

THE

UNITER

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THE ELECTION ISSUE



DEAR FUTURE MAYOR...

Your letters to
Winnipeg's next leader

JACOB THIESSEN'S VOTER GUIDE

The Will to Power

Low

Rebecca Sawdon

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Is *The Skeleton Twins* still playing? I wanna see that, too.

-NJF

* ON THE COVER

Winnipeg's future mayor, as drawn by Nicholas Luchak. Check out how FM lives in this week's edition of Whose House (page 12).

ONLINE EXCLUSIVES

IN THIS WEEK'S VIDEO, COMEDIAN AARON PRIDHAM ASKS UWPG STUDENTS WHAT THEY THINK OF JUDY WASYLICIA-LEIS OFFERING TO CHANGE HER NAME, GORD STEEVES PENNING GREETING CARDS, FICTIONAL MAYORAL CANDIDATE AARON PRIDHAM'S BIKE HELMET POLICIES AND OTHER UNTRUE THINGS.

YOU CAN ALSO CHECK OUT SOME ELECTION-THEMED OPINION PIECES FROM CHRISTIAN CASSIDY, LAURA REMPEL AND THE UW POLITICAL SCIENCE STUDENTS SOCIETY.



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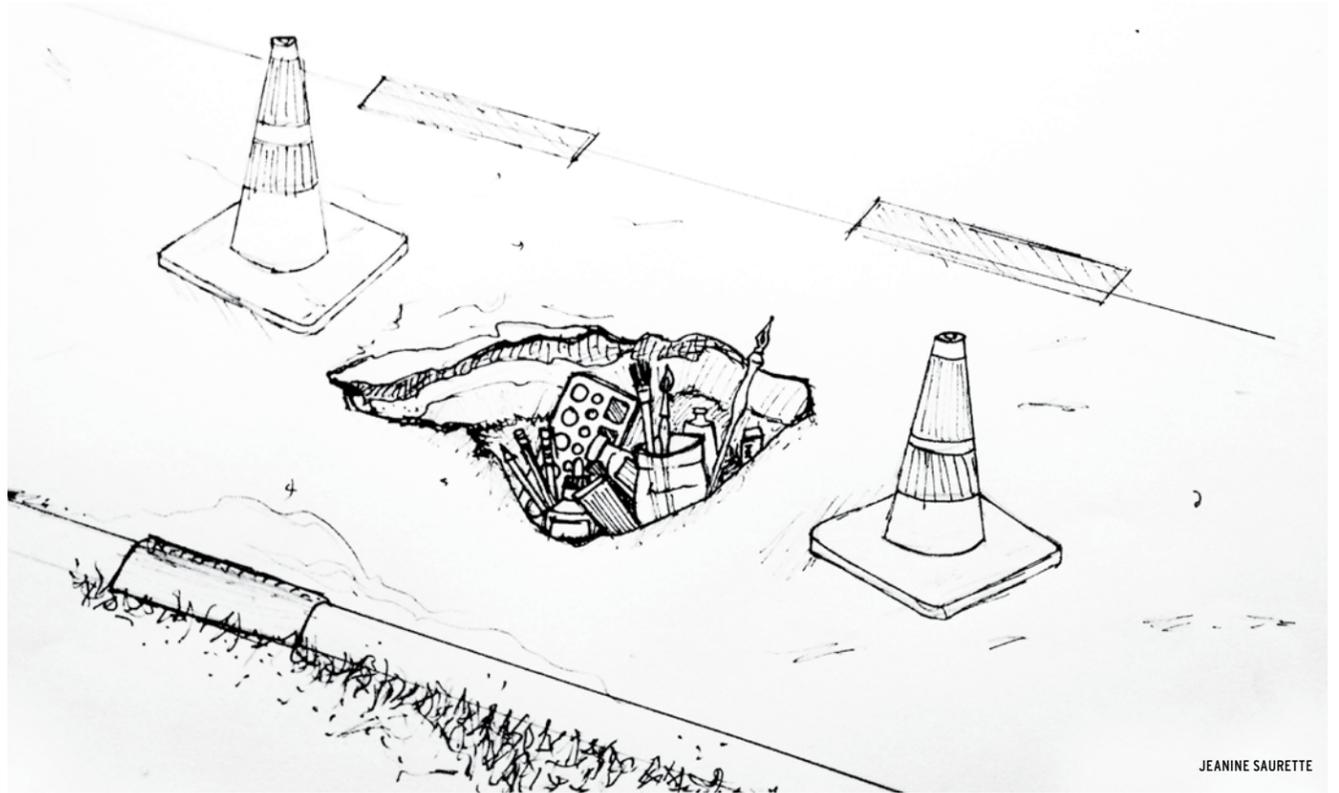
AUSTERE ARTISTRY

With billions shovelled into infrastructure, funding creativity at a municipal level won't be simple

JAMES WILT

@UNITER_CULTURE

ARTS AND CULTURE EDITOR



JEANINE SAURETTE

It's a remarkable thing to witness a mayoral forum on arts funding devolve into musings about potholes.

While slightly hyperbolic, that's essentially what happened at the noontime event hosted at the Winnipeg Art Gallery on Sept. 26. All six candidates asserted an indubitable devotion to the arts. Few could back it up with dollars. Brian Bowman offered up a \$2 bump in per capita funding for the Winnipeg Arts Council, raising it to a max of \$7 (even then, it'd be \$28 per capita less than the national average). The rest balked at specifics. But it makes sense. Infrastructure's the priority.

"There's lot of talk about supporting the arts but very little action on it," notes Lynne Fernandez of the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, commenting on the forum. "They think it's something the average per-

son doesn't care about and they don't truly understand the value that arts can contribute. It's not even just in terms of making the city a more agreeable and inspiring place to live in, but also the economic benefits that the arts can generate."

It's the fiscal argument that many proponents of increased arts funding are tending towards. The logic's straightforward: Winnipeg has historically been regarded as an arts-adoring municipality. Homeowners - who contribute a majority of the city's revenue via property tax - might relocate with their money to other places if the city's not vibrant. Take our friendly province to the east as an example: in mid-September, the Ontario Music Fund received a \$15 million investment.

"Those kinds of things freak us out because it just raises the level of competitive-

ness," explains Sara Stasiuk, the director of Manitoba Music. "They've got the proximity, they're in the centre of industry and now they've got a whole bunch of money. Multiples of anything we'd ever see here. It's part of remaining competitive within the country. We have our geographic challenges. We need to be supporting our entrepreneurs and musicians to compete around the country and world."

Some consider the problem to be far more systemic in nature. Last December, *FUSE* magazine published a collectively authored statement that noted "austerity and freezes to arts council budgets across most of the country have created an impossible condition for maintaining the status quo in artist-run culture."

It perfectly depicts this city's dilemma. The Winnipeg Arts Council is \$500,000

short due largely to inflation. Museum budgets have been slashed. Roadways win again.

"Arts alliances don't want to be more confrontational and challenge some of the erroneous assumptions about corporate welfare," says Clive Robertson, an art professor at Queen's University and founding editor of *FUSE*. "There's a large amount of money that's pumped into corporations and profit-making entities with the excuse that they'll create jobs and therefore improve the economy, which there's no evidence for and even evidence against the idea.

"The idea of the arts being able to anchor communities is still true, to some extent," he concludes. "But that doesn't help if bookstores are going under, restaurants can't survive and there's not enough economy to support the bars."

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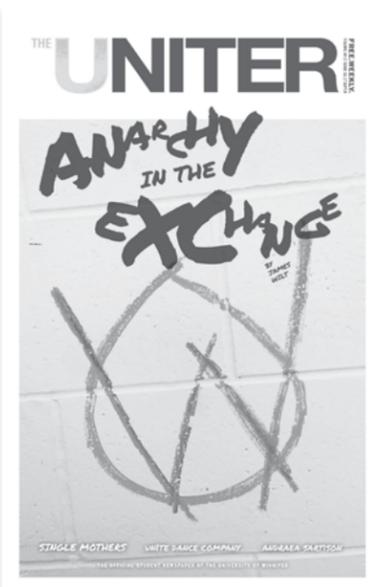
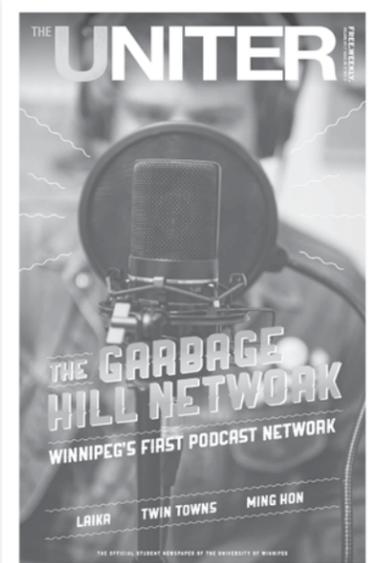
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STILL BREATHING BUT BARELY

I cheated on Winnipeg

WITH LAINA HUGHES

@LAINAHUGHES

It felt a little guilty to bid adieu to summer in a city not my own. But the promise of a fantastic music festival featuring some of my all time favourites was too much to resist. And so, just over a month ago, I said my goodbye to summer in Ottawa.

My main motivation was the Ottawa Folk Festival, but I'll admit I was intrigued by the newness of it all. I'd never been to Ottawa, and it was foreign and exotic. I was keen to sink my teeth into something different.

Was this a minor act of betrayal, or an indication of something deeper? Was I getting sick of Winnipeg, my old flame, my one-and-only, and craving something new? I spend much time singing Winnipeg's praises, and there's well-documented proof of how strongly I feel about its summers. But sometimes you have the urge to try something new. Your city's appeal pales when a new environment is introduced,



MIKE SUDOMA

especially one with a killer shawarma scene and a cheap music festival featuring Neutral Milk Hotel.

When we have wandering eyes, new things seem exciting. So was Ottawa to me. Winnipeg is my steady, but Ottawa is - different. It is clean and accessible, and progressive in ways our city is not. Bike lanes are not scarce. Poutine is plentiful. Downtown is populated and pedestrian-friendly, and there was evidence of money and civic pride.

Like Winnipeg, Ottawa features a body of water that cuts through the city. Unlike Winnipeg, this body rarely floods

and seldom swallows bodies. The cities felt similar, at least geographically. No mountainous terrains, which these prairie legs were ever-thankful for after long days of wandering and consuming many Montreal-style bagels.

But when something is new and exciting, it's easy to ignore the deep-seated issues that each of us has. Ottawa has troubles that would surely reveal themselves the longer I stayed there. In fact, some of the more superficial ones made themselves evident right away.

The more time you spend away, the more you miss your city's foibles. I yearned

for our grit and true character. Winnipeg can roll with the punches and celebrate the good times. Ottawa could perhaps be described as ... stodgy? As my travelling companion - an Ottawa ex-pat herself - lovingly put it, the city has a bit of a stick up its butt.

The Saturday of the Ottawa Folk Festival was overcast and chilly, and it rained lightly. This was enough to scare off crowds when biggish name acts (including a pre-controversy Sun Kil Moon) were playing. I thought of the best times I've had at our own folk fest, rain days themselves. Winnipeggers come prepared and embrace such circumstances. Mud stains are badges of honour for we of hardy stock. Our festivals are grounds for the weird and wonderful, while Ottawa's crowds are tentative, unsure of letting loose.

In Ottawa in September, the leaves had begun to change colour. I wondered what I'd left back home. How my own city was changing. This brief season in Winnipeg when it's so majestic, with sickly elms taking on vibrant hues and the smells of far-off fires filling our nostrils and inciting so many allergies.

I wondered how my own city could change for the better. As our election creeps up, let's think about how we can take the best parts of Ottawa - or any other city - and apply them to our own humble piece of the country. Maintaining our best parts while driving us forward. And let's act on these plans ourselves - voting is an awesome power, but it's not our only power. Let's work on our relationship, Winnipeg. After all, the enemy of all great relationships is stagnation.

Laina Hughes is a writer from Winnipeg. Pick up a copy of her book *Wolseley Stories* at McNally Robinson.

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ENJOY THE DARKNESS

The Will to Power embraces individuality on new 7"

THOMAS PASHKO

@THOMASPASHKO

BEAT REPORTER

It's a freezing cold Sunday afternoon. The members of The Will to Power are in my car. The coffee shop we'd arranged to meet in is too crowded and noisy, so we've relocated to the Safeway parking lot. Despite the overcast skies, and the fact that little light penetrates my foggy windows, lead vocalist and songwriter James Hofer is wearing sunglasses.

That might not seem significant, but it's weirdly emblematic of the place The Will to Power occupies in Winnipeg's music landscape. The synthy darkwave band is unlike anything else in the city right now, free from the influence of local scenes and trends.

"I prefer it that way," says Hofer, 23. "Otherwise I might have felt pressured to write to what others are doing, whereas with this project I feel absolutely no pres-



From left to right: Joel Mijker, Dylan Hunter and James Hofer

sure whatsoever. I can take inspiration from any influence on earth, from any time period."

Hofer, along with guitarist Dylan Hunter, 20, and synth keyboardist Joel Mijker, 22, have branched out from their roots as members of hardcore band Burn Your World to create dark, atmospheric landscapes of electronic sound with a dance-pop sensibility. Their new 7" EP, *Might*, is their third release since forming in January.

"It's almost an atheist or a secularist worship album," Hofer says. "I grew up as a Christian, and a few years ago I made that transition to a more secularist philosophy. Lyrically, the album is about recognizing the ambiguity and absolute indifference of the universe. And just accepting that reality, and loving it."

The group's previous two releases, February's *Twilight State* and July's *Down*, were both home recordings released via cassette and digital download. The band's frequent output, Hofer says,

comes as a result of exploring new genres and sounds.

"When I started The Will to Power, it was the first time I ever wrote a pop song, or an electronic song," Hofer reports. "It's different in every single way. I've learned this stuff by doing it. So every release has been like, 'I can do this better now, so let's hurry up and get something out there that showcases the skills I have now.'"

The group cites classic synthpop acts Depeche Mode and New Order as influences, as well as modern artists Tiers, Weeknight, and Cold Cave. Despite its singular status among Winnipeg bands, the group says the response at its live shows has been overwhelmingly positive.

"I think people welcome the change," Hunter says. "And it's fun because most shows, we don't even know who's going to be there."

Hofer agrees. "If you come up with, for example, a hardcore band in Winnipeg and you're any good, you automatically have like 70 people who will come

to your shows. With this band, we can stand out a bit, but we don't get that automatic following."

In the end, it hasn't been an obstacle to finding fans.

"It's weird to see the difference in crowds between this band and Burn Your World," Hunter says. "People are actually dancing and enjoying themselves instead of beating each other up."



The Will to Power's next gig is at The Good Will (formerly Pop Soda's) on November 13 with Basic Nature.

Find the band at facebook.com/VVilltopower and grab the band's new 7" at Music Trader or downloaded it at thewilltopower.bandcamp.com.

GET LOW

Low's Alan Sparhawk talks collaboration + touring Canada

TONY HINDS

@THETONYHINDS

BEAT REPORTER

Alan Sparhawk, guitarist and lead vocalist of legendary alt-indie act, Low, has mixed feelings about returning to Canada. The Minnesota trio's Oct. 18 show at Winnipeg's West End Cultural Centre marks the beginning of a three-week tour that will take the band across Canada and the United States. However, it's not the canuck audiences that worry him; it's the border crossing.

"I don't know if it's a 9/11 thing," Sparhawk says, "but the last few times we've come back into the U.S. from Canada have been the most tedious, unnecessarily humiliating experiences of our touring history. We get treated better by officials in foreign countries than in our own. I hate to risk it by complaining, but it's true."

Despite border crossing issues, Spar-



hawk is eager to perform north of the 49th parallel.

"U.S. audiences are more self-conscious," Sparhawk says. "Canadians are more honest. If it's a good moment, they express that. Canadian audiences seem to pay more attention. Canadians also react without pretense, whereas Americans are sometimes too busy trying to weed through the irony."

Sparhawk founded the band over 20 years ago with his wife Mimi Parker, the band's drummer. The line-up has gone through changes, with Steve Garrington serving as the bassist since 2010. Low's most recent album, 2013's *The Invisible Way*, was produced by Wilco's Jeff Tweedy at the Wilco Loft in Chicago.

"Jeff was very helpful in getting good takes out of us," he says. "Knowing when to push a little and knowing when we needed to clear the air. We were able to get good sounds right away. Singing is very intimate. Having another experienced singer there while working on vocals was probably the most significant benefit."

Sparhawk is reluctant to cite musical influences, stating that he listens to a lot of "old reggae and new metal." But he does confess finding inspiration in David Lynch's 1977 film, *Eraserhead*. Low also has the distinction of having two songs, *Monkey* and *Silver Rider*, covered by Robert Plant's Band of Joy.

"(Plant) heard our record in a store, bought the last copy they had and kept

it in his car for the next eight months," Sparhawk recalls. "I love the versions he did. I'm still smiling. We've met him a few times since and he's always the most gracious dude ever. He's a life-affirming person."

Sparhawk says that Low is currently writing with the intent to start recording this winter, noting that the "new songs are not pretty." *The Invisible Way* marked a divergent point in Low's career, as the band once described as slowcore was playing what *Spin Magazine* referred to in their review as "country music, or an idea of it."

"My tendency in the past is to counter anything pretty with some dissonance or noise," Sparhawk admits. "Maybe I'm afraid of letting stuff be nice. I'm not sure why. For the last couple records, the songs I loved the most were pretty and intimate."

"I decided to just let them be that."



Catch Low with Zoo Animal on Saturday, Oct. 18 at the West End Cultural Centre.

Doors are at 7:15, show at 8pm.

Tickets are \$20 in advance and available at the WECC, Ticketmaster, Music Trader and The Winnipeg Folk Festival Music Store.

Visit chairkickers.com for more information.



ONE GREAT CITY!

Stuck in the Middle serves as strong reminder to vote intelligently

DEBORAH REMUS

@DEBORAH REMUS

ARTS REPORTER

Stuck in the Middle: Dissenting Views of Winnipeg is a coffee table book exploring the love-hate relationship some people have with our city, written by Bartley Kives, a *Winnipeg Free Press* journalist who wrote his first book, *A Daytripper's Guide to Manitoba*, in 2006. All photos are by Bryan Scott, a local photographer best known for his Winnipeg Love Hate photo blog. There's also a foreword written by Weakerthans front man John K. Samson.

"We started in 2011 and spent a couple years whittling it down from 4,000 images, to a couple hundred and then eventually the roughly 200 that made the final cut," Kives says. "We wanted to create a coffee table book for people who hate coffee table books because they can be stodgy. We didn't want to just compile a bunch of sanitized images because we're not dressing up Winnipeg with a fancy bow and pretending that the city doesn't have any issues."

Aside from photo captions, the book also contains 12 chapters with short essays examining the various issues Winnipeg has faced and continues to deal with. The first chapter sees Kives painting Winnipeg as a city that's stuck in the middle of many different possibilities, which perfectly sets the tone as we gear up for the civic election on Oct. 22.

"I was definitely thinking about Sam Katz's term ending and a new mayor coming in when writing that," he says. "I still think we're on the precipice of a really important decision because we could repeat all the mistakes of the past or we could do something that could actually guide our development in more of a rational way."

"But it's not that easy; things are so screwed up and for reasons that aren't just Sam Katz's fault, these are reasons that have been decades in the making. I'm not overly optimistic or pessimistic, I'm just looking at how difficult things are and being honest."

The fifth chapter sees Kives taking on Winnipeg's "love affair with the car" and how it took the city 36 years of talking to build the first 3.6 kilometres of a rapid transit corridor.

"We're just trying to explore the simultaneous love and revulsion that we have for Winnipeg," he describes. "We love it, but we want it to be better. And the only way the city can be better is if we acknowledge what actually sucks about it."

This book probably won't solve all of Winnipeg's problems, but it does do a good job of acknowledging them.

"People say they recognize the places in the photos, but don't remember seeing them that way," he says. "They think Bryan's work makes them look more beautiful or uglier or grittier than they thought they were and I don't think that's bad because cities aren't beautiful all the time. Winnipeg is a quirky, interesting city with a fascinating history and a lot of potential to be itself. What I would love is for Winnipeg to just be comfortable in its own skin."



***Stuck in the Middle* was released on Nov. 1, 2013 through Great Plains Publications.**

It's available through Chapters, McNally Robinson and Amazon.

Visit www.stuckinthemiddle.ca for more info.

FILM



GONE GIRL

★★★★☆

In theatres now

I was very entertained by *Gone Girl*. I want to make that totally clear, right off the bat, because I have a lot of thoughts about the film, and a lot of them aren't positive. Do I think people should see this movie? Definitely. But that doesn't change the fact that it's kind of a mess.

Based on the Gillian Flynn bestseller, *Gone Girl* is the story of a man (Ben Affleck) who comes home one morning to find his wife (Rosamund Pike) missing. He reports her absence to the police. Soon, he's the prime suspect in her potential murder. His role in her disappearance is initially ambiguous, and the whole case soon becomes a Scott Peterson-esque media frenzy.

The direction and the script are totally at odds here. David Fincher's visual approach - as always - is dark and austere. The dialogue is snappy and self-aware. This contrast worked in Fincher's *The Social Network*, because that script was smart. But *Gone Girl* is trashy and

kind of dumb (not necessarily a bad thing). As a result, the tone is all over the place. One minute it's *Psycho*, the next it's *Desperate Housewives*. The movie thinks it's doing two things at once, but it's only ever one or the other.

I can't help imagining a bizarre alternate-reality version of *Gone Girl* directed by a Hollywood hack like Chris Columbus. That version might work better, because that's the sort of treatment that this script warrants. When you have Missi Pyle playing a *Saturday Night Live* version of Nancy Grace, rote direction is appropriate.

This is still a great, fun yarn of a murder mystery. I think the filmmakers thought that adding Fincher, the king of murder mysteries (*Se7en*), would elevate the script. But instead of Fincher elevating the material, *Gone Girl* feels like the material is lowering Fincher.

THOMAS PASHKO



ME, MYSELF AND MUM

★★★★☆

Plays October 18 at Centre culturel franco-manitobain as part of Cinemental

Me, Myself and Mum introduces its protagonist and narrator, Guillaume, as a boy who is a girl. What that means, exactly, is deliberately ambiguous. He's flamboyantly effeminate, that much is clear. Is he gay? Transgender? Is this just a surreal narrative gimmick? Even Guillaume isn't sure. It's a fun question, and it works right up until the moment the movie answers it.

Mum is the screenwriting and directorial debut of French actor Guillaume Gallienne, who also stars as both Guillaume and the titular Mum. The film hinges on his performance, and it's a good one. He's both confessional and clownish. His physicality brings to mind silent comedians like Chaplin, but his comedic voice recalls early Woody Allen. His directorial style also reminded me of early Allen, with his breaking of the fourth wall, surreal narrative approach, and his casual goofiness. His Mum persona is less Monty Python than it is Dustin

Hoffman in *Tootsie*. The gender reversal is never a joke, but it's intellectually motivated.

The movie poses a lot of questions about gender, sexuality and self-identity. It's interesting and fun to see these questions asked by a character who doesn't know the answers. *Mum* only becomes problematic when Gallienne *does* answer these questions, I would have been more satisfied if the film had left them ambiguous and unanswered. Instead, it arrives at a place that isn't hinted at or justified by anything that precedes it. It's tough to talk about without spoilers. Let's just say that *Mum* goes from being a very insightful LGBTQ film to ... not that. Maybe it's a *Sixth Sense* situation, where a second viewing would show me the answer was right under my nose the whole time. But on first viewing, *Me, Myself and Mum* remains a funny and touching comedy with a problematic ending.

THOMAS PASHKO

DANCE DANCE EVOLUTION

Two years of Rebecca Sawdon's life are about to hit the stage

TONY HINDS

 @THETONYHINDS

BEAT REPORTER

The theme of evolution lies at the center of *Surfacing*, a collection of new solo dance works by Rebecca Sawdon. The show, which debuts on Oct. 23 at the Rachel Browne Theater, features the choreography work of Victoria's Constance Cooke, Calgary's Davida Monk, and Winnipeg's Odette Heyn and Brent Lott.

Even for an accomplished performer like Sawdon, a graduate of the School of Contemporary Dancers' Senior Professional Program, the most daunting aspect of producing a solo dance work could be the solo part.

"Self-producing is a little bit crazy," Sawdon mentions. "But I'm kind of writing my own rulebook. All the pieces are very different from one another, so the show will have something to offer everyone. If I could just show up and dance, that would be easier," she says, laughing.

During the two years required to bring her vision to the stage, Sawdon says there



CHRISTOPHER SANTOS

were times when she felt pushed outside of her creative comfort zone.

"In the past, I was more at ease in ensemble work but this really forces me front and centre," she says. "I think it maybe breaks an expectation of what people have seen of me. It made me a little uncomfortable but I figured, that's why I should do it."

The show consists of four individual pieces. The first, *Bridled*, premiered in May at the Carol Shields Festival of New Works. The pieces which follow - *Fabulous Beast*, *Benched* and *Surfacing* - make their world premieres at the show. Sawdon has received an outpouring of assis-

tance and support from the local community along the way.

"I held a fundraiser in March that was a big success," Sawdon says, beaming. "That was emotional because I stood back and looked at three bands setting up and 200 guests. They're all there, supporting you and your dreams. That's something that I'm always taken aback by. Sometimes I don't know how to react. I'm so thankful, but words just don't do it justice."

Surfacing is funded by grants from the Manitoba Arts Council and Winnipeg Arts Council. For many professional artists, grant funding is the only way to

obtain financial support, although it can be difficult to acquire. Sawdon is quick to offer advice to other struggling artists seeking to land their own grants.

"The number one thing is to just keep applying," Sawdon stresses. "If you don't get your grant, call and talk to the grant officers. Get feedback. It can be hard not to take personally because you're trying to sell yourself. You may be shut down numerous times, but if you don't apply, you don't have any chance."

Despite the involvement of four established choreographers, Sawdon emphasizes that *Surfacing's* themes come from a deeply personal place.

"To prepare with Cooke, I had to bring in photos from different stages of my life," Sawdon says. "She asked me to improvise. Although the movements used in the show are different from what I initially did, that journey, that evolution, is very important to me. Even the title, *Surfacing*, suggests that. It's a coming to the surface; evolving or blooming into something new.

"Maybe that's where I'm at."



Sawdon Dance presents: *Surfacing* on Oct. 23rd, 24th, 25th & 26th at the The Rachel Browne Theatre (211 Bannatyne Ave.).

Shows are 8pm nightly, except for Sunday @ 3pm.

Tickets are \$20 (\$15 Student/Artist) and are available at the University of Winnipeg Duckworth Centre's Customer Service Desk (400 Spence St.), Into The Music (245 McDermot Ave.).

BIG ISSUES IN SMALL THINGS

Legendary playwright Daniel Maclvor tackles class divides and interpersonal conflicts

JAMES DOROSHUK

 @HORCEFORCE

VOLUNTEER STAFF

Daniel Maclvor, renowned playwright and actor, is bringing his talents back to Winnipeg with his latest play *Small Things*, which sees its world premiere at the Prairie Theatre Exchange (PTE) on October 16.

Bob Metcalfe, artistic director at PTE, notes that Maclvor has an acute sense for delving into the human psyche. "Daniel Maclvor is an outstanding and award-winning playwright who has a keen eye for the nature of relationships," he says. "In this show, he takes a look at how the differences [between people] are not as large as we sometimes think."



SUPPLIED

Small Things examines the dichotomy between castes, with an elderly socialite taking an interest in the family of her poorer housekeeper. The play's a commentary on the class structure that is often a barrier between people of different backgrounds in modern society.

In the play, the character of Patricia (Barbara Gordon) is an aging woman of grace and wealth who hires an underprivileged woman named Birdy (Ellen

Peterson) to be her housekeeper. Their uneasy relationship is further complicated when Patricia becomes absorbed with Dell (Alissa Watson), who is Birdy's daughter; Dell is uncertain about her life, and such vacillation is compounded by the fact that her young son may be transgender.

"It's a story about these women who are kind of finding their place after a lot of changes have happened to them," says

Watson, a Winnipeg-based performer. "My character is a bit lost and a bit stuck and she doesn't know how to move forward in life."

It's a situation that echoes Watson's personal life as well: she always loved music and theatre, but struggled with how to incorporate those feelings into a career path. Eventually, she graduated from Brandon University with a major in education with a minor in theatre. But it was only after teaching primary school for a few years that she understood her heart was elsewhere.

"I realized I wanted to pursue acting full-time, so I continued studying at PTE and took some workshops in England before I took the plunge into acting as a career," Watson says. "Teaching just wasn't enough for me, and I realized that acting was what I wanted to do. I was already familiar with the PTE family, and Bob recognized that I may be a good fit for this character, so I was kind of lucky in that regard."



Small Things premieres Oct. 16 at PTE, 3rd floor Portage Place.

Tickets are \$29-49.

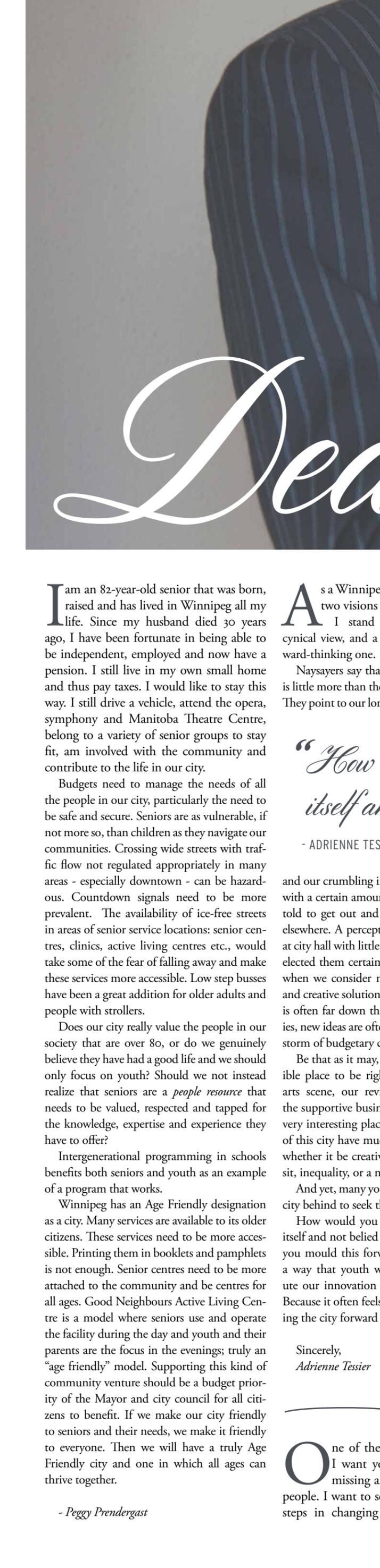
Visit pte.mb.ca for more complete ticket and show information.

Special Feature



Dear Future Mayor

We asked various Winnipeg residents to write letters to the future mayor. Whichever candidate is elected on October 22, we hope they take these ideas (along with tweets, rants and hopes) to heart.



Dear Future

I am an 82-year-old senior that was born, raised and has lived in Winnipeg all my life. Since my husband died 30 years ago, I have been fortunate in being able to be independent, employed and now have a pension. I still live in my own small home and thus pay taxes. I would like to stay this way. I still drive a vehicle, attend the opera, symphony and Manitoba Theatre Centre, belong to a variety of senior groups to stay fit, am involved with the community and contribute to the life in our city.

Budgets need to manage the needs of all the people in our city, particularly the need to be safe and secure. Seniors are as vulnerable, if not more so, than children as they navigate our communities. Crossing wide streets with traffic flow not regulated appropriately in many areas - especially downtown - can be hazardous. Countdown signals need to be more prevalent. The availability of ice-free streets in areas of senior service locations: senior centres, clinics, active living centres etc., would take some of the fear of falling away and make these services more accessible. Low step busses have been a great addition for older adults and people with strollers.

Does our city really value the people in our society that are over 80, or do we genuinely believe they have had a good life and we should only focus on youth? Should we not instead realize that seniors are a *people resource* that needs to be valued, respected and tapped for the knowledge, expertise and experience they have to offer?

Intergenerational programming in schools benefits both seniors and youth as an example of a program that works.

Winnipeg has an Age Friendly designation as a city. Many services are available to its older citizens. These services need to be more accessible. Printing them in booklets and pamphlets is not enough. Senior centres need to be more attached to the community and be centres for all ages. Good Neighbours Active Living Centre is a model where seniors use and operate the facility during the day and youth and their parents are the focus in the evenings; truly an "age friendly" model. Supporting this kind of community venture should be a budget priority of the Mayor and city council for all citizens to benefit. If we make our city friendly to seniors and their needs, we make it friendly to everyone. Then we will have a truly Age Friendly city and one in which all ages can thrive together.

- Peggy Prendergast

As a Winnipeg youth, I stand between two visions of our city.

I stand between a pessimistic, cynical view, and a far more optimistic, forward-thinking one.

Naysayers say that our little prairie outpost is little more than the railroad stop it once was. They point to our long winters, our crime rates,

and our crumbling infrastructure. As someone with a certain amount of ambition, I was long told to get out and make a name for myself elsewhere. A perception of an "old boys club" at city hall with little regard for those of us who elected them certainly doesn't help. Especially when we consider mass transit, sustainability and creative solutions to civic issues, Winnipeg is often far down the list. Unlike in other cities, new ideas are often met with a conservative storm of budgetary concerns.

Be that as it may, the 'Peg is also an incredible place to be right now. Our noteworthy arts scene, our revitalizing downtown, and the supportive business community make it a very interesting place to call *home*. The youth of this city have much to offer to this rebirth, whether it be creative solutions to mass transit, inequality, or a myriad of other issues.

And yet, many young people are leaving this city behind to seek their fortunes elsewhere.

How would you build a city confident in itself and not belied by cynicism? How would you mould this forward momentum in such a way that youth want to stay and contribute our innovation to the local community? Because it often feels like we are the ones pulling the city forward as it grinds in its heels.

Sincerely,
Adrienne Tessier

One of the most important things I want you to address is that of missing and murdered Aboriginal people. I want to see the mayor take actual steps in changing this situation through

acknowledgement *and* action. Then any steps taken must be aimed at the core issues and implemented for long-term so we may see real change over time.

Aboriginal communities must be shown respect. Our Winnipeg services have failed those communities and our city as a whole time and time again. Who holds services like

"How would you build a city confident in itself and not belied by cynicism?"

- ADRIENNE TESSIER

Child and Family Services or the Winnipeg Police Service accountable? These services were implemented to help our communities, but in some cases, have become part of the problem.

Mr. or Ms. Mayor, I want you to answer this question: is it the policies or the people enforcing them that need change?

Let's also talk arts program funding. I can't stress enough the importance of funding the arts. Winnipeg prides itself in producing amazing artists in music, film, dance, theatre, etc. Why? Because it gives us a sense of self-empowerment and pride in our city. And when we have pride in our city we want to do better.

Future mayor, improving our city should mean taking care of those in our multicultural community. The arts offer our communities and our youth a way out of despair. The arts are not merely just something beautiful to look at or to hear, they change something within us. We look at a piece of art, we see something that we recognize and it has the power to heal.

Art has the power to focus troubled youth on something positive. Future mayor, please support the arts through community programs to help our youth, especially those at risk.

- Alexandra Garrido,
artist, dancer and choreographer

Here is my dream city:
I have a dream that the mayor, council, and City of Winnipeg staff will be honest and comply with our laws, and to propose to the province amendments to the Conflict of Interest Act adding a range of penal-

ties for violations. I hope any individual working for the City that makes over \$50,000 should have a mandatory drug test every two years.

I have a dream that the Council will remove the Executive Policy Committee because it gives the mayor additional votes at council meetings.

I have a dream that our city becomes more sustainable. I hope the City of Winnipeg will develop Light Rail Transit using the rail lines all through the City that we already have. This will save us hundreds of millions of dollars. I hope to have free parking for electric cars and bicycle lanes on residential streets and dog parks in new developments.

I have a dream today!

I have a dream that the City will give tax credits on renewable resources like geothermal, solar, grey water recycling.

This is my hope that the City will freeze the water bill rates because we are paying too much.

I dream that the mayor will care about the young people in our city. I dream of 24-hour youth facilities for every ward in the City, so youth have a safe place to go.

Additionally, after graduation I hope the City will pay all student loans if you live and work in Winnipeg for 10 years.

October 22nd, this will be the day when dreams come true.

Sincerely,
Joe Chan

My name is William Bell and I'm on Employment Income Assistance.

I've been through terrible experiences in my younger years. The terrible experience of misconstrued to being an unlawfully acting person. I seem to be carrying with me these thoughts through my life.

I feel that \$890 is a very small amount of money to be able to live off of due to the fact I have rent and bills that need to be paid henceforth each and every month which makes it very difficult to supply clothes and shoes and food every single time. I'm trying to make a difference in my life even though I'm a little bit of an old man, age-wise.

In turn, I believe more money should be given to us people who are disabled and stuck this way the rest our lives.

Thank you, greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,
W.B.



Mayor,

My name is Kerry Weyman and I am a citizen of Winnipeg. I am writing in regards to a few matters that I am concerned about including affordable housing and transit fares.

As someone on social assistance who lives below the poverty line, finding reasonably priced and clean accommodations for my daughter and I has been a struggle. Currently, we live in a one-bedroom apartment in St. Boniface and pay \$600 a month. It is in the process of being sprayed for bedbugs for the fourth time. This is extremely costly as my daughter and I have literally thrown out bags and bags of our clothing, not to mention my daughter's bed. She currently is sleeping on the floor. We have been told by welfare that we do not qualify for new beds until 2016.

I have tried to secure a two bedroom but have either found they needed a guarantor letter or they considered me 'riff-raff' because I was on welfare. If there was more affordable housing, my daughter and I wouldn't be subjected to this humiliation. In addition to that, getting to and from places can be very costly.

My mode of transport is the bus. Unfortunately, because I am low-income, a monthly bus pass is way out of my budget. This is very costly for people in my situation. I would like to see a reduced fare from the City of Winnipeg or free bus passes for citizens on a limited income; especially those on social assistance who live below the poverty line.

I really hope you are able to address some of these matters, not just for me, but for the citizens of Winnipeg who need help. Thank you for taking the time to read my concerns and I look forward to seeing progress being made in these areas.

Signed,
Kerry Weyman

I don't know who you are yet, but I'm sure excited for your arrival!

You could be a woman, a man, or whoever Sam Katz' jowls would be if they fell off and became their own person! I don't care, as long as you have starry eyes of wonder like Glen Murray and a heart bursting with hope like Susan Thompson!

I had a dream about you last night. You came in and without a glimmer of doubt you gave Winnipeg everything it needed to truly be "One Great City!"

Shining like a God, you stood and with one hand you built homes for all the people left out in the cold due to lack of jobs and shelters. With the other you bought Red Bull for all the overworked doctors and nurses so they could care for your people!

With one foot you stomped out the potholes and at the same time created two more bike lanes, making every cyclist breathe a sigh of relief. When the other foot fell to the ground every teachers pockets were filled with nearly enough money to pay the rent in their bachelor apartments.

You knelt down to help a little lady cross the street to her overcrowded nursing home, and when you're knee reached the ground it hit the earth with the force of lightning, finishing all the construction in the city, even the jobs people were actually working on.

With a wave of your mighty hand you turned the St. Boniface bridge into gold coins we could use to unburden young mothers without child care, and in the same breath turned the Human Rights Museum into a Salisbury house. A REAL tourist attraction.

As you rose again the entire city stood hand and hand to look upon you and shudder at your greatness. You looked down at us, and spoke, eyebrows raised, hands on hips and you said "you guys wanna get a nip?"

Those words shook me awake. Wow! I can't wait to actually see you. You, our everything. Our MAYOR!!!

- *Chantel Marostica*

Poverty is an issue that affects all of us. We are looking for leadership on social assistance issues and want you to do the right thing as our municipal leader.

This is an area that we have been fighting to increase for more than two decades. It is good for business when people get living wage jobs and are more active in our city.

More money in their pockets is what they need. More than 50 per cent of our clients rely on welfare and need to use our services because once their rent is paid, there is a limited amount of funds left to buy food.

Let's change this by getting the City of Winnipeg back into the housing business and bringing back the Winnipeg Housing and Homeless Initiative where affordable housing was on the table.

Let's reinstitute a Poverty Action Commit-

tee of city council with top city representatives and community members who will look at major city proposals through the lens of a low-income person.

Let's look at recreation - an aspect that is usually overlooked for people in poverty. Healthy body leads to healthy mind which in turn leads to healthier communities.

The challenge for accessible public transit for all incomes in all weather should be an issue for our municipal leader.

Helping people step up and out of poverty is what Winnipeg Harvest does every day and has done for almost 30 years. Help us get to 2020 by reducing the need for food bank use by half.

Together we can make change for all citizens.

Sincerely,
David Northcott

Don't forget your roads and bridges
Don't forget your cycling lanes
Don't forget your snow and garbage
And your transit lines

Don't forget your sister cities
And your bedroom towns
Don't forget your provincial parent
Or your federal touch

Don't forget your grants and taxes
Don't forget your fees
And your levies and fines and tickets

Don't forget your libraries
Or your community centres
Don't forget your pools and fields and golf courses and pitches and rinks

Don't forget your parks
Don't forget your zoo
Don't forget your museums
And your statues and cenotaphs and especially not your history

Don't forget your rivers
Don't forget your tall grass
Don't forget your habitat
And your deer and geese and owls

Don't forget your police
Don't forget your firefighters
Don't forget your EMTs

Don't forget your unions
And your educators and social workers and healthcare experts

Don't forget your sports fans
Don't forget your cultured
Don't forget your tourists
Or your entrepreneurs

Don't forget your students
Don't forget your old people
Don't forget your indigenous folk
Or your people from afar
Don't forget your poor
And don't forget your homeless
Or your down-and-outs and up-and-comings

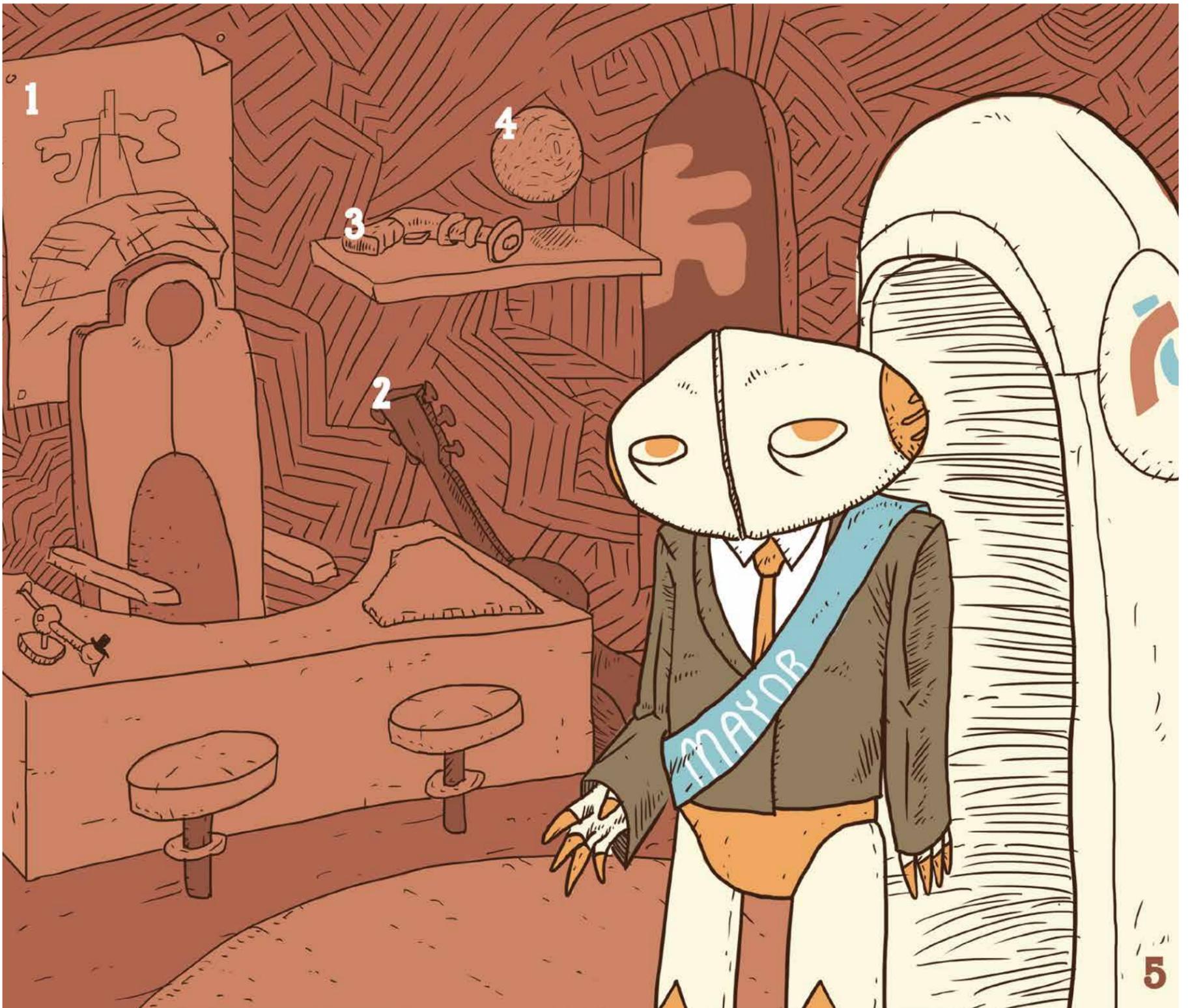
Don't forget the inner city
And don't forget the north end
Don't forget the suburbs
Or the in-betweens

And while you're at it
Don't forget your integrity
Don't forget your vision
Keep your values and ideals and respect.

Or you can just
Remember that we are the citizens
And this is our city
And you are our mayor.

Serve us well.
Sheila Page





NICHOLAS LUCHAK

WHOSE

HOUSE?

FUTUREMAYOR'S HOUSE.

NICHOLAS FRIESEN

 @NICHOLASTRONAUT

MANAGING EDITOR

Several hundred years from now and several hundred feet below Portage and Main, Futuremayor sits in the dilapidated laser-pyramid known as City Hall. The mayor's job has changed plenty over the years. Since humans no longer exist, Futuremayor (who was engineered to rule with an iron claw) watches over the vast wasteland that is Winnipeg through a periscope found at the Brady Road landfill.

"I remember a time when the humans roamed the city, but that was when we were still part of Canada," Futuremayor says with a laugh. "It's much easier to look after the squirrels and the rabbits. Who thought they'd outlast people, giraffes and the Internet?"

With voting having been replaced in 2146 (mayors have since been chosen by guessing how many loonies are in a jar, and then having to use the jar as the budget for

their term), Futuremayor longs for a simpler time.

"Campaigning would have been interesting," they say. "The fact that I've never been able to kiss a baby, shake a hand or participate in a forum or debate makes me feel feelings which I cannot describe. Literally. I don't feel feelings."

1) HUMAN RIGHTS MUSEUM POSTER

"It's just a silly little piece of nostalgia. Of course, the Human Rights Museum was turned into an Apple Store soon after the human race was extinguished, but sometimes it's nice to reflect on the past. I always found it humorous that the humans would model this building after a coiled snake of their own feces."

2) GUITAR

"I have no idea what this is or how it got here."

3) LAZER GUN

"It's the future, so we definitely have these."

4) THE ALL SEEING ORB OF THE ALBERT

"This relic was found under the Royal Albert before it became the Tijuana Yacht Club Youth Centre. I don't know how the city was run without this thing. It can literally tell you the outcome of any situation, though somehow we're still unable to figure out how to correctly implement Winnipeg's new Rapid-Teleport System."

5) RAPIT-TELEPORT SYSTEM

"Rapid Bus Transit worked great and was in place for years, but Winniepeggers want this Rapid Teleport System to get finished, and they want it yesterday. Despite our best people being on it, it still only transports half of your molecules and sometimes turns your hair green. I don't know how it works. My knowledge is limited - I'm just a politician, and no, I've never seen *Star Trek*. but I'm told I'm a Spock."



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

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



FASHIONING SUCCESS

Local designer Shelley Ediger is helping make winter more tolerable - or at least more fashionable



MAZEN ZEIDAN

ALANA TRACHENKO

VOLUNTEER STAFF

It's hard to ignore the recent attention being paid to menswear, particularly here in Winnipeg where clothes already have a tendency to be more rugged and durable due to our famous winters. Shelley Ediger is in the right place at the right time with her fashion menswear line, Dediger, which focuses on outerwear and accessories.

After graduating from Vancouver's Blanch Macdonald Centre in 2010, Ediger came home to Winnipeg to launch her line. Since the company's start-up in 2011, it placed as a semi-finalist in the Mercedes-Benz StartUp, a program created to

"discover and support emerging Canadian fashion designers."

"I have loved clothes since I was two," says Ediger, 27, displaying a conviction that makes it clear why she is part of the very small group of graduates in her class that went on to be fashion designers. "There's been no question about what I was going to do with my life, ever."

Ediger says Winnipeg is the perfect place for her to develop her line, citing the city's frigid temperatures as a prime reason; apparently the weather inspires more than muttered swear words, a resounding sentiment among the Winnipeg arts scene. Ediger also draws on the city's history for direction in her designs.

"This past collection that I did, which is on the website right now, is inspired by me driving around Winnipeg," she says.

"I always drive down Valour, and I knew the story from when I was little. I'm always touched by history, and so I was inspired by that story."

The resulting line is on point with current trends, but nods to the stoicism and boldness of men who were involved in the war, focusing on rugged textures and dropped hemlines.

There's also been considerable support shown by local shops, most notably Normandy, located on Corydon Ave. The shop - which has been open just over a year - features hand-made and local menswear pieces, and has hosted a pop-up shop for Ediger's collection.

"Over the last couple years, the biggest thing is the push for men to shop Canada-made," Ediger says. "That's been huge. It's been really great, having stores like

Normandy open up, which encourages guys to spend money on that one solid piece, and it's going to last you for years."

Developing Dediger has also taught her a variety of tricks to run a successful brand: she mentions time management and self-discipline as keys and establishing a schedule and sticking to it as a necessity.

"You have to be at the studio at this time, and if you're late, it's a big deal, even though no one is checking up on you," she says. "You have to make it matter. If I came to work in sweats and a ponytail, I would work like I was in sweats and a ponytail."

Ediger says the number one thing for guys to remember this season is to accessorize. Go ahead and get that scarf - it'll keep you warm and you'll look great.

Visit facebook.com/dEDIGERmen to stay in the loop on Dediger's upcoming lines.

DRAWING A LINE IN THE SAND

Local artist creates her own take on granular sculptures

DEBORAH REMUS

@DEBORAHREMUS

ARTS REPORTER

Experimenting with sand is how Lesia Anna Bordyniuk started creating her one-of-a-kind colourful sculptures.

"I've been doing artwork for just over 53 years, ever since I was 14, and every so often I'll come up with different concepts," she says, adding that she started off focusing on watercolour and acrylic paintings. Viewing sand mandalas made by Tibetan monks is one thing that inspired her to create her first piece in 2008.

"I'm also very familiar with sand art made by natives in the Southwest [United States] that's just a single layer, almost like a painting," Bordyniuk says. "I was just fooling around and started adding more layers to my pieces to create more of a 3D effect so it's built up more like a sculpture."

Each one is made with Manitoba feldspar beach sand taken from Grindstone Provincial Park, which is part of Lake Winnipeg.



DEBORAH REMUS

"I didn't know exactly what it was until a Japanese scientist who was here for a geological seminar stopped by to check out my work," she says. "She started screaming because apparently it's a very rare feldspar sand since it does not contain quartz or silica."

When finished, she coats her sculpture with a varnish that will apparently preserve it for 200 years, and places it inside a recycled shadowbox frame.

"I use organic watercolours to colour the sand and the preservative I use has very little chemicals or toxicity," Bordyniuk notes. "It's very similar to the varnishes that would have been used during Michelangelo's time."

She says she keeps busy with her sand sculptures almost every day and works out of her studio in the Johnston Terminal at The Forks.

"My imagination makes it easy because I have lots of it and am always coming up with ideas," she says. "I try to do as many as I can every day because they sell so fast. Smaller ones usually take me about six-and-a-half hours while the larger pieces can take four days."

Canadian wildlife is a common theme. One of her polar bear sand sculptures was even gifted to Prince Charles when he was visiting Winnipeg earlier this year.

"The polar bear designs have continued

to be very popular, probably because people associate polar bears with Manitoba and our zoo just opened up that [Journey to Churchill] exhibit," she says.

Legends Bordyniuk has heard from her Métis-Ojibwe husband are another inspiration and *Spirit of Winter* is one piece that brings them to life.

"When people look at this one they usually assume the spirit is the lady, but it's not. The wolf is known as the spirit of winter in that culture," she says.

For the rest of October, she's displaying numerous sand sculptures for people to view through an exhibit she's calling *Organic Art*.

Prices range between \$45 to \$395 if you want to take one home with you.

"Not everyone knows you can make this type of art with sand, but any medium can be used and I hope these might inspire some young artists to create and follow what's inside."



Organic Art takes place from Oct. 1 - 31 at the Lesia Anna Art Studio in the Johnston Terminal at The Forks.

Viewings are from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Saturday to Thursday. Viewings last until 9 p.m. on Fridays.

Search for Lesia Anna on Facebook for more info.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE UNITER ARCHIVES

THE UNITER'S VOTER GUIDE

A last minute read before you hit the ballot box

JACOB THIESSEN

VOLUNTEER STAFF

Due to space restrictions, The Uniter has only included the mayoral candidates and councillor candidates running in the core areas of the city. Check out uniter.ca for more election coverage.

MAYORAL CANDIDATES



BRIAN BOWMAN

Privacy lawyer Brian Bowman has seen solid growth in the home stretch of the mayoral race.

On the major issues of this election, he appears to be both a man of action and a man of the people. Bowman is such a strong supporter of bus rapid transit (BRT), he wants to complete the whole thing at once, and has floated a few strategies to help make it possible. He has also proposed the idea of replacing property taxes in the city with a municipal sales tax, which would ultimately tax everyone who spends money in Winnipeg.

The issue critics raise is that Bowman may not be able to accomplish much of what he promises. He plans to cover the potentially billions of dollars needed for BRT by finding efficiencies at City Hall and in non-emergency City services. He also does not have the power, even with the support of City Council, to change the tax system.

Bowman's platform also includes the popular topics of infrastructure, open government and downtown development, even proposing an off-leash dog park downtown. He did not respond to a request for a statement about his campaign.



MICHEL FILLION

Michel Fillion's scattered, lackluster and often confusing campaign may best be summarized by an example from the only televised mayoral debate on Oct 9. Fillion used all 90 seconds of his opening statement to pledge that as mayor, he would test Winnipeg's wartime emergency siren system to see if it still works. He pledged to create an emergency evacuation plan in case he got a call from Ottawa saying the entire city should be evacuated within two hours.

Fillion said the first priority in his platform is to fix Winnipeg's roads, but has rounded out much of his platform with positions and proposals on obscure issues, including support for capital punishment and the opening of brothels. He is the only mayoral candidate without a campaign website, though he is active on YouTube.

Fillion did not respond to a request for a statement about his campaign.



PAULA HAVIXBECK

Paula Havixbeck has run a quiet, unassuming campaign that has not properly reflected the name recognition she should command. As a city councillor she should have garnered just as much attention as fellow candidate Gord Steeves, yet she has sunk nearly to the bottom of the list in most poll results.

Havixbeck supports the completion of BRT, elimination of photo radar and additional mental health strategies and resources.

In a statement to Uniter readers, she says: "Vote for me, because I have the experience at City Hall to know how to make the substantive change we need."



ROBERT-FALCON OUELLETTE

Robert-Falcon Ouellette entered the mayoral race a relative unknown, but through a grassroots movement and some popular policy announcements, has become a force to contend with. While he has not gained enough support to pose a real threat to Judy Wasylycia-Leis on election day, Ouellette has made waves among candidates with sharp and well-founded criticism of their platforms and some innovative ideas.

Ouellette brought forward a land value tax to encourage downtown development by taxing surface parking lots like four-storey buildings. He is also an opponent of BRT, and has proposed a modified metrobus system with light rail transit (LRT) in the future, following the relocation of rail lines outside the city. Ouellette has been criticized for a lack of research and pricing on the rail plan, but he insists it could be cheaper than the BRT alternative.

In a statement to *Uniter* readers, Ouellette says: "Vote for me, because I will be a mayor for everyone, who will put the needs of Winnipeggers first, with a plan to deliver fair taxes, better infrastructure and transit for everyone - not just one part of the city."



DAVID SANDERS

If Winnipeg's next mayor was chosen based on resume alone, David Sanders would be a sure thing. With experience and credentials too extensive to print and a long history of taking local government to task,

Sanders has the credibility to back up both his platform and criticism of opponents.

What he appears to lack is a combination of charisma and campaign support. Sanders had a late start and is running on a low budget campaign with nothing but experience and a sharp mind as selling points. Despite a lack of flash and flair, it's not unattractive; his policy reflects the realistic approach of someone familiar with yet not spoiled by the business.

The main talking point of Sanders's campaign has been "overhauling" City Hall. He stands for accountability and integrity even more staunchly than many of his opponents. Sanders is also against BRT, having demonstrated in an early media release that it likely cannot be completed as planned due to requirements from the province that have not been met. He has proposed a LRT system as an alternative.

In a statement to *Uniter* readers, Sanders says: "Vote for me, because I am the only candidate willing and able to overhaul City Hall and restore professional, competent, and ethical decision-making."



GORD STEEVES

Former city councillor Gord Steeves is possibly the most divisive character in the mayoral race. He has positioned himself as a far-right candidate by promising to freeze property taxes and criticizing fellow candidates for their willingness to spend money.

Steeves has pledged to cancel all aspects of rapid transit and proposed no alternatives. He has proposed a video surveillance system downtown, use of drones, a ban on panhandling and increased police presence. Steeves has also pledged a hiring freeze and spending cap on most City departments.

In a statement to Uniter readers, Steeves says: "Vote for me, because I will fix Winnipeg's crumbling roads while freezing property taxes. I will also create a safer downtown with more restaurants and housing for students."



JUDY WASYLYCIA-LEIS

A former opposition MLA with the provincial NDP, Judy Wasylycia-Leis has consistently shown the strongest support in polls. She looks to be the favourite for the mayoral seat, despite having relatively modest promises and poor explanations for how she plans to deliver on them.

Judy - who brands her campaign with her first name - pledges to complete BRT according to the most recent plans. However, she has yet to provide a concrete explanation as to where the funding will come from. Judy's funding explanations have included variations of the phrase "that's something we'll have to deal with."

Her platform includes an increase to property taxes, a business tax freeze, improvements to City services, roads and infrastructure, and an assortment of initiatives to provide opportunities for young people.

In a statement to *Uniter* readers, Judy says: "I have the experience and a practical plan to work together to deal with issues such as backroom deals and cost overruns that have plagued City Hall."

COUNCIL CANDIDATES

DANIEL MCINTYRE

Incumbent **Harvey Smith** has represented Daniel McIntyre since coming out of political retirement in 1998, and served earlier as MLA for the Ellice riding with the NDP. Smith has been a strong voice on council for the low-income and working class and calling for greater accountability. A motion from Smith in 2012 stopped a 20-cent hike in transit fare, and another brought about a lengthy discussion on urban chicken farming.

Keith Bellamy is chairman of the Manitoba Arts Council, and placed a close third in the last civic election. Bellamy aims to improve local infrastructure, City services and accountability at City Hall, and has proposed a plan to address crime and safety and improve cross-cultural communication.

Insurance agent **John Cardoso** has strong ties to the NDP but cut ties ahead of the 2010 civic election. He lists accountability and transparency, infrastructure, safety and environmental issues as priorities, and encourages development on Ellice and Sargent Avenues.

Former Winnipeg Blue Bomber **Dave Donaldson** touts his West End upbringing and political independence in his literature. Donaldson is campaigning on a platform of safer streets, infrastructure improvements, greater transparency at City Hall and more support for community clubs and programming.

Cindy Gilroy, the constituency assistant to NDP cabinet minister Kevin Chief, narrowly lost to Harvey Smith in the 2010 civic election. Gilroy has arguably the most extensive and comprehensive platform of candidates in her ward, with policies addressing infrastructure, downtown development, affordable housing and accountability at City Hall.

Barber Shop owner **Godwin Smith** has worked with the Residential Tenancies Commission and is a founding member of the Spence Neighbourhood Association. His platform addresses housing initiatives, community resource centres, and English as an Additional Language programming.

FORT ROUGE - EAST FORT GARRY

Incumbent **Jenny Gerbasi** is widely considered safe in holding on to her seat. She supports transparency at City Hall, having been a driving force behind the recent real estate audit. Gerbasi also supports rapid transit, the U-Pass and improved infrastructure for cyclists and pedestrians.

Professional musician **Shane Nestruck** has largely based his platform on strong support for mayoral candidates Robert-Falcon Ouellette and David Sanders. He opposes current plans for rapid transit and pledges greater integrity at City Hall.

Norm Miller has no campaign website or published platform, but has said he'll work toward improving infrastructure and City services, and creating an off-leash dog park in the ward.

MYNARSKI

Incumbent **Ross Eadie**, often recognized by his sunglasses as the blind city councillor, has been one of the most vocal on council over the past four years. His re-election platform focuses on streets and infrastructure, crime reduction, traffic safety, and transparency accountability at City Hall.

Dave Capar has been one of the least-visible council candidates in the

race, with no campaign website, social media presence or local media coverage. He's also the lone newcomer to the race in Mynarski.

Lawyer and former City of Winnipeg employee **Greg Littlejohn** is running on the popular platform of greater integrity at City Hall and improvements to infrastructure. He has been one of the few candidates to disclose all donors to their campaigns, and has also expressed support for expanded roles of police cadets and police foot and bicycle patrols.

Construction surveyor **Trevor Mueller** is Ross Eadie's only opponent who has a campaign website. He pledges an accountable, transparent and collaborative local government, and improved safety in communities and on public transit. Mueller has also proposed 24-hour drop-in centres in all wards.

POINT DOUGLAS

Incumbent **Mike Pagtakhan** is looking for a fourth-straight term as councillor. He wants to see the Arlington Bridge rebuilt and tends to lean left on most issues. Recently Pagtakhan was behind the motion to rename the Redwood Bridge after Harry Lazarenko and the makeover of Dufferin Park.

Rebecca Chartrand entered the race after participating in the Drag The Red movement, searching the Red River for missing and murdered Aboriginal women. Her platform, while comprehensive, focuses heavily on Indigenous and social issues. Chartrand is pushing for improved safety, reduced crime, affordable housing and responsible taxation.

Anthony Ramos has served two terms as a trustee with the Winnipeg School Division, and recently presented the motion which banned e-cigarettes from school division property. He is running on a catchy platform he calls "Active, Accessible and Accountable," which focuses largely on community engagement.

Former firefighter and ambulance attendant **Anne Thompson** has mentioned infrastructure and safety for pedestrians and cyclists as a priority. She has also touted the fact she does not shop at American-owned stores like Walmart and Target, as she is opposed to "the Military-Industrial Complex" and Guantanamo Bay.

Dale White is quick to cite ambiguous senior management experience and budgeting skills as major qualifications. He claims to be running on a "City platform" rather than focusing on his ward, and has based the majority of his campaign on the issue of infrastructure.

RIVER HEIGHTS - FORT GARRY

In a two-person race, incumbent **John Orlikow** and his challenger, former City entomologist **Taz Stuart**, appear to hold largely overlapping platforms. Both candidates have proposed widening Kenaston Blvd. and looking at some form of overpass or underpass on Waverly St., along with several other improvements to streets and traffic management. The two seem to share priorities on other infrastructure improvements and protecting green space as well.

Where the candidates diverge is on transit and development. Orlikow says he opposes the Southwest Transitway running through the Parker lands, while Stuart proposes the entire rapid transit plan be completed at once.

ST. BONIFACE

Communications consultant and CEO of the Francophone Chamber of Commerce **Matt Allard** appears to be the favourite to replace outgoing councillor Dan Vandal, who has been nominated for the Liberals ahead of next year's federal election. Allard prioritizes roads and infrastructure, accountability, and local issues including public spaces, traffic and transit improvements.

Ryan Davies claims to be the most independent candidate, without ties to any political party or interest group. Davies wants to halt work on rapid transit and stop all non-infrastructure development in the city, and says he would consider light rail transit in the future. He has also proposed tax restructuring, stopping urban sprawl and an overhaul of photo radar.

Self-described "top realtor" **Brad Gross** cites having previously lived in Calgary and Edmonton as credentials toward his candidacy, and ran unsuccessfully for Winnipeg mayor in the last civic election. He hasn't said much in the way of platform, aside from a few questionably written responses in online questionnaires.

Long-time school teacher **Paul Najda** also boasts political independence, and has criticized Matt Allard for potential ties to special interest and political groups. He does not have a campaign website or platform published online.

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FAREWELL YOUR WORSHIP

Sam Katz's legacy impacts us all

DANIELLE DA SILVA

@DLOUISEDASILVA

CITY EDITOR

I remember the first and only time I met Mayor Sam Katz.

It was Oct. 24, 2012, I was in my first year of journalism school and I was on assignment at City Hall. After the city council meeting I went out to the lobby for scrums. The so-called real media had their go at Katz before the student journalists were given their five minutes.

I stood behind Bartley Kives of the *Winnipeg Free Press* to watch his interaction with the Mayor. What I saw was contempt.

Katz stonewalled on questions and offered runaround answers. After watching that exchange, I was nervous to ask my poorly formed, inconsequential questions.

Kives's recent exit interview with Katz brought about a collection of quotes and a picture that will forever capture the dynamic of Katz's relationship with the media: a laughing Katz pointing a single finger at Kives.

In that interview Katz says his legacy "will be whatever people say," and I agree.

Three weeks ago I requested my own exit interview with the mayor on behalf of *The Uniter*. The mayor's office responded to let me know they were looking into it and would get back to me. They hadn't by press time.

For now, I will remember Katz as the mayor who ducked reporters and stonewalled on significant questions. Transparency and honesty are important to me.

I've heard some say they will remember Sam Katz as the first Jewish mayor who awkwardly made a point to celebrate Christmas.

Some will likely remember him as the mayor from Winnipeg, Ontario, who appeared on *CBS This Morning*.

And still he will be remembered by others as the mayor who picked up garbage when the trucks weren't coming around, who was called out for tossing gum on the grass, and was pictured on his cell phone while driving - though these are only rumoured to be true. Let's call them urban legends for the time-being.

The truth is Katz has contributed much to this city in his time as mayor (as we would hope).

He's invested in infrastructure, made public recreation spaces a priority for the municipal government, and introduced the large blue recycling bins to the city - to name a few of his achievements.

Sam Katz's ten years in the mayor's office have impacted every one of us and his actions as mayor will continue to influence Winnipeg in years to come.

Had I had the opportunity to talk to Katz I would have asked him how Winnipeg *has impacted him*. How, Mr. Katz, have *you* changed since you took public office in 2004? I expect the answers would have been surprising.

Farewell Mr. Katz. We'll see you around.



UNITER ARCHIVES / ARANDA ADAMS

MEET YOUR MAYORAL CANDIDATES

Michel Fillion an eccentric addition to the ballot

BROOSE TULLOCH

@BADBROOSE

VOLUNTEER STAFF

At first blush, it seems easy to count Michel Fillion out as a viable mayoral candidate. His soundbites and publicity stunts don't sit well with the public's opinion of what makes a good mayor (but then again, the Toronto public elected Rob Ford).

Fillion is best known for his eccentricities, including lip-syncing to ABBA in a YouTube video and dressing like a construction worker - complete with hard hat - at the infrastructure forum.

And while these public expressions are part of his personality, they constitute a small part of the overall picture.

"He's not like they portray in the news," Fillion's receptionist Heather Keys says. "He's actually very smart,



full of ideas, he's always thinking about everything."

Keys says Fillion, or "Mitch" as she knows him, is the only candidate who lives, works and goes out downtown - counting that as one reason he should be mayor.

"Plus we'd have the best-dressed mayor in the country," she adds.

Fillion's business partner Al Pitch agrees. The two work at Superb Entertainment - a "full-service entertainment agency and event production company," as described on its website.

"Did you know," Pitch poses, "that he's the only candidate who's lead a successful business for over 30 years?"

It's widely known Superb Entertainment books all the exotic dancers who appear in Winnipeg's night clubs. Fillion is open about his line of work and previously agreed to let Winnipeg media have an inside look at his profession.

Fillion is confident his three decades of administrative experience with Superb Entertainment make him the best choice.

"I have the experience and the know-how," he says. "More than any other contender in this election."

"I have always been a leader, and this is something I know I have to do."

What he is not leading in (besides the polls) is visibility, citing lack of finances as the main reason, though he has a You-

Tube channel and Twitter account where he posts regularly.

The YouTube channel features over a dozen videos on topics such as the Aboriginal community, seniors, money and roads.

Fillion says fixing the roads is his number one priority and will pay for it by increasing property tax by five per cent per year for two years.

"Then," he says, "we will see how much funding we get from the different areas and see if we continue or not."

He would also "collect the city's share of the one per cent PST hike from the provincial government using the population as leverage," and add a minimum one cent per litre gas tax at the pump. Fillion also wants to tax non-residents who work in Winnipeg through a payroll tax on the employees part and a property tax on the part of business owners.

When Fillion talks about roads, he also includes sidewalks, which he thinks are in equal need of repair downtown where he and his partner Rick Irving have lived for a number of years.

"As mayor working and living downtown," he proclaims, "I would be setting an example."

Winnipeg's civic election is Wednesday, Oct. 22. Visit winnipeg.ca/Clerks/election/election2014/default.stm for more info on voting.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Winnipeg hosts first-of-its-kind women's education conference

JILLIAN GROENING

@JILL_GROENING

BEAT REPORTER

An international conference on women's education and sustainable development is coming to Winnipeg and bringing with it United Nations prize winner Dr. Shulamith Koenig.

The International Conference on Women's Education for Sustainable Human Development is a two day event at the Fort Garry Hotel and the Canadian Museum for Human Rights. This is the first year for the conference that will feature three keynote speakers: Juan Carlos Mendoza of the United Nations; Ovide Mercredi, senior advisor to the president of the University of Manitoba; and Dr. Shulamith Koenig, founding president of People's Movement for Human Rights Learning.

"I do not speak of education, I speak of learning," Koenig explains over the phone from New York. "Women have to become.



Dr. Jeannette Montufar

They have to know and learn human rights and I think that's when they become. When they work in the community, that is what empowers them. We don't give them power. They have to empower themselves."

Koenig says every city in the world is plagued by human rights issues and it is once issues are understood as interconnected and interrelated that we can take a step towards finding a solution.

"When people learn that they're the owners of human rights, something really amazing happens," Koenig says. "It's not that human rights is always about others, it's not about violations."

Koenig offers a metaphor of falling over a stone in the street and being helped up by many yet nobody removes the stone. The idea is that the stone is the cause of human rights violations that must be removed.

"I believe the stone is patriarchy but patriarchy is not pointing the finger at men," Koenig says.

"Patriarchy is something that we all collaborate with, men and women together. Women exchange their equality for survival. The major issue in the world is equality. Human rights is all about equality."

Some of the topics at the conference will be the employment of women through education, education as a tool to eradicate poverty and presentations on how to educate, support and empower grandmothers who are raising their grandchildren.

Dr. Jeannette Montufar is the organizer of the conference as well as a professor of engineering at the University of Manitoba.

"What we are discussing is issues of human rights accessibility to education and having everyone on a level playing

field when it comes to education," Montufar says. "That is the perspective we are taking for this particular conference.

"In Canada we're dealing with a situation where there's a real difference when it comes to women and men, or women-with-means versus women-with-out-means," Montufar continues.

"Some of the groups are very likely to be poor because of a lack of opportunities and the lack of opportunity comes due to a lack of education. Poverty seems to be more predominant in places where there's a lack of education."

The International Conference on Women's Education for Sustainable Development takes place October 16 and 17 at the Fort Garry Hotel and the Canadian Museum for Human Rights. Visit icwesd.webs.com for more information on the conference and how to register.

THE FIGHT FOR SPACE

Mayoral candidates respond to Winnipeg's affordable housing shortage

MITCHELL VAN INEVELD

@WPGTRUMPETEER

VOLUNTEER STAFF

Winnipeg is facing a shortage of affordable housing options. At least that's what Winnipeg's mayoral candidates are saying. Four of the seven candidates have pledged to increase the number of affordable housing units in the city if elected to office.

Allison Reimer of the University of Winnipeg Students' Association agrees that the stock of affordable housing in the city is critically low and she describes her experience of apartment hunting as very competitive.

"There were apartments we would show up to where we would be one of thirty people trying to see that one unit," Reimer says.

Rebecca Schur, a rhetoric student currently living in residence, has difficulty finding a place for under \$800 a month. She says dealing with things like pests, structural issues and unreliable landlords are draining and headache-inducing.

According to the 2011 National Household Survey, a quarter of Canadians spend more than 30 per cent of their income on housing and shelter costs. 23.1 per cent of Winnipeg renters live below "core housing need" as defined by the



Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC).

Mayoral candidate Judy Wasylycia-Leis's housing policy centers around the use of Tax Increment Financing (TIF) which directs municipal tax revenue to fund community revitalization projects. The poll leader's plan also includes land prioritization, donation and the merging of economic and social goals.

This plan could frustrate those who wish to see high-profit ventures thrive in Winnipeg, especially given her proposal to disincentivize suburban development by making developers cover the capital costs of new roads, fire halls and schools. When it comes to planning, Wasylycia-Leis says, "The work has already been done."

Robert-Falcon Ouellette, the election's charismatic underdog, has a plan similar to Wasylycia-Leis, though he goes a few

steps further. One of his central proposals is taxing surface parking lots at the same rate as a four-storey condo. The hope is to encourage infill development instead of continuing urban sprawl.

Ouellette also wants to see new housing projects set aside units as low-profit affordable housing alongside high-end condos and has pledged to build 800 affordable housing units a year.

David Sanders touches on many of the ideas floated by other candidates during a brief conversation, but stresses the need for the City to "exert any and all influence it has" in increasing the stock of affordable housing. He also says he would like to see developers meet strict requirements for a percentage of affordable units to qualify for programs such as TIF.

Sanders says before any progress can be made, the decision-making system at

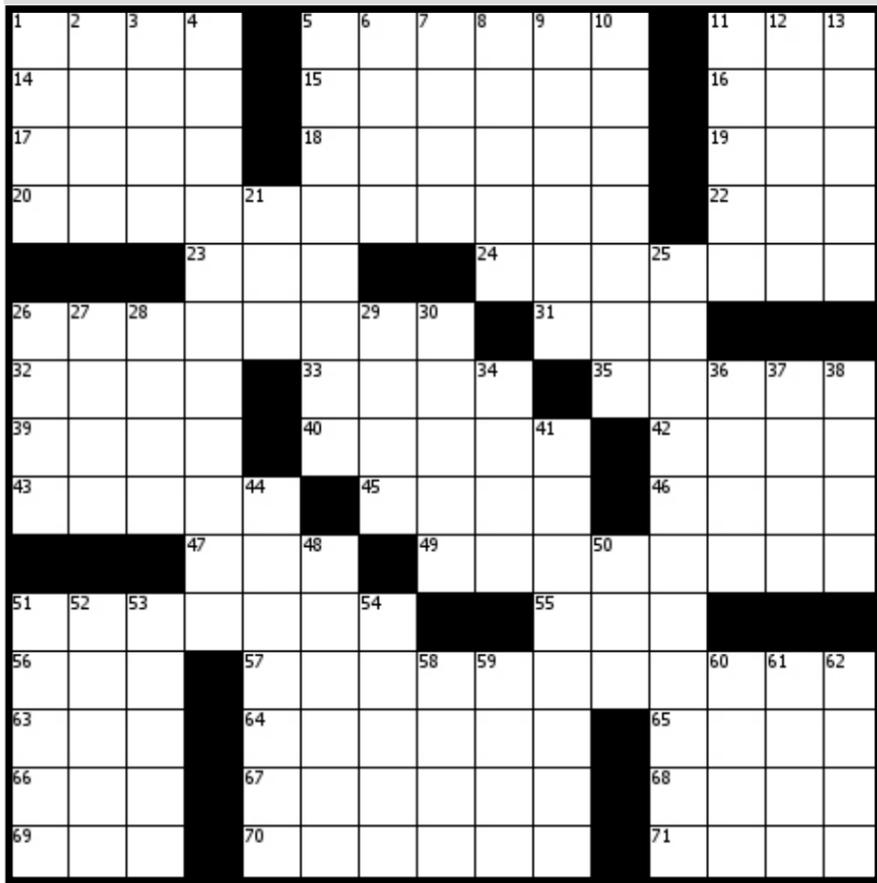
City Hall has to be fixed, starting with an overhaul of the senior administration. He sees himself as the most financially realistic candidate, citing his governance and urban planning experience.

"I have solutions that I plan to implement," Sanders says.

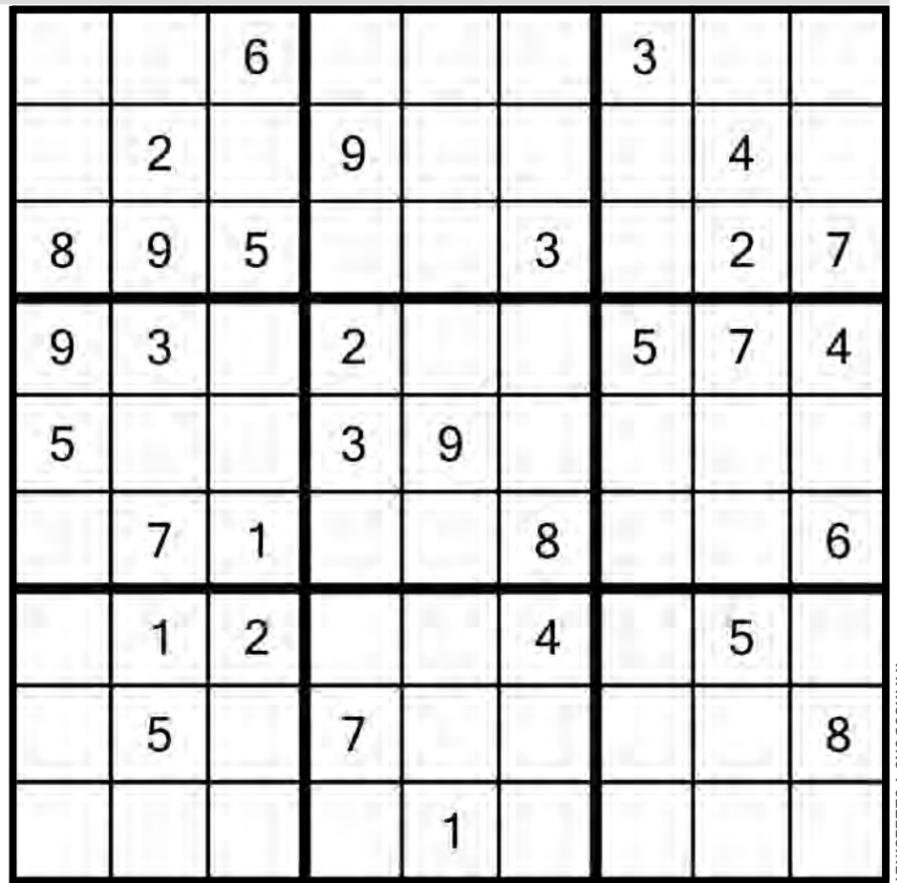
Brian Bowman, the candidate polling at second place, did not return *The Uniter's* request for comment by press time. Bowman has not spoken much on affordable housing, but generally supports a shift in civic focus towards infill development and plans to revitalize downtown through community centres, events and a major grocery store.

Additionally, *The Uniter* did not receive responses from Michel Fillion, Paula Havixbeck or Gord Steeves on this topic.

DIVERSIONS



WWW.ONLINECROSSWORDS.NET



WWW.SUDOKU-PUZZLES.NET

ACROSS

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

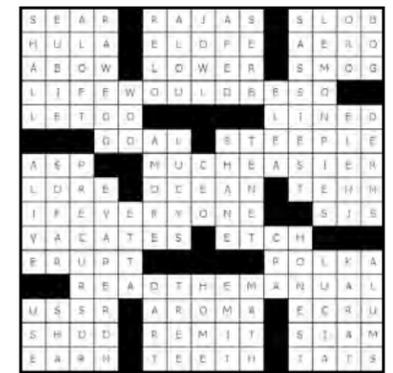
46. One of a British group
47. Pt. of SPCA
49. Like handsaw blades
51. Lay waste to
55. Threw one's hat in the ring
56. Start of a drum sound
57. Salad toppings for Homer?
63. "___ matter of fact ..."
64. Practical joker, e.g.
65. Farewell, Italian-style
66. Debussy's "La ___"
67. Too firm, perhaps
68.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

DOWN

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

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

SOLUTIONS TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLES.



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



THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

Student Services

You of W



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

ADMISSIONS

Looking for exciting new experiences? Do you want to explore the world? If you are interested in participating in a study abroad exchange with one of The University of Winnipeg's exchange partners, attend the information session:

Friday, November 14, 2014

Room 3D04

12:30pm-2:30pm

For more information, visit the following site: www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/intl-student-exchange

If you have any questions, contact je.michaluk@uwinnipeg.ca

AWARDS & FINANCIAL AID

CAMPUS JOBS!

The Awards and Financial Aid Office is now accepting applications for the Fall/Winter 2014-15 Work-Study Program.

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APPLY NOW!

CAREER SERVICES

Career Services is hosting the following information sessions below. For more information, visit www.uwinnipeg.ca/career-services/

Master of Physical Therapy Program, University of Manitoba

Date: Monday, October 20, 2014

Time: 12:20pm-1:30pm

Room: 1L04, UofW

Northwestern Health Sciences University in Bloomington, MN will be hosting an information table to learn more about the Doctorate of Chiropractic

and Master's of Acupuncture/Oriental Medicine programs. Please stop by.

Date: Wednesday, October 29, 2014

Time: 1:00pm-3:00pm

Room: Riddell Atrium, UofW

Occupational Therapy Program, University of Manitoba

Date: Wednesday, November 12, 2014

Time: 12:20pm-1:30pm

Room: 1L04, UofW

STUDENT CENTRAL

RENT A LOCKER TODAY!

It's getting cool outside! Need a place to store your jacket? Lockers are available on the lower level of Manitoba Hall and on the 3rd floor the Richardson College. Lockers are \$40 per person for Fall and Winter. Rent your locker by sending an email with your preferred location to studentcentral@uwinnipeg.ca from your UWinnipeg email account, or visit Student Central in person.

DROPPING COURSES

The last day to drop a U2014F class is October 23, 2014. No refund is applicable.

The final day to withdraw from a U2014FW class for 50% refund of the base tuition, UWSA and UWSA Building Fund fees is November 21, 2014. No refund is applicable from November 22, 2014-January 21, 2015.

Courses are dropped through WebAdvisor using the "Register/Drop Course Sections" link.

CHANGES TO SC'S HOURS

SC will be open 9:00-4:15 on Friday, Oct. 17.

SC will be open 12:30-5:30 on Thursday, Oct. 30.

SC's regular hours are 8:15-5:30 Monday-Thursday and 8:30-4:15 on Fridays.

ASK! You of W

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UNITER.CA

FASHION STREETER

Trish Orton

"I feel just as comfortable wearing heels and a little black dress as I do in high waisted shorts and a base ball tee."

JESS MANN

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

THE BACK PAGE LIST - A MAYORAL MIXTAPE

Based on what kind of music candidates told *The Uniter* they like, their professions, any slight *Star Wars* references in their names, policies, and who played at their publicity concert events, we've compiled a mix for Winnipeg's mayoral candidates (and even a few former city leaders). Feel free to put these to tape/Soundcloud/whatever and send them along to your favourite candidate!

1. "TOOT YOUR OWN HORN" - THE LYTICS (FOR JUDY)
2. "RUNAROUND" - VAN HALEN (FOR BRIAN)
3. "DUCK AND RUN" - 3 DOORS DOWN (FOR PAULA)
4. "JACK OF ALL TRADES" - BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN (FOR DAVID)

5. "A NEW HOPE" - BLINK 182 (FOR ROBERT-FALCON)
6. "THROUGH THE BARRICADES" - SPANDAU BALLET (FOR GORD)
7. "GIRLS, GIRLS, GIRLS" - MOTLEY CRUE (FOR MICHEL)
8. "PYRAMID SONG" - RADIOHEAD (FOR SUE)

9. "WINNIPEG IS A FROZEN SHITHOLE" - VENETIAN SNARES (FOR FUTURE MAYOR)
10. "...AND THE FINAL WORDS ARE YOURS, SAM KATZ" - THE CONSUMER GOODS (FOR SAM)

CIRCLE HEADS



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