

THE UNITER



♦ JULY 11-14, 2024 ♦



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ON THE COVER

Talia Steele is the creative director at *The Uniter*. She is also a freelance graphic designer and tattoo artist living in Winnipeg, Man. In her spare time, she runs a book Instagram account, @verynicebook, and plays with her cat, Archie.

See more of her design and tattoo work on her Instagram @st__tallica, or visit her website, taliastele.com.

THE RETURN OF THE SUMMER FESTIVAL GUIDE

THOMAS PASHKO
MANAGING EDITOR

THOMASPASHKO

Manitoba might have a reputation, among both Manitobans and outsiders, as a sleepy corner of the Canadian Prairies. But it's getting harder for detractors to keep the truth under wraps: Manitoba is party country.

This is part of why it feels so good to announce that 2024 marks the return of *The Uniter's* special Summer Festival Guide issue!

The Summer Festival Guide was an annual tradition for us here at the paper before the province, like the rest of the world, was brought to a standstill by the COVID-19 pandemic. While the world has had a few years to partially recover, and local yearly festivals have slowly started getting things moving again, we at *The Uniter* are finally ready to release our first Summer Festival Guide since 2019.

The last few summers have still been busy for us. But from 2020 to 2023, we opted instead to cover sporadic individual stories on uniter.ca. We're still doing a bit of that – and one such story is featured in this issue. But 2024 feels like a good time for us to encourage folks to get back into the summer festival spirit.

In the pages of this issue, you'll find a fairly substantial schedule listing the dates and details for as many Manitoba festivals as we could find – provided they happen between May 30 and the September long weekend. Unfortunately, a few were too early or too late for us to highlight them – apologies to the Manitoba Maple Syrup Festival and Neighbour by Neighbour.

Enjoy your summer festivities!

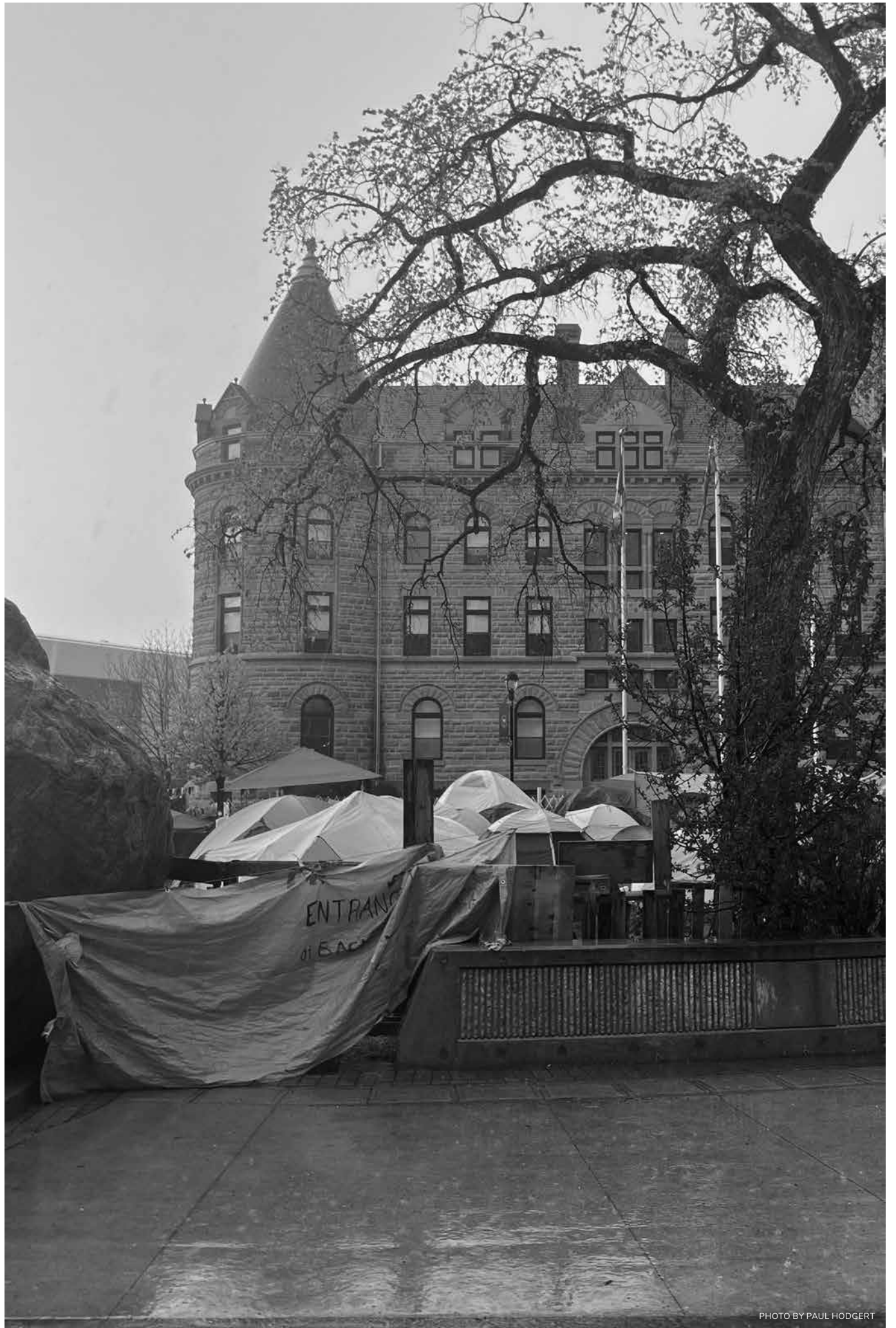


PHOTO BY PAUL HODGERT

Protesters against Israel's war on Gaza have set up camp on the front lawn of the University of Winnipeg. Read more on page 12.

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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.

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.



COMMENTS

CONFESSIONS OF A FESTIVAL APPREHENSIONIST

A doubting Thomas reexamines his own agnosticism

THOMAS PASHKO | MANAGING EDITOR | THOMASPASHKO

I have a confession to make. It's something that I'd find embarrassing to admit in any context. I'm particularly bashful sharing it in the pages of the first *Uniter* festival guide since 2019. But if I'm going to be writing about festivals, I have to fess up.

I'm something of a festival skeptic. Always have been.

I would never yuck anyone else's yum when it comes to festivals. I love that most people love them. But ever since I entered my early adulthood, I've found them exhausting.

Maybe it's because I spent my late teens and early twenties playing in bands, so, to some extent, festivals were mandatory. Back then, there were, like now, many DIY music festivals springing up around rural Manitoba, and if you were a local band with any sort of profile, you were invariably going to be invited to play at least one or two of them.

I wasn't going to let my grumpiness get in the way of my bandmates' fun. But the whole affair seemed like it was designed to push my buttons. I was the lone "indoor kid" among a cavalcade of outdoorsy happy

campers. I was the one sober friend among a clique of beer-drinking, bong-ripping buddies. I was also, as I'd learn later, deeply undermedicated for clinical depression.

But, overall, I was just annoyed to have to drive out to the middle of nowhere, be around a few hundred people having more fun than me, then either sleep in a tent or drive home in the middle of the night.

In retrospect, I can see what any reader can probably tell immediately: I was an insufferable shit. But it was who I was. It was an event where the fun things were camping and live music. But to me, live music was work, and camping was punishment for some sin I'd surely committed in a past life.

Have my tastes changed in the intervening 10 to 15 years? Not exactly. I'm still an indoor kid. I've retired from performing live music long enough that it no longer feels like work, though I need to indulge in that type of fun carefully and sparingly to protect my damaged hearing (young musicians, I'm begging you: wear earplugs).

But if there's something I've learned from working on this Summer Festival Guide issue, it's that when it comes to Manitoba



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Festival campgrounds are my personal hell, but I understand that it's a "me problem."

festivals, there really is something for everyone. My youthful preconception of summer festivals as "a long weekend stuck in the wilderness with dozens of inebriated guitar players" is just a fraction of what's on offer.

Festivals can be cozy. They can be indoors. They can require a much smaller time commitment. A festival can be spending two hours in a community centre for a Folklorama pavilion, experiencing art and eating delicious food from a culture that's new to me. It can be browsing a marketplace full of handmade knitted goods or

small-batch cheeses. It can cater to my eternal inner grandpa.

I guess I might not be a full-blown festival convert yet. But this summer, I'm ready to dip my toes back in the waters. As long as I don't have to go camping.

Thomas Pashko is the managing editor of *The Uniter*. If possible, he'd prefer to avoid spending time in any place that lacks air conditioning.

U

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SUPPLIED PHOTOS

From left to right: Winnipeg International Burlesque Festival, the Winnipeg Underground Film Festival and Blue Hills Fibre Festival

WINNIPEG INTERNATIONAL BURLESQUE FESTIVAL

May 30 to June 1

THOMAS PASHKO | MANAGING EDITOR | THOMASPASHKO

What exactly *is* burlesque? It's a word that conjures up a particular mental image of risqué turn-of-the-century stage acts with sharp wit and sexually charged energy. When asked to define "burlesque," DD Brassiere, director of the Winnipeg International Burlesque Festival (WIBF), has a more direct response.

"Well, it's stripping," she says. "But, a lot of things are 'stripping' ... I have a background in producing standup comedy, which is also a kind of stripping of your soul, just with words (instead of clothing)."

WIBF is in its fifth year, but it's Brassiere's first year as director.

"I moved to Winnipeg (from Vancouver)

in 2021," they say. "In Vancouver, we had a thriving burlesque community, with shows two or three times a week. When I moved to Winnipeg, I realized that there were only shows, like, quarterly, and that the community was a bit more conservative."

The difference in culture between the two cities has underpinned Brassiere's efforts to make more space for women and gender-diverse folks to express themselves onstage through burlesque. That approach carries over to WIBF, which had more than 100 applicants from around the world for 2024.

"A lot of these performers are people who have never performed on the same stage before, who have never met each other," they say. "We're taking different cultures, different backgrounds, different locations and putting all these people into one show together."

Brassiere is particularly excited for the show *Josephine*, performed by visiting headliner Tymisha Harris.

"It took a lot to get (Harris) to fly up

here from Orlando for two nights," she says. "She's a very booked-up person and (has performed *Josephine*) around the world ... she plays (20th century French singer, dancer and actress) Josephine Baker. She's a magnificent performer, a true triple threat."

WHEN: MAY 31 TO JUNE 1

WHERE: WINNIPEG, MAN.

\$\$\$: \$82 FOR A FULL FESTIVAL PASS. INDIVIDUAL SHOW PRICES VARY.

DON'T MISS: TYMISHA HARRIS IN *JOSEPHINE*

WEBSITE: WINNIPEGBURLESQUEFESTIVAL.COM

THE WINNIPEG UNDERGROUND FILM FESTIVAL

May 30 to June 2

THOMAS PASHKO | MANAGING EDITOR | THOMASPASHKO

Winnipeg is a city with a rich cinematic culture and history. As such, there's no shortage of local film festivals during the summer season. However, for films that truly can't be seen anywhere else, local cineastes should set their sights on the Winnipeg Underground Film Festival (WUFF).

Scott Fitzpatrick, the festival's co-director, says the fest's program focuses mostly

on short films, with some feature films.

"Experimental' is a word we use a lot," he says. "Some 'underground' festivals will show genre films, like underground slasher zombie movies ... primarily what we show is artist-driven short films."

Fitzpatrick says that the independent films shown at WUFF are usually small productions made by a single creator, or a

small team led by an individual author.

"The range of what that ends up looking like is, at the most extreme end, structural or abstract film. But we also show hybrid narrative films, experimental documentaries, things like that. Lately, we've been showing a lot of essay films, which is a sub-genre of experimental documentaries. So it's a pretty wide range of alternative moving image forms and movie styles."

2024 marks the 11th year for WUFF. While the team behind the festival has rotated, Fitzpatrick has remained a key creative force behind it, stressing a work ethic that includes making sure that all participating artists get paid for their labour.

"We really emphasized that point early on, especially when we were still a real DIY festival with kind of spotty funding," he says. While this might seem like a baseline necessity for anyone running a film festival, it's not as common as one might think.

"TIFF (the Toronto International Film Festival) is an example of a really big festival that's getting millions of dollars of

public funding and doesn't pay short film screening fees ... so we've always made a political and artistic point of really of emphasizing (paying artists)."

WHEN: MAY 30 TO JUNE 2

WHERE: WINNIPEG, MAN.

\$\$\$: FULL FESTIVAL PASSES ARE \$25

DON'T MISS: EXPANDED CINEMA PERFORMANCES, 10 P.M. ON MAY 31 AT THE SUDANESE CANADIAN COMMUNITY CENTRE

WEBSITE: WINNIPEGUFF.COM

BLUE HILLS FIBRE FESTIVAL

JUNE 1

MACKENZIE PAQUETTE | VOLUNTEER

Located a two-hour, scenic drive west from Winnipeg is the town of Carberry which hosts the annual Blue Hills Fibre Festival (BHFF). Founded in 2013, BHFF gives artists an opportunity to share in the making of all types of fibre crafts.

Maureen Winnicki Lyons, co-organizer of BHFF, says the festival is "the first op-

portunity for people to get their hands on this year's crop of freshly sheared wool, because (their) wool competition is the first of many to come."

This year, the festival includes tours of the Austin Woollen Mill, the newest wool mill in Manitoba. The tour will go over the process of turning wool from a raw fibre

into a usable material for the creation of different textiles.

The festival also includes a market, made up of two dozen of the province's best makers, and a few workshops. There is also a wool competition where anyone who raises fibre-bearing animals can have their fleeces adjudicated by a professional wool evaluator. Cash prizes are available to be won.

The festival workshops teach needle felting, which is the act of using a barbed needle to compact wool into a desired shape, and natural dyeing, which is the use of different parts of plants and even insects to dye fabrics.

"If I was going to plan a perfect day," Lyons says, "it would involve the mill tour, a workshop and the festival." There is also a cafeteria-style food service being offered at the market. The market and workshops are all in air-conditioned facilities.

WHEN: JUNE 1, 10 A.M. TO 4 P.M.

WHERE: MULTIPLE VENUES IN AND AROUND CARBERRY, MAN.

\$\$\$: FREE FESTIVAL ENTRY WITH A SILVER COLLECTION AT THE DOOR. ADMISSION FEES FOR WORKSHOPS VARY.

DON'T MISS: THE TOUR OF THE AUSTIN WOOLLEN MILL, THE NEWEST WOOL MILL IN MANITOBA

WEBSITE: BLUEHILLSFIBREFESTIVAL.WORDPRESS.COM



From left to right: Pride Winnipeg, Gimli International Film Festival and Manitoba Sunflower Festival

PRIDE WINNIPEG

May 24 to June 2

MIKLÓS P. SOMORJAI | VOLUNTEER

Pride Winnipeg is celebrating its 13th year at The Forks, and it's bigger than ever. The theme this year is "Transcend Together." According to Pride Winnipeg's website, the theme "embodies the collective strength and unity within the queer community. It emphasizes the empowerment and resilience of trans individuals, advocating for the protection of trans rights and the celebration of their unique identities."

The festival has come a long way since

the first gathering at the Legislature in 1987. Barry Karlenzig, president and chair of Pride Winnipeg, says organizers are expecting "between 90 and 95,000 people at the festival this year. Pre-COVID, we (had) 35,000."

Pride officially begins May 24 with the flag raising, while the rally will begin at the Manitoba legislative grounds at 10 a.m. on Sunday, June 2. After speeches, the parade will work its way through downtown to The Forks.

This year there will be three stages: the main stage, the kids' stage and the community stage, which Barry says is "being re-branded and relaunched with a new name that will be unveiled ... (one) that is really representative of the community." Come find out what it will be and check out the brand new 55-plus area as well as the expanded substance-free zones.

If the sights and sounds are a bit too overwhelming, the Canadian Museum for Human Rights has a quiet zone with a live feed of the main stage. There is also an accessible viewing area at Canada Life Centre, but registration in advance is recommended. And for those who can't make it out at all, CTV will livestream the festivities on their website.

In the name of sustainability, there are no longer any paper festival guides. Check out the Pride Winnipeg app for information, in-

cluding a list of all the performers, the 50/50 contest and the scholarship program.

WHEN: MAY 24 TO JUNE 2

WHERE: WINNIPEG, MAN.

\$\$\$: FREE

DON'T MISS: A DEPENDABLE SUPPLY OF DRINKING WATER! CONCESSIONS NO LONGER SELL BOTTLED WATER, SO REFILL YOUR OWN AT SHOAL LAKE RE-FILL STATION AT THE FORKS.

WEBSITE: PRIDEWINNIPEG.COM

GIMLI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

July 24 to 28

PAUL HODGERT | BUSINESS MANAGER |  PAULHODGERT

Heading into their 24th year, the Gimli International Film Festival (GIFF) shows no signs of slowing down.

"We are programming over 90 films," executive director Teya Zuzek says. "It is a great blend of Manitoban films, Canadian films and international films."

"It's grown from starting off as a beach screening only to multiple venues, multiple events, industry sessions, as well as keeping that pièce de résistance, which is that beach

screening, which is free to the public."

The films will centre on an overarching theme. Zuzek says she "can't divulge what it is yet, but, it'll be very exciting, and it's a perfect way for the town to activate and celebrate, really, the love of film, which is what Gimli is all about."

But film screenings aren't the only thing the festival has to offer.

"We're not just the beach films," Zuzek explains. "Obviously, that's a fun part of it

and something that's really important, but we also do question-and-answer periods, panels, and we have industry sessions that are free to the public, because we believe in accessibility."

GIFF takes accessibility quite seriously. In addition to events and screenings at many different price points (including free), the festival offers a free shuttle service to and from the festival for ticket holders.

"Also, we do a young filmmakers program and a bursary program for marginalized groups and organizations that want to come out that might not be able to afford tickets," Zuzek says.

The festival also wants to help develop the next generation of filmmakers.

"We also do the 48-hour fest, which is a competition where filmmakers have 48 hours to create and showcase their films," she says. "It's a really big event, because those films will then go on to do the 48 Hour at TIFF (Toronto International Film Festival).

WHEN: JULY 24 TO 28

WHERE: GIMLI, MAN.

\$\$\$: VARIOUS

DON'T MISS: THE FREE SCREENINGS ON THE BEACH

WEBSITE: GIMLIFILM.COM

MANITOBA SUNFLOWER FESTIVAL

July 26 to 28

MACKENZIE PAQUETTE | VOLUNTEER

The Manitoba Sunflower Festival (MSF) has been a fun-filled, family-orientated festival in Altona, Man. since 1964.

MSF runs during the final weekend in July and features many different events. There is an opening ceremony on Friday, where Winnipeg classic-rock cover band

Jukebox Heroes will perform live. Saturday begins with a free pancake breakfast and a large commercial parade. Nashville-based country tribute act A.R. Cash will perform live on Saturday. On Sunday, there will be a car show.

Other events will run throughout the

weekend. Brittany Winkler, the recreation and events coordinator for the town of Altona, says "we're a little bit unique, because we have a Manitoba Sunflower Festival Queen Fest, so a pageant event." The pageant ends with the crowning of the Sunflower Queen and Princesses, who become ambassadors of Altona throughout the year.

Of course, the festival wouldn't be what it is without the sunflowers. With a large sunflower selfie plot, festival-goers have the opportunity to walk into the fields and take photos – instead of venturing onto private farmers' lands for their summer pics.

Winkler also says MSF is a "mostly free festival, which is different compared to other (festivals)." They offer bouncy castles, inflatable slides and other activities for the younger crowd, on top of all of the other events available throughout the weekend.

WHEN: JULY 26 TO 28

WHERE: MULTIPLE VENUES IN ALTONA, MAN.

\$\$\$: FREE ENTRY TO ALL EVENTS

DON'T MISS: THE SUNFLOWER SELFIE PLOT

WEBSITE: MANITOBASUNFLOWERFESTIVAL.CA

FESTIVAL LISTINGS

It's a gargantuan task to keep track of all of the various festivals taking place in a single province, especially one as committed to merrymaking as Manitoba.

After five years away from covering festival season, we here at *The Uniter* had to start from scratch. Festivals come and go during the best of times, but the financial and organizational challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic were particularly trying for many of the province's independent and rural fests.

However, many new festivals have emerged from this period of uncertainty. All in all, we've compiled about 100 festivals, old and new alike, and conveniently listed them all in the centre spread of this issue. Feel free to take this page out and use it to plan your summer festivities.

Have fun, party animals!

MAY 29 - JUNE 29	FLIN FLON TROUT FESTIVAL	FLIN FLON	FLINFLONTROUTFESTIVAL.COM
MAY 30 - JUNE 1	WINNIPEG INTERNATIONAL BURLESQUE FESTIVAL	WINNIPEG	WINNIPEGBURLESQUEFESTIVAL.COM
MAY 30 - JUNE 2	WINNIPEG UNDERGROUND FILM FESTIVAL	WINNIPEG	WINNIPEGUFF.COM
MAY 31 - JUNE 2	BARROWS 9TH ANNUAL GOSPEL JAMBOREE	BARROWS	BIT.LY/3YBXWIV
MAY 31 - JUNE 2	WESTERN CANADA RIB FEST TOUR	WINNIPEG	WCRFT.CA
JUNE 1	AC MUSIC FESTIVAL	GARDENTON	BIT.LY/4BX9ULQ
JUNE 1	BLUE HILLS FIBRE FESTIVAL	CARBERRY	BLUEHILLSFIBREFESTIVAL.WORDPRESS.COM
JUNE 1	NEW BOTHWELL CHEESE AND WINE FESTIVAL	NEW BOTHWELL	FROMAGERIEBOTHWELL.CA
JUNE 1 - JUNE 2	PRIDE WINNIPEG	WINNIPEG	PRIDEWINNIPEG.COM
JUNE 1 - JUNE 22	WINNIPEG INTERNATIONAL JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL	WINNIPEG	BIT.LY/4CCVBM3
JUNE 2 - JUNE 8	AGASSIZ CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL	WINNIPEG	AGASSIZFESTIVAL.COM
JUNE 2	BACK 40 FOLK FESTIVAL	MORDEN	BACK40FOLKFEST.COM
JUNE 2	RIVER CITY DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL	WINNIPEG	BIT.LY/3VKM3ZO
JUNE 5 - JUNE 9	MANITOBA SUMMER FAIR	BRANDON	BIT.LY/3R3XCC1
JUNE 6 - JUNE 9	WINNIPEG INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL	WINNIPEG	KIDSFEST.CA
JUNE 7 - JUNE 8	ELLICE STREET FESTIVAL	WINNIPEG	WECC.CA
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JUNE 7 - JUNE 8	RUMBLE IN THE VALLEY	MORRIS	VALLEYAG.CA
JUNE 8 - JUNE 9	MANITOBA COMMUNITY BAND FESTIVAL	WINNIPEG	MBBAND.ORG
JUNE 8 - JUNE 9	MONTCALM HERITAGE FESTIVAL	ST. JOSEPH	MUSEESTJOSEPH.COM/FESTIVAL
JUNE 8	OURTOBA FILM FESTIVAL	WINNIPEG	OURTOBAFILMNETWORK.COM
JUNE 8	PEMBINA VALLEY PRIDE	ALTONA	PEMBINAVALLEYPRIDE.CA

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JUNE 9	MANITOBA NIGHT MARKET & FESTIVAL (EVENT ONE OF THREE)	WINNIPEG	BIT.LY/4DVOHRE
JUNE 14 - JUNE 23	RED RIVER EX	WINNIPEG	REDRIVEREX.COM
JUNE 14 - JUNE 16	SUMMER IN THE CITY	STEINBACH	SUMMERINTHECITY.CA
JUNE 14 - JUNE 22	WINNIPEG INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL	WINNIPEG	JAZZWINNIPEG.COM
JUNE 15 - JUNE 16	LITTLE VALLEY JAMBOREE	ERICKSON	LITTLEJAMBOREE.COM
JUNE 15	NINETTE FAIR AND PARADE	NINETTE	BIT.LY/3YTNPPIR
JUNE 15	WINNIPEG BEER FESTIVAL	WINNIPEG	WPGBEERFESTIVAL.COM
JUNE 22	MACGREGOR FAIR	MACGREGOR	FIND THEM ON FACEBOOK!
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JULY 5 - JULY 6	ST-LABRE 200	ST-LABRE	STLABRE200.CA
JULY 6 - JULY 7	ERIKSDALE CREAMERY DAYS FAIR AND RODEO	ERIKSDALE	FIND THEM ON FACEBOOK!
JULY 6 - JULY 7	CARMAN COUNTRY FAIR	CARMAN	CARMANCOUNTRYFAIR.CA
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JULY 13	GARDENTON MULTICULTURAL FESTIVAL	GARDENTON	BIT.LY/3YZIECU
JULY 17 - JULY 28	WINNIPEG FRINGE THEATRE FESTIVAL	WINNIPEG	WINNIPEGFRINGE.COM
JULY 19 - JULY 21	GREAT OUTDOORS COMEDY FESTIVAL	WINNIPEG	GREATOUTDOORSCOMEDYFESTIVAL.COM
JULY 19 - JULY 21	MANITOBA STAMPEDE	MORRIS	MANITOBASTAMPEDE.CA
JULY 19 - JULY 20	SUMMER WINDS FAMILY MUSIC FESTIVAL	VICTORIA BEACH	SUMMERWINDSMUSIC.COM
JULY 19 - JULY 20	SUPER-SPIKE	WINNIPEG	SUPERSPIKE.CA



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AUGUST 24 - AUGUST 25	MANITOBA FILIPINO STREET FESTIVAL	WINNIPEG	MANITOBAFILIPINO.COM
AUGUST 24 - AUGUST 25	WHOOOP & HOLLAR FOLK FESTIVAL	PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE	WHOOOPANDHOLLAR.COM
AUGUST 25	MANITOBA NIGHT MARKET (EVENT THREE OF THREE)	WINNIPEG	BIT.LY/4DVOHRE



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From left to right: Real Love Summer Fest, Pioneer Days

REAL LOVE SUMMER FEST

July 26 to 28

THOMAS PASHKO | MANAGING EDITOR | THOMASPASHKO

The name Real Love Winnipeg is a familiar one to virtually any virtual music fan. The independent concert promotion company, started by Gil Carroll and Adam Soloway in 2012, didn't plan on starting their own festival. But following an invite in 2014 to organize something on the grounds of the Matlock Festival of Music, Art and Nature, the duo developed what would eventually

become Real Love Summer Fest.

"We did the festival in Gimli for three years," Carroll says. "We found that we sort of outgrew that site, and we ended up getting introduced to the land owners of this spot in Teulon, which has worked out great ever since."

Carroll says the essence of Real Love Summer Fest is "music and camping."

"It takes place in, essentially, this beautiful forest," he says. "We built a huge stage in the woods, and we have tons of amazing bands from all over North America, plus tons of local artists performing on the mainstage."

"We also have a smaller side stage. (The lineup is) really eclectic musically. We also have some great food vendors and art installations, and all the camping is really great. It's all shaded in by the trees, and it's just a really beautiful sight."

The 2024 edition of the festival will feature more than 30 musical acts performing over three days. Local artists and expats galore will be there, including singer-songwriter and Winnipegger in Nashville Taylor Janzen, indie rockers Neighbour Andy and gloomy trio Jamboree. Touring performers include Hudson, NY duo Babeboven and Berlin multimedia artist Discovery Zone.

"We present artists that otherwise would not be making their way out to Winnipeg,"

Carroll says. "So for people who are looking to discover new music and get a great camping experience and have fun, it's a good festival for that."

WHEN: JULY 26 TO 28

WHERE: TEULON, MAN.

\$\$\$: FULL FEST PASSES WITH CAMPING ARE \$135. DAY PASSES VARY.

DON'T MISS: JENNIFER CASTLE, WHO CARROLL DESCRIBES AS "A MODERN-DAY JOAN BAEZ OR VASHTI BUNYAN."

WEBSITE: REALLOVEWPG.COM

PIONEER DAYS

August 3 to 5

THOMAS PASHKO | MANAGING EDITOR | THOMASPASHKO

The Pioneer Days festival is a longstanding tradition in Steinbach. The annual event, put on by the Mennonite Heritage Village (MHV) museum, celebrates two noteworthy milestones in 2024. While this year marks 60 years of operation for MHV, Pioneer Days will also fall on the 150th anniversary of Mennonites' first arrival in Manitoba.

Nathan Dyck, development coordinator at MHV, says there will be special events at the 2024 Pioneer Days to mark the occasion, including a traditional Red River Cart ride, followed by a ceremony with invited

members of the Manitoba Métis Federation and local Indigenous communities.

"The idea is that it will correspond (almost to the day) when Mennonites first arrived at the Steinbach site in 1874," Dyck says. "Of course, they relied heavily on their First Nations and Métis neighbours to support them in that first year, considering they arrived in August, far too late to plant crops ... Unfortunately, those stories haven't been told that well in the past, and we're trying to do a better job of telling them now."

Dyck says the anniversary will also be marked with a screening of a new documentary film by Dale Hildebrand, a Manitoba-born, Toronto-based Mennonite filmmaker.

The regular fun and feasting of Pioneer Days will still be available to attendees visiting MHV, an authentic restoration of a traditional Manitoba Mennonite village.

"We do have historical interpretation," Dyck says. "We'll have a blacksmith working throughout the day. We'll have people running the mill ... We'll have teachers in the two schools – we have a public school and a private school – exemplifying the Mennonite German private-school experience. We'll have horse-drawn wagon rides ... we have a printery, so they'll be using the old plate and press printers. We usually have examples of old threshing methods (as well as) one of the sawmills from Clear Lake."

WHEN: AUG. 3 TO 5

WHERE: STEINBACH, MAN.

\$\$\$: \$12 PASSES FOR ADULTS, \$10 FOR SENIORS AND STUDENTS, \$6 FOR CHILDREN, FREE FOR AGES 5 AND UNDER

DON'T MISS: FRESH-BAKED BREAD AND *SCHNETKI* FROM THE SUMMER KITCHEN, OR *VARENYKY* AND *KUTIA* AT THE LIVERY BARN RESTAURANT.

WEBSITE: MHV.CA



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Legacy Park, East Selkirk
June 22 & 23, 2024

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- Highland Coo
- Sheep Shearing
- Vikings
- Entertainment
- Barony of Castel Rouge
- Manitoba Living History
- Scottish Food
- Vendor Market
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- Car Show
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- Sword Championships
- Highland Dancing
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PHOTOS BY PAUL HODGERT

The People's University for Palestine encampment on the front lawn of the University of Winnipeg. May 16, 2024

U OF W PALESTINE ENCAMPMENT DIGS IN ITS HEELS

University administration remains mum on potential repercussions for protesters

THOMAS PASHKO | MANAGING EDITOR | @THOMASPASHKO

Editor's note: this article was originally published on May 26 at uniter.ca.

Two weeks after setting up camp on the front lawn of the University of Winnipeg (U of W), students and community members are still occupying the space in an act of protest against Israel's war on Palestine – and according to the protesters, they won't be going anywhere until their demands are met.

On the morning of May 10, protesters erected tents on the lawn at the U of W in front of Wesley Hall. The organizers of the camp, which they've dubbed the People's University for Palestine Winnipeg (PUPW), have publicly issued a list of demands calling on the U of W to financially divest from entities enabling what they're calling "the ongoing genocide against the Palestinian people."

The U of W quickly set up barriers around the encampment. The university then issued a statement announcing increased security measures and surveillance, asking people to bring ID cards on campus.

"The University respects the right to peaceful protest and assembly within the bounds of law and UWinnipeg policies," the U of W announced in its press release. "Members of our campus community are free to protest on campus, but camping is not allowed. Setting up tents, temporary structures, or overnight encampments on UWinnipeg property without approval from the University is prohibited."

The university also cited its Respectful Work and Learning Environment Policy, stressing that everyone on campus "conduct themselves in a way that allows all members of our community to work and study in an environment free from harassment and discrimination."

Muscari, one of the camp's organizers, says their cause has brought together a varied group of students and community members.

"Whether someone is doing (organizing around) migrant justice, anti-poverty or queer organizing, the issue of Palestine touches us all," Muscari told *The Uniter* just outside the camp on the morning of May 17. "Muscari" is an alias. All protesters use code names while in the camp to avoid being identified by campus security personnel.

Accusations of genocide

On Oct. 7, 2023, the Palestinian Islamist militant group Hamas led a coordinated attack against Israel, killing 1,139 people, including 695 Israeli civilians. Since the attack, Israel has engaged in sweeping military action in Gaza, leading to a humanitarian crisis.

The combination of Israeli airstrikes, ground invasions and the deliberate blocking of humanitarian aid have led to the deaths of more than 35,000 Gazans and the displacement of nearly two million Palestinians in the Gaza strip. The Israeli government and the Gaza health ministry

disagree on how many of the dead are innocent civilians, but both sides acknowledge it is more than half.

The Israeli government has staunchly denied that its actions in Gaza are genocidal or that its treatment of Palestinians constitutes an apartheid system. However, humanitarian organizations such as Amnesty International, the Lemkin Institute for Genocide Prevention and special United Nations rapporteurs have accused Israel of either actively engaging in genocide or creating a severe risk of genocide against Palestinians.

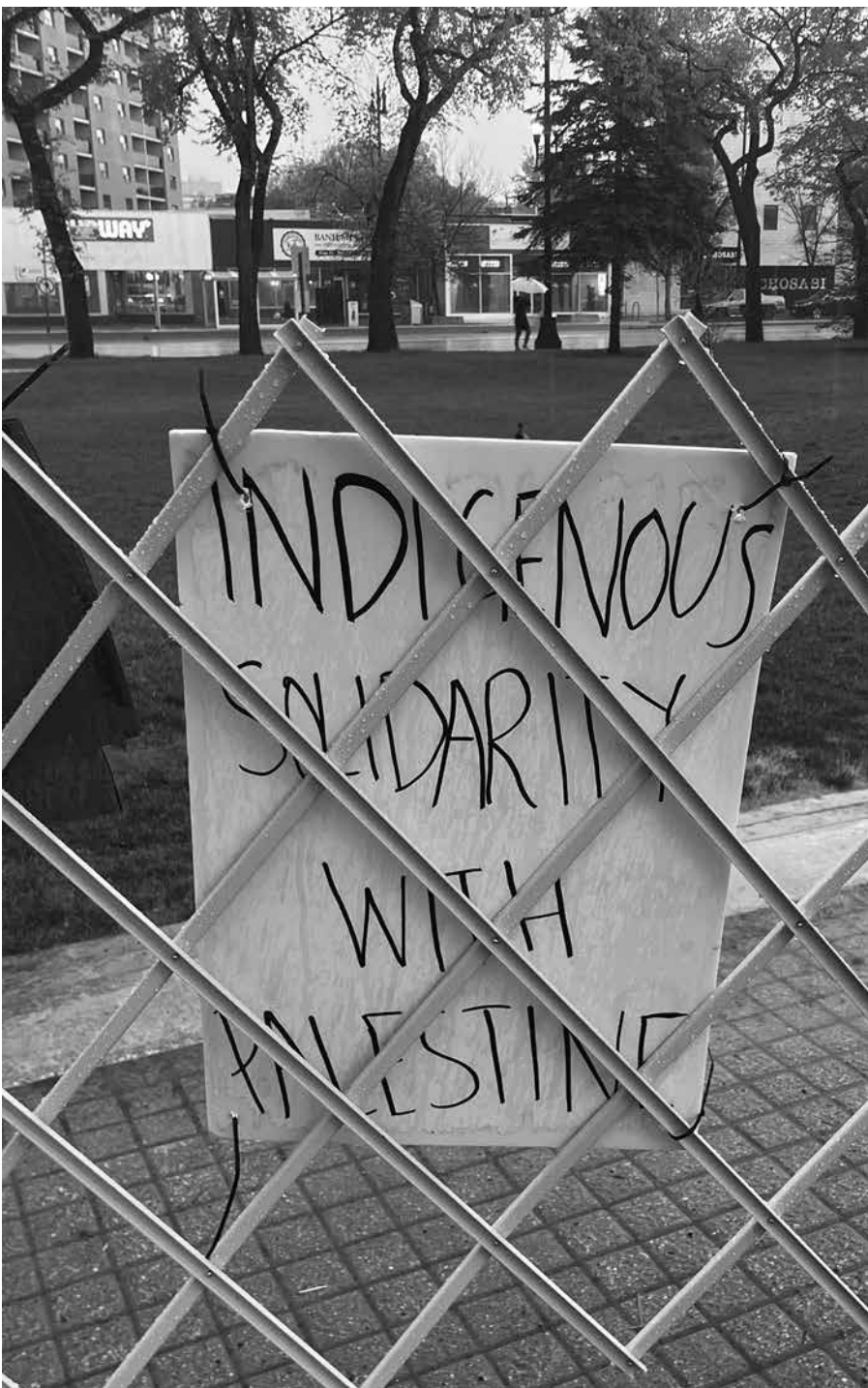
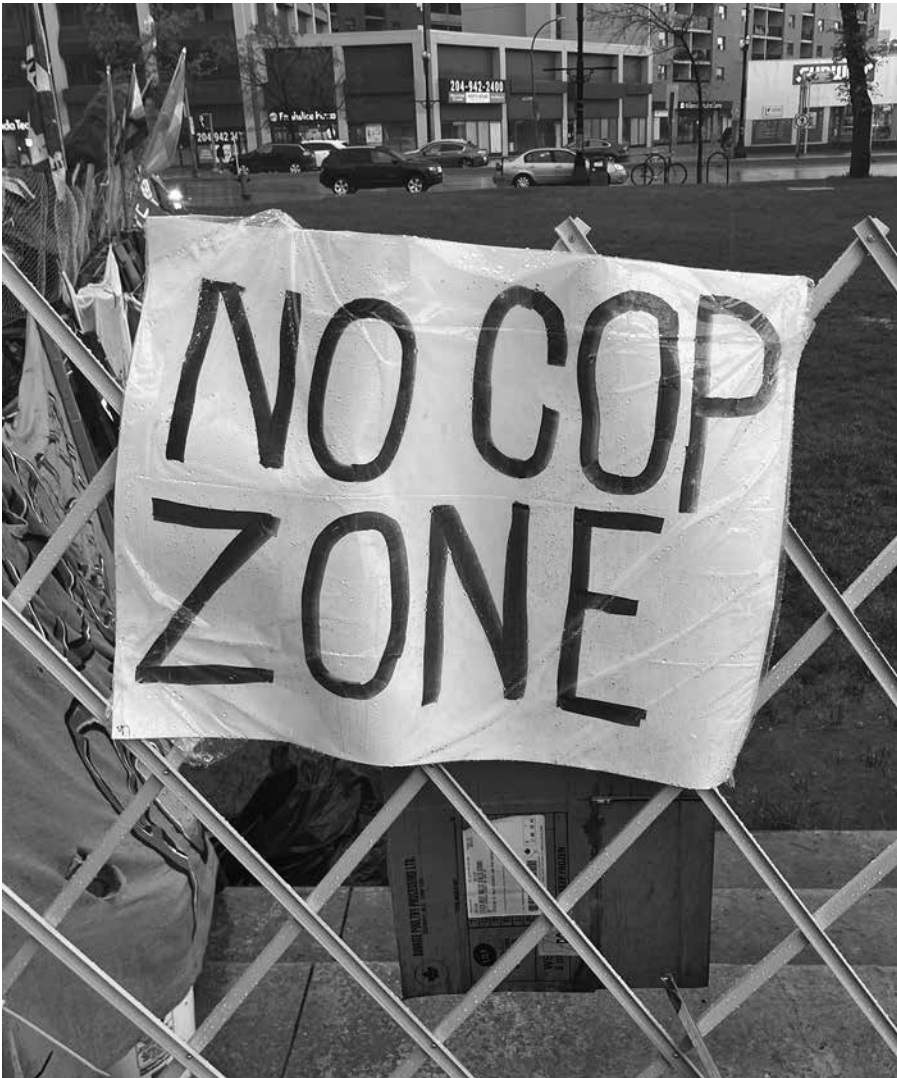
On May 20, Karim Khan, the chief prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC), announced that he had applied for arrest warrants for top leaders of both Israel and Hamas, alleging war crimes and crimes against humanity. Khan's previous

work at the ICC has included cases relating to past genocides in Rwanda, Cambodia and the former Yugoslavia, as well as Russia's current war and genocide on Ukraine.

Khan specifically named Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Defence Minister Yoav Gallant, both of whom have used racist and dehumanizing rhetoric against Palestinians throughout the conflict and have made statements that some, including the government of South Africa, have claimed shows intent to commit genocide.

"I have ordered a complete siege on the Gaza Strip," Gallant announced on Oct. 9. "There will be no electricity, no food, no fuel, everything is closed ... we are fighting human animals, and we are acting accordingly." In a since-deleted tweet, Netanyahu referred to Israel's war in Gaza as "a struggle between the





children of light and the children of darkness, between humanity and the law of the jungle.”

The encampment movement

The camp at the U of W is part of a broader encampment movement on university and college campuses across Canada and the United States, with students demanding that post-secondary institutions financially divest from entities doing business with Israel.

In its list of demands, PUPW calls on the U of W to disclose all of its investments, to “divest its endowment, capital assets, and other financial holdings from all companies complicit in Israeli institutions,” to issue a statement “immediately condemning the ongoing genocide against the Palestinian people, including the scholasticide in Gaza, and calling on the Canadian government to immediately cease all military contracts with Israel,” and to ensure that protesters in the camp will face no repercussions or disciplinary charges.

The encampment movement has spread like wildfire across North American campuses since mid-April, beginning with an encampment at Columbia University in New York. Several of the protests have erupted into violence when universities have called on police to break up protests, including at the University of Calgary, where cops viciously beat students and elderly protesters alike.

Muscari says the encampment movement is a reaction to the inaction of governments and institutions in the early days of the current conflict.

“When the broad community organizing, the protests and demonstrations and marches, didn’t produce any results, there was a lull. There was maybe a moment of disappointment or a realization that simply asking people in power through postcards and voice-mails was not going to bring about the end of the genocide,” they say.

“In the wake of that realization, students have risen up, as we have done so often throughout history, to bring back to the front lawns of the institutions that hold financial power, that could either undermine or encourage the genocide, to force them to face the issue again.”

Bronwyn Dobchuk-Land is an associate professor of criminal justice at the U of W. She is one of 93 U of W faculty who signed an open letter expressing solidarity with PUPW.

“One of the most horrible, very acute experiences over the past seven months has been to watch the world explode in popular protest against the genocide and to have a real sense that the world is against it, but to feel extremely powerless still in the face of it,” she says.

“So to me, that’s where the encampment movement comes in, to say, ‘Okay, we can actually look and study institutions that prop up governments that legitimize what’s going on.’ It’s empowering.”

The university’s response

The U of W has remained relatively tight-lipped on the encampment, with subsequent statements largely restating the initial concerns raised in its May 10 statement. However, protesters and supportive faculty say they have concerns that the increased security presence and identification protocols may be used as reprisals against students.

“I have seen security guards present papers to members of the encampment,” Dobchuk-Land says. “I haven’t seen what they say exactly, because the members of the encampment that I saw refused to take them. But apparently they said something like, ‘name: unknown, gender: unknown, student number: unknown, you have been banned from campus for five years.’”

“That makes the ID requirement to enter the university so threatening for people who are in the encampment, obviously. Because, right now, security doesn’t have their ID ... It feels like that the administration hasn’t made a statement (about potential consequences for student protesters), and in not making a statement ... they’re kind of letting security

participate in whatever kind of empty threats they deem to be strategic,” she says.

“(The security guards) don’t seem enthusiastic about getting the encampment people off the lawn. But, to me, the university is taking a particular position by not really communicating their position.”

Muscari says these tactics, as well as those from outside opponents of the protest, are the reason for strict anonymity in the camp.

“We take everybody’s safety and security here very seriously,” they say. “We’re under constant surveillance, not only from the university security, but from rogue antagonists, some of whom wear Zionist symbols, some of whom are fully disguised. But we’ve had people come up to the camp and take photos of us, take photos of our license plates, harass and intimidate and yell at us.”

“While we are very competent and capable of de-escalating those situations peacefully, it does speak to the power of what we’re doing that people are so threatened by it that they would come and try to intimidate us into shutting down.”

In an emailed statement to *The Uniter*, the university declined to answer whether protesters have been threatened with a campus ban. When asked about the protesters’ demands, the U of W stated, “No one from the encampment has reached out (to U of W administration) to share demands. However, the university is aware of messaging online.”

“That’s an interesting characterization,” Muscari says, “because it places the onus on us (to reach out to the university). But everybody else just comes to camp if they want to learn more. It’s also impossible for us to reach out to the university, since the camp protesters have been banned.”

The path forward

Historically, U of W students have had an uphill battle in trying to pressure university administration to make principled divestment decisions. Previous executives of the University of Winnipeg Students’ Association lobbied unsuccessfully for the school to divest from fossil fuels.

When asked if they are optimistic about the university divesting from Israel, Muscari strategically reframes the question.

“I’m not optimistic that people who are opposed to the very basic human decency that we are asking for will suddenly have a change of heart,” they say. “What I am confident in is our ability to withstand pressure, our ability to grow our numbers and grow our strength to deepen our knowledge and deepen our resolve.”

It’s a sentiment that Dobchuk-Land shares.

“My understanding of, for example, the campus divestment activism in the 1980s around South African apartheid was that it was incredibly effective,” she says. “I think that when it comes to university administrators, they’re less moved by well-formulated arguments and more moved by threats to institutional stability. So I think that the demands to disclose financial ties (to Israel) are really important.”

Regarding the future of the camp, Muscari is steadfast in the students’ ability to ride out their demands.

“I can see this going one of two ways,” they say. “Either the university meets our demands in full, or they forcibly remove us with a mass arrest and attack on their own students with police. And as we’ve seen ... in other student encampments across Turtle Island, it is shameful, cowardly, violent behaviour when administrations turn against their own students.”

“So, given those two options, I would hope that the University of Winnipeg would choose the former and choose to do the right thing and divest from the genocide in Gaza, to declare that they support the end of the genocide, to defend the students who have brought them enlightenment and encouraged them to do the right thing. Which surely they will advertise 50 years from now as some great deed of their own.”



DIVERSIONS

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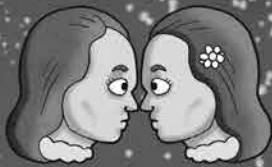
Libra
September 23 - October 22
Opportunity Is knocking—will you answer? C'mon, you're closer



Taurus
April 20 - May 20
A coat of fresh paint Can revitalize a room Or a depressed clown



Scorpio
October 23 - November 21
It's time to give up Your dream of falling but then Not hitting the ground



Gemini
May 21 - June 20
A stepladder is Handy to have around in Case your ladder dies



Sagittarius
November 22 - December 21
The monster under Your bed disqualifies you For life insurance



Cancer
June 21 - July 22
Make the best of things Raise that dingo like you would Have raised your own child



Capricorn
December 22 - January 19
Well, you rose to the Challenge of eating the whole Turkey. Now you're dead.



Leo
July 23 - August 22
The dating scene can Be depressing, but cheer up— They'll settle for less



Aquarius
January 20 - February 18
It's hard to admit To your failings — and in your Case, it would take weeks



Virgo
August 23 - September 22
Getting behind in Your reading? Create a world Where books are outlawed



Pisces
February 19 - March 20
Down on your luck? Start To carry corpse chunks from an Unlucky rabbit

MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY

6AM	MORNING BREATH	The Sentinel's Marvellous Kaleidoscope	Worldbeat Canada Radio	Fly Travel Radio	FANTASTIC FRIDAY World - Island Music	THE SATURDAY MORNING SHOW	CKU-SPEAKS
7AM		Folk Roots Radio	FRAÑOL	CANQUEER			
8AM	Shortwave Report	Talking Radical Radio	Making Contact	OutSpoken	Wooden Spoons	DEAD MEDIUM	SHADES OF CLASSICS Classical and New Age
9AM	CounterSpin	FREE CITY RADIO	After Thought	Truth Before Reconciliation			
10AM	DEMOCRACY NOW!		DEMOCRACY NOW!			MUD PUDDLE RADIO For Kids (Adults too)	
11AM	DEPARTMENT 13 POP/ROCK	This Way Out WINGS	VOYAGE (Jazz)	After Thought BRIDGING THE GAP	SUNNY ROAD Roots Music		Medicine Wheel of Music
NOON	COMEDOROLOGICAL REPORT	BOOTS & SADDLE COUNTRY		ACCESSIBILITY MATTERS YEARSHOT DAILY	NO FIXED ADDRESS LIVED EXPERIENCES OF HOMELESSNESS	THE ELECTRIC CHAIR	TEMPLE TENT REVIVAL
1PM	outSpoken	THE GREEN MAJORITY	ALTERNATIVE RADIO	BINKY PINDER'S FUNHOUSE	HOW TO SURVIVE A TORNADO		NEON BEIGE SOUND EXCHANGE
2PM	Truth Before Reconciliation			TICKLE MY FANCY Blues	GLOBAL RESEARCH NEWS HOUR	THE IVORY TOWER Eclectic Mix	YOU CAN'T HIDE FROM GOD Gospel
3PM	GROUND SWELL New Classical	The Stuph File The Phil-In Show	The Meta World STOOPALOOP SHOW	BARKING DOG Past 'n Present Folk 'n Roots	CKUW Album Feature		Active Voice
4PM	SEAN SHOW (Local music)	Winnipeg Arena is on Fire	SPACE CADET MUSIC, OUT OF THIS WORLD	STARROAD JUNCTION	THE EXILE FILES	Eclectic Residents	Orange Groove Radio
5PM	Radio Eco Shock				DEEP THREES Electronic Expository	THE TRIP PSYCHEDELIC ROCK	BOOTS & SADDLE BARKING DOG
6PM	Journey Into Sound (Music History)	SQUARE WAVE Video music and history	AMATEUR HOUR So Bad, It's Good	PAGES	Behind the News with Doug Henwood		
7PM	THE WORLD World	Lost Chunes	TWANG TRUST Country/Roots/Riq, Dumb Rock 'n Roll	TAWNY, THE BRAVE Pop/Rock	THE HOW DO YOU DO REVUE	WE BUILD HITS Hip-Hop	THE C.A.R.P. The Completely Asinine Radio Program
8PM	THE TONIC Garage, Punk, Surf, and R&R	Best of Bluesday	S.A.N.E. * RADIO Local Experimental Music	Adult Kindergarten	CHECK CA Funky		SOUNDS LIKE MUSIC
9PM	DESTINATION MOON Sock-Hop-A-Go-Go	Indigenous in Music	Radio Art Hour	Dub City Steppers	QUADRAFUNK Electric Dance Party	RED BOX Hip-Hop	THE GASHLYCRUMB TINIES
10PM	YEARSHOT DAILY	YEARSHOT DAILY	YEARSHOT DAILY	PHASE ONE Electronic	StreetKilliaz Generation (Local Hip Hop)	DANCE HALL FEVER Dancehall and Reggae	ISLAND VIBES Caribbean
11PM	BREAK NORTH RADIO	MONKEY SPARROW	Two Princes				
MIDNIGHT		LISTENING PLEASURES					
1AM	METAL MONDAY	NIGHT DANGER RADIO	WINNIPEG ARENA IS ON FIRE	THE WONDERFUL & FRIGHTENING WORLD OF PATRICK MICHALISHYN	MANITOBA MOON	Your Show Here	Rainbow Country
2AM							
3AM	MODERN JAZZ TODAY	The Motherland Influence	The Meta World STOOPALOOP SHOW				REVOLUTION ROCK
4AM							
5AM	AMPLIFIED RADIO	BACKBEAT	Hurlements Sur La Toundra				GIRLIE SO GROOVIE
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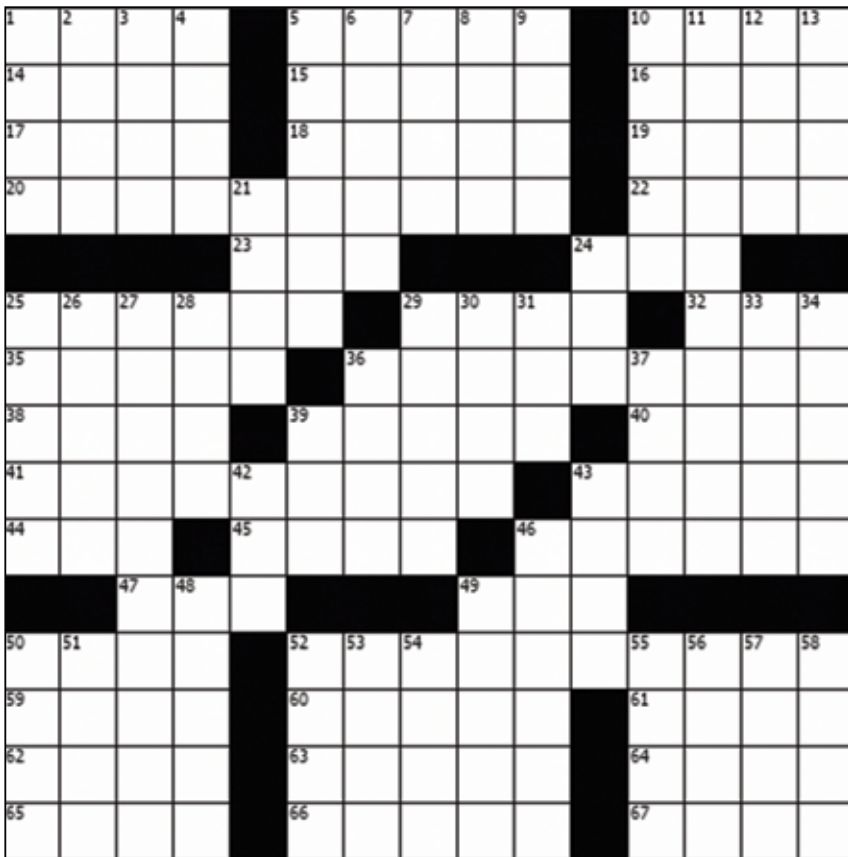
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New shows are marked with a star - ★

Live shows are marked with a lightning bolt - ⚡



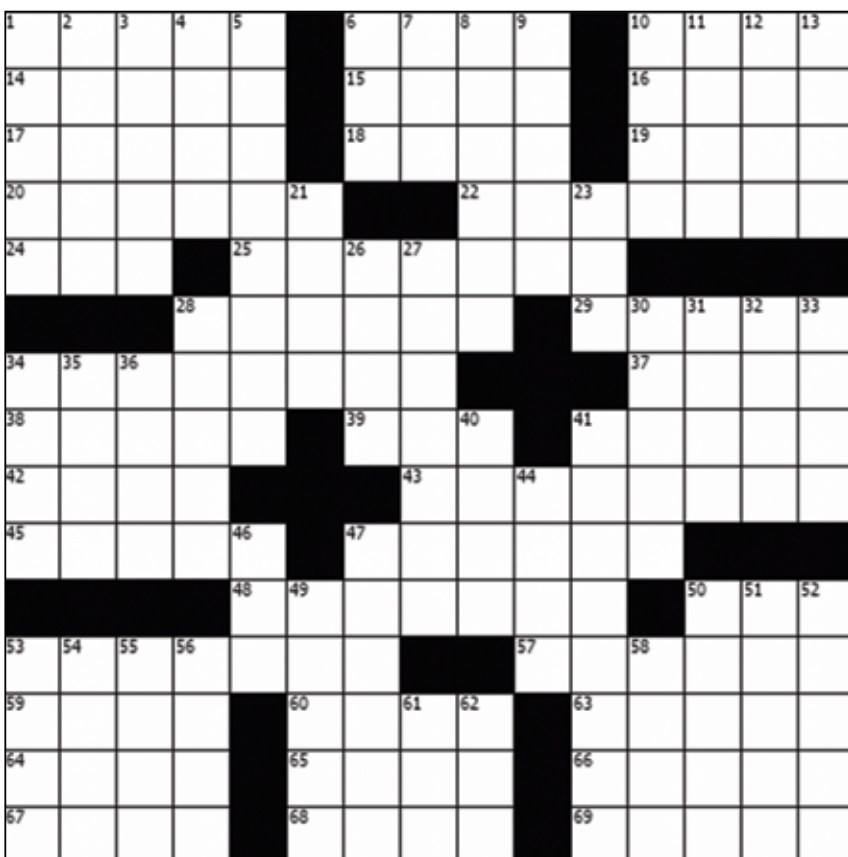
ONLINECROSSWORDS.NET

ACROSS

- 1. COOKING VESSELS
5. BESTOW
10. GUZZLE
14. WICKED
15. HIGHWAY SIGN
16. LIGHTEN
17. DIVORCE CITY
18. OYSTER GEM
19. CUSTOMER
20. NOT CONDENSED
22. FLOWER PART
23. TAX ORG.
24. COMPASS READING (ABBR.)
25. MORALLY PURE
29. ALL-MALE PARTY
32. LIGHT TOUCH
35. THEREFORE
36. RECTORY
38. ATOP
39. FARM TOWERS
40. HONEST
41. BEGAN
43. FIX
44. STOOL PIGEON
45. COMEDIAN SANDLER
46. CAUTIONS
47. FEMALE FOWL
49. FDR'S SUCCESSOR
50. EVE'S GARDEN
52. CHANGE A ROOM'S DESIGN
59. PASSPORT ENDORSEMENT
60. ALERT
61. YACHTING
62. MUSICIAN ____ CLAPTON
63. HONEYDEW, E.G.
64. FINE SAND
65. ROBIN'S ABODE
66. FABRIC PATTERN
67. COMPANIONS

DOWN

- 1. LIMA'S COUNTRY
2. BAKING PLACE
3. SINGER ____ TURNER
4. MESSY PERSON
5. "THE ____ STRIKES BACK"
6. REQUIREMENTS
7. PULL BEHIND
8. FOLKLORE MONSTER
9. JOIN METAL
10. AUTHOR DR. ____
11. RECYCLABLE ITEM (2 WDS.)
12. ENLIGHTENED ONE'S WORDS (2 WDS.)
13. MICROBE
21. RELIGIOUS CEREMONY
24. SELF-ESTEEM
25. CHURCH SINGERS
26. HAIR COLORING
27. OPPOSITE
28. KILT WEARER
29. CAPITAL OF OREGON
30. TRAMPLED
31. MULE'S KIN
33. FBI EMPLOYEE
34. LOOKS AFTER
36. MIDEAST BREAD
37. ALASKAN CITY
39. DEJECTED
42. ACTOR ____ MCKELLEN
43. PALO ____
46. CLIMB
48. LEGISLATE
49. LONG-LEGGED BIRD
50. FLAT
51. DESPERATE
52. HIGHWAY ENTRANCE
53. WIDE-MOUTHED PITCHER
54. SURREALISM'S SALVADOR ____
55. FILE
56. INDIA'S LOCALE
57. TATTLE
58. DEVOURS



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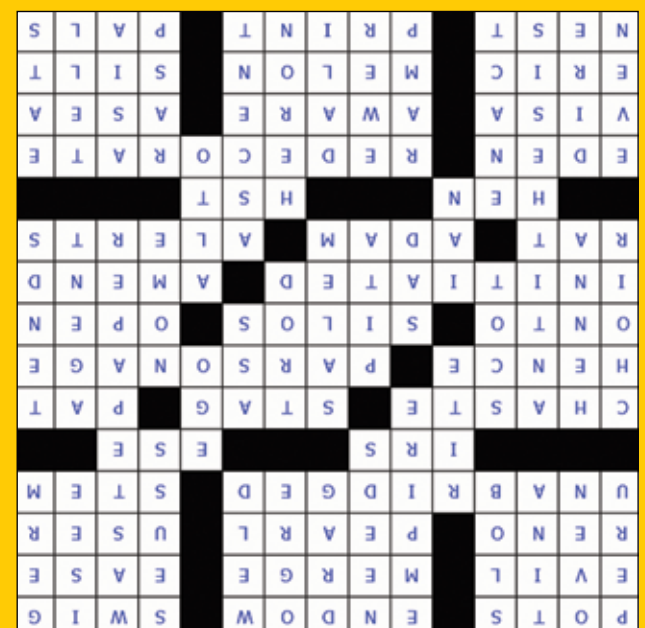
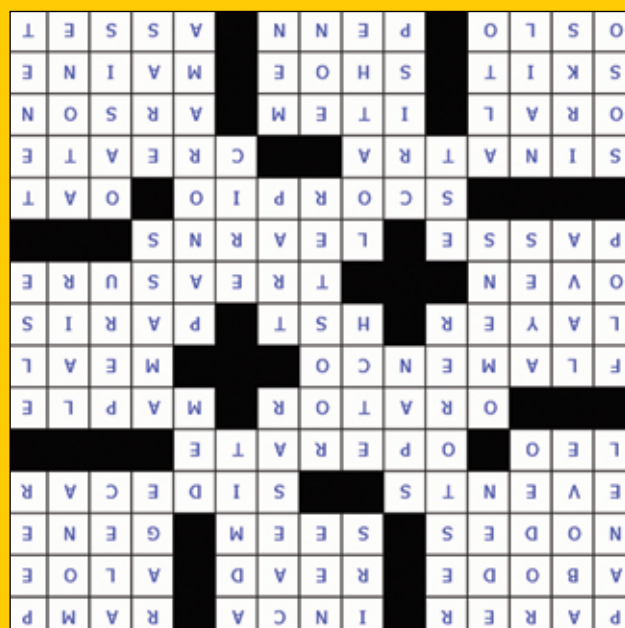
ACROSS

- 1. PEELER
6. PERUVIAN NATIVE
10. SLOPING WALKWAY
14. RESIDENCE
15. ENJOY A BOOK
16. LILY SPECIES
17. LYMPH ____
18. LOOK
19. KELLY OR AUTRY
20. INCIDENTS
22. MOTORCYCLE ADJUNCT
24. ZODIAC SIGN
25. PERFORM SURGERY
28. SPEECH-MAKER
29. SYRUP TREE
34. SPANISH DANCE STYLE
37. BREAKFAST OR DINNER
38. TIER
39. TRUMAN'S MONOGRAM
41. EIFFEL TOWER LOCALE
42. BAKING CHAMBER
43. PRIZE
45. OLD-FASHIONED
47. MEMORIZES
48. ZODIAC SIGN
50. CEREAL GRASS
53. SINGER FRANK ____
57. INVENT
59. ____ HYGIENE
60. ARTICLE
63. CRIMINAL BURNING
64. BRIEF PLAY
65. PUMP, E.G.
66. DOWN EAST
67. NORWAY'S CAPITAL
68. WILLIAM OR SEAN
69. ITEM OF VALUE

DOWN

- 1. DISCUSSION GROUP
2. OVER
3. COWBOYS' CONTEST
4. EVE'S HOME
5. RENOVATOR
6. TAX ORG.
7. MAIDEN NAME INDICATOR
8. ROMAN GENERAL
9. CONCEDE
10. FRENZY
11. ACTOR ____ GUINNESS
12. "____ LISA"
13. EQUAL
21. BRIDGE
23. JFK'S PARTY
26. ENGRAVE WITH ACID
27. MALE CHICKEN
28. PROPHETIC SIGNS
30. ACCUMULATE
31. BOLIVIA'S NEIGHBOR
32. DRAGON'S HOME
33. OTHER THAN
34. BROADWAY BOMB
35. HOT, MOLTEN ROCK
36. YES VOTES
40. SNARE
41. SCENIC VIEW
44. MUSICIAN ____ CLAPTON
46. NH TIME ZONE
47. DESPISE
49. CRUNCHY
50. DESERT HAVEN
51. REPENT
52. DOGMA
53. AVERAGE (HYPH.)
54. BOTHERS
55. BRAD
56. FEMALE VOICE
58. IMPORTANT TIMES
61. LONG PERIOD
62. CHAPS

CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS (FLIP TO VIEW)



A large, bold, yellow letter 'U' is centered within a white square. The background of the entire image is a vibrant yellow with abstract, overlapping patterns of dots and lines in a slightly darker shade of yellow.

**We hope
you enjoy
the summer
festival
season!**

uniter.ca