

# THE **U** NITER

FREE.WEEKLY.  
VOLUME 70 // ISSUE 22 // MAR. 3

## WHY IWD?

International Women's Day marks 106 years of fighting for women's rights

BYE BYE BOATS  
(PROBABLY) P6

A WALK ON THE  
RIVER SIDE P13

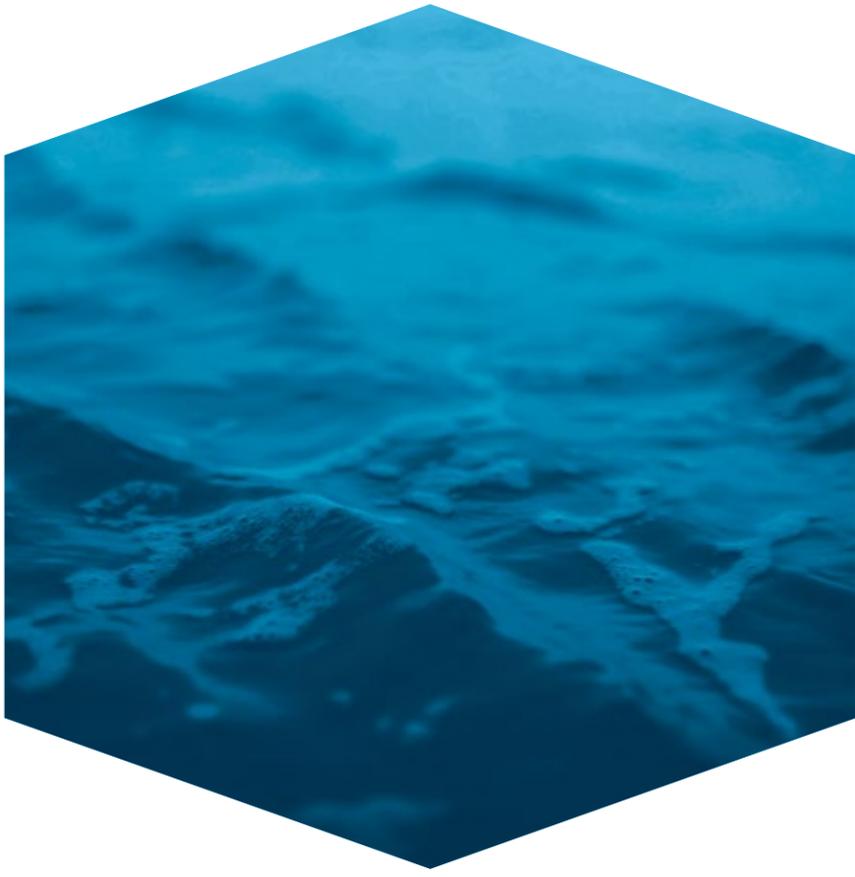
FIXING OUR FERAL  
FRIENDS P14

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Sustainability Festival  
March 14 – 18, 2016  
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## \* ON THE COVER

Mary Black is an artist, activist and author of the poem "Quiet."

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# MORE TIME FOR TALK

Fresh on the heels of our Indigenizing Media event with *Red Rising Magazine* on Feb. 4, we have another fantastic Speakers Series event in the works. On March 17, we're partnering with the UWSA and *Grass Routes Sustainability Festival* to present Water and Indigenous Women's Wisdom. The discussion will feature speakers Freda Huson and Chickadee Richard, as well as a water ceremony. Check out the back page for more details.

There are many issues that we can cover in *The Uniter*, but there's only so much we can say, even in a cover feature. And it's important that these conversations continue beyond the page. As much as we strive to include as many voices as possible, we don't know who we're missing until we go out and meet them.

During the Indigenizing Media event, we were lucky to receive the wisdom of not only the speakers, but of fellow attendees, those who took to the mic and shared their stories as well. We put faces to names and made new friends.

While we hope that the stories told in these pages open up new worlds and perspectives, we can't stop there. True learning happens in community, and through these events and partnerships, we're working on extending our own community.

And that community involves you. We prioritize events that are free and open to all, and to minimize barriers that our readers might encounter in attending these events. If we're missing something, please do let us know.

We've also got some exciting plans in the works for next year's round of Speakers Series events. Yes, next September may seem like a long way away, but there's a lot of legwork that goes into bringing exciting and innovative speakers to Winnipeg.

If you have suggestions for events, there's always room to join the Speakers Series Committee (which is part of the MouseLand Press). So if you're excited about what we've been doing with Speakers Series, or have some ideas about what it could become, do join the conversation.

In the meantime, watch for more details on Water and Indigenous Women's Wisdom, and we hope to see you on the 17th.

- Anastasia Chipelski

## DOWNLOAD OF THE WEEK

VISIT UNITER.CA TO DOWNLOAD "THE SALTEEN COAST" BY BOATS. (ARTICLE ON PAGE 6).



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FACEBOOK.COM/THEUNITER

The Red Cloth Ribbon campaign is part of an effort to bring attention to Canada's missing and murdered indigenous women and men (MMIWM). (Cover feature on page 9)

PHOTO BY DANIEL CRUMP

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SUBMISSIONS OF ARTICLES, LETTERS, GRAPHICS AND PHOTOS are encouraged, however all new contributors (with the exception of letters to the editor) must attend a 45 minute volunteer orientation workshop to ensure that the volunteer understands all of the publication's basic guidelines. Volunteer workshops take place Wednesdays from 12:30-1:20 in room ORM14. Please email [volunteer@uniter.ca](mailto:volunteer@uniter.ca) for more details. Deadline for advertisements is noon Friday, six days prior to publication. *The Uniter* reserves the right to refuse to print material submitted by volunteers. *The Uniter* will not print submissions that are homophobic, misogynistic, racist or libellous. We also reserve the right to edit for length/style.



PHOTOS BY SIMEON RUSNAK

THOMAS PASHKO

@THOMASPASHKO

FEATURES REPORTER

Mona Faith Mousa takes a specific aesthetic approach to her Wolseley home. The spoken-word performance poet and community advocate says her white walls and sleek countertops are a necessity for her living space.

"I was born and raised in Toronto," Mousa says. "I've always been a big city type of person. I'm not big into character houses. I lived in one on Furby, and it had so many problems. So my home is my own little metropolitan escape."

It's impressive, especially when considering the house's unsavoury beginnings.

"Do you remember the house in Wolseley that had 120 cats? That was this house. They tore it down and rebuilt it. My friend owns the house, so I got to choose the paint colours and backsplashes and stuff when they were rebuilding it, which you normally don't get to do if you're renting."

Mousa has been performing poetry for the past eight years, successfully touring North America with her art. It's a passion she found after losing another.

"I used to play varsity softball," Mousa explains. "But I developed juvenile arthritis, and they pulled me from the team for health and safety reasons. I'd already been writing, and one of our high school teachers had been encouraging me to write. I thought, 'What if I gave this a shot?' I took a bus from Windsor to Ottawa and I did a poetry slam there, and I've done it ever since."

**1) WALL OF FAME**

"I have tour stuff everywhere. Everything on the walls is something from tour."

**2) STAG'S HEAD**

"I got one just like this in Minneapolis, but then our bag's got stolen. I wanted one so badly that I found the pattern online and used my friend's table saw to cut it. I even found the exact newsprint they used."

**3) SKETCHBOOK**

"This is my first ever sketchbook. It's from when I was living in an artist's residency in 2010."

**4) PAINTING**

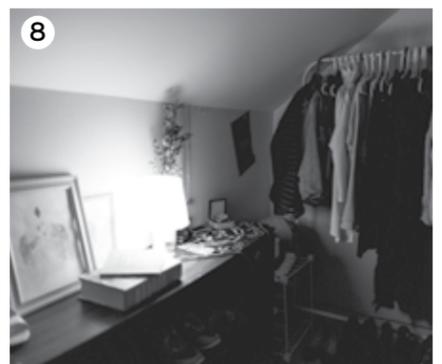
"I painted this the last summer that Frame Arts Warehouse was open. I had a studio space in there. The painting started out as one thing, but I got really frustrated and put gold wash all over it. My friends said they liked it."

**5) RECORD PLAYER/8-TRACK**

"It's not really functioning. I got it from an ex-boyfriend. I guess it's kind of a metaphor for our relationship: the record player doesn't work."

**6) THUNDERBIRD COFFEE**

"This is my favourite coffee shop ever. It's in Austin, Texas. If anyone's ever in Austin they need to go to Thunderbird Coffee."

**7) ALBUM COVERS**

"I used to book shows in Kingston, Ont. The Arkells show was really cool. It was in a venue that's not usually a concert venue. At one point the sound cut out and the audience carried the entire song. And Bedouin Soundclash, I used to go to elementary school with their bassist."

**8) WALK-IN CLOSET**

"I'm in love with my closet. You can see why."

## STANDING OUT, FITTING IN

The balancing act of racialized identities in the arts

MELANIE DAHLING

 @SUGARDAHLING

ARTS AND CULTURE REPORTER

Though it's true that art allows people to share their worldviews in a creative way, for racialized artists, it can feel like a cautious walk between authenticity and assimilation.

When Primrose Madayag-Knazen, a Filipino-Jewish playwright and aspiring novelist, wrote and directed her first Fringe play, *Cyber* in 2000, race was not on her mind.

"I just thought 'these are cool ideas!'" she says.

When Madayag-Knazen chose a diverse cast for the project, she did not even realize she was doing it until the reviews made her colour blind casting a focal point. She began to think about her race in relation to her art.

"Everything I did was a statement," Madayag-Knazen says.

Though Madayag-Knazen felt she was often interpreted as racial by white crowds, she'd been labeled as a "coconut" (a slur meaning brown on the outside and white on the inside) within her own culture.

In her 2002 piece *Shades of Brown*,

Madayag-Knazen featured characters on both sides of the spectrum, the coconut and "FOB." Madayag-Knazen explains that FOB stands for "Fresh off the Boat" and her characters experienced lateral racism for being too Filipino and not Filipino enough.

Chad Anderson, local comedian, has similarly been criticized for "not being native enough" on stage, but writing jokes that relate to his background has been a gradual process.

"It sounds shitty, but I didn't think about race that often growing up," Anderson says.

Because he was raised by a white family and had predominantly white friends, he didn't identify with his heritage until he got sober and turned to cultural rituals.

"Now I go to sweats and sundance and it's something I'm proud of," he says.

He points out that often jokes about race don't do anyone any favours.

"Cheesy stereotypical jokes, it's not exploring anything new. Now when I write a joke that has anything to do with race, I try to say, 'Here's a stereotype and here's why it's messed up.'"

Though racialized individuals often face prejudice based on their visual differences, Polish actress Monika Thurn Und Taxis finds that her accent holds her back in the audition room.

"I've been told I don't really fit anywhere," she says. "It's something I've been told a million times. You must have a standard American accent."

She struggles with balancing a focus on western culture and embracing the culture she came from.

Taxis, too, knows the frustration of not being enough.

"I actually lost a part for a Polish



ILLUSTRATION BY ANGELA GODOY

accent to somebody. Mine wasn't fake enough. They don't want it to sound authentic. Accents on TV are always very exaggerated," she says.

Taxis has decided to join artists like Knazen and Anderson by making her own work.

"There are so many stories that should matter," she says. "Sometimes, there's no work for you because nobody wrote it yet. You have to create a new world and say 'I'm not supposed to fit in.'"

Keep up with the artists on Twitter:  
Primrose Madayag Knazen (@PrimroseMK)  
Chad Anderson (@Chadilmatic)  
Monika Thurn Und Taxis (@MoniThurnUTaxis)



### What is racialization?

The word "racialization" refers to the "very complex and contradictory process through which groups come to be designated as being of a particular 'race' and on that basis subjected to differential and/or unequal treatment," according to the website of University of Calgary's Anti-Racism Education. This term is used to draw attention to the fact that racial identity is not fixed, and that it changes according to different people's perceptions. Read more at [ucalgary.ca/cared/racialization](http://ucalgary.ca/cared/racialization).

## ARTS AND CULTURE BRIEFS

MEG CRANE // ARTS AND CULTURE EDITOR

 @MEGCRANE

### WAC grants

Applications for the Winnipeg Arts Council's Individual Artist Grant are due March 8. Artists of any discipline are encouraged to apply for projects beginning after June 8. Emerging artists can apply for up to \$2,000, while mid-career and established artists can apply for up to \$5,000. Another round of grant applications will be accepted in September. Go to [winnipegarts.ca](http://winnipegarts.ca) for more info.

### Freeze Frame

The International Film Festival for Kids of All Ages, Freeze Frame Manitoba, is taking place March 6 to 13. Films from 11 countries will be screened at Centre culturel franco-manitobain and Cinematheque. In celebration of the festival's 20th anniversary, local filmmaker Brian Rougeau has created a new media installation which can be viewed in the Media Zone. For more info, go to [freezeframeonline.org](http://freezeframeonline.org).

### Poetry workshop

Poet Amber Dawn will be running a social justice poetry workshop on March 6. At 2 p.m. in Room 2M70 at the University of Winnipeg, Dawn will lead attendees through an exploration of their own lived experiences and values. The workshop will include writing prompts, sample poetry readings, peer-to-peer reflections, debriefing and a Q&A. Email [ccwoc@umanitoba.ca](mailto:ccwoc@umanitoba.ca) to register.

### Pysanka eggs

In time for Easter, the Wasylyshen Ukrainian Easter Egg Collection is being exhibited alongside artist David Wasylyshen's pysanka mosaics at the Oseredok Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Centre. The exhibit, titled *New Dimensions of Pysanka Art*, is open March 6 to April 9. The egg collection shows the variety of styles of the traditional folk art, including regional differences. Wasylyshen's work deconstructs the pysanka, creating a new work.

### What if...

On March 6, an all ages story night will ask, "What if?" Storytellers Darla Stewart, Edmund Machona, Carolina Vasilica and more will tell tales of their journeys through defining moments in their lives that left them asking that question. Tickets for The IF Word // A Storytelling Event are \$10 in advance through the Facebook event page or are \$15 at the door.

### Our own theatre awards

Winnipeg is joining the long list of cities that host annual theatre awards. Winnipeg Theatre Awards was officially launched on Feb. 29 and the first ever event is being planned for Nov. 19, 2017. A nine member jury of Winnipeg theatre professionals and arts supporters will select winners for a list of categories including performance, production and design.

## CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS



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Issues left!

### Writers, contact the Volunteer coordinator:

**Alana Trachenko** >> [volunteer@uniter.ca](mailto:volunteer@uniter.ca)

You can also stop by The Uniter office (Room ORM14 in the Bulman Centre at the U of W) every Wednesday at 12:30 p.m. for a volunteer orientation. We'll cover the basics and give you more of an idea of what writing for The Uniter is all about, and after that you can get started anytime.

### Illustrators, contact the creative director:

**Scott A. Ford** >> [creative@uniter.ca](mailto:creative@uniter.ca)

Volunteer illustrators are visual artists who provide some of the eye candy that goes along with many of our articles. We'll send you an outline of technical requirements and a weekly list of possible assignments to choose from. This is a great way to build your portfolio!

### Photographers, contact the photo editor:

**Daniel Crump** >> [photoeditor@uniter.ca](mailto:photoeditor@uniter.ca)

If you're looking for variety, our volunteer photographers cover events as well as shooting fashion streeters, headshots and local landscapes. We'll send you the assignment list and help you connect with the subjects. Get ready to share your photos with the city!

## ACTING UNDER THE INFLUENCE

*Smashterpiece Theatre*  
a beast of its own

PATRICK CARTY

VOLUNTEER

Smashterpiece Theatre will bring together actors, comics and improv artists for a night of sloppy, indulgent theatre.

On March 9, Melanie Dahling, comedian, and Angie St. Mars, a fellow writer and actress, will be co-hosting Smashterpiece as Wayne and Garth from *Wayne's World*, which should be totally excellent.

"As an audience member, you get to go see all different types of theatre in one night," Dahling says about the show. "And, as a performer, you get to choose a different type of scene you wouldn't get to do otherwise."

It came about as a sort of fundraiser for Dahling and company, after her most recent venture with the Fringe, *Biggest Little Child Star*. Although the show was successful with Fringers, it did not work out financially in her favour, so Dahling is running this as a fundraiser to help

make up the loss.

The name of the show, which spawned at a party one night, is undoubtedly apropos, slurring the popular adjective smashed with masterpiece.

The essence of Smashterpiece, however, lies within its formidable group of performers, who will be attempting to perform their scenes to the best of their ability despite being drunk.

"It's going to be wall-to-wall underdog stories," J.D. Renaud, who is known for his stand-up and visual art, says. He will be performing a scene from *Star Wars* with a partner.

Partially inspired by Chantel Marostica's series of drunken shows and performances, Smashterpiece Theatre is quickly forging an identity of its own, Renaud says.

At first, Renaud says the idea of a fundraiser held some uncertainty, but they've reached critical mass, with a full night of acts from an incredibly willing and talented crew.

At this point, there are 11 acts of all sorts. Unbelievable as it is, a song from *Les Misérables* will be attempted, drunk.

Two men will also perform a scene from *Showgirls*, and University of Winnipeg grad Johanna Burdon will get on stage with Christy Tarrono for a scene from *The Room*.

When asked just how inebriated she plans on getting, Burdon thinks there will be a limit to the booze, and she would like to avoid falling asleep on stage.

"This will be a great opportunity to bridge some gaps," Dahling says. "A



SUPPLIED IMAGE

night you can bring anyone to. Well, maybe not your mom, depending on how cool your mom is."

"It will be a borderline excessive night for unrefined theatre goers," Erick Casselman, owner of The Park Theatre, says.



Smashterpiece Theatre is going down at The Park Theatre on March 9. Doors open at 7 p.m. and the show starts at 8. Tickets are \$10 and available through [ticketfly.com](http://ticketfly.com).

## SMOOTH SAILING

Boats plays its last show

MEG CRANE

 @MEGCRANE

ARTS AND CULTURE EDITOR

Boats isn't making many waves with its announcement that it's ending a 15 year long career.

The announcement came with a Facebook event called Probably The Last Boats Show, which is happening on March 4.

"It's probably the last show," Mat Klachefsky, Boats guitarist and vocalist, says.

Klachefsky recently got a new job that will take him out of the city for four months of the year.

"Before I got this new job, Boats was my number one concern. Now it's probably about number four," Klachefsky says.

He doesn't want to eat up the other band members' creative time with something that he's not putting all of himself into.

"When Mat came up with this idea, it kind of made sense to all of us," Rory Ellis, who plays guitar and "other stuff" for Boats, says.

He says Boats was the first good band that he was in and that's led to other musical opportunities for him, which he will be putting more of a focus on, after the last Boats show.

"This was the right time to kind of bookend it," Ellis says.

Klachefsky says they've accomplished a lot of things that most bands don't get the chance to do.



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Soon, you might only be able to see Boats bandmates together in photographs.

The Winnipeg band's first album, *Intercontinental Champion* came out in 2007 and since they've released two more, *Cannonballs*, *Cannonballs* and *A Fairway Full of Miners*.

"It's a brutal industry. Just failure at every turn," Klachefsky says. "So we're going to take our accomplishments and run with them."

Boats has gone on tour in Europe and Klachefsky says there are few major cities in North America that they haven't played in.

A highlight for Ian Ellis, Boats drummer, was going to the waterslides in Edmonton, Alta. They also got to do an artists' residency at the Banff Centre.

"We went to Wizard Quest (in

Wisconsin Dells) once," Klachefsky says. "That was a career highlight."

Rory Ellis says there have been some murmuring of people who are sad to see the band move on.

"Weird nerds are sad," Klachefsky says.

Boats bass player Louis Levesque-Cote says no one seems to really care that they're packing it in, other than the band members, because so many bands break up but still play reunion shows.

And that's sort of what the Boats members will be doing.

"We're actually going to probably keep playing music together," Klachefsky says. They're going to change the name they're playing under and joke that the music won't be good.

"This is going to be our last good show worth going to," Klachefsky says.

Human Music and Beefdonut will be opening for possibly, probably the last Boats show.



Probably The Last Boats Show is taking place at The Good Will Social Club on March 4 at 9 p.m. Tickets are \$10 and available through [Ticketfly.com](http://Ticketfly.com).

## CKUW TOP 20

February 22 - 28, 2016

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



TW	LW	LC/CC	ARTIST	ALBUM	LABEL
1	3	!	Scott Nolan	Silverhill	Transistor 66
2	26	!	Roger Roger	Fairweather	Self-Released
3	4	*	Kacy and Clayton	Strange Country	Big White Cloud
4	6	!	Various Artists	Love, Lake Winnipeg	Self-Released
5	2	!	Autumn Still	When It Was	Self-Released
6	8		Savages	Adore Life	Matador
7	1	!	The Unbelievable Bargains	Exuberance Abounds	Transistor 66
8	25	*	Junior Boys	Big Black Coat	City Slang
9	7	!	William Prince	Earthly Days	Indie
10	NE	*	Basia Bulat	Good Advice	Secret City
11	NE	*	Matt Andersen	Honest Man	True North
12	13		Benoit Pioulard	Noyaux	Morr Music
13	9	!	Red Moon Road	Sorrows And Glories	Self-Released
14	21	*	Shuyler Jansen	The Long Shadow	Big White Cloud
15	5	*	Various Artists	Level Up	CJSW
16	NE	!	Federal Lights	Coeur De Lion	Aporia
17	NE	*	The Radiation Flowers	III	Sundowning Sound
18	NE	*	The Small Glories	Wondrous Traveller	Self-Released
19	NE	*	Josee Allard & Norman Nawrocki	Wild Plains	Self-Released
20	11	!	Chic Gamine	Light A Match	Self-Released
21	NE	!	Smoky Tiger	Rainbow Tiger	Self-Released
22	29	!	Trampoline	Sometimes A Song Is Just A Cigar	Self-Released
23	NE		Daughter	Not To Disappear	Glassnote
24	NE	!	Venetian Snares	Traditional Synthesizer Music	Planet Mu
25	NE		Beat Happening	Look Around	Domino



## ROOM FULL OF SPOONS

THOMAS PASHKO

@THOMASPASHKO

FEATURES REPORTER

Playing March 3 to 5, 10 to 13 and 17 at Cinematheque

★★★★☆

Anyone who loves bad movies is familiar with *The Room*. The 2003 brainchild of the mysterious writer/director/producer/star Tommy Wiseau, was an unseen disaster upon its initial release.

It has since become a cult phenomenon, famously called “the *Citizen Kane* of bad movies,” and has inspired books, films, video games and thousands of midnight screenings.

The new crowd-funded documentary *Room Full of Spoons* looks into the bizarre production of *The Room*, its evolution into a beloved piece of trash cinema and the complicated mythology surrounding the film. Most of *The Room*'s cast and crew appear in interviews, with a few notable exceptions (more on that later). But much like *The Room* itself, *Room Full of Spoons* is less about the onscreen product than it is about Wiseau himself.

*Room Full of Spoons*' greatest strength is its approach to *The Room*'s and Wiseau's mythology. Much of *The Room*'s appeal comes from the questions it raises: Who is Tommy Wiseau? Where is he from? How did he get \$6 million to make this movie? Is it supposed to be funny? The documentary manages to answer many of the most perplexing *Room* questions without erasing any of its mystique. It's a tricky balance, but even when presenting key revelations about Wiseau's illusive identity, the

filmmakers keep it.

That mystique is why Wiseau's absence from *Room Full of Spoons* helps the movie rather than hurting it. As much as fans may want Wiseau to sit in front of the camera and tell us everything we want to know, the fact that he's an enigma is what makes him so confusing and hilarious. I don't want to know why he invented a fake assistant named Jon, maintaining a fake email even when all his collaborators know he's really Tommy. Just knowing that he does this is enough. It's worth noting that Wiseau, while initially giving the documentarians his blessing, has since condemned *Room Full of Spoons* in a series of bizarre YouTube videos. Whether these videos are sincere, or meant to drum up publicity for the documentary, is unclear.

The absence that does hurt the film, however, is Greg Sestero, Wiseau's co-star and line producer. Sestero has been the public face of much of the cult carnival surrounding *The Room*, and his book *The Disaster Artist* became a critical smash. He's as big a piece of the film's production as Wiseau, but he's capable of shedding light on things in a way that Wiseau isn't. In addition to character absences, there are curious omissions of information. At one point, the filmmakers reveal documents detailing a fraud lawsuit filed against Wiseau by his financier's spouse, only to abandon that thread entirely.

One other misstep is the onscreen presence of the documentarians themselves. While their creative process and relationship to Wiseau is key to revealing truths about their subject, it's handled clumsily. The sleekness of the film feels like it's being interrupted by a DIY effort every time the focus shifts. It's possible to consider these inconsistencies and loose ends as loving tributes to *The Room*. But that's being way too generous.



## These Old Fangs

The Demo  
Independent



The ability to transcend many different musical styles while maintaining a common sound is very difficult for a band to do. Local rock band, These Old Fangs, manages to do this on their first EP simply titled “The Demo.” This demo was released in January as a collection of four fast paced songs that showcase the band's unique sound and ability to seamlessly mix folk, reggae, blues and modern rock. An early sixties bluegrass feel is present through the first track, while reggae style vocals over hard rock guitars take dominance through the rest of the EP. This is a great first taste of a Winnipeg band with potential. You will enjoy this if you like Sublime, Wide Mouth Mason, or Sloan. The Demo is available on These Old Fang's Band Camp site.

- Alex Roberecki

## Trampoline

Sometimes a Song is Just a Cigar  
Independent



There are many different ways to create a song. Countless artists have decided to play it safe and write in basic forms or styles, running the risk of sounding the same. Winnipeg band, Trampoline, does not have this problem. On their first EP titled, *Sometimes a Song is Just a Cigar*, the four piece, self-proclaimed ‘anti-rock band,’ creates a hodge podge of cool melodies, exciting guitar licks and fun background noises. These complement the witty and intelligent lyrics that play on everyday thoughts and phrases. There are many times when you'll think lead singer, and lyricist, Michelle Lenick, is speaking directly to you. On first listen Lenick's raw voice will catch you off guard, but give it a few seconds and you will be thoroughly enjoying the unique tone. Musically, Trampoline combines many different melodic ideas and sounds adding harmonic layers to each recording. Their experiments with fun tones and crazy background voices sound like something Frank Zappa would put on one of his albums. Once you are finished listening to this EP of four songs you will probably want to listen to it again. A set of definite head bobbing tracks that you will never grow tired of.

- Alex Roberecki



## A GUIDING LIGHT FOR WRITER'S EYES

### The Writer-in-Residence programs

CHRIS BRYSON

@CHRISBRYGUY

VOLUNTEER STAFF

Writer-in-residence programs are supportive environments for writers of all experience levels.

Rick Chafe, the 2016 Carol Shields Writer-in-Residence at the University of Winnipeg, says he can give feedback to writers who submit work that follows the submission guidelines.

"I can also be giving a writer who may have less experience than me a whole lot of feedback and techniques and ideas about where they could be going with their writing with a particular piece and how to make it better."

Chafe has found many seek out advice on career paths, schools and choices writers can make to develop their work. If a writer-in-residence is unable to help

directly, they will likely have connections with someone who can.

"The support is really important all through your career. Not just in those very first times that you're venturing out and showing somebody something. You need support to believe in yourself or this is just plain difficult," Chafe says. "But everything becomes so much easier if you're going along the path with others at the same time."

Patricia Robertson, the current writer-in-residence at the Winnipeg Public Library, says a big part of her job is getting people to let go of their first draft, which many are attached to and believe is ready to go.

"I'll say I can see that you see it, very clearly, but it's not here on the page yet," Robertson says. At that point, the writer's job is to rework the pieces so that other readers can enter their world.

"It's very much about being able to see what you have," Robertson says.

Ultimately, what writer-in-residence programs do is help the writer better their work and, in the process, better themselves as writers.

"It's like any discipline," Robertson says. "It's like being an athlete or a ballet dancer. You have to keep practicing. And there are days you won't want to."

The personalized contact and feedback are accentuated because there is no grading. Writers are given feedback that's intended to be constructive and oriented towards their personal goals as writers.

Margaret Sweatman, an associate professor in the University of Winnipeg English department who has also been a past writer-in-residence at both the

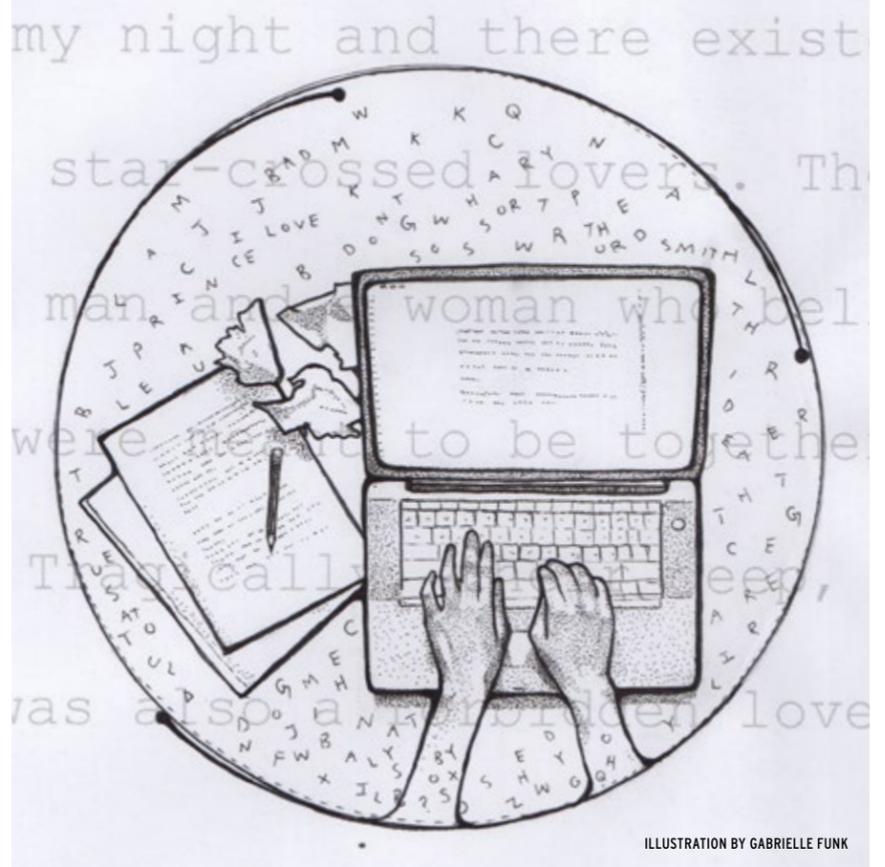


ILLUSTRATION BY GABRIELLE FUNK

University of Winnipeg and Winnipeg Public Library, says that the lack of grading is a huge luxury.

"They can work with you," Sweatman says, opposed to working to give writers a mark.

"I think you also get a dose of professional development because you're dealing with someone who is working freelance and you kind of by osmosis,

or even by direct information, you gain some knowledge of what it's like to work in the arts," Sweatman says.

Chafe, Robertson and Sweatman agree that the benefits of the writer-in-residence programs bring confidence and a guiding light to writers seeking consult, but that writer has to be willing to take and use feedback.

## CONCENTRATING ON FACT

### How healthy is a juice cleanse?

MELANIE DAHLING

@SUGARDAHLING

ARTS AND CULTURE REPORTER

It's that time of year again—all the holiday dinners have been eaten, the February chocolate consumed and people are left feeling in need of a change.

One tempting offer is the juice cleanse. "Initially I was completely against the idea," Adrienne Fish, a Toronto based comedian says. "I thought it sounded cruel to treat your body like that."

After speaking to a friend, she decided to try it out.

There are variables as far as cleanses go, but typically while on a juice cleanse a person will spend one to three days drinking liquids made up of highly concentrated fruits and vegetables.

The concept is a controversial one with a lot of conflicting information behind it, but more and more people are giving it a try.

Fish had a positive experience on her cleanse after being persuaded by her friend to try it.

"She was saying that it takes three days for your body to rid itself of whatever is in your intestines, so it in fact gives your body a break from always breaking down foods," Fish says.

This is the main concept behind a juice cleanse.

According to a 2013 study by the U.S. National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, it takes 24 hours or more for food to go from mouth to colon.

By switching to juice for three days, the idea is that a person can hit the refresh button on their gut.

Gerren McDonald, a member of the kinesiology and applied health faculty at the University of Winnipeg, isn't sold on the idea.

"Our physiology is very effective at keeping us clean," he says.

McDonald says research to support cleanses is not reliable.

"They typically don't do a randomized control group with a placebo, making it hard to sort through," he says. "Most people make the comment that they feel better, but if that's because of the nutrients or more psychological... it's a big unknown."

Fish doesn't know if it actually cleansed her body, but she did have results that she didn't anticipate.

"You become way more in touch with your metabolism," Fish says. "When it's at its height and when it's at its low."

Fish has made changes to her diet according to the discoveries she made about her metabolism while on the cleanse.

Though this may be a great option for some, it can trigger eating disorders in others.

According to an article published in *Marie Claire* magazine, there are people using these detoxes as a way of masking an eating disorder. Others develop destructive eating patterns after finishing a cleanse.

"Our body needs a certain amount of calories," McDonald says.

For consumers who are looking for a dramatic way to jumpstart a healthy lifestyle, he remains wary.

"I'm sensitive toward the idea of doing 'something big,'" he says. "There are ways to slowly build into the lifestyle we're looking for. There's no one big piece for that, though people always have that hope."

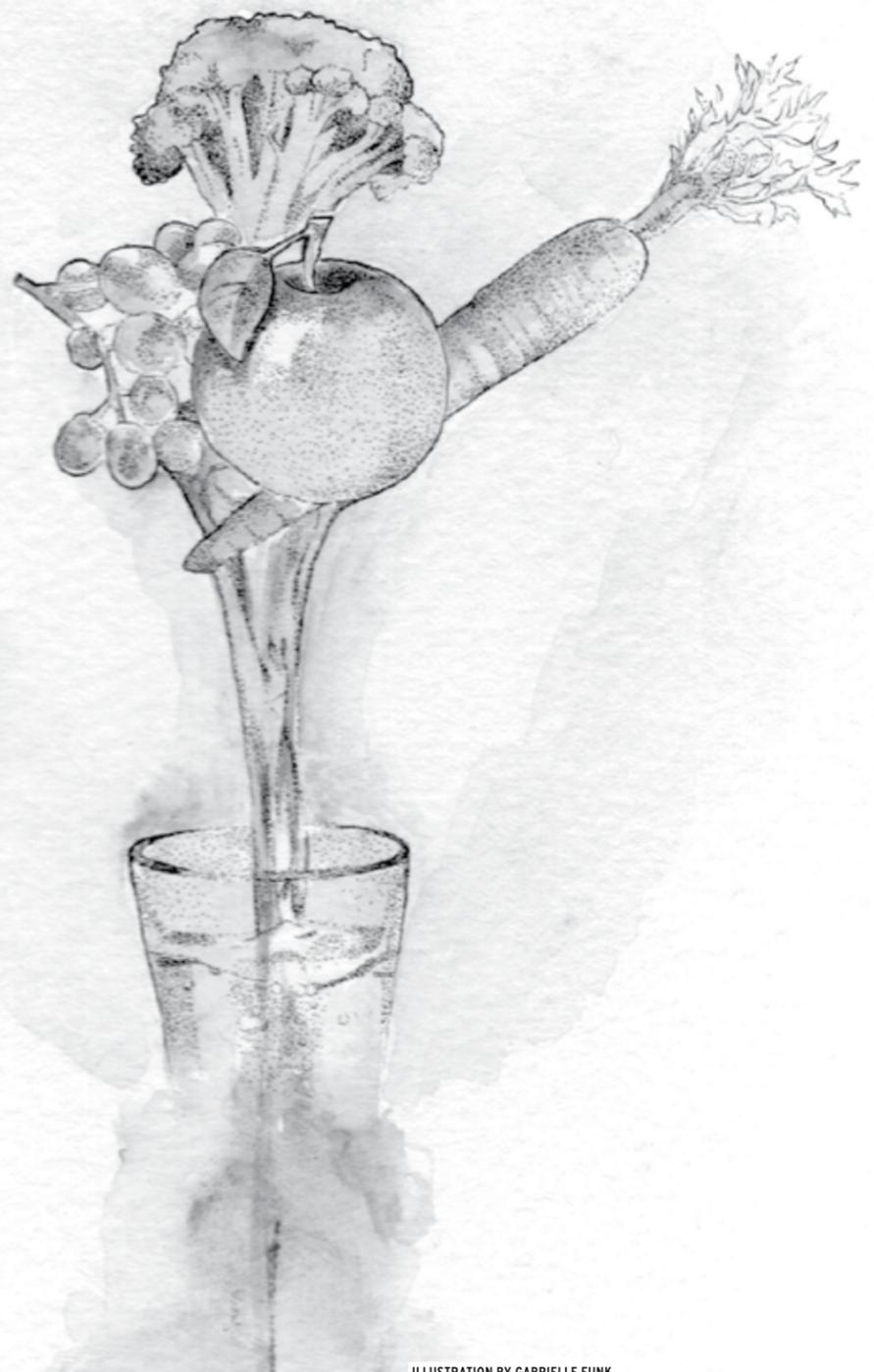


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# WHY IWD?

International Women's Day marks 106 years of fighting for women's rights



WORDS BY ELENA SPITCYNA

 @CAMPUS\_ELENA

PHOTOS BY DANIEL CRUMP

 @DANNYBOYCRUMP

**F**or many years women have been fighting for gender equality, and even though they've come a long way, the battle is still far from over.

In 1910, the Socialist International meeting in Copenhagen established an International Women's Day (IWD) to recognize the movement for women's rights and to strengthen the idea of the women's equal right to vote.

That notorious moment triggered numerous events, such as rallies for the right to vote and protests against discrimination at work. The consequences of those struggles played a major part in forming society as we know it now in 2016.

IWD is celebrated on March 8 across the world. This is the day when women celebrate how far they've come and the trail that is still to be walked.

The right to vote, work, get an education and have an income are things that weren't available for women in the past. These are things they had to fight for, and the things that they've acquired with their own hands.

But even with those wins left behind, women still have many issues they have to face everyday. The right to work, for example, is clouded by inequality and workplace harassment.

IWD is an important day to not only commemorate past achievements, but also to take pause and look into the future. And, of course, to have fun.

COVER FEATURE continues // NEXT PAGE

## IWD in Winnipeg

This year the celebration of IWD in Winnipeg will have a lot of variety.

The traditional annual march is once again organized by a group of volunteers called the IWD planning committee. Kelby Loeppky, the status of women director at the UWSA, is a part of the committee. She says that the march is a great way for people of all ages and genders to get involved.

“For us to march is kind of a way to celebrate, to make noise, to bring attention to women’s issues and also to celebrate together,” Loeppky says.

The march is open for everybody and will start at Portage Place and will take a route ending in the Bulman Centre in the University of Winnipeg (U of W).

Apart from the march, there are many other events designed to celebrate IWD.

Sarasvati Productions, a theatre that presents significant social issues and engages in community collaboration, holds the International Women’s Week Cabaret of Monologues: Stolen Sisters. The goal of the event is to honour women by telling their stories, as well as tackle the topic of gender-based violence.

Hope McIntyre, the artistic director for Sarasvati Productions, says that lots of artists felt like the issue of murdered and missing women should be addressed.

“It’s been so important in the last couple

of years with a push for the inquiry for murdered and missing women as well as the reality that globally, women are often used in conflict. We’ve decided that it’s the right time to focus on that theme.”

As part of the cabaret, Mary Black will perform her poem *Quiet*, which went viral after she posted a video of herself reciting the poem on Facebook. Black wrote the poem as a rant, a response to trauma, to sexual abuse and to growing up in care.

She performed a live, extended version of the poem for the first time on Feb 29. It is longer than the Facebook video, Black says, and more positive; she planned to “turn it around and say, ‘How are we going to fix that?’”

The Women-Trans Spectrum Centre (WTSC), a resource centre for women and trans students at the U of W, will also host multiple events throughout International Women’s Week.

“To me (IWD exists) to challenge the oppression towards women, all forms of oppression and how other forms of oppression intersect with being a woman – racialized, misogyny, and class,” Marieke Gruwel, the coordinator of the WTSC, says.

“There is a lot of sexual assault that happens on campus and it’s very, very underreported.”

Dr. Sharanpal Ruprai, an assistant professor in the Women’s and Gender Studies department at the U of W, says that

the past year brought some big changes.

“In Canada this year has been tremendous in terms of having something like (Justin Trudeau’s) ‘because it’s (2015)’, because we have half the women in Parliament federally,” Ruprai says. “Rachel Notley is the first premier, woman premier provincially in Calgary. It seems like really big moments happening. We also have (the) inquiry into the missing and murdered indigenous women.”

## The fight is still not over

But despite those changes, there are still many issues that women have to face. They have to deal with racism, workplace harassment and access to health and safety, according to Ruprai.

McIntyre also says that there is the misconception that the work is already done. She believes that while women don’t have economic security, they will continue to be exploited.

“When it comes to equality, women are still only making 70-some cents to a dollar that men are making in North America. In theatre our experience is that less than 30 per cent of plays produced in Canadian theatres are written by women,” McIntyre says.

“And certainly the stories we’ve heard from indigenous women and women working in the sex trade, women who are

working in areas where they’re poor, there is still a lot of exploitation happening and I think we don’t have to look very far outside of Winnipeg to see that.”

Sharing stories is a vital ingredient for making changes for indigenous women.

“Using our voices in something that is vital to our healing,” Black says. “We’ve carried that shame and that guilt. It’s not ours to carry. It’s time to move forward.”

“Unfortunately the common ground (for women) that we have right now is that women are still at a disadvantage,” McIntyre adds. “When we talk to women, they’re able to share experiences of being treated as sexual objects and the common experience of being underpaid or undervalued in the workforce.”

Another question that comes with IWD nowadays is how we define *woman*. “There is no one single woman’s story or experience,” McIntyre says.

Gruwel says that this is one of the questions they’re facing yet. She states that it shouldn’t depend on the physical appearance.

“Something we start to work on, but we still have a lot of work on doing, is making sure that we’re celebrating all women. That goes back to saying that we celebrate those who identify as women.”

So moving beyond a simplistic understanding of biological sex, IWD is for anyone who identifies as a woman, according to Gruwel.



Hope McIntyre, the artistic director for Sarasvati Productions.



Kelby Loeppky, status of women director at the UWSA.



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Dr. Ruprai also adds that the important thing is that the celebration should be all-inclusive.

“One thing (that) has been fantastic for women’s movements is a choice. You get to choose your pronouns that you use. And I would fully embrace men to celebrate IWD, because, as our prime-minister has already said, feminist is not a dirty word.”

– With files from Meg Crane



Mary Black performs her poem “Quiet” in front of an audience of teachers at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights.

**i**

**IWD March - March 8, 12 p.m.** Starts at Portage Place, ends in the Bulman Centre at University of Winnipeg;

**W(h)ine and Crime - March 8 at 7 p.m.** at The Knndy;

**Sarasvati Productions’ Cabaret of Monologues: Stolen Sisters - Doing It For The Fame & QUIET - March 9 at 12:30 p.m.** at the Hive (U of W);

**DIY (Do It Yourself) Fest - March 10 at 11.30 a.m.** at the Hive (U of W);

**International Women’s Week Cabaret of Monologues: Stolen Sisters March 12 at 4 p.m. and March 12 at 8 p.m.** in the Asper Centre for Theatre and Film (U of W).



Mary Black delivers a powerful message with the performance of her poem “Quiet.”

# Working for students



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 GregSelinger.ca



**James Allum**  
 MLA for Fort Garry-Riverview  
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 JamesAllum.ca



**Sharon Blady**  
 MLA for Kirkfield Park  
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 SharonBlady.ca



**Deanne Crothers**  
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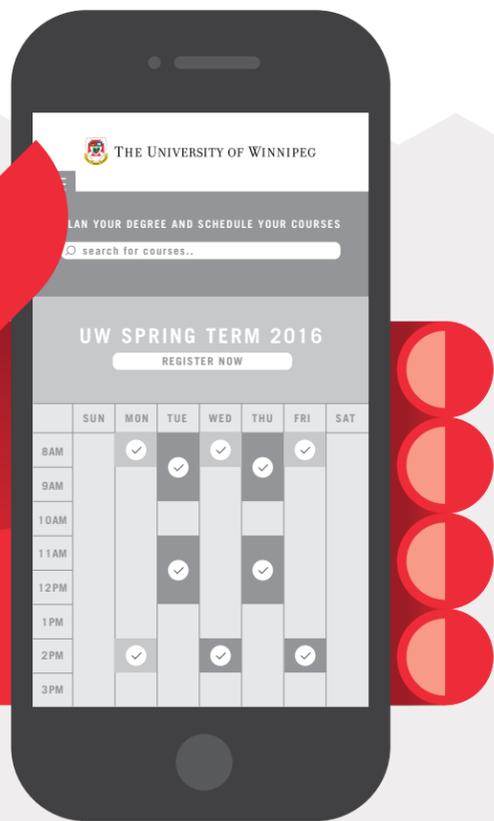
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THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG



## MIDDLE OF NOWHERE

WITH TIM RUNTZ



### RIVERSIDE ENCOUNTERS SHOW THE IMPORTANCE OF WILD SPACES

When I think of rivers, I think of the two months I spent travelling alongside them in Europe. Their banks formed a network of cycling paths removed from traffic and linking village to town to city. Slowly pedaling along these waterways gave me a sense of the connectedness of places, the upstream-downstream relationships of neighbours becoming explicit as I followed the current.

Returning home, I began spending time along the Red, Seine, and Assiniboine, and I saw that Winnipeg's riverbanks hosted a complex ecosystem of prairie plants and animals, washed-up refuse, and humans of the bike-riding, dog-walking, fish-catching, beer-guzzling, and pot-smoking varieties.

According to a provincial planning regulation, new developments in Manitoba must be set back at least 30 metres from natural bodies of water, and riverbanks and shorelines "are best left in their natural state, undisturbed," so as to prevent erosion and maintain the natural water-filtering properties of trees and shrubs.

This means that Winnipeg is criss-crossed by corridors of relatively untouched space known as riparian zones. These 30-metre buffers between where "civilization" ends and water begins are the closest thing we have to wilderness within the city limits.

Winnipeg's riverbanks may be protected by developmental regulations, but they are far from uninhabited. It's not uncommon to encounter a fellow mammal near the water, yet in many cases the distractions of thick foliage and wandering minds mean these encounters come as a surprise.

I've run into yuppies, puppies and crust punks alike, all of them oddly bound by a shared decision to stray from sanctioned trails and into the meandering routes through riverside brush.

These are vulnerable but humanizing encounters, unlikely to occur on city sidewalks. There's a shift that takes place when we enter spaces seemingly unmanaged by municipal or corporate interests. As the line between deer-trail and bike-trail blurs, we forget our cultured habits like avoiding eye contact and rushing to our destinations.

These riverside routes are organic in a way, the perennial cycle of freeze, thaw, flood and heat revealing new paths one season, then covering them up the next. But each year the riverbanks also recede, clumps of earth falling into the Red and Assiniboine like melting icecaps.

So of course Winnipeg's riverbanks can't be entirely wild. Riparian zones must be carefully monitored and managed to prevent erosion, and the city allocates about a million dollars per year to do just that. But at a price tag of \$2 million



ILLUSTRATION BY GABRIELLE FUNK

per kilometre, stabilizing the city's 100 kilometres of riverbank is a massive, and largely underfunded, endeavour.

While issues like potholes and tax rates get officials elected, maintaining the integrity of our riverbanks seems to be a neglected priority, despite the biodiversity, property values, and long-term fiscal nightmares on the line.

The untouched nature of Winnipeg's riverbanks results not from the inherent value of wild spaces, but from the mere

impracticality of building on fragile land and the convenient utility of allowing natural vegetation to do its work.

We will soon have to realize that when it comes to investments in infrastructure, Winnipeg's riverbanks can't stay out of sight and out of mind.

*Tim Runtz is the Comments editor at The Uniter, an associate editor at Geez magazine, and an occasional bicycle mechanic.*

## NEWS BRIEFS

PALMER FRITSCHY // NEWS EDITOR



### Green grannies

As part of the Leap Manifesto started by writer Naomi Klein, the Winnipeg Raging Grannies for Social Justice showed up at Polo Park on Monday to demand that Canada adopt a 100 per cent renewable energy platform by 2050. The Leap Manifesto movement is an environmental campaign endorsed by David Suzuki, Neil Young and other notable Canadians.

### Wrestling champs

On Feb. 27 and 28, the Winnipeg Wesmen men's wrestling team won three medals and three individual awards at the Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) Wrestling Championships. Gold Medal winners and National Champions include Finn Higgins and Aleksandr Sofronov while Kyle Nguyen captured the bronze medal in the 120 kg weight class and was the recipient of the Community Service Award. Higgins was named the CIS Most Outstanding Male Wrestler.

### 100 Women sought

A group of Winnipeg women are recruiting more women with the aim to raise \$10,000 in one hour for local charities four times a year. The group, called 100 Women Who Care Winnipeg, are seeking 100 women to each bring a cheque for \$100. The one-hour idea is geared toward busy women who want to help.

### Arctic 2045

On March 9, the U of W presents the *Arctic 2045: Three Scenarios*, a lecture from the University of London's Dr. Klaus Dodds, who considers cultural geopolitics and possible futures in the changing circumpolar north. The lecture runs from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in room 5L24.

### Shriners hospital closing

After nearly seven decades of operation, the Rehabilitation Centre for Children on Wellington Crescent, will close in the next few weeks. The centre, formerly known as the Shriners Hospital, will move to a new home at Specialized Services for Children and Youth on Notre Dame Avenue, at the site of the former Christie Biscuit factory. The hospital was in operation since 1949

### Multicultural dialogue

On March 10, the U of W presents the *Dialogue on Policing in Multicultural Communities*, a workshop exploring the perspectives and experiences of community members and police officers. The talk runs at 7 p.m. in Room 2M70, as part of the Global College Igbo Educational Lecture Series (IELS) on peace-building in a multicultural society.

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## CATS IN CRISIS

Charity and city clash over population control

SARA ARENSON

@SARAARENSON

NEWS REPORTER

As Craig Street Cats gears up for its spring spay and neuter drive, the organization believes that more must be done to control Winnipeg's feral feline population.

On March 5, Craig Street Cats will hold its annual Spay-Ghetti Dinner to raise funds for its upcoming season of Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR), when street cats are humanely trapped, sterilized, and returned to their colonies.

Lynne Scott, the organization's founder and executive director, estimates that Winnipeg has at least 100,000 community cats. Of these, 75 to 80 per cent are feral – not socialized for human contact.

"Those are the cats you never see," she says. "You'll see a flash of movement out of the corner of your eye. Typically you don't even know the cats are there until you find kittens."

After two or three generations, there may be 20 or 30 animals. Life near unfixed felines is not fun.

"It's smelly. It's loud. You might find sick or dead cats with abscesses from fighting,



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Winnipeg has an estimated 100,000 community cats. Of these, up to 80 per cent are feral.

Unaltered males spray on garbage cans and doors, and whatnot. And unaltered male cat urine is very pungent."

Currently, the City of Winnipeg provides funding for individual spaying/neutering of feral cats, in a program that the Winnipeg Humane Society refers to as Trap, Neuter, Release.

However, CSC practices Trap-Neuter-Return, bringing the felines back where

they were found. In fact, volunteers keep tabs on cats, through a comprehensive colony management approach. They keep records of population numbers, feed the animals on a schedule, remove any new cats to be spayed and neutered, and rescue kittens and strays for adoption.

"When you do that, you can expect a dramatic drop in numbers in the first two years," Scott says. "And then typically

after five years, population is down by about 70 per cent."

"We're at nine years now for the index colony on Craig Street, and it's down 90 per cent."

These colonies are also calmer places.

"When you do comprehensive Trap-Neuter-Return, the nuisance behaviours stop almost overnight. The spraying, the yowling, the fighting."

However, CSC only manages 500 cats. That's because colony management is illegal under the City of Winnipeg's Responsible Pet Ownership By-law, which considers it 'harbouring' animals.

Kailey Barron, a communications projects officer with the City of Winnipeg, confirmed that its current strategy is limited to funding TNR for individual cats.

"This programming helps prevent the birth of unwanted cats, which could lead to increased feral populations. The City of Winnipeg has no direct programs aimed at management of existing feral cat colonies."

Scott believes the city's reluctance to change the by-law is short-sighted.

"There's no way that just doing a cat here and a cat there will ever be helpful to the overall picture."

She says that more people would manage colonies if they weren't afraid of neighbours calling Animal Services.

"Basically, if the city just removes harbouring from the by-law and gets out of the way, then there are citizens prepared to do this work without costing the city anything."

## FOODBANK RELIANCE

20,000 more Winnipeggers using food banks than in 2005

VALERIE NYAMORI

@VALERIECHELA

VOLUNTEER STAFF

The number of Winnipeggers relying on food banks has increased significantly in the past 10 years, according to the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD). The organization announced 20,000 more Winnipeggers rely on food banks now than in 2005.

The Peg, an IISD website that measures the health of communities by tallying studies on various topics, explains that this trend reflects "the efficacy of the food bank system in reaching a large number of people in need, and the number or proportion of people within a population with the need for food, usually due to poverty."

While this report helps to give a better picture of Winnipeg's population that is in need of food, it is also an indicator of income inequality in the city.

Jennifer Temmer, a project officer with IISD, explains that while wages and salaries have remained the same, other costs of living – such as housing, electricity and transportation – have increased, leaving people in a position where they have to make sacrifices.

Since there are services that can help Winnipeggers with basic needs, at times people are forced to forego those expenses in order to pay for other necessities that



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Volunteer Kerry Weyman checking kits in Winnipeg Harvest's Emergency Food Room.

they are less likely to get assistance with.

The food bank is a temporary solution to the immediate need for food but they also provide services that help food bank users to move away from this reliance. Temmer points out that food banks are a central hub for other resources.

Winnipeg Harvest, a founding member of Food Banks Canada, not only distributes food to more than 63,000 Manitobans each month but also provides training services in computer courses, administration and food handling.

"Winnipeg Harvest does a good job of making its services available to people. People don't feel stigmatized. People who benefit from Winnipeg Harvest will also

volunteer there," Temmer says.

The University of Winnipeg Students' Association (UWSA) runs a food bank every Friday. Emily Epp, the vice-president internal affairs of UWSA, oversees the implementation of the food bank. She confirms that the UWSA food bank has experienced an increase in use by both students and the community.

"We've certainly seen usage of the food bank increase exponentially," she says.

She says that in 2005, only five per cent of food bank users were from the student body, though she now estimates that students make up for 60 per cent of their users.

"It tells me that students aren't able to

afford their lives. The cost of living forces students to have to make sacrifices."

She explains that increases in the costs of textbooks, rent and tuition have made it difficult for students to manage their expenses over the past 10 years.

"(Students) are not able to cope with that. We're happy we're able to provide this service, but work needs to be done to enable students to afford getting an education and also be a functioning citizen."

People can register for the food bank online at [theuwsa.ca/foodbank/](http://theuwsa.ca/foodbank/) or drop into the UWSA office.

# CUTTING EDGE URBAN GARDENS

Cool Gardens offer summer complement to warming huts

SAM DUERKSEN



VOLUNTEER STAFF

This summer, keep your eye out for some contemporary urban gardens in downtown Winnipeg. Cool Gardens, presented by StorefrontMB, The Forks and La Maison Des Artistes, is the summer complement to the winter Warming Huts that are found on the frozen rivers in Winnipeg.

It is a series of projects installed from Main Street to Provencher Boulevard, The Forks, and Waterfront Drive, as well as one in Brandon at the Riverbank Discovery Centre. The installations are designed by architects, landscape architects and creative visionaries both local and international.

Jason Syvixay, managing director with the Downtown Winnipeg BIZ, one of the project stewards, supports the Cool Gardens initiative and its potential for attracting visitors.

"This international design competition builds on our city's current architectural

momentum with a push towards increased design excellence in Winnipeg. By looking at our city centre through the lens of innovative design, under-utilized spaces will be transformed this summer with unique and playful landscapes," Syvixay says.

Eric Plamondon, from La Maison Des Artistes, was on the jury for selecting the finalists. He says the jury looked for projects that best answered the question, "In spaces we know well, how can you recreate interest and re-engage space?" They also looked for interactive projects.

"Contemporary art is meant to be experienced," Plamondon says.

An example of one such project is 2°. This Provencher Boulevard garden features cow forms and cubes symbolizing greenhouse gas emissions that move in a timeline along the history of agriculture into the future.

"The fact that it is very close to a main artery, if not the main artery of St. Boniface, to throw it back a bit into our rural connection/roots and explain rural landscape in a very urban setting, it forces us to understand space in (a new way)," Plamondon says.

Despite the name "Cool Gardens" many of the projects are far from the conventional understanding of the word "garden." The term is used quite liberally, and taken to encompass a contemporary form that still brings attention and interaction to landscape and culture, but in a 21st century way.

David Penner, an architect and co-founder of StorefrontMB, hopes the projects will challenge people's conceptions about landscape design.



An artist's rendition of the 2016 competition winner, 2°, by LADR Landscape Architects.

"Much of landscape is in the public realm so we all experience it, whereas other design environments, buildings and interiors, etc. are much more limiting. In that way landscape has a greater effect on how we see ourselves and our city. The projects are meant to call attention to the landscape and the potential for landscape," Penner says.

Plamondon hopes this attention might inspire people, and possibly bring about more long-term projects in Winnipeg.

"I think the whole importance in the project is that we have some great

underutilized spaces in Winnipeg, that we want to get people to start thinking and seeing the value of it."

Some projects will change with time based on audience interaction. For instance, the "Big Red" project at The Forks is a red X created out of movable red sandbags. Plamondon says transformation is welcome.

"It's fun to let the public influence what it will become, and how they take ownership of public art," he says.

# SILENT STORIES

Traveling picture books build empathy for migrants

SARA ARENSON



NEWS REPORTER

The Winnipeg Public Library is temporarily home to an exhibit that's inspiring local kids and refugees across the sea.

*Silent Books: Final Destination Lampedusa*, a collection of 111 picture books from 23 countries, is at the Millennium Library until March 12. The books are touring the world as part of a project by the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY) to create a children's library on the small Italian island of Lampedusa, a gateway for many migrants from Africa and the Middle East.

Also called "wordless books," silent books tell a story entirely through pictures. In the exhibit, visitors can flip through the collection, draw their own silent books, and write postcards to Lampedusa. Ten honoured books are displayed in a glass case.

For Tamara Opar, section head for children and teen services at the Millennium Library, these works of art are accessible and inspiring.

"There are no boundaries – no boundaries of language, culture, even reading levels."

"Every time it's a different experience as (families) go through the book



Sit and read a Silent Book.

together, and have different ideas from the images that they see in the pictures," Opar says.

Mariella Bertelli, a Toronto storyteller and the coordinator of the Canadian leg of the book tour, sees it as a way to start a difficult but necessary conversation.

"That's the purpose of the exhibit, to bring attention in a soft, gentle way to this problem of the migrants and the refugees and the people that are needing help as they are being relocated, as they are relocating."

When she was in Winnipeg for the launch on Feb. 9, Bertelli ran programs with Grade 5 classes from Sister MacNamara and R. F. Morrison schools. She vividly remembers a boy who had immigrated from Ukraine.

"I said to the kids, 'So how do you feel? How would you feel about leaving your place?' Some of them said, 'frightened', 'scared', but then he said, 'Sad.' Then other people said, 'Lonely.'"

"At the end of the presentation afterwards, the classes left, but he went back to hug me."

IBBY is an international voluntary



*Silent Books: Final Destination Lampedusa* is on exhibit at the Millennium Library.

organization founded in the wake of the Second World War, after Jella Lepman started a children's library in Munich.

"And we all believe that we can change the world through children's books," Bertelli says. "By selecting good literature, and by sharing and reading it with children and providing them with access to these books. And by having the children read those similar books around the world, then we will be able to overcome our differences, and create a better world."

Originally, *Silent Books: Destination Lampedusa* was only slated to visit Vancouver, Edmonton, and Toronto, but Italian Cultural Institute of Toronto director Alessandro Ruggera agreed to fund extra stops when three more cities requested it. Local resident Flavia Fernandez Fabio was instrumental in bringing it here.

After touring, the books will belong to Lampedusa's new library. Although the town has donated a building, there have been unforeseen delays. These days, youth trained by IBBY are running a



Create a Silent Book, or send a postcard.

modest operation out of an office twice a week.

"But the kids are very, very excited about having a library," Bertelli says. "They really want it."

*Silent Books: Final Destination Lampedusa* runs until March 12 in the Children's and Teen's area at the Millennium Library.



## DIAMOND DEVELOPMENT

U of W physicist develops diamond-based particle detector

LUKE REMPEL



VOLUNTEER STAFF

The possibility of being involved in a groundbreaking experiment is what attracts many physicists to their field. This is certainly true for University of Winnipeg (U of W) physics professor Dr. Jeff Martin.

Martin and his team developed a particle detector that uses synthetic diamonds grown in a lab. It is the first detector of its kind used in a particle physics experiment, which was conducted at the Jefferson Lab in Newport News, VA. The innovative results earned publication in the prestigious physics journal *Physical Review X*.

"That's my motivation when I do an experiment, I want to discover something totally new, and I want to have that opportunity for physics students here as well," Martin says.

Researchers at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) in Geneva, Switzerland attempted to use diamond-based detectors to discover new particles but gave up because the technology was too new.

Martin and his collaborators from University of Manitoba and American institutions were willing to experiment with technology that was not fully mature.

"We needed something that would sense the radioactive particles, but not die when exposed to large amounts of radiation," he says.

They adopted the technology that researchers at the LHC had invented, and then took it to the next level by actually using it in an experiment.

Martin sees the potential for diamond detectors to be used in the future. The research is important for other fields that need detectors or electronics that can survive in intense radiation.

Diamonds have a very high thermal capacity. Because of this, the research could be used in medical imaging, or to detect radiation in space, and it could open up new uses of diamonds in such things as computers.

"Maybe we will one day have all our computers made not of silicon, but diamond instead," he says.

Martin's project is an example of how the U of W can be at the forefront of physics research.

"Even a smaller university like the U of W can have people involved in big physics projects and thinking of those big science



SUPPLIED PHOTO

University of Winnipeg physics professor Dr. Jeff Martin.

questions, the kind of questions that you answer with these kinds of experiments," he says.

Two U of W students who have since graduated played a large role in the study. Both were undergraduate students working at summer jobs in the physics lab.

For Doug Storey – now a graduate student at University of Victoria – working on this project has set him on the career path that he is on today.

"I could tell it was something big right from the start. My role in the project was to help develop the diamond electron detector. This meant we were taking diamonds, coating them in gold, and then

hooking them up to electronics to study how they behaved and how we could transform this into useful technology for the experiment," Storey says.

It's a fitting time for the experiment results to be released as students are applying for summer lab jobs. One of those summer jobs could involve being part of the next groundbreaking experiment.

Martin and three other U of W physicists are now leading a major experiment searching for the neutron's electric dipole moment. Physicists from Canada and Japan are collaborating on the project.

## WITH BATED BREATH

Late release of grades frustrates some students

HANNAH OW CZAR



VOLUNTEER

A late release of grades from the fall term has some students questioning the university's process.

On Jan. 25, grades from first semester were released to students following a final exam date of Dec. 21. The release date fluctuates yearly depending on the date of the first term's final exam; in 2015 all grades were accessible to students by Jan. 19.

After the final exam, professors and instructors have 10 working days to submit final grades to WebAdvisor.

"For me personally it's more of a nuisance," Louise Osborne, a student majoring in biochemistry, says.

Osborne says that she would prefer to know her grades sooner than later. With official grades being released well into the winter term, she worries that students who may want to retake courses will not be able to register in time.

"Maybe you want to retake it and get a better mark," Osborne says.

Colin Russell, the University of Winnipeg Registrar, has the role of keeping student records, collecting and releasing grades. Russell says that the Senate and the academic standards committee play an important role in the release of grades.

"The main issue for the timeline is that



PHOTO BY DANIEL CRUMP

The reception area of the University of Winnipeg Student Services Centre at 491 Portage Ave.

faculty have 10 working days after the end of the exam period to submit their grades," Russell says.

This means that as a result of winter break, grades were not submitted until Jan. 14.

"Senate has oversight of the grades, that is done through the academic standards committee," Russell says.

Russell explains this has reduced the previous timeline. Regarding the issue of prerequisite courses, he explains that students will be notified and not financially penalized if they fail a course needed for courses in the winter term.

"In terms of prerequisites there is not a problem. After the grades are finalized the student records office looks at everybody who's in a course in the next term that required a prerequisite and will be dropped from the winter course

without fee."

Tracy Whalen, an associate professor in rhetoric, writing and communications, believes that the release of grades must be consistent.

"Institution rules must be for everyone," Whalen says.

As a result of the exam schedule, professors have a responsibility for consistency and thoughtfulness when it comes to marking and submitting official grades. For these reasons, Whalen believes that the 10-day timeline is necessary for professors.

In order to better prepare students for the release of grades, Whalen says that professors must give feedback to students.

"I like students to know where they stand," she says.

As a professor of rhetoric, Whalen feels strongly that feedback on assignments

is necessary for students who may be studying a new discipline. Whalen also believes students must be proactive and email professors if they feel like they need assistance in a course.

She states that flexibility in making revisions as well as thoughtfulness when marking are important factors that professors must consider in setting a student up for success prior to the release of grades.

Professors have a responsibility to keep students up to date on their grades, and students have a responsibility to ask for support before the end of term.

The risk for an undesired outcome in a course can be reduced with considerations made by both professor and student.



PHOTO BY SIMEON RUSNAK

## The PROFile - JEFF BABB

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS

PALMER FRITSCHY

NEWS EDITOR

Jeff Babb, an associate professor in the department of mathematics and statistics, has taught nearly every class in math and stats available at the University of Winnipeg since joining the faculty in 2000.

“Lately I’ve been doing a lot of collaborative work in mesolithic archaeology and anthropology,” he says.

Babb is also a master-level chess player, “but just barely in the category,” he laughs. “I usually lose to grand masters.”

When he was 16, he tied for first in the Manitoba Open men’s championship and tied for third in the Canadian Open in 1979.

“Chess is an analytical game. A lot of my development as a chess player occurred when I was in junior high and high school.”

“Some of the type of thinking you do in mathematics and theoretical statistics is somewhat related to chess thinking.”

“That would be my best result,” Babb laughs.

Babb admits he’s not that competitively active any more but has won the Manitoba Grand Prix in 2004 and 2006, and has had moves from some of his games published in books.

He has an M.Sc. in Mathematical Statistics from the University of Alberta and a B.Sc. in Mathematics from the University of Winnipeg, and has served three times as president of the Statistical Association of Manitoba and twice as vice-president.

**AREA OF RESEARCH:** Statistical climatology, statistical anthropology, spatial statistics, multivariate analysis, linear and nonlinear models, history of mathematics and statistics, statistics and social policy.

**NUMBER OF PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS:** Twenty-three, and one more that should be coming out very soon, in a book for a conference I spoke at in Germany in 2013.

**BOOK RECOMMENDATION:** *Timescape* by Gregory Benford.

**WORST TEACHING MOMENT:** I had a root canal in the morning and tried to lecture mathematical statistics in the afternoon. I’m not sure how coherent that lecture was.

**FAVOURITE THING ABOUT WINNIPEG:** I was born in Winnipeg... I’m very comfortable in Winnipeg, I feel like I’m at home. I’m at home at the University of Winnipeg cause I was student here.

# COMMENTS

## NO JUSTICE FOR PALESTINE

Parliament’s condemnation of BDS relies on a fallacious Western narrative that enables Apartheid

GREG GALLINGER

@GREGGALLINGER

VOLUNTEER STAFF

No issue is more controversial than Israel-Palestine, and none is more representative of Western hypocrisy.

The recent Parliamentary motion to condemn the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement would have Canadians believe that Canada is standing up to anti-Semitism and those who seek to single out Israel. Whereas activists who are acting in solidarity with Palestinians seek to boycott and call attention to the corporations that profit from Israel’s occupation of Palestine.

Tony Clement, MP for Parry Sound-Muskoka, who brought forward the motion, fallaciously equates criticism of the State of Israel as anti-Semitism. The assertion is both grossly dismissive of the wide spectrum of opinion within the Jewish community, while also ignoring that Palestinians have the right to be heard.

“The activists who are involved in this movement push for a complete



PHOTO BY GREG GALLINGER

Protestors march in Winnipeg during the 2014 Gaza war.

worldwide boycott of the only Liberal democracy in the Middle East, while simultaneously exempting some of the worst human rights offenders in the world from equivalent attention,” Clement said. “It is clear that the intent of those in favour of this movement is not to resolve the conflict but to single out Israel and contest the Jewish state’s right to be treated with fairness.”

To hear Clement lob accusations of racism and selectively care about human rights is simply jaw dropping given the trade deal the Conservative party made with human rights abusers, Saudi Arabia, and rumors Clement defended Apartheid South Africa during his time at the University of Toronto. Not to mention the Islamophobic and anti-Arab rhetoric that was thrown around during the last election.

MP for Mount Royal, Que., Anthony Housefather, asked why activists aren’t instead calling for sanctions on Iran. Perhaps, as BuzzFeed’s politics editor

Paul McLeod notes, it’s because Canada already has sanctions against Iran.

Housefather and MPs from both sides of the aisle would have us believe that we ought to be looking elsewhere to engage in critique about human rights, but in essence they’re pointing off to an indistinguishable point in the distance, perhaps where a straw man is having its rights abused.

They’re certainly not calling upon us to question our own contributions to global suffering, otherwise Canada’s unconditional support for Israel may actually be worth examining. After all it is because of Western support, through votes at the United Nations and free trade deals, that Israel can continue to build separation walls, annex territory, break international laws and commit war crimes with impunity.

Canada, under the direction of Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, recently voted against several non-binding agreements at the UN including those to: recognize

Palestinian statehood, to condemn Israel’s unilateral control of the Holy City of Jerusalem, and to investigate war crimes committed during the 2014 Gaza War.

Because of this unwavering support for the State of Israel, Palestinians continue to live with the occupation and ongoing ethnic cleansing. Palestinians have been effectively erased from the conversation. Their lives do not matter in the context of Western discourse and attempts to stand in solidarity with them must be discredited.

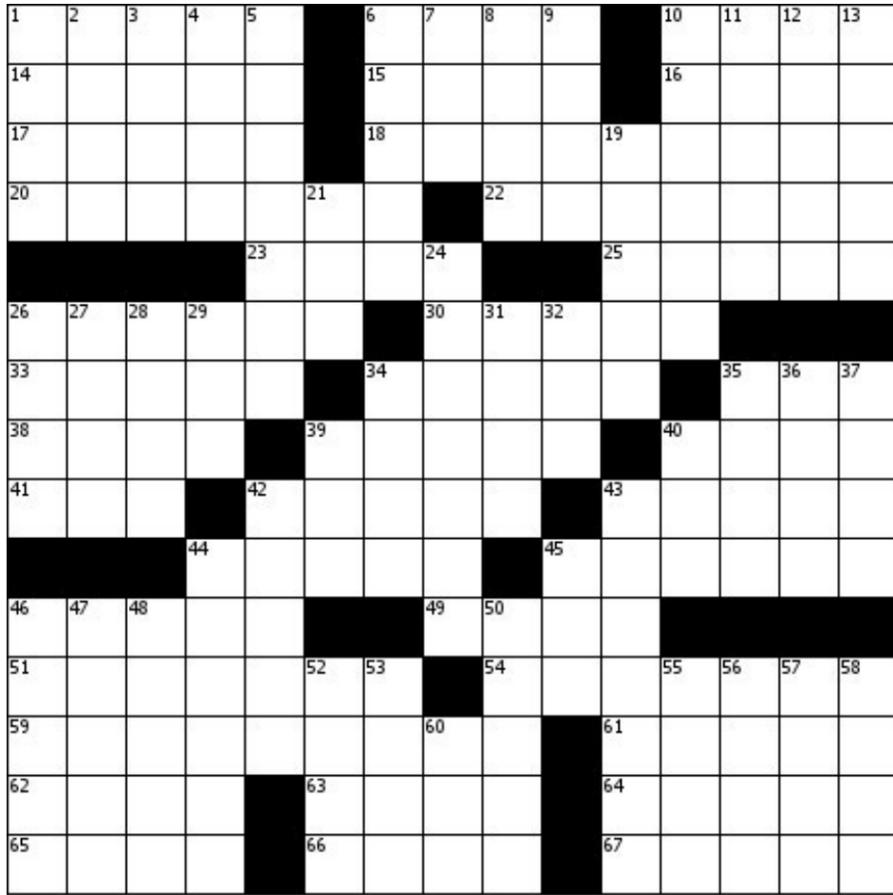
Though the blame is being placed on supporters of BDS, Western powers are actually the biggest obstacle to peace in Israel-Palestine. We may not all agree on the tactics, but it should not be up to politicians to establish the scope of acceptable resistance.

*Greg Gallinger is a freelance photographer, vegan food enthusiast, purveyor of half-witted commentary and reluctant citizen of the global technocracy.*

# DIVERSIONS



ONLINECROSSWORDS.NET



## ACROSS

1. Room theme
6. Ventilates
10. Watch face
14. Escape
15. Annoying child
16. Prince Charles's sister
17. Parcel out
18. CIA activity
20. Hideaway
22. Coach
23. \_\_\_\_ Kudrow of "Friends"
25. Prophets
26. Mr. Schwarzenegger
30. New
33. Wharves
34. Book of maps

35. Amtrak terminal (abbr.)
38. More
39. Groom
40. October's stone
41. Collection
42. Property claims
43. Make into law
44. Lucifer
45. Quickly
46. Wander off
49. Drifting
51. Beijing natives
54. Tapioca source
59. Deep respect
61. Like Santa's helpers
62. Notable periods

63. Shakespeare's river
64. Sunday dinner item
65. Bruise
66. Use a keyboard
67. Shopping frenzy

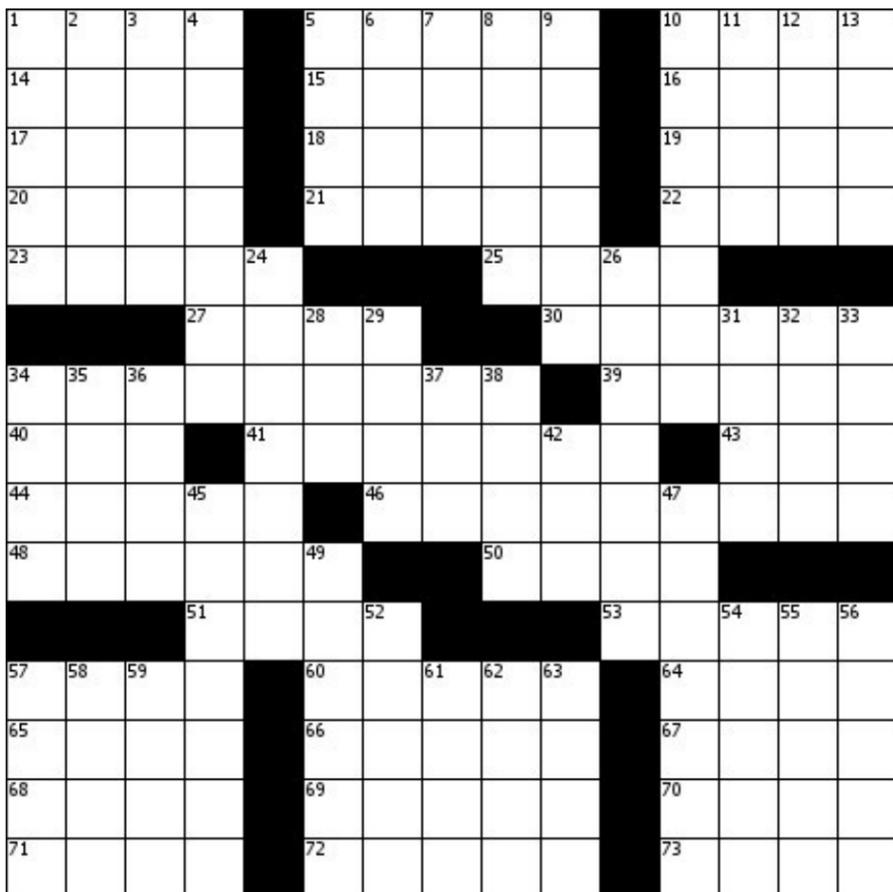
## DOWN

1. Letter greeting
2. She, in Nice
3. Religious sect
4. Fragrance
5. Narrates again
6. Helps a crook
7. Tax agcy.
8. Completely absorbed

9. Agitate
10. Frontiersman \_\_\_\_ Boone
11. Silly
12. Enrage
13. Ogles
19. Desert stops
21. Assist
24. TV attachment
26. Mimics
27. Work up
28. Robin's residence
29. Lode load
31. Spanish cheers
32. Moving truck
34. Realm
35. Stretch across
36. Diplomacy

37. Female singer
39. Peach seed
40. Lennon's Yoko \_\_\_\_
42. Tier
43. Pencil ends
44. Least daffy
45. Round vegetable
46. Metal fastener
47. Yonder
48. Opponent
50. Locale
52. \_\_\_\_ belt
53. Jealousy
55. Spill
56. Distant
57. Clamp
58. Initial wager
60. Law officer

ONLINECROSSWORDS.NET



## ACROSS

1. Among
5. Movie award
10. Hay unit
14. Stockings
15. Start of a Dickens title (2 wds.)
16. Satanic
17. Ages
18. Speedy
19. Yule song
20. Urgent abbr.
21. Plant stalks
22. Remnants
23. Coffee type, for short
25. Alpha's follower
27. Dubuque's locale

30. Novelist
34. Put into a new order
39. Glistened
40. Overhead trains
41. Landed properties
43. RR terminal
44. Pseudonym
46. Moving stairway
48. Rented
50. Tints
51. At this location
53. Ill will
57. Heroic narrative
60. Defendant's offering

64. Eve's home
65. British baby buggy
66. Bogged down
67. Soup containers
68. Apex
69. Repent
70. Biblical "you"
71. Molt
72. Transmits
73. Bruised

## DOWN

1. In front
2. \_\_\_\_ code
3. Thinker \_\_\_\_ Newton
4. Lose hope
5. Paddles

6. Right away!
7. Batman's wear
8. Out on \_\_\_\_ (2 wds.)
9. What Moses parted (2 wds.)
10. Below
11. Stratford-on-\_\_\_\_
12. Told a fib
13. Building extensions
24. Anticipate
26. Scuffles
28. No longer is
29. Initial wager
31. Party giver
32. Aware of
33. Bring up
34. Not fake
35. She (Fr.)

36. Tibet's locale
37. Car fuel
38. Engrave with acid
42. Water (Fr.)
45. Embarrassed
47. Facets
49. Serious plays
52. Select group
54. Boise's state
55. Male voice
56. Result
57. Mineral springs
58. Curved doorway
59. Amusement
61. Press
62. Curve
63. March date



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.

### STUDENT CENTRAL

#### GRADUATION

EXTENSION! Students who wish to graduate in June 2016 should complete an Application for Graduation form and submit it to Student Central ASAP. (All required courses must be completed by April.)

#### SPRING TERM (U2015S)

The Spring Term Timetable has been posted for undergraduate courses between May - August. Go to [www.uwinnipeg.ca](http://www.uwinnipeg.ca), click on "Student" and then "Timetable."

Tiered Registration Times will be emailed to Webmail accounts soon. Tiered registration begins March 21st.

### SIGN UP NOW FOR "STUDENT PLANNING" INFO SESSION!

Learn more about "Student Planning" - a new online tool for degree planning and course registration - by signing up now for an information session. Sessions will be held throughout March. Visit our website: [uwinnipeg.ca/student-planning](http://uwinnipeg.ca/student-planning)

All undergraduate students will need to use "Student Planning" to register for courses in the upcoming Spring Term and in all Terms in the future. The old way of registering will no longer be available.

Students can access "Student Planning" by logging in to WebAdvisor and looking under Registration for "Student Planning."

### MINDFULNESS MEDIATION DROP-IN SESSIONS

These sessions are offered each Mon & Thurs, 12:30-1:00pm in the UW Chapel. More Information is on the UW Events Calendar. All are welcome!

ASK! You of W

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

ISUDOKU.NET

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9	3			5			6	

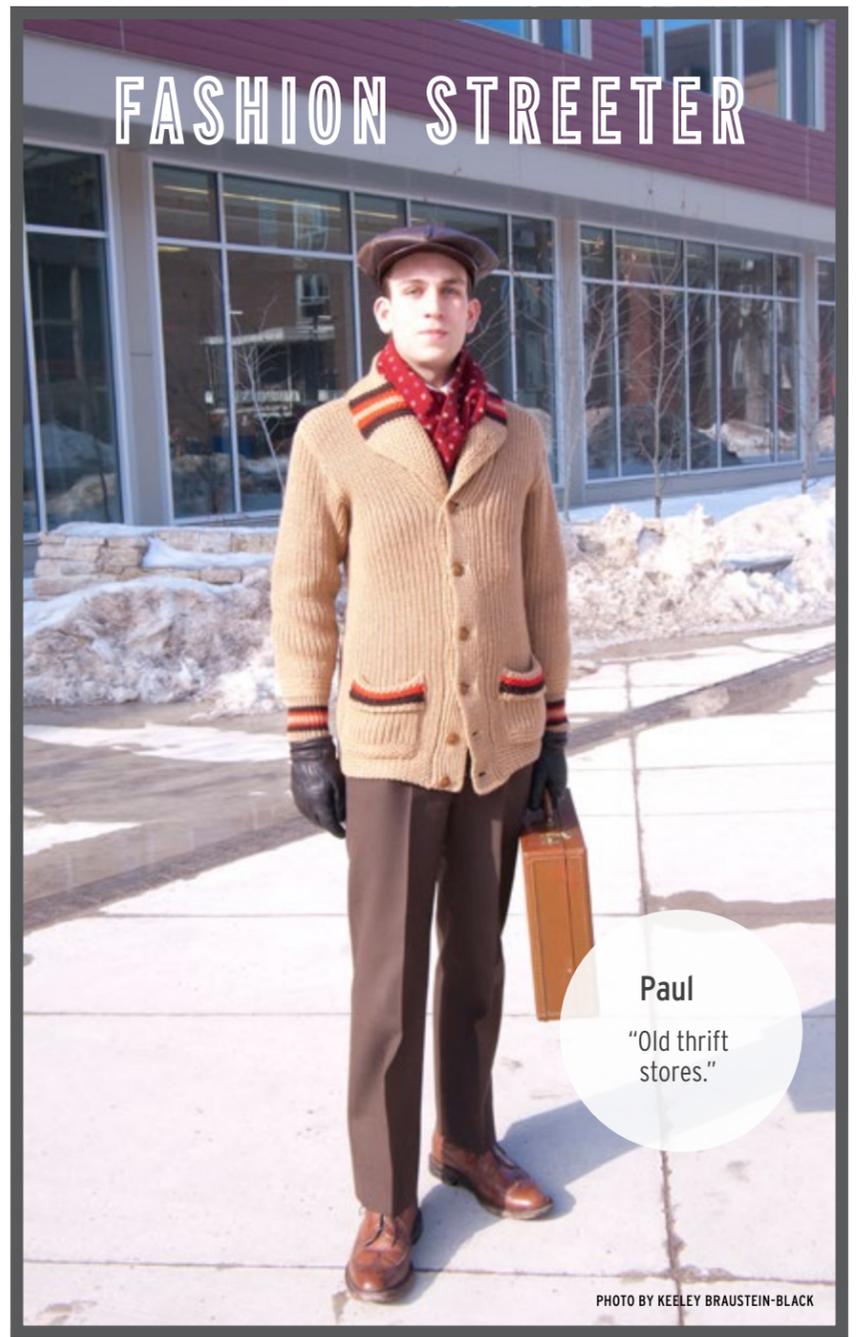
SOLUTIONS TO LAST ISSUE'S PUZZLE.

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

Un-Supermarket

by Sari Habiluk

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OCOSOMOSO

10

by SCOTT A. FORD

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