

THE

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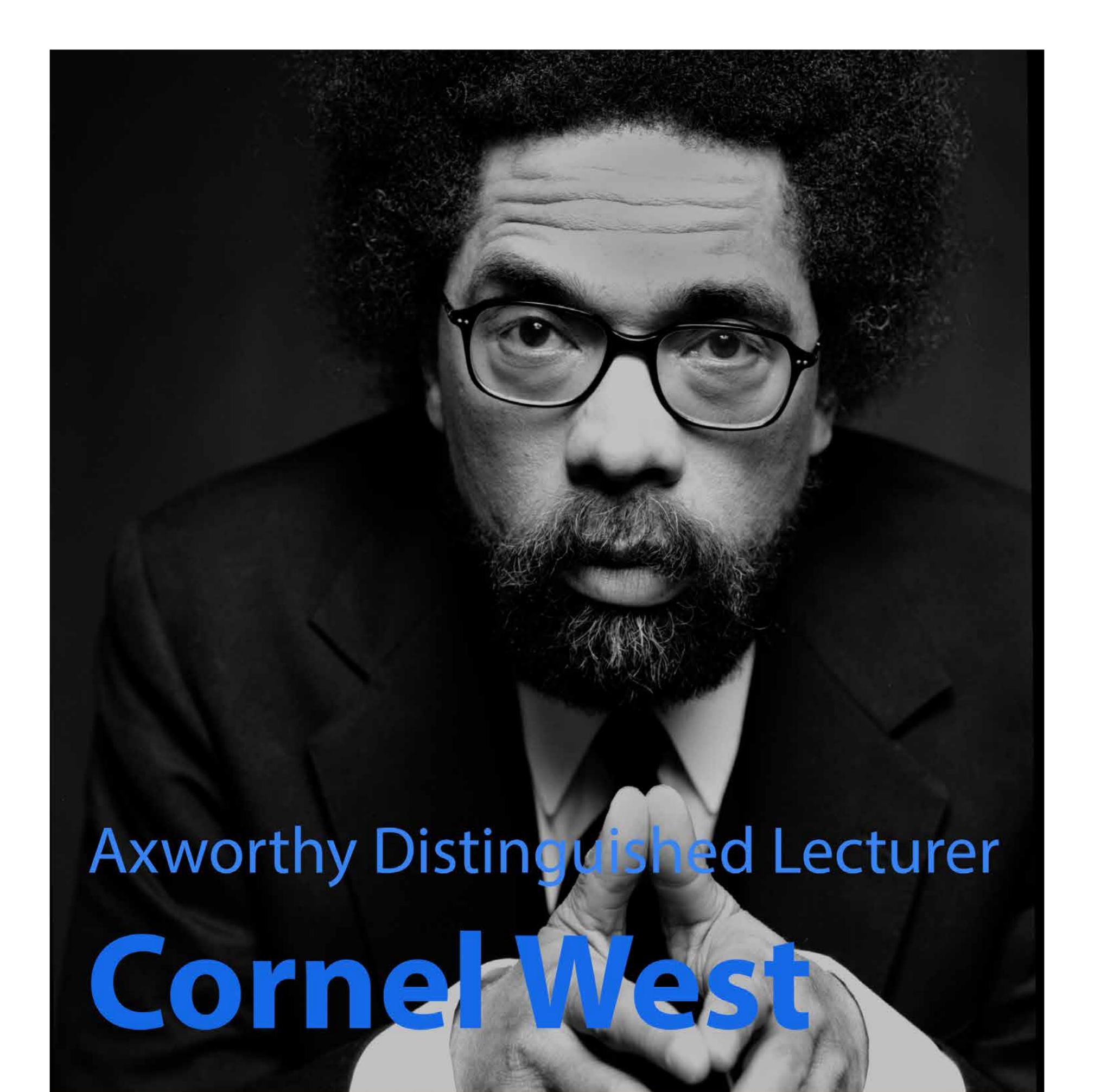
UNDERGROUND BEATDOWN

Thomas Pashko infiltrates Winnipeg's
underground wrestling scene

CARLY DOW &
LOGAN MCKILLOP

ELLIOT
BROOD

HARI
KONDABOLU

A black and white portrait of Cornel West, a man with a large afro, glasses, and a beard, wearing a suit and tie. He is looking directly at the camera with his hands clasped in front of him.

Axworthy Distinguished Lecturer
Cornel West

Social Justice in a Secular Age

A lecture by Dr. Cornel West presented in conjunction with the Sping Institute "Public Religion in a Secular World".

Riddell Hall, The University of Winnipeg

Friday, May 8th, 2015 at 7:00

Free admission



THE UNIVERSITY OF
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For more information, contact c.colorado@uwinnipeg.ca. This lecture is sponsored by a generous gift from Dr. Jim Burns. To donate to the Axworthy Distinguished Lecture Series on Social Justice and the Public Good, contact The University of Winnipeg Foundation at (204) 786-9995.

* ON THE COVER

Adara Moreau photographs the high-flyin' fisticuffs of the Canadian Wrestling Elite (CWE)



Elliot BROOD plays Festival Du Voyageur Feb. 21

SUPPLIED

PREZ SAYZ

Over the past year, the University of Winnipeg Students' Association and the University of Winnipeg Aboriginal Students' Council have been developing a new graduation requirement for undergraduate students, known as the Indigenous Requirement.

If it is approved, all undergraduate students would take a minimum of three credit hours from a list of courses that focus on Indigenous history, culture, lived experience, and ways of knowing in order to graduate. Looking at the existing course offerings, at least one hundred courses in seventeen different areas of study would qualify if the requirement were implemented tomorrow. The Requirement is structured in a way that would give students the flexibility to take courses that interest them.

The rationale for this requirement is clear: in order to move forward towards a more peaceful future, all Canadians must have a better understanding of our shared past. Winnipeg in particular has been a site of great injustice, however it is clear that we also have the opportunity to lead the way towards some measure of meaningful reconciliation.

The institutional politics surrounding requirements are complicated: some are more worried about logistics and growth within their department whereas our responsibility as a public university to create spaces for meaningful dialogue and learning is in the public interest. Despite this, the overwhelming majority of students, faculty, and administrators have been very supportive.

In the coming months, the UWSA will be working to advocate for this requirement and we need your input. For more information and a complete description of the proposal, visit theuwsa.ca/indigenous-requirement-lobbying/ and be in touch at pres@theuwsa.ca.

- Rorie Mcleod Arnould, President of the UWSA

CORRECTION

On page 7 of the Feb. 5 issue, we incorrectly credited the story "Soothsayers & Superheroes". It should have been attributed to Thomas Pashko. *The Uniter* regrets this error.

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PHOTOS BY SERGE GUMENYUK

DEBORAH REMUS

@DEBORAHREMUS

ARTS REPORTER

If you're looking for any of the members of the Mariachi Ghost on a Tuesday night, chances are you'll find them jamming together in a basement.

Drummer Ian Mikita's rented house in River Heights has turned into a practice space for the local band. The Mariachi Ghost is known for its dramatic performance and blend of progressive rock with traditional Mexican music.

"We're firm believers of winter refuge in the basement and this is really where we do our best writing work," lead vocalist/guitarist Jorge Requena says.

Right now the band is busy practicing for Festival du Voyageur, where it will be playing its own versions of traditional Francophone songs.

The group is also excited to be opening for a Spanish band called Jarabe De Palo that headlines arenas in Latin America and plays the Park Theatre on March 20.

"They literally called us on the phone and I thought it was my friends from Mexico calling me and making a joke. Even my mom knows who they are and is excited for the show," Requena says.

1) PIÑATAS

"These are piñatas from our most recent Mexico Independence Day show. We also have a big skull that was made for us for our CD release, our Western Canadian Music Award and tons more. All things related to Mariachi Ghost end up finding its way down here," jarana player Gabriel Fields says.

2) SAUNA

"I bought this at Costco and it was really hard to get down here. I had to cut the front panel in half and chip out some of the door frame, but I made it happen and it's lovely. Three of us had



a band sauna together a couple of weeks ago," Mikita says.

3) QUIJADA

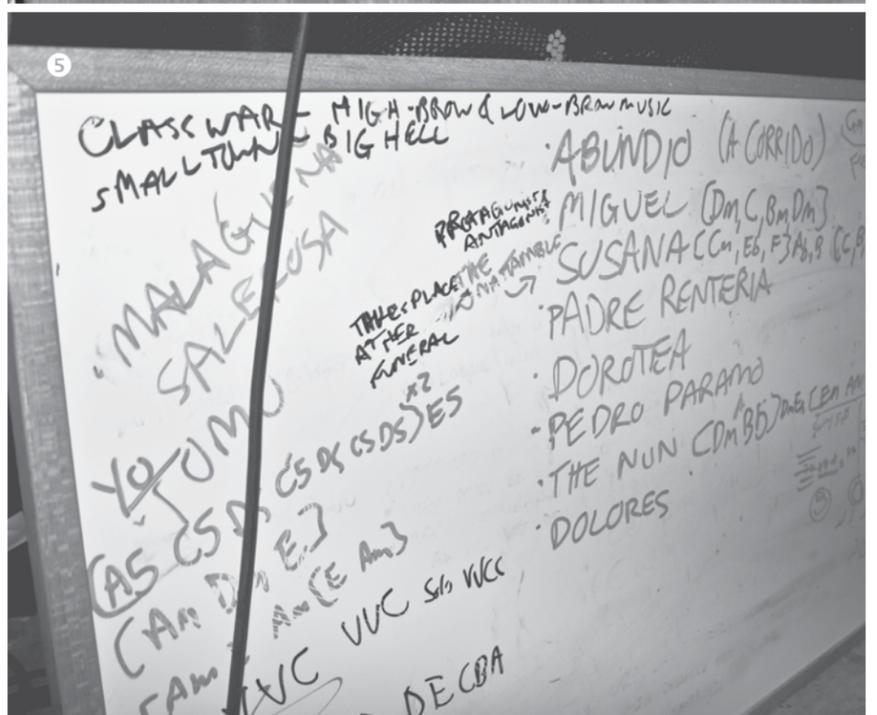
"This is one of the many instruments Tim Friesen plays in the band. It's a traditional instrument from Peru that's a donkey jaw and sounds like a rattle. We've broken quite a couple of them during the course of the band," Requena says.

4) CHOPPING BLOCK

"One morning I was coming home hung over from our old practice space and I saw this at a garage sale. This chopping block is my favourite piece of furniture and I'm really proud of it," Mikita says.

5) PROGRESS BOARD

"We're working on new material and this is how we keep track of it all. We're writing an album about a book called *Pedro Páramo* and we're writing songs for the different characters right now," Requena says.





THE SOAPBOX

WITH DAYNE MOYER

@GREATESTDAYNE

IT'S TIME TO CHAT ABOUT ENABLING.

Okay guys, it's time we have a chat. And let's be clear, I don't mean "guys" from the perspective of our language that often defaults to a masculine bias; I actually mean that right now, I need to talk to those who identify as men. Female or feminine identified folks, you can of course join in - some of you already have - but ultimately, this conversation is most needed between us guys.

I really hope we can be frank with each other about something that seriously has to stop. It's called enabling, namely the enabling of the harmful traits we all too often associate with masculinity. Yikes, I said it! But the world didn't end, so stick around with me for a bit here.

Let's go back a couple of weeks to Jan. 16. Ben Wickstrom, a law student and former political staffer, tweeted The Pint Winnipeg pub about an offensive, sexist poster they had on display and the establishment responded by taking the poster down. That



NICHOLAS LUCHAK

part was actually quite innocuous; we're going to talk about what happened next. People - almost exclusively men - took to Twitter and viciously attacked Wickstrom for pointing out this example of sexism and the exploitation of women.

While many of these comments were pretty disgraceful, Wickstrom's response took the focus off of himself with the following tweet: "And I'm pretty sure I got 2% of the abuse that any woman who speaks out receives."

Not only was it noteworthy that a man was speaking out against sexism, it was also noteworthy that he was being harassed on social media too.

That's a pretty scary idea. It's scary because when women speak out about issues surrounding sexism, it's seen as normal, while we still seem to consider men advocating for women's rights as groundbreaking. We also seem to care a lot more when a guy gets harassed on social media for defending his opinion even though it's par for the course in the lives of many women.

Now, whether or not we care about the comments, we need to talk about the nature of these comments. Most tweets asserted that Wickstrom was gay or trans as a way of explaining why he may object to the sexism in the poster. While many people would rather laugh off these

remarks, I urge you to take them seriously. This is the part where I really need you to pay attention, because this is that harmful-trait-enabling crap I'm talking about.

By queering the idea of a feminist man, we're perpetuating the assertion that "real men" don't act against sexism. The notion that real men encourage and enjoy consuming sexist materials is dangerous to women but also to men. It's a large part of why men are less likely to report sexual assault, and it's the figurative line drawn in the sand of how much a guy can speak up before his peers no longer have his back. This is the isolating point of no return that we have the power to reclaim and it applies to all forms of systemic oppression.

As I wrote this, I had a conversation with a co-worker about being notorious for not putting up with bigotry - in this case racism - and his question reminded me how far we still have to go. He asked me "well, what kind of background do you come from that would encourage you to speak up against this kind of thing anyways?" My answer should have been, "The human perspective."

Speaking out should be the "normal," and the question men should be asking each other is, "Why the hell aren't you speaking up against this?" So guys, I hope you engage in feminism because you care about the sexism that's still alive and well and is probably impacting you whether you realize it or not. If you're not fighting against it, you're contributing to it.

Dayne Moyer is a masculine identified feminist who spends his spare time training for the Iditarod. They are a gin and obscure vinyl enthusiast that is best known for his superman onesies and impromptu rants.

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FROM ONANOLE, WITH LOVE

Carly Dow and Logan McKillop swap city and country, but share musical inspiration

SHANAE BLAQUIERE @SHANAEBLQAO

VOLUNTEER

Solo artists Carly Dow and Logan McKillop have a lot in common: familial roots in Onanole, MB, an appreciation for the captivating beauty of Riding Mountain National Park, a comfortable niche in the local singer-songwriter scene and an intimate show set for Feb. 17 at the Times Changed High and Lonesome Club.

The two have dubbed the show "Riding Mountain Review" to pay homage to their shared origins. "We were actually hired for the show first, and then we thought, 'Oh, this is kind of cool,'" Dow says over the phone.

Dow will headline the Riding Mountain Review. Her upcoming album, *Ingrained*, is slated for release this May.



Carly Dow

She plans to tour the album in Canada and has hopes for touring it in Europe.

It's only been a couple of months since she moved from Winnipeg to the country, but Dow says her small patch of land just outside of Onanole helps stimulate her writer's itch.

"There is a lot of input of nature and my surroundings that come into my songs. I think that's part of the reason I moved out of the city. I find it easier to write. It comes a lot more naturally when I'm not in a city setting. In terms

of creativity, I think being out anywhere in nature helps me. Specifically this area because I have a home tie to it."

McKillop notes that he and Dow have shared the stage before as part of a collective in the Onanole and Riding Mountain area. "Every summer, we put on a production and do a reenactment of historical shows. We brought Carly in as a guest to sing for the Bob Dylan and Neil Young shows," McKillop says.

McKillop, the opening act for Riding Mountain Review, released his debut *Prai-*

rie Sky in 2013. He's currently working on writing songs and building a name for himself in Winnipeg. In the next year, he plans to write more material and delve into the early stages of recording his next album.

Like Dow, McKillop cites the prairie scenery as a major point of inspiration.

"I've been inspired by the Park and the natural world. I know I use a lot imagery: the wind, the sun, the moon, stuff like that. It's something that I feel very strongly about - true natural beauty."

McKillop changed scenery in the fall too, but unlike Dow, he moved to the "big new world" of Winnipeg. City life offers a change of pace from that of humble Onanole: "You don't see problems [in small towns] that a city like Winnipeg does," he admits, "[but] you are who you are no matter where you live."

Whereas McKillop is now minutes away from Winnipeg's lively music scene, Dow is a gaping three hours away. She says she doesn't mind. "You have to drive no matter what. If the shows are worth it, it's great to come in as often as I can. Times is an iconic venue. It's by far one of my favourite venues that I've ever played in."



Carly Dow and Logan McKillop play the Riding Mountain Review on Feb. 17 at the Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club, 234 Main St. Show starts at 9 p.m. and cover is \$10. See highandlonesomeclub.ca for more.

A PERSONAL BROOD

Elliott BROOD write more truth than fiction on latest release

DEBORAH REMUS @DEBORAH REMUS

ARTS REPORTER

Instead of focusing on historic battles, Elliott BROOD decided that its latest record, *Work and Love*, would be more about the band members' actual lives.

The Toronto-based alt-country trio - comprised of Mark Sasso on lead vocals, guitar, banjo and ukulele, Casey Laforet on guitar, bass pedals and vocals plus Stephen Pitkin on percussion - formed in 2002.

For this release, dropped last October through Paper Bag Records, the band tried to switch things up. The trio recorded the album at a Bath, ON farmhouse owned by members of the Tragically Hip.

"We were originally going to record out on the West Coast near Seattle, but that fell through and they opened up some dates for us to get everything down within two weeks," Sasso, 40, says over the phone. He spoke to the Uniter while out on the road.



"We were able to hole up and focus on them every day instead of having to float in and out of daily life. I don't think we'll ever make another record any other way moving forward. It was great to seclude ourselves and just focus on the music," Sasso says.

For the first time the band also decided to hire a producer. They chose Ian Blurton, who's previously worked with the Weakerthans and Attack in Black.

"After so many years it's nice to add something different to the mix and I think it ended up perfectly," Sasso says.

"He approached vocals differently and that's the one thing I kind of took away from it. I think he really brought the vocals to the forefront and it's like there's two lead singers on all of these songs."

The album title comes from a line in the song "Soon Enough," on Canadian indie rock group Constantines' 2005 full-length *Tournament of Hearts*.

"We love that song, but overall we felt like that line encapsulated what we were going after lyrically," Sasso says.

For this album, the Elliott BROOD trio tried to write songs that were more influenced by their personal lives, which is a definite contrast from its previous work.

Days Into Years had lyrical content inspired by the First World War, while *Mountain Meadows* was based off a massacre that happened in the Utah Territory in 1857.

"This one stems more inside of ourselves instead of outside ourselves, which was different. For whatever reason we were writing more personal songs about our lives and growing older and having families," Sasso says.

The band plans on attending the JUNO Awards next month, where *Work and Love* is nominated in the *Roots and Traditional Album of the Year: Group* category.

Aside from that, Elliott BROOD will be busy touring all over North America and hits Winnipeg on Feb. 21 during the annual Festival du Voyageur.

"It should be pretty great. We almost played last year, but we ended up getting booked to play in the Yukon so we weren't able to do it unfortunately," Sasso says.



Elliott BROOD plays the MTS Rivière Rouge Tent in Voyageur Park on Saturday, Feb. 21 from 10:30 pm - 11:45 pm
Adult day passes are \$17 and the 10-day festival pass is \$30
Visit elliottbrood.com for more info



Kelly Gray

THE PERFECT STORM

Local writer Kelly Gray takes his memoir from the streets of Wolseley to the Black Sea



JILLIAN GROENING

@JILL_GROENING

ARTS REPORTER

The act of writing can be tackled in at least two ways. First, there's the option of sitting and letting the mind spin tales of wonder and far-off lands, yet only venturing as far as the kitchen to make a new pot of coffee. Or the writer can hurl themselves into a story regardless of where in the world it may take them, or how little logic the plan contains.

The latter is precisely what Winnipeg-based Kelly Gray did in pursuit of his newest work, *The Less You Know - Tales of the Wolseley Voyager*.

Released in late 2014, *The Less You Know* was born from a restless desire to experience life and a gonzo journalist's curiosity, wit and desperate need to tell it like it is.

"I wanted to do something that I knew nothing about," Gray explains. "One of the greatest joys in life is taking on challenges and learning things and expanding boundaries. I wanted to undertake a project that would let my stupidity flow."

After 30 years of working as a commercial writer for various publications, Gray announced to his wife and two grown children that he would be buying a boat and travelling to Europe. His quest would begin in London, at the North Sea. The route would take the charismatic writer through the water-veined heart of Europe to the edges of the Black Sea.

Gray initially allotted three months for the trip, but no great adventure ever seems to fit in a neat and tidy time frame. After eight months of beached boats, broken motors and dumbfounded locals, Gray had not reached the Black Sea. What he

did have though was a well-followed blog filled with photos and anecdotes of the journey into central Europe and a memoir.

A stubborn and self-deprecating sea-captain, Gray is an inspiring protagonist in a tale about taking risks and making positive changes in one's life.

"In a sense, I created an experience machine and then stood in front of it and let it run me over," Gray says, adding a chuckle. "I didn't know what was going to happen and by not having experience and not having a lot of boxes ticked that opened up the opportunity for conflict and for all the other literary necessities of a story."

Gray fancied himself a monk while spending weeks isolated and lonely on his boat. When his only communication involved stumbling over language barriers with gruff marine men, Gray found solace in writing for three hours a night.

"The solitude was really starting to impact me but the writing was something where I was able to have a conversation," Gray explains. "That saved me time and time again."

For this self-published work, Gray didn't want any interference between his storytelling and the listener.

"I didn't want anyone impacting the story in any way," Gray says. "I wanted to have creative control and intimacy."

Gray plans on continuing his expedition to the Black Sea and it's already off to his idea of a perfect start.

"I've already been told I can't do it. As soon as I heard that, I knew I was absolutely going for it."



Kelly Gray will be selling copies of his book in person Feb. 16 at The Forks. For more information, please visit wolseleyvoyager.com.

FILM



STILL ALICE

★★★★★

Playing at Landmark Cinemas Grant Park

The success of a film like *Still Alice* lies solely on the shoulders of its lead performers. In that sense, it's a triumph. Alice, played by the continually brilliant Julianne Moore (*The Hours*, *Crazy Stupid Love*), is a Columbia professor of linguistics who's diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimer's disease at age 50. Her contentment with life prior to the diagnosis makes the story even more tragic.

The cast is remarkable, but Moore stands out. Her Best Actress Oscar nomination is well-deserved. (A win would also be well-deserved). Moore's performance is on par with previous masterworks like Todd Haynes' *Safe* and P.T. Anderson's *Boogie Nights*. Alec Baldwin (*30 Rock*) also gives the best, perhaps most understated performance of his career as Alice's sweet and intelligent husband.

Unlike Sarah Polley's *Away From Her*, which covers similar thematic territory, writer/directors Richard Glatzer and Wash Westmoreland (2006 Sundance hit *Quinceañera*) keep us locked in Alice's perspective as the condition worsens. The film expertly avoids every

potential *After-School Special* moment and tear-jerking orchestral swell.

Surprisingly, *Still Alice* has a vein of emotional suspense that runs through its narrative. Despite the seemingly straightforward nature of the plot, there are twists and turns along the way that nail an array of devastating emotional notes.

Denis Lenoir's (*88 Minutes*) cinematography mimics the symptoms of Alice's disease, blurring faces and scenery to an alarming effect, attempting to visually convey her experience. These moments of cinematic stylization are kept to a tasteful minimum. One can only imagine a grotesquely stylized adaptation of this material, something akin to *Alzheimer's - The IMAX Experience*. Thankfully, this is not that.

At one point, Alice mourns that people would feel more comfortable around her if she were dying of cancer. Alzheimer's disease is still an uncomfortable subject in our culture. The film masterfully explores the true horrors of the disease, but does so in a beautifully tender and hopeful fashion.

Still Alice is not just one of the best films of the year, it's also one of the most important.

TONY HINDS



MONSOON

★★★★☆

Playing Feb. 13-15 at Cinematheque.

Monsoon is a visually stunning documentary about the struggle for life during monsoon season in India, a country whose economy hinges entirely on rainfall. Despite the sobering nature of the subject matter, one can't help but marvel at the endlessly dazzling imagery. It's the kind of film they might play on the display televisions at Best Buy to show off the lush picture quality, which is indicative of the film's main problem.

Too much screen time is dedicated to slow motion transitional shots of fat rain drops exploding against lime-green leaves, or foreboding clouds rolling across mountains and valleys. These shots are certainly beautiful, but there's just too many of them. There's simply not enough meat on this bone to justify the deliberately-paced, 108-minute running time.

Throughout the film, we'll encounter dozens of different faces. They vary in class and attitude: meteorological bureaucrats whose behaviour is hilariously reminiscent of BBC's *The Office*, an orange-haired bookie who bets on weather forecasts and a kind-hearted but

dangerous animal-reserve warden. The film's main through-line follows a young Indian family who have weathered this storm in the past.

Many of the landscapes seen in *Monsoon* are ravaged by drought and poverty. The monsoon's repeatedly described as "the soul of India", a force that brings life and death each year. The coming monsoon promises to end this drought and give new life to the dying crops. Yet when the levee inevitably breaks, houses are swept away and human lives swept away with them. The monsoon creates with one hand and destroys with the other - a god-like yin and yang.

Director Sturla Gunnarsson (*Ice Soldiers*, *Force of Nature: The David Suzuki Movie*) cannot seem to decide whether to make a Herzog-esque descent into a heart of darkness, or an aspiring entry in *The Qatsi* trilogy. Instead of either, it's neither. Perhaps this issue feels more pronounced because the remainder of *Monsoon* is so utterly fascinating.

TONY HINDS

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DO NOT PASS GOHE

Hidden gem of the West End offers Ethiopian fare and friendly atmosphere

DINE-O-MITE

ANASTASIA CHIPLESKI

@ANACHIPS

ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR

The West End and especially Sargent Ave., is home to many amazing restaurants best known to local residents and their friends. Gohe Ethiopian Restaurant is no exception.

Gohe is an average five-minute walk from the University of Winnipeg. Look for the bright green sign between Langside St. and Young St..

Gohe's decor is muted and unassuming and the service is warm and friendly yet minimal. Sports fans will appreciate the wall-mounted TVs, but there's also many tables not super close to the screens if you'd rather chat. I popped in on Super-



SERGE GUMENYUK

bowl Sunday, so football inevitably took the third seat at the table.

The food came quickly, but it was clear that timeliness didn't mean cutting any corners. We started off with a pair of veggie samosas filled with lentils and paired with a deceptively (but delightfully) spicy mint sauce.

The veggie and meat combos are a great place to start if you're looking to sample the many menu offerings and my date and I ordered one of each to share. Each combo

comes with a sampling of dishes served on injera, a thick, spongy, pancake-like bread. Don't bother looking around for cutlery, just grab a piece of injera and scoop up as much as you can with it.

The veggie combo includes Misir Wot (lentils), Kik Aliche (split peas), Azifa (green lentils), cabbage and beets. These are complemented by potatoes, house salad and some spare injera. Altogether the combo is priced at a modest \$11.99.

If your first reaction to lentils is "meh," prepare to be pleasantly surprised. These dishes are so tender and well-spiced that the lentils are pretty much just the canvas that the flavour is painted on, especially the Misir Wot, featuring the distinctive Ethiopian Berbere sauce.

With the meat combo added into the mix, we also tasted the Doro Wot (chicken with Berbere), Qeye Wot (beef with Berbere) and Alecha Wot (beef with turmeric), which came with some veggies, salad and even more spare injera. I went back and forth between the three while trying to choose a favourite and if anything, the Berbere-sauced selections edged out the Alecha Wot just slightly. On its own, this would be a generous serving for one person and was only \$12.99.

The combo platters are a good amount of food to share between two people. We were definitely full and had a small snack to take home for later. For a lighter meal, one combo would be enough to share.

If you find - or already have - a favourite dish, then you're welcome to order just one, spread over the injera and bask in it. Try the combo platters if you want to experience the fun conundrum of ranking a gorgeous selection of well-prepared dishes.



Gohe is located at 533 Sargent Ave. See gohewinnipeg.com for the full menu. They are also on skipthedishes.ca for delivery service.

BREACHING RACIST TERRAIN WITH COMEDY

Hari Kondabolu brings his observational comedy routine to the Park Theatre

CHRISTOPHER BRYSON

@CHRISBRYGUY

VOLUNTEER

Hari Kondabolu has often been witness to and on the receiving end of racist tendencies. Kondabolu, 32, uses his experience to bring new stature to the genre of observational comedy. With a stand-up show at The Park Theatre set for Feb. 19, Kondabolu is sure to leave the audience in a whirl of laughter and inquisitive thought.

Hailing from Queens, New York, Kondabolu holds a B.A. in Comparative Politics, a Masters in Human Rights, and also worked as an immigrant rights organizer in Seattle before his comedy career gained momentum.

Kondabolu says the biggest things he talks about are racism, gender, sexuality, and oppression.

"The hardest part is writing the joke," he says, about putting these topics into a comedic format. "But the actual perspectives I feel like I'm good at. If you agree with the point of view how do I get you to

laugh? How do I explain it so the audience sees the universality of it?"

In an interview podcast on Dec. 2, 2014 with Vish Khanna, host and creator of Kreative Kontrol, Kondabolu expanded on where his ideas originated and how they've progressed.

"Everyone is either a racial comic or a political comic and I'm an observational comic and my observations are very racialized because I live in a racialized society and I see that immediately," Kondabolu says. "I have a double lens like I think a lot of people of colour would say the same. You see the world through eyes that everyone is seeing you with, and your own."

Winnipeg audiences will be in for a treat when Kondabolu brings this double lens to The Park Theatre. "I think I'm a fine comedian for a thoughtful Thursday audience. If you have an attention span and care about the world, I'm your kind of guy. It's going to be a special show," Kondabolu says.

Kevin Mozdzen, 26, shares the talent buying duties with Erick Casselman, the owner of The Park Theatre, but deals primarily with the comedy side of things. "We hope to bring in comedians who are not just your standard comedy club comedians. Hari is really socially conscious and very important in that regard," Mozdzen says.

Mozdzen says that for comedy Winnipeg doesn't have anything in the way of an intermediary venue between Rumors and larger-scale options like the Burt or Pantages.

"We're hoping to fill the gap in between and bring in those comedians who are on the cusp of really blowing up," Mozdzen says.

Kondabolu's been getting all the right recognition. He's appeared on Conan, Jimmy Kimmel Live, and the Late Show with David Letterman, along with his own half-hour television special on Comedy Central Presents in February 2011.

Through his stand-up, Kondabolu con-

tinues to express his values and his perceptions of the world.

"At the end of the day I'm going to be me, because if I'm not being me then I might as well be doing something else. I want you to remember the things I say. I want you to not throw what I say away. Who wants to make art that's easily forgettable?"



Hari Kondabolu will be at the Park Theatre (698 Osborne St.) on Feb. 19. The show runs from 8-11 p.m. and tickets are \$17 in advance. Visit parktheatrevideo.com for more information, tickets, and show listings. Check out harikondabolu.com for more samples of his comedy.



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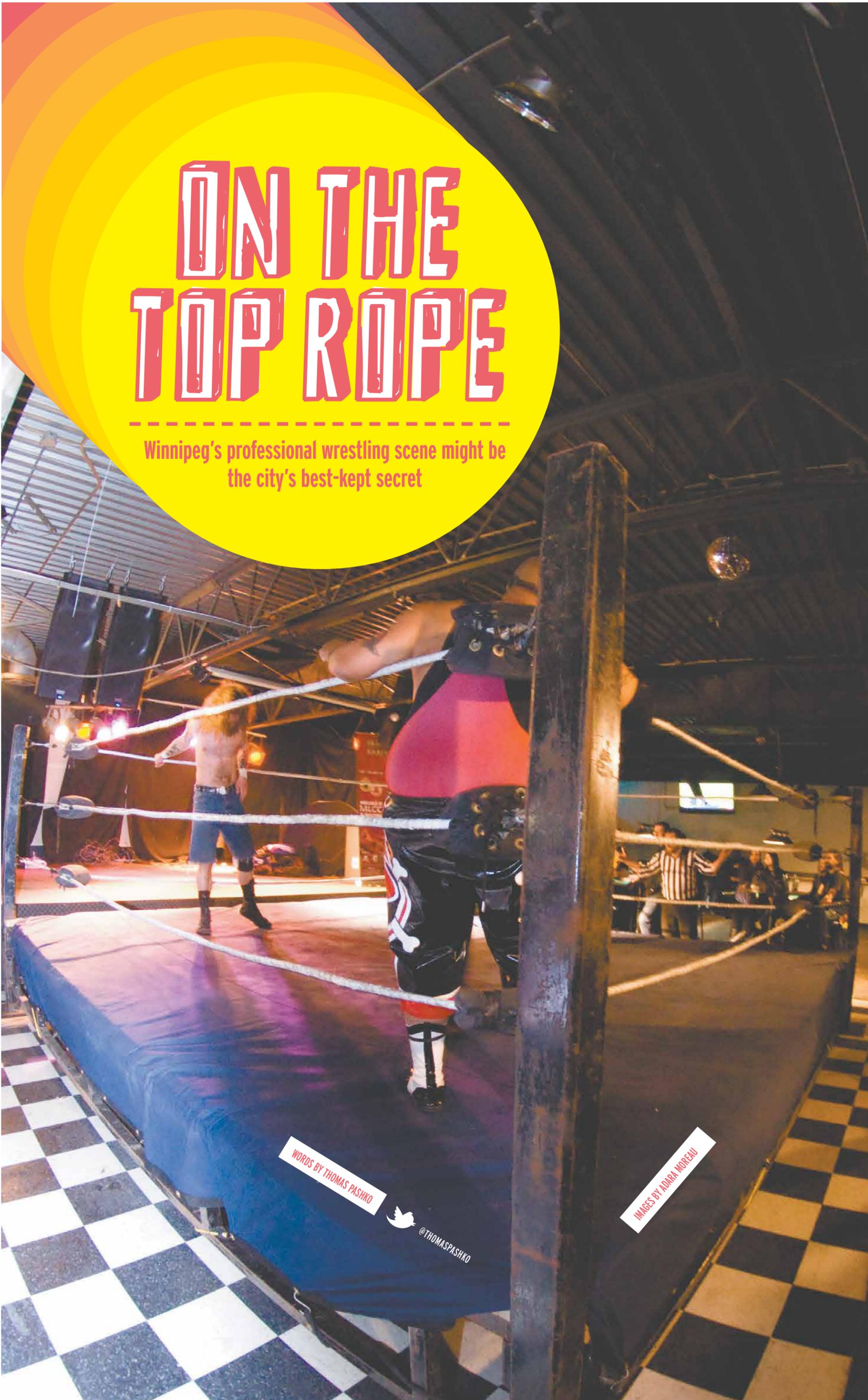
Winnipeg's professional wrestling scene might be
the city's best-kept secret

WORDS BY THOMAS PASHKO



@THOMASPASHKO

IMAGES BY ADARA MOREAU





Members of the Canadian Wrestling Elite (CWE) trade blows in the ring



There's a boom happening in Winnipeg right now. It's a local scene experiencing the type of renaissance that one rarely sees in action. There's a good chance you've never heard of it, because it receives virtually no coverage from the local press.

I'm not talking about music, film, or theatre. I'm talking about professional wrestling. With three successful promotions running strong and with big-name talent regularly performing in town, Winnipeg's wrestling culture is too impressive to be ignored.

I'm not a wrestling expert, or even a fan, so I enlisted the help of two experts to guide me through Winnipeg's wrestling subculture. James Korba and Adam Giardino host the podcast and UFM radio show *Loose Ropes Wrestling*. Every week, the two discuss professional wrestling in-depth, with a particular emphasis on the local scene.

"I went to my first local show at age 13, and I'm 33 now," Korba says. "The local scene was very big around 2000, when wrestling was huge, but then it kind of died out. You'd see the same wrestlers every week. It got stale, the talent pool was very low. But recently it's really picked back up again. With newer wrestlers like Jackie Lee, Alix Vanna, the London Brothers. They're so passionate about what they do, and you can see that when they wrestle."

"When we first talked about doing the radio show, I was hesitant," Giardino explains, "because I thought, 'What are we going to talk about without sounding geeky?' But with three local promotions going strong, there's so much to talk about."

The three promotions he's referring to are PCW Wrestling, Canadian Wrestling Elite (CWE), and Primos Wrestling Canada. They're the key wrestling promotions in Winnipeg, and all three produce local talent and bring in well-known wrestlers from out of town.

"It's nice for us right now, as fans and radio hosts," Korba says. "We're having a hard time keeping up with all the local shows. An hour-long show isn't enough time."

The first step in covering local wrestling is to attend a show. Korba invites me to join him at a Primos show at the Punjab Cultural Centre. From the moment I enter, I'm impressed. The production value is better than anything I'd anticipated. The ring sits in the middle of the high-ceilinged venue, at one end of a lit walkway leading to a curtain that the wrestlers will emerge through. Next to the curtain is a giant video screen and lighting rig. On the other end of the venue are tables where fans and wrestlers trade memorabilia and merchandise. Along the sides are concession tables, which include samosas and butter chicken from The Clay Oven.

At one point, Korba turns to me and exclaims, "It isn't usually *this* good!"

When the show begins, it's equally impressive. Talented local wrestlers like AJ Sanchez and Jackie "The Jet" Lee show their chops. There are also wrestlers from out

of town, like A.J. Styles (formerly of TNA Wrestling), Barbi Hayden and Colt Cabana.

Cabana is particularly noteworthy. An alumnus of World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE), Cabana has become a sort of poster boy for the indie wrestling movement. Both as a wrestler and through his podcast *The Art of Wrestling*, he's brought mainstream attention to independent wrestling, which is rapidly increasing in popularity due to increased online availability and the shrinking popularity of the WWE.

"[WWE] has been mediocre for some time now," Korba explains. "It's been boring, they're repeating themselves. People want something different. There are so many more options now."

I witness the animosity towards the WWE first hand at the wrestling show. After the final match, A.J. Styles addresses the crowd, pointing out that only one person in the building is wearing a WWE shirt. The spectator in the shirt laughs as the crowd enthusiastically boos him.

"Do you hate wrestling?" Styles asks.

"No," the spectator answers.

"Then you know what to do," Styles declares as the young man removes his shirt and throws it on the floor.

Despite its recent popularity, independent wrestling isn't a new phenomenon in Winnipeg. Guests on *Loose Ropes* regularly regale listeners with stories going as far back as the 1970s.

Dr. C. Nathan Hatton, a historian at Lakehead University, has done extensive research on wrestling's history in Manitoba. Regular wrestling promotions began in the city in the early 1920's at the Industrial Exhibition Board of Trade Building, but Hatton has found records of individual exhibitions going as far back as the late 19th century.

So why is this century-long tradition finally enjoying popularity in 2015 Winnipeg? The prevailing opinion seems to be a combination of new blood and increased cooperation between the city's best promotions.

"I've been involved in wrestling for sixteen years," Danny Duggan, the promoter behind CWE, says.

"Right now the wrestling scene is the best it's ever been. When I started, there were eight different promotions in the area, and they weren't all running quality shows. But lately we've been hammering away at consistency, trying to set a higher standard in the marketplace for what fans can expect at a wrestling show."

"There was a lot of competitions between promotions in the past," Andrew Shallcross, the promoter and cofounder of PCW, explains.

"Wrestlers couldn't wrestle for multiple promotions. From a business perspective, you want your featured wrestlers to be available to you. But it's not always conducive to putting your best foot forward. Sometimes people fight to bring down their competitors rather than elevating themselves and putting on the best shows for the fans. If everyone in Winnipeg wrestling combined their efforts, we could be a crowning jewel of wrestling in Canada."

Wrestler Alix Vanna feels the increased cooperation is beneficial for wrestlers as well as fans.

"It's healthy for Winnipeg wrestling in general," Vanna says. "There are wrestlers I'd love to step in the ring with that I haven't even been able to meet. When it's opened up, you get more experience, more matches and meet more people."

Wrestler Tyler Colton says the experience, and the connections made, are essential.

"There's always someone out there who knows more than you, who's been doing it longer, that can teach you a thing or two," Colton says. "Especially because Winnipeg is so isolated. If you're not looking for work, it's easy not to work. It's very entrepreneurial, booking lots of road gigs, because you can only do a show in Manitoba maybe once every month or two. If you're waiting on that, you're not doing much wrestling."

The question remains: with so much local talent and increased interest, why does Winnipeg wrestling get so little coverage from the local press? Even big events aren't reported. Last month, Winnipegger and former PCW wrestler Kenny Omega won the Junior Heavyweight Championship in New Japan Pro Wrestling, the world's second-largest wrestling organization (after WWE), and it was largely ignored by local newspapers.

Shallcross thinks the lack of media attention is a complicated issue with more than one origin.

"I think, to a degree, we're our own worst enemies. If you're going to get a mainstream media outlet to cover you, you have to be very professional. There have been incidents where a promotion advertises a big name coming to the city, someone does a story on it, and the wrestler doesn't show up. I've had a newspaper tell me they couldn't cover wrestling because they've been burned too many times," Shallcross explains.

Duggan has a different theory. Ultimately, it boils down to the still popular perception that wrestling is "fake." "Wrestling is a strange grey area to the casual person," Duggan says.

"Is it sports? Is it entertainment? How does it get covered? You have those skeptics who won't give wrestling a chance. I've had sports editors say to me, 'I won't cover it. It's not credible, it's fake.' Wrestling isn't trying to pull the wool over your eyes like they did 30 or 40 years ago. This is entertainment. Everyone's open about it. Yes, finishes are predetermined. There are scripted characters. But the athleticism and talent is very real."

Duggan insists that potential wrestling fans shouldn't be discouraged by how it's been misinterpreted. The judgement is, ultimately, a tired double standard.

"The TV shows you watch on a weekly basis aren't real. When I go see a horror movie, I know the characters aren't really being harmed. I'm suspending my disbelief for those two hours. Wrestling is exactly the same thing," Duggan says.

For regular updates on Winnipeg's wrestling scene, follow @CWECanada, @pcwaction, @PrimosCanada on Twitter, or listen to *Loose Ropes Wrestling* at ufmfm.com.

DANCING ABOUT THE ISSUES

Loa Olafson mixes contemporary dance, hip hop and social awareness



ANASTASIA CHIPELSKI

@ANACHIPS

ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR

Social change isn't always about pickets and petitions.

Local dancer and choreographer Loa Olafson is hoping to open up some dialogue with her latest work, *Sisters*. The contemporary dance piece, featuring high school students from Daniel McIntyre Collegiate Institute (DMCI), is set to A Tribe Called Red's "Sisters".



Dancers from Daniel McIntyre Collegiate Institute

The piece will be released as a video on both vimeo and YouTube and Olafson hopes it will "honour the memory and deepen our community concern for missing and murdered Aboriginal women."

Olafson paired up with Jaime Black of the REDdress project and her voice is present throughout the video, interspersed with the dance.

"I'd heard about her project when I was a student at U of W and I remember the red dresses, and reading about how she had a call for people to donate dresses," Olafson says.

As she was developing the concept for this piece, she thought "it would be great to have an artist partner ... and have her speak to her own artist practice and

indigenous issues in Canada. So it's not just from my perspective and we get her voice in there."

Olafson, 26, is a double alumna of the U of W, holding a B.A in Dance (2011) and a B. Ed (2013). She first started teaching dance at Turtle Island Community Centre in Lord Selkirk Park.

"Eight years later, I'm still there and still teaching some of the kids I started with when they were nine," Olafson says. "It's pretty special, because even if they don't really dance anymore, they're still being connected to the community."

Her work with the youth in Lord Selkirk, as well as this summer's walk for Tina Fontaine really spurred Olafson to work on a social justice-focused piece.

"I took some of my young aboriginal girls that I work with, so we went and we did that walk together and started to have more conversations ... So I guess through just being involved with the community, it's been an issue I've been concerned with for a long time, and ultimately with Tina Fontaine's death this summer I think it really pushed the social justice issue to the forefront for me," Olafson explains.

She's spent the last year teaching dance full-time at DMCI, including an audition-only group called DMCI's finest. Olafson chose 8 dancers from DMCI's Finest to be part of the *Sisters* project and so far they've already performed for a Winnipeg School Division inservice, in front of hundreds of teachers and administrators. She hopes that beyond the video, they also have more chances to spread the message and perform as dancers.

"I decided I really wanted to make another contemporary work, and that I wanted to do a video project and make it something that wasn't just dance, make it something that we could hopefully effect some change with and do some learning and I don't think it's always covered as well in schools or that kids understand how deep the problems are that we have in Canada."



Watch Loa Olafson's YouTube channel for the *Sisters* video, and visit thereddressproject.org for more about the REDdress project.

FACT:

At minimum wage, the average Arts student must work 117% more hours to pay for tuition than in 1975.

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FRESH POTS!

Local coffee shops remain open during boil water advisory while trusted chains close their doors

JILLIAN GROENING

 @JILL_GROENING

BEAT REPORTER

Bigger is not always better.

The age-old adage was proven wrong on Jan. 28, when the City of Winnipeg announced a precautionary boil water advisory. The city found traces of coliform bacteria (E.coli) in water samples while performing routine testing. Many chain business - ahem, Starbucks - promptly closed their doors while smaller businesses devised a strategy.

"Closing was definitely an option," Vanessa Stachiw says.

Co-owner of Osborne Village darling, Little Sister Coffee Maker, Stachiw made a point to do her research after the warning was issued. From scouring the internet for E. coli facts to contacting the health inspector, Stachiw made sure she was well-informed about what the warning meant to consumers.



NICHOLAS LUCHAK

"After doing the required testing to make sure all of our equipment exceeded the temperature requirements, it was clear that we could stay open without hesitation."

Located at one of the busiest intersections in the city and with the Starbucks across the street closed, Little Sister was happy to be able to continue to provide service for caffeine addicts in need.

With only one message on Twitter doubting their stance to continue to serve

customers, Stachiw notes how thankful people were.

"Customers were mentioning what great public service it was which we thought was sweet," Stachiw says. "It was nice to be able to help our regulars carry out their daily routines. That's really important for us."

Seamus Hamilton-Pattison, a rhetoric and communications student at the University of Winnipeg, was confused to find some of the bigger businesses closing.

"It seems to me that if you have a bigger operation then logically you should be able to stay open," Hamilton-Pattison states. "With more staff on-hand you'd think they'd be able to keep the thing running. It seemed really backwards to me because you'd think it would be the other way around."

The Uniter reached out to Starbucks Canada for comment but didn't receive a response by press time.

As someone who always strives to support the local guy, with the odd coffee from a chain when times are desperate, Hamilton-Pattison understands that smaller shops will go the extra mile for the customer even if it might be a little more tedious and a little more time-consuming. He also appreciates the personal and community connections smaller businesses try to foster.

"You can shoot the breeze with the barista while your drink is being made or you can sit and enjoy the atmosphere," Hamilton-Pattison says. "You're not confronted with this awkward consumer culture where your drink gets punched in and then you stand there tapping your toes and waiting."

Stachiw agrees that the personal connections to the business and to the product is as important as any other aspect of running a business, from consistent product, to friendly faces and timely production.

"The boil water advisory was a really good indicator or what kind of customers frequent Little Sister and I'm sure other coffee shops feel the same," Stachiw says. "We have relationships with our regular customers. They trust that if we are open we will serve them delicious coffee and keep them safe - which we do daily. It was great to be able to continue to do that through a minor dilemma."

UWSA CONSIDERING MANDATORY INDIGENOUS HERITAGE COURSES

Maclean's article on racism in Winnipeg prompts change and action at U of W

CAMERON EASON

VOLUNTEER STAFF

The University of Winnipeg and its student body are taking a stand against racism in the city.

On the heels of *Maclean's* magazine stating Winnipeg has the worst racism problem in Canada, University administrators and representatives stood in solidarity with mayor Brian Bowman to acknowledge the city's failings. And since the January publication, the University of Winnipeg Students' Association has



Wab Kinew

created a proposal to include mandatory courses on indigenous heritage for all U of W students.

"Above all else, we must listen to the voices within Indigenous communities who have been ignored, and work together to build a more peaceful city for all Winnipeggers," the UWSA told *The Uniter* in a prepared statement, signed by president Rorie Mcleod Arnould.

"Students at the University of Winnipeg have identified the need for action. In partnership with the University of Winnipeg Aboriginal Students' Council, we have created a proposal that would see all UW students required [to] take courses that focus on Indigenous ways of knowing and lived experience.

This proposal is currently being considered for implementation in the 2016/17 academic year."

These proposed courses are an effort to educate people on race, culture and social issues, as it is widely thought that race issues are due to lack of knowledge and understanding.

The effects of the *Maclean's* article are being felt on campus in other ways as well.

John Fox, representative for the Aboriginal Students' Council at the U of W, says there is debate as to whether Winnipeg is indeed a racist city.

"Nobody is going to say it, but it is more of a feel that you get from the people," Fox says, adding that the article

has put race issues into the forefront of people's minds.

"It hasn't really affected me, but I feel it more [than before]. It has opened my eyes to see if it really exists."

Wab Kinew, associate vice-president of Indigenous Affairs at the University of Winnipeg, joined mayor Brian Bowman, U of W president Annette Trimbee and other indigenous and community leaders to address *Maclean's* claims in a press conference on Jan. 22.

Kinew agrees with a number of statements in the article and explains where the race issues are coming from in the first place.

"Part of it is government, part of it is laws, part of it is the way the whole society is set up," Kinew tells *The Uniter*. "This country was set up in a way to disadvantage indigenous people. That's our history."

Kinew, an activist for indigenous rights and opportunities, says that many programs have been in place at the University long before this article was published.

Scholarships from the opportunity fund, model schools for inner-city aboriginal youth and high-quality private high school programs are a few examples. As far as direction, post-*Maclean's* article, Kinew says putting aboriginal voices in positions of power is one way to move forward.

"It's all about bringing indigenous perspectives into the government and the University, that's where we're going to look to for direction," he says.

To view a briefing of the UWSA's proposed indigenous requirement, go to theuwsa.ca/indigenous-requirement-lobbying.



FOOD FOR ALL

UWSA food bank hoping to reach more students on campus

TONY HINDS

 @THETONYHINDS

BEAT REPORTER

Every week, nearly a thousand pounds of groceries pass through the University of Winnipeg Students' Association food bank. Run in association with Winnipeg Harvest, the UWSA food bank has been providing food to both students and non-students for more than 15 years.

Jennifer Black, UWSA food bank coordinator, says the organization was designed with clients' confidentiality in mind.

"We won't ask your income," Black says. "It's a number system. We used to verbally call out clients' names, but we don't do that anymore."

The bi-weekly food bank sign-in lasts from 2 - 3:30 p.m. in the Bulman Student Center in the Riddell Hall basement. Recipients are required to bring their Manitoba Health Cards. Each hamper contains a variety of food items, amounting to around \$50 - \$70 of groceries.

Non-students must contact Winnipeg Harvest directly to sign up each week.

At the time Black began working with the food bank, the client list was limited to 50. Since then, the list has been expanded to 75



Jennifer Black (L), UWSA food bank coordinator, and Allison Reimer, UWSA Vice-President Student Services

with additional walk-ins each week, serving almost 200 people every two weeks. Black would like to see that number increase.

"That's just one of many ways we hope to improve the work we do as long as we can find ways to accommodate it," Black says. "Ensuring that as many clients as possible are students would be another."

Thankfully, it's not unusual for a former food bank client to pitch in and volunteer. Even when the UWSA food bank is not in need, Winnipeg Harvest is always in need of new volunteers. Additional volunteers are most urgently needed during summer months, school holidays and exam seasons. Likewise at Winnipeg Harvest, where donations tend to drop off following Christmas and Thanksgiving.

Rorie Mcleod Arnould, UWSA presi-

dent, says the food bank has a strong partner in Winnipeg Harvest, the city's main food bank supplier.

"The great thing about Harvest is that they take people at face value," Arnould says. "They don't ask questions, they don't judge. They're there for you."

In addition to the UWSA food bank, an Emergency Student Food Fund can be accessed by students anytime. A campus food drive was held in December, asking students and faculty for donations of non-perishable food items. The food drive was a resounding success, with sizable donations coming from The University of Winnipeg Collegiate, Diversity Foods and even the U of W faculty holiday party.

For access to either bank, go to the UWSA office in the Bulman Student

Centre and speak with Allison Reimer, vice-president of student services.

Reimer admits it's not uncommon for those in desperation to feel forced to pay bills instead of buying food.

"A lot of students feel like, 'There are people who are more in need than me and I don't want to take food away from them,'" she says. "That's a beautiful idea, but it's not necessarily the right idea."

"If you need help getting food, please reach out," Reimer says. "Not having enough food can make it difficult to study. It's important that students feel there are people here who want to support them and make sure they have enough food to eat."



The UWSA Foodbank is held in the basement of Riddell Hall, in the Bulman Students' Centre, next to the UWSA office. Sign-in begins at 2 p.m. Food distribution begins Fridays at 3:30 p.m. Students can sign up by calling 204-786-9781 or emailing vpss@theuwsa.ca. Non-students can call Winnipeg Harvest at 204-982-3660.

Food items most urgently needed include beans, lentils, canned veggies, canned fruit, peanut butter, snack foods, granola bars, vegetarian options, size-5 diapers such as Pull Ups in both gendered varieties, feminine hygiene products such as tampons and pads, Good Start brand baby formula and Boost.

Avoid buying in bulk, unless donating to a soup kitchen or Main Street Project. Please be mindful of expiry dates on food items. And no Spam please.

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The publisher of The Uniter is looking for new student directors to sit on its board.

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Preference will be given to students who have experience dealing with budgets and accounting, and/or environmentally sustainable business practices.

If interested, send a cover letter and resume to Kent Davies, Interim Chair of the Board, at board@uniter.ca

A JUSTIN SIMIEN FILM
DEAR WHITE PEOPLE

YES, WE ARE RACIST.

Winnipeggers must face the truth.

CAROL LINDSEY

 @CAROLLOUISELIND

VOLUNTEER

As much of our city knows, *Maclean's* recently released an article titled, "Welcome to Winnipeg: Where Canada's Racism Problem is at its Worst." Nancy Macdonald - the author of the article - triggered strong reactions across the city, forcing many Winnipeggers to look at ourselves in the mirror. We cannot pretend that racism doesn't exist in Winnipeg.

I have personally called people out on their racism, but they usually don't get it. Maybe people just need some context so that they can empathize better?

In the 1800s, the Canadian government introduced a compulsory residential boarding school system. At least 150,000 First Nations children experienced the Canadian residential school system, where they were taken away from their families, made to give up everything about their



culture and were often emotionally, physically and sexually abused.

This was not meant to gift the Aboriginal population with health care, education, cultural integration and a better future. It was not altruism. The intention was to assimilate the Aboriginal population into the white nation by forcibly dismantling their entire culture and removing their treaty rights. We know this because it was clearly stated in the Gradual Civilization Act of 1867.

The Canadian Government apologized for its actions in 2008.

Personal accounts of the abuses experienced by children in the residential school system are shocking and heartbreaking to read. Until 1960, Aboriginal individuals were not even given the right to vote without having to give up their treaty

rights or Indian Status. These dehumanizing actions fed - and continue to feed - into some people's justifications for bigotry: They pretend that not all of us are really people and then it becomes easier to justify all sorts of violent, criminal or morally reprehensible acts.

I am not a historian. I learned this history in grade school and high school because it was part of the Canada-wide curriculum. This means that some Winnipeggers either fell asleep in class, or are just plain old bigoted. The last residential school was closed in 1996, so these things happened within living memory. As a result of what happened, the Aboriginal population is experiencing historical and cultural trauma, trauma which takes more than a few generations to recover from. Yet, many still keep judging Aboriginal people.

Even though the Aboriginal population in Canada is statistically more likely to experience poverty, mental health issues and crime, many people would rather keep judging than understand the past and learn from it.

But if you want to learn and if you want to help bring about change, you are not alone. In a press conference the same day that the *Maclean's* article was released, Mayor Brian Bowman gave an emotional speech. He said that "Winnipeg has a responsibility right now to turn this ship around and change the way we all relate." The mayor has created a website to help combat racism: www.rwinnipeg.ca. Take a look and see if you can help!

Carol Lindsey is a Public Relations student at the University of Winnipeg.

FACEBOOK COMMENTS BRING UNWANTED ATTENTION

How a Winnipeg high school teacher added to Winnipeg's racism problem

PATRICIA NAVIDAD

 @PATMNAV

VOLUNTEER

Late in 2014, Kelvin High School teacher Brad Badiuk was found to have made offensive comments towards First Nations people on Facebook. His Facebook post referenced the book "The Comeback" by John Ralston Saul - a book explaining how mending the relationship between First Nations people and non-Indigenous Canadians was the key to a better country.

Badiuk's opinions were quite different than Ralston Saul's, and were expressed in a racist way.

"Oh my Goddd how long are aboriginal people going to use what happened as a crutch to suck more money out of Canadians?" is an example of one of his posts, but Badiuk didn't stop there. He also targeted Grand Chief Derek Nepinak of the Assembly of First Nations.

It didn't take long for Badiuk's comments to be seen by the Grand Chief himself. Badiuk was first suspended

from his job with paid leave in December of 2014, but as of the New Year is on unpaid leave. At the moment, Badiuk is still being investigated by the Winnipeg School Division and could possibly be fired from his position if the school board sees fit.

Although Badiuk aired his opinions away from his professional duties as a teacher, there is no excuse or justification for what he said. His comments

were absolutely unacceptable and he should have known better than to have made them. No one in this country or this city should be made to feel like they don't belong. Imagine how someone would feel to hear these kinds of racist remarks being made about themselves, especially from a teacher who is supposed to be setting a positive example for a new generation.

Comments like Badiuk's don't help anyone and they cause immense pain to many.

Unfortunately, this story - like incidents of racism that came before - won't stop some people from saying racist things. Yet while racism is still a reality, we can choose how to deal with it.

Though the attention Badiuk's comments received reflects negatively on Winnipeg, the ensuing reaction has shown that many people in our city will not tolerate racism. The response to his posts and the firm resolve of many Winnipeggers to fight back against the racism present in our city is a sign for hope.

This hope is part of a growing realization that we are all human beings deserving of respect and that we need to start learning to understand one another, rather than discriminating based on false and hurtful beliefs.

Patricia Navidad is a first year Rhetoric, Writing and Communications student and travel enthusiast.



NICHOLAS LUCHAK



CHRISTOPHER SAMMS

CANADA'S PATRIOT ACT

Why we should be wary of increased surveillance

GREG GALLINGER

 @GREGGALLINGER

VOLUNTEER

Bill C-51, or *The Anti-Terrorism Act* as it's more commonly known, is the newly revealed piece of legislation that the Prime Minister's office claims will tighten Canada's protections against acts of terrorism and improve communication amongst various departments and agencies.

The bill grants sweeping new powers to security agencies such as the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) that not only allow for increased surveillance of online activities, but also gives CSIS the power to "disrupt" potential terrorist plots. It is unclear what exactly that entails or allows for, as the language is often vague and left to interpretation.

A particularly worrisome section of the bill pertains to the issuance of warrants, and allows CSIS to "enter any

place," "open or obtain access to any thing," "examine, take extracts from or make copies of ... the information, record, document or thing," or "do any other thing that is reasonably necessary to take those measures."

The bill may prove to be a turning point in CSIS's operational mandate from primarily an intelligence-gathering agency to one focused on counterterrorism and subterfuge, similar to what occurred within the CIA in the years following 9/11.

Though government officials are claiming the bill is a response to recent "terrorist" threats against Canada and was designed to ensure the safety of Canadians, there are legitimate questions about the government's real intentions. Who will be targeted and for what reasons? How will people's rights be affected? Do we really need increased security? Is the threat of terrorism really as imminent as the government claims?

It is also unclear what exactly "terrorism" is. The bill contains numerous defi-

nitions of the central terms used in the text, however the term "terrorism" is never properly defined.

In western discourse terrorism has become a catch-all term for some violent acts by a loosely-defined enemy the state wishes to engage in an indefinite war. It has been most commonly used to describe Islamist extremism, but has also been applied to various liberation movements such as the Palestinian resistance, as well as environmentalists and Indigenous activists. The worry amongst critics is that innocent citizens will be the subject of unnecessary and invasive surveillance and potentially prosecution.

Canada's mass surveillance projects, which occur in partnership with the United States, Britain, Australia and New Zealand - or the "Five Eyes" as they are often called - have become more public in the wake of whistleblower Edward Snowden's leaks.

In the week leading up to Bill C-51's

announcement, online publication *The Intercept* reported on two separate surveillance programs, one called "BADASS," a joint operation with Britain's Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ) that collects Smartphone analytics; and another called "LEVITATION," a home-grown operation that monitors downloads from file-sharing sites. Regarding the latter, journalist Glenn Greenwald commented that it is the first example of Canada taking the lead in its efforts to gather information, as Canada is usually known for its supporting role in the "Five Eyes" global surveillance network.

Canadians should be sceptical of any legislation designed to increase surveillance, because as has been proven by Edward Snowden and the NSA, the abuse of such powers is practically an inevitable outcome.

Greg Gallinger is a freelance photographer, vegan food enthusiast, a purveyor of half-witted commentary and a reluctant citizen of the global technocracy.



DAVID BOCK

IMAGINE ALL THE PEOPLE (GETTING HIGHER EDUCATION FOR FREE)

Some thoughts on education from a Dane who doesn't pay tuition

SIGNE BUCHHOLTZ

VOLUNTEER

Well, the headline doesn't quite fit the John Lennon song, but almost, right? President Barack Obama recently imagined something quite daring - at least in the American context. He proposed free community college for "everyone who's willing to work for it." He emphasized the proposal as being a cultural shift and an idea he would like to see spread all across America.

As you would imagine, his idea wasn't exactly greeted warmly by the Republican majority in the US Congress. However, let's ignore that for a moment. Let's take the idea a bit further. What about completely free university? This is where I

bring in another perspective: A Scandinavian perspective.

As someone from Denmark, I am often met with surprised faces here in Canada when I tell people I don't pay any tuition fees. People become even more surprised when I drop the bomb that I actually *get money* from the Danish government every month while studying. This financial support makes it possible to go through university without having to worry about student loans or being dependent on a job while studying.

It also means that getting a higher education is a possibility for everyone, no matter who you are or which family you are born into. This system is financed by our high tax rate. By paying high taxes, we all contribute to the larger community. It's a natural part of being Danish citizens.

Because of differences in the welfare system in Scandinavia and Canada, it wouldn't be reasonable to expect that something similar could become a reality overnight. Still, I think it is worth reflecting on how free higher education could change this society. After all, strengthening the knowledge of young people is essential to the future.

I'm not saying that everyone should get a higher education or that it's the only right thing to do. It's obvious that society needs people in all kinds of job positions. There can be many reasons for people to forego a higher education. However, when money becomes one of those reasons, it makes me kind of depressed on behalf of society. There are people out there right now with the curiosity and willingness to learn, but

because of financial barriers, it never becomes an option.

They might have the will but there is no way.

In my opinion, that is truly unfair and is a loss for all of us. Our society is diverse and how could it be anything but positive if this diversity was reflected in the higher education system as well, at least more than it is today?

At the end of the day, the willingness to learn should be what matters, not your bank balance. 'Where there is a will there is a way' is kind of cliché, but I couldn't help myself. Imagine if it was true when it came to access for all education systems in this world.

Signe Buchholtz is a second-year Sociology student at the University of Manitoba.

POLICY CHANGES CAN'T FIX EVERYTHING

Ontario's new laws for Trans prisoners aren't as progressive as they seem

ALANA TRACHENKO

 @ALANATRACH

VOLUNTEER STAFF

The Ontario government's recent revision of policy regarding the treatment of transgender prisoners seems at first glance to be a step in the right direction. The biggest change to the policy means that prisoners will now be incarcerated based on their self-identified gender. In addition, trans women will now have the option to be strip-searched by women rather than men. Prisoners will be addressed by the gender and name with which they identify.

While all of this seems progressive, it is extremely overdue. Considering the amount of violence and abuse that trans people face in prison - a study in California found that 59 per cent of trans women in prisons were sexually assaulted - the desire to pat Ontario's government on the

back for making these changes is replaced by the question of how trans prisoners are treated in places where these policies haven't been reviewed.

Even in situations that don't involve assault, violence and harassment, trans people are still treated inhumanely. Some prisons are notorious for mistreating their prisoners and employees, but the ways in which a trans person can be mistreated are more subtle and can be more easily dismissed than more obvious cases of abuse.

Simply refusing to use the correct pronoun when addressing a trans person could have an emotional effect on that individual. It says to that person that their gender and identity is up for debate. It can also imply that who they are is not seen as being as real, or as deserving of recognition as someone who happens to identify with the sex they are born in.

Employment, relationships and day-to-day living all present trans people with unique challenges, but out in their com-

munities, trans people can have more choices about where they work, live and who they surround themselves with. In prison, those choices are removed. And while a prison sentence may be the consequence of committing a crime, it should not lead to treatment that lessens the worth of someone's life.

Reviewing policies and recognizing the needs of Trans people in prison is by no means a step backwards. However, it may be more progressive to look at creating facilities that are exclusively built for detaining those that identify as LGBTTTQ. Women and men are separated in prisons largely because of safety concerns, but according to Human Rights Watch, trans people face a higher risk of violence and harassment while incarcerated. Prisons specifically for the LGBTTTQ sector of the population could reduce rates of violence and abuse and could offer resources that are specific to the needs of trans people.

Even more progressive would be a more comprehensive way of convicting trans people. Individuals that transition are often met with unemployment or loss of income, forcing them to break the laws in order to support themselves, including participating in sex work.

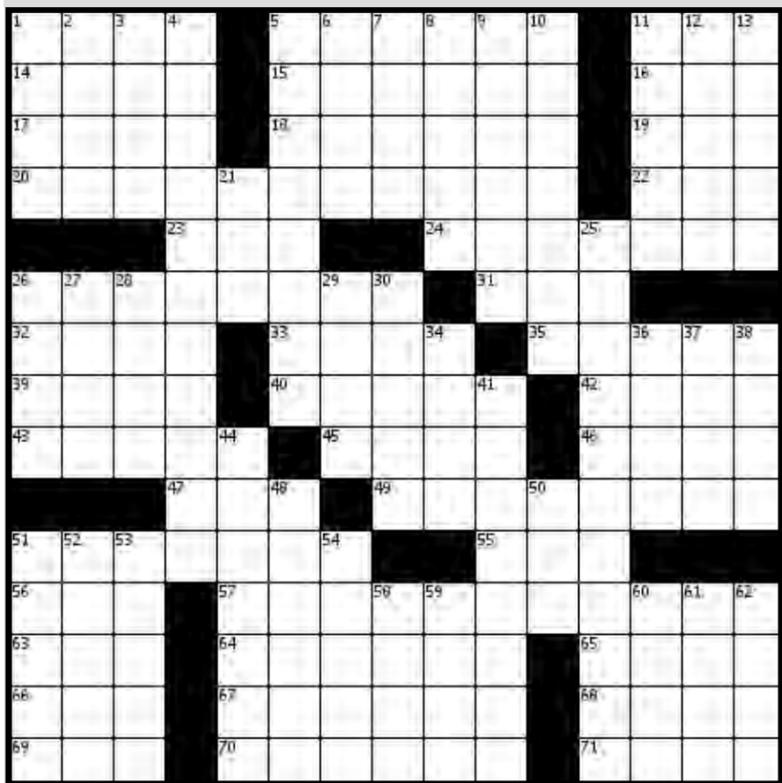
It will take the awareness and effort of our generation to create an environment where that is not the case, but until then, with prison remaining the fallback resolution for so many issues, we need to look critically at the way those environments impact the most vulnerable members of our communities.

Alana Trachenko is a Winnipeg writer who can't wait for summer.

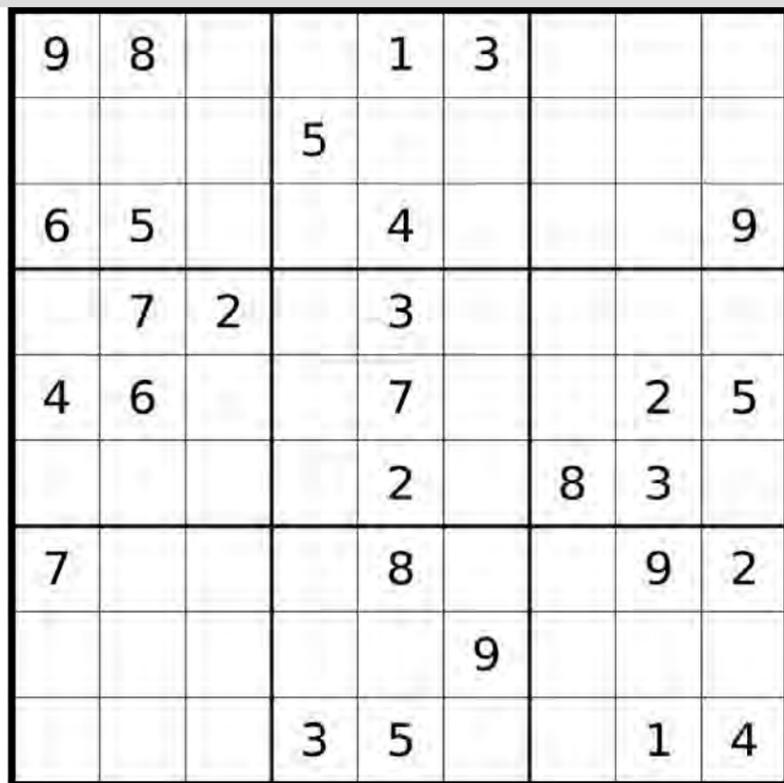


NICHOLAS LUCHAK

DIVERSIONS



WWW.ONLINECROSSWORDS.NET



WWW.SUDOKU.NET

ACROSS

1. Norwegian ruler
5. Flotilla
11. Fast no longer
14. Decant
15. Tom Canty, in a Mark Twain book
16. It may be concealed cosmetically
17. Came apart at the seams?
18. King in Egyptian mythology
19. Piece of cheesecake?
20. Spicy side dish
22. It may be glossed over
23. PC display unit
24. Hardly a martinet
26. Odin's hangout
31. Morse code sound
32. Way into a mine
33. Many millennia
35. Bellyaches
39. Plane or rail variety
40. Ancient depraved city
42. Sudden transition

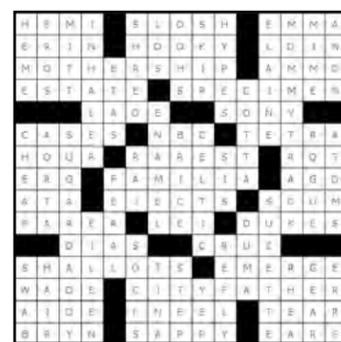
43. Muscle that flexes the trunk
45. Colon variety
46. One of a British group
47. Pt. of SPCA
49. Like handsaw blades
51. Lay waste to
55. Threw one's hat in the ring
56. Start of a drum sound
57. Salad toppings for Homer?
63. "___ matter of fact ..."
64. Practical joker, e.g.
65. Farewell, Italian-style
66. Debussy's "La ___"
67. Too firm, perhaps
68. Bride of Lohengrin
69. Word in a Maugham title
70. "Praying" insect family
71. Make an effort to find

DOWN

1. Chooses
2. Closed circuit
3. Ambience
4. "Cheers!" in Cherbourg?
5. Peter, James e.g.
6. Torrent
7. Sierra Club co-founder
8. Pluvial month
9. Cleared, as a windshield in winter
10. Elderberry wine additive, in a classic film
11. 3 on a par 5
12. Recurrently
13. Provoke
21. Rosemary's creator
25. Desserts in Siena?
26. Improvised accompaniment
27. Hubbubs
28. Type opener
29. British bathrooms
30. Much of Chile

34. Unspecified
36. Silence between notes
37. Opposite of flushed
38. Tempted a traffic cop
41. Reflected
44. This yields molasses
48. Sun's circle of light
50. "Too-ra-loo-ra-loo-___"
51. Type of movie
52. Art student's prop
53. Gawk
54. Have a yen for
58. Noteworthy hotel sign
59. De Gaulle's one-time hat
60. Anagram and synonym of evil
61. The life of Riley
62. Thoroughly moisten

SOLUTIONS TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLES.



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



THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

Student Services

You of W



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

AWARDS & FINANCIAL AID

T4A TAX FORMS

If you received an award through the University of Winnipeg in the 2014 calendar year, a T4A income tax form will be mailed to you shortly. T4A's must be submitted to CRA. However, the award money only needs to be reported as income if:

You are not eligible for the full-time or part-time education amount, then any awards above \$500 must be claimed;

If you are full-time and can claim the full-time education amount, then awards are not taxable up to the total amount required to support you in the program.

If you can claim the part-time education amount, the scholarship exemption is up to the tuition fees and costs incurred for program-related materials.

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

STUDENT CENTRAL

LOCKER RENTALS

Need somewhere to store your boots? Rent a locker from the Student Central! There are lockers available in the basement of MB Hall and on the 3rd floor of Richardson College. Locker rentals are \$20 per person for Winter Term.

Just send a Webmail email to studentcentral@uwinnipeg.ca with your preferred location or visit us at Student Central.

GRADUATION

Students who wish to graduate in June 2015 should complete an Application for Graduation form and submit it to Student Central by February 17th. (All required courses must be completed by April.)

READING WEEK

Reading Week is February 16-20. The University is closed Monday, February 16th for Louis Riel Day, but will be open for the remainder of the week.

SC'S READING WEEK HOURS

Mon, Feb. 16 - closed

Tues, Feb. 17- 8:15am - 4:00pm

Wed, Feb. 18 - 8:15am-8:00pm

Thurs, Feb. 19 - 8:15am - 5:30pm

Fri, Feb. 20 - 9:00am-4:15pm

TAX RECEIPTS

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

U2014W COURSE DROPS

Tuesday, March 3rd, 2015 is the last day to drop a U2014W course. Students cannot withdraw from a U2014W course after this date. No refund is applicable.

CAMPUS LIVING

RESIDENCE ROOMS AVAILABLE ON CAMPUS

Simplify your life by moving on campus! UWinnipeg Campus Living Residence rooms are now available. Rooms in Balmoral Houses are priced at \$511 per month and rooms in Lions Manor start at \$475/month for UWinnipeg students. Want the convenience of a meal plan? Single and Double dorm options with included meal plan are available at McFeetors Hall starting at \$931 per month for UWinnipeg students. Visit <mailto:housing@uwinnipeg.ca> or housing@uwinnipeg.ca for details!

MINDFULNESS MEDITATION

The UWSA and Academic Advising Office have collaborated to bring you Drop-in Mindfulness Meditation sessions every Wednesday and Thursday from January 14 to April 30, 12:30 to 1:00 p.m. in the University of Winnipeg Chapel.

Tired of the hustle and bustle of life and just need some quiet time to relax and reflect? Then come join us! Bring an open mind and wear comfy clothes. These are FREE and all are welcome.

OPEN HOUSE 2015

February 18 | 9am-2pm | 5:30pm-9pm

Open House is a great time to check out all that UWinnipeg has to offer. You can chat with current students, staff and professors, attend a mini-lecture on topics that interest you, tour the campus, apply in person, and more!

ASK! You of W

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

FASHION STREETER

Jeanine Saurette

"Minimal patterns, structural fabrics and comfortable footwear"



SERGE GUMENYUK

The Uniter Fashion Streeter is an ongoing documentation of creative fashion in Winnipeg inspired by the Helsinki fashion blog 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.

Working Thesis by Paul Hewak

Office tools are generally built to resemble various prehistoric creatures of long ago; with staplers resembling crocodiles,

or staple-removers resembling Sabre-tooth tigers.

of Mr. Denko and a dinosaur! Haha, just kidding Mr. Denko, just joking around because it's your 53rd birthday today: Friday, February 13th, and I figured a joke would be the best present I could give to the best linguistics Professor ever!

My linguistics Professor Mr. Denko LOVES crocodiles! He is also a big cat person!

Go to Swop and yell "Happy birthday Mr. Denko!" He'll love it!!

The CREEPS

BY JEAN FLOCH
www.gocomics.com/the-creeps

When the glue dries, you can peel it off like skin!

I LOOOOVE PEELING SKIN! LET ME DO IT!

No! It's for me to peel!

AURGH! IT'S THE TIME YOU HAD ECZEMA ALL OVER AGAIN!

WHY COULDN'T IT HAVE BEEN ME?



FREE Student Banking

That's right...no fees!

Simply the...**BEST!**
Contact us for details.



#DOGGOODLOOKGOOD

THE UNITER, EPH APPAREL & HUSH PRESENT:

DRESS 2 *impress*

Nominate a student in need between February 12 & March 31 and they could win a brand new custom-made suit from Eph Apparel or professional outfit from Hush*

Nominations must be current University of Winnipeg students and must contribute to their community in a meaningful way

TO NOMINATE SOMEONE, VISIT UNITER.CA/CONTEST

HUSH **F** THE UNITER
EPH APPAREL

*no cash value, maximum retail value \$150 at Hush Clothing, one student will win for each retailer, nominations are subject to approval at Uniter's discretion