

UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG'S WEEKLY URBAN JOURNAL

THE **UNITER**

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ISSUE
25
VOLUME 64

THE WAY WE MOVE EXPLORING TRANSPORTATION IN OUR ANNUAL URBAN ISSUE

BRT versus LRT

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*COVER IMAGE

In 1964, the CN 6043 became the last steam engine to run on a Canadian national railway line. It is currently located in Winnipeg's Assiniboine Park.

PHOTO BY BRITTANY HILDEBRANDT

Read about the railway's impact on Manitoba on pages 12 and 13.

Editorial

Trains, trucks, cars and more

The Uniter looks at transportation in our annual Urban Issue

AARON EPP
MANAGING EDITOR

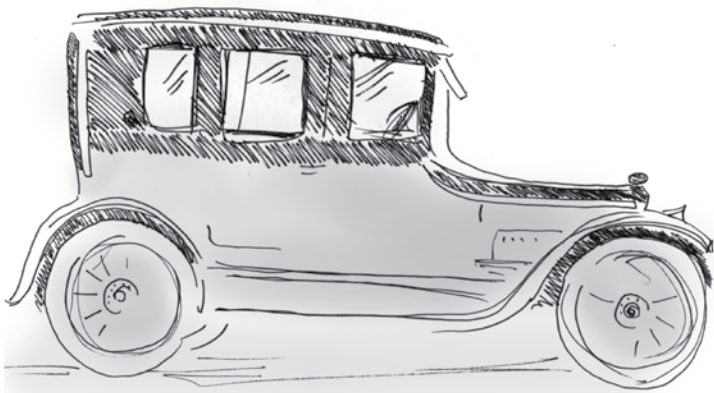
I drive my car too much. I need more exercise and I need to stop contributing to the environmental problems that cars cause.

What's deterred me from getting behind the wheel recently is that my car needs some repairs, and I think it's going to set me back a few hundred dollars – money I don't have right now.

This is actually perfect, since I've been meaning to stop relying on the car so much. I live a 40-minute walk away from where I work, and if I walk less than two minutes away from my back door, I can catch a bus that will take me pretty much anywhere I could really want to go in the city.

So I've been thinking a lot recently about the way I move. At *The Uniter*, we've decided to do the same thing for our annual urban issue, and explore the ways Winnipeggers move around in the city.

From trains, trucks and cars, to bikes, buses and Segways, our special feature on transportation



(pages 11 to 14) has it all. In “Playing catch-up with transit,” Kristy Rydz explores the difference between Bus Rapid Transit and Light Rail Transit, and looks at what the city is doing to catch up with the likes of Calgary and Vancouver in terms of transportation (page 11).

Meanwhile, for those who do commute by car, Samuel Swanson interviewed some professionals who make their living driving around the city and asked them for some traffic tips to help you out (“Cutting corners around town,” page 11).

On pages 12 and 13, we look back at how the railroad shaped Manitoba as we know it today. Robert Galston makes the case for a limited-access freeway that rings the city on page 14 (“How a freeway could help downtown”), and Matt Austman argues that Winnipeg Transit's free downtown bus could

be so much more.

Also related to the theme of transportation, but elsewhere in the issue, is Ethan Cabel's report on a recent symposium in Winnipeg that looked at the future of trucking (page 3); Andrew McMonagle's argument that your thumb is a great ticket to anywhere (“Hitchhike your way to happiness, page 9”); and the incomparable J. Williams's dissection and solution of all your transportation concerns (page 23).

As always, we want to know what you think about this or any of the other issues we've published over the past eight months. E-mail your questions, comments, statements, outbursts and love letters to editor@uniter.ca.

Speaking of transportation, I just bought the first bike I've owned in too many years to count. My brother Thomas rides with a group

known as the Fort Garry Bike Club every Tuesday night, and one of the members sold me his old winter bike.

My brother, who has become something of a bike expert over the past few years, tells me I'll need to invest about \$300 to replace some parts and get the bike tuned up.

I'm about to get paid, and it's almost my birthday, so I'll have some extra money to spend.

Maybe that creates a dilemma. I could spend a few hundred dollars repairing my car. Or, I could spend a few hundred dollars repairing my bike.

I think I know what I'm going to do.

* * *

This is the last issue of *The Uniter* for this school year. We'll return to our weekly publishing schedule on Thursday, September 2.

In the mean time, we're publishing two summer issues. Look out for new issues on newsstands mid-May, as well as at the end of June.

We're always looking for more contributors, so if you want to get involved at the paper as a writer, photographer or illustrator, it's as easy as sending an e-mail to editor@uniter.ca.

Good luck with exams, and have a great summer break.

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SUBMISSION OF ARTICLES, LETTERS, GRAPHICS AND PHOTOS ARE WELCOME. Articles must be submitted in text (.rtf) or Microsoft Word (.doc) format to editor@uniter.ca, or the relevant section editor. Deadline for submissions is 6:00 p.m. Thursday, one week before publication. Deadline for advertisements is noon Friday, six days prior to publication. *The Uniter* reserves the right to refuse to print submitted material. *The Uniter* will not print submissions that are homophobic, misogynistic, racist, or libellous. We also reserve the right to edit for length and/or style.

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STREETER

BY SAMUEL SWANSON AND ANDREW MCMONAGLE

Q: HOW WOULD YOU RATE WINNIPEG'S TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM?



Tom Campbell
pastor, Zion Church
“It would be good to have rapid transit. Buses are good overall. The lights aren't sequenced. The mayor has talked about doing that, I'd like to see it happen.”



Liyana Fauzi
barista, Soma Cafe
“6.5/10. Some people will go when Telebus tells them to go, and they have to be at work or school for a certain time, and then sometimes the buses run super late.”



Rick Vincent
musician
“I think that given the state of the streets and avenues, the transportation system is pretty good at getting people where they need to go.”



Panganai Sithole
4th year economics
“I'm a pedestrian. I find going to remote places cumbersome. But generally it's OK.”



Carla Chornobi
2nd year psychology
“It would be nice if there was more for bikes. It's good that Portage is down to three lanes in some places. I'm a motorist.”



Mandy Whitechurch
4th year kinesiology
“There needs to be improvement. Bus times ... they don't run at all hours.”

News

Extreme Makeover Home Edition: Grow op-portunities

Former pot houses can be steals on the real estate market

KRISTY RYDZ
BEAT REPORTER

Two years ago, when Mark Friesen and his wife first looked at a custom-built two-storey home in the \$300,000-\$400,000 bracket just outside Steinbach, Man., it was out of their price range. Eight months later, when the same property was busted as a marijuana grow operation, it dropped in price by \$60,000.

“People assumed it was trashed because it was a grow-op and didn’t want to look at it,” Friesen said. “But (the people) who were running it didn’t touch anything from the previous owners. They didn’t even sleep there.”

Aside from some damage from taking the electrical panel completely off to run power to a generator, the unruly landscaping and a kicked-in front door from when the police raided the operation, Friesen bought the house in a condition that required little renovation.

The original owners had replaced the kitchen counters, re-tiled the floors and added a new washer and dryer to the home, among other things, before it was sold to those who used it for criminal activity for approximately three months before they were caught.

Since the grow-op was busted in its early stages, there was mini-



WINNIPEG'S LATEST GROW-OP BUSTS

March 2010

March 4 - 87 Pincarrow Rd.

March 5 - 554 Templeton St.

March 6 - 127 Stapleton St.

March 13 - 1573 Pacific Ave.

March 16 - 1987 Elgin Ave.

March 18 - 29 St. Thomas Rd.

March 23 - 11 Halliday Bay

February 2010

February 2 - 386 Thames Ave.

February 5 - 174 Church Ave.

February 10 - 359 Beliveau Rd.

February 12 - 563 St. Johns Ave.

February 12 - 1334 Pritchard Ave.

February 24 - 467 Flora Ave.

February 26 - 650 Laxdal Rd.

January 2010

January 4 - 453 Pritchard Ave.

January 12 - 47 Cunnington Ave.

January 20 - 1228 Tanner St.

January 23 - 76 Lansdowne Ave.

January 24 - 409 Woodward Ave.

January 27 - 312-19 St. Michael Rd.

Source: Winnipeg Police Service

mal damage to the house’s interior. More mature grow-ops, however, can cause much more severe damage that can often lead to serious health and structural issues for future homeowners.

“Moisture and mould are probably the biggest problems,” said Ari Marantz, president of Trained Eye Home Inspection. “It can be (remedied) unless it’s been covered up, cleaned up. Then it can be hard to spot.”

Marantz has seen the maladies of former operations cut out of walls or floors of homes, as well as owners drywalling over problem areas to hide the damage.

According to the Manitoba Real Estate Association, the rules around disclosure of former grow-ops in residential homes is a little murky.

The non-profit organization that represents 1,700 real estate professionals and Manitoba real estate

boards encourages realtors to disclose former grow-ops to potential buyers but acknowledges that they aren’t required to do so.

Even without being forced, real estate agent Kris Keough with RE/MAX’s Keough & Colleagues makes a property’s history clear in his listings and to his clients. By cross-referencing any new property he is selling or looking at for a client with the City of Winnipeg’s list of busted grow-ops, Keough aims to be as transparent as possible.

“We have to disclose it,” he said. “If you had one seed or 200 plants we have to identify it as a grow-op.”

The online list is updated bi-weekly and states that it provides the home addresses where marijuana grow operations were found and dismantled. The site is current from April 2009 to March 2010.

With that information presented up front, Keough has found mixed

reaction from buyers.

“There are lots of people who won’t buy a grow-op house and a lot that will. Some are still hoping there’s something left in the walls,” Keough said. “Others are just smart enough to know you can get a damn good deal.”

Exploring the future of trucking

Trucking symposium sparks commitments to women, environmental sustainability

ETHAN CABEL
BEAT REPORTER



On Feb. 17 and 19, 2010, Winnipeg hosted the Future of Trucking Symposium. Currently, only three to five per cent of truck drivers are women in Canada. This issue is just one of many trucking organizations are trying to deal with.

Larson, director of the University of Manitoba Transport Institute, which hosted the symposium.

Both issues can be tackled through investments in more sustainable capital equipment and a campaign to increase the appeal of trucking to new demographics, he said.

“We anticipate that the trucking industry will need tens of thousands of new drivers in the coming years,” said Ellen Voie, president of the Women in Trucking Association Inc., an American special interest group. “We believe that part of the pool they can recruit from are women and other demographics other than just white males.”

According to the CTHRC, women make up only three to five per cent of the Canadian truck-driving force and are reluctant to get behind the wheel due to a number of preventable issues within the industry.

“We need to be able to support

women in trucking,” said Linda Gauthier, executive director of the CTHRC.

She pointed out that privately-run truck stops often have facilities that cater only to men. She said the industry needs to develop standards that are more inclusive to female drivers.

Voie said that many women are afraid to drive alone, a situation buoyed by rampant, but largely unreported, sexual harassment.

“Women endure quite a lot of harassment on the road, particularly by other male drivers, and we must make sure that companies instill respect,” Voie said, suggesting that the initial driver-training program should establish guidelines about respectful behaviour.

The industry keeps no statistics on harassment or sexual assault, she added.

Although reaching out to women is important for many, the critical concern for trucking advocates is

the question of sustainability.

The move toward greener technologies has been sparked by the idea that inexpensive fossil fuel resources have peaked in availability. As such, alternatives need to be found before conventional diesel engines become obsolete, said Larson.

“There’s no single silver bullet when you’re talking about sustainability,” said Rick Whittaker, vice president of investments for Sustainable Development Technology Canada, a not-for-profit agency that finances and supports clean energy technologies. “It is more like a silver buckshot.”

A “buckshot” involves many different components, both large and small, that must build on one another to meet sustainability goals, he said.

Among the smaller components is the suggestion to increase the use of long-combination vehicles – regular truck engines able to pull two trailers of freight without expending double the energy that make up less than 10 per cent of all trucks in North America.

More of these vehicles “would certainly ease the labour crunch and, more importantly, increase fuel economy,” Larson said.

Whittaker further suggested that the industry should make truck transportation more localized and improve rail infrastructure for long-haul freight transportation.

He added that the next 20-40 years will yield a move toward electric-powered engines in trucks across North America.

“The whole world is going that way,” he said.

Local News Briefs

Compiled by
Andrew McMonagle



BODY ARMOUR BAN

Attorney General Andrew Swan has introduced legislation that would restrict the sale and possession of body armour and armoured vehicles, according to the province. The proposed Body Armour and Fortified Vehicle Control Act would require distributors to be licensed by the province, and buyers to acquire a permit. The permit would require an explanation as to why the armour is needed and might include a background check into the buyer. Law enforcement, corrections officers and the Army would be excluded from the act. An armoured, or “fortified,” vehicle poses a threat to Manitobans and is akin to a weapon in the wrong hands, said Swan.

WINKLER GETS THE NOD

Mayor Sam Katz gave actor/author Henry Winkler the key to the city on Sunday, March 28 at the World of Wheels trade show, prompting *Free Press* reporter Bartley Kives to comment that Katz had “jumped the shark.” The phrase originates from an episode of *Happy Days*, starring Winkler as Fonzie, where he literally jumped over a shark in a scene that critics identify as the beginning of the show’s demise.

Kives was commenting on Katz’s willingness to pose for photos with celebrities, but also on the long string of odd recipients of Winnipeg’s key to the city. Previous luminaries, Kives wrote, include wrestler Chris Jericho, actress Shannen Doherty, and in 1977, Johnny Cash. Cash tried to return the award after the *Free Press* ran a review of The Carter Family.

Winkler was honoured for his contributions to children’s literature. He has written over a dozen children’s books and is an advocate of childhood literacy.

MORE MANITOBANS

Manitoba, once noted for its declining population, is bouncing back. Trade minister Peter Bjornson said the province’s population is growing faster than it has in 40 years. Statistics Canada reported that Manitoba’s population reached 1,229,000 people in 2009, which is 16,400 more people than in 2008.

Bjornson attributed the rise in part to Manitoba’s Provincial Nominee Program (PNP), an immigration program which selects skilled workers to immigrate to Manitoba. Those who immigrate must meet the PNP eligibility requirements, which means they need to have legal status in their country of origin, an education, work experience, family or friends already in Manitoba and have enough language skills to acquire a job.

PITA PUSH

Free-food enthusiasts lined up in the cold at Extreme Pita on Portage Avenue, some for as long as 10 hours, to qualify for a year’s worth of free pitas. Extreme Pita, across the street from the University of Winnipeg, offered free pitas for a year to the first 25 customers on Friday, March 26. The deal was part of the restaurant’s reopening celebration. They had been closed for several months after a truck collided with the building, destroying the kitchen.

The *Winnipeg Free Press* reported that more than a dozen people braved the weather. All were cold, but none were left hungry.

CHOOSE YOUR STUDY SPOTS CAREFULLY

Several of Winnipeg’s libraries will be temporarily closed this summer for renovations, according to the city. While the Millennium Library downtown will remain open, other busy outlets will be affected. The Osborne Library, in the Fort Rouge Leisure Centre, will be closed from the beginning of August and into September. The Louis Riel Library on Dakota Street will be closed from mid-May until June, just in time for university spring session classes.

CORRECTION:

In the March 25 issue of *The Uniter*, the photo accompanying the article “Modeling generosity” (page 20) should have been attributed to Envision Photography.

We apologize for the error.

International News Briefs

Compiled by Brooke Dmytriw

PRINCE OWES PROMOTER \$4 MILLION

DUBLIN, Ireland: A judge has ordered pop singer Prince to pay \$4 million for a concert he cancelled last minute. The concert, scheduled for June 2008, was pulled unexpectedly, leaving thousands of Prince fans disappointed. Dublin promoter MCD Productions took Prince to court after he failed to pay compensation in a confidential settlement they reached on Feb. 26. High Court Justice Peter Kelly found in favour of the promoter. CBC News reports MCD is the largest event promoter in Ireland. They claimed they paid \$3 million US up front to bring Prince into Dublin's 82,300-seat Croke Park.

PLASTIC BOTTLE BOAT IS AFLOAT

SAN FRANCISCO, California: A catamaran constructed of 12,000 plastic bottles is on its way to Sydney, Australia. Called the Plastiki, the boat was funded by environmentalist and heir David De Rothschild, who will captain the vessel. De Rothschild is hoping his 11,000 nautical mile adventure will raise awareness about pollution in the oceans. BBC News reports the Plastiki will sail past the Great Pacific Garbage Patch, an oceanic landfill double the size of Texas. The boat is a completely green vessel with bottles filled with carbon dioxide which keep the boat afloat. The catamaran is powered by solar, wind and sea turbines. Even the laptops on the boat will be powered by a stationary bike. Critics of the Plastiki have warned that should the boat break apart during its journey, it will dispose thousands of plastic bottles into the ocean.

MAN GIVEN 15 YEARS FOR BREAKING INTO PRISON

MIAMI, Florida: A former inmate of the Brevard County Detention Centre will be serving more time in prison after he attempted to break back into the facility. Sylvester Jiles, 25, was sentenced to the maximum 15-year penalty. Jiles was trying to break back into prison because he feared violent retaliation from his victim's family members. He had been released from jail the week before and was on probation. According to Reuters, Jiles suffered cuts and bruises after trying to scale a 12-foot-high barbed wire fence. The convict was previously residing in Brevard for a manslaughter conviction.

IRREGULAR FRUITS AND VEGETABLES WILL CONTINUE TO BE SOLD

BRUSSELS, Belgium: An attempt to outlaw misshapen and discoloured fruit throughout the European Union was shot down in parliament last week. A group of Euro-MPs tried to bring back the standardization of fruits and vegetables so as to prevent the sale of odd-shaped and odd-coloured food. One MP commented the shape of fruit is irrelevant to its taste or nutritional value. The proposal was voted down primarily because MPs argued it would lead to increased food waste. According to BBC News, foods that previously had a ban which was later lifted included beans, carrots, eggplants, cucumbers, onions, peas and watermelons. The fruits and vegetables that must continue to conform to certain legislated standards include apples, strawberries, tomatoes and citrus fruits.

Campus News

A financial balancing act

U of W and U of M struggle to balance budgets

COURTNEY SCHWEGEL
CAMPUS BEAT REPORTER

In the current release of the 2010-2011 post-secondary budget, the provincial government has increased the University of Winnipeg's operating grant by two per cent from last year. However, this increase is less than half of the five per cent increase that has been granted for the past several years.

"I think it was basically as expected," Mike Emslie, U of W's controller and executive director of financial services said. "The province is in a tough financial situation and they have passed on some of that difficulty to us."

Emslie said that the U of W will again have to look for ways to significantly decrease operating budget costs in order to come out with a balanced budget, like in the 2009-2010 academic year.

To aid in balancing the budget, the university will have to freeze the salaries of its senior administrative staff, who received salary cuts of up to 10 per cent last year.

Emslie did say that the money from the salary cuts, along with concessions made by support staff and faculty donations, was significant in maintaining the balanced budget last year.

"It had a major impact last year ... and has put us in a slightly better position this year," he said.

The University of Manitoba is having to take similar measures to balance their budget. The U of M recently announced that 40 of its executive members, including senior administration and deans, will receive a zero per cent scale increase on their salaries for the



MELODY MORRISSETTE

"The province is in a tough financial situation and they have passed on some of that difficulty to us."

—MIKE EMSLIE, CONTROLLER AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL SERVICES, U OF W

2010-2011 academic year.

"Technically, it is not a freeze," said John Danakas, U of M's director of public affairs. He explained that while none of the executives will receive a cost of living increase, some may still see an increase in their salaries if they have not reached the maximum earnings of their salary range.

A concern that both universities face in freezing executive salaries is the potential loss

of respective executive staff.

"You can't continue (to freeze salaries) because at some point you are just going to lose good people," President and Vice-Chancellor Lloyd Axworthy said.

Danakas agreed, but said since this is U of M's first year applying the zero per cent cost of living increase of executive salaries, losing members is not a major concern.

"It shouldn't be an overwhelming impediment for recruitment or retention," he said.

Despite the less than desirable actions that need to be taken to remain a financially stable institution, Axworthy said that such measures are inevitable.

"That's part of being a university in Manitoba. You have to do it so you do it," he said. "(But) it's not an occasion for hallelujah."

The Uniter: It's not over.

In addition to the two summer issues *The Uniter* is publishing, log on to www.uniter.ca over the next four months for up-to-date listings information and the occasional blog entry.

You can also follow *The Uniter* on Twitter at www.twitter.com/TheUniter. We'll use our feed to highlight local news and arts items that we think will be of interest to you.

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Jesus camp-us

Critics say United Church of Canada has too much power over the U of W

ETHAN CABEL
BEAT REPORTER

At one time, The United Church of Canada – the country's largest Protestant denomination – had the power to drive the University of Winnipeg's entire agenda. Yet much of that power and influence seems to continue, critics say.

"The fundamental utility of a university education is to teach critical thinking," said Rob McGregor, a U of W graduate and member of the University of Winnipeg Atheist Students Association (ASA).

McGregor, 23, opposes the teaching of theology because it is based on the "assumption" that God exists.

"The only way religion survives is through the repression of critical thinking."

The University of Winnipeg was formed through the merger of two Protestant Christian colleges, one Presbyterian and one Methodist, around the same time that Methodists and Presbyterians were merging to form the United



Robert McGregor, a member of the University of Winnipeg Atheist Students Association, opposes the teaching of theology at the university.

Church of Canada. The merging of the two colleges created the United College in 1938, and in 1967 it became the University of Winnipeg.

Currently, the United Church

maintains the power to appoint 10 out of the 33 members of the university's Board of Regents, which provides the goals and a strategic direction for campus administration.

"I thought we had separation of church and state in Canada," said Kelly Ross, University of Winnipeg Students' Association vice-president of student services and a member of the Board of Regents, referring to the fact that the university is a publicly-subsidized institution. "I don't think that any of the United Church appointees are out to do the university a disservice, but this institution (U of W) is not run by the United Church anymore."

Others defend the existence of church-appointed board members, saying that the United Church remains one of the most progressive religious institutions in Canada.

"The U of W's commitment to rational inquiry, multiculturalism and multi-faith relations is a gift from the United Church ... just as much as any brick on top of any other brick," said James Christie, dean of the faculty of theology, referring to the fact that the U of W was formed and built in large part because of the church.

The appointment power is not the only religious tradition still upheld by the U of W, however.

The faculty of theology is protected under section 14 of the University of Winnipeg Act, which stipulates that the Board of Regents cannot abolish or discontinue the faculty without the approval of both the Senate and the United Church of Canada.

Section 14 acts as statutory pro-

tection for the faculty because the Board of Regents doesn't necessarily have to seek the approval of the senate or the United Church when it abolishes other academic programs, said Valerie Gilroy, U of W general counsel.

Members of the ASA not only find the protection of theology troubling, they advocate for the abolition of the faculty as long as it retains ties to the United Church and is based on the assumption that God exists.

"Education is meant to teach you how to think, not how to believe," said Lukas Thiessen, U of W graduate and founding member of the ASA.

Christie defends the legitimacy of the faculty by pointing to its mission statement, which says that "the faculty of theology serves our multi-faith, multi-cultural, and multi-denominational communities."

"We have been explicitly inclusive to all faith groups for over 30 years," said Christie, adding that the faculty embraces other faith traditions. "In my experience, those that are reluctant to include theology into a university setting are often more dogmatic than the religious people on campus."

The faculty of theology receives roughly 25 per cent of its funding from the United Church. All five faculty members come from a Protestant Christian background, said Christie.



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Campus News Briefs

Compiled by Andrew McMonagle

COLLEGIATE GIRLS BASKETBALL CHAMPS

The University of Winnipeg Collegiate Girl's Basketball team beat St. Norbert Collegiate for the number one spot of the season on March 20. Hosted by Brandon's Neelin High School, the U of W Collegiate girls won 68-61.

The team's track record is evidence that this is no big surprise. According to the U of W, they have already won three AAAA tournaments and went into this year's championships with a record of 25-3. They had already won the zone 12 championship. Breanne Klump won the award for Player of the Game, Raven Boulanger was named Tournament MVP, Kenesha Giles was Tournament All-Star and Deanna Taras won the HARV award.

MASTER PEACE

The University of Winnipeg will be offering new degree programs in peace and conflict studies for the Fall 2010 term. The university announced that this partnership with the University of Manitoba will distinguish Winnipeg as the second city in North America to offer bachelor's, master's and doctoral programs in peace and conflict studies, next to Washington, D.C. The master's program will run through the U of W's Global College, headed by the college's principal Marilou McPhedran. The U of W already offers the first BA in human rights and global studies in Western Canada. The partnership with Menno Simons College also offers BA degrees in conflict resolution studies and international development studies. U of W Dean of Graduate Studies Sandra Kirby considers this to be part of Winnipeg's growing reputation as an international human rights city, saying this kind of academic base is a complement to the Human Rights Museum being built at the Forks.

NEW SUMMER SPORT CAMPS

The Wesmen's summer sport camps have added two more programs to the "Learn to Play the Wesmen Way" lineup. Previously just for kids, the new programs offer spots for adults, too. New this year are the Steve Nash Youth Basketball Camp and adult basketball or volleyball camps. The Steve Nash camp will include a half-day of basketball under the new Steve Nash and Canada Basketball curriculum, available to boys and girls in grades 1-5 and 6-9.

Adult basketball and volleyball camps will meet once a week for four weeks and will include refreshments at the end of each day along with a "chalk talk or video session."

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK?

Classes for the winter semester are done on Monday, April 5 with a makeup day for Good Friday on Tuesday, April 6. But just because classes are winding down doesn't mean there's nothing to do but study.

Global Citizens: Manitobans Working Together for a Better World is on display in the Hamilton Galleria, fourth floor of the library, until Monday, April 5.

The U of W theatre department is presenting *The Diary of Anne Frank* at the Gas Station Theatre (445 River Ave.) until Saturday, April 3.

I Heart U of W dinner fundraiser is happening Tuesday, April 13 at Canad Inns Polo Park.

Honorary degrees recognize achievements in a wide range of areas

Students' interest considered when deciding who gets an honorary PhD

COURTNEY SCHWEGEL
CAMPUS BEAT REPORTER

Having received 15 honorary degrees from universities across Canada and the U.S., University of Winnipeg President and Vice-Chancellor Lloyd Axworthy considers them all special.

"Each one of them is very different," he said. "It is a different university and a different student body ... you get to meet."

He has always tried to learn as much as he can about the university awarding him an honorary doctorate.

But sometimes, it's all just good fun.

He enjoyed the unique celebration at Memorial University of Newfoundland, where he received an honorary degree last year.

"I had a terrific time," he said. "I drank beer and had fish and chips on St. John's harbour."

His honorary degrees have been for various political and humanitarian accomplishments.

In addition to being a recipient, Axworthy heads the U of W selection committee for honorary degrees. He said that when choosing degree recipients from the pool of nominated individuals, the committee looks for people who can set positive examples for students.

One award is presented at each faculty's convocation ceremony.

"We try to choose someone who might be of particular interest to students in the graduating classes of those fields," he said.

Valerie Gilroy, corporate secretary for the board of regents and the senate, is in charge of co-ordinating and administering support for the honorary degrees committee. She said that often the recipients are a diverse group.

"There is a whole range of areas where a person might be considered successful or considered worthy of an honorary degree," she said, adding that people can be honoured for their achievements in politics, arts, science or community work – to name a few.

Gilroy said that usually, but not always, the recipient has some connection to the U of W.

David Bergen, acclaimed author and U of W alumnus, received an honorary degree from the U of W in 2007.

"It was very much an honour to get it," he said. "I don't have a doctorate of any sort, so this is the only kind of doctorate I have."



2010 HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENTS

Gary Doer - former premier of Manitoba and current Canadian Ambassador to the United States

Josie Hill - executive director of Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre

Bob McDonald - host of CBC Radio's *Quirks & Quarks*

Other notable honorary degrees given in Manitoba

Leonard Asper (U of W 2009) - campus and community commitment

Jim Derksen (U of M 2009) - disability activist

Gail Asper (U of M 2008) - community leader and philanthropist

Phil Fontaine (U of W 2008) - former National Chief of the Assembly of First Nations

Raymond McFeetors (U of W 2007) - CEO of Great West Life

Michaëlle Jean (U of M 2007) - Governor General of Canada

While it is certainly an achievement to receive an honorary PhD, it's not the same as the real thing.

Axworthy, who earned his PhD in political science from Princeton University, attested to that.

"It was much tougher," he said. "It took a lot more work."

Gilroy said that all recipients of honorary

degrees technically have the privilege of calling themselves doctor, although there are no real academic credentials behind that title.

"You wouldn't be able to get a job ... based on an honorary degree," she clarified.

Bergen said he would never consider giving himself that title.

"That would be pretentious and presumptuous," he said.

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Basketball players go from green to red

Two new recruits for Wesmen Women's Basketball

CASANDRA ANDERSON
VOLUNTEER STAFF

The University of Winnipeg's Wesmen Women's Basketball Team has recruited two new players from the Vincent Massey Trojans. Stephanie Kleysen and Ashleigh Chichlowski have been two key players for the Trojans this season.

The team only lost one game this entire season, including the playoffs.

Head coach Stacy Hawash, who has coached Kleysen and Chichlowski for the past three years, couldn't be more proud of her team.

"Our season was great, 29-1. Our only loss was to Oak Park in the final of the first tournament, Pembina Trails Classic. The players worked hard all season, pushing each other to reach our goal of the provincial final. Winning it was the topper to an outstanding season and great for the group of girls," she said.

It was apparent there were no doubts in the minds of the fans that the Vincent Massey Girls team would beat out Oak Park for the championship. But during the final game against Oak Park on Saturday, March 20, both teams were in a panic over the end score. In front of 2,300 fans and supporters at the University of Manitoba,



Tanya McKay, head coach of the Wesmen Women's Basketball team.

Vincent Massey beat Oak Park by one point. A 63-62 win kept friends and family of both teams on the edge of their seats.

It was no wonder why Stephanie Kleysen and Ashleigh Chichlowski were being closely scoped out by the Winnipeg Wesmen scouts.

Hawash is excited to see two of her top players moving up.

"Stephanie and Ashleigh are both hardworking players. It's great that they get the opportunity to play at the next level. They are both great people on and off the floor, willing to help others and especially teammates with what needs to be done," she said.

Hawash thinks both Kleysen and Chichlowski are great team players.

"On the court, Stephanie was a captain and lead the team with her play at both ends of the court. She loves to play defense and cre-

ate fast-break opportunities for the team on the offensive end. She is our rebounding leader at the defensive and offensive ends. Offensively, she takes it hard to the hole and has been working on the outside shooting," said Hawash.

"Ashleigh is our force inside on defense. She can play big inside and block shots and rebound strong. Offensively, she can post up strong or shoot the three. This allows us the opportunity to stretch the defensive teams," she added.

The signing couldn't have come at a better time, according to Wesmen head coach Tanya McKay, since the Wesmen said goodbye to some veterans this past season.

"(Kleysen and Chichlowski are) two very good athletes and basket-

"Stephanie and Ashleigh are both hardworking players. It's great that they get the opportunity to play at the next level."

-STACY HAWASH, HEAD COACH, VINCENT MASSEY TROJANS

ball players," she said by e-mail. "(They) will make an immediate impact with our university team next season."

Chichlowski and Kleysen have now turned in their green Vincent Massey jerseys for the brighter Wesmen red.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

In the lead up to Earth Day, community members can meet in Central Park at 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, April 18 to take part in the Seventh Annual Seventh Generation Walk to Oodena Circle at the Forks. For more information, send an e-mail to winnipeg.ipsm@gmail.com.

Meet every Thursday for CHESS IN THE COURT in Kennedy Court on the second floor of Portage Place, throughout March and April.

FREE INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS CLASS. An opportunity to meet with other students and Canadian friends while learning English and the Bible. Takes place on Sundays from noon until 1:30 p.m. at Elim Chapel, 546 Portage Ave. For more information call Val & Veda Chacko at 257-1670.

ON CAMPUS

The UWSA Food Bank will be holding a Menstrual Product Drive until Thursday, April 1 in the Atrium in front of Riddell Cafeteria. Donate feminine hygiene products such as sanitary napkins, tampons and menstrual cups.

The UWSA SAFEWALK PROGRAM is looking for volunteers to walk students, faculty and staff to their cars, bus stops or residences within a reasonable distance. Each four-hour shift will receive an \$18 honorarium.

Every Wednesday from 12:30 to 1 p.m. there is an interfaith university chapel service in the Carl Ridd Sanctuary in Bryce Hall. All are welcome.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteer Manitoba will host the 27th Annual Volunteer Awards Dinner on Tuesday, April 20 during National Volunteer Week at the Winnipeg Convention Centre.

St. Amant's River Road Place, a complex-care facility for Manitobans with developmental disabilities, is seeking volunteers. For more information, please call St. Amant at 258-7048 or visit the website: www.stamant.mb.ca.

The West Broadway Youth Outreach Centre is always looking for more volunteers to help with a variety of programs including sports, tutoring and other programs to benefit inner-city youth. Call 204-774-0451 or stop by 222 Furby St. to offer your skills.

Do you have a few hours a month to spare? Want to help make our community a place where women and children are safe, healthy, valued and empowered? Become a volunteer board member at Fort Garry Women's Resource Centre. Call 477-1123 or visit fgwrc.ca for more information.

The 2010 Winnipeg Fringe Festival (July 14 to 25) is currently looking for volunteers. Volunteers can pick from nine teams: venues, beer tent, Kids Fringe, info tent, Old Market Square team, Info Centre, hospitality, front of house prep and performer services. The Fringe asks for a minimum four-shift commitment. Shifts are four to five hours. Perks include free tickets, free refreshments and work experience. E-mail Clayton at volunteers@winnipegfringe.com for more information.

THE UNITER MAY NOT BE PUBLISHING WEEKLY FOR THE NEXT FEW MONTHS, BUT WE'LL STILL HAVE ALL THE UP-TO-DATE LISTINGS INFORMATION YOU COULD EVER WANT ON WWW.UNITER.CA. LOG ON TO CHECK IT OUT.

MOUSELAND PRESS

Announcement – Annual Meeting of the Membership – Mouseland Press Inc.

12:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 14, 2010 – University of Winnipeg, Room 2C13

Agenda:

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of previous meeting's minutes
4. Managing Editor and Business Manager Reports
5. Approval of 2010-2011 Budget
6. Nomination of new Board of Directors
7. Election
8. Election of Chair and setting of initial BoD meeting
9. Presentation to outgoing board members
10. Adjournment

The following people are nominated to sit on the Mouseland Press Board of Directors:

Caroline Fisher
Kelly Ross
Ben Wickstrom

– Election will take place at the AGM.

If you have contributed to three or more issues of *The Uniter* during the 2009/2010 school year, you are automatically a member of Mouseland Press Inc. and have voting rights at this meeting.

Comments

Is nothing sacred anymore?

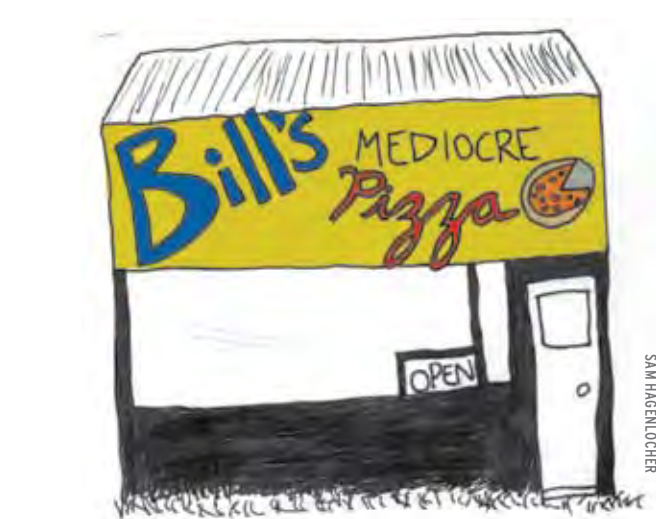
As the out-of-the-ordinary becomes ordinary, we lose our ability to determine the truly special



MATT SCHELLENBERG
VOLUNTEER

Manitobans are cowards and I am one of them. I know this because I am already regretting writing that first sentence.

It's too abrasive, probably offensive to my parents and a mass generalization that undercuts all the achievements of our spirited energy. But the next time you find yourself at the end of a concert in this province participating in a standing ovation, you'll know what I mean. It's not that the concert was groundbreaking. It probably wasn't even one of the top 20 per-



formances you've seen in your life. But there you are, standing.

Standing ovations used to be special. You'd save it for a deserving person or band, and when the time was right, offer it up in hopes that it might inspire future good in the world. It was sacred, withheld and put aside for the truly worthy. An exquisite tropical bird, a rare orchid, a moment in *Tetris* where every block disappeared. A standing ovation was a celebration of the

truly wonderful.

Now the practice bears closer resemblance to soap opera red roses on Valentine's Day, or occasion-based Hallmark poetry fitting for any person willing to usurp their special message with gifts whose meanings are lost in mass production.

But why mass-produce the standing ovation? Have we begun to fear the ordinary? When did David Letterman decide that all of

his guests were special? When did McDonald's stop selling medium-sized fries?

This epidemic is spread much wider than the Manitoban auditorium. It has been slyly injected into all North American activity.

Still, somewhere in our rational selves, we must know that floor 14 is really floor 13, large is really medium and Gary Busey promoting *Dr. Dolittle 3* is far from momentous. Yet we wrap ourselves in a comfortable blanket of augmented rhetoric, demonizing the mundane. We act like we deserve better. Like we deserve the super-sized.

And why not? Why not have a sale every day of the year? Why not say "fuck" in every sentence? Why not eat Pot of Gold chocolates year round? Why not make some music, make some money, find models for wives, live fast and die young? It's an appetizing mantra, one that perhaps this generation's North America has embraced.

But how much "special" do we have left?

Specialness, I believe, is a resource, and a resource is subject to the rules of supply and demand.

Just as gold or silver's scarcity defines their value, specialness just isn't all that special when everything we do is made with it.

With every "pro-bio-tri-(insert brand name here) plus" product created, we partake in a celebration of gratuitous hyperbole, voluntarily rendering ourselves impotent in determining the really great. We increase, augment and amplify, creating an exciting world where nothing is ordinary. Or perhaps, special is ordinary.

So one day, when we find ourselves in an auditorium realizing that what we have just witnessed is the truly great, the wonderful, the beautiful summation of all artistic endeavours, I suppose our tippy-toes and hand claps will have to do. We used to save that last bit in case we needed it. Turn the volume up to seven so you can crank it up to 10 for the solo.

Now, we'd better hope these amps go up to 11.

Matt Schellenberg never misses the opportunity to slip in a Spinal Tap reference.

Letters

Re: "Greece's economic turmoil"
(March 25, page 9)

This writer appears to favour or at least legitimize a scorched-earth fiscal policy that no electoral majority would ever consider. Anyone who thinks anarchy is a proper response to the mistakes of a previous government, however disastrous, is clearly a person who can only think in extremes. The Greek government should have done what was truly fiscally conservative in the first place and stayed out of the Eurozone.

Jess Chapman
Via www.uniter.ca

CHECK OUT OUR STAFF BLOGS
AT WWW.UNITER.CA

Recent entries include:

"More music to come
from Greg MacPherson"
by Aaron Epp

"The spontaneous
saga of rock and roll"
by J.P. Perron

"Shoulda had a mentor"
by Courtney Schwegel

"Tea with a senator"
by Andrew Tod

and

"Doing the robot,
journalist-style"
by Karen Kornelsen



THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

Research Assistant, Office of the President Job Vacancy # E07.10

The Opportunity:

The Office of the President is seeking a motivated, energetic professional to take on the role of Research Assistant in a term capacity until March 31, 2014. Under the direction of the Sr. Executive Officer and Advisor to the President, the successful candidate will support the President & Vice-Chancellor in researching and writing papers, articles and speeches on a broad range of subjects. This is a unique opportunity to work closely with a high-level official with a national and international profile. The incumbent will come into contact with a variety of individuals, governments and organizations both locally and from around the world, and must be capable of establishing and maintaining positive working relationships with all external and internal constituents. The Research Assistant must be able to exercise sound judgment in assessing situations and use discretion as they frequently work with confidential information.

Qualifications:

As the ideal candidate, you will possess an undergraduate degree, preferably from The University of Winnipeg, or one close to completion. You must have experience in researching and writing papers or articles for publication. Preference will be given to candidates who have experience working in an academic, public policy or senior management environment. You must have excellent organizational and communication skills, both verbal and written and have experience dealing with a wide variety of highly confidential matters. You are also a team player with strong interpersonal skills and a demonstrated ability to use tact, discretion and professionalism. You have the ability to cope with varying demands for attention and changing priorities, and to deal accurately and effectively with a variety of work, often under tight deadlines. You are also able to work varied hours and the ability to speak a second language would be an asset.

Application Deadline:

Please submit your cover letter and resume to Human Resources by April 5, 2010 at 4:30 p.m. Be sure to quote Job Vacancy # E07.10 in your cover letter and/or email subject line.

Email: recruit@uwinnipeg.ca

Fax: (204)774-2935

Office: 2Mc22S (Reception), 368 Spence Street

Mailing address: University of Winnipeg, Human Resources
515 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, MB, R3B 2E9

The University of Winnipeg is committed to employment equity, welcomes diversity in the workplace, and encourages applications from all qualified individuals including women, members of visible minorities, aboriginal persons, and persons with disabilities. In accordance with Canadian immigration requirements, this advertisement is initially directed to Canadian citizens and permanent residents of Canada.

Hitchhike your way to happiness

How to see the country, meet great people and mooch off them



ANDREW MCMONAGLE
NEWS ASSIGNMENT EDITOR

If you're tired of working a job, living in a city and taking showers, hitchhiking may be for you.

You is *the* cheapest way to travel quickly, although it remains illegal within city limits, on freeways and in most of America. Canadian cops can be pretty lenient on hitchhikers as long as they're not creating a disturbance or pissing people off.

In a loose French translation, hitchhiking is "faire du pouce," or "ride the thumb." There is no English equivalent as satisfying as that mental image.

Hitchhiking is closer to a sport than a hobby. To hitchhike is to expose oneself to the world in a way that's difficult to replicate in a city. Ever been hiking or camping? Imagine that, but on a highway. The bugs will get you, the sun will cook you and the drivers will snub you. So why do it?

Because it's amazing, that's why. Hitchhiking can be an opportunity to discover what freedom is. The skies are always massive while on the road.

Obviously, hitchhiking is not for everybody. The best method is to pair up with somebody of the opposite sex. Women can get the security of having a male around (this is not a sexist assertion but rather a tragic observation) and men can benefit from having a ride-attracting female companion. In either case, the road can be lonely and a partner helps.

North America was rife with hitchhikers in the 1960s and '70s, but the sport has declined greatly.

William Thomas wrote in his book *Never Hitchhike on the Road Less Traveled* that hitchhiking died after the '70s. I disagree strongly, for when I spent my time exploring Canada's highways the hard way, I met fellow hikers daily.

But it has declined. Are people not daring or poor anymore? The popularity of lottery scratch cards says no.

For one thing, people don't trust strangers as much anymore, with good reason. There are any number of horror stories about hitchhiking, ranging from the absurd (hook-in-the-door, anyone?) to the terrifyingly real (B.C.'s "Highway of Tears" between Prince George and Prince Rupert is renowned for missing women), but the positive stories far outnumber them.

I don't want to trivialize the danger. Hitchhiking is risky. Hardly any mother on Earth would recommend hitchhiking to her children, and the ones who would are likely drunk and/or stoned.

Risky or not, my own thumb-ridings reinforced my faith in humanity daily. It takes a supremely kind person to allow a poten-



tially foul-smelling stranger into their vehicle. Supremely kind, or supremely bored. Either way, it's a huge leap of faith for drivers and riders alike. I can't count the number of amazing, interesting and generous people I've ridden with.

I've had my share of sketchy experiences too (including more than a couple drunks and one pickup truck that wanted to take my girlfriend but not me); I just tell myself that bad things can happen in a city, too.

The road can teach you things. For one, you have to learn how to be alone. It may be hours before your next ride, so you might as well get to know yourself. This can be arduous as many people are jerks and don't realize it. The road can be your therapist, so feel free to talk things out.

The road doesn't judge. On the way, you'll meet complete strangers who unload their life stories on you – and it's best to reciprocate.

A summer spent on the road can enhance your appreciation of life, the universe and everything. (Thank you, Douglas Adams.) If nothing else, it can enhance your appreciation of clean sheets.

Andrew McMonagle rode his thumb across Canada and parts of the U.S. and enjoyed every second of it.

THE RULES OF THE ROAD

Tips on how to successfully hitchhike in Canada

- ⇒ Don't flip off the cops as they pass you, even if it's raining.
- ⇒ Carry lots of water for hydration and protection - a Nalgene bottle to the head can deter perverts and stray wildlife.
- ⇒ Make funny signs. "I tell stories and have chocolate" can work, especially if it's true.
- ⇒ Wear good shoes - you may not take them off for a *good* while.
- ⇒ A big backpack shows you're ready for anything. A small bag - or worse, carrying nothing - shows you're ready for a quick getaway and might be on one already.
- ⇒ If you're not on a good shoulder of the

I'VE

had some really bad luck, but I'll

NEVER

let you see it. No one knows I've

BEEN

hungry for so long. But, if things don't get

BETTER

soon, I'm not sure what'll happen to me.

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THE

UNITER

Job postings

Business Manager

The University of Winnipeg’s student weekly is seeking a dynamic and motivated individual to take over the business operations of the newspaper. This individual should have at least two years progressive responsibility in management. They must possess a solid understanding of the publishing industry and the needs of a controlled copy urban weekly that suits the needs to both the campus and downtown community.

This individual will be responsible for all business aspects of the paper including advertising, circulation, finances and business development.

The following job opportunity is a 30-hour per week part-time position for a one-year contract beginning at the end of April. The position has a two-week holiday period as well as a Christmas break (approx. two weeks). It is based upon a \$21,000 salary per year with a chance for increased wages April 1, 2011 (with contract renewal).

Please note this is not an editorial position.

Skill requirements:

- Ability to prioritize tasks, make decisions and work independently, act with a high degree of integrity and professionalism.
- Excellent communications skills, both oral and written.
- Knowledge and familiarity with Macintosh operating systems, computer software for Word Processing, Spreadsheet, Database management, e-mail and Internet, and accounting.
- Ability to manage the newspaper’s circulation, advertising and event contracts.

- Ability to oversee and co-ordinate financial management of the newspaper.
- Familiarity with publishing, web publishing and new media including the ability to oversee production of a weekly newspaper.
- Familiarity with grant writing, budgeting and project co-ordination a must.

Duties:

- ADMINISTRATION: Responsible for all office communications, by mail, phone, fax and e-mail, finances, advertising, production, promotions and fundraising, etc.
- STAFF SUPERVISION: In association with the managing editor, the business manager will oversee all staff and execute the organization’s human resources policy of a safe and healthy workplace.
- CIRCULATION: Manages the newspaper’s circulation records by consistently updating, monitoring and optimizing new and existing circulation drop points. Maintain a mailing list for *The Uniter*.
- ADVERTISING: Acts as the newspaper’s advertising representative, recruiting new clients and managing current clients, preparing contracts, proposals and packages, revising rate cards, invoicing and collecting revenue.
- MENTORING: The business manager of *The Uniter* will be responsible for providing a mentoring environment for all staff of the paper and will from time-to-time be consulted upon for editorial advice and publishing expertise. The individual must also be able to assess, strategize and react to changing climates in the publishing industry as it relates to the newspaper’s niche market.
- FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT: Oversees the financial management of newspaper, including payroll. Must prepare and submit annual budgets and actuals to the board of directors.

- PRODUCTION: Oversees printing and mailing of magazine issues, and acts as a liason with the printer and the production manager. Manages printing contract.
- DEVELOPMENT: Works in conjunction with the board of directors to execute the Strategic Plan of *The Uniter*.
- PROMOTIONS / SPONSORSHIP AND SPECIAL PROJECTS: With input from the board of directors and staff, the business manager will plan and execute activities that engage the readership of the newspaper. This includes the speaker’s series of Mouseland Press Inc. The business manager will administrate all sponsorship opportunities of the organization.
- REPORTING: The business manager will attend all Board and committee meetings and prepare reports for all board meetings on the newspaper’s finances, circulation, advertising, results of promotions, and other information as needed by the Board.

Interested parties should submit a resume including references, a covering letter and a one-to two-page essay detailing the importance of independent media by **12 p.m. on April 5, 2010**. Interviews will take place the week of March 29. Application packages should be sent to board@uniter.ca.

Questions can be addressed to interim business manager James Patterson at business@uniter.ca or 786-9790.

We thank all applicants, however only those short-listed for an interview will be contacted.

Production Manager

(\$400 per week)

The Uniter is looking for a hard-working, creative and talented individual to take on the responsibilities of Production Manager. The successful applicant will be responsible for the overall design and final layout of the newspaper, in co-operation with the section editors and Managing Editor, on a weekly basis. The Production Manager is also responsible for uploading content onto *The Uniter’s* website each week. This person must be proficient with Adobe Creative Suite, comfortable using a Mac OS X platform and possess a sound understanding of design principles for a weekly print publication. The Production Manager must be available to work Sunday to Wednesday. Some additional ad design will be required and paid accordingly. Some office hours are required. Time commitment is 25+ hours per week.

The successful applicant will work on *The Uniter’s* two summer issues (May and June) and then begin their term in late August.

Please send your resume and a cover letter to editor@uniter.ca. The deadline for this application is **Friday, April 2 at 12 p.m.**

The following positions are based on a 30-week term running Aug. 9, 2010 to Dec. 3 2010 and Jan. 3, 2011 to April 1, 2011. Successful applicants will be expected to spend volunteer hours during the summer familiarizing themselves with the position, attending a mini-journalism conference organized by *The Uniter*, and planning for the year ahead. Staff members are expected to attend weekly staff meetings and actively engage in the development of their position throughout the course of their employment.

For further information, call 786-9790 or e-mail editor@uniter.ca. References and at least three writing samples must be attached to resumes.

Mail, or deliver resumes in person, to *The Uniter*, ORM14 Bulman Centre, 515 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3B 2E9, or e-mail your application package to editor@uniter.ca.

Only those applicants selected for interviews will be contacted. Applications are encouraged from *all* interested parties.

Application deadline for all positions below is April 23 at 12 p.m. Interviews will take place during the week of April 26.

News production editor (\$110 per week)

The Uniter is looking for a hardworking individual who possesses superior editing and writing skills to take the position of news production editor. The news production editor edits all content for an eight- to nine-page news section. Working closely with the news assignment editor, the news production editor aids in generating story ideas and helps writers to develop and write news stories. A strong understanding of journalistic style is mandatory. The news production editor is also responsible for researching and writing news stories and blog entries. Weekend work is required.

porter generates story ideas and works closely with the news assignment editor to ensure coverage for a two- to three-page section. They also research and write weekly stories and blog entries, and co-ordinate compelling visuals with the photo editor and production manager.

Beat reporter (\$60 per week)

Beat reporters work closely with the news team to write two assigned stories per week and arrange for corresponding visual content. They must also regularly write blog entries on *The Uniter’s* website. The chosen candidate will demonstrate a critical eye for news content, possess superior writing and interviewing skills, and work well under the pressure of deadlines. The beat reporter must be able to work in collaboration with others and well as independently.

closely with the arts and culture editor to develop story ideas that examine cultural trends of relevance to readers of *The Uniter*. Along with the arts and culture editor, the culture reporter ensures sufficient content to fill four- to five-pages. They also work closely with volunteer writers to develop story ideas and provide support when needed. In addition, the culture reporter writes and researches at least one story per week, and regularly contributes to the online blog.

Copy and style editor (\$100 per week)

The Uniter is looking for an individual who demonstrates exceptional editing skills. The successful applicant assists the managing editor in final edits for the newspaper. The copy and style editor checks the entire copy for stylistic and grammatical errors. They are also responsible for compiling stylistic resources for staff. The successful applicant must be available to edit copy on weekends.

Campus reporter (\$60 week)

The campus reporter ensures the goings on at the University of Winnipeg are covered in *The Uniter*. The successful candidate must have a keen eye for news and a knack for knowing what matters to readers. Liaising with students, the UWSA and faculty and departments is a necessity. The campus re-

Culture reporter (\$80 per week)

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ANNUAL URBAN ISSUE: FOCUS ON TRANSPORTATION

Playing catch-up with transit

Winnipeg years behind in bus technology; can't decide what it wants next

KRISTY RYDZ
BEAT REPORTER

After decades of economic talk and political posturing, Winnipeg's transit system is taking a baby step in catching up with public transportation leaps in other Canadian metropolises like Calgary and Vancouver. However, it remains to be seen in what form that step will come.

With the \$138 million first phase of the city's Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system – the 3.6 kilometre southwest corridor that includes a new Osborne Street bridge and a tunnel beneath the Fort Rouge CN Yards – currently under construction, Mayor Sam Katz wants to develop a Light Rail Transit (LRT) system instead.

"I think it's time we start preparing for LRT and get all levels of government involved in a plan for LRT," Katz said. "When you're doing something, you're not doing it for today, you're doing it for 20 years in the future. If you're looking for the city to prosper, there's no way it would do that without LRT."

The mayor stated that the price of LRT has dropped by up to 40 per cent since the 2005 Rapid Transit Task Force examined the feasibility of LRT in Winnipeg and concluded it was too costly.

"The more money you spend on BRT and not LRT, the more money you're flushing down the toilet, and that's not what we need to do with taxpayers' money," Katz said.

The shift in vision for Winnipeg's transit system is making the move



Phase one of the city's Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system is currently underway, but the city is having trouble moving forward to catch up with other major cities in Canada.

forward perilous, according to city councillor Jenny Gerbasi (Fort Rouge-East Fort Garry).

"I appreciate the idea of doing a long-term plan, but it's really confusing the issue, especially when the province has signed on. It's a real risk that we could lose the commitment if we don't get our act together," Gerbasi said.

Despite reports, Katz says he hasn't discussed sharing equally in funding the second phase of BRT with other levels of government.

The second phase would extend south down Pembina Highway, connecting the system to the University of Manitoba. He notes that the provincial government has suggested using the Winnipeg's Building Canada Fund, usually spent on infrastructure work on roads, bridges and underpasses, to meet the \$220 million price tag of phase two.

Gerbasi however points to the

"It's unfortunate that our mayor has muddied the waters on this."

—MICHAEL DUDLEY,
SENIOR RESEARCH ASSOCIATE,
U OF W INSTITUTE OF URBAN STUDIES

province's 2008 Climate Change and Emissions Reduction Act, which legally commits Manitoba to a 50/50 funding agreement on the net operating costs of city transit, including rapid transit.

"There hasn't been a formal funding commitment on this specific project but the Premier has been publicly supportive of the (BRT) initiative," she said.

With a history of supporting BRT in her 12 years as a council member, as well as sitting on the 2005 Rapid Transit Task Force,

Gerbasi believes the nature of the system is flexible in the future, but acquiring the land for any type of system is crucial.

"Once you establish the corridor, you can change the vehicle to all sorts of other types of technology. The important thing is to establish the corridor, then you can change," she said. "We get caught up in the technology, but technology is always changing."

For Michael Dudley, senior research associate and library coordinator of the University of Winnipeg's Institute of Urban Studies, the lack of a conclusive decision is troublesome.

"I think the problem is that there is still a debate ... I think it's unfortunate that our mayor has muddied the waters on this," he said. "LRT is seen as more prestigious, more high tech, sexier. But Winnipeg is a slow-growing community and it doesn't have the density of other major

BRT VERSUS LRT

The facts behind the acronyms

BRT – Bus Rapid Transit – Using buses or specialized vehicles on dedicated lanes or roadways while offering flexibility to meet local conditions.

LRT – Light Rail Transit – Utilizing rail technology, LRT is often described as an updated version of the streetcar. Running on a dedicated railway, the system uses electric-powered rail cars with exclusive right-of-ways.

The Rapid Transit Task Force's 2005 evaluation of BRT versus LRT for Winnipeg

Both BRT and LRT can fulfill the functional requirements of a rapid transit system providing high-capacity, high-performance, urban transit routes and services.

BRT and LRT share the same key features including running ways, transit-priority measures, real-time passenger information systems, centralized stations with passenger amenities, brand identity, presence and sense of permanence.

BRT systems with exclusive roadways operate at travel times comparable to LRT.

The differences between BRT and LRT are primarily public perception and cost.

BRT has lower capital costs, lower operating costs for passenger demands predicted for Winnipeg and lower equivalent annualized costs (annualized capital costs combined with annual operations and maintenance costs) than LRT.

Source: Made in Winnipeg Rapid Transit Solution, Final Report, 2005 (Prepared for The City of Winnipeg Executive Policy Committee and Council)

cities to support it right now. In a time of recession, it really ought to be the affordable option, and (we) just need to get the thing built."

Cutting corners around town

Local professional drivers give tips on city navigation

SAMUEL SWANSON
BEAT REPORTER

When it comes to driving a vehicle, getting around the city efficiently is something many drivers strive to do. But they don't often achieve their goal, according to the city's professional drivers.

Fortunately, professional city navigators were willing to share their driving tips with *The Uniter*.

The first myth to dispel is that driving faster will get you there faster.

"You can't make any money speeding," said Ray Mackelson Sr., who has spent the last seven years as a professional courier at United Messenger.

Steve Tedham, a driver for Pizzaland who's been driving pro-



Steve Tedham makes his living driving around the city. His advice for navigating city streets? Don't speed.

fessionally for three years delivering goods ranging from pizzas to car parts, agreed.

"You can make \$250 a night hustling pizzas, but all it takes is one (speed camera) flash and you're down. You just worked for free,"

he said.

Mackelson and Tedham both added that driving faster means more stopping and starting, which adds to the gas bill.

Using back alleys, however, is a great way to save time.

"Probably 50 per cent of my day is driving down back alleys to get from A to B," said Mackelson. "You can probably cut your time by three quarters. It might take two minutes to get around the block, but you can cut through (an alley) in 20 seconds."

Using back alleys also helps to avoid red-light lineups.

"That whole strip of downtown Portage, none of the lights are timed in sequence. Sometimes you'll stop at one light just to stop at the next light right after," said Tedham. "So if you can find an alley to go around that, that's money, right there."

So why don't more drivers use back alleys? Because their locations are not widely published information, according to Tedham.

"They're not marked on maps ... so you gotta go there in order to know there's an alley," he said.

Online navigation is useful, but not always.

"The thing about Google Maps, Mapquest ... that kind of thing is that there are a lot of suburban developments in the city, and they're

never on those sites," Tedham said.

Both drivers agreed the city's urban planning doesn't help getting around.

"Instead of planning out where the city was going to go, they just tacked shit on and said, 'Where it goes is where it goes and we'll try to make it work,'" Tedham said.

"And if it doesn't work, (they'll) tear it up and do it again next summer or next month," Mackelson added.

From a cab driver's perspective, it's all about knowing which streets and areas to avoid.

Knowing alternative routes is how to beat traffic, according to Tom Garden, a driver with Unicity Taxi.

"(L)ike this morning, there was a traffic jam on Kenaston (Boulevard), so I went Kenaston to Centennial (Street) and beat all the traffic."

Find more professional tips for efficient driving in Samuel's blog at www.uniter.ca/blog.

Under the railway's influence

FIVE WAYS THE RAILROAD SHAPED MANITOBA

In the 1800s and early 1900s, the railway was the most important method of moving goods and people across Canada. In honour of The Uniter's annual urban issue, we decided to look at five ways the railway shaped Manitoba.



AARON EPP, MANAGING EDITOR; ANDREW MCMONAGLE, NEWS ASSIGNMENT EDITOR;

KAREN KORNELSEN, NEWS PRODUCTION EDITOR; SAM HAGENLOCHER, ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR; ANDREW TOD, COMMENTS EDITOR

WINNIPEG VERSUS SELKIRK

As Manitoba began to develop in the 1880s, many municipalities rose and fell depending on the placement of railroads. Winnipeg's fortunes were not immune.

In fact, when the prairie section of the Canadian Pacific Railroad (CPR) was in the planning stage, CPR officials wanted to build the main line through Selkirk instead of Winnipeg. This would have reversed the histories of both cities, according to University of Winnipeg geography professor William Carlyle.

"(The railroad) was the gateway to the West when it opened up," he said. "Winnipeg's leaders understood how crucial the railroad was to the development of the city."

As the line needed to cross the Red River, CPR officials wanted to build it through the area least prone to flooding. Selkirk, some 22 kilometres northeast of Winnipeg and slightly more elevated, fit the bill.

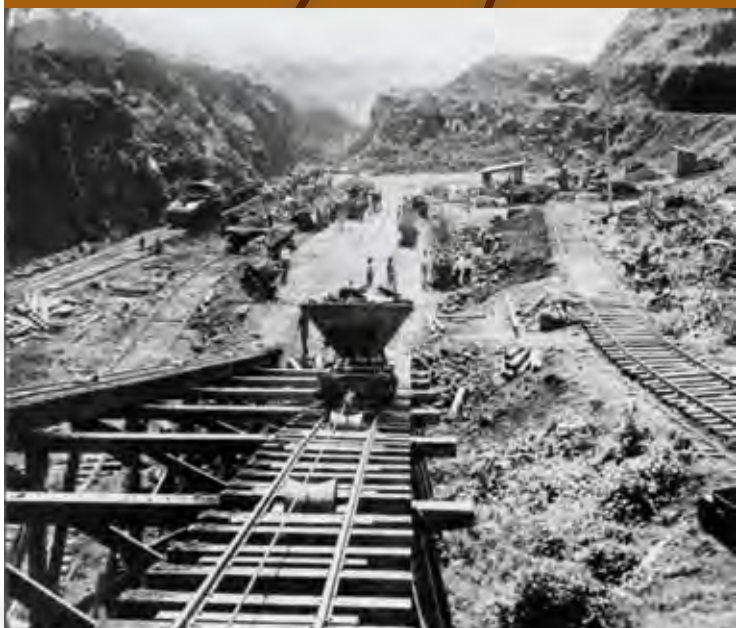
The final decision came down to the weighing of national interest – the safety of the CPR line – and the political and economic interest of Winnipeg, the centre of power in Manitoba and much of the prairies.

The city organized to draw the line away from Selkirk. In 1879, Winnipeg city council pledged \$300,000 to build a bridge spanning the Red River as an incentive.

By 1881, Federal Minister of Railroads Charles Tupper and CPR decided the line would run through Winnipeg. CPR also demanded from Winnipeg that the company be paid \$200,000, given land for a station and be exempted from civic taxation.

The placement of the line today reflects this last-minute political decision. The main tracks change abruptly at Molson, Man., swinging to the southwest towards Winnipeg instead of continuing northwest to Selkirk.

The importance of railroads to Manitoban communities can be seen in the case of Nelsonville, emphasized Carlyle. The fast growing community was bypassed by the railroad in 1883, causing nearly all of its residents – and buildings – to move to nearby Morden. By 1905, Nelsonville was a ghost town.



THE CANAL THAT BROKE THE CITY'S BACK

In 1870, Manitoba became a province, and Winnipeg was a tiny community of roughly 215 inhabitants. By the time Winnipeg was incorporated as a city four years later, the population had risen to roughly 2,000 residents, thanks to its growing agriculture industry. Then in 1881, Canadian Pacific Railway came to town, and the rest was history.

Sort of.

The railway caused an explosion in international trade, particularly with the United States, which in turn caused a massive rise in population. By the late 19th century, Winnipeg was the fastest growing municipality in Canada. The "gateway to the west" was experiencing prosperity that most cities only dreamed about.

America's National Magazine, in an October 1904 feature entitled "Winnipeg, the Metropolis of Western Canada," raved that Winnipeg had "excellent railway systems (which) afford every facility for transportation."

The article also saluted the rise of Winnipeg's financial centre, whose annual bank clearances rose from \$50 million in 1894, to \$246 million in 1903.

Yes, it was a great time to be in Winnipeg.

The population increase caused by the railway resulted in a massive expansion of the downtown and surrounding areas' buildings, many of which still survive today, as a symbol of the city's booming past. Land prices rapidly rose as demand increased. Construction on the Manitoba Legislative Building began in 1913.

And then, the following year, the Panama Canal opened.

The 34-year project, one of the largest engineering undertakings in history, succeeded in connecting the Atlantic Ocean with the Pacific, allowing goods to be transported faster and easier than by train.

This new development caused much financial difficulty for the mid-western boom town, as the reliance on Canada's rail system for international trade was reduced. This resulted in an abrupt decline in Winnipeg's large real estate market.

The immigration slowed, and the city would never be the same.

Vancouver took over as the traffic and trade hub of the country, thanks to the increase of ships from Panama. By 1920, Vancouver had surpassed Winnipeg to become Canada's third-largest city, with a population of roughly 180,000. Vancouver's metropolitan population, according to a 2006 census, is an estimated 2.1 million people.

When the Manitoba Legislature was finally completed in 1919, the massive building was still designed to accommodate representatives for an estimated population of three million residents.

To date, Manitoba's total estimated population stands at 1,213,815 residents.

ABOVE Photo by Jill Brown.
✚ LEFT The famous Culebra Cut of the Panama Canal, 1907. Wikimedia Commons.

OPPOSITE PAGE
TOP Portage Avenue streetcar. Courtesy of Heritage Winnipeg.
✚ MIDDLE Transcona Shops. Photo by Aaron Epp. ✚ BOTTOM Photo courtesy of CN.



RIDING THE RAILS FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

The very start of what we now know as the Winnipeg Transit System began with the electric streetcar. At 7:30 p.m. on Jan. 27, 1891 the first electric streetcar made its way down the tracks.

After trying out streetcars led by horses and then adapting sleighs because of snow conditions, Winnipeg looked to the south at the first electric streetcar being used in Richmond, Virginia. It took nine years to go from horse-drawn streetcars to the rail system. Because of the incredible growth in Winnipeg at the time, streetcars were incredibly important for the city.

Cindy Tugwell, executive director of Heritage Winnipeg, can't stress enough just how important they were, and are now, to Winnipeg's formation.

"Currently there are no programs to educate people on why the streetcar was so instrumental to the city. It expanded our city and is responsible for creating residential areas in the city," Tugwell said.

The streetcar truly was Winnipeg's first form of real transportation.

According to Tugwell, mass transportation was needed in order for people to get around and to expand Winnipeg as a city.

The only remaining original wooden streetcar, Car 356, is in possession by Heritage Winnipeg and they would like to eventually have it placed in a museum so others can be educated on its importance.

If you're wondering why we don't see tracks or electrical lines anymore, most were taken apart and hauled away, while others were paved over.

"At the time, people viewed (the electrical lines) as an eyesore. It was a growing trend across North America to get rid of the streetcar," said Tugwell.

The cars were viewed by the public as uncomfortable and cold. Eventually, the country moved away from mass transportation. Roads were expanding, transportation was being revolutionized. From the streetcar, we moved towards trolleys and then eventually the rubber tires brought us up to the classic bus.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF TRANSCONA

Before Transcona amalgamated with the City of Winnipeg along with 11 other communities on January 1, 1972, it was its own city - a city that owed its establishment to the railroad.

In 1907 or 1908, the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway purchased 800 acres of land located 13 kilometres east of Winnipeg for the construction of its new railway repair shops and the future town-site. The shops would service steam locomotives and railway cars carrying freight and passengers.

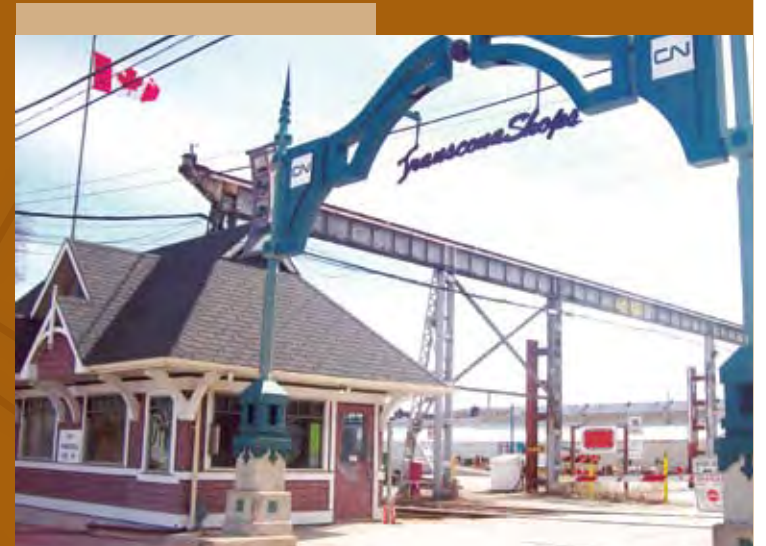
The site's close proximity to the booming City of Winnipeg and the abundant land that the site provided for future expansion made its location attractive to developers.

By 1909, hundreds of men had moved to the area after hearing about the prospect of steady employment with the railroad. Tents of construction gangs, hurriedly constructed shacks and a few permanent homes quickly covered the area.

Construction of the Grand Trunk Pacific shops began in June of 1909. It attracted real estate developers, merchants and businessmen, thus influencing the development of the town.

"You will be sorry if you do not investigate this townsite," reads a pamphlet from 1910, created to influence more people to move to the town. "Such opportunity comes but once in a lifetime. Fortune knocks but once. Do not miss it."

By 1912, the Transcona Shops were officially open and the Town of Transcona was incorporated. It included two boarding houses, a bakery, butcher shop, bank, four churches, a two-room school and fire hall. Transcona continued to attract new people and grow.



The townspeople had three things in common: they were new to the area, they were physically isolated from the City of Winnipeg and they were connected to the town's founding industry, the railway.

As a result, they formed close bonds to each other and working for the railway was a way of life for most people in the area until the end of the 1940s.

THE DECLINE OF RAIL

While the train is still considered a luxurious way to see the country, high ticket prices, economic instability and a decrease in cargo shipping have contributed to what has been dubbed the decline of rail.

VIA Rail, a crown corporation, suffered four large funding cutbacks from the federal government within two decades which hurt its ability to serve the public. According to EconomicExpert.com, an economic research company, after a brief spike in ridership numbers in the early 1980s, VIA's operations were cut back 40 per cent by Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau. This was the first blow.

The second came from succeeding PM Brian Mulroney. Mulroney sought to undo some of Trudeau's cuts by reinvigorating transnational and national cars put out of service, but in 1989 Mulroney ended up cutting VIA's budget even more than Trudeau did.

The third blow came in 1994 when, under newly-elected PM Jean Chrétien, Finance Minister Paul Martin further cut VIA's budget, restricting the rail service cross-Canada and between Ontario-Quebec.

The fourth cut came from Martin again. Newly elected as Prime Minister in 2003, he froze a program Chrétien rolled out promising VIA 700 million dollars over five years.

Things are looking brighter, according to the Railway Association of Canada (RAC). They report that VIA's ridership actually rose in 2008, servicing 72.3 million passengers, and with more federal money promised, those numbers should rise.

However, in early 2009, cargo shipping dropped 25 per cent with the economic downturn. Reuters reported that the Canadian Pacific Railway (CP Rail), Canada's second-largest railroad, has been in a slump. CP Rail's chief executive Fred Green told Reuters that because retail trade is down, the rail has suffered. CP Rail cut 2,000 jobs due to the decline.

With air travel being the faster, cheaper method for train riders, people have been letting the rail stagnate. But, while the economy recovers, Green thinks cargo shipping will rise again.



How a freeway could help downtown

Integration, not segregation would return city streets to former glory



ROBERT GALSTON
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Winnipeg does not have any freeways. For many cities, this would be a legacy of planning that favoured residents and their uses over the schemes of traffic engineers. In Winnipeg's case, it was simply a matter of money: the city has always been too poor to afford them.

Still, the shortage of funds did not stop traffic planners. In the absence of freeways, and with most of Winnipeg's wide streets radiating from downtown, streets were sacrificed to the needs of cross-town and commuting traffic. Many downtown streets were widened and converted to one-way traffic. A turn-off lane was cut at the corner of River and Osborne, and Portage and Main was closed to pedestrians – the ultimate triumph of civic misanthropy.

The problem was not the presence of motor vehicles, but the overpowering accommodation of them.



Throughout history, cities were able to thrive with the same general principles through the advancement of different transportation technologies: the horsecart, the bicycle and the electric streetcar.

For their first few decades in the city, automobiles were able to conform to this pattern. A look at a photo of a Winnipeg street in 1946 – well into the age of the automobile – shows downtown roadways that were just as mixed in their uses as the buildings that lined them.

The chief function of roads were the conveyance of vehicles, but they also served as routes for cyclists and

horse-pulled delivery wagons, the locations of streetcar stops, parking spaces and loading zones. The mixed uses of the roadway slowed traffic enough that a pedestrian could feel comfortable standing in the middle of Portage and Main mere feet from an oncoming car.

Modern traffic planning arose as a way to eliminate this organized complexity on city streets, allowing their users behind the wheel to become unconscious. The only function of roadways became to move vehicles as quickly and simply as possible.

After more than half a century

of this centralized micro-management, Winnipeg's motorists, cyclists and pedestrians have all become quite bad at co-existing. Any affront to the natural order of the roadway erupts in irrational aggression. While closing streets for bike-ways or pedestrian corridors might seem progressive and hip, they arise from this same philosophy of spatial separation.

Compared to the traditions of good urbanism which have survived for more than 2,400 years, the pseudo-science of traffic planning is a flash in the pan. Upholding it over traditional urbanism is like saying, "You listen to Mozart? You should listen to Lawrence Welk; his music is much more contemporary."

Most of Europe recognizes this, and many North American cities are rediscovering it and learning from their mistakes. Winnipeg, not so much.

Recently, I was discussing with someone from Winnipeg's planning department ways to encourage new housing downtown. I suggested that the easiest thing would be to end rush-hour parking restrictions, create more on-street parking spaces and convert some streets back to two-way traffic. That, the planner explained matter-of-factly, was an issue for the traffic department, and they are only interested in the movement of vehicles. Whatever else goes on the streets, he said, is

Modern traffic planning arose as a way to eliminate this organized complexity on city streets, allowing their users behind the wheel to become unconscious.

not their concern.

Perhaps the best solution is to build a limited-access freeway that rings the city, with all the clover-leaf interchanges, off-ramps and on-ramps they can pay for. This would eliminate the need for cross-town car and truck traffic to have to use downtown streets. Let the traffic planners have new roadways to focus their phony principles on and let them abandon the campaign of destruction of city streets as urban space.

City streets can then be governed by the organic order of complexity and mixed uses that, while perhaps slowing commute times by a couple of minutes, make cities great.

Robert Galston is a University of Winnipeg student who writes about urban issues. Check out his blog at <http://riseandsprawl.blogspot.com>.

Free downtown bus could be so much more

No spirited energy here



MATT AUSTMAN
VOLUNTEER STAFF

The bus driver finally looks at me, waits a moment, frowns and opens the door. I get on at an intersection instead of a stop; he doesn't approve. Either that, or he hates his job and gets upset at people easily.

I haven't been on the number one bus in over a year. The last time was brutal. It was extraordinarily filthy and smelled like a collection of baloney sandwiches dipped in warm milk and left out in the sun.

Recently, I gave Winnipeg's Downtown Spirit bus another shot

and rode its entire circuit.

Although it was bearable this time around, I still couldn't help feeling very disappointed. Our public transit should be a beautiful thing, but it presents itself in a light that seems to create the stigma of it being a "lower class" service.

For example, when I sat down, the ad to my right read "RELIEVE YOURSELF," which is the ad campaign about Winnipeg's high chlamydia and gonorrhea rates amongst 15-24 year olds. Though it's great that there is public awareness about the issue, I wondered why they advertise it so much on the bus.

I questioned further when the ad next to it is Money Mart, the devil of financial institutions that locks people into debt and then eats their souls. It's safe to presume the ads aren't targeting the lawyers,

business people and the rest of the upper class of Winnipeg.

Moreover, it doesn't seem to be a popular bus to catch. From The Bay to The Forks only one person got on the bus. It was lunch hour; people were running around, going out for lunch meetings, etc. That one guy ended up riding the entire circuit with me, just going for a bus ride, like myself.

At The Forks, two people got on. One guy stopped and looked at me with a questioning face, as if I shouldn't be using the bus.

Although these are small observations, they seem to link to a greater problem. The Downtown Spirit does not inspire feelings of responsibility for our community and the use of sustainable transport, nor does it scream of being a great way to get around downtown.

Rather, it seems to say, "You don't have bus fare." It also seems to target a certain demographic.

All of this brings into question why the Downtown Spirit exists. Its website states "enjoy FREE convenient transit ... Get into the Downtown Spirit for the best shopping, dining, attractions and entertainment Winnipeg has to offer." Obviously targeted at tourists and visitors, why is the Downtown Spirit not marketed to city residents as well?

Every day, thousands of people drive to the downtown to work, and every day transit is clogged trying to escape downtown. The Spirit should be promoted as a great way for one to get around downtown during the day.

Then more people will take it – meaning more people will realize

free transit is great. Getting people excited about transit could get more people to ask the city to reduce or eliminate bus fares, or to demand mayors that care about sustainability.

There should be substance behind the Spirit's purpose. The bus shouldn't look like a prison on the inside. There should be a comprehensive effort to attract all income earners. There should be public ads explaining how it could decongest downtown Winnipeg.

These aren't unreasonable requests.

The Downtown Spirit needs more spirit. There needs to be an effort on the part of the city to make it everybody's bus.

Matt Austman is a politics student at the University of Winnipeg.

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Arts & Culture

Rocking the foundations

Osborne Village church opens its doors to local rock bands and impacts the scene for the better

RYAN SUCHÉ
VOLUNTEER STAFF

In the New Testament, when Jesus said, “You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church,” it’s likely that rock ‘n’ roll wasn’t *exactly* what he had in mind.

At the quiet corner of Wardlaw Avenue and Nassau Street North sits Crescent Fort Rouge United Church (CFR). The 100-year-old facility is one of many churches founded in Osborne Village around the turn of the century, yet it’s decades ahead of the rest – at least musically.

It all began three years ago when Jesse Hill, vocalist/guitarist for Winnipeg-based rock band Right Through, found himself frustrated by finding available all-ages venues to play at with his fellow high school-aged band members.

As luck would have it, Hill ran into Bill Gillis, a rock fan and member of CFR, at a few house shows. Hill eventually inquired about the possibility of his band playing at the church. Gillis told Hill that he would have to write a pitch to the church committee to get a show approved, which Gillis would present to them.

In a surprise to both Hill and



RYAN JANZ

Gillis, the church embraced the idea with open arms.

“I was really not prepared for them being so totally OK with it,” Gillis explained. “There was no question. It was, ‘Well of course, why wouldn’t we?’”

CFR is already a staple of the Osborne arts community, hosting classical music recitals, theatre and choir performances, while strongly stressing investment in the arts as a part of their mission statement. This new program that Gillis has spearheaded has helped over 130 bands spanning the folk, indie, rock, punk and even metal genres play shows in the main sanctuary, basement and the upper hall.

“It’s something that had been needed because there’s fewer all-

ages venues and I think we need a lot more of them,” Gillis said.

The program’s popularity has snowballed since Gillis first started it a few short years ago.

“There’s way more requests than we can possibly handle,” he said.

Hill agrees that the church fulfills a need, adding that as he was writing his proposal to open up CFR as a venue, he framed it in the context that it would be good for the community and that “the idea of a permanent venue was there.”

“CFR’s great and everybody should know about it,” he said.

EXACTLY WHAT WINNIPEG NEEDED

A similar story to Hill’s is that of Grand Master, a local Winnipeg

progressive/heavy metal band.

“CFR is exactly what Winnipeg needed, a space devoted to opening their doors to young musicians,” said 17-year-old guitarist/backing vocalist Shane Barron.

When CFR became a venue option, Barron said, Grand Master “began playing more often, and it was really a turning point for the band.”

That said, some are understandably weary about a church hosting rock shows, Grand Master included.

“At first we were sceptical about having a metal show in a church, but any concerns we had going into the show were soon gone,” said Barron.

“Nobody really said this, but there was kinda the idea of, ‘Are (the Christians) trying to get us in there and then get our scalps?’” Gillis added wryly.

When a band rents CFR, there isn’t a sermon to open the show or a priest to bless you, and above all, nothing is pressured on you. It’s simply a venue, a place to display something, and many Manitoba musicians are showing off their chops in this century-old building in a way almost unimagined before – with rock ‘n’ roll.

“Most of the people in the church ... are aware of (shows) going on, that it’s happening,” said Gillis when asked what CFR’s congregation thinks of the whole project.

“Most of those who know, know that it’s loud music and that it’s not anything they want to hear. If they were to walk into one of the shows, whatever the genre, they would be surprised and taken aback a little. But at the same time, there’s the trust level there that this is a good thing to do.”

It all comes back to the drive of Gillis, a soft-spoken, grey-haired man who is actively involved in all aspects of the shows at CFR. Gillis books the gigs, helps the bands set up, photographs the musicians during their sets and helps out with cleaning up afterwards.

“His ability to connect across generational lines, his organizational ability, he’s just a gift to us,” said Rev. Barb Janes, one of the two ministers at CFR.

To her knowledge, no other churches in Winnipeg are hosting these types of events, and it’s Gillis’s work that has really helped transform the space of the church and open its doors to a new group of people.

“I’m fortunate to be starting a sabbatical soon, and the area I’ve chosen to explore is to visit churches which are providing hospitality to arts in some way, shape or form,” Janes said when asked how this surge of arts and music at CFR has perhaps changed her own views of the church.

She is hoping to help continue to expand the way CFR conducts itself and opens its own doors to the arts.

There is no lack of that at CFR, as Gillis summed it up: “On Friday night we have a school-age choir, Saturday a metal show and Sunday there’s baroque.”

It’s just another weekend at CFR.

For questions and booking inquiries, you can e-mail Bill Gillis at cfruc@live.com. The next CFR show is Death Toll Rising, Begrimed Exemious, arcticcircle and PornoDeathGrind on Saturday, April 10.

Local musician starts off all over again with fifth release

AARON EPP
MANAGING EDITOR

Although Greg MacPherson has released four albums, to him his new CD feels like a debut.

“I found my voice over the past five years – as a producer, as a writer, as a lyricist, as a singer,” MacPherson said of *Mr. Invitation*, which came out on March 30. “I was thinking about calling myself something (other than Greg MacPherson) because I felt like this is what I’ve been striving for my whole artistic career. I feel like this is the first record, really.”

Released through Smallman Records, *Mr. Invitation* is MacPherson’s first release since 2005’s *Night Flares*.

He recorded it at Prairie Recording Company with Cam Loeppky and Shawn Dealey, known for their work with Novillero and The Weakerthans. Long-time MacPherson collaborators Mike Germain, Ryan Ahoff, Steve Bates and Jason Tait served as the backing band.

“I think my live band is excellent,” he said. “Our performances are energetic and the songs live and breathe on the stage, (but) the records haven’t always captured that live energy. It took me until more recently to really realize how to do that.”



COURTESY OF SMALLMAN RECORDS

The Mac is back, no slack: Prolific local songwriter Greg MacPherson first broke on the scene with his mature 1999 disc *Balanced on a Pin*. His fifth record, *Mr. Invitation*, just came out.

“I wanted things to sound a certain way (on *Mr. Invitation*), and at the end of the recording, they did – or better, in some cases,” he added. “You have these intentions going in. To see them realized is pretty satisfying.”

A lot has changed for MacPherson since *Night Flares* was released. He settled down in

Winnipeg after living without a fixed address for a time, got married and started a new job with a neighbourhood renewal corporation in the West End.

While he remains proud of *Night Flares*, he finds it dark and cynical in retrospect.

“(Mr. Invitation) has a little more depth – there’s a wider spectrum of

feelings,” he said. “It’s cheerful, it’s angry, it’s dangerous, it’s hopeful.”

This record isn’t cynical at all ... This (record) is about organizing and taking a chance in life, and making something exciting and better.”

Born in Sydney, Nova Scotia, MacPherson has moved 37 times in his life and lived in seven differ-

ent provinces. He first moved to Winnipeg in the early ‘90s, releasing his debut CD, *Balanced on a Pin*, in 1999.

He’s always been a compelling performer whose intensity and socially conscious lyrics demand your attention.

Mr. Invitation is no different. Songs like *First Class* and *Outside Edge* are upbeat rockers, while the closing ballad *Visitor* is a haunting summation of Winnipeg life that finds MacPherson at his most vulnerable.

“The (music) that actually moves me and changes my life, that I live for, that stuff needs to be heartfelt and come from somewhere real,” he said. “Sincerity is something that people appreciate when they come to see a show. I’ll give you everything I’ve got at a show ... (But) I need to tell the absolute truth and feel it personally before I can translate that into something exciting.”

Read more from this interview at www.uniter.ca/blogs.

- ⇒ See Greg MacPherson perform Saturday, April 10 at the West End Cultural Centre
- ⇒ The Playing Cards will also perform
- ⇒ Tickets are \$15 in advance at Ticketmaster and \$20 at the door
- ⇒ *Mr. Invitation* is in stores now
- ⇒ Download the first two tracks, *First Class* and *Outside Edge*, for free when you visit www.gregmacpherson.com

MUSIC LISTINGS

The Legion of Liquor

Winnipeg is quite possibly the drinking capital of Canada, and now we have THE LEGION OF LIQUOR to write some theme songs for our booze-swilling habits. Their riff-heavy power metal with an eight-piece all-male “choir” and song titles like *Shot-Gunning*, *Haters of Sobriety* and *Bottles or Cans* will make the suds and spirits flow deep into your gullet. Check out their debut show with THE ANGRY DRAGONS and SUBCITY on Thursday, April 1 at (you guessed it) The Royal Albert Arms. If you want to familiarize yourself with the lyrics beforehand, check out www.myspace.com/thelegionofliquor.

Bob Wiseman



Prolific songwriter Bob Wiseman originally hails from Winnipeg but has been moving around a lot for the last couple of decades. One of the original members of Blue Rodeo, Wiseman has performed with a great many other acts including The Hidden Cameras, Feist, Final Fantasy and Wilco. However, it is his captivating solo performances that enthrall audiences, blending his Super-8 films and finely crafted songs. Don't miss the opportunity to see him in the intimate setting of Ragpickers Theatre on Saturday, May 1 with special guest Keri Latimer.

THURS., APRIL 1 until WED., APRIL 7

THE ANGRY DRAGONS, SUBCITY and THE LEGION OF LIQUOR are playing at the Royal Albert Arms on Thursday, April 1.

AKUFEN is ripping it up at the Academy on Thursday, April 1.

THE FUGITIVES return to the West End Cultural Centre on Thursday, April 1 with guest JESSEE HAVEY.

FLYING FOX & THE HUNTER GATHERERS are performing *Jesus Christ Superstar* at the Park Theatre on Thursday, April 1.

THE FOIPS wake up from hibernation with a show at the Standard on Friday, April 2.

ILLUSIVE MIND GYPSY CREW, MATTERHORN and DEAD RANCH play at Into The Music on Friday, April 2.

MOSES MAYES are getting groovy at the Lo Pub on Friday, April 2.

WAX MANNEQUIN and the BURNING HELL are at the Lo Pub on Saturday, April 3.

THE BOKONONISTS play at the Pyramid Cabaret on Saturday, April 3.

JASON COLLETT, BAHAMAS and ZEUS perform at the West End Cultural Centre on Saturday, April 3.

BROTHER ALI, FASHAWN and BK ONE will be performing at the Pyramid Cabaret on Monday, April 5.

THE DEVIL MAKES THREE plays at the Park Theatre on Monday, April 5.

COURTNEY WING and ROYAL CANOE play at the West End Cultural Centre on Tuesday, April 6.

OLD MAN LUEDECKE performs at the Folk Exchange on Tuesday, April 6. 8 p.m.

JOHN MAYER is joined by MICHAEL FRANTI AND SPEARHEAD at the MTS Centre on Wednesday, April 7.

YOU SAY PARTY! WE SAY DIE return to the Royal Albert Arms on Wednesday, April 7 with MAKEOUT VIDEOTAPE.

THURS., APRIL 8 until WED., APRIL 14

Vancouver's OMEGA CROM will be playing at the Zoo on Thursday, April 8.

LULLABYE ARKESTRA, VAMPIRES and THIS HISSES play at the Royal Albert Arms on Friday, April 9.

HAUNTER and the MIDDLE NAMES perform at the Lo Pub on Friday, April 9.

CHEERING FOR THE BAD GUY and THE BROKE SPOKES do the Standard on Friday, April 9.

GREG MACPHERSON plays a release party for *Mr. Invitation* at the West End Cultural Centre on Saturday, April 10.

BIG JOHN BATES & THE VOO-DOO DOLLZ and THE ANGRY DRAGONS play at the Pyramid Cabaret on Monday, April 12.

BUDDY GUY and JONNY LANG at the Burton Cummings Theatre on Monday, April 12.

Wipe those tears off your pillow and go see LITTLE ANTHONY AND THE IMPERIALS at Club Regent Casino on Monday, April 12.

AWESOME COLOUR and the HAIR POLICE play at the Royal Albert Arms on Monday, April 12.

PHARAOHE MONCH and SLAUGHTERHOUSE play at the Pyramid Cabaret on Tuesday, April 13.

SONATA ARCATÀ and POWERGLOVE are at the West End Cultural Centre on Tuesday, April 13.

OYSTERBAND performs at the West End Cultural Centre on

Wednesday, April 14.

GRADY plays at the Pyramid Cabaret on Wednesday, April 14.

THURS., APRIL 15 until WED., APRIL 21

EVIL SURVIVES kick off their tour at the Royal Albert on Thursday, April 15 with ARCHON LEGION.

OH MY DARLING releases their CD *In The Lonesome Hours* at the West End Cultural Centre on Friday, April 16 with openers The GOOD LOVELIES.

THE BALCONIES do an in-store performance at Into The Music on Friday, April 16. 5 p.m.

Record Store Day at Into The Music features performances by TRIUNFO DO GATO, NOT ANIMALS, LES JUPES and more all afternoon on Saturday, April 17.

THE CROOKED BROTHERS, THE GOOD LOVELIES and FISH AND BIRD play at Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club on Saturday, April 17.

Guitar virtuoso DON ROSS will be playing at the Park Theatre on Saturday, April 17.

FLYING FOX AND THE HUNTER GATHERERS play inside the Cyrk on Saturday, April 17.

WE ARE WOLVES and PARLOVR play at the Royal Albert Arms on Tuesday, April 20.

BABY DEE plays at the West End Cultural Centre on Tuesday, April 20.

IN-FLIGHT SAFETY, YUKON BLOND and MIDDLE NAMES entertain at the Lo Pub on Tuesday, April 20.

DEL THE FUNKY HOMOSAPIEN plays at the Pyramid Cabaret on Tuesday, April 20.

TIM SPARKS and PHIL HEYWOOD perform at the West End Cultural Centre on Wednesday, April 21.

A DAY TO REMEMBER, AUGUST BURNS RED, ENTER SHIKARI and GO RADIO are taking the stage at the Garrick Theatre on Wednesday, April 21.

THURS., APRIL 22 until WED., APRIL 28

THE BOP ENSEMBLE performs at the West End Cultural Centre on Thursday, April 22.

Grand Steppin' on Friday, April 23 at the Pyramid Cabaret features the LYTICS and MIKE B.

LITTLE MISS HIGGINS is onstage at the Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club on Friday, April 23 and Saturday, April 24.

MOSES MAYES perform at the Pyramid Cabaret on Saturday, April 24.

THE ARROGANT WORMS play silly songs at the West End Cultural Centre on Sunday, April 25.

NOFX plays at the Burton Cummings Theatre on Monday, April 26.

ROB ZOMBIE opens for his idol ALICE COOPER at the MTS Centre on Monday, April 26.

THE WAXBILLS are playing at Shannon's Irish Pub on Tuesday, April 27.

THE BESNARD LAKES roll into town to play at the Royal Albert Arms with HOLLERADO on Wednesday, April 28.

PLANTS AND ANIMALS and SAID THE WHALE play at the West End Cultural Centre on Wednesday, April 28.

THURS., APRIL 29 until WED., MAY 5

MADISON VIOLET and the JOHN HENRYS perform at the Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club on Thursday, April 29.

MATT ANDERSON and WIL play at the West End Cultural Centre on Thursday, April 29.

AMELIA CURRAN and ROSE COUSINS play at the Park Theatre on Thursday April 29.

QUERKUS plays a free in-store performance at Into The Music on Friday, April 30. 5 p.m.

OUR LADY PEACE play at the Burton Cummings Theatre on Friday, April 30 and Saturday, May 1.

THREE INCHES OF BLOOD and GOATWHORE are playing at the Royal Albert Arms on Saturday, May 1.

SOUL KILLING FEMALE releases an album at Crescent Fort Rouge United Church on Saturday, May 1 with guests A.M. OVERCAST and ASTROCOVEN.

BOB WISEMAN and KERI LATIMER perform at Ragpickers on Saturday, May 1.

BOATS play a release party for their album *Cannonballs*, *Cannonballs* at the West End Cultural Centre on Saturday, May 1.

THAT 1 GUY plays at the West End Cultural Centre on Sunday, May 2.

SIMON AND GARFUNKEL perform at the MTS Centre on Wednesday, May 5.

THURS., MAY 6 until SAT., MAY 15

Toronto-band VOWLS play in store at Into The Music on Thursday, May 6. 4 p.m.

JADEA KELLY performs with the ROD HUSSEY REVIEW at the Pyramid Cabaret on Thursday, May 6.

DERELICT, TYRANT'S DEMISE and ARCANÉ AXIOM play at the Osborne Village Zoo on Saturday, May 8.

FLYING FOX AND THE HUNTER GATHERERS play at the Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club on Saturday, May 8.

The STARS are playing at the Pyramid Cabaret on Monday, May 10.

Masked rocker NOBUNNY performs at the Royal Albert Arms on Wednesday, May 12.

Ninja Tune artist SHUTTLE performs at the Lo Pub with ROB VILAR and MIKE B on Thursday, May 13.

The WEBER BROTHERS perform at Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club on Friday, May 14 and Saturday, May 15.

CD REVIEWS

ROYAL CANOE

Co-op Mode

★★★★☆

Head in the Sand

Local five-piece Royal Canoe has been moving bodies and taking names in the city for a little over a half a year now. Their phenomenal debut *Co-op Mode*, which front-man Matt Peters (Waking Eyes) recorded three years ago with a variety of contributors, will finally be getting its official release July 3. The album is an impressive juggling act, melding sex with sincerity, ballads with balls-out dance beats, all the while creating a cohesive and irresistible groove throughout. From the tongue-in-cheek falsettos on *How Do You Like My Body?*, the album's sweaty sextacular dance nugget, to the dark echo beat of *Soothsayer*, the man is a master of his craft. What's most surprising is that after all the hooks he throws on the record, in the end it's Peters's brilliant storytelling that draws you in. From chess robot love stories (*Kasparov*) to conjoined twins (*Dear June*), Peters doesn't for a second let his words get overrun by the noise he creates. And that's what keeps you coming back.

—Sam Hagenlocher



COURTNEY WING

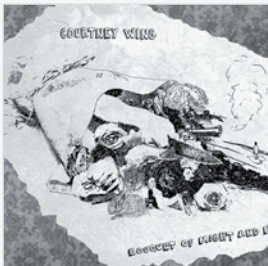
Bouquet of Might & Fury

★★★★☆

Proxennet Records/Bonsound Records

If John Mayer and Bob Dylan had a baby, and that baby made quirky pop music, it would be Montreal songwriter Courtney Wing. On *Bouquet of Might & Fury*, his third full-length release, he employs a revolving door of musicians that would make any songwriter jealous. They include members of Belle Orchestre, Godspeed You! Black Emperor and even a 10-piece opera collective called Liederwolfe. The album's production is impressive, with adequately fleshed out songs, and more instruments and sounds going on than you could count, including a lightsaber hook sample. It's interesting to listen to a songwriter who, instead of stripping things down, throws everything he can at the songs trying to make them as big as possible. The unfortunate downside is that it can at times overwhelm Wing's earnest songwriting, preventing the listener from being able to be properly drawn in. See Courtney Wing April 6 at the West End Cultural Centre.

—Sam Hagenlocher



PLANTS AND ANIMALS

La La Land

★★★★☆

Secret City Records

If you've heard anything from Plants and Animals, chances are this is the record you've been waiting long and hard for. From the band's 2008 excellent debut album *Parc Avenue* to the several fantastic live shows the band has played in the city in the last two years, P&A could be the best band in Montreal these days. If you don't believe me, you're welcome to pick up a copy of *La La Land* when it reaches your record store later this month. Needless to say, it ain't no sophomore slump. *Land* opens with *Tom Cruz*, an instant classic of menacing guitar riffs and vocal hooks that sets the standard for the remainder of the album. Luckily, it never fails. Every track is so intoxicating and inventive that I could probably write a separate review of each one individually. Instead I'll just say this: if you play indie rock in this country, you better watch your back. The bar just got raised.

—Sam Hagenlocher



WOODS OF YPRES

The Green Album

★★★★☆

Independent

Dripping with emotional storytelling and forlorn tributes to depression is Ontario metal band Woods of Ypres' fourth offering, *The Green Album*. Well-known for their constant stylistic changes, the Type O Negative influences are as painfully obvious as the emotional lyrics meted out by WoY's vocalist/guitarist/mastermind David Gold. *Green* is Gold transcribing his long journey from a broken heart in Canada (a result of a tumultuous, failed relationship) to his half-crazed escape to South Korea (where he picks himself up over the course of a year). This is both lyrically and musically a sweeping tale of a young man on the edge of disaster. For those undaunted by the thought of listening to the emotional equivalent of a car crash in slow-motion, this is an absolute must-have.

—Ryan Suche



DOMMIN

Love is Gone

★★★★☆

Roadrunner Records

Dark, yet catchy. Sorrowful, yet uplifting. Old school, yet new school. Los Angeles newcomers Dommin combine opposing forces in their songs to create their triumphant debut on Roadrunner Records. There's a variety of styles utilized on *Love is Gone*, from '80s goth rock/dark wave a la The Sisters of Mercy and The 69 Eyes, to more mid-paced gothic/doom metal a la My Dying Bride to modern gothic/industrial music such as Gothminister. This is a real musical feast for goths and rivetheads alike. While the lyrical basis for the album is rather obvious (and well-tread, at that), musically this album is both diverse and incredibly enjoyable, being catchy while avoiding the pitfalls of being cliché. Coming totally out of left field, *Love is Gone* comes highly recommended.

—Ryan Suche





MORE MUSIC THIS MONTH



YOU SAY PARTY! WE SAY DIE!

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7 · ROYAL ALBERT ARMS

Don't let the unnecessarily long (and somewhat ridiculous) name fool you, You Say Party! We Say Die! are serious about their craft. What began as a gaggle of teens jamming out in their parents' basements eventually became a real band signed to Paper Bag Records, a label that boasts the likes of Broken Social Scene, Tokyo Police Club and Stars. Years of touring has finally paid off, as YSP!WSD! recently had the privilege of playing at the 2010 Winter Olympics in their native British Columbia.

Though their newest LP XXXX has been out in Canada for over half a year, a recent unbanning of the bassist from the United States has prompted a 2010 re-release. The disc is influenced by a collaboration with producer Howard Redekopp (Tegan and Sara, The New Pornographers), giving the rambunctious group a tighter, darker sound in an attempt to cast off comparisons to the Yeah Yeah Yeahs.

If you missed them when they played the Albert in November, have no fear. You Say Party! We Say Die! are expecting to play another sold out show on Wednesday, April 7. All students looking for a place to have a beer and dance off the end-of-year stress, search no further.

—COURTNEY BRECHT



OH MY DARLING

APRIL 16 · WEST END CULTURAL CENTRE
WITH SPECIAL GUESTS THE GOOD LOVELIES

Local bluegrass band Oh My Darling will be releasing their latest record *In the Lonesome Hours* Thursday, April 1. The foursome has been perfecting their calm collaborative take on the genre since before the release of their first self-titled EP in early 2009, which was subsequently nominated for a Western Canadian Music Award later that year. This all-girl band gets around and it shows: from gracing the mosquito-infested walk ways of the Winnipeg Folk Festival last summer, to playing to crowds at the Festival du Voyageur and performing on CBC Canada Live, Oh My Darling has become an essential part of the folk-roots scene in Winnipeg in a very short time. The quartet is currently on a cross Canadian tour to promote their new full-length disc. Folk, bluegrass and roots music has always been a staple in these parts, and Oh My Darling continue that rich tradition. It's old fashioned and simplistic, but not without its chic beats. They will host the official release of *Lonesome Hours* later this month at the West End Cultural Centre.

—CASANDRA ANDERSON



YUKON BLONDE

TUESDAY, APRIL 20 · LO PUB
WITH SPECIAL GUESTS IN-FLIGHT SAFETY

Known in the West for its new laid-back pop sound and wavy hair, Yukon Blonde is becoming better known in the East as their acclaimed song *Wind Blows* has been getting a fair amount of airtime on MuchMusic. Their cross-Canada tour last year attracted the attention of Bumstead Records, who has worked with well-known Canadian artists such as K.D. Lang. The band is made up of Jeff Innes (guitar, vocals), Brandon Scott (guitar, vocals) and Graham Jones (drums, vocals). They released their much anticipated self-titled debut album late last year and have enjoyed riding its growing success.

"We're definitely gonna be busy till 2025. I think we just gotta keep our sticks on the ice and our heads in the game," Innes said over the phone last week, speaking like a true Canadian.

The band is currently touring across the continent, in an exhausting run of shows, which won't let up until later in May.

For more information visit their website at www.yukonblonde.com.

—ANDREW NASH



WE ARE WOLVES

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21 · ROYAL ALBERT ARMS
WITH SPECIAL GUESTS PARLOVR

"This is going to suck," I leaned over to a friend, who had insisted I check out what I understood to be the next big hipster bullshit hucksters, We Are Wolves. They had a few things going against them, in my mind: they were from Montreal, played punk disco electro garbage and they had a Wolf reference in their name. But within 30 seconds of this trio hitting that Albert stage, I knew I was in for a surprise and some possible humbling as my buddy frowned at me and I uncontrollably started to twitch to the beat. Spearheaded by the chunkiest staccato bass lines, picked to death by Alex Ortiz, the sinister lower register was driven by an intense percussive thwap that left me gobsmacked.

What the hell was I watching?

I was not expecting such a vicious attack, stabbing this dancing fool with Devo new wave while bludgeoning me with AmRep bottom end. The synth lines were simple and overdriven, making it sound more like a sonic weapon than a dance floor accessory. They keep the Wire close and the Six-Finger Satellite even closer, confronting those watching with in-your-face beats and undeniable riffs that easily made me think of AC/DC's emotional power to make you clench your fist and scream "rock-n-fucking-roll!" at the top of your lungs while high-kicking your way to get another pint at the bar.

We Are Wolves are currently on tour in support of their third release *Invisible Violence*, which was released earlier this year.

—LEE REPKO



PLANTS AND ANIMALS

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28 · WEST END CULTURAL CENTRE
WITH SPECIAL GUESTS SAID THE WHALE

Trying to categorize Plants and Animals' eclectic sound is like trying to fit a square peg into a triangular hole. It's just not possible. Changing styles from song to song, the Montreal-based trio prefers to record their lush sound on tape, making their records sound like they could have been made in 1972.

Comprised of Warren C. Spicer, Matthew "The Woodman" Woodley and Nicolas Basque, the trio has come a long way from making epic instrumental folk music. From the get-go, the band's Polaris-nominated debut album *Parc Avenue* has you hooked. It's catchy as hell and, if it's any indication of what's to come, their follow-up, *La La Land*, which is set for an April 20 release, should be just as great. Promising it'll be louder and tougher due to the band's rediscovery of electric guitars, amplification and fuzz pedals, fans will have the chance to judge for themselves when the group makes a stop in Winnipeg on their North American tour.

Having just come off the SXSW festival in Austin, Texas, the boys have a busy spring ahead of them, and it's certainly worth experiencing their big sound in person to see it's not just a bunch of studio wizardry at work.

—KAELEIGH AYRE



THE BESNARD LAKES

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28 · ROYAL ALBERT ARMS
WITH SPECIAL GUESTS THE ABSENT SOUND

I am certain that I saw this band five years ago at this same venue: an unassuming quartet that chimed and mumbled their way through a thoughtful waterfall of sonics, bathing an audience that was left gasping for air at their culminating tsunami of expansive waves, left to tread water in a sea of LSD for your ears.

Their sophomore release saw band leader Jace Lasek open his pipes to unleash soaring falsetto melodies that would set up harmonies with his bassist wife Olga Goreas, harmonies that would make Phil Spector weep. Being the owner of Montreal's Break Glass Studios has given Lasek free reign to indulge his most selfish whims, resulting in a Top-Ten List no-brainer come next December.

...*Are the Roaring Night* (Jagjaguwar) delves deep into shoegazer psych pop with superbly lush arrangements and orchestrations supported by a number of guests, as well as guitarist Richard White and drummer Kevin Laing. Lasek's time recording contemporaries like Fly Pan Am, Wolf Parade or Wintersleep has given him that breadth of experience to give himself the royal treatment, something he does not deny his band one bit.

Interesting note: Openers The Absent Sound recently cut five tracks with Lasek and the results excellently capture the new vocal space-pop leanings of this local quartet.

Be there early to catch this mind-blowing evening of music.

—LEE REPKO

VISIT UNITER.CA/LISTINGS FOR MORE OF WHAT'S HAPPENING

FILM



▶ **PLASTIC PAPER**, Winnipeg's festival of animated, illustrated and puppet films, runs from Wednesday, May 5 until Saturday, May 8 at the Park Theatre.

I'VE COME TO TELL YOU I'M GOING, an evening of rare Serge Gainsbourg documentary clips, TV appearances and videos curated by Big Smash! Productions, takes place at the Lo Pub on Wednesday, April 21. There will be performances by VAV Jungle and DJs Damien Ferland and Rob Vilar.

Neil Young plays a live concert acoustically and with the accompaniment of his raw rock band Crazy Horse in THE NEIL YOUNG TRUNK SHOW, onscreen at the Cinematheque until Thursday, April 8.

CINESANITY is a free monthly movie screening for the general public and for persons concerned with issues of mental illness and addiction who are in some way involved in the recovery process. The films will be shown at Micah House on 1039 Main St. on the fourth Monday of every month at 7 p.m.

In A HARD NAME we meet eight middle-aged ex-convicts who are trying to stay out of prison, perhaps for the first time in their lives. Onscreen at Cinematheque Saturday, April 24, Sunday, April 25, Wednesday, April 28 and Thursday, April 29 at 7 p.m.

Internationally-acclaimed Winnipeg director Gary Yates' film HIGH LIFE will be playing at Cinematheque on Saturday, April 17 at 9 p.m., Sunday, April 18 at 7 p.m. and Wednesday, April 21 at 9 p.m.

There is a call for submissions for the eighth annual University of Winnipeg Student Film Festival. Forms can be picked up at the UWSA info booth. Deadline is Monday, April 5 at 4 p.m. The films will be screened at the festival from Wednesday, April 23 to Friday, April 25.

LITERATURE

Fay Cassidy will be reading and signing *Passion* on Wednesday, April 7 at McNally Robinson. 8 p.m.

Winnipeg skateboarding magazine BIG WOOP! will hold a release party on Saturday, April 3 at the Academy. 10 p.m.

Drew Hayden Taylor's new book *Motorcycles and Sweetgrass*, about a mysterious stranger who turns up on a reserve, will be launched at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 6. Adeena Karasick will open the evening with a reading from her book of poetry *Amuse Bouche*.

Kim Malchuk will be signing copies of her book *Tasting Rain* at 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 10 near the cash desk at McNally Robinson Booksellers.

Ronald Poulton, author of *Pale Blue Hope: Death and Life in Asian Peacekeeping*, will be in Winnipeg on Friday, April 16 at McNally Robinson. 4 p.m.

Stop by Aqua Books for the Easter weekend BBQ and garage sale on Saturday, April 3 from 11 a.m. until 6 p.m.

Winnipeg authors Carol Matas and Perry Nodelman are signing copies of *The Hunt for the Haunted Elephant: The Ghosthunters Book Three* at 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 17 in the Travel Alcove of McNally Robinson.

Local poet Michelle Elrick launches *To Speak*, her debut book of poems, at McNally-Robinson at 8 p.m.

The 2010 Prairie Fire Press and McNally Robinson Booksellers Literary Contests will be awarding \$6,000 in cash prizes. For full contest rules or more information, visit www.prairiefire.ca or call 204-943-9066.

The horror, the horror

Big Smash! Productions' latest venture, the Miskatonic Institute of Horror Studies, hopes to enlighten and expand the minds of young people interested in the genre

SAM HAGENLOCHER
ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR

A new series of courses, named after the oft-attended university in horror writer H.P. Lovecraft's novels, is aiming to educate Winnipeg teenagers about horror cinema.

The Miskatonic Institute of Horror Studies is yet another passion project courtesy of staunch cult film advocate Kier-La Janisse of Big Smash! Productions.

Janisse, who is currently a film writer-in-residence at downtown used-books retailer Aqua Books, has long been involved in creating and nurturing Canadian horror cinema.

She created *Cannibal Culture Magazine* (later changed to



And you thought being the "eggman" was cool: Al Waxman and his beautiful boils in William Fruet's 1982 snake-god horror film *Spasms*.

CineMuerte Magazine), a Vancouver-based "fanzine" highlighting under-appreciated horror films, in 1997, and later began the CineMuerte International Horror Film Festival, also in Vancouver.

Since moving to Winnipeg, Janisse has been a constant force in the film and music community, creating the first annual Gimme Some Truth Winnipeg Documentary Festival, and acting as administrative co-ordinator of annual Winnipeg audio art festival Send + Receive.

Now with the birth of the Miskatonic Institute, which Janisse created in collaboration with Aqua Books owner Kelly Hughes, it's just another day in the life of a film lover.

FILM REVIEWS

The art of capitalism

TIMOTHY PENNER
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Art & Copy

Directed by Doug Pray, 2009

89 minutes

Playing at the Cinematheque Friday, April 2, Saturday, April 3, Sunday, April 4, Wednesday, April 7 and Thursday, April 8 at 7 p.m.

★★★★☆

In the U.S. the average person is bombarded by 5,000 advertisements a day, we are told early on in Doug Pray's documentary *Art & Copy*.

Advertising is so ubiquitous in our world that it comes as a bit of surprise how little we know about the people behind the ads. Pray's film aims to educate us about how the creative teams at ad agencies took over and changed the entire industry. He does this by taking us through the impetus and development of some of the most iconic ad images in history, including the Volkswagen Beetle ads ("Think Small"), "Where's the Beef?", Apple's "1984" commercial, "I want my MTV," "Just Do It," "Got Milk" and so many more.

Although full of interesting facts and larger-than-life personalities, the film doesn't pander to its audience in the same way that advertising does. The filmmaker has adopted a more contemplative style, which works well to give pause between the barrages of advertising images throughout.

The pacing also gives us a break from the self-congratulatory nature of most of the advertisers we encounter. Of course, these are advertisers, their jobs are to sell you everything, so it's no surprise that they spend almost all of their screen time attempting to convince you of how great their industry is.



Lee Clow, the man largely responsible for all of Apple's ad campaigns since 1984, in Doug Pray's *Art & Copy*.

Jeff Goodby, a San Francisco advertising executive, calls his business "Capitalist Art" at one point, before he goes on pontificating endlessly about the value of his industry as a pseudo art form. His argument almost wins during a segment in which Nike's "Just Do It" ad campaign is dissected and praised for all its proactive messages about healthy living.

The way the ad men and women talk, you could almost believe that the whole project was nothing more than an altruistic attempt to see the youth of the world healthier, happier and more productive. Of course, the constant recurrence of the imposing Nike logo reminds us over and over that what is really important is wearing the right shoes, shirts and sunglasses while playing said sports.

Pray's balance works well throughout most of the movie to keep his audience thinking about what they're watching. But in the final few minutes he throws all objectivity out the door and creates a montage which so unabashedly celebrates advertising as the saviour and unifier of humanity that I couldn't help feeling that the whole film was nothing more than a long commercial for the advertising business.

"I was a huge horror fan as a teenager," Janisse said. "I guess I just wondered how I would have turned out if I had had the resources I have now."

"The Institute is a just a way to show kids obscure films, while giving them the skills to properly interpret what they are seeing," she added. "Teenagers like watching horror films, and we want to encourage that exploration while teaching them about the dark themes of these stories, like misogyny, and giving them the ideological tools to understand these concepts. It's fun."

The Institute launched at the end of March with a series titled Introduction to Horror Film Criticism for Teens. The next course offered by Miskatonic is a history of Canadian horror cinema entitled They Came From Within, which will be running April 14, 15, 21 and 22.

The course will be taught by Canadian horror film historian, cinematographer and author Caelum Vatnsdal, who wrote the book *They Came From Within: A History of Canadian Horror Cinema* in 2004.

Vatnsdal said that, while he is an educator on Canadian horror cinema, his interest in the genre has never been particularly nationalistic.

What it comes down to is the need for education.

"There's a lot of different streams of lack of knowledge," Vatnsdal said. "But thanks to the Internet,

there certainly has been a growing appreciation of Canadian horror films, even if the audience is still relatively small."

Canadian horror is still a relatively young genre, as it really didn't begin to hit its stride until the mid '70s.

Through the first half of Canada's film history, the vast majority of films produced were documentaries, leaving little room for Hollywood-style fiction.

"We had such a strong documentary tradition, and I guess you could say we got stuck in a bit of a rut," Vatnsdal explained. "There was a lot of cultural resistance to (horror films) also, which injured our ability to produce commercial fare."

As Canadian horror remains relatively small, Vatnsdal hopes that by properly educating young people in the genre that it will continue to grow in size, as more budding filmmakers decide to take up the mantle.

"There's a lot of buried gems, and a lot of strange personal stories and bizarre personalities within (Canadian horror's) history. It's always been very interesting, for me especially."

They Came From Within: A History of Canadian Horror Cinema will be at Aqua Books (274 Garry St.)

April 14, 15, 21 and 22. Register by e-mailing kelly@aquabooks.ca or bigsmashproductions@gmail.com. Young people ages 14+ welcome.

Banjo pickin' in Africa

SAGAN MORROW
STAFF WRITER

Throw Down Your Heart: Bela Fleck in Africa

Directed by Sascha Paladino, 2008

97 mins

Playing at the Cinematheque April 9 and 14 at 7 p.m., April 10 at 9 p.m. and April 11 at 4 p.m.

★★★★☆

Through Uganda, Tanzania, Gambia and Mali, American banjo player Bela Fleck's quest is simple: "bring the banjo back to Africa."

Meeting local musicians and villagers along the way, director Sascha Paladino's documentary follows Fleck as he plays his music in community settings.

For each community he visits, Paladino constructs short scenes with stories representative of the place, giving it a uniquely personal feel.

The director's use of close-ups during the unpredictable musical experimentation's emphasizes the impressive ability of the musicians present, as they passionately play their songs and become one with the music.

Featuring group sing-alongs, the musicians display their skill on homemade instruments or simply clap a few pieces of wood together to keep in beat.

Percussion, woodwind and string instruments are all practiced with amazing energy.

Even the thumb piano makes an appearance during one musical session.

This is a side of Africa that we do not often see from the North American perspective. *Throw Down Your Heart* shows how folk music fits into the African lifestyle.

Paladino delights in highlight-

ing the fascinating contrast between the African villages in Uganda that Fleck visits compared to the air-conditioned hotels he stays at in Mali.

Walusimbi Nsimbambi Haruna, a local that Fleck meets in Uganda, demonstrates the cultural differences between North America and Africa as he introduces Fleck to his family.

It is this which Fleck is interested in: searching for the real roots of the banjo and being re-connected with the basics in life.

Fleck is taught about African history between making music with the people that he meets.

Through his journey, we learn about tribal traditions and the instruments the locals use, such as the *akonting* (a relative of the banjo).

This back-to-nature experience both energizes and relaxes the viewer; the rhythm could equally inspire dancing or lull the viewer to sleep.

In *Throw Down Your Heart*, music offers freedom and release; a way to forget about the hardships of daily life.

Fleck clearly loves this music and wants to share his knowledge and learn from others.

Perhaps that is why he collaborates so well with the African musicians: their mutual passion for music is a bond that crosses the boundaries of social and lifestyle differences.

At the beginning of the film, Fleck is asked in a radio interview what the one thing is that he would like to accomplish with this trip. "I just want to make great music," he says.

With his eagerness to take risks working with the musicians he meets, it would appear his mission was a success.

Lampooning the lopsided narratives of history

Moncton artist Mario Doucette explores the myths of written history in his exhibition *Bagarres*

JAMES CULLETON
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Moncton, N.B.'s Mario Doucette is exhibiting for the first time in Manitoba at La Maison Des Artistes with a show titled *Bagarres*, which in French means "brawling."

The show highlights Doucette's interests in nostalgia and how we perceive history. His exhibition combines drawing, painting and video mediums. The painted narratives Doucette creates (or recreates) are based on real-life events in history, a history which he feels is not always clear or truthful.

"History is sometimes written only on one side," said Doucette, referring to the written history of Acadian culture, specifically, history written by the American writer Henry Longfellow.

Using these misinterpretations to stimulate a narrative, Doucette creates mythic landscapes where soldiers tangle with lions, unicorns, angels and dragons.

"The animals are from each place's coat of arms," explained Doucette.

Doucette's interests and research are not limited to Acadian heritage and history either, which is re-



Le Champ D'Esperance, a mixed media work by Moncton artist Mario Doucette. PHOTO BY AMY MIDDLETON

flected in the images of the show. In one of his works, Doucette depicts the Eagle of Saladin, which is Egypt's national emblem, flying down and plucking soldiers from the ground.

Also included in the exhibition with the large drawings are many of Doucette's videos.

In his short film titled *Raffetot*, Doucette mixes animations of his drawings and Super 8 footage into a sort of low-fi music video that covers a lot of ground in under 15 minutes, moving from Acadian history to a couple's date.

Most of the actors in his movies reappear in many of the pieces, and a lot of his work is inspired by

comic books and video games.

Bagarres is a travelling exhibition, starting with this first trip from Moncton to Winnipeg.

"It's a two- to three-year project," explained Doucette.

In addition to his solo work, Doucette is a member of an art collective in Moncton which is known for its public interventions called "Taupe Collectif" (<http://collectiftaupe.blogspot.com>).

"Once, we went to a public park and placed large signs all over it, saying that it was going to be changed into a mini mall," said Doucette. "I left my studio number on the sign, pretending I was the contact for the project."

What resulted was a barrage of phone calls and questions regarding the prank.

"In another situation, we made a vending machine that gave out mittens to prostitutes called the PIMP project," Doucette said, describing Taupe Collectif's reaction to the government handling of the red-light district in Moncton.

"We were trying to make light of how that whole situation was mishandled."

Mario Doucette's Bagarres is on display at Les Maison Des Artistes (219 Provencher Blvd.) until Wednesday, May 12.

Colour with class

Toronto abstract painter Lesia Anna plays around with colours and conventions in her latest exhibit

SAGAN MORROW
STAFF WRITER



An acrylic painting by Lesia Anna.

PHOTO BY AMY MIDDLETON

Working with basic acrylic on canvas, Toronto abstract artist Lesia Anna proves that sophisticated, high-class art can be fun, too. Her fanciful interpretations of the every day illustrate that we can find loveliness even in the mundane.

Purely aesthetic, the paintings currently on display in the Auxiliary Gallery at the Cre8ery say, "Look at me!"

The colours alone are enough to distract the eye from anything else

in the room, but it is what the artist *does* with the colours that shows the viewer the meaning of art.

Carrot Common Square in the Rain displays a vibrant city scene with windswept pedestrians car-

rying umbrellas as they walk. The rain is a torrent of coloured diagonal streaks, beautifying the dull brown ground with shocking shades of purple, turquoise and yellow. Background details, such as a ladder leaning against a building, compliment the painting's lively personality.

An energetic fervour infuses the whimsically-titled *All That Jazz*, a less-contained piece featuring swirling thin lines of light blue, black and red. These loops and twirls draw the eye, against a cloudy background of

pinks, browns and deep blues. A true beauty of a masterpiece, Anna brings the colours to life in this abstract musical painting.

The face of *Horse* stares directly at the viewer with unblinking eyes; his body, hidden in the shadows of acrylic, gives the illusion that he is walking straight out of the frame. Drizzles of white, red and green ripple over the canvas, almost as though the artist painted the horse first and felt that it looked too serious on its own. The splotches of paint, falling at random on the canvas, appear childlike and silly over top of the solemn image of the horse.

Haphazard droplets of black and white fall in vertical lines down *Poplars of Steinback*, conflicting with the black and white horizontal lines of bark on the trees. Mixing lime greens with mustard yellows, this piece is as equally fearless as her others. Countless shades of white-grey-blue-black-green-brown make up the elegance of the trees, demonstrating Anna's talent and sense of playfulness.

The theme of the sophisticated abstract ties Anna's paintings together, brightening the patch of wall that they hang from and commanding attention.

Although the squiggles of paint may seem too jazzy and over-the-top in some places, such as in *Horse*, her artistic ability is evident beneath the devil-may-care attitude of the wild colours.

This unconventional art is not something to be missed.

Lesia Anna's exhibit is on display at the Cre8ery's Auxiliary Gallery (second floor, 125 Adelaide St.) until Sunday, June 6.

GALLERIES & MUSEUMS

The INTERMIXAMANIA DIY CRAFTIVAL, put on by Plug In ICA and featuring a host of Winnipeg's Do-It-Yourself artisans and musicians, is an extravaganza to experience on Friday, May 7, Saturday, May 8 and Sunday, May 9.

Blair Martin's exhibition GOOD LOOKING BAD JOKES opens at 8 p.m. on Thursday, April 1 at Golden City Fine Art. His works will be on display until Saturday, May 1.

CONVERGING INTERESTS, featuring the artwork of Anne Marie Layman, George Tanner and John Mills, is on display at the Cre8ery until Tuesday, April 6.

13 WHO KNEW ... features a wide range of local art at the Graffiti Gallery and will be on display until Thursday, April 22.

Wake up and wear your pajamas to the Winnipeg Art Gallery to watch classic Warner Brothers cartoons on Saturday, April 3, meeting in Eckhardt Hall on the University of Winnipeg campus for a pancake breakfast at 9 a.m.

THE BEATLES! BACKSTAGE AND BEHIND THE SCENES is an opportunity for Fab Four fanatics to see the collection of unpublished photographs of the Beatles. On display at the Manitoba Museum until Sunday, April 11.

Submit your artwork on the subject of bikes for the next exhibit at the Lo Pub, *I Want To Ride My Bicycle*, which will open Wednesday, May 26.

WRITING HOME, the art of Bonnie Devine, and BECOMING UNWRITTEN, John Hupfield's exhibit, will be on display at the Urban Shaman Gallery until Saturday, March 27.

THROUGH THE EYES OF A CHILD, the Winnipeg Art Gallery's annual exhibition featuring work by children and teens who have taken fall and winter art classes at the WAG, runs from Saturday, March 27 to Sunday, May 2.

Celebrate the colour of winter with the Manitoba Crafts Museum and Library's exhibit WHITE WORKS. Artists work in a variety of mediums but no colours. The exhibit will be on display until the snow fades to brown dirt in early May.

The Costume Museum of Canada will display bridal wear from the First and Second World Wars in their exhibition WARTIME WEDDINGS. Teaming up with the Urban Shaman Gallery and Jenny Western, the Museum will also display a collection of NATIVE/AMERICAN APPAREL. Both exhibits run until Sunday, April 4.

The Winnipeg Art Gallery hosts DELICATE BEAUTY: THE RUBY ASHDOWN PORCELAIN COLLECTION. These decorative art pieces were donated to the WAG by Ruby Ashdown and come from 18th and 19th century Britain. The exhibition is on display until Sunday, April 18.

The Forum Art Centre offers spring classes beginning on Monday, April 5. Visit www.forumartstitute.ca for more information.

15 MINUTES is a showcase of local art happening the first Thursday of every month at the Winnipeg Art Gallery. Local artists can submit their work for the series to art-educator@wag.ca.

THEATRE, DANCE & COMEDY

GIRLS ONLY is an original comedy that celebrates the honour, truth, humour and silliness of being female. Onstage at the MTC's Tom Hendry Theatre until Saturday, April 3.

The Prairie Theatre Exchange's production of GLORIOUS runs from Thursday, April 8 until Sunday, April 25.

The University of Winnipeg Department of Theatre and Film's 2009-10 season concludes with THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK, running until Saturday, April 3 at 8 p.m. nightly in the Gas Station Theatre.

Willy Russell's play about the will to learn, EDUCATING RITA, is onstage at the Manitoba Theatre Company's John Hirsch Theatre until Saturday, April 10.

The Forks Market becomes a performance space full of magicians, comedians, games, clowns and more tomfoolery in the annual FESTIVAL OF FOOLS until Saturday, April 3. Free admission.

April Fool's Day at Aqua Books features comedians AL RAE, DEAN JENKINSON and RYAN MCMAHON. 7 p.m.

Comedy night with SCOOT'S MCTAVISH every Thursday at Shannon's Irish Pub.

Sunday night open-mic comedy at the Cavern, featuring JOHN B. DUFF.

Every Tuesday night head down to the King's Head Pub for a free comedy performance.

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A plethora of pretty packages to choose from

When it comes to lugging your things around, there are plenty of fashionable options to take you away in style



KATHLEEN CERRER
STAFF WRITER

If there's one thing I love doing, it's travelling. But it seems I can only find luggage in dark, depressing colours or cheesy patterns.

Now that the thought of summer road trips and exotic getaways are in mind, finding luggage which is both stylish and durable (and will fit everything you need) can be a difficult task.

It's time to step away from dull blacks and grays and the dreaded maroon-coloured luggage and totes, and move onto the new collection of luggage available out there to suit your specific needs.

Unless you're off to a tropical destination, thinking about the beach is still a few months away. But it's never too soon to start thinking about how you'll haul around your beach essentials.

B.b.begonia is a company developed in Winnipeg which has designed eco-friendly reusable bags which can be used in a multitude of ways. It states on their website that "The exclusive prints and colours on b.b.begonia bags are developed carefully to be contemporary and cheerful." Taking into consideration that fashion and function do go hand in hand, these bags are lightweight and durable and come in bright colours and an interesting array of designs.

If you are travelling internationally and need durable luggage which you can easily spot, the Rimowa Salsa Air Multiwheel is a good choice. In a purple metallic case, also available in silver and gold, the luggage is near impossible to damage and its smooth-rolling four-wheel design ensures easy travel.

The Heys Luggage in "Exotic Giraffe" and "Exotic



MELODY MORRISSETTE

Zebra" are my two favourites. The hard case and abstract designs create a unique look for this luggage and will keep everything you need held in nicely. Depending on the outside patterns, lining on the interior is designed to match accordingly. Available in other designs such as Camo, Croc and Exotic Tiger, this luggage will have you travelling in style.

Available at U.N. Luggage on McDermot Avenue, quality-made luggage will last you for years to come.

Carry-on luggage can vary from wheeled versions to tote bags.

If you want the best of both worlds, the Fashionaire Wheeled Upright by Samsonite is the bag for you. The '60s black-and-white design of this bag is a classic, and with waterproof liner, bottom grip and a retractable leather side handle, ensures an easy move on and off the plane.

The Harveys Seat Belt bags are definitely something different and on long flights can be a conversation starter. Made out of 100 per cent seat belt material, this unique bag is durable and can be used to store books, magazines and a blanket.

Travelling is not exactly cheap, so having enough funds to spend on new, easily identifiable luggage may be an issue. An easy solution to readily locate your luggage at the baggage claim is to strap on a luggage belt. Journey's Travel & Leisure Supercentre offers an array of styles including Canadian flags, stripes and polka dots in bright colours.

Strapped for cash? Grab one of your own belts and wrap it around your luggage. This is a free and easy way to truly tell which luggage is yours.

No boys allowed?

Denver playwrights Barbara Gehring and Linda Klein bring their hit Fringe show to the MTC Warehouse for a very special run

BRITTANY THIESSEN
VOLUNTEER STAFF



TERRY SHAPIRO

They look a little old for a single bed... Actresses Barbara Gehring and Linda Klein in *Girls Only: The Secret Comedy of Women*.

Girls Only: The Secret Comedy of Women

By Barbara Gehring and Linda Klein
Presented by Manitoba Theatre Centre
Playing at the Tom Hendry (Warehouse) Theatre (140 Rupert Ave.) until Saturday, April 3.
★★★★☆

Dear Diary: I'm looking for a perfect way to spend an evening out with the girls. What should I do? Answer: *Girls Only*.

Barbara Gehring and Linda Klein, the creators/performers of the 2007 Fringe Festival hit *Girls Only: The Secret Comedy of Women*, have returned to Winnipeg, and they're up to their old tricks.

Women: prepare yourselves to laugh to the point of tears while you reminisce about your awkward teenage years and everything in between.

The show pokes fun at everything women do, from the silly but endearing entries in our diaries, to the great amounts of useless things we carry in our purses and to how awkward we feel when putting on pantyhose. Gehring and Klein help the mostly all-female audience take a step back, appreciate some of our quirky characteristics as women and for one night be unafraid to laugh at ourselves.

Joking aside, *Girls Only* is not all fun and games but has many endearing and tender moments that will tug at your heartstrings.

There were also points in which I felt like I was at a feminist rally, surrounded by throngs of girls clapping and cheering for everything we are as women, from the silly to the sexy.

If you're a male and want to see this show, expect a laugh, but also prepare to be singled out. With few males in the audience, the ladies' attention can't help but be drawn there, including the actors who make light of the fact that despite the show's title, and warning, there are still men in attendance.

The idea for *Girls Only* was conceived when Gehring and Klein, both from a Denver improv comedy troupe, read each other their junior high diaries. The girls soon realized that they had enough material for a show. The show is designed to be a sort of fun slumber party throwback experience, for both the actors and their audience.

With elements of improv, sketch comedy, audience interaction, video clips, singing and interpretive dance, *Girls Only* is not the type of show you will see every day in Winnipeg; unless it's Fringe season, that is. I think that is exactly why *Girls Only* works: because it is different, and if anything, this is the type of show the city's theatre scene needs to spice it up a bit.

To learn more about the show, the girls and fun crafts you never knew you could make with a maxi pad, visit www.girlsonly-comedy.com.

FASHION STREETER

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.



Erin and baby Aubrey
"Babies are the perfect distraction from any fashion faux pas."

CINDY TITUS

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- Wall Street Journal, 2010

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On to the next level

Manitoba's video game developers are pushing the local industry forward, with hopes of breaking it wide open

JUSTIN LUSCHINSKI
VOLUNTEER STAFF

If there's one thing you can say about Winnipeg, it's no one trick pony. Since the turn of the century, the city has been a benchmark for diversity. Much of this is a result of our unwavering support for independent art and artists alike.

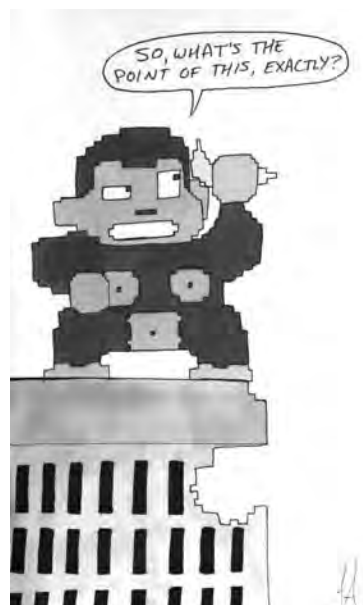
Our independent music, film and theatre scenes are worth boasting about, and are as large and vibrant as ever. Our independent game development industry is no laughing matter either.

That last sentence probably threw you off. "Wait, we have an independent game development scene?" We do indeed.

In fact, we have a rather secure gaming industry here that's just about ready to shine.

"We've had so much growth in the past couple of years, and it's only going to continue" said Noah Decter-Jackson, president of Complex Games and chair of the International Game Developer's Association (IGDA) Winnipeg chapter.

"For a while we were the only ones who were trying to legitimately



get into the gaming industry, but eventually we found a (game development) industry sort of sprung up here. We've now all converged to form the Independent Game Developer's Association Winnipeg Chapter, and we're discovering new developers every day."

The IGDA is a non-profit organization with over 70 chapters worldwide. Their mission statement is: "To advance the careers and enhance the lives of game developers by connecting members with their peers, promoting professional development, and advocating on issues that affect the developer community."

As the chairman of the Winnipeg chapter of the IGDA, Noah was integral in pushing the government to approve the Interactive Digital Media Tax Credit, which allows companies to gain a tax credit up to \$500,000. This has helped raise the revenues of the local industry, which has nearly 800 employees, to

more than \$104 million annually.

"Manitoba's game industry only a few years ago consisted of one or two studios labouring largely incognito with various levels of suc-

"We've had so much growth in the past couple of years, and it's only going to continue."

—NOAH DECTER-JACKSON, CHAIR OF THE INTERNATIONAL GAME DEVELOPER'S ASSOCIATION (IGDA) WINNIPEG CHAPTER

cess to a nascent community of approximately 20 small studios," said Ryan FitzGerald, the executive director of Fortune Cat Games Studio, Winnipeg's premiere game development incubator.

"Most (developers) no longer have to rely on 'day jobs' to pay their mortgages or put food on the

table. Compared to other industries, this kind of growth may not seem remarkable, but game development is a facet of the entertainment industry. In that vein, two dozen new jobs in such a saturated, Wild-West industry is a positive reflection of our people's talent and Manitoba's low barriers to entry."

There is a lot of talent on display here in Manitoba.

Project Whitecard, a local industry leader, was given the opportunity to develop a training game for NASA to help astronauts prepare for missions in a massive multiplayer online game.

Infinite Ammo Games created *Paper Moon*, a unique two-dimensional platform with an intriguing art style, and *Aquaria*, the action/adventure/exploration game which won the IGF Grand Prize in 2007.

There's also 13th Hour Studios, who just began testing their massive homegrown online multiplayer game *Arrevan*, a high-profile project that took them to the giant Game Developer's Conference in San Francisco earlier this year to rub shoulders with the industry elite.

Those are just a few examples of the many talented companies and individuals who are actively growing the industry here in Winnipeg.

The concept of video games as an important investment opportunity may sound strange to some, but nonetheless, it represents a huge financial opportunity for Manitoba.

"What's the number one profession that kids coming out of high school want to do? It's not film and not necessarily music; it's game development," Decter-Jackson said. "What happens if there's no industry here? They are going to go to Vancouver, they are going to go to Toronto, wherever they per-

ceive the industry will be. We have to work on improving the industry here to keep them here, to tap into this huge industry."

Last year, the Digital Multimedia Program at Winnipeg's Red River College (RRC) had 118 applicants. Unfortunately, RRC can only accept 40 students into the program per year.

"Roughly 85 per cent of those are high school students," said Brian Fawkes, RRC's digital multimedia program co-ordinator. "Many of them are exposed to video games and come into the program looking to do 3-D animation or programming, and quite a few succeed."

Outside of Winnipeg, the world's gaming industry is a behemoth. It is worth an estimated \$14.4 billion CAD and employs over 80,000 people, with the average salary being a healthy \$53,500 CAD.

Just a cursory glance at the staggering attendance numbers at game conventions gives insight into how popular the industry is. For example, the Penny Arcade Expedition, an annual convention for industry professionals and consumers alike, which is held in Washington state, sold 60,000 entrance tickets this past year.

The future is looking bright for the growing game sector here in Manitoba as well.

But how does a young student who wants to develop games get involved in the rapidly-expanding industry?

"Just make games," said Decter-Jackson, with a smile. "Whether it's for a professional company, or simply at home on your own computer with a few of your friends, you need to keep making the best games you can in order to get into game development."

Manitoba moves forward

Manitoba's five-year economic plan

Manitoba is meeting the challenge of a global recession with an economic plan that returns the province to surplus within five years, supports families and strengthens the economy. Manitoba's Five-Year Economic Plan was introduced in Budget 2010 to sustain economic health and ensure Manitoba is strong and ready to embrace the future.

Manitoba's plan will:

- 1. Invest in Vital Front-Line Services:** continue to improve health care, education, training, policing and supports for families.
- 2. Stimulate Economic Growth:** build and upgrade needed infrastructure to create jobs, and invest in innovation to secure a prosperous future.
- 3. Manage Government Spending:** responsibly limit spending to ensure Manitobans' priorities come first.
- 4. Restore Balance:** return to surplus by Budget 2014.
- 5. Maintain Affordability:** keep Manitoba as one of the most affordable places to live, work and raise a family.

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Muriel Richardson Auditorium

Mar 19 • 7pm and 9:30pm
Mar 23, 24 • 7pm
Mar 26, 27 • 7pm and 9:30pm
Mar 30, 31 • 7pm
Apr 1 • 7pm and 9:30pm
Apr 3 • 2, 7 and 9:30pm

Member \$7 • Adult \$9 •
Senior \$8 • Student \$8

Advance tickets available at the WAG Info Booth and all Ticketmaster outlets • Charge-by-phone: 204.780.3333 • Order online: ticketmaster.ca (additional fees for phone/internet orders) • Rating: 14A

The Free Press
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CANNES LIONS

Winnipeg Art Gallery 300 Memorial Boulevard • Winnipeg, MB • 204.786.6641 • wag.ca

AWARDS & FINANCIAL AID

The Awards and Financial Aid staff of the University of Winnipeg provides the student body with current information on award opportunities. This information is updated weekly.

THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG AWARDS:

http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/services-awards

GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL STUDIES APPLICATION EXPENSES BURSARY

The purpose of this bursary fund is to provide some assistance to students with respect to the high costs associated with applying to Graduate and Professional Schools. Application forms are available from the Awards & Financial Aid Office in Student Services (first floor Graham Hall) or on our website. Students may apply any time during the Fall/ Winter academic year, provided that funding is available for this bursary. Applications will be evaluated on a first-come, first-serve basis.

AWARDS OFFERED BY EXTERNAL AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS:

PROGRESSIVE ECONOMICS FORUM ESSAY CONTEST

There are two competitions, one for undergraduate students and one for graduate students, open to all Canadian students, studying in Canada and abroad, as well as international students presently studying in Canada. The definition of "student" encompasses full-time as well as part-time students. Students eligible for the 2010 competition must have been or be enrolled in a post-secondary educational institution at some point during the period of May 2009 – May 2010. A cash prize of \$1,000 will be awarded to the winner of the graduate competition and \$500 will be awarded to the winner of the undergraduate competition. Entries may be on any subject related to political economy, economic theory or an economic policy issue, which best reflects a critical approach to the functioning, efficiency, social and environmental consequences of unconstrained markets. For more information or details on essay submission, please visit their website: www.progressive-economics.ca.

Deadline: April 30, 2010

PHYLLIS P. HARRIS SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship is an annual award of \$2,600 endowed in the memory of Phyllis P. Harris. For over thirty years Phyllis Harris was an inspiring presence in the world of family planning, volunteering both her time and services in Edmonton and throughout Canada. To be eligible, you must be enrolled as a full-time student in third or fourth year at the undergraduate level at a Canadian University during the 2010-2011 academic year. Applicants must also be a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant. All applicants must have previous work or volunteer experience in the general field of human sexuality with the intent to pursue a degree in the field of family planning or population issues. The field is broadly defined to include biology, education, history, medicine, political science, psychology, international studies, social work or sociology. To apply, you must include your most recent academic transcript, a 500-word typed essay outlining your relevant background education, objectives and plans for the future. Candidates must also clearly state their support of the values and beliefs of the Canadian Federation for Sexual Health. Your name, address and telephone number must appear at the top of the application. In addition, the application must also include the name, address and telephone number of two (2) referees supporting your application. Referees should send their letters of support to the office of the Canadian Federation for Sexual Health. Please send your essay and most recent academic transcript to:

Phyllis P. Harris Scholarship Committee
Canadian Federation for Sexual Health
1 Nicholas Street, Suite 430
Ottawa, Ontario K1N 7B7
Telephone: 613-241-4474
Fax: 613-241-7550
Website: www.cfsh.ca

Deadline: April 30, 2010

BRAIN INJURY OF CANADA (BIAC) BURSARY

The BIAC Bursary Program is intended to assist students living with an acquired brain injury to pursue educational opportunities in English or French post-secondary institutions or apprenticeship/trades programs. Two bursaries of \$2,000 each will be awarded for each school year: one for studies in English and one in French.

To be eligible for a BIAC Bursary, you must:

- be a full-time student or be eligible to attend a Canadian post-secondary institution in a recognized program leading to a degree, certificate or diploma or a recognized apprenticeship/trades program

- have sustained an acquired brain injury

- be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident or protected person, within the meaning of the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act

Please note that receiving a bursary may affect your eligibility for other forms of provincial financial assistance. If you wish to be considered for a bursary, you must complete the entire BIAC online application or BIAC's Application Form for Full-Time Students, available from the Awards & Financial Aid office, room 1G05 on the first floor of Graham Hall. Information provided on your application will be shared with the Selection Committee panel in order to determine your eligibility. Please send the Application Form and supporting documentation to:

BIAC-ACLC Bursary Program
28 Caron St.
Gatineau, Quebec J8Y 1Y7
Telephone: 1-866-977-2492
Fax: 819-595-2458
E-mail: info@biac-aclc.ca
Website: www.biac-aclc.ca

Deadline: April 30, 2010

MARTIN MOSER SOCIETY FOR THEOLOGICAL STUDIES BURSARIES

Two bursaries in the amount of \$1,500 are being offered to students enrolled in a graduate or undergraduate degree in theology or ministry. The applicant must be of Christian denomination, enrolled or accepted in a recognized Canadian theological school with plans to exercise his/her ministry in Canada. For application forms and instructions, please visit the Awards & Financial Aid office, room OGM05 in the Mezzanine of Graham Hall. For inquiries, e-mail: martinmoser-bursary@gmail.com.

Deadline: April 30, 2010

JOHN GYLES EDUCATION AWARDS

The John Gyles Education Awards of up to \$3,000 are available each year to post-secondary students enrolled in any area, studying in either Canada or the United States, who are full Canadian or American citizens. A minimum GPA of 3.0 is required and criteria other than strictly academic ability and financial need will be considered in the selection process. Applications and information are available online at www.johngylesseducationcenter.com.

Deadline for mailing applications: May 1, 2010

MANITOBA ROUND TABLE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIP

The Sustainable Development Scholarship assists post-secondary students who pursue studies or undertake research that embraces the spirit and principles of sustainable development. The scholarship is open to students in any field of study offered at an approved Manitoba post-secondary institution who will be attending full-time (60% or higher course-load) in the 2010-2011 academic year and have a GPA of at least 3.5. These scholarships are not available to employees of the Province of Manitoba or their spouses, common-law partners or dependants. The scholarship consists of single, non-renewable awards of \$6,000 for a graduate student and \$1,500 for an undergraduate or college student. Application forms are available from the Awards & Financial Aid office, room OGM05 in the Mezzanine of Graham Hall, or from the following website: <http://www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/susresmb/scholarship/apply.html>.

Deadline: May 7, 2010

MARK & DOROTHY DANZKER SCHOLARSHIP OF EXCELLENCE FOR THE PRESERVATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

Five scholarships of \$1,000 are awarded on an annual basis to applicants who demonstrate an active involvement in preserving cultural heritage through volunteer work, employment or contributions to a cultural activity in the general community. You must be accepted or be currently enrolled in a university, college or other recognized post-secondary institution in Canada to qualify for the scholarship and you must be between the ages of 17 and 25. New this year, we are also presenting a sixth scholarship for post-graduate studies. More details to follow. For more information or to download the scholarship application form, visit the website www.folklorama.ca.

Deadline: May 14, 2010

CAROL THOMPSON MEMORIAL FUND SCHOLARSHIP FOR STUDENTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES

One scholarship of \$1,000 is awarded annually to a candidate diagnosed with a documented learning disability, which is the primary disability, who will be attending a college or university in 2010-11. A letter from a doctor, teacher, principal or service provider must be one of the three required reference letters, confirming the diagnosis and information about the learning disability, date of diagnosis and services received for the learning disability. Applicants must submit with their application a letter of acceptance from the university or college they will be attending, three letters of reference from non-relatives relevant to the criteria of the scholarship application, and a 200-word letter containing the following information: a description of the applicant's learning disability and an outline of those coping skills and strategies which have been developed to compensate for the learning disability, the individual's involvement in the community as a volunteer and the applicant's future goals. Application forms may be obtained at:

Learning Disabilities Association of Canada

E-mail: info@ldac-acta.ca
Website: www.ldac-acta.ca
Toll free: 1-877-238-5332
Telephone: 613-238-5721

Deadline: May 15, 2010

THE SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF DISCOVERIES ESSAY CONTEST

Founded in 1960, the purpose of the society is to stimulate teaching, research and publishing in the history of geographical exploration. We now call for essays on the topics embraced by the society's name: the history of discoveries. Essays may deal with voyages, travels, biography, history, cartography, techniques and technology, or other aspects of discovery. The primary purpose is to enlighten the reader on some aspect of the exploration of our world. The winner will receive a prize of \$600 and will be invited to make an oral presentation about the paper at the annual meeting of the Society for the History of Discoveries. The 2010 meeting will be held in Santa Fe, N.M., from Sept. 12-14. Additionally, the winner will be invited to submit the essay for publication in the society's journal, *Terrae Incognitae*. A post-secondary (college or university) student from any part of the world who will not have received a doctoral degree before May 15, 2010 is eligible to enter the contest. The essay or research paper should be original and unpublished, in the English language and of no more than 6,000 words, including footnotes or endnotes. Papers previously submitted for class assignments are encouraged. A reasonable amount of illustrative and tabular material will be welcome. The essay must be typed using a standard font (Times, Palatino, Century), double-spaced and printed on one side of the

paper. Do not place the author's name on the pages of text. Include a cover page that lists the name, mailing address and e-mail address of the student, the college or university, and the student's current status (i.e., sophomore, junior, 1st year MA, etc.).

Deadline: Essays must be postmarked on or before May 15, 2010.

By e-mail, send to:

Professor Carol Urness, curness@msn.com
Telephone: 612-788-6570

By post, send to:

Dr. Marguerite Ragnow
SHD Prize Essay Contest
James Ford Bell Library
University of Minnesota
309 19th Avenue South
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455
U.S.A

AUCC AWARDS

The Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada provides 150 scholarship programs on behalf of the Federal Government, domestic and foreign agencies, and private sector companies. Check out their website www.aucc.ca and look under the heading Scholarships and Internships for Canadian Students.

Deadlines: Various

IDRC/CRDI AWARDS

The International Development Research Centre (IDRC) is a Canadian crown corporation that works in close collaboration with researchers from the developing world in their search for the means to build healthier, more equitable and more prosperous societies. Various research and academic awards are available for application. Please visit their website for more information on their award programs: www.idrc.ca/awards.

MANITOBA STUDENT AID PROGRAM (MSAP)

Manitoba Student Aid is now accepting applications for the 2010 Winter session. Students can apply online at www.manitobastudentaid.ca.

New to the Student Aid program this year are a series of grants and bursaries:

- Canada Student Grant for Students from Low-income Families

- Canada Student Grant for Students from Middle-income Families

- Canada Student Grant for Students with Dependents

- Rural/Northern Bursary

These grants are the first money students will receive in their financial aid packages, before any loans are awarded. Many students may, in fact, receive the majority of their financial assistance in the form of grants.

Be sure to apply early and to submit all requested documentation as soon as possible to ensure that you receive all the grant funds for which you are eligible.

PROCEDURES:

Confirmation of Enrolment & Release of Government Student Aid Documents

Approximately three weeks before classes begin, the Manitoba Student Aid Program (MSAP) will begin printing official assistance documents for students whose MSAP documentation and university course registration are in order. MSAP will mail the documents to students at the addresses they have provided on their MSAP applications. The document you receive already will have been electronically approved by the Awards & Financial Aid Office. It will indicate the fees you owe to the University of Winnipeg. These fees will be deducted from your student aid.

If the document is a Canada Student Financial Assistance document, you should take it to an approved Canada Post outlet for forwarding to the National Student Loan Centre.

If the document is a Manitoba Student Aid document, you should forward it to the MSAP Loan Administration Department.

The National Student Loan Centre of the MSAP Loan Administration Department will process the document, transferring the fee payment portion directly to the university and depositing any additional balance to your account. Instructions on these processes will be included in your student aid document package.

Course Load

The minimum course load for which you must register to be eligible for any form of government student assistance is 60 per cent of the maximum course load required for your study period:

- Fall/Winter academic year - 18 credit hours

- Fall Term or Winter Term only - 9 credit hours which begin and end within that term

You must maintain the appropriate minimum course load for your study period in order to retain your student assistance eligibility.

Registration at Another Post-Secondary Institution

If, in addition to University of Winnipeg courses, you are registered and taking courses elsewhere during the academic year for credit towards your University of Winnipeg degree, you must present proof of registration to the Awards & Financial Aid Office before your student assistance document can be authorized and released to you.

Fee Payment

Your fees will be deducted from the student assistance document when it is electronically approved by the university. Government student aid is used first to meet educational

costs. All overdue fees and emergency loans as well as fees for the current study period will be deducted from the student aid document. If your student assistance does not cover your required fee payment, you will have to make payment on your own by the fee payment deadline. Credits for scholarships you may be receiving will reduce the amount of fees deducted from the student aid document.

Missing Information

If any documentation requested by the MSAP, such as summer income or study-period income verification, has not yet been submitted, electronic confirmation of your loan document will not occur and your loan funds will not be in place at the beginning of the Winter Term.

Revision to your Needs Assessment

You should be aware that new information, such as verification of your summer or study-period income, may increase or decrease your MSAP needs assessment and the resulting loan amounts you are eligible to receive. Similarly, if your current course load is different from that on your Notice of Assistance letter, the amount of loan you are eligible to receive may change.

Fee Deferral

The Awards & Financial Aid Office can defer your fees if you have applied for government student aid but have not received your confirmed assistance document by the fee payment deadline. Fee deferral means that your registration will not be cancelled because of your failure to pay by the deadline. However, you will be charged the late payment fee unless you have submitted your Student Aid application in sufficient time for it to be processed by the payment deadline.

The Awards office will begin taking names for the fee deferral list for students registered for only the 2010 Winter term starting **Jan. 4, 2010**. If your name is on the Awards & Financial Office fee deferral list but you withdraw from university courses, you will be responsible for the fees you owe until your actual date of withdrawal.

If you are out of funds before your next disbursement of Government Student Loans and are currently a full-time student but do not have a student loan this year, you can fill out a Schedule 2 document to remain in non-payment status. Please come to Student Services in Graham Hall, where front-counter staff can help you with this form.

DID YOU KNOW... That Manitoba Student Aid staff can be on campus on Fridays from 1 - 4 p.m. To meet with them, you need to set up an appointment time. Come to Student Services and book an appointment, or phone 786-9458 or 786-9984.

DID YOU KNOW... You can check the status of your student aid application, find out what documentation is still outstanding, update your address information and much more online? Go to www.manitobastudentaid.ca and then to MySAO to log into your existing account.

DID YOU KNOW... If you are a student who has had past Government Student Loans and are currently a full-time student but do not have a student loan this year, you can fill out a Schedule 2 document to remain in non-payment status. Please come to Student Services in Graham Hall, where front-counter staff can help you with this form.

OTHER AWARD WEBSITES:

Canada Student Loan program & other important information on finances and budgeting: www.canlearn.ca

Manitoba Student Aid Program: www.manitobastudentaid.ca

Surfing for dollars? Try these two websites:

www.studentawards.com

www.scholarshipscanada.com

Solutions to puzzles on page 23.

S	D	E	L	E	S ₃	E	K	S ₆	E	T	A	T	S ₄
R	S	E	R	L	A	S ₁₀	N	S	C	A	N	E	N ₇
A	L	O	N	E	S ₂	O	R	O	S ₅	A	I	G	A
O	I	H	O	S ₉	E	S	P	S ₄	L	A	C	A	P
R	O	N	T	I	T	A	U	D	E	A	D	E	P
S	E	S	A	E	S ₁	N	E	R	O	M	E	R	A
P	V	R	S	O	C	A	V	A	H	S ₈	E	D	E
O	E	M	I	O	S ₃	O	L	O	F	S ₇	A	V	N
		Y	F	T	S ₂		U	E	A	U	S ₂		
E	R	E	H	N	S ₁		Y	A	W	H	S ₁	A	C
T	A	C	R	A	S ₄		N	H	C	N	S ₁	L	O
S	A	C	T	S ₁		M	A	V	E	I	A	I	N
G	A	T	A	S ₁		S	A	L	T	O	A	T	S ₁
T	S ₁	S ₁	T	O	S ₁	S ₆	A	P	S ₄	M	A	E	S ₁

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



Dissecting (and solving) your transportation concerns... Sort of

Ever since Al Gore started whining like a little bitch, I've been doing a lot of thinking about the best way for us to get around without clogging up the atmosphere with carbon emissions or clogging up the streets with horse poo. I've recently come to a very definitive solution to our current transportation problem: diversification. Because there are so many reasons to look for alternate modes of transportation, it only stands to reason that there would be just as many solutions to our current problem.

I have therefore compiled a list of reasons why people are seeking alternate modes of transportation, each having its own unique solution.

Safety: Many people believe that current ways of getting around are too dangerous. According to the World Health Organization, over one million people die worldwide every year due to automobile accidents alone, so it's understandable that some people would want to find a safer way to travel.

To these people, I offer the following suggestion: zeppelins. It's a widely known fact that no one in history has ever been killed or injured while riding in a zeppelin. They are the safest way to transport people, or as some would say, "humanity."

Another great option for the safety-conscious traveller is huge ships driven by drunks late at night in iceberg-infested waters.

Traffic: Some people want to seek out new ways of getting around because of the horrible congestion we often experience on our streets and freeways (not that anyone in Winnipeg was ever forward-looking enough to think of building freeways).

My solution for traffic-minded people: Hot air balloons. If everyone were to climb into huge, one-seat hot air balloons instead of cars, bikes and motorcycles, the roads would be virtually deserted. This would eliminate commute times almost completely so we could spend more time enjoying a nice day in the park under a sky which is almost entirely blocked out by millions of hot air balloons.

Getting around just looks too cool: Some people are concerned that current modes of transportation just look too cool. To these people, I would suggest either a unicycle or a Segway, both of which are very effective at making their passengers look like complete douchebags. If anyone has ever gotten laid by riding around on a Segway, it was most probably with someone who rides a unicycle.

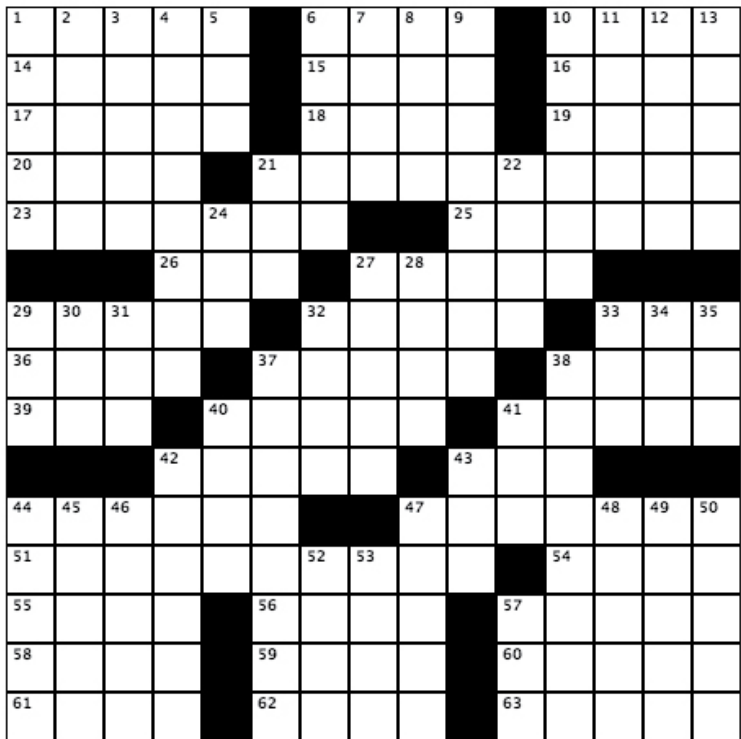
Environmental concerns: Many people, including that whiny bitch Al Gore, believe that current modes of transportation are very destructive to the Earth's delicate atmosphere. Therefore, we should seek out more environmentally friendly and sustainable modes of transportation.

Luckily, recent breakthroughs in transportation science have given these people an alternative mode of transportation, which is extremely friendly to both the environment and to other people's ears: Shutting up and walking.

J. Williams is a local musician. He also organizes Segway drag races in the suburbs.

Crossword Puzzle 25

Solutions to this week's crossword and sudoku appear on page 22. Solutions to last week's puzzles are below.



BESTCROSSWORDS.COM

Across

- 1- Ablaze
- 6- Charts
- 10- H.S. exam
- 14- Brag
- 15- Choir member
- 16- I could ___ horse!
- 17- Ancient region of Asia Minor
- 18- Side
- 19- After John in the NT
- 20- Labor
- 21- Technologist
- 23- Arch over a passage
- 25- Be innate
- 26- Seine contents
- 27- Southpaw
- 29- Retract
- 32- Accountant's sheet

- 33- O Sole ___
- 36- Call for
- 37- Devastation
- 38- Invitation letters
- 39- Small batteries
- 40- Philosopher Kierkegaard
- 41- Alleviates
- 42- Nose bone
- 43- Big bang cause
- 44- Procession
- 47- Listener
- 51- Prophetic revelation
- 54- Presidential battle-ground state
- 55- Swenson of "Ben-son"
- 56- Basic monetary unit of Greece

- 57- ___ Gay
- 58- Depilatory brand
- 59- Examine, search
- 60- Coherent light beam
- 61- Fill to surfeit
- 62- Terrier type
- 63- Snow conveyances

Down

- 1- Heartburn
- 2- It's ground
- 3- Grecian architectural style
- 4- Train terminus
- 5- 7th letter of the Greek alphabet
- 6- British buddy
- 7- Novelist Waugh
- 8- Egyptian deity
- 9- Soporific
- 10- Fine
- 11- ___ bleu!
- 12- Essential oil
- 13- Flavor
- 21- 19th letter of the Greek alphabet
- 22- Aware of

- 24- Method
- 27- Beau
- 28- North Carolina college
- 29- Actress Merkel
- 30- Teachers' org.
- 31- Paris possessive
- 32- Payment for travel
- 33- Ed.'s pile
- 34- "___ had it!"
- 35- Goddess of fertility in Roman mythology
- 37- Sans abode
- 38- Lucid
- 40- Fizzy drink
- 41- Break off
- 42- Annul
- 43- Calendar abbr.

- 44- Hurts
- 45- Sleep disorder
- 46- Man of many words
- 47- All together
- 48- That group
- 49- Greased
- 50- Bellows
- 52- Expression of disgust
- 53- Ask for divine guidance
- 57- Golfer Ernie

Two-legged transit is the best



LIVING WELL



SAGAN MORROW
STAFF WRITER

It is hard to go anywhere within the city limits and not hear the gentle rumble of a car driving down the street. For about 75 per cent of Canadians, according to a 2007 Statistics Canada report, motor vehicles are the transportation method of choice.

Driving may be necessary in the dead of winter or if you commute from out of the city. However, spending more time outside enjoying the fresh air rather than shivering in our cars is far more appealing now that the weather is getting warmer.

For those of us living within the city limits, and particularly

in the downtown area, there are many other transportation options to experiment with.

The 2007 Statistics Canada report also shows that only five to 15 per cent of Canadians walk or cycle to work as their usual mode of transportation. The other 10 per cent take public transit. This has ramifications on two levels: the environment and your personal health.

Vehicles contribute to an increase in greenhouse gas emissions. Air pollutants are a serious global concern and the quality of the air we breathe has significantly diminished over time, due in part to motor vehicles.

Public transit and carpooling are both better options than a single person driving in a car because they decrease the number of vehicles being driven, which correlates to a decrease in pollutants being emitted into the air.

Public transit is useful for travelling long distances.

If the continual increase in bus fares deters you from taking public transit but you still have a long way to travel, bicycles are an ideal option. From the centre of a city, a cyclist can reach most necessary destinations within 30 minutes. It won't take too much longer to bike than it would to bus or drive a car.

Winnipeg's wide streets make it easier for drivers and cyclists

to share the road, but the lack of bike paths is a contributing problem to everyone's safety.

Walking, although a slower method of transportation, ensures better safety and more access to areas where bikes might have a hard time getting to – for example, underground walkways or overpasses.

Walking and cycling are also a better choice for the environment than public transit, with the added benefit that they are fantastic for your personal well-being. Exercise such as walking and cycling reduces stress and increases mental clarity. The cardio aspect also raises the heart rate and strengthens the legs and core.

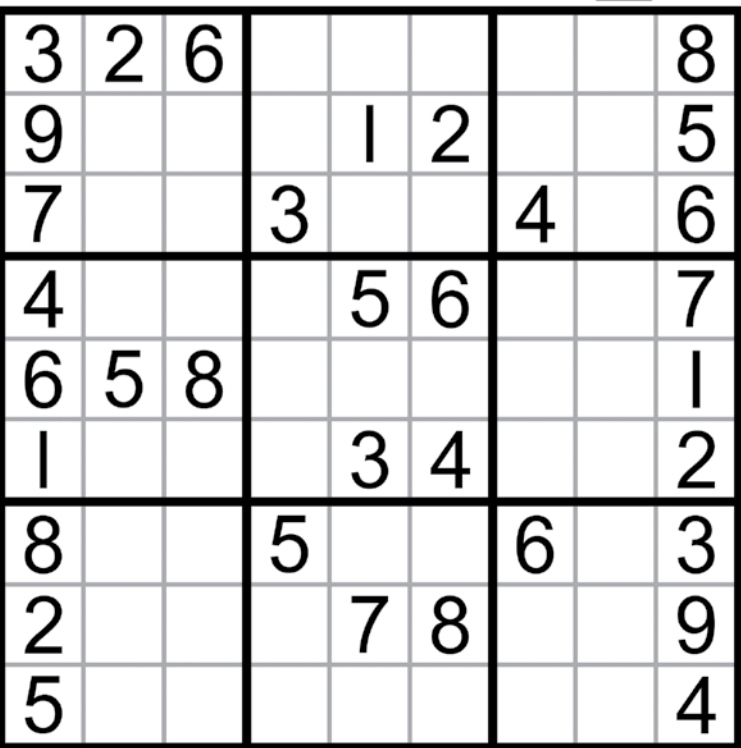
Rollerblades and skateboards also rev up the heart and are faster than walking to get you to where you need to be.

Rather than worrying about filling up with gas and paying car insurance, buy a good pair of shoes and you will be all set. Going to the gym is not a necessity if you are looking to get in shape.

Trade your car for your own two legs for transportation and you can get some exercise and get to your destination.

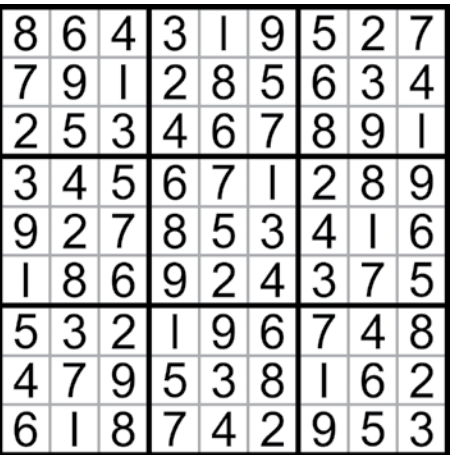
University of Winnipeg student Sagan Morrow writes a health and wellness blog. Check it out at <http://livingintherealworld.net/healthy>.

Sudoku Doctor Octagon



will.octagon.gibson@gmail.com

Solutions to puzzles from March 25. (Solutions to this week's puzzles appear on page 22.)



The Uniter: Did you know?

- We're publishing two summer issues after April 1: one in mid-May and one at the end of June.
- There's always chances to get involved at the paper. E-mail editor@uniter.ca to find out how.

The bland and the beautiful

St. Boniface bistro Resto Gare serves up insipid cuisine in a nonetheless exquisite atmosphere - a poor pairing to say the least

COURTNEY SCHWEGEL
CAMPUS BEAT REPORTER

Resto Gare
630 Des Meurons St.

Resto Gare, a trendy French bistro located in the old St. Boniface train station on Des Meurons Street, is certainly more of a feast for the eyes than for the palate. Diners can opt to sit in the historic observation car, built in 1914, or the dining room, both of which are stylistically stunning.

While the restaurant has a chic



SUZANNE NICHOL

While eating food like the dish pictured here, diners at Resto Gare can opt to sit in the historic observation car, built in 1914, or the dining room.

contemporary feel with dim lighting and a sleek fireplace, diners who are looking for a more unique experience should definitely dine in the train. The train car's lobster-red walls and royal blue ceiling are elegantly accentuated with gold mouldings and glitzy chandeliers. Vintage French art peppers the walls and makes one feel as though they are riding first class to Paris.

Unfortunately, a glance out the window at the parking lot on one side and the dull scenery on the other brings you straight back to Winnipeg.

On a brighter note, the extensive wine menu features a variety of wines from across the globe, but it does seem a bit strange that the house wines are Australian rather than French. Nonetheless, servers

are helpful in offering pairings.

The lengthy food menu includes both affordable casual fare like soups (\$5-10), salads (\$7-16) and sandwiches (\$10-19), and pricier entrees including bison short ribs (\$24) and beef bourguignon (\$20).

The Alsatian grilled flatbread, which the menu claimed was topped with brie, grapes and caramelized onions, could have been a dish with a lot of sharp, contrasting flavours, but it turned out to be muddled and bland. The long slab of crisp bread arrived at the table over-charred and the brie cheese could hardly be seen, never mind tasted, due to the excess of poor quality mozzarella. The onions were sparse, but added a sweet bite when they did meet the palate.

The tourtière (\$14), a French bistro classic, was a cute individual pie with a delectably dense, buttery crust. Unfortunately, the beef and pork filling was overwhelmed with nutmeg, though the tangy tomato chow chow, a relish-like condiment, toned it down a tad.

The soupe de jour, a cream of potato, bacon and dill, was thick and salty, but became too heavy after a

few spoonfuls.

Another bistro classic, the crêpe au fruits de mer (\$13), failed to delight. The crêpe, which was very burrito-esque in appearance, was thick, overcooked and eggy, resulting in a less-than-pleasing combination with the nearly tasteless lobster cream sauce. However, the plump, perfectly cooked shrimp redeemed the dish slightly.

The accompanying house salad was fresh and punchy, with elegantly julienned carrots, sweet cherry tomatoes, crunchy cucumber, crisp radicchio and tender greens finished with a tangy balsamic dressing.

The delightfully soft and chewy complimentary bread served with a saucer of garlic-infused oil and balsamic vinegar was unarguably the best part of the meal.

Desserts, including classic crème brûlée, lemon tart and maple sugar pie, change daily.

While Resto Gare certainly offers a unique, visually stunning atmosphere, overall its French-inspired cuisine is not really worth a second glance.

University of Winnipeg Chancellor
Bob Silver & Kim Silver
Honourary Co-Chairs invite you to

I **2010** **U of W**
D I N N E R

TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 2010
CANAD INNS POLO PARK

INDIVIDUAL TICKETS: \$85.00
(\$40.00 TAX RECEIPT)

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES:

CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP: \$1000.00
(\$640.00 TAX RECEIPT) INCLUDES:

- Seating for eight with Corporate Name on Table in Select Location
- Recognition in Dinner Program
- Recognition on the Evening's Powerpoint

- UWinnipeg Opportunity Fund
- UWinnipeg Wesmen Athletics Scholarships Funds
- UWinnipeg Alumni Scholarships

FOR TICKETS OR MORE INFORMATION CALL 415.2472
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THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG



UWINNIPEG STUDENT
AYAN SALAH, OPPORTUNITY
FUND RECIPIENT.

The University of Winnipeg is committed to helping youth dream big. Since 2008, UWinnipeg has been able to offer almost 300 students fast-track bursaries thanks to generous private donations to the Opportunity Fund. The fund is unique in Canada, set up specifically to offer financial support to youth who are underrepresented on campus including Aboriginal students, young people from war-affected areas and refugee populations, and youth from inner-city neighbourhoods.

Ayan Salah is in her first year at UWinnipeg, studying sociology and bio-

statistics. Born in Somalia, her family was forced to flee the war-stricken country when she was an infant. Ayan spent her first 15 years living inside a guarded compound at the Kakuma refugee camp in Kenya. She arrived in Winnipeg 4 years ago, with a grade two education, speaking no English.

"All I knew how to say was hi," says Ayan. "But I love to study and I went to after-school programs and then I discovered the Global Welcome Centre at The University of Winnipeg where I got help with my homework. I never thought I

would go to university. The \$770 I received from the Opportunity Fund helped me make my decision. Now I can study part-time and work part-time."

Ayan lives with her mother and two brothers and helps to support her family financially working as a waitress. Her goal is to obtain a university degree and work in international development, drawing on her experience as a refugee.

"Canada is amazing," she says. "Here you can work hard and earn money and go to school. I feel I have a really good opportunity in life now."