

THE **U** N I T E R

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CANARIES IN THE GARMENT FACTORY



CANADA GOOSE WORKERS CONTEND WITH LABOUR ORGANIZING
CHALLENGES, FEAR OF TERMINATION

WINNIPEG'S CULTURAL TUG-OF-WAR

THOMAS PASHKO
MANAGING EDITOR

THOMPASHKO

The term “culture war” has been bandied about a lot in the last several years. As the global wave of far-right populism, cronyism and corruption that gave rise to the likes of former US president Donald Trump, Hungary’s János Áder and Brazil’s Jair Bolsonaro has woven its way from the halls of power to the world’s cultural fabrics, the scope of what constitutes a “culture war” has broadened dramatically.

Basic things that would have been considered simple moral consensus 10 or 20 years ago have suddenly become perfectly defensible in the eyes of the global right. Police brutality, anti-democratic policies and mob violence shouldn’t be things we need to debate. All are objectively wrong. But as the rope lengthens in the tug-of-war between movements for equality and democracy and movements for a violent reinforcement of the status quo, new forms of bad behaviour become acceptable for the latter camp.

One only has to look around Winnipeg this week to see the effects. The most obvious example, of course, is the Pallister government’s introduction of 19 secret bills into the Legislature, the text of which remains a mystery to all but his party. Pallister has tried to shift the blame to the opposition, but his crocodile tears aren’t fooling anyone. His contempt for the working poor, environmentalists, Indigenous land defenders and virtually everyone else where on the political spectrum has been evident for years. But this move makes his contempt for democracy, and his preference for rule by decree, undeniable.

Similarly, attitudes toward Winnipeg’s notoriously violent police force are also wrapped up in the culture war. On March 2, a meeting of the Louis Riel School Division’s board led to the hiring of an external researcher to review the division’s participation in the controversial school resource officer program, which places police in its schools.

The idea of reviewing this program shouldn’t be controversial. But according to the *Free Press*, the idea of even *examining* the relationship between cops and schoolchildren was met with open hostility from many. Trustee Tom Parker claimed it “created a ‘divide’ between the board like nothing has before.”

It can sometimes seem like the “culture war” is really just a bunch of Fox News hosts whining about Dr. Seuss and “cancel culture.” But backwards attitudes have real negative consequences, here and elsewhere.



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Miss Jojo hosts the *Good Will Stay at Home Club*, one of multiple online events helping Winnipeggers experience bar culture safely from home. Read more on page 3.

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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, transphobic, ableist, racist or libellous. We also reserve the right to edit for length/style.

CORRECTION

In the Feb. 25 article “From one vibrant city to another,” we said Lydia Wylie-Kellerman has been the editor of *Geez* magazine for five years. She has actually held the position for two years.

The Uniter regrets the error.



Miss Jojo is the host of the virtual variety show the *Good Will Stay at Home Club*.

NIGHT IN AT THE BAR

Local creators bring bar culture into the home, virtually

SARAH LONDON | ARTS AND CULTURE REPORTER | @SRA_5000

After a year of COVID-19, memories of paying \$15 for a gin and tonic, glow-in-the-dark entry stamps and losing friends in the crowd are fading. Some Winnipeggers, however, are finding ways to bring bar culture home.

Lindsey Anderson is creating nostalgic bar videos on TikTok, and the *Good Will Stay at Home Club*, a quirky, new, virtual variety show hosted by Joanne Rodriguez, a.k.a. Miss Jojo, featuring lots of puppets.

Anderson (@iamlindseywithane on TikTok), was skeptical at first about the app where users make and watch short videos. However, “the app has brought me so much joy I don’t think I would have otherwise had,” she says.

Her series *Winnipeg Bar History* consists of flowchart-style videos that cover name changes of bars over the years. Anderson was inspired to create more Winnipeg bar-focused content after a TikTok video she made asking which bars people visited for their 18th birthdays gained traction.

A desire to “highlight cool stuff that’s on the peripherals of the bar” also inspired the *Good Will Stay at Home Club*, Mike Requeima, a member of the creative team focusing on production, says.

The project is “Mike’s brain baby,” Ava Julien, a member of the creative team focusing on puppets, says. “It’s a cradling of local culture, business, community, as well

as a homage to ’90s puppet culture.”

“It’s a way that we found to try and engage with the Good Will’s patronage,” Requeima says. Although recreating the real show experience isn’t possible, he says they’re doing their best to replicate it.

The DIY nature of the show helps, and “when you’re watching something live, that’s part of the appeal, that (anything) could happen,” Requeima says.

“I think people aren’t meeting each other anymore, so to have these interactions through puppets and through Joanne helps pull people in and make the audience feel included,” Julien says. She says the active live chat on YouTube during the stream was a key element to catalyze interaction and a sense of connection for viewers and performers.

The “overwhelmingly positive” comments section on Anderson’s TikToks are also full of Winnipeggers reminiscing about drunken nights and requesting that Anderson cover their old favourite watering holes next.

“Kids and parents have been going to the same bars since the dawn of time in this town, and I just kind of wanted to show that,” she says.

The real goal of the the *Good Will Stay at*

Home Club is to promote non-profits and local businesses, helping people promote their stuff and bring awareness to resources that are accessible to folks right now, Requeima says.

“It’s like when you put a vitamin in a piece of cheese,” Julien says.

Thanks to grants from Kinaxis InConcert and Safe at Home Manitoba, they have the infrastructure in place for the streams and funding for a few episodes. They’re looking for submissions, feedback and sponsors to keep what some audience members described as “the coolest thing they’ve seen in a while” going and growing, Requeima says.

Anderson’s club days are behind her, but she currently misses live shows. “I would love to be in a very crowded room watching some bands right now,” she says.

The next *Good Will Stay at Home Club* streams March 12 on YouTube. Feedback, submissions and potential sponsors can contact the Good Will at stayhomeclub@thegoodwill.ca.

Watch Anderson’s *Winnipeg Bar History* videos on TikTok @iamlindseywithane.



Comedian Paul Rabliauskas (left) decided to finally learn Anishinaabemowin by starting a podcast with his mum, language teacher Sophia Rabliauskas.

‘BETTER LATE THAN NEVER’

Mother-and-son podcast a fun way to learn Ojibwe

SARAH LONDON | ARTS AND CULTURE REPORTER | @SRA_5000

Everybody and their mother seems to have a podcast, but comedian Paul Rabliauskas has one with his mum, Sophia Rabliauskas. *Paul Anishinaabemo* is a new Anishinaabemowin (Ojibwe) language learning podcast available on Spotify and recorded out of Sophia’s home in Poplar River First Nation.

Paul thought about creating a podcast for two years. When the COVID pandemic hit, he found himself spending a lot more time with his mum and dad. One day at his parents’ house, he just decided to start.

“I literally just hooked up the microphone to my mum, and that’s how the first episode

started,” Paul says. “It’s literally just our two worlds coming together.”

Paul is a comedian with a background in radio, and Sophia is a language teacher. Paul didn’t want to make just another comedy podcast. He says he “wanted to talk about something that was gonna leave more of a lasting impact.”

Though not specifically a comedy podcast, the show is both funny and educational.

“When you speak the language, it becomes alive. There is a lot of humour to learning the language or even just speaking the language,” Sophia says.

Sophia was happy to hear Paul finally wanted to learn Anishinaabemowin, because she had tried teaching her kids when they were young, getting together with her sisters and parents who speak the language to “laugh and try to teach them,” but there was never much interest, she says.

“It’s better late than never for him to learn the language and learn as much as he can,” she says, adding he can then pass it down to his kids, which is important, because the language is “who we are as Anishinabe.”

Sophia teaches whenever the opportunity arises and tries to “teach it the way it’s supposed to be taught.”

Gloria Barker teaches at Riverbend Community School’s bilingual Ojibwe program. Her sister, Wanda Barker, is a language teacher on weekends. Wanda and Gloria are from Hollow Water First Nation and were born in the ’60s. Wanda says they’ve noticed a huge shift in language usage since they were young, from everyone speaking the language to hardly hearing it at all.

“Language comes from the land (and) way of life, whether it’s hunting, whether it’s preparing food, whether it’s socializing, whether it’s economic, political, spiritual. All the words

reflect from that worldview,” Wanda says.

As helpful as technology is to teach vocabulary and reach wide audiences, it can create a disconnect from traditional ways of learning the language. “It’s becoming more impersonal. It’s kind of moving away from how languages are naturally learned,” Wanda says.

A podcast can’t recreate a natural environment or replace a community of native speakers, but it can create the feeling of home. Language learning belongs in a safe and relaxing environment. It belongs in the home, Sophia says.

“I really do believe if you’re Anishinabe and you hear the language, that language is within you, and if you hear it, you reawaken that language that’s within you that your parents and your grandparents spoke,” she says.

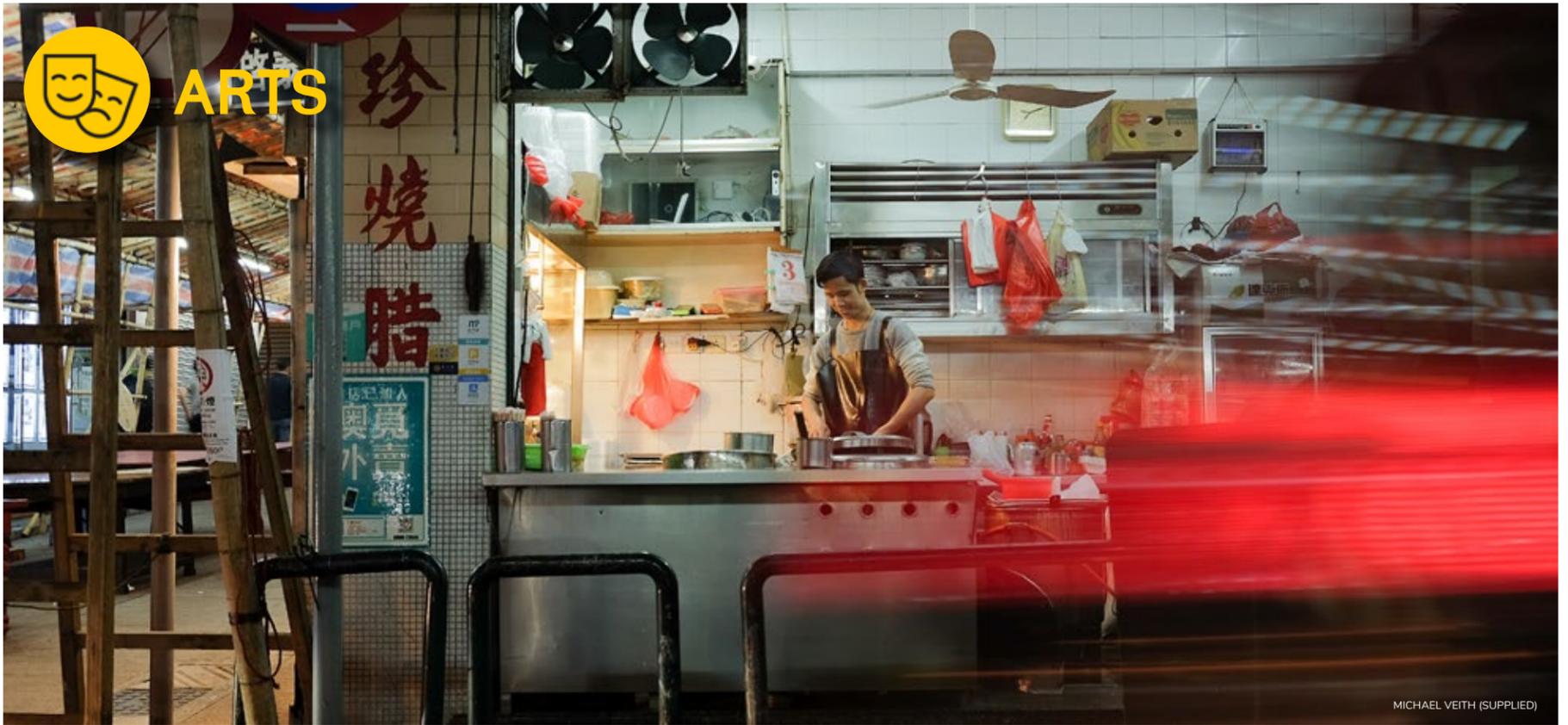
She hopes people wanting to learn Anishinaabemowin will find the podcast, and young people will continue to create innovative ways to teach the language with new technology.

“We need more of the younger generation to become educators and bring the language back,” Gloria says.

Listen to *Paul Anishinaabemo* on Spotify.



ARTS



MICHAEL VEITH (SUPPLIED)

Winnipeg photographer Michael Veith has made his name photographing his hometown of Macau, documenting the spaces rapidly being lost to development.

CAPTURING THE MOMENT

Origin Stories: Michael Veith

NAAMAN STURRUP | ARTS AND CULTURE REPORTER | NAAMANSTURRUP

If a picture is worth a thousand words, then local photographer Michael Veith's Instagram page @expiringcity has produced a 2.2 million-word novel thus far.

The project, which Veith premiered as a photo exhibit at Forth Café in 2019, pays homage to Macau, a city and special administrative region in China, where he was raised. He says that due to Macau's rapid development in recent years, he wanted to capture moments of Macau based on how

he experienced it growing up.

"I had a sense of inspiration and urgency, and based on the photos that I saw as a child compared to what I saw in recent years, Macau is an ever-changing and constantly expanding city," he says. "That gave me inspiration to capture scenes I saw in my childhood before they changed."

Veith's childhood played a crucial role in his photography journey, as he was introduced to a DSLR camera by his parents, and

he saw some Macau photographers' pieces in his home.

"When people would come and visit my parents in Macau, my parents had many different photobooks of the city (to) show them, so I would look through these photobooks, and I was inspired by those photos," he says.

The phrase "Expiring City" refers to Macau's semi-autonomy. It is classified as a special administrative region of China and, in 1999, the Chinese government agreed with Portugal to grant 50 years of sovereignty to the region.

Although gambling remains illegal for mainland China, it's allowed in Macau. Its most popular site is the Cotai Strip that features the Parisian Macao (with an Eiffel Tower replica) and the Venetian Macao, which is the second largest casino in the world.

Veith says many photographers capture this aspect of the city, but he wants to take a different approach.

"There are a lot of resorts, and there is a very big nightlife scene there, so a lot of the photo accounts that I saw of Macau really

promoted that side of the country," he says.

"However, I wanted to show the slower side of Macau, more of the everyday scenes that I remembered growing up there."

Although Macau and Winnipeg are in different regions and experiencing different developments, Veith sees similar traits to both growing cities.

"I biked downtown recently, and people were putting up boards (on the downtown Hudson's Bay) windows," he says. "It reminded me that big changes are coming to Winnipeg in the sense of business closures, and new highrise complexes being constructed."

Veith says he is looking forward to the city's changes but insists that the entire Winnipeg population, especially marginalized communities, should be considered in the changes.

"I do not have negative feelings towards the changes, but I am mindful that those changes (should be for) the benefit of all," he says.

Follow Veith's work at @expiringcity on Instagram.



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SUPPLIED PHOTO

BELLE

Currently streaming on Disney+



KEESHA HAREWOOD | FEATURES REPORTER | @KEESHAHAREWOOD

The 2013 period drama film *Belle* follows the life of a mixed-race heiress, Dido Elizabeth Belle (Gugu Mbatha-Raw), living among British nobility during the time of the Zong massacre.

While little is known about the real Belle, the film aims to maintain an appropriate level of historical accuracy, but not without taking a few creative liberties for the narrative's sake.

The broad strokes of Belle's life that are known historically are present in the film. For instance, Belle married a man called John Davinier. Unlike the film's depiction, however,

he was not an aspiring lawyer, but a steward. Plotwise, the change helps tie Davinier in with the events of the social season and the portions of the story related to the Zong massacre. Otherwise, his character and romance with Belle would've been out of place.

Further, the film depicts Belle as having a strong influence on the actions of her great-uncle, William Murray, 1st Earl of Mansfield: a barrister, judge, politician and notable figure for English law reform. Despite the film's portrayal, it's unknown whether or not Belle directly influ-

enced his work.

Even with these embellishments, the film successfully depicts the social difficulties for a noble mixed-race woman during the height of the slave trade.

A significant portion of the film focuses on courtship and marriage. Belle watches as her second-cousin and lifelong companion, Elizabeth Murray (Sarah Gadon), participates in the social season (an annual period where the elite attend a number of lavish events), while Belle is kept from the festivities.

Even so, Belle is courted, and it's during those scenes where the film displays a wide spectrum of attitudes regarding the mixed-race heiress.

It's easy for filmmakers to correctly represent overtly racist comments, but what *Belle* does well is address covert racism. Specifically, the film shows how the elite contended with Belle being mixed-race, Black and a member of high society. When Belle was shown to be particularly charming, the "unfortunate nature" of her birth could be overlooked. Yet her "exoticism" made her sexually desirable.

Even Belle's family conforms to racist social

structures, despite caring for her deeply. This juxtaposition is solid in the film. It's not groundbreaking, but it's well done.

Where *Belle* falls short is with the character, and Belle's aforementioned love interest, Davinier (Sam Reid).

Davinier is Belle's idealistic counterpart. With the Zong massacre trials occurring alongside the social season in the film, Davinier is hellbent on fighting against the notion that people are cargo, believing wholeheartedly that people are equal.

Despite Davinier's altruism and Reid's strong performance, the character is flat and lacks intrigue. Altruism is all well and good, but it alone doesn't do much in creating a fully formed character. Unfortunately, this made the romance arc between Belle and Davinier less interesting than it could've been.

All things considered, *Belle* is enjoyable to watch. While certain aspects of the film were done better than others, the movie as a whole is entertaining, and it handles the topic of race well. If nothing else, it's a good jumping point to learn just a little about Black history.

ARTS BRIEFS

HANNAH FOULGER | ARTS AND CULTURE EDITOR | @FOULGERSCOVFEFE @SPEAKSTORY

Stitchen' Saturdays

MAWA student intern Lasha Mackedenski hosts this bimonthly workshop for people of all genders, from 14 to 30 years of age. Stitchen' Saturdays include both an instruction time and a social/making time and is an online creative space. Supplies are limited but available for those who need them. Call 204-949-9490 to arrange curbside pickup. Join 'Stitchen' Saturdays two Saturdays per month. Email lasha@mawa.ca for the Zoom link.

First Friday lecture by Natasha Jozi

MAWA hosts a free First Friday lecture as part of their ongoing series on March 5 at 7 p.m. Natasha Jozi is a visual thinker and performance artist from Pakistan. She is the founder and director of House Ltd., "an initiative that explores the notion of the city as a performing organism." Jozi lives and works in Munich, Germany. The event will be livestreamed on Zoom, which provides auto-generated captioning. Following the lecture, the video will be posted to the MAWA Facebook page.

An Acorn live performance

This work by 2012 OBIE Lifetime Achievement in Playwriting award-winner Caridad Svich is presented by Impel Theatre. This live, remote, digital performance, directed by Kendra Jones, runs March 12 and 13 at 7 p.m., featuring an interactive twist. Actors Blythe Haynes and Winnipegger Ray Strachan will be joined with two special guests each night, who will receive the script an hour before the performance. The day of the performance, audience members will also receive instructions for how to curate their spaces and interact with the performance. The shows will be available for purchase on demand from March 14 to April 3. Tickets are pay what you can, with a \$15 minimum donation, at kendrajones.net/impel-theatre.

Playing with Stories Online

Local clown Sue Proctor is hosting a seven-week workshop on clowning. Open to all levels of experience, the workshop will unpack stories, storytelling and show creation. Proctor writes and directs clown shows with Comedy Clownesque. This seasoned performer uses puppets in performance and facilitates workshops in drama, puppetry and clowning. The cost for seven sessions is \$140. Contact Proctor to register at comedyclownesque@gmail.com.

Winnipeg Crankie Festival

Held from March 5 to 7, Winnipeg's Crankie Festival hosts a number of concerts and workshops as part of the Stay at Home Routes program. With nightly shows and daytime programming, the Crankie Festival is geared toward families and audience participation. The crankie was a forerunner of modern film, and the festival celebrates crankies and the art of storytelling. Performers and workshop leaders include musicians Al Simmons, David Graham and Madeleine Roger, as well as textile artist Melanie Wesley. Purchase tickets and find out more at homeroutes.ca.

Beyond the Perimeter: First Fridays in the Exchange

On Friday, March 5, First Fridays in the Exchange hosts an online talk by Alexandra Ross from Mitchell, Man. Ross, who works with photography, print and clay, will speak about the challenges and rewards of being a rural artist and why innovative ways of learning, exhibiting, connecting and creating are so important outside the city limits. The artist talk will go live on YouTube. Find out more on First Friday's Facebook page.

CKUW TOP 30

February 14, 2021

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



TW	LW	C	Artist	Album	Label
1			Osees	Protean Threat	Castle Face
2			Cut Worms	Nobody Lives Here Anymore	Jagjaguwar
3			Bob Mould	Blue Hearts	Merge
4			Cloud Nothings	The Black Hole Understands	Self-Released
5	!		Slow Leaves	Shelf Life	Birthday Cake
6	*		Terra Lightfoot	Consider The Speed	Sonic Unyon
7	!		The Lizards	The Lizards	Eat Em Up
8			Various Artists	Strum And Thrum: The American Jangle Underground (1983-1987)	Captured Tracks
9	!		Silver Clouds	Silver Clouds	Disintegration
10			Uniform	Shame	Sacred Bones
11			Silver Synthetic	Out Of The Darkness	Third Man
12	*		Zoon	Bleached Waves	Paper Bag
13	!		Sean Burns & Lost Country	We Gotta Lotta Truckin To Do	Strinbreakin'
14	!		Figure Walking	Vertical // Horizontal	Disintegration
15			El Ten Eleven	Tautology li	Joyful Noise
16	*		Heaps	What Is Heaps	Birthday Cake
17	*		Pharis & Jason Romero	Bet On Love	Lula
18			Screamers	Screamers Demo Hollywood 1977	Superior Viaduct
19			Osees	Panther Rotate	Castle Face
20			Boogarins	Manhaca Vol. 1	Overseas Artists
21	*		Black Thunder	La Fine Crea	Transistor 66
22	*		Gulfer	Gulfer	Royal Mountain
23			Takuya Kuroda	Fly Moon Die Soon	First World
24			Wax Chattels	Clot	Captured Tracks
25			Bailterspace	Wammo [reissue]	Flying Nun/Matador
26	!		The Famous Sandhogs	Telma Muskwa 2	Self-Released
27			Cabaret Voltaire	Shadow Of Fear	Mute
28			Negativland	The World Will Decide	Seeland
29	*		The Mastersons	No Time For Love Songs	Redhouse
30	*		War Baby	You Are Not Here	Bummer/Kingfisher Blues

CANARIES IN THE GARMENT FACTORY



SUPPLIED PHOTO

CANADA GOOSE WORKERS CONTEND WITH LABOUR ORGANIZING CHALLENGES, FEAR OF TERMINATION

An ongoing labour dispute between Canada Goose and workers in its local factories shows that union-busting is alive and well in Winnipeg.

Alelie Sanvictores has spent the last five years working as a seamstress at a Canada Goose warehouse in Winnipeg. In 2019, she became an outspoken union leader, knocking on doors and making phone calls to her fellow workers.

Sanvictores says management invited her to sit on the ERC (employee resource committee) prior to learning of her status as a union supporter, “so they could learn more about workers’ concerns and try to undermine the union.”

“When I became more outspoken, and it was clear that I was supporting the union effort, they made a new rule limiting time on the ERC and asked me to leave the com-

mittee,” she says.

After COVID-19 incited workplace closures in March 2020, Sanvictores spent nearly a year laid off from her job at Canada Goose. Sanvictores says workers were called back based on seniority before it was revealed that workers at the three Canada Goose factories in Winnipeg were organizing a union drive.

Though 70 per cent of Canada Goose staff have been called back to work in the factories, Sanvictores believes her status as a union leader prevented her from being recalled earlier, despite her seniority. She says less senior workers and

new hires were called instead.

“Why didn’t they call us, the people waiting for a job?” she asks. “That’s why I’m very upset, not only for me, but (for) some of my friends (who are) still waiting.”

After an Unfair Labour Practice charge was filed against Canada Goose on behalf of Sanvictores alongside a social media campaign to #RecallAlelie, Sanvictores was called back to work on Feb. 24. However, she says many of her former coworkers still wait for a call.

Origins and tensions

Founded in 1957 by Samuel Tick, a Polish-Jewish immigrant, Canada Goose formerly functioned as a 100 per cent unionized company. In December 2013, the private-equity firm Bain Capital bought a majority stake of the winter-jacket manufacturer, leading to the de-unionization of some locations where the firm was not obliged to recognize one. While locations in Toronto are unionized with Workers United Canada Council (WUCC), the three Winnipeg factories are not.

“We have an agreement in our contract that doesn’t give Bain the option of not recognizing the union,” Richard Besinger, an organizer with the Canada Goose union drive and the founder of the Organizing Institute of the American Federation of Labour and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO), says. “Where they don’t have to do it, like in Winnipeg, they don’t. They could’ve recognized the union here.”

“Right now, the company has created a fear of organizing a union.”

Now, a slew of workers across the three Canada Goose garment factories in Winnipeg are fighting to organize in the workplace. Sanvictores remains one of the few outspoken workers among 1,200 others who voted in favour of unionizing across the three Winnipeg plants. She says that while many workers support the drive, there remains a deep-seated climate of fear.

“Right now, the company has created a fear of organizing a union,” Rabia Syed, an organizing director at WUCC, says. When the union drive was in action, Syed says workers were reluctant to sign cards in fear of being terminated from their jobs.

Sanvictores alleges that discrimination, unreasonable piece-rate expectations, a lack of paid-leave options, as well as health and safety concerns have been physically and emotionally taxing on many factory workers.

In August 2020, the *Winnipeg Free Press* released an article detailing the experiences of Canada Goose employees at their 1455 Mountain Ave. location who were forced to use portable toilets that were allegedly only cleaned every four days. As a result, many workers used their 30-minute breaks to use public washrooms or “work with their own commodes” in their vehicles.

In a statement provided to *PressProgress*, which reported on the same issue in August 2020, Canada Goose stated that the bathroom facility repairs had been resolved.

When workers at the three Winnipeg factories attempted to unionize, Besinger alleges that management held meetings where employees were intimidated into not supporting the union. He says one worker he spoke with was called into an office where management attempted to persuade them into signing an objection to the union vote. They refused.

While Besinger says the worker was never fired, this person has since faced increased hostility from management.

When it was found that a manager made anti-union statements days before the union vote, the Manitoba Labour Board fined Canada Goose \$2,000.



Alelie Sanvictores is one of the workers spearheading the push to unionize Canada Goose’s Winnipeg factories.



“We need a union. We need a voice. We need somebody to fight for our rights.” - Alelie Sanvictores

“Only after we made an issue of it, only after we produced a tape recording and filed charges, then they fired the person who did the meeting and said it was a ‘rogue manager,’” Besinger says.

“I’ve never seen a group of workers more fearful, period,” Besinger, who has four decades of labour-organizing experience, says.

Organizing in a pandemic

In the time of COVID-19, workplace health and safety has been brought to the forefront like never before, according to Jeff Traeger, the president of the United Food and Commercial Workers Canada Local 832 (UFCW 832).

“What COVID has done is brought a new angle,” Traeger says. “There’s a lot of people that we’ve been in contact with in our organizing drives that have significant concerns about their employer’s response to COVID.”

COVID-19 has also dramatically changed the landscape of labour organizing. Traditionally, Traeger says UFCW 832 would knock on doors and host in-person meetings after being contacted by an employee about organizing a union drive. Now, they’ve moved everything completely online.

Winnipeg Youth United (WiYU) is a group of youth leaders engaging in community education and workers’ rights issues. As an act of solidarity with Canada Goose workers seeking to unionize, WiYU and the WUCC went online to garner public awareness and support by creating a multi-platform social-media campaign.

Jo Ann Pinera, one of the youth organizers with WiYU, believes the campaign resonates with youth in a different way.

“Utilizing the power of social media is really strategic for this campaign,” Pinera says. “As youth, we’re always connected to our devices. It’s an important move to use social media and to use our influence on the online world, especially in a pandemic, to shine a light on this cause.”

A few workers, including Sanvictores,

“As youth, we’re always connected to our devices. It’s an important move to use social media and to use our influence on the online world, especially in a pandemic, to shine a light on this cause.”

have publicly voiced their concerns about the conditions and alleged anti-union activity at Canada Goose. For the majority of workers who fear the consequences of speaking out, Pinera says the platform acts as a way to uplift their voices while still protecting their identities.

The campaign has caught the attention of several labour organizations across Canada and the United States, as well as politicians like Winnipeg Centre MP Leah Gazan.

Despite some of the hardships the campaign has faced (including having their Instagram taken down after a complaint on behalf of Canada Goose reported them for “trademark infringement”), Pinera says the importance of building solidarity among workers, youth and the greater public is crucial to maintaining traction.

When two struggles collide

In a company where the vast majority of their sewing staff is immigrant women, Jas Randhawa, an organizer with WUCC, says the challenges of labour organizing for immigrant Canada Goose manufacturers is coupled with the precarity of being new to the Canadian workforce.

“As an immigrant worker, coming from India myself, I know what it’s like to have that fear of losing your job,” Randhawa says.

She adds that many are often forced to



Jeff Traeger, president of United Food and Commercial Workers Canada Local 832



The campaign to unionize Winnipeg’s Canada Goose factories has been stymied by the company’s efforts, including having a pro-union Instagram account taken down for “copyright infringement.”

reconcile with the fears that speaking in support of a union will put them at risk of termination. For immigrant workers with families to support, the stakes are often too high to feel comfortable voicing their concerns.

Syed agrees with Randhawa's sentiment, adding that a language barrier can mean the job pool newcomer workers can tap into is marginal.

Pinera believes acknowledging the union would be a testament to the progressive, pro-immigrant values Bain Capital and Canada Goose claim to have.

On their website, Bain Capital pledged to invest \$100 million over five years to promote racial equity and social justice, alongside several diversity, equity and inclusion commitments. Similarly, Canada Goose has prided itself on providing skilled production training for their immigrant workers.

"Part of our aim as youth on this campaign is to also shine a light on the company and urge them to do better," Pinera says. "They're saying all the right things. They just need to put it into practice."

"It's a fight, but it's something that needs to be done. As hard as it is, it's important that we continue to uplift and empower the workers in the factory."

"We need a union. We need a voice. We need somebody to fight for our rights," Sanvictores says.



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Sanvictores alleges that, when workers were recalled to factories after COVID-19 restrictions loosened, her return was delayed due to her pro-union views.

Bain Capital deferred a request for comment from *The Uniter* to Canada Goose. Canada Goose provided these statements:

"We are proud at Canada Goose to have been able to welcome back thousands of employees across our Canadian manufacturing facilities. Across our operations, we have recalled workers based on a number of considerations, including: job classification, seniority and efficiency."

"Our sick-leave policies address all provincial and federal requirements, meeting or exceeding industry standards across all facilities."

CITY BRIEFS

ALEX NEUFELDT | CITY EDITOR

Election schedule updates

The nomination period for the UWSA general election ends on March 11. On March 12, all candidates will have a meeting and begin a week of training and preparation for their campaigns. Dates for candidate speeches have not yet been announced.

New 1C03 workshop series

A new artist-led workshop series, *Creating as Care*, has been co-ordinated by the 1C03 gallery. The series, which will be posted to 1C03's IGTV channel on Wednesdays, leads participants in creative exercises as a form of wellness and self-care.

MSC social justice fair held virtually

On March 10, Menno Simons College will hold its annual social justice fair virtually. The event will provide opportunities for students to network with local organizations and community members, and there will be prizes for participating students to win.

Sharing accessible sport stories

Accessible Sport Connection Manitoba is hosting its second online event in the *Disabled People Talking: Stories and Conversation about Accessible Sport and Recreation in Manitoba* series on March 6. The organizers invite participants to share a story about accessible sport or recreation as part of an effort to unite the disabled community.

Bus drivers win fair wages

After almost 90 days of picketing last fall, an arbitrator has awarded Winnipeg School Division bus drivers a fair-wage package. The ruling comes after the Government of Manitoba announced their intent to remove Alternate Dispute Resolution legislation in the Labour Relations Act later this year, which could lead to longer strikes in the future.

Presentations and readings this week

On March 8, Chantal Gibson will give a presentation titled "What does it mean to decolonize your mind?" as part of the English department's Black Writing in Canada Series. Another event from the English department, a reading and discussion with Rita Wong, which was originally scheduled for March 9, has been moved to March 16.

IDENTIFYING THE ROOTS OF GENDER DISPARITY IN STEM

Debriefing the Nova Summit

ALEX NEUFELDT | CITY EDITOR

It's pretty widely known that there are gender disparities in STEM fields, and earlier this year, the University of Winnipeg (U of W) and Ubisoft collaborated to explore why.

On Feb. 11, the U of W and Ubisoft Winnipeg held the Nova: Ubisoft Winnipeg Women in Tech Summit, a conference examining how to foster interest in STEM subjects for girls and women at various ages.

Dr. Sheri-Lynn Skwarchuk, a professor of education and director of developmental studies at the U of W who was part of the conference development team, says Nova began when Ubisoft Winnipeg approached her and Dr. Ken Reimer with concerns about gender disparities in STEM, specifically the gaming sector.

"It was a unique opportunity to look at the way industry approaches the question versus the way academia approaches the question," Skwarchuk says.

Meagan Nenka, who researched gender gaps in STEM with Reimer in 2019, moderated a panel in the early childhood programming track of the conference and says there were some fruitful discussions on the panels.

"We were discussing how to really fos-

ter that organic love for math and science that exists in girls, but also to challenge the way that we may be unintentionally directing boys into these careers and unintentionally but implicitly dissuading girls from pursuing these paths," she says. Nenka notes she would have also liked to see more discussion of where people outside the gender binary fit into the subject.

"Growing up in this world, I was really curious about the sciences, but there are just these subtle ways that we sometimes question our ability to excel in these paths," she says. Nenka, who currently works in a middle school, says she thinks about this while working and tries to encourage her students to not have those uncertainties.

The conference, which Skwarchuk says had been in development for over a year, was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic but eventually held virtually.

"I've read literature about the gaming industry, and where we actually see the problem is not at the university level, in terms of how many women enter the sciences, but where it drops off is once people graduate. People aren't taking those career jumps into the tech field," Skwarchuk says. She notes research suggests women



Meagan Nenka, who has researched gender gaps in STEM, moderated a panel at the Nova: Ubisoft Winnipeg Women in Tech Summit.

are driven for social interactions and collaboration in workplaces, and tech jobs may not offer those opportunities.

"You almost have to break the culture behind the industry and what it offers," she says. "We have to keep encouraging girls to work with science and math, but we also need to provide opportunities for careers for women."

Ubisoft did not respond to requests for comment. Nova comes less than a year after many Ubisoft employees came forward

with allegations of sexual misconduct and mishandling of claims of misconduct at the company. An employee survey found that one in four employees had witnessed or experienced workplace misconduct in the past two years, and one in five did not feel "fully respected or safe in the work environment."

Skwarchuk says Ubisoft added the Toy-Box project she is working on as part of their Passion Projects mentorship program.

A NEW WAY TO GATHER

Sharing Indigenous experiences of the pandemic internationally

ALEX NEUFELDT | CITY EDITOR

Kitatipithitamak Mithwayawin is currently accepting submissions for the upcoming Kana Wain Dida: COVID-19, Indigenous Communities, Health Sovereignty and Working Together for Change gathering. Stéphane McLachlan, one of the gathering's organizers, says it's the first international event to have Indigenous experiences with COVID-19 as its central focus.

The direction of the conference will ultimately be shaped by submissions from Indigenous scholars, health workers, researchers and community members. The organizers have a wide and expansive list of potential topics submissions can relate to available on the gathering website.

Kimberley Wilde, another organizer, has a sense of what some of the key focuses will be.

"All of the keynote speakers that we're talking to and all of the panel contributors that we're talking to are Indigenous people who are in the medical communities or doing research works in COVID," she says.

"What we hope will come out of this is an understanding that the pandemic is just one of many other issues that they are having to deal with," Wilde says. "We're all in this together' has become a theme of this pandemic, and the reality is that we don't all come with the same resources or the same access to tools and ways to handle things."

As an organization aiming to provide culturally appropriate resources for the

COVID-19 pandemic and explore the past, present and future impacts of pandemics on Indigenous people, Kitatipithitamak Mithwayawin has been collecting and sharing information about these disparities and experiences since the beginning of the pandemic.

McLachlan says that after getting funding at the start of this health crisis, Kitatipithitamak Mithwayawin has been documenting and supporting community efforts to manage and suppress the virus using a digital-health initiative app and social media, all while being led by an Indigenous advisory council of 11 community-health directors, authorities or community representatives.

Valene Bill, another organizer, says "Kana Wain Dida" refers to the idea of looking out for one another.

"I think we're all looking to see what the community beside us is doing and what other Indigenous communities are doing," she says. "In this conference, we're trying to share our stories around the pandemic."

She says describing Kana Wain Dida as a gathering is a key language choice. "We wanted to attract both people living in Indigenous communities but also ... scholars," she says.

Wilde, Bill and McLachlan say that to make the event as accessible as possible, some aspects will be pre-recorded, so that they can be distributed ahead of time (both for those with unstable internet con-



Valene Bill is one of the organizers of the Kana Wain Dida conference on COVID-19 and Indigenous Health Sovereignty.

nections and to allow as much discussion as possible during the event itself). Participants can get copies of the schedule to phone in, and, unless there are objections for specific parts, the gathering will be recorded and made available to access later.

McLachlan says a virtual round dance may take place, and "ceremony and prayer will be built in, and people can learn from one another in that way, as well."

Bill, who worked as a community liaison and did a lot of event planning before the pandemic, says that now, "there's a really big push to meet virtually. I see a lot of elders willing to do webinars now, and I think it's really cool."

Kana Wain Dida will be held from May 20 to 22. For more information, visit covid19indigenous.ca.



PROVINCE UNVEILS POST-SECONDARY STRATEGY

Professors react to recently released report

CALLUM GOULET-KILGOUR | CAMPUS REPORTER | CGOULETKILGOUR

On Feb. 8, the Government of Manitoba unveiled the Skills, Talent and Knowledge Strategy, which outlines its plan for post-secondary education, training and immigration. The plan proposes policies that could drastically change what universities look like in Manitoba.

This 14-page document outlines the province's four primary objectives: to "anticipate skills needed for the future," to "align education and training to labour-market needs and help students succeed now and in the future," to "foster entrepreneurial and innovative skills" and "grow, attract and retain talent."

For universities, specifically, a few noteworthy policies are being proposed. The provincial government wants to ensure that "all students are exposed to work during their studies." This would include internships, work placements and other similar opportunities.

Furthermore, "post-secondary institutions will be tasked to identify and shift programs that oversupply the labour market, as well as program opportunities in high-demand areas." While little more is known about how these policies will be designed and implemented, it is clear that the provincial government is looking to play a more active role in steering Manitoba's universities and colleges.

David Telles-Langdon, chair of the

University of Winnipeg's (U of W) Department of Kinesiology and Applied Health, says "there's nothing particularly unreasonable in the sentiment of what they're asking," adding that ensuring students are employed following their degrees is an important goal.

"The concern that's being voiced by faculty members ... is that there are a lot of intangibles like critical thinking that students get from attending university, and there isn't a metric by which we can measure that," he says. Telles-Langdon's main concern is that it will be difficult to measure these types of skills, and that certain programs might suffer under an outcomes-based model.

The province is proposing "an outcomes-based funding model for colleges and universities to promote positive outcomes for students and alignment with industry needs," according to their recently released document.

Aaron Moore, associate professor of political science at the U of W, says this government has a poor track record on universities due to its history of cutting operating grants.

"Universities and colleges are drivers of (economic development), because Canada is increasingly transitioning to a high-skilled workforce," he says. Moore finds it odd that the Progressive Conservative



ILLUSTRATION BY GABRIELLE FUNK

government does not recognize this, despite the fact that economic growth is usually a pillar of conservative agendas.

"I think it's a fundamental misunderstanding of what a university is," Moore says.

"Universities have always been about broadening peoples' education beyond high school, building critical thinking skills, more generalist skills," he says, adding that he is skeptical the proposed student work programs will necessarily help most students and their career outcomes.

"Some disciplines are better geared to that than others," Moore says. "You're taking away options for students, since you're telling them at a young age: 'decide what your future job is going to be.'"

The complete Skills, Talent and Knowledge Strategy document can be accessed at gov.mb.ca/asset_library/en/mbskills/MB-IBG-STK-Report.pdf.



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Jackbox Games, which creates web-based party games that can be enjoyed remotely or in person, is providing the entertainment for the UWSA's virtual game nights.

UWSA HOSTS GAME NIGHTS

Biweekly events are free to join for all students

CALLUM GOULET-KILGOUR | CAMPUS REPORTER | CGOULETKILGOUR

In February, the University of Winnipeg (U of W) Students' Association (UWSA) announced a series of game nights, open to all students. These virtual events are held every other Thursday from 4 to 6 p.m. and aim to be a casual way for students and UWSA directors to connect.

UWSA president Shawna Pélouquin says the idea for these events came from her positive experience with other student groups

hosting similar game-themed activities.

"I wanted us to do something in the same kind of way," she says. "For us, it is also a good opportunity to get the (UWSA) board of directors to meet with students."

So far, there have been two game nights. The games played have been drawn from Jackbox, a web-based party-game site. Players are able to join from any location via their smartphone or computer. The next

event will be held on March 11 at 4 p.m.

Sam Sarty, the UWSA events manager, is involved in organizing these game nights.

"The turnout is always a bit of a mystery, but we hold the space for two hours," she says. "The games don't go that long. It's meant for people to drop in and out."

Pélouquin, who was elected last November, says the UWSA aims to provide a friendly space for all with these events. "You can make friends or learn more about the UWSA," she says.

According to Sarty, one of the main reasons the UWSA decided to pursue this project is that online learning makes it difficult for students to connect with each other.

"We just wanted to offer something that was really consistent, low-pressure and low-key," she says.

Throughout this academic year, online events have been the go-to format for U of W student groups seeking to maintain a presence during the era of remote learning.

Sarty notes that the constant changes in

provincial COVID-19 restrictions has made it difficult for the UWSA to plan events for students. However, activities like these game nights have given them an easy way to connect with the school community.

"For us, the main focus is to just be able to offer low-barrier, baseline interaction spaces," Sarty says. "Just to cultivate that community that we usually have on campus) virtually is really important."

The UWSA has a few other events organized for the remainder of the term as well. Songwriting with Rey, jointly organized with Studio 393, is a beginner songwriting workshop led by a local artist. The first session took place on Feb. 26, and there are two more this semester: March 26 and April 30 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

The remaining game nights for this semester are on March 11, March 25, April 8 and April 22. For information on how to join, visit theuwsa.ca/2021/02/meet-your-directors-uwsa-game-night.



THE PERSONAL AND THE HISTORICAL

Jon Malek, sessional instructor, history department, U of W

KEESHA HAREWOOD | FEATURES REPORTER | @KEESHAHAREWOOD

As a teenager, Jon Malek, now a sessional instructor for the University of Winnipeg's (U of W) Department of History, had an entirely different career path in mind.

"When I was in high school, I initially wanted to be an astronomer," he says. "That was my dream, to keep my head up in the stars."

But after a not-so-stellar pre-calculus final grade, Malek decided to pursue a career in history and soon discovered he had more passion for the subject than for astronomy.

Over time, Malek took a special interest in immigration history. Now, he's teaching a course about Filipino immigration to Canada.

In his approach to teaching, however, Malek believes a personal element is critical when engaging with history. Specifically, Malek tries to be mindful of his students' lived experiences and learn from them when necessary.

"Sometimes, you just have to be quiet and listen to what someone is saying," he says. "Even if you don't understand it or your initial reaction might be 'well, I've

heard differently,' you weren't there. You didn't experience it."

One issue Malek tackles in his class is an insider/outsider dichotomy: who has the right to write about the history of a group of people. According to Malek, it's a deeply personal issue for some of his students, but he's honoured to facilitate those discussions.

"The personal perspective of a person writing or recording the history is absolutely crucial," he says. "It's a little bit cliché, but that's often one of the reasons people say history's so important, because it affects all of us."

If you could have any superpower, what would it be?

"I think I would fly."

What's the best thing about your work?

"The interaction with students, but in terms of the broader work that I do that's academic, the student interaction



SUPPLIED PHOTO

would be tied with being able to travel for research."

What do you like to do in your spare time?

"Well, if I do ever have spare time, I like to write. I have been – ever since high school – working on a fantasy novel."

If you could time travel to any point in history, where would you go?

"It would have to be probably medieval Scotland or maybe Italy during the Renaissance."



THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

Student Services

WEBINAR WEDNESDAYS

In weekly sessions, Student Services staff will continue to share valuable strategies and tips to help you succeed at UWinnipeg. Sessions are held every Wednesday from 12:30-1:00pm, via Zoom, and cover a wide variety of topics:

- **Effective Job Search Strategies during a Pandemic (March 10)**
- **How to Calculate your GPA & Other Mysteries Solved (March 17)**
- **Managing Final Paper & Exam Anxiety (March 24)**
- **Ask Us Anything & Share Your Experience during Covid (March 31)**

Sign up now for any or all of them! Advanced registration is required.

For details and to register, please visit: uwinnipeg.ca/student-services/webinar-wednesdays.html.

SPRING TERM REGISTRATION

Students will receive their assigned registration start date/time for Spring Term 2021 in their University webmail account in early March. If you have not received your appointment time by **March 8**, please contact Student Central. Tiered registration will begin on

Thurs., March 18.

The Spring Term begins on **Mon., May 3**, with courses scheduled to start/end on various dates throughout the term. See uwinnipeg.ca/registration/spring-process-and-procedures.html.

UWSA STUDENT CONFERENCE/TRAVEL FUND AWARD

Did you know the UWSA offers reimbursement to students who have paid to participate in academic conferences?

The UWSA Student Conference/Travel Award Fund is accepting applications until March 15, 2021 for students who participated/presented at academic conferences between April 1, 2020 and March 15, 2021. Costs related to registration as well as other costs may be reimbursed. Virtual conferences are also eligible.

The following link provides direct access to the online application: <https://uwinnipeg.academicworks.ca/opportunities/987>.

For any questions, contact the Awards & Financial Aid Office at awards@uwinnipeg.ca.

WINTER TERM COURSES – FINAL WITHDRAWAL DATE

The final day to withdraw from a Winter Term class is **Tues., March 16**. No refund is applicable. Courses are

dropped through WebAdvisor using the "Student Planning/Registration" link.

GOOD FRIDAY

The University will be closed on Fri., Apr. 2 for Good Friday.

LECTURES END FOR WINTER TERM

Lectures end for Winter Term courses on **Tues., Apr. 6**, except for courses which have a class scheduled in lieu of Apr. 2 (Good Friday).

CONVOCATION AWARDS

Do you know a graduating student who combines good marks with community and/or campus involvement? Or maybe this describes you?

Nominations (including self-nominations) are now open for 2020-21 Convocation Awards! Graduates from October 2020, February 2021, and the upcoming convocation June 2021 are eligible for these awards, which are administered by the Awards and Financial Aid Office and selected by a committee.

More details and a fillable PDF application is available here: <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/awards/awards-bursaries-and-scholarships/current-continuing.html>

The deadline is **Thurs., Apr. 15**.

MYVISIT APP

Need to see a Student Central representative or an Academic or Career Advisor? You can now queue for Zoom drop-in sessions with Student Central, and/or Academic & Career Services using myVisit!

Student Central has drop-in Zoom sessions where students can ask questions "in person" with a SC staff member.

The Zoom waiting room is enabled. One student will be admitted at a time. Students wait for their turn and need to present their UWinnipeg student card (or other photo ID) to talk about their account, the same as actual in-person interactions at SC.

To add yourself to the queue, please use the myVisit app (by Q-nomy) available for Apple or Android phones. Turn off the location permission in the app. The SMS notification when it is your turn shortly will provide the Zoom info. Student can add themselves to the queue 10:00 am - 4:30 pm from Monday-Friday.

Thirty-minute Zoom appointments with Academic and Career Advisors can be booked through the myVisit app or via www.myVisit.com as well.



FOREIGNER AFFAIRS

Labour rights are immigrant rights

VINAY SHARMA | COLUMNIST | VINAYTHEPOOH

The recent controversy surrounding the working conditions in local Canada Goose factories is both unfortunate and indicative of a structural economic problem that must be addressed. Specifically, the more this city focuses on increasing its economic productivity (especially with growing corporate investments), the more the working class, many of whom are immigrants, must be protected by a more rigorous labour policy.

The horrendous circumstances the Canada Goose workers find themselves in are as harrowing as they are indicative of a broad corporate disposition driven by avarice and exploitation. Since 70 per cent of the company shares were sold to Bain Capital in 2013, the working conditions at Canada Goose factories in Canada have worsened, with employees citing workplace harassment, intimidation tactics, racial discrimination and inadequate sanitation and personal protective equipment (PPE) distribution.

The factories also operate on a quota system, which means workers are paid by piece. A *Vice* article explains “the number of pieces a sewer has to produce can change at any time, which can then lead to sewers working continuously for eight hours without taking a break.”

This disgusting state of affairs provides an opportunity for the broader Winnipeg population to recognize the necessity of labour-intensive policies. Unionization, broader health benefits, parental leave and working conditions of this nature cannot be insidiously overlooked in order to gain more profit.

In an address pertaining to the establishment of a new “Economic Opportunities Advisory Board” in May 2020, Premier Brian Pallister spouted a vague and hopeful narrative of a stronger future economy post-pandemic. He spoke of more job opportunities and economic stabilization, emphasizing that “this team of leaders will provide the best-possible direction for unleashing private-sector capital and investment for our province.”

Just four months later, Pallister passed the Labour Relations Amendment Act, which would allow employers to fire striking workers, allow for union decertification (potentially leading to a total removal of public-sector unions) and make it increasingly difficult for public-sector unions to bargain with their employers by removing the requirement for neutral third-party arbitration.

These third-party neutral arbiters are vital in helping unions resolve issues with workers’ employers to come to a fair conclusion regarding labour disputes. A CBC article explains “the new legislation will give employers more grounds to dismiss an employee who is on strike or locked out.”

This conniving disconnect between the provincial government’s vague hopes for private-sector growth, followed by the dismissal of union-based workers’ rights directly contributes to the conditions seen in the Canada Goose factories. The economic growth promised by government officials like Pallister will not offer con-



ILLUSTRATION BY GABRIELLE FUNK

crete economic stability for the working class, but will instead boost private-sector profits at the expense of their workers.

This sort of political maneuvering increasingly affects first- and second-generation Manitobans, many of whom are employed in working-class positions in the private sector. The only way to ensure these jobs are protected is through a rigorous la-

bour policy and city-wide unionization. The workers at Canada Goose are still fighting to unionize after a failed 2019 bid and, with enough worker support, could push for a stronger result this year.

Vinay Sharma is a third-year philosophy student. His main interests are political philosophy and the philosophy of language.



COMMENTS

NO BODY IS DISPOSABLE

Ableism and pandemic response

HANNAH FOULGER | ARTS AND CULTURE EDITOR | FOULGERSCOVFEE SPEAKSTORY

It’s been clear since the beginning of the pandemic that COVID-19 affects people differently. While children who have contracted the virus seem to have milder symptoms, the World Health Organization has said elderly and people with pre-existing conditions like respiratory diseases, heart conditions and neurological conditions have a higher risk of severe symptoms and death. Why, then, does Manitoba’s vaccine rollout not recognize the higher risk that people with pre-existing conditions face?

Those with pre-existing conditions, many of whom are disabled people, have been especially vulnerable during the pandemic due to value judgments made by medical professionals and policy makers about who should be prioritized in critical care.

In 2019, the hashtag #nobodyisdisposable was launched by activists to reflect the systemic oppression faced by disabled people and fat people. In late March 2020, the campaign shifted to resist triage discrimination during the pandemic.

Disabled activists knew then that hospitals around the world would likely exceed their capacity for care. At some point during the pandemic, someone would have to make

the decision over whose lives are worth the effort to save. And if someone has to make a value judgment on another person’s quality of life, would they prioritize an able-bodied person over someone with a pre-existing condition?

Unfortunately, these fears were justified. In the United Kingdom, doctors unlawfully added do-not-resuscitate orders (DNRs) to the records of COVID-19 patients with developmental disabilities.

In Oregon City, Ore., a doctor pressured the guardians of 45-year-old Sarah McSweeney, a non-verbal autistic woman, to sign a DNR, but she refused. Further investigations examined a dozen reports of discrimination against disabled people in Oregon hospitals, from pressuring people to sign DNRs, denying accesses to ventilators and refusing to test for COVID-19.

Medical practitioners from around the world are making decisions under the immense pressure of a pandemic about who is worth saving and about whose quality of life is more valuable to society.

The undue risks posed to disabled people and those with pre-existing conditions, either from COVID-19 or discrimination from the medical-industrial complex, should



ILLUSTRATION BY TALIA STEELE

be reflected in every vaccine rollout plan. Younger people with severe pre-existing conditions and with compromised immune systems need to be prioritized over healthy middle-aged people. COVID-19 does not discriminate between seemingly able-bodied people and those with invisible conditions.

Many have also argued that teachers should be prioritized, as they are forced to interact with many students every day, as well as those who work in food production. A comprehensive and nuanced vaccination schedule including essential workers would also reflect these needs.

The Ontario provincial government has taken an intersectional approach to their vaccination plan. Their phase-two plan, set in place for April, includes people with chronic conditions with a severe COVID-19 risk, their caregivers and communities with barriers to healthcare. It also includes a num-

ber of essential, non-medical workers like teachers, first responders and people who work in food processing, all at the same time as adults between the ages of 65 and 79.

British Columbia will vaccinate people with severe chronic conditions from ages 16 to 69 at the same time as relatively healthy people between 60 and 79 in five-year increments.

Quebec and Yukon also have plans that recognize the need to prioritize different kinds of essential workers and people with pre-existing conditions. The Manitoba government is lagging behind and embarrassing itself with this simplistic plan that prioritizes seniors over other groups that are just as or more vulnerable.

Hannah Foulger is a disabled writer and theatre artist from Cambridge, Ont. in the Haldimand Tract and Treaty 4 territory.



DIVERSIONS



ILLUSTRATION BY CREATIVE DIRECTOR TALIA STEELE | @ST_TALLICA

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	
6AM	MORNING BREATH	!EARSHOT 20	Cafecito Latinoamericano	FLY Travel Radio ★ CANQUEER	FANTASTIC FRIDAY World - Island music	THE MAN IN THE GREY FLANNEL SUIT SHOW	CKU-SPEAKS	
7AM	CKUW MORNING NEWS / FRONT BURNER (CBC)						WOODEN SPOONS	
8AM	DEMOCRACY NOW!						SHADES OF CLASSICS Classical and New Age	MUSIC
9AM	DEMOCRACY NOW!						MUD PUDDLE RADIO For Kids (Adults too)	
10AM	DEPARTMENT 13 POP/ROCK	This Way Out WINGS	VOYAGE Jazz	PLANETARY RADIO Cheeze Pleeze	SUNNY ROAD Roots Music	INDIGENOUS In Music	SPOKEN WORD	
11AM	The Sean Show	BOOTS & SADDLE COUNTRY	ACCESSIBILITY MATTERS !EARSHOT DAILY	BINKY PINDER'S FUNHOUSE	NO FIXED ADDRESS LIVED EXPERIENCES OF HOMELESSNESS	THE ELECTRIC CHAIR		12
NOON	TALKING RADICAL RADIO Truth Before Reconciliation	THE GREEN MAJORITY	ALTERNATIVE RADIO	RADIO ECOSHOCK	GLOBAL RESEARCH NEWS HOUR	TEMPLE OF JAZZ	ALTER-NATING	
1PM	GROUNDSWELL New Classical	Your Show Here	Classical Kaleidoscope	BARKING DOG Past 'n Present Folk 'n Roots	What's Up Winnipeg?	YOU CAN'T HIDE FROM GOD Gospel		WEEK
2PM	PSYCLE RADIO	Winnipeg Arena is on Fire	SPACE CADET MUSIC, OUT OF THIS WORLD	WHAT ON EARTH IS GOING ON?	Chart Noises CKUW's Top 30	Classical Delights ★	Temporary Programming	
3PM	INNER CITY VOICES	THE GREEN BLUES SHOW	AMATEUR HOUR So Bad, It's Good	PAGES EAT YOUR ARTS & VEGETABLES	PEG CITY PLAYLIST	WWW.CKUW.CA		
4PM	THE WORLD World	Lost Chunes	TWANG TRUST Country/Roots/Big, Dumb Rock 'n' Roll	TAWNY, THE BRAVE Pop/Rock	THE HOW DO YOU DO REVUE	OFFICE: 204-786-9782		
5PM	THE TONIC Garage, Punk, Surf, and R&R	BLUESDAY PLAYING THE BLUES	S.A.N.E. * RADIO Local Experimental Music	Adult Kindergarten	CHECK CA Funky	NEWS DESK : 204-786-9998		
6PM	DESTINATION MOON Sock-Hop-A-Go-Go	Your Show Here	Your Show Here	Dub City Steppers	QUADRAFUNK Electric Dance Party	ON AIR: 204-774-6877		
7PM	!EARSHOT DAILY	!EARSHOT DAILY	!EARSHOT DAILY	PHASE ONE Electronic	Brain Drainer Radio	FAX: 204-783-7080		
8PM	!EARSHOT DAILY	MONKEY SPARROW	Two Princes	THE WONDERFUL & FRIGHTENING WORLD OF PATRICK MICHALISHYN	DANCE HALL FEVER Dancehall and Reggae	EMAIL: CKUW@WINNIPEG.CA		
9PM	BREAK NORTH RADIO ★	LISTENING PLEASURES	HURLEMENTS SUR LA TOUNDRA	THE WONDERFUL & FRIGHTENING WORLD OF PATRICK MICHALISHYN	CRYSTAL PALACE	12		
10PM	METAL MONDAY	NIGHT DANGER RADIO	THE SENTINEL'S MARVELOUS KALEIDOSCOPE	MANITOBA MOON	Rainbow Country			
MIDNIGHT	MODERN JAZZ TODAY	The Motherland Influence	DEEP THREES	CRYSTAL PALACE	Your Show Here			
1AM	AMPLIFIED RADIO	Old Parlour Radio	CELT IN A TWIST					
2AM								
3AM								
4AM								
5AM								
6AM								

Some programs are on hiatus and/or airing different content due to university closure for COVID-19.



HOROSCOPES

The moon is in Cancer.

There might be many good ideas coming your way thanks to Gemini in Mars all month long - to the point of making you feel scattered. However, take note of the ideas that resonate with you the most. On March 4, mastermind Mercury meets expansive Jupiter, this time while being direct. This is the third time this year that these planets meet, and this third pass around could very well mean the solidification of an idea or an a-ha moment!

SOURCE: ASTROLOGY.COM

♈ ARIES

Thursday's cosmic landscape is chock full of action, Aries. News-bringer Mercury spends the day in a close conjunction with aspirational Jupiter, potentially delivering big insights or important conversations concerning your work conditions or ambitions. Elsewhere, the sharp Scorpio moon urges for transformation and intimate encounters for the first half of the day before moving into optimistic, big-picture-seeing Sagittarius.

♉ TAURUS

Things are beginning to fall into place, Taurus. It's easier than usual for you to see the big picture view of your career trajectory today, as information-gathering Mercury spends the day alongside visionary Jupiter. This union makes for an optimistic, larger than life approach to new career projects underway. Elsewhere, relationship energy dominates the day, as the sensitive Scorpio moon transitions into philosophic Sagittarius.

♊ GEMINI

Embrace the rush of optimism sweeping over you today, Gemini! Your ruling planet, messenger Mercury, spends the day in a mood-boosting conjunction with aspirational Jupiter. This pairing makes it easy to see things from a big-picture perspective and allows you to believe in the big-picture vision that now emerges. The day itself transitions from being work-focused to relationship focused, as the moon moves from sharp Scorpio to broad-minded Sagittarius.

♋ CANCER

A quiet but important revelation is making itself known beneath Thursday's skies, Cancer. Messenger Mercury cuddles up with big-plan Jupiter, helping subconscious insights around intimacy bubble up to the surface. This union is a positive, optimistic one which helps lighten the atmosphere of the day. Elsewhere, the moon moves from Scorpio into Sagittarius, transitioning your focus from creative efforts to developing an organized workflow.

♌ LEO

Thursday's cosmic landscape focuses on the helpful allies in your world, Leo. News-bringer Mercury merges with visionary Jupiter today, bringing positive news to the close relationships you've been developing. Partnerships across the board benefit from this aspect, as it's easy to discuss long term plans and big courses of action. The day itself sees you transitioning from introvert to extrovert, as the moon bounces from Scorpio into Sagittarius.

♍ VIRGO

Let yourself ride the wave of positive energy washing upon the cosmic shores today, Virgo. Your ruling planet, quick-thinking Mercury, spends the afternoon in a mood-boosting union with aspirational Jupiter. This union makes it easy for you to see the big picture trajectory of your current work ambitions. Elsewhere, the moon moves from Scorpio to Sagittarius, making the day extroverted and the evening introverted.

♎ LIBRA

Thursday's skies feature positive cosmic opportunities, Libra. Communicator Mercury spends the day in a pleasant union larger-than-life Jupiter, helping imbue a sense of optimism and faith into creative projects or romantic undertaking. Big news is likely to roll in concerning these two arenas. Meanwhile, the moon transitions from Scorpio to Sagittarius, helping you focus on your resources before turning your attention towards sharing your story.

♏ SCORPIO

Important realizations are taking place just beneath the surface of your thinking today, Scorpio. Messenger Mercury whispers secrets into faith-instilling Jupiter's ear today, as they unite in the sky. These two bring optimism and hope to any rocky terrain you've been traversing on the home and family front. Elsewhere, the moon moves from your sign into Sagittarius, helping you hone in on your personal needs and untapped talents.

♐ SAGITTARIUS

Listen closely to the messages swirling around in your environment today, Sagittarius. Your ruling planet, optimistic Jupiter, receives a revitalizing visit from messenger Mercury. This pairing is sure to bring news, conversations, or realizations concerning your identity, voice, and roots. The moon spends half the day in private Scorpio before moving into your sign, helping you carry hidden truths into the light.

♑ CAPRICORN

Important news is emerging today, Capricorn. The universe thinks it's time that you start believing in your own personal talents... so, why not take that risk? Today's skies feature the pleasant conjunction of news-bringer Mercury and visionary Jupiter, bringing a refreshed and positive feeling of faith towards your skillsets. The moon meanders from Scorpio into Sagittarius, making part of the day social and the latter half introverted.

♒ AQUARIUS

Are you becoming more aware of who you're meant to be, Aquarius? The universe is sending you message after message, and today's skies are no different. News-bringing Mercury merges with aspirational Jupiter in your sign today—bringing faith, optimism, and luck to your doorstep. Don't be afraid to ask for what you want. The day itself goes from career-focused to community-focused, as the moon moves from Scorpio into Sagittarius.

♓ PISCES

Tune in to the subtle messages sneaking down from the ether today, Pisces. Messenger Mercury spends the day snuggled up alongside your ruling planet, faith-instilling Jupiter. This union brings important revelations, conversations, or news concerning your identity and career. This news may not be overt though, as its more likely to emerge in dreams, visions, or poetic rambles—so, let yourself tap into the otherworldly today!

♒ THE AGE OF AQUARIUS

WHAT IS THE AGE OF AQUARIUS?

An astrological age is a time period in astrologic theology which astrologers claim parallels major changes in the development of Earth's inhabitants, particularly relating to culture, society and politics.

This cycle, which lasts roughly 26,000 years, means the zodiac sign visible at dawn on

the first day of spring changes about every 2,000 years.

Out of all the signs, Aquarius is the most free-thinking. The Piscean Age was dominated by a Christian patriarchal system. The new age is all about making room for a more egalitarian world.

Aquarius is heavily associated with getting informed and technology. So, the Age of

Aquarius, then, is about acknowledging that the system is broken and not waiting for someone to fix it.

As the Age of Aquarius begins, humanity is set to focus on the innovative and socialist ways that only the air element can generate for us.

SO WHAT'S NEXT?

Knowledge is power. 2020

has shaken us all to our core and helped expose the cracks in society's foundation.

We've all experienced a shift in the way we relate to power and safety, so we should think of 2020 as the training wheels for a revolutionary couple years to come that could change the way we relate to our communities and what we value in society.



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