Maybe urban cores are just unstable, continuously evolving topographies. But amidst Winnipeg's changing landscape – and in the middle of its fluctuating social and economic conditions – exist special places of solitude waiting to be explored. Hidden from sight, neglected and consigned, these decomposing fragments are remarkable vestiges of the past. They act as living museums and often as canvases, laying idle for the next set of inquisitive eyes or discerning camera lenses.

Urban exploration (urbex or UE for short) is the name given to the practice of navigating the built environment, examining dereliction and reclaiming public spaces. It's a relatively new phenomenon, sparked by interest in the late-capitalist rot of cities like Detroit and Kiev, but has gained popularity through a widespread desire to document and investigate civic metamorphosis. Winnipeg isn't truly comparable to those larger metropolises, but its manmade structures have a character all their own.

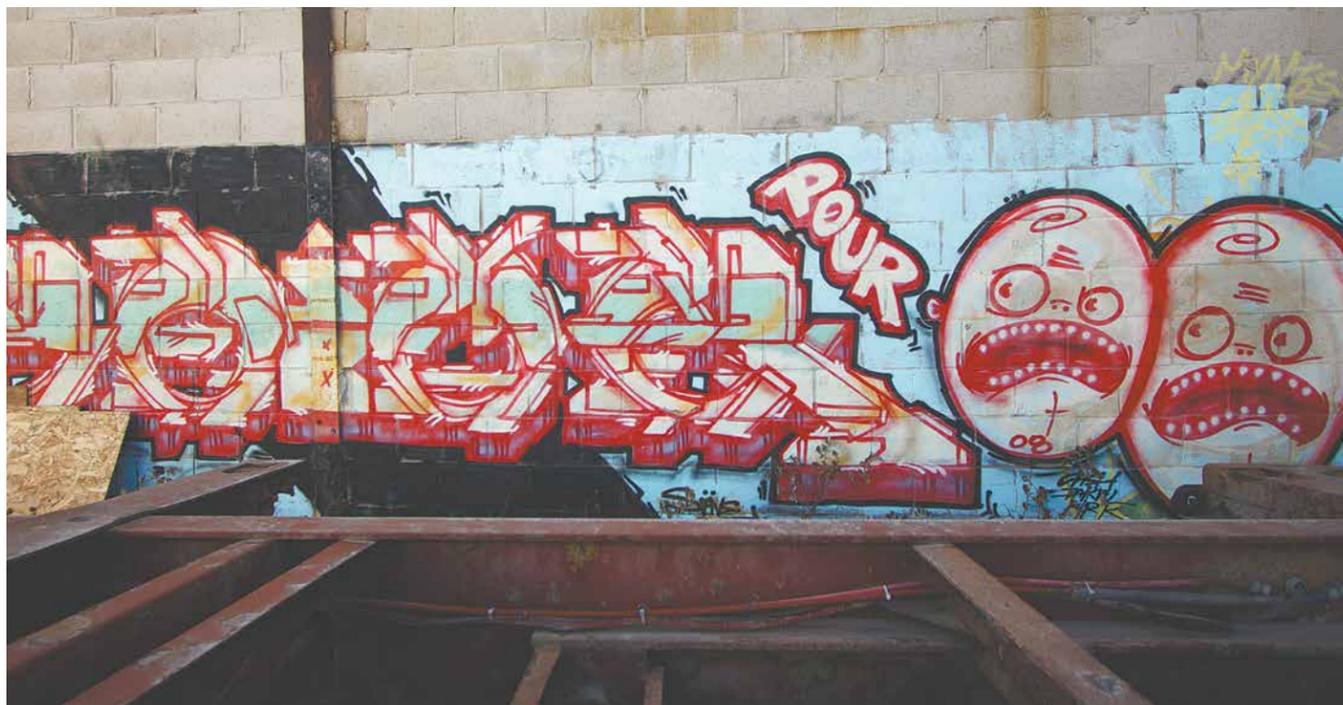


Above + Right: A brownfield stands desolate and unoccupied in South Point Douglas. Find and enter at your own risk.

ES STANCHIONS ALONG  
LE PUTRID CHEMICAL  
RE AREAS WITHOUT  
BLE SOURCE. THEY ARE  
-APOCALYPTIC WORLDS.



SPECIAL FEATURE



'Brownfields' or derp ("derelict and ruined places") are popular destinations for Winnipeg's urban explorers. According to a 2008 Public Works manuscript, "[Brownfields] are generally considered to be "abandoned, vacant, derelict, or under utilized commercial or industrial property, where past actions have resulted in actual or perceived contamination, and where there is an active potential for redevelopment."

Remediating and repurposing brownfields has long been an expensive obstacle for city developers. There are estimated to be over 800 sites throughout Winnipeg, many of which sit in peripheral downtown zones previously home to heavy industry and manufacturing businesses. For those with cameras and imagination, however, brownfields are unique places in which to discover undocumented civic heritage. "I think it's about a desire to be a part of what came before us that isn't mediated," Bradley Garrett, Oxford University academic and author of *Explore Everything: Place-Hacking the City*, said in a recent reddit.com chat. "You know, museums are cool but it's frustrating sometimes, not being able to touch stuff or make up your own stories about why it's important."

UE embodies a low-impact philosophy. Its communities frown upon vandalism and theft and trespassing for its own sake. The credo is simple: take only photographs, leave only footprints.

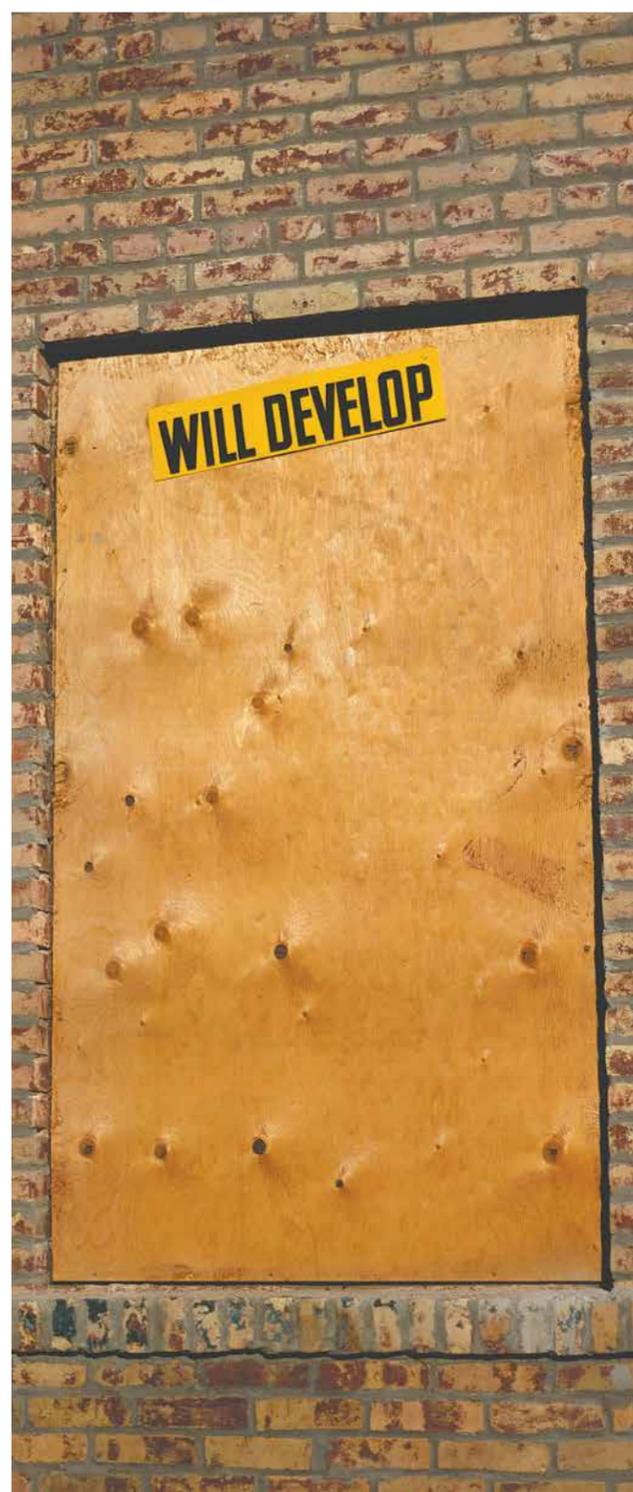
While legal concerns and safety hazards abound for the urban explorer, the rewards are nothing short of transformative. Among the many decommissioned factories, unfinished building projects and junkyards are panoramic views of overgrowth and mutation; the natural environment slowly consuming the fraying brick and rusting machinery once left and forgotten. Graffiti artwork lines stanchions along railroad tracks, while putrid chemical aromas fumigate entire areas without so much as a detectable source. They are self-contained, post-apocalyptic worlds.

There too is a comfortable silence afforded to those meandering dormant urban spaces, an introspective feeling borne of playful subversiveness and childlike curiosity.

From the comfort of a moving vehicle, Winnipeg may seem a banal and tedious place. Yet beyond the paved road are beautifully rotten places which long ago escaped the vacuum of the working day. Now they are alluring urban moors, confined hybrids of organic matter, steel and bronze with inexplicable character.

Defy the sprawl, look within and remember: explore at your own risk.

Right: "Will develop." Lily Street and Pacific Avenue





# MUSICAL MEDICINE

Artists in Healthcare helps sick people in their time of need

KAITLYN EMSLIE FARRELL

ARTS REPORTER @KEMSLIEFARRELL



Laughter? Nope, it's music.

Artists in Healthcare Manitoba aims to relieve some of the stress and anxiety that come with a lengthy hospital stay. Through music and art, Artists in Healthcare Manitoba provides support for those in need and their families.

Shirley Grierson, executive director of Artists in Healthcare, says mental wellbeing is a large part of physical healing.

"It's becoming more mainstream now in that architects and designers are looking more at the physical environ-

ment, realizing that when people have windows and can see nature they're more comfortable," Grierson says.

**"SHE TOLD HIM THAT I GOT HER THROUGH HER TIME IN THE HOSPITAL, THAT MY MUSIC WAS SOMETHING THAT REALLY HELPED HER GET THROUGH THAT TIME.**

- LOIS GILLESPIE, MUSICIAN, ARTISTS IN HEALTHCARE

ment, realizing that when people have windows and can see nature they're more comfortable," Grierson says.

"There's a piece of research from the '70s where two patients of the same size and gender both had an appendectomy. One of them had a window that looked out to something green and one of them had a window that looked out at a brick wall. The one that saw nature used less pain meds and left the hospital earlier."

Generally, an Artists in Healthcare musician will play in one of the hospital common areas where people can gather and listen, but occasionally they're asked to come into a room and play something for someone specific.

A nonprofit organization, Artists in Healthcare isn't widely known outside of the hospital. Publicity is hard, notes Lois Gillespie, one of the program's musicians. "We see them and then they leave - you don't often get to see people again."

Grierson maintains that she wants "a general awareness of our organization and our values and we want to keep growing and expanding."

And so, Artists in Healthcare have compiled a CD featuring many of their talented musicians, including Gillespie, Vanessa Kuzina and Keith Price. For every CD sold, two will be given away to a patient.

Gillespie, a guitarist and songwriter, has been playing

with Artists in Healthcare for approximately 11 years and says "it's both challenging and awesome."

"I ran into a woman at the Folk Festival this year and she introduced her husband to me," Gillespie says. "She told him that I got her through her time in the hospital, that my music was something that really helped her get through that time."

Grierson recalls something a musician said to her earlier in the program after their first performance.

"[She said] 'Wow, I've never been listened to like I was by these people, in this environment today. And I've never been able to see how much of a difference music can make.'"



The Artists in Healthcare Manitoba CD release happens Thursday, Nov. 28 at the Park Theatre.

Artists on the bill include Vanessa Kuzina, Lois Gillespie, Keith Price, Tim Cummings, Ron Halldorson, Aaron Shorr, Jess Reimer, Liz Goosen, Shirley Grierson and Peter and Lynn McClure.

Show starts at 8 pm.

Tickets are \$10 and are available at the Park Theatre and [ticketbreak.com](http://ticketbreak.com)

For more information on Artists in Healthcare, visit them on the web at [artistsinhealthcare.com](http://artistsinhealthcare.com).



SUPPLIED

## ART IMITATING LIFE, KIND OF

Playwright Trish Cooper doesn't let the truth get in the way of a good story

DEBORAH REMUS  @DEBORAHREMUS

ARTS REPORTER

Set in River Heights, there's lots of Winnipeg flavour in *Social Studies*, the new Prairie Theatre Exchange comedy by Trish Cooper, one of seven local female playwrights that's debuting work this 2013/2014 season.

Cooper, a local actor, writer and comedian, has already put together some short works for the PTE Playwrights Unit, but *Social Studies* marks the first time she's created a full-length two-act play.

"I didn't realize I had that opportunity until I got involved with the Playwrights Unit," Cooper says. "It took me a long time to put a plot in place, as opposed to just episodes, and that's where it really helped to have that sort of guidance. PTE really wants to develop and produce new works written by local people who might not have a ton of previous experience yet."

The play features a mom (played by Marina Stephenson Kerr) who decides to take in a refugee from Sudan (played by Richie Diggs), much to the dismay of her oldest daughter Jackie (played by Alix Sobler) she has returned home after breaking up with her husband and is forced to sleep on the living room couch.

Cooper says the script is partly inspired by her real life experiences, as her own mother really did take in a Sudanese refugee before she moved back home.

"I mostly used that as a springboard because I knew there was an opportunity for some comedy," Cooper says. "The true story about what happened with the guy is way less interesting. He was really nice, we had some interesting conversations and then he went on his merry way. I also think my mom feels the need to put a disclaimer on the poster and say 'That's not actually me.'"

Local actress Jenna Hill plays Sarah, Jackie's 16 year-old sister that happens

to be writing a school assignment on the "Lost Boys of Sudan", who were displaced during the Second Sudanese Civil War (1983-2005).

"It's really fun being a teenager again and there are a few scenes that really remind me of tiffs I've had with my mom and arguments I've had with my sister (Broadway actress Samantha Hill)," Hill says. "There's one part where I go into the fridge to sneak some food and my mom slaps my hand and takes it away because there are guests coming over and that just reminded me of something my mother would actually have done."

While Hill performed in *Shakey Must Die* at the 2013 Winnipeg Fringe Theatre Festival and has had experience with musicals through the Gilbert & Sullivan Society, this is the first big role for the 24 year-old, who graduated from the University of Winnipeg in 2010 with a bachelor of arts in Theatre.

"I had given Prairie Theatre Exchange my headshot and resume awhile ago and eventually Bob Metcalfe [PTE artistic director] contacted me and asked me to audition for the part," she says. "It's been great working with such a strong cast of people who I've been able to learn a lot from along the way."



**Social Studies opens at Prairie Theatre Exchange on Thursday Nov.21 and runs until Dec. 8.**

**Tickets range between \$47 and \$25.**

**Head to [pte.mb.ca](http://pte.mb.ca) for more show times and ticket information.**

## FILM



SUPPLIED

## PORTRAIT OF JASON

★★★★☆

Opens November 22 at Cinematheque

Every once in a while there are films that are so strange and alluring you just have to watch them to appease your own morbid curiosity. Some, like *The Human Centipede*, are seen because of its shock value but don't offer anything intelligent to say about society. Others, like *Funeral Parade of Roses*, are odd yet incredibly important. Shirley Clarke's 1967 documentary *Portrait of Jason* belongs to the latter group.

*Jason* is a full length feature film consisting of an interview with the eccentric Jason Holliday aka Aaron Payne. He's a houseboy, a would be cabaret performer and a self-proclaimed hustler who gives us a gin-soaked view of what it's like to be coloured and gay in 1960s America.

Ingmar Bergman, one of the greatest art-house film directors of all time, once proclaimed this picture as "the most extraordinary

film I've seen in my life." Indeed it is quite exceptional; a unique look on life described by a man who is a minority within a minority. As we hear his testimony we notice how miserable his life is, not because he is a bad person, but because the system he is in tries to tear him down at every given moment. Shirley Clarke mentions that "racism is the great problem of our time," it's a bit of an understatement, but still very true.

*Portrait of Jason* is essential to watch in 2013 not only in a historical sense; it was one of the first films to view a gay protagonist in a sympathetic light, but because it makes us more empathetic beings. If you are not a minority within a minority, then this film will show you their perspective. If you are, then perhaps the picture will help you feel like you're not alone in a system that seems to try to put you down at every moment. It's a very moving film that will encourage you to stand up for those who have less.

MICHAEL CARLISLE



SUPPLIED

## LAST VEGAS

★☆☆☆☆

Now playing

Ugh.

60-something friends Billy (Michael Douglas), Paddy (Robert De Niro), Archie (Morgan Freeman) and Sam (Kevin Kline) have been best friends since childhood. So, when Billy finally proposes to his 30-year-old girlfriend, the buddies decide to have a grand bachelor party - in Las Vegas! However, the majestic Sin City begins to test their friendship in ways they couldn't imagine.

As the baby boomer generation of actors start to become seniors the "old men attempting to relive their youth" plot becomes much more apparent in Hollywood Cinema. *Last Vegas* attempts to be a geriatric version of *The Hangover*, but replaces crude and sexual humour with jokes about aging. While those

jokes are funny at first, they eventually become too much and by the millionth "haha you're old" joke I was ready to chuck my popcorn at the screen.

Considering the film stars De Niro and Douglas, and takes place in Vegas, you would think *Last Vegas* would have more edge, but instead it's a light and fluffy comedy that never does anything exciting with the conflict between Billy and Paddy (Billy failed to attend Paddy's Wife's funeral). Product placement is everywhere in this picture, the director is so shameless he puts the Aria logo in almost every shot. It's as if *Last Vegas* is a feature length tourist commercial. The only real saving grace of this film is the acting; Douglas, De Niro, Freeman and Kline can all play convincing characters, even in a film with atrocious writing.

MICHAEL CARLISLE

Visit [pissonit.blogspot.ca](http://pissonit.blogspot.ca) for more reviews from Michael Carlisle

# CULTURE

## MUSIC LISTINGS



Tune in to 'Peg City Groove, Fridays at 5pm on CKUW 95.9 FM to get the scoop on the weekend's events when Kent and Darryl read the Rundown, brought to you by The Uniter.

### THURSDAY NOV. 21

ROUTE 59 jams at The Cavern.

FROM GIANTS and TIBERT LE VOYAGEUR play Fort Gibraltar.

A.SKILLZ, DJ HOLLYWOOD HYPE and THE SHAKE play Greenroom.

BILLY JOE GREEN, THE C-WEED BAND, THE FEATHERMAN and THE RANVILLE BROTHERS play The Pyramid.

SEAN BURNS and ZACHARY LUCKY play The Folk Exchange.

AINSLEY FRIESEN and THE STURGEONS play The Times.

RIDLEY BENT, OPRY and many others play The WECC.

THE NOBLE THIEFS, THE REVIVAL and GO FOR THE EYES play The Windsor.

### FRIDAY NOV. 22

STRANDED and THE TIMS play The Cavern.

MRS. HOO HOO play The Kings Head.

BETH HAMILTON and LINDSAY WHITE play The Manitoba Conservatory.

GHOST TWIN, KINDEST CUTS and SOLAR COFFIN play Ozzy's.

THE SECRETS, NEW RENNAISSANCE, SENIOR DINOSAUR and WAR PLANE play The Park.

THE ROBERT BURTON TRIO play Prairie Ink.

The Canadian Aboriginal Music Video Showcase presents DREZUS, BLACKOUT MUSIC and many others at The Pyramid.

RIGHTEOUS IKE plays The Times.

SHAD and WE ARE THE CITY play Union.

IT'S ALL IN THE MIND, MARK DAVID STALLARD and RYAN JANZ play The WECC.

BIPIGWAN, DEAD RANCH, ELECTRO QUARTER-STAFF and WARSAW play The Windsor.

### SATURDAY NOV. 23

DOWN TO FUNK and RORY FRIESEN AND THE POETS OF GOOD play The Cavern.

DON PASQUALI sings The Centennial Concert Hall.

BLOODLINE, DOORS, HEAD SPEAKS TRUTH, ICONOCLYSM, REAM OF ANUBIS and SKY MONITOR play Club St. B.

THE DIRTY CATFISH BRASS BAND play The Current Lounge.

THE BOSTON TRIO play The Eckhardt-Grammatte Hall at The U of W.

ANDYS 3 and DRUX & KIMMY play The Exchange Event Center.

SOUL KILLING FEMALE, ADOLYNE, CHICA BOOM BOOM, DEAD RANCH and FLESH LITE play FRAME.

HOLLERADO, PUPS and THE ZOLAS play The Park.

ANNE-MARIE WILLIOT plays Prairie Ink.

CHRIS KOMUS, DESERT DWELLERS, NATHAN ZHAN and THE SHAKE play The Pyramid.

KRIS ULRICH plays The Folk Exchange.

MOBINA GALORE, COREY ABEL and THIS IS THE SHOE play The Rose 'n' Bee.

BYRNE FIDDLER and THE SMASH BROTHERS play The Times.

CHIC GAMINE and THE REVERAND RAMBLER play Union.

ITS ALL IN THE MIND, MARK DAVID STALLARD and RYAN JANZ play The WECC.

RAE SPOON plays The Windsor.

### SUNDAY NOV. 24

THE DUSTBUSTERS play The Cavern.

ALL THE KINGS MEN play The Kings Head.

BRENDAN CANNING and DINOSAUR BONES play The Park.

MISE EN SCENE and HEAD OF THE HEARD play The Pyramid.

## THE TOY BASKET

WITH BUNNY BEN WA

### PUT A RING ON IT!

Here's a proposal: "Dick, will you be merry with me?"

Hi cuties, I hope my last column was as good for you as it was for me. Last time, I gave a brief shout out to my favourite beginner toy, the vibrating cock ring.

First of all, let's take a minute to distinguish between novelty and functional cock rings.

A functional cock ring is meant to fit tight, but not to an ouch-y degree. They are designed for men who are able to achieve an erection, but not keep one for long periods of time. Please don't leave these guys on for more than 25 minutes. Seriously, let the penis breathe a bit.

A lot of male strippers sport these, too. Luckily they come in a variety of colours to match whatever costume the gentleman entertainer might come up with, be it a cop or a sailor or a fireman or a fireman or a fireman.

Generally, if a cock ring vibrates or has dangly bits/nubbly bubbly textures, it's made to add some excitement to intercourse, masturbation or oral sex. It may add a little extra pressure at the base of the penis (something that feels pretty good for most men!) but it isn't really made to hold an erection.

Vibrating rings turn your basic household penis into a living vibrator. For all my lady lovers, you can also use a cock ring to turn a hard plastic vibe into a shiny new toy that will please your pussycat inside and out. Just be careful as jelly + jelly = melty, so keep those soft toys separate, kids.



I've always been a big fan of Dock Johnson's Wonderland Vibrators, because the toys are silicone, they're at a mid-range price, and they're shaped like cute characters! I was very excited to see my favourite friends in cock ring form. I picked up the Mystical Mushroom C-Ring for \$39.95 at Smitten in the Osborne Village.

The thing I love most about this toy is the intense, removable golden bullet that powers it. With 10 delicious settings of varying intensity, you can find something to please most partners.

The ring itself is made quite wide. Most c-rings look small at first and are made of very stretchy material. The Mystical Mushroom will budge a little, but if your partner has significantly less or more girth than average, it may not be the toy for you. This is the cock ring

that Goldilocks picked.

The Mystical Mushroom slides on nicely with some lube and stays in place. The vibrations are quiet and feel great for both parties, plus the cute mushroom perched at the top (or bottom, depending on the position) gives the clitoris some much needed attention.

My only issue with the bullet is that it takes watch batteries, which is a bit of a pain, especially as the ones that came with my vibe died pretty quickly. But the great thing about it being removable is that you have the option to use a different bullet with this ring, giving it some longevity.

This bunny is pleased. Hop on over to your local sex shop and check out the Wonderland series today!

## SERIOUS BAGGAGE

Family business converts vintage suitcases into amplifier cases

CORY FALVO

 @CORYBANTIASM

VOLUNTEER

My father is an incredibly difficult person to buy gifts for. Like most kids his age, he likes expensive toys and he wants them the first day they come out. Every holiday season I find myself in the customer service line at Best Buy returning something because he went out the week before and bought it himself.

This Christmas, my goal is to buy him something useful that he couldn't buy himself. In searching for the perfect gift, I stumbled across Sounds Vintage Design speaker cases – locally made, custom vintage suitcases equipped with amplifiers and a rechargeable battery.

The suitcases are all custom-made, so they vary in size and shape. I chose a black 1940s McBrine case with a 40 watt amplifier and a 12 volt rechargeable battery. An AC adapter was included to charge the battery or to plug it in. I plugged in my iPhone using the standard headphone 3 mm input - this was the simplest



TED GRANT

way to make noise. The amp has an FM transmitter, SD card slot and input for a USB stick. Bluetooth adapters are also an option.

The battery will go the length of any of my father's drinking binges, lasting up to 23.5 hours at medium volume. If a battery-powered sound system isn't what you need, I was told you can request one that works on wall power exclusively. A nice option, but the rechargeable nature will show its worth on your next camping trip or if you're the type of musician who busks at the Forks. A quarter inch jack for guitars, keyboards, or Omnicords can be included if requested.

The sound quality is great. This particular model has stereo sound and manages to fill the room with the dubstep I played to test the low end. I then pumped eardrum piercing reruns of *The Nanny* through the amp to test the higher frequencies. The crisp sound added to

the offensiveness of these choices.

After peeling the skin off my cheeks with my fingernails, I can say I was impressed with the sound quality. I was told my set was in the middle range for speaker and amplifier quality. Higher quality speakers and a more powerful amplifier (up to 130 watts) can easily be accommodated on custom creations if you're an audiophile.

When it isn't pumping out tunes, the case will act as a nice set piece in any living room or apartment. For more information on Sounds Vintage Design, visit [www.facebook.com/soundsvintage](http://www.facebook.com/soundsvintage) or email [soundsvintagedesign@gmail.com](mailto:soundsvintagedesign@gmail.com).

In addition to suitcase speakers, Sounds Vintage also creates shelves, chairs and end tables with their vintage cases. They also create teacup pendant lights which means I can check my mother off my Christmas list, too.

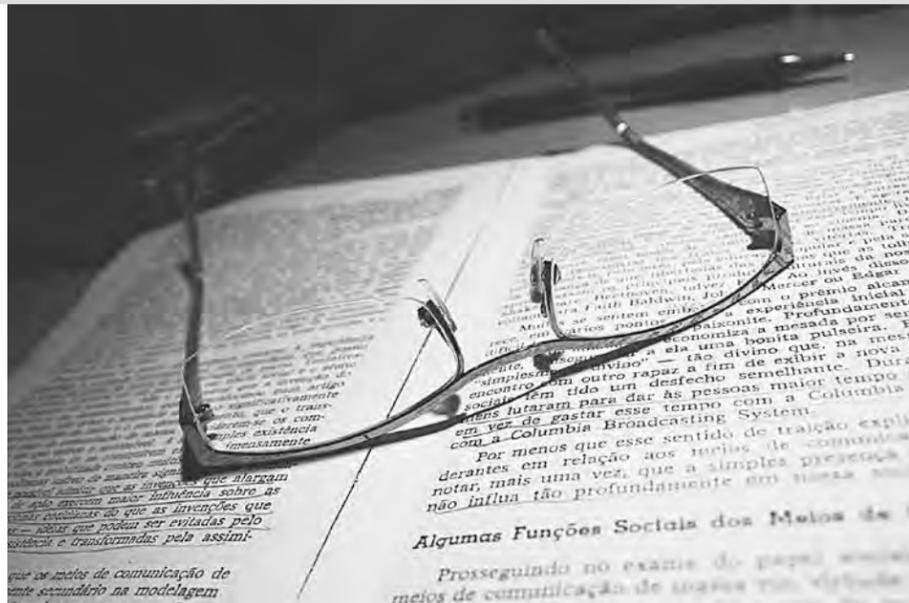
## THE STAY-AT-HOME STUDENT

By staying at home during post-secondary, you can give yourself a financial break

SAMANTHA SAMSON

@SSSHIPWRECKS

VOLUNTEER STAFF



SUPPLIED

If there's one thing I'm afraid of, it's paying bills. Hydro, cell phone, TV, Internet, car insurance, the list goes on. As the Financial Literacy Action Group (FLAG) has dubbed November "Financial Literacy Month," I would like to ask just how FLAG would read my situation: I work at a chain retail store, coach dance on the side and attend school full time; how am I supposed to afford the rising cost of living? While Credit Canada would offer up some sort of budget plan, I'd like to argue that I simply couldn't. But I don't have to – not as long as my parents have a home with room for a futon.

Many 20-somethings have opted out of heading into the big, scary world on their own as their elders have previously (bravely) done. For some, this sounds completely sensible. For others, the notion that a person over the age of 18 is living with his or her parents is unimaginable. Who's to say what's right?

Is there an age at which parents must cut off their children from access to the home? Contrary to my Grandmother's belief, staying at home during your 20s might just be the smartest thing a student can do.

If you pay attention to current news, you know two things: Rob Ford is in a pickle, and our economy isn't stellar. Inflation isn't slowing down and you can forget about job-hunting because there's little employment. Without a steady job equipped with a pension, benefits and above-minimum wage pay, the cost of living is overwhelming. Now, imagine you're 23. You have \$30,000 of student debt. Numerous bills to pay. By living with your parents, one can at least take the stress of paying hefty bills out of the equation of life during or after college.

If you're not sold yet, a gander at the Canadian Federation of Students' website reveals that the average student owes almost \$27,000

after graduation. With that figure in mind, it's hard to argue against staying with your parents. It seems to be the least stressful way of dealing with overwhelming student loans.

Yes, staying at home while going to school, shortly after graduating, or saving up the money in order to rent your first, mouldy, creaking-door apartment is an educated decision to make. But let's get one thing straight: I don't see the point in living with your parents if you've earned enough money to live on your own or with roommates. Aren't you ready to leave the nest? Relying on your parents for some emotional stability and support throughout life is completely acceptable. Relying on them for total financial support? Nuh-uh.

Independence is calling, young Jedi. Answer the call.

*Samantha is a second year Creative Communications student at the University of Winnipeg.*

## CETA: GLOBALIZATION ON STEROIDS

The future of (non-)governance in five easy steps

CHRISTOPHER FRIESEN

VOLUNTEER



SUPPLIED

A month ago Canada and the European Union (EU) reached a tentative deal on the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA). The bi-lateral deal has been called more far-reaching than NAFTA, a forward-looking expansion of globalization, and if you're a Canadian citizen, it's likely you'll be receiving a Christmas card of Stephen Harper and the hefty document wearing matching sweaters sometime this December. So – you might be thinking – if CETA is so prescient, what can it tell us about the future of democracy?

1. **The Straw Man.** First, a hierarchical leader lays out targets, based on metrics anyone who's read the intro chapter of an economics textbook could comprehend (chant it with me: G-D-P, G-D-P). Then, a trading partner is found and economic models (assuming full employment and that all up-tick in investment funnels back into production) are drawn up.

2. **Secrecy.** Nothing is officially released, no public consultations held by parliamentary committees, and even as leaks come out and the original, pie-in-the-sky numbers are incontrovertibly shown as exaggerations, they stick with them.

3. **Last Call Syndrome.** Like a hormone-addled drunkard eyeing the remains of the dance floor – as scandal ensues and approval ratings drop – the leader will lower already-low standards, and pull the thing together. An EU analysis reported its leaders 'gained more than they expected, and might have settled for less if Ottawa had pushed harder.' The fact that the EU's economy dwarfs us (over nine times larger than Canada's), and that we have a trade deficit with them, makes this especially treacherous in terms of potential net employment loss.

4. **Corporate Welfare.** Let's start with the pharmaceutical patent extension which will cost provincial governments \$1-2 billion dollars annually starting in 2023. Harper has said he's open to footing the bill for this. Yes I mean Stephen Harper, whose public expenditure record reads like a franchise of slasher films. Then there's the hand-cuffing of provincial and municipal governments to use public-works contracts to promote local industry, as well as making it impossible to reverse privatizations – even if they are not meeting public needs. Next, financial services liberalization (remember, the thing we resisted in NAFTA, that helped us avoid a

mortgage crisis), that incentivizes the repeal of regulation while bringing a benefit to Canada that an RBC analyst augured will be 'very small.' And finally, the 'investor-state' settlement mechanism, allowing multinational companies to sue our government for, well, governing; in ways they don't like that is.

Fear mongering you say? In the last five years alone Ecuador was fleeced \$77 million for regulating soda, German faces \$1 billion for its energy policies (Quebec is having an analogous problem, thanks NAFTA!), and Exxon just bled Newfoundland for \$65 million for adopting a profit-sharing energy policy (again, NAFTA). While developing countries lobby the World Trade Organization to keep policy doors open, Canada and the EU are essentially forming a 'coalition of the willing' to close these doors. It's a dangerous and vulgar precedent that could have global ramifications.

5. **Malaise.** 'Anti-trade' is like political kryptonite in the year 2013. So far our democracy seems to be sitting this one out.

*Christopher Friesen is a writer and neuroscience student who bangs his head against the global economic system daily.*

## ARTS LISTINGS

### FILM

MEN WITH BEARDS plays at Cinematheque from Nov. 15 - 21.  
THE LAST DOGS OF WINTER plays at Cinematheque from Nov. 20 - 27.  
PORTRAIT OF JASON plays at Cinematheque from Nov. 22 - 24.

### LITERATURE

FREDERIC PERIN will be launching his new book *Rella Two Trees: The Money Thieves* at McNally Robinson on Nov. 21.  
WENDY ERLANGER will be signing her new book at McNally Robinson on Nov. 23 at 2pm.

### GALLERIES & MUSEUMS

In collaboration with AXENÉO7, PLATFORM is very excited to present a solo exhibition of new work by Montreal based artist, PHILLIPE HAMELIN. Show opens Nov. 22 and the artist talk and reception takes place on Nov. 23.

O12\_Clay by artists LANE GIBSON and CHLOE CARPENTER will open at MAKE Coffee Shop on Nov. 21 and run until December.

*Dream Sifter* A solo exhibition by JOHN R. IZZARD will open on Nov. 15 and run until Nov. 26 at The Crebery.

NATASHA GUSTAS *New Works* will be opening at The Edge Gallery on Nov. 15 and run until Nov. 28.

Fall Workshops at the Forum Art Centre are *Intro to Abstract Painting*, Instructor: Gabriela Agüero - Nov. 21, 7pm - 9:30 p.m., fee: \$50. *Intro to Scrapbooking*, Instructor: Nycole DeGroot - Nov. 23, 11am - 3:30pm, fee: \$60. Register at: register@forumartcentre.com

Check out the most recent incarnation of Window on the corner of Arthur and Bannatyne. *100 Masters* is presented by THE NEGATIVE SPACE ARTISTS COLLECTIVE. Who doesn't like SWANS?

Guervich Fine Arts presents *Outlook* by ROBERT SIMS from Nov. 12 until Dec. 16 at McNally Robinson.

Gallery 1C03 presents IAN AUGUSTS exhibition *Re: Build Them*. Opening reception on Nov. 7 from 4-6pm. Show runs until Dec. 7.

Wayne Arthur Gallery invites you to Places Revisited: Paintings and Fiber By JUDITH PANSON. Opening Nov. 3, 1 to 4 PM continues to Nov. 27.

Adhere And Deny is presenting Dario Fo's TRUMPETS AND RASPBERRIES (Clacson, trombette e pernacchi) translated by R. C. McAvoy and A. M. Guigni from Nov. 20 to Nov. 30 at 8p.m. nightly in its pocket theatre at 315-70 Albert Street. Admission is Pay As You Can. For reservations telephone 204-804-9686.

### THEATRE, DANCE & COMEDY

The Desautels Faculty of Music's Opera Theatre and Symphony Orchestra students are collaborating to tell the epic tale of G. F. Handel's glorious opera *Rinaldo* on Nov. 21 at St. Andrews River Heights United Church at 7:30pm.

Black Holes Theatre Company presents *Lion In The Streets* from Nov. 19 - 30 at The Black Hole Theatre.

SHUT UP AND BEND OVER 2 - FOR PROSTATE AWARENESS will be taking play at the Centre Cultural Franco Manitoban on Nov. 26. Expect some laughs! Visit [www.shutupandlaugh-showcase.com](http://www.shutupandlaugh-showcase.com) for more details.

The Cavern invites you to begin laughing again on Sundays.

Comedy at the Rose 'n' Bee is on Thursdays. Every Thursday at Thursday.

Sometimes people like to win contests, see how photo shoots happen, hear interesting behind-the-scenes stories or just be kept in the loop about every gosh darn thing that happens in Uniter-land. There's an easy and efficient way to do this -

**FOLLOW @THEUNITER ON TWITTER & INSTAGRAM FOR EXCLUSIVE ONLINE CONTENT.**

## MISSION: EMPOWERMENT

Community nutrition centre  
Agape Table hosts open  
house

SAMANTHA DUERKSEN



CITY REPORTER

“What we do is food, but what we are is community,” says Dave Cunnin, Assistant Director of Agape Table, a 33-year-old community nutrition centre that aims to help out the homeless. The organization is holding an open house on Friday November 22 from 11:30 am to 2:00 pm at its 175 Colony Street (All Saint’s Church) location to get others interested in an important mission.

The open house will feature a tour, lunch and live music. Special guest, ex-Blue Bomber/musician Troy Westwood will be performing, as well as musicians playing the songs of Stompin’ Tom Connors, Neil Young and Gordon Lightfoot.

Stompin’ Tom Connors’ music was chosen for a reason. “He was born to a teenage mom and lived on the streets himself,” relates Nancy Chippendale, who is helping organize the event. “When he died this past year, his family said Tom would love people to support organizations that are helping out the homeless.”



Martina Richter, Executive Director of Agape Table.

DANIEL CRUMP

A sense of community is the driving force behind Agape Table (Agape means “love” in Greek). With only four people on operational staff, the organization relies heavily on volunteers and still manages to accomplish the amazing feat of feeding approximately 250 people every day.

On Thanksgiving morning this year, volunteers and staff cooked 35 turkeys using one little stove.

The program strives to empower guests by helping them to see themselves beyond the constraints of their situation. It worked for Cunnin. “15 years ago I was a guest here,” he says. “One day a volunteer smiled at me, and that smile was so sincere. I spent my entire life fighting what was wrong with me, and [in that moment] it switched me over to find what was right with me.”

Executive Director Martina Richter explains that homelessness can happen to anyone. She tells the story of a man who

lost his business after his battle with cancer extended past his allotted 15 weeks of unemployment.

Agape Table attempts to re-empower the homeless through a unique dual system. It is free and subsidized for those who want to pay for something better. For example, a free breakfast is served every Monday to Friday, or an upgraded breakfast is available for only \$1. “There’s that whole population, they don’t want that stigma of a hand out,” explains Richter. “They want to earn what they have. It gives that sense of pride.”

The centre hosts a clothing store that has free and purchasable clothing as well as a subsidized grocery store that sells mostly locally-sourced meat, dairy and produce at exceptionally low cost.

They also work with Winnipeg Harvest to provide a food bank, and Project Echo which gets unsold clothing from stores that would otherwise be destroyed.

Richter encourages anyone who is in need to stop by, not just the homeless. “Everyone at some point in their life has a need,” she asserts. “Students who are living on Kraft Dinner, get your bum in here and pick up some broccoli, buy a jug of milk. What you can do is later on when you’re making the huge dollars, give back to something, someone.”



For information on the event, organization, or a top 10 list of needed donations, visit [agapetable.ca](http://agapetable.ca).

## INNER-CITY REVITALIZATION THROUGH EDUCATION

University of Winnipeg’s Urban Studies Department doing it right

SAMANTHA DUERKSEN



CITY REPORTER

The University of Winnipeg’s Urban and Inner-city Studies department has clued in to a key for increasing education success in the inner-city, and in turn is transforming Winnipeg communities.

The program uses its location to bridge the gap between the poorer end of the city and the rest. “Instead of saying to people in the North End ‘why don’t you come to University?’ we’ve done it the other way around and brought University to them,” Jim Silver, professor and chair of the faculty, says.

The North End has been segregated from the rest of Winnipeg for the past century, creating a pocket of poverty and violence. A large problem the area is now facing is a cycle of poverty and low education levels. “In some North End neighbourhoods, about 20-25% [of] students graduate on time compared to about 90% in the suburbs,” Silver reports.

The Urban and Inner-city Studies program makes education available to low-income students by using the UW Opportunity Fund to pay for tuition and books for the first year for those in need. It then works with students to find further funding as they continue with their degree.

“We offer here an environment that is very different from main campus,” says

Silver. “We know our students’ first names, we know their family situation, provide a whole host of extra supports.”

40-50% of the students there now are from the inner-city. Cheyenne Henry, program coordinator and department assistant says that many come from difficult backgrounds, including “poverty, crime, addiction, abuse... the list can go on.”

Silver and two others in the four person faculty are members of the Manitoba Research Alliance group which has published many works, in addition to winning an international award this year from the Community Campus Partnerships of Health for the strength and quality of the university’s community connections.

Some of its research on adult aboriginal education programs has found that a huge factor in their educational success is that “they incorporate a strong cultural component so they reconnect aboriginal people with their cultural heritage,” Silver says.

“One of the things that colonization has done is to separate aboriginal people from their cultural heritage and that creates problems.”

Those who rediscover that positive aspect of themselves bring it back to the community. “The positive thing is the amount of resiliency in these students,” confirms Henry.

Perhaps the greatest symbol of metamorphosis that the faculty is creating in the inner-city is its plan to extend the cam-



pus into its neighbour, the old Merchants Hotel. This hotel was renowned for its criminal activity, and drug deals were a frequent sighting on the sidewalk out front. The hotel was bought by the province in 2012, and will be turned over to a non-profit community organization. The Urban and Inner-city Studies department will share the building with CEDA-Pathways (Community Education Development Association) to Education. The faculty plans on using

space in the building for new classrooms, and transforming the back lot into housing for its students.

It will help change a negative reputation to “a symbol of everything that is positive,” Silver says.

DANIEL CRUMP

## BOXES OF HOPE

New initiative aims to brighten up the holidays for women in shelters

ADRIENNE TESSIER

 @HISTORYBUFF1295

VOLUNTEER STAFF

With the holidays fast approaching, it's important to keep in mind those who don't have the means to experience the season of sharing gifts the way many of us do. The Shoebox Project, a registered non-profit based in Toronto that collects shoeboxes filled with luxury goods and delivers them to women in shelters, helps to do just that.

"It is specifically directed at women instead of children, just because children usually get so much focus that we thought that it would be nice for the women to get a gift," Winnipeg coordinator Eva Whitmore says. "Some of them haven't had gifts for years."

Each box, valued at about \$50, contains items that a woman would enjoy, but may not be able to buy for herself, such as makeup or chocolate.

2013 marks the first year Winnipeg is one of 20 cities across the country participating in the project, with boxes being distributed to Alpha House, Ikwe Widdjitiwin and Osborne House. However, due to an outpouring of public support,



Martina Richter, Executive Director of Agape Table.

DANIEL CRUMP

Whitmore is hoping to distribute boxes to Agape House in Steinbach and Nova House in Selkirk, too.

"The response has been phenomenal. The three shelters [in Winnipeg that] I contacted, we needed about 60 boxes... but just from the contacts I've had, we're over 150 now."

If the number of boxes surpasses the number of residents in the shelters, the boxes will be passed on to women through shelter outreach programs.

"We were very pleased when we got the call and learned that we would be the recipients of this very innovative idea," confirms Marlene Bertrand, provisional administrator at Osborne House.

"It must be a lot of fun to take and fill a shoebox. It's not a monumental project, but one where you can really put items in there that are both practical and have a little bit of luxury to them as well," Bertrand continues. "We're so happy to be recognized as one of the many worthy agencies to [be a part of] this project."

Osborne House provided residential services to 421 women and 361 children in the 2012-2013 fiscal year alone. Most stayed at the shelter for up to one month.

From November 18 to December 22, boxes can be dropped off at one of eight Winnipeg locations including three of Winnipeg's public libraries.



Interested in making a box? They can be dropped off at one of eight Winnipeg locations between November 18 and December 10.

For more information visit [shooboxproject.com](http://shooboxproject.com).

## LEFT PUNCH

With his memoirs, late Winnipeg activist Nick Ternette is still fighting for equality

DEBORAH REMUS

 @DEBORAHREMUS

ARTS REPORTER

On March 3, Winnipeg political activist Nick Ternette died at the age of 68. Now, his memoirs have surfaced in an autobiography called *Rebel Without a Pause*.

The book chronicles Ternette's childhood memories growing up in Berlin, Germany before moving to Winnipeg, and spans the over 40 years he spent as a citizen advocate in which he ran 22 times for political office. The book finishes with his battle against cancer and flesh eating disease.

His personal life remains guarded, but Ternette is open about his far-left political opinions and even wrote an entire chapter imagining what Winnipeg might look like if he actually became mayor and could implement a guaranteed annual income system instead of using welfare.

"After he went into the hospital to have his legs amputated in 2009 he started to feel strongly about wanting to leave something behind and releasing this book," says his wife Emily Ternette, who met Nick back in 1985 when she volunteered on *Crossfire*, which was his public access television show at the time.

She helped by writing the preface, going



SUPPLIED

through the manuscript to make sure it was accurate and ultimately made the book a reality by phoning up the Manitoba Writers' Guild to ask about hiring a ghostwriter.

In the end she was put in touch with Glenn Morison, who admired Ternette's ideas and agreed to take on the project as a labour of love even though the two men had never even met before.

"He needed some help writing because of his health," Morison says, who also wrote a book called *Quitting* and works with prisoners as the executive director of Open Circle, a faith-based, non-profit program by Initiatives for Just Communities.

"It's his life and his ideas, but I did help him bring it all together."

Morison started off studying interviews with Ternette taped by a University of Winnipeg history student named Elliot

Hanowski. He also read through Ternette's previous work, went through some of his belongings and interviewed Ternette himself before the book was shipped off to Roseway Publishing a few weeks before Ternette died.

"One of the hardest things was to push Nick to speak in a narrative because he was so ideological," Morison says. "If I asked him what year it was, all he cared about was the issue at stake and that doesn't always make for the best story."

"I'm sort of embarrassed to admit this now, but a lot of people assumed he was just this loud gong and his political analysis ended up being much richer than I ever would have imagined."

Ternette also graduated from the University of Winnipeg with a degree in sociology in the 1960s, moved into residence at

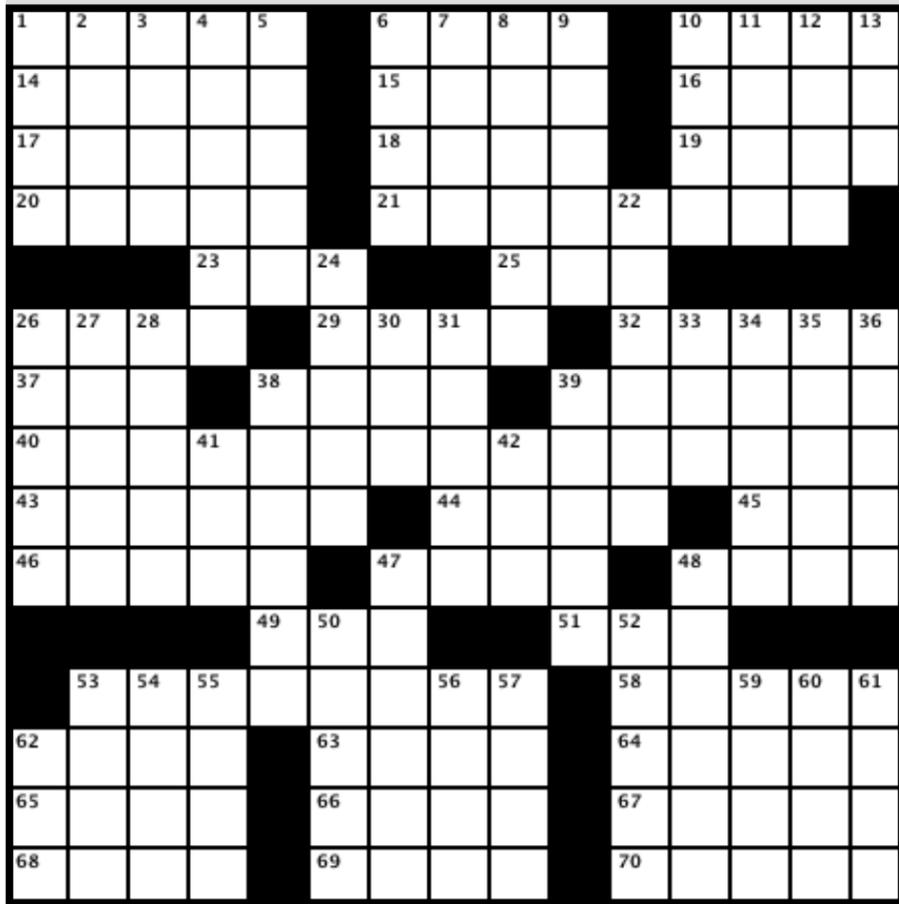
McFeetors Hall near the end of his life and wrote his last column for *The Uniter* about the health gap between rich and poor Manitobans in January 2013.

"Even in January he was still putting on his jacket and I'd say 'You're not well,' but off he'd go out the door anyway," Emily says. "He was forever keeping active until he truly couldn't anymore."

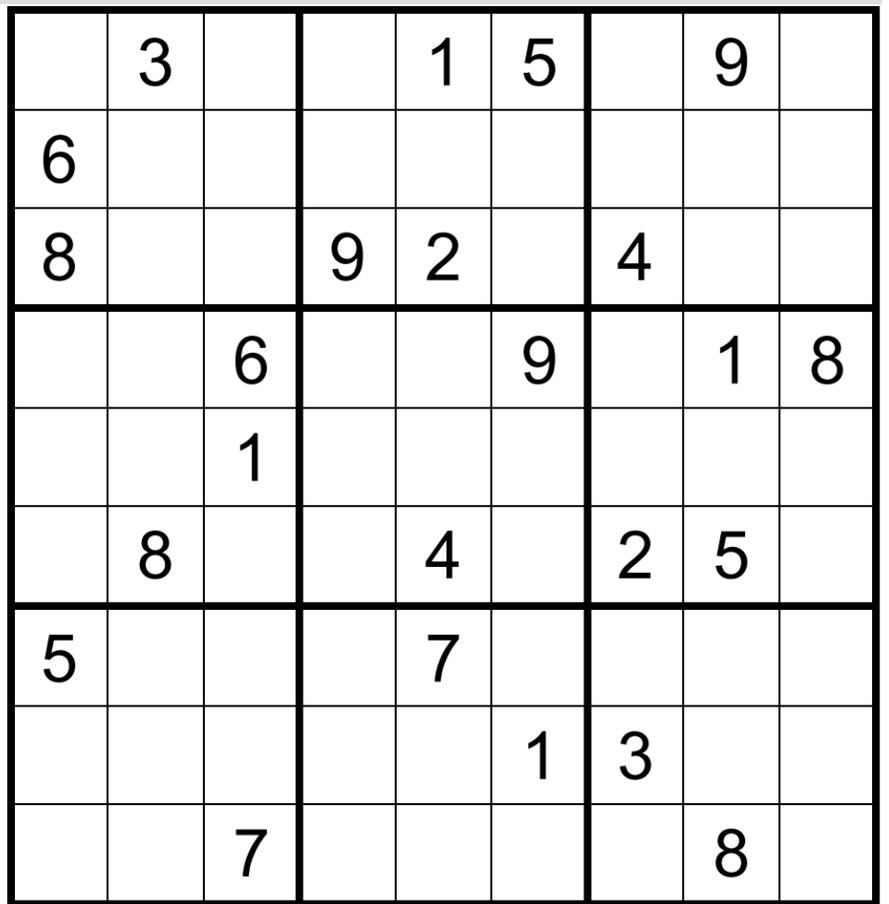


*Rebel Without a Pause* can be purchased through McNally Robinson, Amazon.ca and Chapters.

# DIVERSIONS



BESTCROSSWORDS.COM



PDFPAD.COM/SUDOKU

## ACROSS

- 1- Outdoes;
- 6- Org.;
- 10- Boxer Max;
- 14- Hilo hello;
- 15- Objectionable;
- 16- Arch type;
- 17- Kidney enzyme;
- 18- Muslim leader;
- 19- Honeycomb unit;
- 20- Deflect;
- 21- Sour;
- 23- Dip in liquid;
- 25- Cigarette ingredient;
- 26- Pole;
- 29- Addition column;
- 32- Ablaze;
- 37- "Lord, is \_\_\_?":  
Matthew;
- 38- Rejection power;
- 39- Set in layers;
- 40- In spite of;
- 43- Grunts;
- 44- Pitch-black;
- 45- Canonized Mlle.;
- 46- Nairobi's nation;
- 47- Poker stake;
- 48- Cries of discovery;
- 49- Shelter;
- 51- Capture;
- 53- Maintain;
- 58- Gross;
- 62- Like Cheerios;
- 63- Racetrack boundary;
- 64- Begrime;
- 65- Turn tail and run;
- 66- Romance lang.;
- 67- Hazardous gas;
- 68- Actress Harper;
- 69- Congers;
- 70- Saying;

## DOWN

- 1- Vamp Theda;
- 2- Hgt.;
- 3- Unit of loudness;
- 4- Need for liquid;
- 5- \_\_\_ Domingo;
- 6- Tel \_\_\_;
- 7- \_\_\_ Valley, Calif.;
- 8- Biases;
- 9- Where Hercules slew  
the lion;
- 10- \_\_\_ Raton;
- 11- Teen follower;
- 12- Hard to hold;
- 13- Seminary subj.;
- 22- Granular;
- 24- Writers of verse;
- 26- Capital of Belarus;
- 27- Make amends;
- 28- Squelch;
- 30- \_\_\_ degree;
- 31- Red fluorescent dye;
- 33- Gave grub;
- 34- Whiskey type;
- 35- \_\_\_-car;
- 36- Perimeters;
- 38- Essential parts;
- 39- Captivated (by);
- 41- Twisted;
- 42- Explosive stuff;
- 47- Add fizz;
- 48- In a foreign country;
- 50- So spooky as to be  
frightening;
- 52- Ghana's capital;
- 53- "\_\_\_ Rider" starred  
Clint Eastwood;
- 54- Numbered rds.;
- 55- Baby blues;
- 56- Antidote holder,  
maybe;
- 57- Building wings;
- 59- "Betsy's Wedding"  
star;
- 60- Trudge;
- 61- New Year's word;
- 62- Frequently;



## Student Services



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

### ACADEMIC ADVISING

#### FINAL EXAM INFO

Fall final exams are just a month away! Double check your scheduled dates and times to make sure you don't have any conflicts.

Go to [www.uwinnipeg.ca](http://www.uwinnipeg.ca)

"Exam Schedule"  
"2013-2014 Fall, Fall/Winter, Winter Exam Schedule"

If you have a direct final exam conflict then follow the instructions found in "Important Information about Final Exam Conflicts". If you have 3 exams that begin and end within a 24 hour period, and you would like to reschedule one, please speak with an Academic Advisor in 1C16.

Remember, making an alternate exam arrangement is time sensitive, start making plans now!

#### ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES

Accessibility Services provides a number of accommodations and supports to students with documented disabilities as well as short & long-term medical conditions. If you think you may have a disability, we can also provide you with information and support.

**Office Hours:** Monday to Friday, 8:30AM to 4:30PM  
**Location:** Room 1A08 - 1st Floor, Ashdown Hall  
**Website address:** [www.uwinnipeg.ca/accessibility](http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/accessibility)  
**General Information:** [accessibility@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:accessibility@uwinnipeg.ca)

**Phone:** 786-9771

#### AWARDS & FINANCIAL AID

Are you in the final year of your Undergraduate program? And are you applying to begin a Graduate or Professional program next academic year?

If you answered yes to both questions, you may qualify for a Graduate and Professional Studies Expenses Bursary to help subsidize the costs associated with applying for Graduate and/or Professional programs.

Go to [www.uwinnipeg.ca](http://www.uwinnipeg.ca)  
 Click "Student"  
 Click "Awards and Financial Aid"  
 Click "In-Course Awards (current students)"

These awards are provided on a first-come, first-serve basis until the funding is exhausted. Be sure to apply as early as possible!

#### STUDENT CENTRAL

##### LOCKER RENTALS

Ever find yourself with just too many books to carry from class to class? Don't stress – rent out a locker from the Student Central! There are lockers still available on the 2nd floor of Centennial Hall, in the basement of MB Hall and on the 3rd floor of Richardson College. Locker rentals are \$40 per person for Fall & Winter.

Just send a Webmail email to [studentcentral@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:studentcentral@uwinnipeg.ca) with your preferred location or visit us at Student Central.

#### U2013FW COURSE DROPS

Friday, November 22nd is the last day to drop a U2013FW course for a 50% refund of the base Tuition, UWSA Building Fund and UWSA fees.

#### WAIT LISTS

Don't lose out on a seat in a wait listed course! Remember to check your Webmail for permission to register every Monday and Thursday.

#### MAKE UP DAYS

Classes on Wednesday, November 27th and Thursday, November 28th will be scheduled in accordance with a Monday schedule to make up for classes missed on Thanksgiving and Remembrance Day.

ASK! You of W

PHONE: 204.779.UWIN (8946) | EMAIL: [studentcentral@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:studentcentral@uwinnipeg.ca)

# LAUNCH YOUR CAREER WITH A POSTGRAD IN BUSINESS

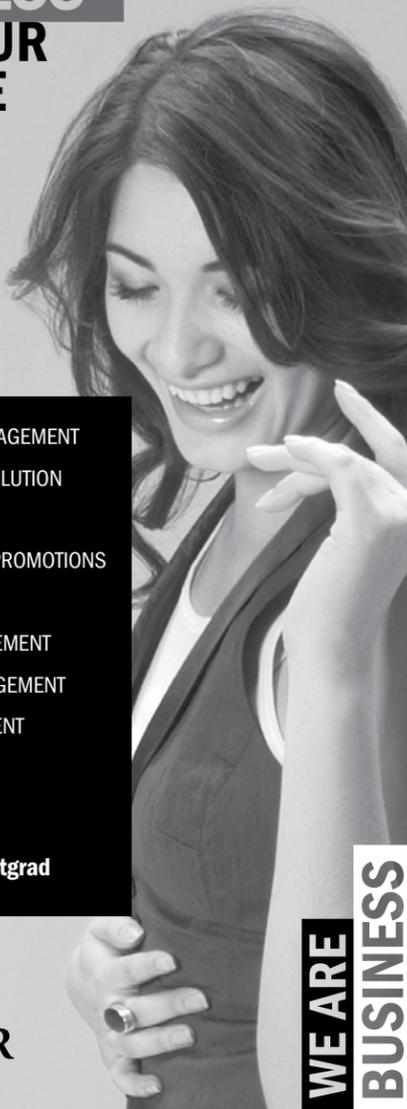
## CHOOSE YOUR CERTIFICATE

- ADVERTISING - MEDIA MANAGEMENT
- ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION
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- FASHION MANAGEMENT & PROMOTIONS
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- HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT
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- MARKETING MANAGEMENT
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[business.humber.ca/postgrad](http://business.humber.ca/postgrad)



**WE ARE BUSINESS**



### Reynold Beniza

"My style is a mix of hippy and hype beast with a little bit of post apocalyptic warrior mixed in."

MIKE SUDOMA

The Uniter Fashion Streeter is an ongoing documentation of creative fashion in Winnipeg inspired by the Helsinki fashion blog [www.hel-looks.com](http://www.hel-looks.com). Each issue will feature a new look from our city's streets and bars in an attempt to encourage individual expression and celebrate that you are really, really good looking.

## THE BACK PAGE LIST

### 1. JUSTIN TRUDEAU

The MP gave a speech about pot legalization in an elementary school. Get 'em while they're young.

### 2. SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE VS ROB FORD FEATURING R. KELLY

Bobby Moynihan's use of "aboot" for "about" is on par with "me so sawlly". Also - R. Kelly doing push-ups on Lady Gaga.

### 3. CHARTATTACK.COM

Once the website of Canada's lone monthly music glossy, it was sold when the mag went under and is now a lame blog on which you can read shitty music lists (Rob Gordon, fictional or not, is cringing).

### 4. OUR READERS POLL

If something you hate wins, it's our fault.

### 5. SNOW

It's November.

### 6. KANYE WEST MAKES SURPRISE APPEARANCE AT HARVARD GRAD

### SCHOOL OF DESIGN

"I believe that utopia is actually possible - but we're led by the least noble, the least dignified, the least tasteful, the dumbest, and the most political." - Kanye West

### 7. SWEARIN'

The band's "Dust in the Gold Sack" has been stuck in our heads all weekend. Do yourself a favour and get it in yours.

### 8. WINNIPEG FOLK FEST HONOURS ANI DIFRANCO

Liz Phair would be totally jealous if she weren't busy making music for *Super Fun Night*.

### 9. SUPER FUN NIGHT

Pretty decent little comedy with heart gives guest shots to former *Mad TV* and *SNL* cast members. Hey, someone has to.

### 10. THIS LIST

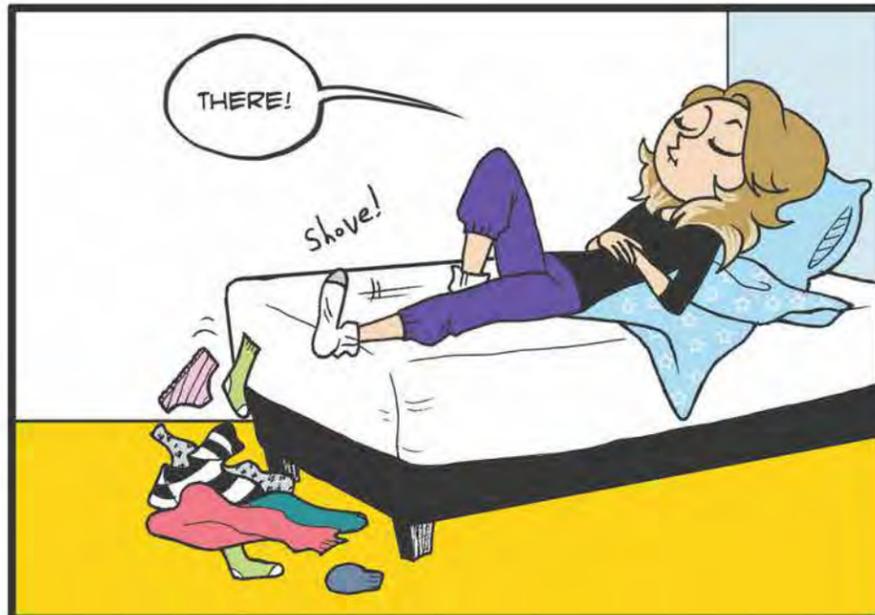
Not always a cynical, hopeless place to live, but we try.

### SOLUTIONS TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLES.

1	A	S	S	A	I	6	R	E	C	A	P	11	E	D	A			
14	S	T	E	R	N	15	E	L	O	P	E	16	L	I	L			
17	K	L	E	P	T	18	O	M	A	N	I	A	19	E	G	G		
20	A	O	K	21	A	L	A	N	22	A	N	E	M	I	A			
24	A	G	E	R	25	E	R	U	D	I	T	E						
26	S	A	L	T	L	A	K	29	E	C	I	T	Y					
30	A	M	A	T	I	31	L	T	S	32	S	T	O	A				
36	R	E	V	37	O	N	E	38	I	O	T	A	40	D	A	T	E	S
42	G	R	A	S	43	U	P	S	44	D	A	T	E	S				
47	C	O	M	P	E	N	S	A	T	I	O	N						
51	E	N	S	U	R	E	S	54	A	C	M	E						
55	R	A	T	T	E	R	56	S	P	A	S	57	R	U	E			
60	E	M	O	61	L	O	V	E	62	I	N	A	M	I	S	T		
64	C	E	L	65	S	U	A	V	E	66	L	E	V	E	E			
67	T	S	E	68	E	S	T	E	R	69	E	W	E	R	S			

4	6	9	8	5	7	3	1	2
1	2	8	3	6	4	7	5	9
7	5	3	9	2	1	8	4	6
5	9	4	1	7	6	2	8	3
2	7	1	5	8	3	9	6	4
3	8	6	4	9	2	5	7	1
9	4	7	6	3	8	1	2	5
8	1	5	2	4	9	6	3	7
6	3	2	7	1	5	4	9	8

## CIRCLE HEADS



# Working for Students



**Greg Selinger**

MLA for St. Boniface  
Premier of Manitoba  
204-237-9247  
GregSelinger.ca



**Jennifer Howard**

MLA for Fort Rouge  
204-946-0272  
JenniferHoward.ca



**Christine Melnick**

MLA for Riel  
204-253-5162  
ChristineMelnick.ca



**Peter Bjornson**

MLA for Gimli  
204-642-4977  
1-866-253-0255  
PeterBjornson.ca



**Mohinder Saran**

MLA for The Maples  
204-632-7933  
MohinderSaran.ca



**Matt Wiebe**

MLA for Concordia  
204-654-1857  
MattWiebe.ca



**Greg Dewar**

MLA for Selkirk  
204-482-7066  
1-855-695-1361  
GregDewar.ca



**Erin Selby**

MLA for Southdale  
204-253-3918  
ErinSelby.ca



**Ron Lemieux**

MLA for Dawson Trail  
204-878-4644  
Ron-Lemieux.ca



**Sharon Blady**

MLA for Kirkfield Park  
204-832-2318  
SharonBlady.ca



**Flor Marcelino**

MLA for Logan  
204-788-0800  
FlorMarcelino.ca



**Rob Altemeyer**

MLA for Wolseley  
204-775-8575  
RobAltemeyer.ca



**James Allum**

MLA for Fort Garry-Riverview  
204-475-2270  
JamesAllum.ca



**Dave Gaudreau**

MLA for St. Norbert  
204-261-1794  
DaveGaudreau.ca



**Kerri Irvin-Ross**

MLA for Fort Richmond  
204-475-9433  
KerriIrvinRoss.ca



**Nancy Allan**

MLA for St. Vital  
204-237-8771  
NancyAllan.ca