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STOLEN SISTERS

8TH ANNUAL MARCH INSPIRES CHANGE
AND STRENGTHENS COMMUNITY

A photo essay by Mike Sudoma

SINGLE
MOTHERS

DEAR WHITE
PEOPLE

THE DIRTY CATFISH
BRASS BAND

THE OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG



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* ON THE COVER

Mike Sudoma documents
Winnipeg's 8th Annual Memorial
March for all Missing
and Murdered

Nick Graumann prepares a sandwich at Nick's On Broadway.

MIKE SUDOMA

PREZ SAYZ

with BETTY HOPKINS

For those of you who aren't yet familiar with the Women's Legal Education and Action Fund (LEAF) of Manitoba, we are the provincial chapter of a national volunteer based, non-profit organization, which seeks to advance the equality of women and girls in Canada, through strategic litigation, law reform, and education. This work is based on the Canadian Charter of Rights & Freedoms.

LEAF MB spends most of its time on education; each year, we host a youth conference for young women to inspire dialogue around issues of human rights, gender equality and the law. We also work on a number of educational campaigns; perhaps the most well known of these is our "No Means No" program.

This program has its roots in R. v Ewanchuk, a legal case that highlighted the issue of consent, in this case lack thereof. Steve Ewanchuk was a man charged with the sexual assault of a 17-year-old girl. The outcome of this case reinforced the concept of implied consent; Ewanchuk was acquitted on the basis of this as well as an examination of his victim's clothing, sexual history, and perceived lifestyle. The outcome of this case was ultimately overturned by the Supreme Court of Canada, and ignited new language around sexual interactions: "yes means yes".

LEAF's trained volunteers - including students from the University of Winnipeg - use this and other cases in schools and community groups to teach about the prevailing myths and stereotypes surrounding femininity, masculinity, consent, and the normalization of sexual violence. Our organization seeks to empower all genders to challenge these stereotypes and break down the barriers that prevent us from having these important conversations.

If you want to learn more and become involved as a volunteer in this or another one of our programs, please contact leafmb@mymts.net or visit: leafmb.ca

Betty Hopkins is the Chairwoman of LEAF Manitoba, a recipient of the Order of Manitoba, and a tireless feminist advocate for social change.

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PHOTOS BY SHERWIN OPEÑA

ANASTASIA CHIPLESKI

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ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR

Some people may consider themselves big fans of their favourite band, but Shandi Strong celebrates KISS like no other. Strong's entire basement is an homage to KISS, from official merchandise to her own photographs of their live shows.

Strong has seen KISS every single time they're been here, except once.

"They were here at the University of Manitoba once on their very first tour, out of the back of a station wagon. I didn't know about them at the time."

Her love of the band started in Grade 8, when she first heard "Rock and Roll All Nite," though she thought they were a band from the movie *Phantom of the Paradise*.

Though it wasn't a popular choice, Strong stood by her band.

"Critics, radio station people, your friends, people that liked disco, everybody hated KISS. They didn't have an easy go of it, but they were stubborn, persevered all the way through and I think that's part of why they speak to me so much," Strong says. "Here they are, they're outsiders, they're doing what they think is right, and they're still doing it. And if there's any definition of success, that's it."

While the basement may look like an extended altar, it's also a jam space. Strong's 11 guitars are hung across the walls, and while she hasn't honed her craft as much as she might like, she still enjoys playing and jamming with her girlfriend and friends.

"I have a party here every August long weekend and a few times in between with some of my musician friends and we just hang out and we make noise and we entertain people and goof around, and it's a ball."

1) SIGNED PHOTOGRAPH FROM 1977 MEET AND GREET

"It was kind of an epiphany for me," Strong says. "I'm getting to meet people I've idolized since I was a kid, and at the time I was just in the process of cementing everything and coming out as trans and

it was the reason I changed my name, I took from a Kiss song, and so it was just like all of a sudden, ba-da-boom, I'm here, culminating everything I had ever wanted in life was that moment."

2) HELLO KITTY KISS FIGURINES

"My girlfriend that I was dating at the time bought me two of them, just a little while ago before we broke up, and I had to go and find the other two on eBay. But I thought that was kind of cute...there's the big tall ones behind the Hello Kitties, those are from the 70s, they're in various states of repair."

3) TOMMY THAYER SPACE MAN GUITAR

"This is a Tommy Thayer space man Les Paul from Gibson, and I bought it from Tommy Thayer. He actually touched this. And he autographed the case, I've got pictures with him, everything like that. And it was just like whoa, this was really cool. So he was like, 'Here, mention my name and you can come backstage.'"

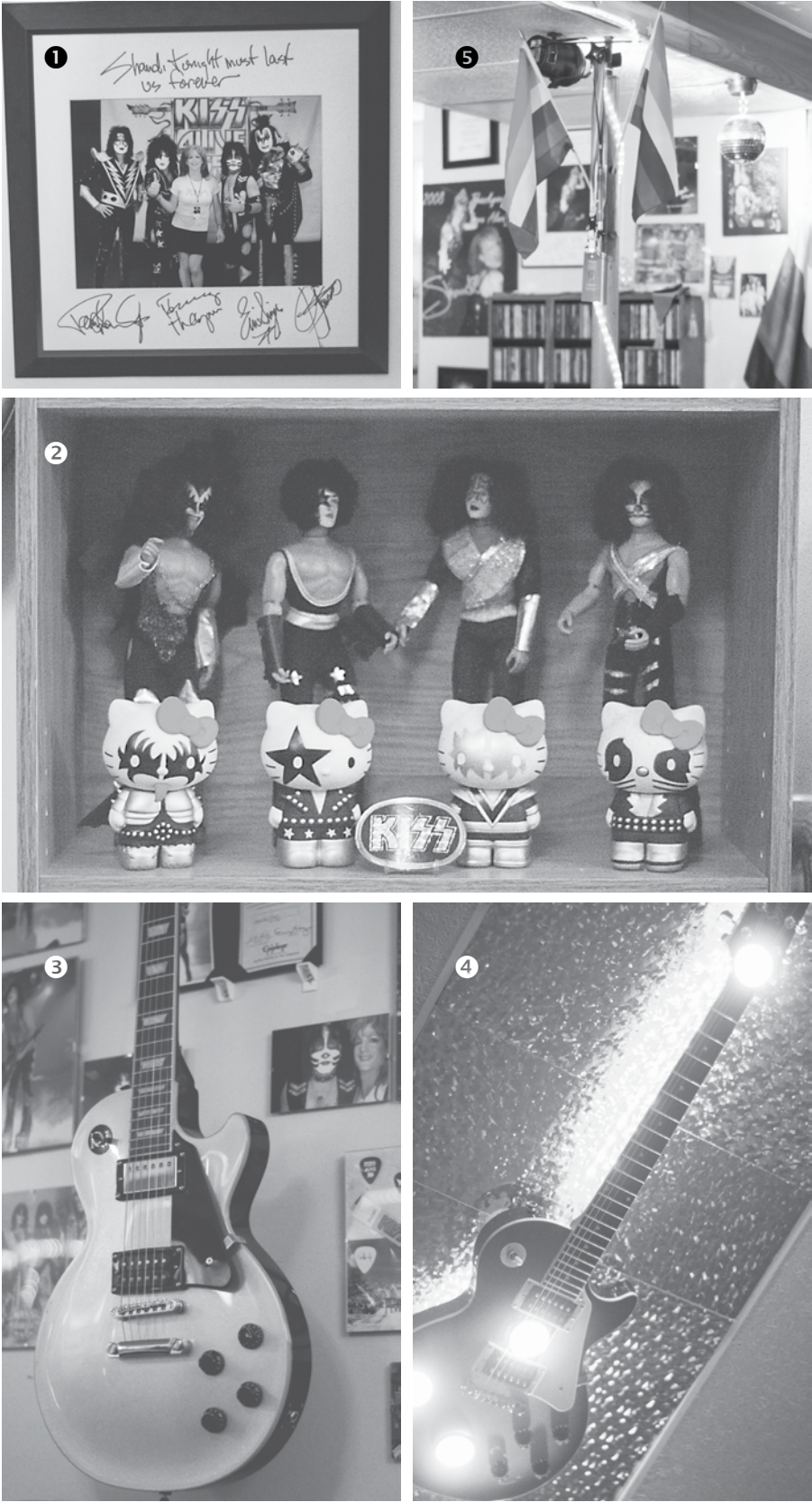
4) OVERHEAD GUITAR LIGHT (STILL A FUNCTIONING GUITAR)

"A friend of mine sent me a picture on Facebook once and it was a similar idea to that, and he says I betcha you'd like this, and I'm going yeah, I'd really like that ... So a trip to IKEA, and Wal-mart for the mylar behind it, and couple hours later I made one."

5) STAGE LIGHTS, LASER AND RAINBOW FLAG FROM GIO'S

"I was very involved with Gio's for a number of years and when we closed, some of the stuff we sold off and some of it was just going to go into landfill, so I got that. I got the flag that used to hang out front. Gio's is a very special place for me."

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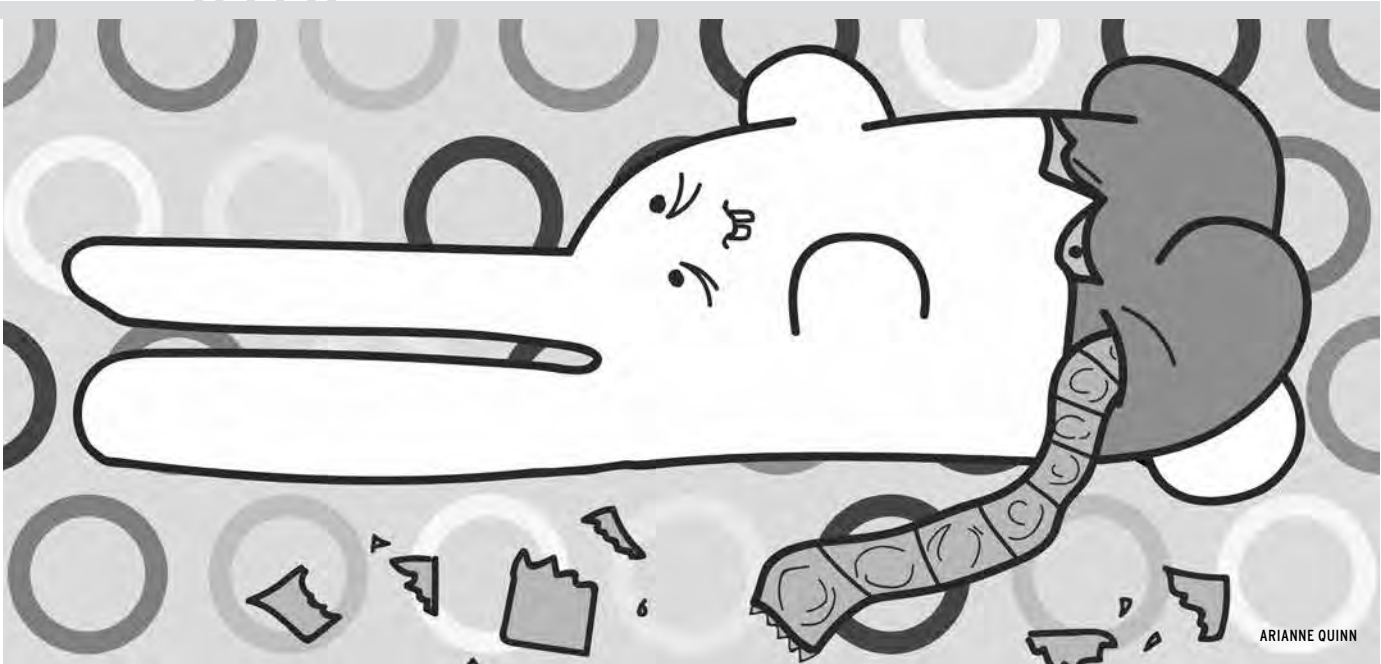


WELL, THAT'S GARBAGE

WITH JANE TESTAR  @TESTARJANE

HOW MUCH SEX SHOULD YOU BE HAVING?

How much sex should you be having? If you consulted North American television, movies, music and magazines to determine the ideal amount, the conclusion would be:
All of the sex.
All of the time.
Having a highly active sex life is the new having a lot of money.
Prized even *higher* than expensive cars and handbags.
And while I wouldn't consult him on relationship advice, George Michael was correct in stating: "Sex is natural, sex is fun."
Of course we seek out sex. Our species' survival depends on it.
However, popular culture has prized not just a healthy sex life, but a *high-octane* sex life for so long, it has built a system of shaming for the less active.
Watch any sit-com where a "bro" asks another "bro" over beers:



"How long has it been?"
The clearly embarrassed bro responds with:
"Three months."
And bro number one spits beer five feet in shock, demanding to know:
"How do you *live*?"
The pressure isn't just on men. Though women tend to be *prescribed* sex by sassy rom-com friends who proclaim after their friends' angry outburst:
"She needs to get *laid*."
Sadly, this get some, get some, get some attitude, for those not currently getting some, can lead to feelings of inadequacy, or feeling like an outsider. It could lead a, perhaps, less self-assured person to subconsciously seek out and take on sex partners they normally wouldn't. Or to have sex before they're physically or emotionally ready.

But there's an even more destructive effect, the breeding of an attitude of that we are somehow *owed* sex.
The tragic example of this being 22-year-old Elliot Rodger, who, in 2014, shot and stabbed multiple men and women at the University of Santa Barbara before killing himself. The YouTube video he released that day blamed women for not sleeping with him and the "obnoxious brutes" they choose instead.
Nowhere in his disturbing speech does he say he wants love, affection or connection. He only wants to cease being a virgin and finally have all of the sex that everyone else seems to get, thereby reducing women to mere sexual stamps to collect for his own ego.
Though Rodger's is an extreme case, he clearly bought what our media is selling him, that one must meet a sexual quota like a car salesman or be marked as worthless.

A constantly active sex life is an illusion. The state of sexual inactivity happens to almost everyone, except maybe professional athletes
You're taking a break from dating.
You're dealing with some personal or emotional issues.
You're busy with work and/or school and don't have a lot of time to socialize.
Let's just stop putting a scoreboard over our crotches.
Sex will happen when two people want and agree to have it. If that doesn't happen? Oh well. What's happening in the news today?
If it doesn't happen for a while? Live your life and your sex life will follow.

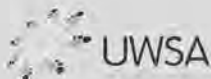
Jane Testar is a writer and performer with the Winnipeg sketch comedy troupe, Hot Thespian Action, an improviser with local improv troupe, Outside Joke, and the host of the CBC Comedy Factory Podcast.

FACT:
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UNITER.CA

GOING IT ALONE

The pros and cons of idiosyncrasy in Winnipeg music

THOMAS PASHKO

@THOMASPASHKO

BEAT REPORTER

Being in a band is hard. The work involved goes way beyond making music. Through the ubiquity of the Internet and home recording, it's now easier than ever to form a band and harder than ever to get noticed. Winnipeg is a haven of interconnected music scenes where like-minded musicians and fans create communities of support and exposure for their respective genres of music.

But what's the experience of bands with no definable genre? What if you're the only band in this prairie tundra playing what you're playing?

The Dirty Catfish Brass Band is one such group. The nine-piece group is rooted firmly in the tradition of New Orleans brass bands, their party-centric sound stemming from Louisiana



The Dirty Catfish Brass Band

parade and street music. It's a form that no one else in Winnipeg has breached, and saxophonist Kyle Wedlake says their uniqueness has influenced their entire approach.

"We've always been a three-set band," Wedlake explains. "We weren't ever doing a five-band bill. We definitely paid our dues playing to empty rooms for a while. We just kind of carved our own niche and found the audience."

Despite regular gigs at Times Change(d) and The Cavern, Wedlake says that playing live in unconventional settings has been key to the group's success.

"One thing we feel like Winnipeg needs is more street music. We'd set up at the corner of River and Osborne most Wednesdays in the summer, and we'd get crowds of 40 to 70 people just stopping to dance."

Public performances at Folk Fest and Blue Bombers games have been similarly transformative experiences.

"We like to bring it right to the people, whether they're ready for it or not. It gives you that feeling of being transported somewhere else. It's a cool little sector of performance that's opened us up," Wedlake says.

Innovative releases can be just as effective as innovative live performance. Local quartet Slow Spirit's newest output, *Bad News EP*, is an 18-minute video EP recorded live off the floor in one take and available for free on YouTube. Since their beginnings blending jazz and electronic music, Slow Spirit have since incorporated indie rock and singer-songwriter elements that make their music even harder to pigeonhole.

"I do feel like there is a scene we've fit into," guitarist Eric Roberts says of

the group's experience in Winnipeg, "but fitting into genres has just never been a priority. We're all just trying to express ourselves freely and not inhibit that based on other motives like marketability or...just being liked in general."

Local ambient group Palm Trees also willfully abandons marketability. From their beginnings as a more conventional psychedelic rock outfit, the group has shifted through instrumental post-rock and arrived at a sound of formless soundscapes composed of organ drones, guitar loops and free-form drumming.

"I think we probably lost fans," guitarist Gilad Carroll says. "We understand that. People in a bar don't necessarily want to hear downtempo melancholy noise. We know we're not going to be a commercial success."

Carroll says that recent performances, including one in Regina, have shown them there is an audience for what they do.

"People were talking about how it was so meditative and celestial and all those cool words. One guy was screaming 'Freebird' the whole time, though."

The Dirty Catfish Brass Band and Slow Spirit play Feb. 20 at The Good Will Social Club (625 Portage Ave.) Tickets are \$10 and available through Ticketfly. Palm Trees play Feb. 21 at The Cavern (112 Osborne St.) with The Basement Paintings, Soul Killing Female and Ossific.

METH DADDY AND THE HOUSTON SILVERFISH

Single Mothers's Mike Peterson discusses the highs and lows of touring North America

TONY HINDS

@THETONYHINDS

BEAT REPORTER

Single Mothers guitarist Mike Peterson is quick to correct the notion that he plays in a hardcore band. He briefly considers punk as a description, before adding:

"What does punk even mean? I used to just tell people I played in a rock band."

Regardless of genre, the Ontario-born quartet returns to Winnipeg next week, performing with fellow rockers The Dirty Nil on Feb. 25 at the Good Will Social Club. Their recently released debut LP, *Negative Qualities*, received a strong critical reception. It even landed a 4-star review from Punknews.org, who applauded the "amazing riffs, frenetic drum work ... and matching lo-fi feedback." The band went through over 30 different songs over the course of two years before narrowing down the final 10 tracks.

"Each song would start with an idea from me and then grow and evolve organ-



ically together with the band," Peterson says. "It was more collaborative this time."

Originally based in London, Ont., the band currently hangs their hats in Toronto, which is home to a notoriously tight-knit music scene.

"It's been a challenge, having us come in as outsiders," Peterson says. "Everybody knows each other in Toronto. They came up together and played together. We had our own version of that in London. It's just not there anymore."

Over the past four years, the band also faced a major change in lineup, as Peterson and bassist Evan Redsky were brought in to replace exiting members. According to Single Mothers's Wikipedia page, the band's gone through no fewer than 16 members since 2013, yet Peterson was more shocked to learn they even had a Wikipedia page. Thankfully, the changes have all proven creatively positive, though Peterson admits the process can be an understandably daunting commitment.

"Maybe everyone says this about bands or creative projects, but this isn't an easy

thing to be involved with," Peterson says. "It's so time consuming that we have to give up having any kind of a normal life. It's a test of character."

Peterson jokingly describes touring as an endless slumber party. He's had some of the best experiences of his life with Redsky, vocalist Drew Thomson and drummer Brandon Jagersky, crammed into a 12-seat van out on the road. However, Peterson notes the sleeping arrangements haven't always been ideal. Once in New Orleans, the band was given access to a temporarily abandoned house to spend the night, which had been the site of an apparent domestic dispute.

"We walked in and there was blood everywhere, needles, money everywhere," Peterson says. "Everything in the house had been left on. It was like a *Twilight Zone* episode. I slept in the van."

The amenities continued to droop the following evening in Houston, as Single Mothers reluctantly accepted an invitation to spend the night at a house without windows.

"There were stray dogs everywhere," Peterson says. "Somebody had written *Meth Daddy* on the wall and I woke up covered in insects. Not even flies. Silverfish. It's funny now, but at the time, it was like: 'I want to go home.'"

Despite the struggles, Peterson insists he's ecstatic about what has become a full-time job.

"I love it," Peterson says. "I'll lose my hearing, hurt my back, break my arm. I don't care!"

Catch Single Mothers with The Dirty Nil, Feb. 25 @ the Good Will at 9 p.m.

Tickets available via Ticketfly for \$10.



TRUDIE LEE

FROM CENTRE ICE TO CENTRE STAGE

PTE's latest play looks at the life and times of Theo Fleury

DEBORAH REMUS

@DEBORAHREMUS

ARTS REPORTER

The odds were stacked against him, but that didn't stop Theo Fleury from becoming a Stanley Cup champion. Now his story is being told on stage in the Prairie Theatre Exchange's production of *Playing With Fire: The Theo Fleury Story*.

"He's not your typical hockey player," director Ron Jenkins says on the phone from Edmonton, where the play is being performed before moving east to Winnipeg.

"He was just this small, poor kid from Russell, Manitoba who would do anything to make it into the NHL because he loves hockey so much."

Fleury got his start playing for the Manitoba Junior Hockey League before working his way up to the NHL. He was one of the league's smallest players at 5'6" and only 180 pounds.

He was with the Calgary Flames when they won the Stanley Cup in 1989. Throughout his career he also played for the Colorado Avalanche, New York Rangers and Chicago Blackhawks despite being an alcoholic and battling drug addictions, which finally forced him out of the NHL in 2003.

Fleury's autobiography *Playing With Fire* was co-written by Kirstie McLellan Day, who also wrote the script for this play. The book reveals lesser known details about Fleury's life and talks about how he was sexually abused by former Western Hockey League coach Graham James.

"I love hockey and I love the theatre so I jumped on board at the opportunity to direct this play," Jenkins says.

"Theo is an incredible human being and I think he was really honest, fearless and courageous to come forward and tell his story in the way that he did."

The original draft was set in a hotel room, but Jenkins insisted the stage be

turned into a hockey rink to make it even more realistic.

"His life was about hockey, things happened to him because of hockey so we wanted to make it as accurate as possible. The hardest thing was just trying to be as faithful and as honest as we could to him. We did consult with Fleury himself to make sure we're telling his story the way he would want it to be told."

Playing the role of Fleury is Shaun Smyth, a Calgary-based actor who has worked in various theatre and television projects throughout his career.

Smyth doesn't have a hockey background and spent a year training for the role which requires him to skate around the stage on a sheet of synthetic ice.

"I've known Shaun since his university days and he's a terrific actor who gets it and even looks like Theo. I think honesty and intelligence are the two biggest things that he brings to the role," Jenkins says.

While the script is geared towards hockey fans and features some iconic on-ice moments, Jenkins says anyone should be able to enjoy this play even if they don't care about the sport.

"We have lots of people who aren't hockey fans coming to see it and none of them really know who he is, but they're still uplifted by his story. When you take away hockey this could be about anyone and it's an incredible story and a great piece of theatre."



Playing With Fire: The Theo Fleury Story runs from Thursday, Feb. 26 to Sunday, March 15 at Prairie Theatre Exchange.

Adult pricing is between \$25-\$49 while student pricing is between \$25 to \$39.

Visit pte.mb.ca for more info.

FILM



SUPPLIED

CYBER-SENIORS

★★★★☆

Playing February 20, 21, 26 and 27 at Cinematheque

To most twenty-somethings, watching a parent or grandparent trying, and failing, to use a computer is a familiar experience. This technological generation gap is often the butt of our jokes. So when two teenage sisters started the Cyber-Seniors program, an educational initiative through which high school students teach the elderly to use the Internet, it served a genuine cultural purpose. Much to my surprise, it also makes for pretty interesting cinema.

Cyber-Seniors director Saffron Cassaday is the older sister of the program's founders. She surrounds the film with a family framing device that at first seems misguided, but be patient. It goes somewhere, and so does the movie. At the heart of the picture are the handful of senior citizens that Cassaday follows. Most are pushing ninety, and they're definitely characters.

The inherent arc of the premise makes *Cyber-Seniors* really work. The characters go

from being technologically clueless to posting their own YouTube videos. That might not sound like a riveting documentary, but the movie reminds you what an incredible tool the Internet is. It's easy to take its ubiquity for granted. The people onscreen reconnect with friends and relatives they've been isolated from for years, and it's magical. One character uses an instant messenger for the first time, giggling with delight at every new message. When it's all over, she says to her teenage mentor, "I'm told I have a very good imagination, but these things, I never even dreamed about."

The teenage mentors are perhaps the movie's weak point. It's clearly filmed from a young person's perspective, so more time is spent on what the seniors learn from the teens and less on what the teens learn from the seniors. And if you're not learning something by cruising J-Date with a grandma, I'm afraid there's not much to teach you.

THOMAS PASHKO



SUPPLIED

SAGRADA: THE MYSTERY OF CREATION

★★★★★

Plays February 19-21 and 26 at Cinematheque

When the Spanish architect Antoni Gaudí was struck and killed by a tram car in 1926, he had already put over forty years of work into his magnum opus, the colossal Sagrada Família cathedral. Today the Barcelona church still remains unfinished, though a dedicated team of artists and craftspeople continue Gaudí's work. *Sagrada: The Mystery of Creation* examines that work and the symbolic importance of the cathedral.

Like the building at its center, *Sagrada* is filled with a thousand brilliant, intertwining ideas. They don't announce themselves to you, but they're there if you're looking for them. Gaudí's ideas still seem radical 130 years after he proposed them. His intermingling of architecture and nature imbue the building with symbolic meaning that goes beyond Catholicism, or any specific faith. The ideals behind his work stress union and cooperation.

Generations of artists from different faiths and disciplines collaborate on the structure, highlighting the multi-generational nature of its construction. Spanish

artist Josep Subirachs, an agnostic, sculpts one façade in angular opposition to Gaudí's natural curves. Japanese stone-carver Etsuro Sotoo, another sculptor, is a Zen Buddhist who converted to Catholicism to bring himself closer to Gaudí's perspective.

As Sotoo carves a sculpture with hammer and chisel, he insists that he isn't an artist, and that the stone tells him what he can and can't carve. For him, the spiritual aspect of the project comes from the meditative reality of his craft. For all involved, the process of building is the spiritual heart of the project.

The film mirrors the collaborative approach in beautiful formal touches. At multiple points, we're shown footage of the choir singing the film's music, for no real reason other than to remind us that there's someone singing it. When the Pope arrives to consecrate the church, the ceremony is hollow and unrelated to the work we've seen. *Sagrada*, and its namesake, are testaments to harmony.

THOMAS PASHKO

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THE POWER OF FUNK COMPELS ME

Mystery man abandons line-dancing and locker heist nostalgia in the name of fun



CLEM FANDANGO, MYSTERY MAN

VOLUNTEER

I escaped from the Kingdom of Coupledome. I didn't break up with anyone, no hearts were broken, nothing like that. I'm at a wedding populated by pairs.

There are three single people here: A guy whose girlfriend canceled out last minute due to a medical problem with their dog/baby, me and a six-year-old kid, dressed almost just like me, except he wears it better. If there were other single people here, they would undoubtedly flock to him because he's so cool.

There are friends and fun, too much food and those awkward wedding speeches. The conversation around my table turns to the topic of old school days.



"Remember that time so-and-so got busted for drugs in their locker? That was a shocker, wow! Anything like that ever happen at your school?," one tablemate begins.

"No, we didn't have anything crazy like that happen. We just had lots of people with pets in their lockers. That's about it. Nothing weird," another responds.

"WHAT!?! Like Tamagotchi virtual pets? Or like real REAL pets!?" the first exclaims, and out comes the full story.

"They were real, mostly hamsters, gerbils. Kids would keep them in their lockers. Lots of the time they would get out and they'd have babies all over the school. The school eventually had to raid people's lockers."

I picture SWAT teams ripping off locker doors and slamming gerbil kingpins on the floor.

"That is crazy. Illegal pet trading & breeding is way crazier than drugs in a locker...more drinks?"

Don't get me wrong, couples are fun. I know lots of coupled people, but put too many of them in a room and inevitably the conversations drift over to home renovations, babies, dogs shopping at Linens & Things. Or the fun begins, but both

have to leave because one is tired or wants to leave, the other dragged down by their significant life partner, their boring bae. Boo, I say. I want energy, fun, new exciting excitement & adventures!

The wedding band starts up. They're wearing off-brand fashions from the decades that spawned their cover songs. It's serious business, dressed in a teased & fluffed hairdo with a baggy pantsuit.

They play well, but are missing that *kick* as they roll through "Dancing Queen", "Brown Eyed Girl", "Play that Funky Music White Boy" - all the wedding social classics you hear as you circle 'round the purses piled on the dance floor.

They're doing a schtick about how they won't play any country music, but they lied and tricked us. "Boot Scoot & Boogie" fires up and the dance floor gets into line dancing mode.

It's 2015, didn't we wipe out line dancing along with the measles? Shania Twain starts, and that's it. I gotta go! I'm tired of dancing with everyone else's hot wives & gorgeous girlfriends. I'm scared to speak to some of them because I'm nowhere near as cool as that damn six-year-old kid.

If I drink any more, I'm gonna end up doing or saying something stupider than usual. I grab a quick drink, slam it back, grab my coat and fly through the door before anyone notices. I'm on the lam!

I hustle over to The Pyramid Cabaret to the Five Alarm Funk show. They are truly Canada's undisputed princes of party funk. This is their last night of three, and they're giving 150 per cent to the fans before embarking back to Vancouver. There's that *kick* I was seeking, that real live energy.

I see strangers - a few friendly faces, but mostly strangers - all sneaking off from other places too. Some jumped ship from Festival Du Voyageur, parties, concerts, other weddings with line dancing, all abandoned for this hot funky frenzy. You can tell who came from Festival because of the B.O, bonfire smell and hints of maple syrup.

There's even a webslinging, crowdsurfing Spiderman & Spidergirl. Everyone is here for the same reason, and the crowd is a huge positive force. The energy of band and crowd together is electric, building a hot sweaty, constantly jumping sea of funky people.

Awesome band and audience, couples and singles, mingling and dancing like crazy. We were a mass of camaraderie formed for the betterment of mankind, or at least for keeping the party fun.

My Escape to the Land of Funk was a success. I'll admit it: I ran, I cut out, I bailed. I'll hear about it from several people later on, but it was worth it.

Lights on, night over, time to go home. I jump in a cab and realize that I'm kinda hungry now.

I probably shoulda pulled a buffet heist at that wedding before I made a break for it.

SATIRICAL RACISM AND DIALOGUE

Organizer of *Dear White People* screening hopes to address the elephant in the room

CHRISTOPHER BRYSON

 @CHRISBRYGUY

VOLUNTEER

Alexa Potashnik, a 21-year-old, fourth-year human rights major at the University of Winnipeg, planned an event for Black History Month with the hopes of bringing thought and action to the debate on racism.

Her event (titled after the movie) will feature a screening of the film *Dear White People* followed by a discussion session hosted by Potashnik, a panel of two professors from the university and two public figures. There will also be a portion where the floor will be open to those in the audience who might want to contribute.

Potashnik hopes that the screening - happening Feb. 25 - will bring forth an openness for discussion regarding the issues the film addresses. "I want it to be an open dialogue where you leave your opinions at the door and get ready to learn and leave more enlightened," Potashnik says.

Dear White People is a satirical film based on real life events that address ste-



reotypes, race relations and racial identity in a fictional American campus. It's an incisive film that's won accolades of the 2014 Sundance Film Festival's Special Jury Award for Breakthrough Talent and the NYT Critic's Pick for its sharp wit and cutting humor.

"It's so raw and real that almost every single aspect in the movie you can't turn away from."

Based on true stories, the characters and stereotypes that are portrayed convey a striking representation of the issues of racism that are still prevalent in campuses across America. "It's amazing how all these (character) roles sync together and it's really kind of a mirror image of society, like look at what we've created and look what we're doing to people," Potashnik explains.

She believes movies like *Dear White People* and open discussion panels are important in seeking out ways to remedy issues of racism.

"The more you talk about race I feel the more barriers you can break down. If you don't talk about it there's this elephant in the room. *Dear White People* really addresses the elephant in the room."


Shauna MacKinnon, assistant professor of Urban and Inner City Studies at the U of W, believes in the importance of movies like *Dear White People* that address racism and racial stereotypes.

"Generally speaking, films and other means of exposing the continued existence of racism are important because they force us to look at our own attitudes, actions, and also inactions that make us complicit in the perpetuation of racism," MacKinnon says.

"We've indeed made progress, but as we look around at the racism that continues to exist in our own backyard, we can see that we have a hell of a lot more work to do."

For a moment, the movie leads into the question "Can there be...", a question that seemingly reflects the stagnance that can come from not realizing the issues of racism and letting them set. The question shortly after fills in, revealing the real question of the movie, and a part of what Black History Month and Potashnik's event seem to similarly ask, "Can there be harmony?"

That's the question we want to engage with.



The screening and panel for *Dear White People* is being held at the Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall at the U of W on Feb. 25 from 7-9:30 p.m.

A DAY FOR THE FAMILIES

Hundreds gather at the U of W to remember manitoba's missing and murdered

IMAGES BY MIKE SUDOMA

 @MIKESUDOMAPHOTO







DANIELLE DA SILVA



DANIELLE DA SILVA



DANIELLE DA SILVA



It was an afternoon of sharing, comfort and remembrance as nearly 300 people gathered at the University of Winnipeg for the eighth annual Women's Memorial March of Manitoba for All Missing and Murdered.

On Sat., Feb. 14 marchers gathered in the Bulman Student Centre for an opening prayer and acknowledgements before taking to the streets, marching down Ellice Ave. to Colony St. and down Portage Ave. to the University to raise awareness for missing and murdered indigenous women and girls.

Many family members and friends of the missing and murdered were in attendance, carrying signs decorated with flowers and photos of their loved ones. Marchers wore paper butterflies with the names of those missing and murdered as a sign of remembrance.

Also in attendance were a number of local policy makers including Premier Greg Selinger, Member of Parliament for Winnipeg Centre Pat Martin, city councillor Ross Eadie and Winnipeg mayor Brian Bowman.

Following the march, participants moved indoors where they heard presentations from Bernadette Smith, Alaya McIvor, Nahanni Fontaine and others.

"We really want this to be for the families," Lisa Parker, chair of the Women's Memorial March, told the crowd. "This today, is the one day that we have set aside for family, and I say miigwetch to all of you for coming to support the families."

The event was held in conjunction with the 25th Annual National Memorial Marches held in cities across Canada.

-Staff



ONE FULL DAY OF BUILDING CULTURE

Symposium crosses mediums and genres to feature trans self-representation

ANASTASIA CHIPELSKI

 @ANACHIPS

ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR

Last May, the first ever *Writing Trans Genres: Emergent Literatures and Criticism* conference was held in Winnipeg. On Feb. 28, the organizers of the conference are continuing the work that started over that spring weekend with a one-day symposium.

Decolonizing and Decriminalizing Trans Genres will be held at the University of Winnipeg (U of W) from 1 - 9 p.m. on a Saturday, and includes panels, readings and a community meal. Trish Salah, one of the organizers and a professor of Women's and Gender Studies at U of W, explains how the symposium builds on last May's conference.

"The function of this symposium is really to create space for dialogue by and



Trish Salah

about indigenous and black transcultural producers," Salah says. "We've widened our scope from the literary, which was the primary focus of *Writing Trans Genres*, to encompass a whole range of cultural work, activist work, literary and other forms of artistic production by indigenous and black artists, two-spirit and trans."

Ceyenne Doroshow grew up in Brooklyn, and is the author of *Cooking in Heels: A Memoir Cookbook* which was published through the Red Umbrella Project. "It's a memoir cookbook that thinks about family and food and race and sex work and prison, and I'm very delighted she'll be joining us as well," Salah says.

Performer, writer and activist Imani Henry will also be joining the symposium

and reading from the script of his one-man show, *B4T* which, according to Salah, is not that well known in Canada yet.

"This piece focused on his experiences of transitioning and moving from the context of being read as a woman of colour to being a black trans man in the USA and all that entails in various ways," Salah says. "So I'm pretty excited that (Henry) will be reading from that as well as speaking about Black Lives Matter and Black Trans Lives Matter."

Other participants include Saylesh Wesley, Ahimsa Timoteo Bodhrán, Andrea Jenkins, Yasmeen Persad, Dr. C Riley Snorton, and Syrus Marcus Ware. Salah explains that all the presenters are based on Turtle Island, and are a mix of Canadian and American folks.

While Salah sees the symposium as building on *Writing Trans Genres*, she also explains how this event is part of a larger cultural movement towards trans self-representation. She sees this contributing not only to Winnipeg's community, and the communities of the presenters, but also to a larger dialogue that spans genres and mediums.

"I think that self-representation by trans people across media, across artistic forms, across political and social forms is essential," Salah says.

"I think it's an ongoing project that's about building our culture, and producing context wherein we can tell complex stories about our lives and actually engage in work that doesn't have anything to do with our lives but even if it inevitably arises from our experience of the world in various ways."

Salah hopes that folks on campus and across the city will join in for the one-day symposium.

"I think this is an exciting opportunity, it's a rare opportunity," Salah says. "And if you can't come for the whole day, come for part of it. It's free."



***Decolonizing and Decriminalizing Trans Genres* is being held on Feb. 28 at Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall in the U of W from 1-9 p.m. The event is free and physically accessible. Child minding and ASL interpretation will be available as well. For more information, look the event up on Facebook.**

FACT:
Seventy per cent of jobs in Manitoba require post-secondary education and the average student debt sits at \$19,000.

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SWIMMING IN FASHION

The fatkini promises to become even more visible for Spring 2015



ANASTASIA CHIPELSKI

@ANACHIPS

ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR

Spring fashion launches always feel a little hasty in Winnipeg's February, but they can also be a source of hope. Store windows feature bright colours, lighter fabrics and the promise that one day we'll be able to bare some flesh without feeling an icy bite.

Swimwear may be the furthest thing from your mind right now, but 2015 is poised to be a massive year for the fatkini. And yes, you heard that right. The term fatkini was coined in 2013 by plus-size fashionista and blogger Gabi Gregg, also known as Gabi Fresh.

Gregg is a champion of two-piece swimwear that is designed to fit and flatter larger bodies. Her own line, *GabiFresh for Swim Sexy*, is a collaboration with Swimsuits for All and is offered in sizes 12-24. In 2013, Forever 21 and Walmart also began to offer more fashion-forward plus-size swimwear, although at a more accessible price point.

Last summer, the media began to take notice of the fatkini trend as well as the work being done by fat activists and the body positive movement. Miriam Zoila Pérez wrote on *Colorlines* that she was inspired to write about the trend after following the fatkini hashtag through Instagram.

"As a chubby person who has struggled with body hatred and fat acceptance my whole life, I was really drawn to these (mostly) celebratory and beautiful images of women embracing their bikini bodies," Pérez writes.

Meanwhile, in Winnipeg, we find ourselves with both chain stores and independent boutiques embracing the fatkini and plus-size fashion in general. Plus-size

retailer Addition Elle is promoting their own line of swimwear, *Cactus*, as well as Jessica Simpson's line. They offer some classic basic black offerings as well as sexy cutouts, playful flounces and bright patterns.

The Foxy Shoppe is bringing swimwear back this summer, and carries many of their items in sizes XS-XXXL. "The very first day The Foxy Shoppe opened, we carried the size range that is currently available. I have never thought to do anything else," Pamela, owner of the shop, explains. "I see the beauty in that diversity and in diversity itself."

"It really comes down to a solid belief that in this world women (and people in general) are simply not one size or shape. Under-representation of any one size or shape and the glorification of another has, in my opinion, created some very unhealthy emotional and physical issues," Pamela says.

To counter these unhealthy attitudes, fat activists work to create visibility and start discussions. The mantra and hashtag "Lose hate, not weight" was started by activist and author Virgie

Tovar. She also edited the anthology *Hot and Heavy: Fierce Fat Girls on Life, Love and Fashion*.

When asked about what 2015 might bring for the fatkini, Tovar responded, "The only trend I foresee is MORE - more people buying fatkinis and more skin! I've been eagerly anticipating fatkini season. I've already acquired two!"



Check out the Foxy Shoppe at 87 King st. Shop online at additionelle.com or stop by one of their three Winnipeg locations. Virgie Tovar's blog and books can be found at virgietovar.com, and visit gabifresh.com for Gabi's favourite looks and lines. If you're into visuals, browse Instagram for @thefoxshoppe, @additionelle, @virgietovar and @gabifresh and look for #fatkini and #losehateandweight.

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CREATING A SAFER CAMPUS

UN Safe Cities Global Initiative launches at the U of W with public forum

DANIELLE DA SILVA

@DLOUISEDASILVA

CITY & CAMPUS EDITOR

Students and staff at the University of Winnipeg took the first steps in creating a campus free of sexual violence last week.

On Feb. 11 approximately 25 people gathered in The Hive to talk about the U of W component to the UN Safe Cities Global Initiative.

In December 2013, Winnipeg was the first city in North America to sign on to the UN Women’s initiative to eliminate sexual harassment and sexual violence towards women in public spaces. Since Winnipeg joined the initiative, New York City has also joined, but the U of W remains the only university in the world to be active in the initiative.



“The University of Winnipeg is the first and only institute of higher education globally that has joined Safe Cities,” Kathleen Hunter, senior policy analyst with the Manitoba Status of Women, says. “It highlights the dedication of people at this institution towards creating policies and a climate of safety and security for all women.”

During the lunch hour meeting, students and staff were briefed on what sexual harassment and sexual violence looks like in different settings, and how other communities in countries such as Egypt and Rwanda have taken concrete actions against violence.

“The issues we are talking about, they are relevant on this campus, they are rel-

evant across Canada, but they are also relevant globally. So that’s an important dimension to remember,” Hunter says.

“It’s not that only women here or a small group of women are experiencing these issues. It’s an international concern. It’s a universal reality that violence against women and particularly sexual violence against women is quite commonplace.”

The meeting also served as an initial starting point for developing the interventions and processes that will be most effective on the U of W campus. Because there is no framework that can effectively be taken from one community and transplanted in another, the projects and interventions to be used

at the U of W will likely look different from any other city participating in the program.

Participants in the discussion raised concerns about reporting sexual assaults to security when there isn’t always a female identified security member on duty, and the prevalence of anonymous sexual harassment on apps such as Yik Yak.

Allison Reimer, vice-president student service of the University of Winnipeg Students’ Association, says the next step in moving forward with the program is getting students, faculty, administration and staff involved. Before any public awareness campaigns or actions can be taken, input on what sexual harassment and violence looks like on campus has to be solicited.

“The more voices and the more experiences that we get participating in this, the more diverse and inclusive the outcome will be,” Reimer says.

Members of the U of W community are needed to create a committee on campus that will help steer and lead the direction of the initiative. The project is also in need of ad hoc volunteers to participate in projects as they are determined.

“We’ve been bouncing around ideas and talking about what we could do, what would fit in Winnipeg, what we think would be really exciting and engaging for people,” Reimer says, “but we don’t have anything set in stone yet because what we really do need is that high level of student, faculty and staff participation to give that push behind the steering.”

To get involved with the UN Safe Cities Global Initiative on campus contact Allison Reimer at vpss@theuwsa.ca or call 204-786-9781.

NOT JUST ANOTHER DELI

Nick’s on Broadway offers Manitoba inspired cuisine

SHKELZEN MISKIOI

VOLUNTEER

What was once a sushi restaurant on the corner of Broadway and Smith St. is now Nick’s on Broadway, a restaurant that serves freshly made sandwiches, wraps, soups and desserts all made from scratch in an open kitchen concept.

After being told by his father that the space at 287 Broadway was vacant, Nick Graumann, 25, and his girlfriend Anastasia Damaskin, 26, decided to put their culinary skills to the test and open up their own cafeteria-style restaurant.

Graumann and Damaskin are both graduates of the Culinary of Institute Canada in Charlottetown, PEI. Graumann has spent a number of years working in Winnipeg’s restaurants, including Elephant and Castle and Larters at St. Andrews Golf and Country Club.



L to R: Nick Graumann and Anastasia Damaskin

Menu items at Nick’s on Broadway include the Waverley Wrap, Broadway Bowl, Eggs Bannatyne, and the Corydon Club - a testament to Graumann’s dedication to keeping his business close to home.

“I love this city. I wouldn’t serve the people here anything less than the hand crafted sandwiches that we do here,” he says.

Damaskin has been living in Winnipeg for three years with much of her culinary experience coming from the East Coast. She says people in Winnipeg tend to avoid using seafood as opposed to the Maritimes where seafood is the forte for most chefs.

Nick’s on Broadway has only been operating for a month now and people are starting to make it their new go-to

place. Over the extra loud music, one diner who works downtown is happy to see Nick’s on Broadway open.

“There aren’t many restaurants on Broadway other than Tim Hortons, Subway and Little Maria’s,” she says. Other diners at Nick’s on Broadway told *The Uiter* that they were satisfied with the portion sizes and service.

A new trend starting to surface more and more in Winnipeg is food made from scratch with a majority of products and ingredients coming from local suppliers which is what Nick’s is offering to its customers.

What might set Nick’s apart from other restaurants downtown is the fact that they offer nut-free food and a celiac friendly desserts, and as Damaskin says,

only using ingredients that can be pronounced easily.

Graumann hopes to offer an honest integrable service to customers and that shows. On the chalkboard menu, “Soup of Yesterday” can be noticed and underneath it says “always better the day after.”

At the moment Nick’s on Broadway operates from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and hopes to expand business operations soon. So far the clientele at Nick’s has been mixed, from business folks to young students and downtown visitors.

Check out Nick’s on Brodway online at nickson-broadway.ca or drop by 287 Broadway.



ADARA MOREAU

STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION SHAKE UP

Elimination of executive positions make room for new hires

TONY HINDS

@THETONYHINDS

BEAT REPORTER

The University of Winnipeg Students' Association's executive structure will look a lot different come spring time.

At the Special General Meeting on Feb. 12, with about 40 people in attendance, several changes were voted in that have the executive positions and duties within the UWSA shuffled under new names. The changes include the elimination and creation of UWSA staff positions and subtle changes to the distribution of student fees.

Since the mid-2000's, the UWSA executive consisted of the president, vice-president student services, vice-president internal and vice-president advocate.

All of the above positions with the exception of the president will be eliminated as of May 1, 2015. New positions created include vice-president of inter-

nal affairs, vice-president external affairs, vice-president student affairs.

The position of Canadian Federation of Students liaison director was eliminated with duties falling under the position of vice-president external affairs.

UWSA president Rorie McLeod Arnould says many of the eliminated positions had duties that overlapped, which necessitated the creation of the new positions.

"We recognized it was an area that we could improve in," he says.

These changes took place in order to allow the UWSA to better facilitate student organizing, government lobbying work and to improve human resources capabilities.

Two external advocacy campaigner positions for on-campus student organizers were also created to work with the UWSA and students' groups on grassroots demonstrations and actions targeting University policy.

"This is a big step forward," McLeod Arnould says. "Until now, we've never

had an organizational mandate to hire student organizers. In past years, the VPA in conjunction with the president and other execs and board members were responsible for organizing students on their own."

The advocacy campaigners will receive a yearly honorarium of \$5,000 for services rendered, which is a stark contrast to the lone executive advocate position of the exiting vice-president advocate, who earned \$27,500 yearly.

Overall, the position is intended to broaden the UWSA's capacity to organize on campus.

Student fees also faced some changes, but thankfully for students, there are no planned rate increases. The UWSA plans to restructure the distribution of building capital and Students' Association operating funds.

The building capital fund currently operates with approximately \$1.5 million of unspent funds, which has accumulated over the past decade. According to McLeod Arnould, the UWSA often

operates in deficit and must rely on loans from the building fund.

"It's not something that accumulated yesterday," McLeod Arnould says. "Something that was recognized at that meeting was that we don't need to be collecting all that capital funding. We're not going to be able to spend it every year."

Currently for a six-credit hour course, \$8.17 is distributed to the building fund with \$23.26 going to the UWSA operations. For a three-credit hour course, \$4.08 is distributed to the building fund with \$11.62 going to the UWSA operations.

Given the new changes, for a 6 credit hour course, \$4.09 will be distributed to the building fund with \$27.35 going to the UWSA operations. For a 3 credit hour course, \$2.04 will be distributed to the building fund with \$13.66 going to the UWSA operations. These changes are intended to allow for a greater transparency between the UWSA and the student body.

IT'S TIME FOR CANADA TO ACT LIKE A DEVELOPED COUNTRY

Everyone should have access to safe drinking water

PATRICIA NAVIDAD @PATMNAV

VOLUNTEER

In late January, Winnipeg declared its first ever city-wide boil water advisory. Though it turned out to be a false alarm, the whole city was abuzz about it, fearing the possibility of getting E. coli.

Twitter and Facebook were lighting up with photos of bare shelves and people complaining about not being able to shower the next day, even though the advisory really just meant you shouldn't drink the water without boiling it first.



While the advisory was an inconvenience, it was not even close to what many First Nations communities experience on a daily basis.

Our water boil advisory only lasted a few days, but imagine if it lasted for the months, or even for the years that First Nations communities have had to deal with?

Our city's water boil advisory - despite being a false alarm - was taken care of right

away. Yet some First Nations communities, in particular Shoal Lake, have been under a boil water advisory for about a decade and a half. If our water-boil advisory was still ongoing, I know many of us would be completely outraged at the government for their lack of action. While many First Nations communities have expressed their outrage over their lack of access to safe drinking water, the government has failed to do anything about it.

Last May, James Anaya, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples, shed more light on the government's negligence of First Nations communities. Anaya's report described how living conditions of First Nations people weren't up to par with the living conditions of the rest of Canada. While the report did praise Canada's efforts at improving First Nations economic standing, it made clear that far too many First Nations communities lack access to the basic necessities most of us take for granted.

The UN report - and the subsequent lack of response to it - raises troubling questions.

If the UN quickly realized how bad the living conditions were in many First Nations communities, why has our government done so little to correct it?

Why were Winnipeg's water problems addressed so quickly, yet some reserves are still waiting decades later?

Why do we say that Canada is a developed country, despite doing little to help many of our people who are living in developing world conditions?

If we want to keep calling ourselves a developed country, we must answer these questions. Being a developed country is about action, not words. It's time we acted like one.

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

IS SELINGER ON THE PATH TO VICTORY?

Business as usual may be a winning move for the premier

NOLAN KOWAL

VOLUNTEER

Even with all of the turmoil that surrounds the provincial New Democratic Party (NDP) here in Manitoba, one thing remains clear: Greg Selinger is determined to stay the course.

While Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs) Steve Ashton and Theresa Oswald make their best pitch ahead of the NDP leadership convention slated for early March, the premier has quietly gone about his business as usual.

That's the key. Rather than getting into a war of words with the two individuals vying for his job, Selinger has continued



to focus on the task at hand, which is to serve the needs of Manitobans.

It would be easy for Selinger to engage in a political battle with Ashton and Oswald. After all, they represent two very serious threats to him. But this leadership race is all about who gives the NDP the best chance at winning the 2016 provincial election and ultimately, that comes down to who is most capable of serving as premier.

I would argue that Selinger is in a position where simply continuing his daily duties as premier gives him the best chance at victory in the leadership race. What better way to convince the members of your party that you are capable of being premier in the future than by serving as an effective premier in the present?

Ashton and Oswald do not have that luxury. While they are making campaign promises, shaking hands, posing for pho-

tos and doing what candidates do, Selinger is attending meetings in Ottawa, visiting First Nations communities up north and doing what premiers do. Selinger is not acting like a candidate, nor should he be.

This all makes for a truly unique political situation - one that may yield surprising results come March 8.

Selinger's composed behavior is a testament to his character. Being subjected to a caucus revolt and having several members of your party lose confidence in you is enough to enough to crack even the most unflappable politician. In fact, I don't think too many people would have been surprised if Selinger had chosen to step down in light of the chaos that has taken over the Manitoba legislature. If he manages to overcome this, it will be remarkable.

The NDP has had a good run in this province. Yes, they've spent a lot of money, but that money has been put towards improving the public services in Manitoba. A couple of examples are Investors Group Field and the emergence of several brand new, state of the art schools. With that being said, sometimes the political world needs some balance. Perhaps it is time for the Progressive Conservatives to take over, cut back on spending and attempt to balance the books.

It is very unlikely that Greg Selinger will still be the premier after the next election. But that does not diminish the fact that he chose to take the high road in the face of some very adversarial circumstances. Where that road will lead is still up in the air.

Nolan Kowal is graduating with a degree in Rhetoric and Communications this April. He plans to attend Red River College's Creative Communications in the fall, where he hopes to pursue a career in sports broadcasting.

ATTACKING WINNIPEG WON'T END RACISM

Why Maclean's article serves no real purpose

NOLAN KOWAL
VOLUNTEER STAFF

If you managed to get through Nancy Macdonald's Toronto-centric critique of Winnipeg, all 5762 words of it, and felt offended, you weren't alone. The highly publicized article, which appeared on the front page of *Maclean's* magazine, does little to address the issue of racism in our society, but many felt like it was a slap in the face for Winnipeg.

Beginning the article by relying on a single Facebook post coupled with the snide suggestion that not many noteworthy people have come out of Winnipeg immediately puts the author's credibility in doubt.

There is no doubt that racism exists in Winnipeg and Manitoba. It also exists in Ontario, the United States and Europe. It takes different forms everywhere and



The Alexander Docks

you can't simply compare the relationship between white people and indigenous people in Canada to the relationship between white people and black people in the southern United States. And you certainly can't imply that Winnipeg is the most racist city in Canada based on a few isolated incidents. Maybe it is and maybe it isn't. The point is highly irrelevant.

That is where most people take issue with Macdonald's article. It appears to paint all Winnipeggers with the same brush. Emotional, anger-filled rants by three individuals - Brad Badiuk, Lori Steeves and a disgruntled Grant Park shopper who the author fails to identify - does not mean Winnipeg is a city full of racists.

Then there is the claim that Winnipeg doesn't celebrate its First Nations heri-

tage. This claim doesn't make sense, especially since Macdonald - who grew up in Winnipeg - should know about the pow-wow dances at The Forks and has probably driven past Thunderbird House on Main Street, a building with strong ties to indigenous culture.

What about the statement that Winnipeg does not provide equal opportunity for indigenous people? Perhaps Macdonald thinks tuition that is often free isn't enough? According to the *Toronto Star*, "*The federal government provides money to First Nations and Inuit communities to pay for tuition, travel costs and living expenses. But not all eligible students get support because demand for higher learning outstrips the supply of funds. Non-status Indians and Metis students are excluded.*"

Additionally, there is the case of self-declaration during job recruitment in the public sector - in some cases. Again, according to the *Star*, "*In the federally regulated workforce, the Employment Equity Act requires employers to increase the representation of four designated groups: aboriginal peoples, women, members of visible minorities and individuals with disabilities.*"

Indigenous people deal with issues that are completely foreign to many Winnipeggers, including myself, but it's wrong to say that Winnipeg doesn't provide our indigenous citizens with equal opportunity.

Racism is bred into our culture here in Canada. Many indigenous peoples have hostile attitudes towards white people and vice-versa. These attitudes seem to live on from generation to generation. This is the unfortunate legacy of the residential school system.

That's the reason no prime minister in recent memory has attempted to solve this problem, other than throwing taxpayer money at it. Clearly, this issue isn't going away any time soon.

Winnipeg is home to roughly 70,000 First Nations and Métis people. It is also home to many more people who come from other diverse backgrounds. When you have that mix, racism is going to surface from time to time.

Canada is a multicultural nation and with multiculturalism comes racism. It's a serious social dilemma and it won't be solved by a magazine article attacking Winnipeg.

Nolan Kowal is graduating with a degree in Rhetoric and Communications this April. He plans to attend Red River College's Creative Communications in the fall, where he hopes to pursue a career in sports broadcasting.

LET'S TAKE A BREATHER

Spring reading week is important for mental health, but perhaps one break is not enough

TESS GAUTHIER
VOLUNTEER

Exam season is almost upon us, which means endless amounts of caffeine and bidding your friends farewell for a few weeks. Thankfully, we have those glorious seven days in February to catch up on that pile of homework.

Reading week is a chance to recuperate, and many students agree that it's a vital part of maintaining mental health while in school. Then why do we only get this break during our winter semester, and not in fall?

The fall term is slightly shorter than the winter, but this doesn't mean the workload is any less overwhelming. We still have exams and many of us still need a break from the demanding environment that surrounds us.

The idea of beginning classes a week early and having a second in November is not a new one. It's



already been implemented by many Canadian universities.

Maclean's magazine wrote about the rise of fall reading weeks in 2011. They mentioned numerous schools that had made the change, including Ryerson University, University of Ottawa, and Trent University (which has had a fall reading week since 1964).

Wilfred Laurier University (WLU) approved the idea in 2014. After their first implementation of the break this school year, they were met with positive responses from students and staff. One student wrote in the WLU international student blog, "With all the energy that I have gained back from my break, I look forward to going back to school and starting a new page in my semester."

Since 2011, more schools have hopped

on board, including Dalhousie University. Its proposal for a fall reading week in 2014 included detailed information about students' mental health of students with facts and figures provided by the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA).

Rates of mental illness are higher among post-secondary students. CMHA reminds us that this is a time when students could be feeling homesick and may not be close to their support systems including family and friends.

It's also a time of transition for young adults. Many could be dealing with romantic problems or struggling to support themselves. A second reading week could also provide a chance to get in some extra work hours.

According to Klinik Community Health Centre, which offers a local crisis line and

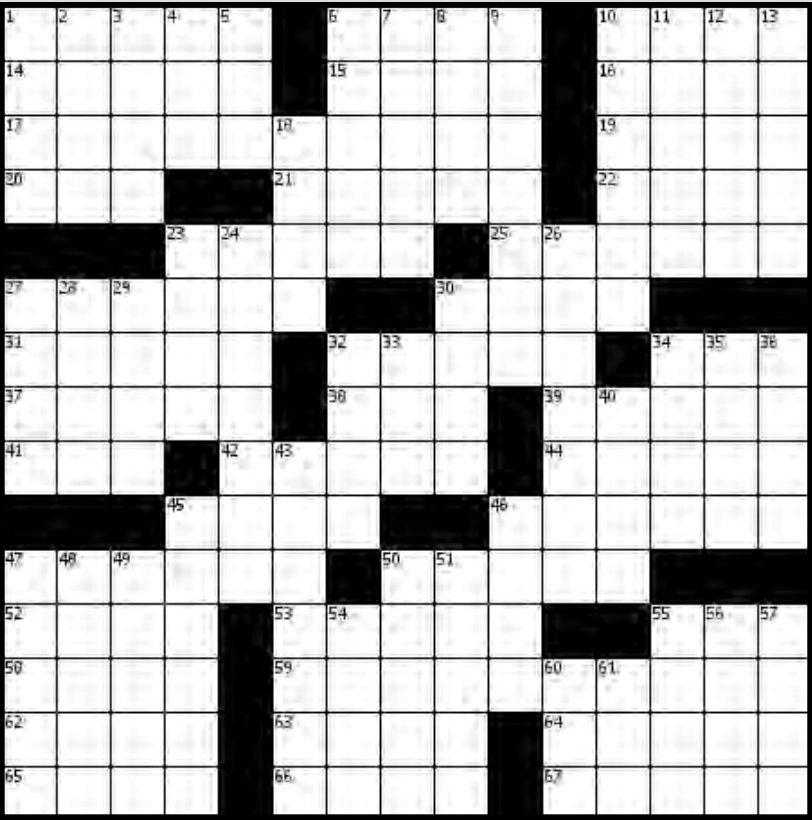
counselling services, February and November, are both steadily busy. Though fall not as busy as the winter, this could be due to a gradual building up of stress throughout the school year. Perhaps with a second break, this build-up will not be as extreme.

After gathering a general census on Facebook, I found most students in my network would support the idea of a fall reading week, and more than two mentioned it would be helpful to have a bit of a breather.

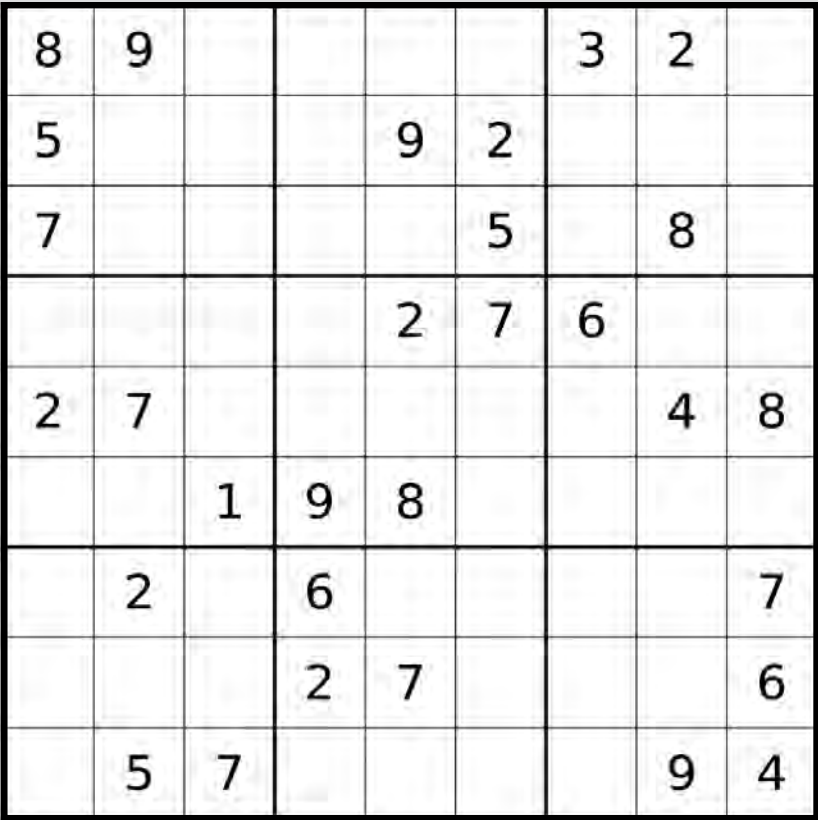
In university, it's all about getting ahead of the game. Perhaps starting classes a week earlier would be worth it if we are given a chance to breathe before we have to jump right into the madness of exam time.

Tessa Gauthier is a third year psych student who thoroughly endorses sarcastic people. She enjoys making weird art and causing uncomfortable silence with Freudian references.

DIVERSIONS



WWW.ONLINECROSSWORDS.NET



WWW.15DOKU.NET

ACROSS

- 1. Misplaces
- 6. Hand over
- 10. Queries
- 14. Similar
- 15. Eve's guy
- 16. IX
- 17. Monotonous
- 19. Birch or spruce
- 20. Roberto's "two"
- 21. Discourage
- 22. Pile
- 23. Prophets
- 25. Changes for the better
- 27. Swipes
- 30. ____ chowder
- 31. Midwest airport
- 32. Insulting
- 34. River barrier
- 37. Fundamental
- 38. Little one
- 39. Not fresh

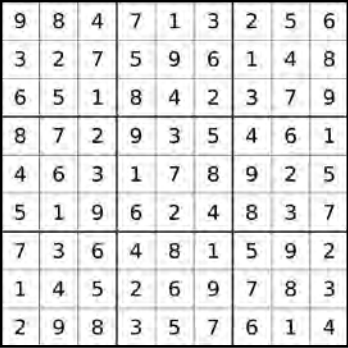
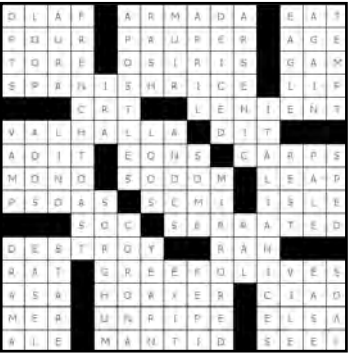
- 41. Pose
- 42. Visibly upset
- 44. Singing voice
- 45. Male cats
- 46. Invent
- 47. Soak up
- 50. Ohio city
- 52. Raise
- 53. ____ acid (nutrient)
- 55. Bottle top
- 58. Evils
- 59. Change a room's design
- 62. As well
- 63. Mirth
- 64. Pigment
- 65. Oceans
- 66. Chances
- 67. Entice


DOWN

- 1. Shortening
- 2. Butter alternative
- 3. Drinks daintily
- 4. Get by
- 5. Put down
- 6. Provide food
- 7. Revises copy
- 8. Writer ____ Barry
- 9. Green gem
- 10. Song of praise
- 11. Warning horn
- 12. Work with dough
- 13. Oozes
- 18. March date
- 23. Mumbai dress
- 24. Voter
- 26. Conductor's title
- 27. Weeps convulsively
- 28. Bangkok native
- 29. Toward the sunrise
- 30. Boston, e.g.

- 32. RR stops
- 33. Neither's companion
- 34. ____ Carvey of "Wayne's World"
- 35. Very much (2 wds.)
- 36. Nothing more than
- 40. Young adult
- 43. Trade restriction
- 45. Upper bodies
- 46. Gator's cousin
- 47. Diva's offerings
- 48. Southern beauty
- 49. Chip dip
- 50. Assisted
- 51. Leg joints
- 54. Join together
- 55. Quiet
- 56. Upon
- 57. Cheeky
- 60. Halloween mo.
- 61. Caviar

SOLUTIONS TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLES.





THE UNIVERSITY OF
WINNIPEG

Student Services

You of W

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

AWARDS & FINANCIAL AID

T4A TAX FORMS

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

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

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

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

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

STUDENT CENTRAL

LOCKER RENTALS

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

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

GRADUATION

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

READING WEEK

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

SC'S READING WEEK HOURS

Mon, Feb. 16 - closed

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

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

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

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

TAX RECEIPTS

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

U2014W COURSE DROPS

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

CAMPUS LIVING

RESIDENCE ROOMS AVAILABLE ON CAMPUS

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

MINDFULNESS MEDITATION

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

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

OPEN HOUSE 2015

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

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

ASK! You of W

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

CUPE 3909
THE STRUGGLE AGAINST THE NEO LIBERAL UNIVERSITY
 A PRESENTATION BY DR. HENRY HELLER
UOF MANITOBA
WED FEB 25 2015
4:00PM
 DISCUSSION FOLLOWED BY TAPAS & A CASH BAR
 BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE CUPE 3909 SOCIAL POLICY COMMITTEE
Facebook icon
MARSHALL McLuhan RM UNIVERSITY CENTRE

cloudydaze

LOVE'S
 CROOKS & Castles
 100 DEEP
 CONVERSE
 A&P
 NEW ERA
 Arifal Dodge

OPEN: 12-9 Monday-Thursday
 12-10 Friday-Saturday • 12-6 Sundays

204-775-3293

FASHION STREETER

Genevive Collins
 "It was a little bit warmer, so I opted to wear my wool coat"

SHERWIN OPEÑA

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.

CIRCLE HEADS

HEY, YOU! FEMALE! WANT TO ACHIEVE THE "NATURAL LOOK" IN TWO EASY STEPS?

UH... SURE. I GUESS.

STEP ONE: ERASE YOUR FEATURES!
 USE AS MUCH FLESH-COLOURED GOOP AS POSSIBLE TO ENSURE MAXIMUM COVERAGE!

STEP TWO: DRAW THEM BACK ON!
 REPEAT STEPS ONE AND TWO SIX TIMES A DAY UNTIL "NATURAL LOOK" IS ACHIEVED! LOOK AT YOU, TRENDY GIRL!

LISA JORGENSEN 2014 // PRAIRIEPARIAH.COM



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.



FREE Student Banking

That's right...*no fees!*

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



#DOGGOODLOOKGOOD

THE UNITER, EPH APPAREL & HUSH PRESENT:

• DRESS 2 *impress*

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

Nominations must be current university of winnipeg students and must contribute to their community in a meaningful way

TO NOMINATE SOMEONE, VISIT UNITER.CA/CONTEST

HUSH

F

EPH APPAREL

THE UNITER

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