

THE

UNITER

FREE WEEKLY
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DISPATCHES FROM SELF- QUARANTINE

What a weird time to be alive.

Like so many others, the staff here at *The Uniter* is working from home in response to the arrival of COVID-19 in Manitoba. We're still committed to bringing you a new issue of the paper every Thursday until the end of our publishing year. The University of Winnipeg has suspended in-person classes, so there won't be physical editions of the paper on campus. But you can still find us at uniter.ca and all of our off-campus pickup locations.

It is, of course, scary to be in a time of so much uncertainty, danger and social unease. But it's also sort of a marvel of modern technology and innovation that it's possible for 20 or so people working from home to make a newspaper. Of course, we couldn't make it happen without the help of our printers, delivery and distribution folks, who don't have the ability to work from home. If you see someone on a bike filling *Uniter* paper boxes, give them a round of applause.

After today, we only have two issues left, including our annual special Urban Issue. What the future will look like after that is a bit of a mystery. April and May typically bring our AGM and our annual summer festival guide. But with public gatherings being an obvious no-no, who knows if we'll even have a summer festival season?

With so much uncertainty, though, there are at least a few things we can all remain constant on: stay home and wash your hands frequently!

-Thomas Pashko

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Michelle Leclair of Wolseley Kombucha teaches Winnipeggers how to make their own delicious fermented beverages. Read more on page 5.

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SUBMISSIONS

Submissions of articles, letters, graphics and photos are encouraged, however all new contributors (with the exception of letters to the editor) must attend a 45-minute volunteer orientation workshop to ensure that the volunteer understands all of the publication's basic guidelines. In-person volunteer orientations are currently suspended due to COVID-19, but over-the-phone and remote orientations can be arranged. Please email volunteer@uniter.ca for more details. Deadline for advertisements is noon Friday, six days prior to publication. The Uniter reserves the right to refuse to print material submitted by volunteers. The Uniter will not print submissions that are homophobic, misogynistic, racist or libellous. We also reserve the right to edit for length/style.

CORRECTIONS

In the March 12 article "U of W students elect new UWSA executive," we failed to mention that Cheta D. Akaluka was elected UWSA senator. *The Uniter* regrets the error.

WHOSE HOUSE?

ADY KAY'S HOUSE



Ady Kay in her home

A SIMPLE SPACE WITH CLOWNISH TRAITS

KEESHA HAREWOOD

FEATURES REPORTER  @KEESHAREWOOD

As an actor, performance artist, photographer, singer, clown and so much more, Ady Kay is certifiably busy.

"I've just always been an artist," she says. "I started off loving performance in high school. There was drama class, and I was all over that."

After high school, Kay continued to pursue acting in film and on stage. Recently, she had a blast playing multiple characters in a production of *Hamlet*.

In addition to the acting, Kay has also been developing a clown workshop for kids.

"It's just in its seedling stages," she says. "It's called 'Finding Your Inner Clown,'" although the name may change later.

The aim for the workshop is for kids to have a place to "express their inner goof" and unleash what they feel inside without holding back.

There are many wonderful educators out there, but with teacher-to-student classroom ratios and limited resources, it can be difficult for an educator to attend to every child's many needs. Kay wants to do her part to help by using the creativity of clowning to give kids a method to build their self-confidence and discover their individuality.

"Everybody has different needs," Kay says. "It's so important for kids to bring the inside of themselves onto the outside and to know it's okay to be exactly who they are."

Kay has big dreams for the workshop. She hopes to take it to as many schools as she can in Winnipeg and hopefully even across Canada.

"The most important thing anybody can do for themselves is to listen to yourself," she says. "Go inward. Listen to what feels good to you."

"I see so many kids comparing themselves to people, and I see myself doing that, and I think that's the biggest thing for me, and I think that's my message to most kids I encounter ... listen to yourself, listen close."

1) BALLET BRANCH TREE

"I'm really obsessed with trees, so all of these trees are my friends. The one across the street there that looks like it's doing a ballet thing, her name is Cressida, in my opinion."



2) FOR DEDICATED PEOPLE-WATCHING

"We're people-watchers. We even have binoculars. It's really creepy."

3) THE BEST SPOT

"This is kind of the place I hang out most."

4) A CLOWN'S MANY FACES

"Clowns have many, many sides. The clown training I did, we had six different masks that we

created. The creation of these masks are very spontaneous and impulsive, and I believe it's for the purpose of no filter. You're not allowed to think about it. You just fucking go."

5) THE FAVOURITE FACE

"This mask is really trepidatious. It's kind of almost walking on eggshells."

6) TINY PLANT

"I got a plant named Celeste."

7) SMALL CROW

"I love crows. This is my crow, Jewel."

8) BEAUTIFUL FLOWER CROWN

"My lifecoach and I were just romping around, and this flower crown was so gorgeous. I just wanted it very badly."



BROADENING THE SCOPE

Manitoba Historical Society launches Prairie-focused magazine

HANNAH FOULGER



ARTS AND CULTURE REPORTER

The Manitoba Historical Society (MHS) launched their new magazine, *Prairie History*, on March 6, replacing the 40-year-old *Manitoba History*.

Editor Robert Coutts says "It was time to broaden the scope ... looking at Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, within the context of Prairie history in the northwest."

"Historically ... the boundaries that we know didn't amount to anything ... I wanted to focus it more on the northwest as an entity. Even though we call it the "Prairie history" it is not just the prairies. (It's also) everything (from the) subarctic to borderlands (the American northwest)."

Coutts hopes "to move into new topics, to get new authors. In one province, you tend to get a lot of the same authors (submitting), so I wanted to broaden that. I wanted new stories ... from different perspectives, (including) Indigenous stories from Indigenous writers."

"At first, there was some questioning why the MHS (would publish) a journal that is across the west, (but) I managed to convince the executive council and the members (of MHS that it) was important to society to get new interest and subscribers. At first glance, people say it might not fit in, because it is not just Manitoba, but I think it does." Coutts says.

"The transition is going to take a little bit of time. Prospective authors are not aware of the change. When you expand like this, you tend to get more submissions, which I am already getting. It allows you to be a bit more choosy about publishing better-quality articles and looking for things like Indigenous histories. I want to publish articles that relate to more contemporary topics, like gender."

Coutts says the new publication, like its predecessor, includes two to three peer-reviewed articles and some shorter, more popular articles, as well as a new section about the material culture of historians and archivists.

Mary Horodyski, archivist, researcher and writer, wrote a peer-reviewed article exploring the history of incarcerating people with intellectual disabilities at the Manitoba Developmental Centre,

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SUPPLIED PHOTO

The cover of the first issue of *Prairie History*, the new magazine from the Manitoba Historical Society

which still houses 130 people with disabilities today.

"This isn't just history," she says. "This is happening in the present day. What the government does, it does in our name, because we pay for it with our taxes, and we elect those officials. I think it is very important that we know, as citizens, what the government is doing. Do we agree with the government incarcerating people with disabilities? Let's think about it and decide if we do or not."

Horodyski says *Prairie History* was the only magazine she considered for her

article, because it is "accessible in both print and text-searchable digital versions, and it is inexpensive. This journal is accessible to Manitobans and especially Winnipeggers, plus it is scholarly (and peer-reviewed), but it is still written for a general audience. It is not behind any firewall. You don't have to be a part of a university library to access it."

Horodyski considers this kind of accessibility essential and is concerned by the lack of access to archives in Manitoba. "Governments are legislated to preserve records and make these records

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SOMETHING BREWING IN WOLSELEY

Kombucha in Winnipeg

HANNAH FOULGER

 @FOULGERSCOVFEFE

ARTS AND CULTURE REPORTER

Local brewery Wolseley Kombucha opened their storefront at 749 Wall St. on Jan. 1, joining Prism Kombucha as the only commercial kombucha breweries in town. Kombucha is a fermented drink touted for its many health benefits and made from caffeinated tea with the help of a SCOBY, which is a symbiotic culture of bacteria and yeast.

Wolseley Kombucha owner and head brewer Michelle Leclair says "Kombucha is good for digestion, helps with mental fog and also contains organic acid, so it detoxifies the liver and the blood, (however) you don't have to drink a lot to get the benefits."

But not all kombucha is the real thing. "There is a lot of kombucha out there that is not real kombucha," Leclair says. In order to know what you're drinking is the real thing, "meet your maker," Leclair says, or you can brew your own.

"Homebrewing is great, because you can control all the factors," Leclair says. "Anyone can make kombucha, but it is hard to get it to taste good. My biggest advice is, (since) you're only using three or four ingredients, use the best sugar, the best water, the best tea, and that will help with your end product," Leclair says.

Carolyn Muir, a local brewer, makes kombucha for private consumption. While she enjoys ready-made kombucha, she says "it averages out to be \$2.50 to \$4 per drink. When I started brewing (my own), it was about 70¢ per bottle." Over time, she has modified her recipe by using high-quality organic ingredients, which improve the taste but increase the cost.

Making kombucha is more difficult than it sounds. "A lot of people are grossed out by the SCOBY that floats on top of (the kombucha) and ferments it," Muir says. "(At first), I didn't want to touch it. It looks like a pancake/placenta floating on top of your brew and has the texture of raw chicken. So it is kind of gross but also amazing at the same time. I got past that. Now I think it is really neat." Muir says.

"Even though I do enjoy brewing my own kombucha, I think it is important to support local businesses. I'm happy to see kombucha on the menu of certain local places, (like) at The Common in The Forks. As nice as it is to see local beers on the menu, it would be nice to see local kombucha at restaurants."

Muir makes her kombucha plain, but Leclair works with several different flavours and tries to use local and organic ingredients. "Obviously, tea isn't local," Leclair says, "(but) being local is something that is important to me. So we have been sourcing



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Michelle Leclair, owner and head brewer of Wolseley Kombucha

local berries. We have a saskatoon kombucha, which is made with local saskatoons."

"We try to be as environmentally friendly as possible. The idea (is) that you can buy a bottle and refill it forever. I have customers from three years ago still reusing the same bottle ... I like the idea of reduc(ing) and reus(ing) as much as possible," Leclair says.

At the time of publication, you still can buy Wolseley Kombucha at their store, and they have refill stations at Vita Health Fresh Market and Generation Green. Delivery will be available starting March 19.



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CKUW TOP 30

March 9–15, 2020

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



TW	LW	C	Artist	Album	Label
1	1	!	Cantor Dust	Too Many Stars	Self-Released
2	RE	!	William Prince	Reliever	Six Shooter
3	2	!	Mariachi Ghost	Puro Dolor	Sugar Gator
4	5	!	Begonia	Fear	Rex Baby
5	3	*	Wolf Parade	Thin Mind	Royal Mountain
6	11	*	Audrey Ochoa	Frankenhorn	Chronograph
7	4		Los Straightjackets	Channel Surfing	Yep Rock
8	6	*	The Souljazz Orchestra	Chaos Theories	Do Right Music
9	20	*	Andy Schauf	The Neon Skyline	Arts&Crafts
10	21	!	Nestor Wynrush	Roxbury & Wooden Legs	Peanuts & Corn
11	16	!	Death Cassette	Grim	Self-Released
12	9		Rez Abbasi Abbasai and Isabelle Olivier	Oasis	Enja/Yellowbird
13	15		Matana Roberts	Coin Coin Chapter Four: Memphis	Constellation
14	8	*	Fly Pan Am	C'est Ca	Constellation
15	23	*	Land Of Kush	Sand Enigma	Constellation
16	NE		Various Artists	We Were Living In Cincinnati Comp Lp (1975-82)	Hozac
17	NE		Oval	Eksplio	Thrill Jockey
18	RE		Various Artists	Something Weird-Spook Show Spectacular A-Go-Go	Modern Harmonic
19	14		Eddy Current Suppression Ring	All In Good Time	Castle Face
20	7	*	The Quivers	Nice To Meet You	Transistor 66
21	17		MFC Chicken	Fast Food & Broken Hearts	Dirty Water
22	NE		Subhumans (UK)	Crisis Point	Pirates Press
23	18		The Uniques	Absolutely The Uniques	Antarctica Starts Here
24	19	!	Hearing Trees	Bones	Self-Released
25	NE	*	Man Made Hill	Mass Wasting	Not Unlike
26	13		King Krule	Man Alive!	True Panther Sounds
27	24	*	Destroyer	Have We Met	Merge
28	RE		Glass Beach	The First Glass Beach Album	Run For Cover
29	RE	*	Radon Ultra	Radon Ultra EP	Self-Released
30	22	*	Whiskey Jerks	Baba Was A Bootlegger	Self-Released

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ARTS BRIEFS

BETH SCHELLENBERG // ARTS AND CULTURE EDITOR

@BETHGAZELLENBERG

Global pandemic

The main event this week is COVID-19, which has really outshone all other cultural happenings. For those of us who are able to self-isolate and socially distance, it means spending a lot of time at home. While it is an absolute privilege to worry about boredom in times like these, the days can stretch out and begin to feel long and lonely ...

Free streaming services

For those who don't subscribe to online streaming subscriptions or are looking for something new, check out Kanopy. It is 100 per cent free, and all you need to gain access is a library card. Kanopy is chock-full of old classics and new documentaries and indie favourites for when you want your screen time to make you smarter. If you really want to get classy with your streaming service game, sign up for the Criterion Collection and get a free two-week trial. By the time the pandemic is over and we are allowed to hang out IRL again, you can be an irritatingly/enviably knowledgeable film buff.

Take an online tour of a museum or gallery

Does this sound like a boring, nerdy activity you would never do under regular circumstances? Yes, most likely! Are these regular circumstances? No, absolutely not! So buckle up and take a virtual tour of Seoul's National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art or the Uffizi Gallery in Florence, from the comfort (confinement) of your own home.

Read books

Libraries and bookstores may be closed at the moment, but there are many excellent sites offering PDFs of books. Open Library offers everything from Plato to Roald Dahl and has an interface that is reminiscent of how Netflix might look if it was around in the late '90s. You don't need to have a tablet, Kindle or any apps to borrow and read books. A laptop or phone does the trick.

STAY HOME

If you are able to, just stay home! Take this as an opportunity to rest or binge-watch TV or clean out your closet or do whatever makes you feel okay in this moment – while ALSO potentially saving lives, or at the very least taking some strain off of our already-overburdened healthcare workers. Many folks aren't able to stay home for numerous reasons, including not having a home to stay in, so do what you can to protect those who are more vulnerable and/or unable to self-isolate and socially distance.

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SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH IN WINNIPEG

How to access services on and off campus



PHOTO BY DANIEL CRUMP

Klinic Community Health Centre (870 Portage Ave.) also has a location on the University of Winnipeg campus.

The capacity of Canadians to access, realize and exercise their sexual and reproductive health rights (SRHR) has been influenced by the changing tides of the nation's politics and the shifting configurations of beliefs and customs throughout the years.

In 2018, the Canadian government announced \$104.4 million in funding for projects that take "a comprehensive approach to SRHR, including universal access to family planning and access to safe and legal abortion," cementing the country as a global leader in SRHR, especially for women, and proclaiming that SRHR are

human rights.

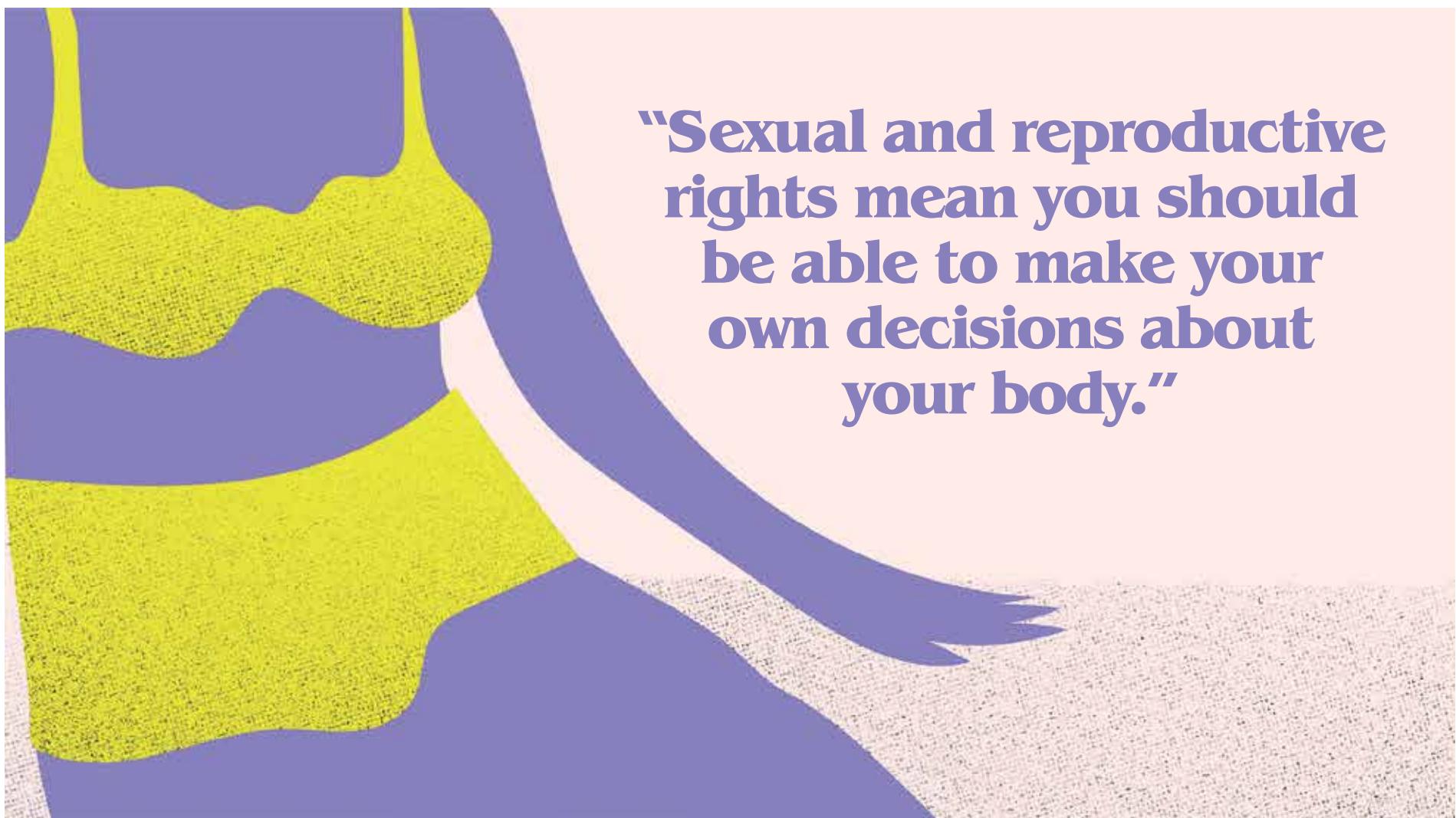
Meanwhile, the Government of Manitoba has included all forms of sexual and gender identity into its code of protected rights under the Manitoba Human Rights Commission.

Amnesty International states that "sexual and reproductive rights mean you should be able to make your own decisions about your body ... and be free from all forms of sexual violence, including rape, female genital mutilation, forced pregnancy, forced abortion and forced sterilization."

These rights have not always been accessible to Canadians, with contraception not being decriminalized until 1969 and the right to have an abortion not being completely safe and legal until 1988, after going through several cases in front of the Supreme Court.

Ultimately, we have come a long way in terms of bodily autonomy and SRHR awareness, and in Winnipeg and on the University of Winnipeg (U of W) campus, there exist several resources accessible to the community.

"Sexual and reproductive rights mean you should be able to make your own decisions about your body."



SEXUAL HEALTH

Dr. Corinne Mason, associate professor of gender and women's studies and sociology at Brandon University, points to three important resources for sexual and reproductive health in Winnipeg: Klinik and its Sexual Assault Crisis Program, Teen Talk and the Women's Health Clinic. All organizations are pro-choice.

Klinik offers primary and mental health care and community health services, while its Sexual Assault Crisis Program is for people "who require support specifically related to sexual assault or sexual harassment that occurred as a teen or adult."

The U of W currently hosts Klinik on Campus, which provides services ranging from medical appointments to Pap tests, contraceptives, STI testing, health workshops and information on abortions and family planning. Klinik on Campus is on the first floor of the Duckworth Centre in room 1D25.

"I would recommend anyone who has experienced sexualized violence or is advocating alongside a survivor in their life (with their consent, of course!) to consider connecting with Klinik's Sexual Assault Crisis Program," Mason says.

"Importantly, the program offers a 24-7 crisis line and third-party reporting, which means folks who have experienced violence can pass along that information to police without speaking to them directly or making a formal report."

She says "reporting is absolutely confidential, and survivors can stay anonymous with police who follow up with the program," instead of reaching out to these individuals directly.

While both Klinik and the

police promise confidentiality, Canada's Department of Justice finds that only around 5 per cent of sexual assaults are ever reported to the police. However, according to Statistics Canada, there has been a peak in reported cases after the emergence of the Me Too movement.

The U of W campus has a UW Sexual Violence Response Team that can be reached by calling 204-230-6660, and the website describes it as a "small team of employees who co-ordinate accommodations and external resources for students who have experienced sexual violence."

However, there aren't currently any publicly available statistics on the number of reported incidents of sexual violence or harassment on campus. Staff, faculty and other U of W employees can turn to the Human Rights and Diversity Office to report any form of sexual misconduct.

Teen Talk is Manitoba's largest youth health education program and provides services for youth from a harm-reduction and prevention education perspective. Its focus ranges from sexual, reproductive and mental health to substance use and anti-violence education.

"Teen Talk is undergoing dynamic and some rather disappointing changes, including cuts to jobs and a reorganization of their work, but it remains on my list of most important resources in the city right now. Folks in the organization have created a mandate for their work to be decolonial, anti-oppression and youth-led and to prioritize gender and sexual diversity, pleasure and consent," Mason says.

Formal announcements to shut down Teen Talk while allocating its funds to SERC's (Sexuality Education Resource Centre) Win-

nipeg and Brandon offices were made on Feb. 26, with the transition to fully take place on April 1. In a blog post, Nicole Chammaratin, executive director of SERC and Klinik, stated that instead of pursuing funding for Teen Talk

from the province, they "have recommended they pursue an agreement with an Indigenous-led organization."

Mason says that "since Manitoba's sexual health curriculum is 20 years old, hetero and cissex-

ist and focuses on the dangers of sex rather than bodily autonomy, pleasure and boundaries, this work is essential to the health and safety of young people."

"Some of the most important and innovative anti-violence pre-



Feature

Sexual and reproductive health in Winnipeg



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Corinne Mason, associate professor of gender and women's studies and sociology at Brandon University

ventative work is happening (at Teen Talk), and the people on this team will continue to do this good work for the Winnipeg community, regardless of where they land after Teen Talk is over."

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

For Manitobans, recent SRHR progress was made when the abortion pill, Mifegymiso, was covered under universal health care and then also made free outside of the major cities of Winnipeg and Brandon.

Mifegymiso helps people obtain medical abortions and is available with a prescription through Manitoba Health. Surgical abortions require an internal procedure and are often conducted at the Health Sciences Centre, depending on the gestation period.

According to the Johnston's Archives, there were 3,490 completed abortions in Manitoba in 2017, the most recent data available.

Erin Bockstael is the current acting team leader of the Women's Health Clinic, which is a feminist, non-profit community health clinic and the main provider of abortion services in the city.

"Women's Health Clinic offers both medical and surgical abortions. There is no cost if people have a valid Manitoba Health number. People can self-refer for abortions by calling 204-477-1887," Bockstael says.

"Counselling is part of the process to ensure that people have all the information that they need to make their choices. Those conversations can include decision-making around adoption placements if the pregnant person is interested."

According to the Government of Manitoba's "Your Choice for Your Reasons" youth pregnancy handbook, the purpose of counselling is "to assist the young woman to make an informed decision about the abortion procedure, possible risks, options and availability of appointments." The discussion may also include the suggestion of adoption, guardianship and openness agreements.

"In terms of reproductive health, the

Women's Health Clinic (which is much more open to gender diversity than the name suggests) is essential in this city. They are the only affirming organization for folks seeking abortion services, and they have a strong sexual health education program that is inclusive, honest and anti-oppressive," Mason continues.

"They also offer free birth control and have prenatal and midwifery services for pregnant people who wish to continue their pregnancy."

ON-CAMPUS RESOURCES

Jocelyn Malette is a member of the on-campus Women-Trans Spectrum Centre, an "accessible and inclusive resource centre for women and trans students," and advocates for judgment-free spaces for students to reach out for resources.

"On campus, we have the University of Winnipeg Students' Association (UWSA), which offers sexual and reproductive health resources, including free menstrual hygiene products and safer-sex materials, such as condoms, pregnancy tests and alternative barrier methods to students of all genders, with no questions asked."

These resources are available "anytime during UWSA office hours, either by visiting our service centres, such as the Rainbow Lounge or the Women-Trans Spectrum Centre (WTSC), which are located in the Bulman Student Centre, or by asking the UWSA General Office at the front desk for help," they say.

Malette notes "that the WTSC is for non-cis men, so it's preferred that men and non-trans identifying folks access the UWSA Rainbow Lounge that is open for the 2SLGBTQIA+ community and allies," bringing into question if there is a need for an exclusive resource centre for heterosexual, cis men on campus.

"The WTSC likes to promote knowledge on effective use of safer-sex resources and direct students to the proper community organizations that offer that kind of care, such as Klinik on Campus for booking STI testing and checking in on regular sexual health," Malette says.



"Women's Health Clinic (which is much more open to gender diversity than the name suggests) is essential in this city. They are the only affirming organization for folks seeking abortion services, and they have a strong sexual health education program that is inclusive, honest and anti-oppressive."

—Corrine Mason



Recently, the WTSC partnered with the urban and inner-city program campus to provide free resources to students at the Merchants Corner satellite campus in the North End.

The UWSA was supposed to host the upcoming event "Decolonizing Sexual Health" with sexual health educator

and activist Ericka Hart on March 23 from 5 to 8 p.m. in Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall to speak on the topic of sexuality in post-secondary institutions, but due to the COVID-19 outbreak, this event has been postponed indefinitely.



DIGITAL WEEK OF ACTION

From March 23 - 29, take one step a day towards a Fossil Free UWinnipeg.

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Models in images. Intended as illustrative.



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GREEN THUMBS WITHOUT GREEN SPACE

Community garden programs in germinating season

ALEX NEUFELDT

CITY REPORTER  @ALEXEJNEUFELDT

While Spence Neighborhood Association's seed starting workshops for its community garden plots are on hold due to COVID-19, the program will be back in action when Winnipeg returns to normalcy.

"Every year, we have a gardening program, which offers plots to community members. Seed starting is preparing plants to be put into the gardens," Olivia Michalczuk, the environment and open spaces co-ordinator for Spence Neighborhood Association, says.

The seed starting programs teach folks about starting seeds, soil quality and the steps that go into growing a garden "so that in the future, they can maybe start their own seeds," she says.

Michalczuk says people will often start far more plants than they need for their garden, but the extras go to good use. "Someone will plant 40 seeds and maybe get six plants as a result, and we'll maybe sell those other seeds to gardeners in the neighbourhood, and the money from

selling them funds the seed starting next year," she says.

University of Winnipeg students who are not part of Spence or any of the other neighbourhoods with community gardens have community garden space available in Cultivate UWinnipeg, the rooftop garden program that takes place in the greenhouse in the university library.

Daniel LeBlanc, the program's co-founder, says that when Cultivate began in 2016, "part of our proposal was that there's not much green space downtown, there's not really access to grocery stores downtown as much, and people who live downtown and go to the university typically are renting. They may not have balconies, and it's really hard to find garden space in the middle of the city. It just seemed like such a great idea to use unused, protected open space."

"It's really safe, too. It's on the roof. It's a closed area," he says. "A lot of university students don't own land, don't own houses, don't have access to land, and that's why this garden is so useful. Since the beginning, it's been providing. Students that live in the city have access to this precious possibility to develop this



ILLUSTRATION BY GABRIELLE FUNK

crucial, ancient skill."

LeBlanc says that while some people see their crops through from planting to harvest, Cultivate is also happy to have people drop in for shorter-term periods or even just for an afternoon. The important thing is giving people access to gardening and learning.

Michalczuk says "people being able to grow their own food and having a respect for the work that goes into it is really lovely. Spending time in the outdoors, getting all the good feels from getting your hands in the dirt, meeting your neighbours, watching

progress happen in your garden, utilizing green space in the community, all of those things are positive."

"All of our community gardens are on previously abandoned lots, where there was a home. The City owned the lot, and we turned that lot into a community garden," she says. "Spence has the least amount of green space in Winnipeg, so (people are) getting to be able to not only experience green space but use it to feed their families, learn a very effective and important life skill and learn from seed to table."

KULTIVATION CULTIVATES FILIPINO CULTURE

Filipino contemporary art to take over the Exchange

ALEX NEUFELDT

CITY REPORTER  @ALEXEJNEUFELDT

After a successful – but COVID-19 interrupted – popup in the Garden City Shopping Centre, Kultivation Festival, which celebrates the contemporary art of Filipino people in Winnipeg, will take place in the Exchange District in June.

Patrick Eulalia, one of the members of the organizing committee and the chair of social media for the festival, says it's a way of celebrating Filipino contributions to Winnipeg that go beyond STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math).

"I think, as a culture, we often only see Filipino people celebrated when they're pursuing particular industries, like healthcare work or engineering, but we don't really get a lot of spotlight on people doing things outside of that, like really cool chefs, bakers, artists, dancers," he says.

Part of the goal of Kultivation is to imagine what a Filipino district of Winnipeg might look like.

"With the development of the Jollibee (a Filipino fast-food chain restaurant) being the first to open here and the recent Seafood City opening, I think it'd be a great opportunity to open a district to mentor our youth about our culture," Eulalia says. This could include teaching Filipino cooking and language, as well

as providing mentorship, especially in industries outside of STEM.

Jonato Dalayoan, who owns 4Two Design Inc. and was commissioned to design the branding for the festival, says that being involved in the project has really been transformative for him. While Dalayoan says he started off seeing Kultivation as just another job, though one within his community, "it's gone beyond branding. Branding is very important, but understanding the culture more and more has helped along the way as well. It's definitely been a learning experience for me."

Dalyoan says his logo design was "inspired by Filipino textiles and the prairies. Although we're recognized as Filipino here, we're in Canada. I kind of used textiles as inspiration, but I also used aerial views of our prairies." He says the colour scheme was inspired by the Filipino flag but also skewed to be unique.

An upwards arrow is also a key part of the logo. He says "the arrow was kind of intended to show a positive, uplifting feeling, but at the same time, it kind of represents the migration from east to west as well."

He says that the branding needed "to be bold, energetic, strong and with unity. It's a very joyful culture, and I wanted to make sure it was represented that way, with a kind of fun feeling." He also notes that, with so many other summer festivals, it needed to really stand



PHOTO BY KEELEY BRAUNSTEIN-BLACK

out from the rest.

Dalyoan says he wasn't so sure about the concept of a separate Filipino district and the idea of segmenting the city, "but that said, the more I learned about the festival and thought about the future, it's not so much segmenting or isolating, but it's a way to celebrate our culture and share it with the community, and I think that's the most important thing."

He also says that being part of the festival helped him to contextualize his own experience as a Filipino-Canadian. When he reflects on the fact that his kids can't speak Filipino but can speak fluent French, he says "this is for them. It's to give them a sense of pride, that it's okay to share your culture, and you should be proud to share your culture."



U OF W CANCELS IN-PERSON CLASSES

COVID-19 crisis forces major changes on campus

CALLUM GOULET-KILGOUR

CAMPUS REPORTER @CGOULETKILGOUR

COVID-19 (the disease caused by the novel coronavirus) has, in the last few months, caused sickness, death and major disruptions across the world. This virus' outbreak, recently declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization, has forced major institutions and businesses to close to the public or modify their daily operations.

After cases of COVID-19 were confirmed in Manitoba, the University of Winnipeg (U of W) announced that they were cancelling all in-person classes, labs and exams for the rest of the winter term. The University of Manitoba, Université de Saint-Boniface and Brandon University had similar responses.

The Bill Wedlake Fitness Centre has closed, but, as of press time, Diversity Foods, student support services and research support services on campus remain open. Residences will remain open and will be subject to extra cleaning, according to the university.

In a statement released on March 13, the U of W said that "deans and department chairs are working collaboratively with faculty on alternate methods of course content delivery and are actively planning how we

can support students in completing their courses."

On March 16, the university released another statement to announce that no in-person classes or exams will take place this term.

"Exams may be conducted online, via Nexus or other means," it reads. "Students will learn by March 20 how final grades will be determined." The last day of classes was scheduled for April 3.

Reza Saker, vice-president of the U of W International Students' Union, applauds the steps taken by the university to respond to this crisis.

"I really appreciate the fact that the university authority took the matter very seriously and prioritized students' health and safety," she says in an email to *The Uniter*.

"I think the university's communication with the students in this regard is very informative and clear," Saker says, adding that she encourages all students "to not panic but stay alert and keep (themselves) updated with the most recent information."

One of Saker's concerns is the financial impact of this crisis.

"Most of the students work part-time, and now they're not getting enough work hours to pay their bills," she says.

The U of W Students' Association (UWSA) released a statement outlining their response to this crisis, saying the "UWSA executive and staff will be working



SUPPLIED PHOTO

The University of Winnipeg has cancelled all in-person classes, labs and exams in response to COVID-19.

remotely" and "all non-essential UWSA services, service centres, offices and events will be closed until further notice." This includes Info Booth, Bike Lab and Safewalk.

According to a statement by U of W president and vice-chancellor Dr. Annette Trimbee, "these adjustments will cause disruption."

"We are grateful for your continuing

efforts, patience and understanding as we navigate this challenge together," Trimbee says.

As this is a rapidly changing situation, up-to-date information on the U of W's response to the COVID-19 crisis can be found at uwinnipeg.ca/covid-19/index.html.

CITY BRIEFS

LISA MIZAN // CITY EDITOR

@LISA_MIZAN

New campus hours

Starting on March 18, the University of Winnipeg campus will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. from Monday to Friday and will be closed on weekends. Employees working outside these hours are to notify Security Services. Meal plans for students in residence will be offered every day from 12 to 7 p.m. from Elements via takeout or delivery to respect social distancing recommendations during the COVID-19 outbreak.

City events postponed amid pandemic

Several events around the city have been postponed due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Notable among them are the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra's *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire* performance scheduled to take place April 4 and 5 at the Centennial Concert Hall. All Manitoba Court of Appeal matters are (except urgent ones) postponed until April 17, and the Manitoba Chamber Orchestra's March 24 concert is postponed until further notice.

Still safe to donate blood

Canadian Blood Services has experienced a recent spike in cancellations of blood donation appointments, very likely due to the COVID-19 outbreak. The organization is confident in donating blood still being safe and is following the Public Health Agency of Canada's recommendations for public gatherings. They want to remind the public of the need for generosity in these trying times.

Library launches new program

The University of Winnipeg Library has launched new research data management services headed by research and data management librarian Jaime Orr. Orr "will provide strategic support in developing, implementing and supporting a university-wide RDM strategy." Orr is available to provide RDM training and consultation services to the U of W research community at j.orr@uwinnipeg.ca or 204-786-9035.

Mutual Aid Society

Local activist Omar Kinnarath has started a Facebook group titled "Mutual Aid Society Winnipeg" as a response to the COVID-19 outbreak. The group "aims to bring people together during this crisis to enact mutual aid among each other." Group activity has included healthy individuals offering to do grocery runs, sharing resources and helping with childcare for people who are self-isolating.

Oral history grant

The University of Winnipeg's Oral History Centre is now accepting applications for the 2020 Abe and Bertha Oral History Grant, which "supports a researcher or community group without access to additional funding in the pursuit of an oral history project." The deadline for submissions is April 17, and the criteria for eligibility is available online on the Oral History website.



THE UNIVERSITY OF
WINNIPEG

Student Services

COVID-19 UPDATE

No In-person Classes or Exams this Term

The University is suspending all in-person classes for the remainder of the Winter Term. Essential services remain open; some facilities are closed.

As of March 16, 2020, we have made a number of changes to our campus operations to help safeguard the health of the UWinnipeg community.

As the COVID-19 situation evolves, we are taking further precautions – while striving to support students in completing their studies.

- All classes are moving to alternate delivery.

- There will be no in-person exams this term. Exams may be conducted online, through Nexus, or by other means.
- Students will hear from the University via webmail by Friday, March 20 for details on how final grades will be determined for this term.
- Upcoming Spring Term (May/June) courses will be offered via alternative delivery options. There will be no in-person classes.

Please see the website for details related to campus and academic operations affected by the public health situation. It is updated

regularly. Type this into your browser: uwinnipeg.ca/covid-19

AWARDS & FINANCIAL AID

Convocation Awards

Applications for 2019-20 Convocation Awards by nomination are now open.

Undergraduate students graduating in 2019-20 can be considered for Convocation Awards. Nominations will be accepted from faculty, staff, students or by self-nomination.

Deadline: **Wed., Apr. 15**

For more information and an application form, please visit: uwinnipeg.ca/awards and click on "In-Course Awards (current students)"

STUDENT SERVICES

Social Media

To stay on top of the latest news and events in Student Services, follow us on Instagram or Twitter or join our Facebook groups.

Instagram:

@UWinnipegRecruit (Student Recruitment)
@AcademicAdvisingUWinnipeg (Academic & Career Services)

@UWpgWellnessCentre (Wellness Centre)

Facebook:

UWinnipegISS (International, Immigrant & Refugee Student Services)

uofwacademicadvising (Academic & Career Services)

UWCareerServices (Career Services)

UWinnipegExchangeProgram (Exchange Program)

Twitter:

@UWAcadAdvising (Academic & Career Services)

PHONE: 204.779.8946

| EMAIL: studentcentral@uwinnipeg.ca

CITY'S BUDGET SLASHES POPULAR U-PASS PROGRAM

UWSA's Sagher call this 'an attack on all students'

CALLUM GOULET-KILGOUR

CAMPUS REPORTER  @CGOULETKILGOUR

On Friday, March 6, the City of Winnipeg tabled their 2020 to 2023 budget, which included increases in road-repair spending, decreases in community grants and reductions in library hours.

One major cut is the city's proposition to cancel the popular U-Pass program, which provided bus passes to university students at a reduced price.

Currently, all full-time students at the University of Winnipeg (U of W) and University of Manitoba (U of M) automatically receive a U-Pass, as the price is integrated into their student fees. More than 50 per cent of students use this pass on a daily basis.

According to City of Winnipeg estimates, eliminating the U-Pass will save \$15 million. The city is also encouraging students to apply for a post-secondary pass (\$81.65 per month) or a low-income transit pass (\$71.44 per month). However, the U-Pass costs \$34.06 per month, and it is unclear at this time who will be eligible for the low-income pass.

The University of Winnipeg Students' Association (UWSA) released a statement in opposition to the City's proposition, saying it "ignores student voices and decreases transit and post-secondary education accessibility."

"Eliminating the U-Pass is an attack

on all students, especially the most marginalized," Noelle Sagher, vice-president student affairs, says in the statement.

UWSA president-elect Jibril Hussein agrees.

"At the end of the day, if you take the U-Pass away from students, it's not going to make things affordable, especially since we're a downtown campus," he says, noting that parking rates are skyrocketing downtown.

"In terms of ecological footprint, (this program) really reduced congestion and carbon emissions here in the city," he says.

Days before the city tabled its budget, students at the U of W and U of M voted in referendums to keep the U-Pass. In the UWSA election, 82.71 per cent of votes were cast in favour of continuing the program. Similarly, in the U of M Students' Union election, 78.67 per cent of votes were cast in favour of the pass.

"We will do everything in our power to make sure the city listens to thousands of students who just voted to keep (the) U-Pass," Sagher says.

On March 13, the public works committee voted unanimously to approve the public works and Winnipeg Transit portions of the 2020 budget. The city councillors on this committee are Matt Allard, Jeff Browaty, Vivian Santos and Devi Sharma.

The budget is balanced for the next four years and limits property tax



PHOTO BY CALLIE LUGOSI

The City of Winnipeg plans to eliminate the U-Pass student discount transit program, despite overwhelming support for the program from students.

increases to 2.33 per cent annually. The entire city council will vote on the budget later this week.

The city of Winnipeg's budget can be viewed at winnipeg.ca/interhom/Budget/2020Budget/default.stm.

PROfile



PHOTO BY KEELEY BRAUNSTEIN-BLACK

JENS FRANCK

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY, U OF W

KEEsha Harewood

FEATURES REPORTER  @KEESHAREWOOD

Growing up, Jens Franck, a biology professor at the University of Winnipeg, always had an interest in science.

"My dad was a professor, actually. He was a physics professor, and he intended (for) me to be a physics professor. Didn't quite work out."

Believe it or not, chemistry was his favourite subject, not biology.

It was during his fourth year of university that Franck discovered molecular biology and decided to pursue graduate opportunities.

Franck went to Tallahassee for his PhD, spent some time teaching in the United States and eventually worked his way back to Canada.

Franck has taught at the University of Winnipeg since 2004. One aspect of teaching in Winnipeg he enjoys is working with his students.

"We have some excellent students, and I'm not just saying that," he says.

"I taught at a liberal arts college in Los Angeles, which is one of these high-priced colleges where students paid \$50,000 dollars a year to go ... those students are supposed to be highly selected and really good students, but I'd put the students here up against them any day."

A part of the job Franck enjoys in particular is when he sees students thoughtfully engaging with the material in the classroom.

"Sometimes, students think it's just regurgitating what the prof tells you on their exam, and there's a certain amount of that that's required, but it's best when the students are able to take all this information and integrate it and ask their own questions."

Seeing a student's potential is hugely rewarding for Franck.

"For me, lectures are an opportunity to identify students who are probably interested in research or have a strength in research, and then I'll put my students in research as well."

WHAT IS SOMETHING YOU'VE LEARNED FROM YOUR STUDENTS?

"Resilience."

WHAT DO YOU LIKE TO DO IN YOUR FREE TIME?

"Play hockey (and) walk my dogs."

IF YOU COULD HAVE ANY SUPERPOWER, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

"MRI vision."

COMMENTS

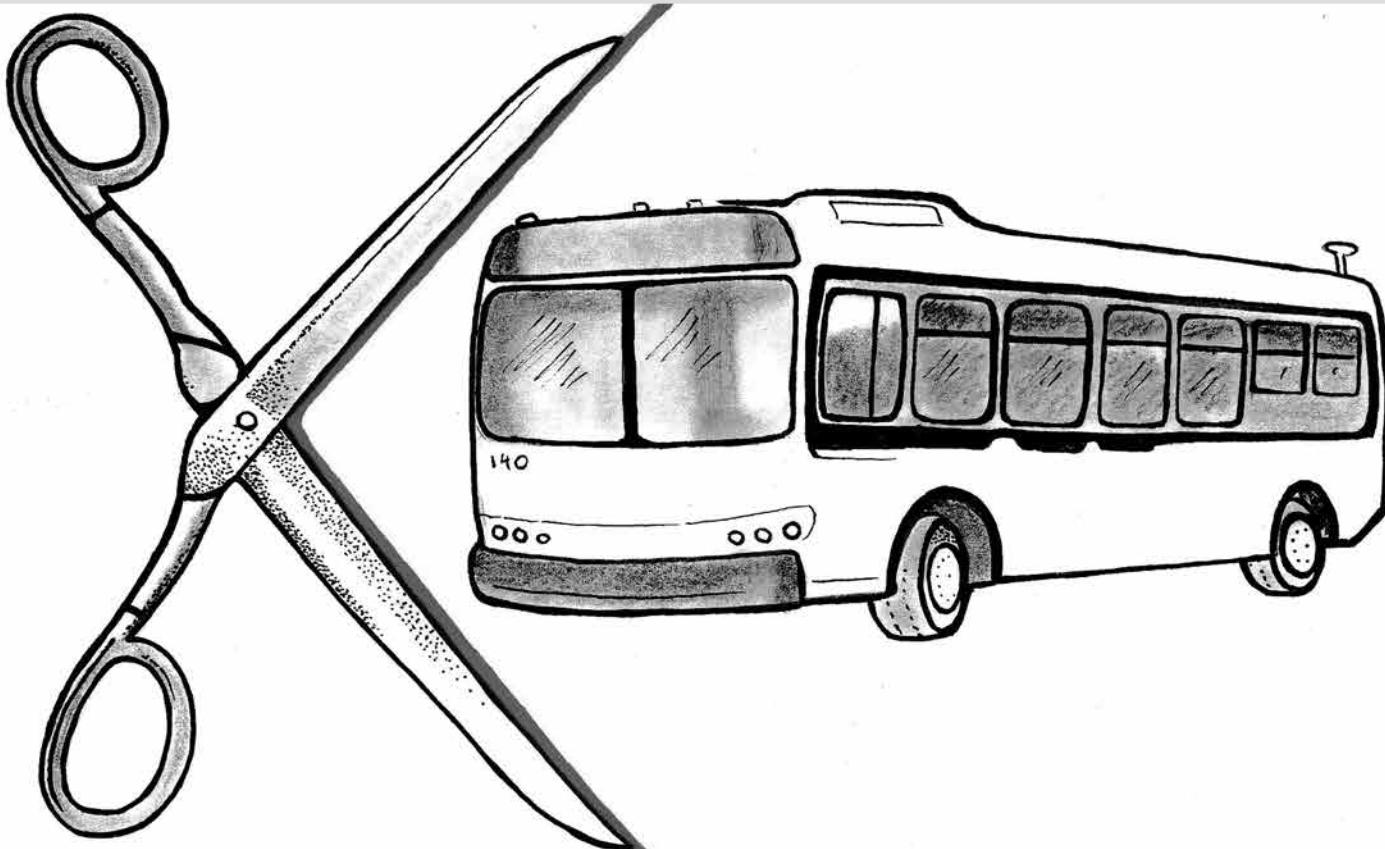


ILLUSTRATION BY GABRIELLE FUNK

SHOW ME THE NUMBERS

U-Pass might make money for Transit, but lack of information leads to ludicrous cuts

TESSA VANDERHART

VOLUNTEER @TESSAVANDERHART

In the last few months, Winnipeg Transit went from working with students to revise and consider expanding the U-Pass discount student plan to unceremoniously dumping the program with no explanation other than the inevitability of budget cuts.

What happened? Bad math.

This February and March, students voted to increase the amount paid for the U-Pass – at the City's request – from \$136.25 to \$160.75 every four months, with subsequent increases for inflation. Adding Red River College students spreads the U-Pass

to more than 32,000 students – at least \$10.5 million a year for Transit.

Yet the City claims the program is losing money. How can that be?

A Nov. 21 report pegs losses at \$6 million a year. On Facebook, Coun. Matt Allard suggested it will be \$15 million over four years. Not only do these claims not add up, but they also lack the support of ridership data or detailed budget breakdowns that could help to parse them.

In truth, the “cost” of the program is the opportunity cost of students not paying full fare.

Transit's budget estimates for “lost revenue” are predicated on 74 to 100 per cent of all eligible students buying postsecondary semester passes, which is unrealistic, to say the least.

Back in 2015, a report to city council showed the U-Pass makes financial sense for the city, because students were buying about \$8.7 million in bus passes before the program was implemented. That works out to about 47 per cent of Winnipeg's postsecondary students.

Why isn't that proportion – or the real 2015 revenue – used in today's reports to make the case against the U-Pass? Perhaps because it makes the case for keeping the program.

Frankly, there is no way that nearly 100 per cent of eligible students will pay twice as much – and for less service, with the number of new buses also cut by a third in this budget amid other service cuts.

Meanwhile, the City is introducing a low-income bus pass, which will give a vast majority of post-secondary students a different break if the U-Pass is cancelled.

The premise of the U-Pass is to push students to bus and remove upwards of 7,000 cars from the road, building a lifelong habit and dismissing the myth of the bus as a

loser-cruiser.

The U-Pass amortises costs over tens of thousands of students, providing a dependable source of revenue to Transit.

In Edmonton, a study showed 50 per cent of students post-U-Pass continued to ride the bus after graduating – a substantial opportunity, if Transit were interested in building ridership.

U-Pass costs and revenues are not broken out in 2016, 2017 or 2018 Transit budget documents. What those budgets do show, however, is rising fare revenue, year after year – and the City raiding Transit surpluses for general revenues.

Do city councillors even have real cost and revenue data? Does the public service? Has anyone done the math on the U-Pass?

If so, let's see it.

There are a lot of citizens raising concerns about cuts in this budget. They're all important.

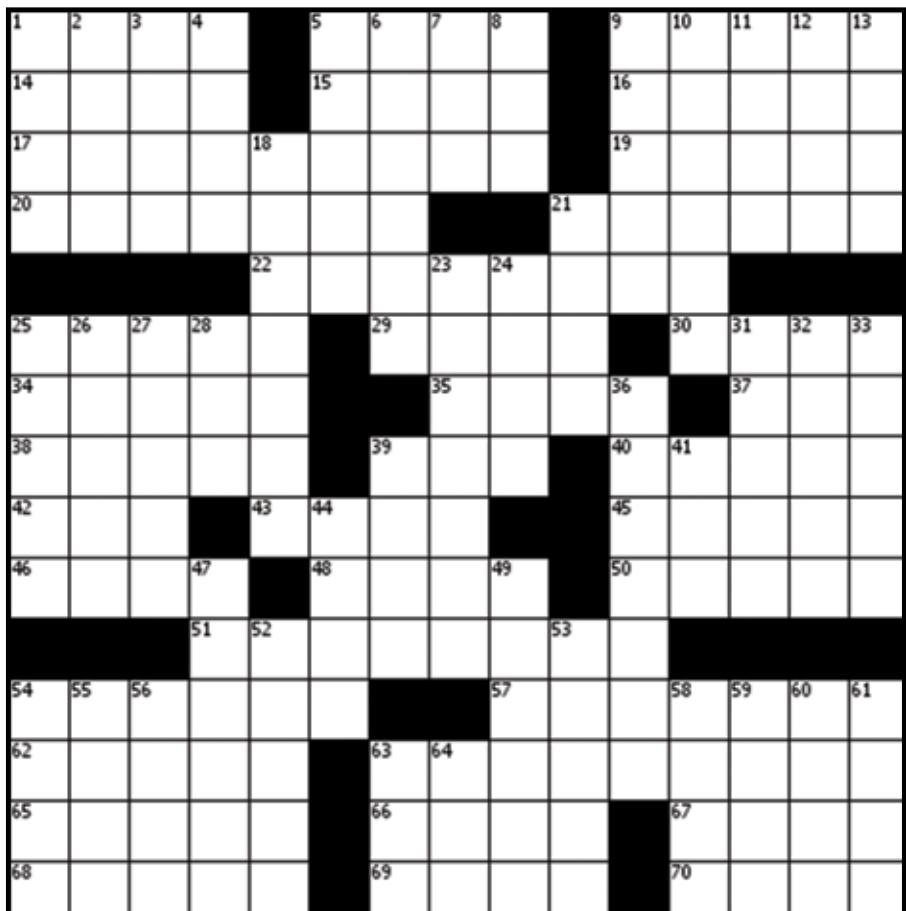
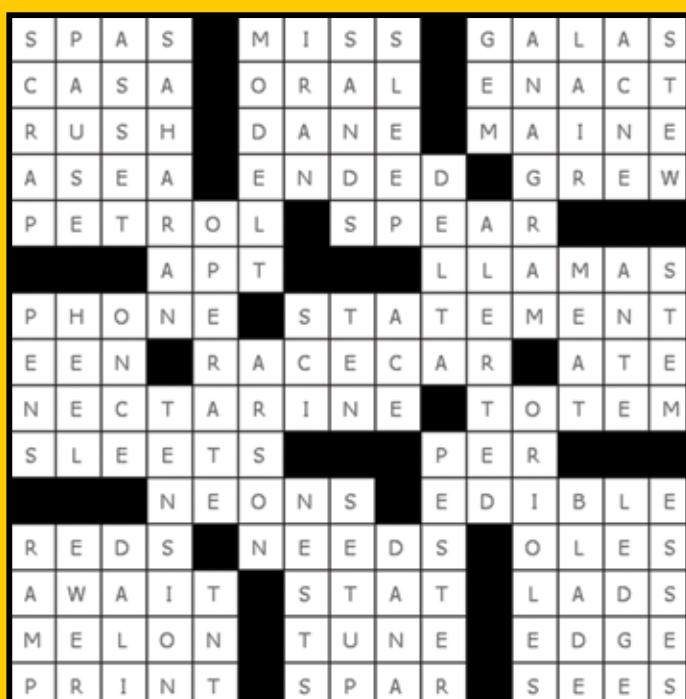
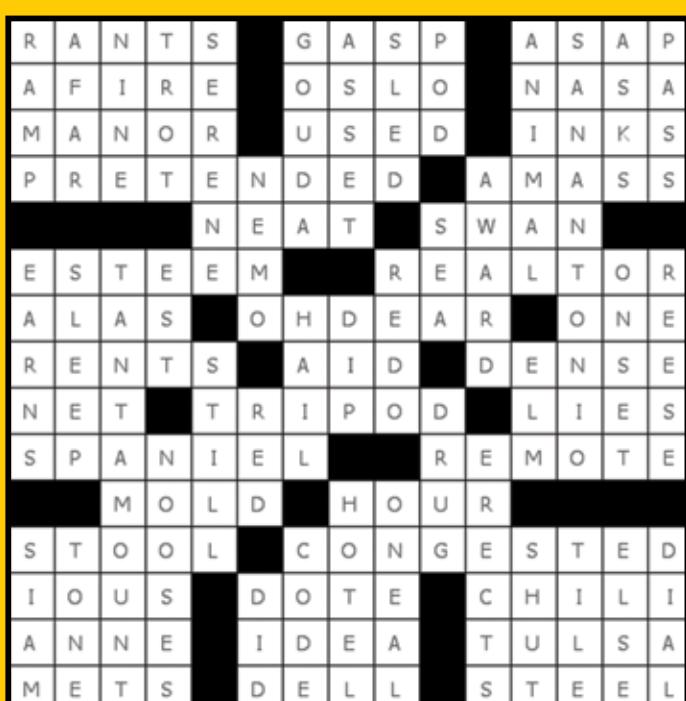
The incredible lack of data that thwarts this discussion affects all of these issues and calls the entire budget into question.



**The Uniter is
still publishing!**

While the COVID-19 pandemic means we're all working from home, we're still putting out a newspaper for you every Thursday. There won't be physical papers at the University of Winnipeg while classes are suspended, but we'll still be available at all our off-campus locations, as well as at uniter.ca.

Visit tinyurl.com/w56sp2s for a map of our off-campus pickup locations.

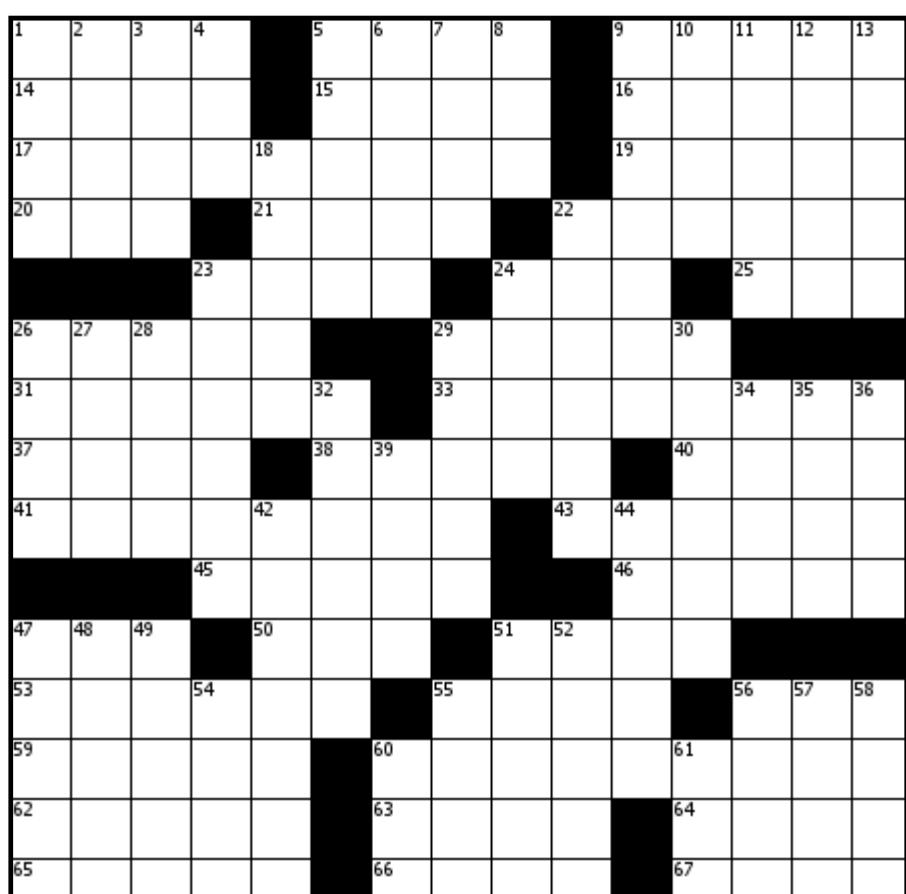

SOLUTION TO ISSUE 74-21 CROSSWORD PUZZLES

ACROSS

1. Quiet
 5. Notre ___
 9. Gem weight
 14. Opera highlight
 15. Prayer's end
 16. Suspect's story
 17. Renovating
 19. Quoted
 20. Narrowed gradually
 21. Sergeant's command (2 wds.)
 22. James Earl Ray, e.g.

DOWN
 1. Wagon
 2. District
 3. Speech problem
 4. Counterpart
 5. Challenges
 6. Surrounded by
 7. Males
 8. School subject (abbr.)
 9. Desert plants
 10. UFO pilots
 11. Actress ___ Hayworth
 12. Lincoln, et al.
 13. Ocean current

25. Mature
 29. Wood source
 30. Burlap bag
 34. Maturing
 35. Actor ___ Connery
 37. London's Big ___
 38. Forest clearing
 39. Lion's lair
 40. Stage whisper
 42. Chunk of eternity
 43. Whirl
 45. Hero's award
 46. Entrance

 18. Citrus fruits
 21. On the ocean
 23. Poisonous element
 24. Visualized
 25. Was furious
 26. Ice house
 27. Liberace's instrument
 28. Abolish
 31. Reside
 32. Closet wood
 33. Genuflected
 36. Identifying label (2 wds.)
 39. Couturier Christian ___
 41. Male or female


ACROSS

1. Leonardo's "___ Lisa"
 5. Small city
 9. Performed
 14. Eden man
 15. Equal
 16. More positive
 17. Enact laws
 19. Extra tire
 20. Hazardous curve

21. House additions
 22. Moscow's country
 23. Mountain gap
 24. Apiece
 25. Skirt's edge
 26. Sneer at
 29. Carrying a weapon
 31. Not lying
 33. Made less tight
 37. Preceding nights

38. Modify
 40. Boyfriend
 41. AWOL soldier
 43. Diner patrons
 45. Carved pole
 46. Most inferior
 47. Sink down
 50. Not new
 51. Toothed wheel
 53. Make glad

55. 365 days

- DOWN**
- | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Man or boy | 6. Track shapes | 12. Ghostly | 26. Lose fur | 34. Not ever, poetically | 47. Masts | 55. Informal affirmative |
| 2. Lyric poems | 7. Moistens | 13. Nighttime vision | 27. Sheltered inlet | 35. Corn units | 48. Permit | 56. Opening bet |
| 3. Reminds excessively | 8. Vane dir. | 18. Penn and Connery | 28. Singles | 36. Polish furniture | 49. Silly ones | 57. Sherbets |
| 4. French friend | 9. Guarantees | 22. Far off | 29. Siren | 39. Land document | 51. Category | 58. Sample |
| 5. Narrates | 10. Mugs | 23. Adjusted beforehand | 30. One who owes | 42. Hen's mate | 52. U.S. symbol | 60. Former GI |
| | 11. Garbage | 24. Stage item | 32. Squeal | 44. Alert | 54. Operatic melody | 61. Nile snake |

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