

THE LINK

CONCORDIA'S INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1980

SHAKING OFF THE RUST

Concordia women's hockey has a slow start to 2014 hosting the 46th annual Theresa Humes Tournament. P11



NATIONAL PASTIME REVISITED

Your guide to Montreal's outdoor rinks—for skating, hockey or both. P13

CONCORDIA OFFICIALLY OPPOSES CHARTER OF VALUES

Administrators, labour unions and students are united against the PQ's plan to ban public sector workers from wearing overt religious symbols. P4

EDITORIAL THE FEE-LEVY SYSTEM ISN'T BROKEN, SO DON'T FIX IT P19

LOOKING FOR A **JOB?** STARTING YOUR **BUSINESS** OR **ARTISTIC CAREER?**

Your roadmap to success

JOB SEEKERS

- > Career counselling
- > Help with résumé writing
- > Mock interviews
- > Career testing
- > Mentorship
- > Online services
- > and more...

WOMEN IN TECHNOLOGY

- > Specialized workshops and clinics
- > Career counselling
- > Business coaching services
- > Mentorship
- > Online services
- > and more...

ENTREPRENEURS

- > Workshops on starting your own business
- > Access to financing
- > Business coaching services
- > Legal & accounting clinics
- > Mentorship
- > Online services
- > and more...

ARTISTS

- > Artist coaching services
- > Grants & loans information
- > Help with grant writing
- > Mentorship
- > Business skills workshops
- > Online services
- > and more...

Most services are **FREE**
Many services are also available online

www.yesmontreal.ca
514.878.9788



666 Sherbrooke St. W. Suite 700
Montreal, Quebec H3A 1E7

Our centre is open, **free of charge**,
Monday to Friday, 9:00 AM–5:00 PM
Services are offered in English.

As a non-profit organization, **YES Montreal**
(Youth Employment Services) enriches the community
by providing **English-language support services** to help
Quebecers **find employment** and **start businesses**.



YES is a not-for-profit organization

Funded by:



Canadian
Heritage

Patrimoine
canadien



Canada Economic
Development
for Quebec Regions

Développement
économique Canada
pour les régions du Québec

Emploi

Québec



The Counselling
Foundation of Canada



Status of Women
Canada

Condition féminine
Canada

Successful futures start with **yes**



BOÎTE DE NUIT • SALLE DE SPECTACLES • COOP DE TRAVAIL

PARTY!

57 PRINCE-ARTHUR E. MTL

EVERY TUESDAY

**Mardis
Rétro**



THE 50S, 60S, 70S, 80S AND 90S
ON THE DANCE FLOOR
SPECIALS ON PITCHER
MOLSON 5\$ • BORÉALE 7\$

EVERY THURSDAY

**LES JEUDS
HIT-MOI!**

21st century POP HITS
mash-up

STUDENT DISCOUNT
ON ADMISSION FEES

Labatt 2\$
Cocktail 4\$

Happy Hour



refill your pint
from
8:30pm
to 10pm

8\$



tuesday
and
thursday

EVERY FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

TOP 40'S BEST AND MUCH MORE!
**LES
WEEK-ENDS
X-LARGES**



CAFECAMPUS.COM

f CAFECAMPUSOFFICIEL

FAR MORE THAN USER-FRIENDLY

With an ever-growing number of eyes glued to screens and a seemingly ubiquitous Internet connection, no one can deny the impact computer technology is having on our daily lives.

But that reality doesn't necessarily doom a child to a life of endless scrolling.

Kids Code Jeunesse, a Montreal-based non-profit, is going into classrooms in two English Montreal School Board elementary schools this week, teaching students in Grades 3 to 6 the basis of computation and web design.

"We want this to be within the school system, accessible to all kids free of charge, to become a

tool like reading and writing is," said Kate Arthur, the co-founder of Kids Code Jeunesse. The organization's long-term goal is to bring coding into the curriculum of Quebec elementary schools.

In the program's pilot session last fall at the Commission scolaire de Montréal's École au Pied-de-la-Montagne, volunteer teachers showed the students the basics of using programming as a medium.

Instead of presenting their geography project on a Bristol board or with PowerPoint, they built a website to hold the information, including all the writing and research elements re-

quired in the teachers' grading criteria.

For their English class the students could create an "About Me" webpage that included the skills they needed to display to be evaluated by their teacher.

"They're learning in the school system how to turn a computer on, how to use a Word document, how to use the Internet. Kids already know how to do that," said Arthur.

"We're trying to help with the gap in learning. They should be learning, above all, security and safety, and how it all works."

▶ Continued on page 6.



STUDENTS SLEEP, BUT THE NEWS DOESN'T

The Concordia news you missed over the holidays. **P5**

HOUSE PARTYING WITH LOUIS ARMSTRONG

New weekly "jazz parties" at the Cabaret Playhouse remix the classic genre in a new type of atmosphere. **P9**

HITTING THE SLOPES

Concordia's Ski and Snowboard Club is making the slopes accessible for students. **P14**

BEYOND MEMORIZATION

With so many different ways to learn, how do you know you're getting your money's worth? **P15**

L'ORGANE LOSES FUNDING

With revival attempts unsuccessful, Concordia decides to suspend the French-language magazine's fee levy. **P7**

FREE STUFF!

Our first Fringe Give-away of the year is two tickets to go see British indie rockers Yuck. **P10**

THE LINK ONLINE

LET THERE BE MEETINGS

Concordia's student union is back at work and we're ready to report. What's in store this semester? Find out after Wednesday's meeting.

U.S. GETTING U.N.-FOCUSED

A former American diplomat is at Concordia Friday to talk U.S. policy towards the United Nations. Read the story later this week.



CONCORDIA COMES OUT AGAINST VALUES CHARTER

Admin, Unions Now United in Opposing Public Religious Symbols Ban

by Andrew Brennan @Brennamen

After months of internal deliberation, Concordia University finally revealed its position on the Parti Québécois's proposed Charter of Values, coming out in December against what it considers key elements of the possible public ban on religious symbols.

"The university is calling on the government to amend portions of the charter, the portions in particular our community has very clearly and unitedly, to a large part, said it cannot be comfortable with, the sections referring to religious symbols," said university spokesperson Chris Mota in December following the university's stance going public.

The position was rendered following months of in-house consultation with students, faculty and other members of the Concordia community, according to university president Alan Shepard.

"I didn't want, as university president, to have a knee-jerk reaction," Shepard told Concordia's Board of Governors at their Dec. 11 meeting.

A draft of the original statement was disseminated by the university administration to faculty and staff unions as well as student representatives. The final document, jointly approved by the university's Senate steering committee and the executive committee of the Board of Governors, met the CSU's expectations, according to Concordia Student Union President Melissa Kate Wheeler.

"I was proud to put the CSU's name on it," she said. "It's not perfect but it's very solid, I would say."

The CSU first came out in opposition to the PQ's values charter in a unanimous vote by council Sept. 19. The CSU registered its commentary with the provincial government Dec. 20, according to Wheeler, which she says goes line by line through the union's grievances with the legislation.

The Concordia University Part-Time Faculty Association also was quick out of the gate in opposing the values charter, stating that it would discriminate "against freedom of choice, undermine our multicultural diversity and will have the effect of further ghettoizing minorities," according to a press release dated Sept. 20.

Concordia was the last university in Montreal to publicly voice its opposition to the charter.

Popularly known as the Charter of Quebec Values, Bill 60 or the "Charter affirming the values of State secularism and religious neutrality and of equality between women and men, and providing a framework for accommodation requests," would see all public sector workers—including the employees of universities in Quebec, which the province considers public institutions—restricted from wearing any "ostentatious" religious symbols and head coverings.

While its proponents argue such a ban would unify the province under a secular model and protect women from the oppression perceived in some religions, its opponents have dismissed the bill and its justifications as thinly-veiled racism, sexism and xenophobia towards visible and religious minorities.

In its statement released Dec. 17, the uni-

versity made clear its opposition was based in part on potential risks to enrolment and hiring retention rates, which Concordia says could be negatively affected by a ban on religious symbols inside public institutions.

"It is true that certain elements of the bill—notably the principles of the secular nature of the state and the equality of men and women—are strongly reaffirmed by our Board of Governors and Senate," reads a joint release from the university sent to the media.

"We are, however, unable to support other key elements—such as its provisions prohibiting the wearing of religious symbols by university employees and the superintending of our policies on academic accommodation on religious grounds by a government ministry."

The university also added in its statement that its autonomy could be challenged by the implementation of the charter, which multiple university governors took issue with last week during the monthly Board of Governors meeting.

A major concern during the Board's discussion was the university ultimately having to adhere to the government's criteria—and not an internal policy—when granting requests for reasonable accommodation, which cannot oppose any provisions of Bill 60 if the proposed charter is passed.

Another concern expressed by governors and reiterated by Wheeler on a separate occasion is the worry that Bill 60's proposed prohibition on having one's face covered when receiving a public service could prevent some

students from attending university in Quebec.

Going forward, Shepard says the university is prepared to continue to voice its opinion on Bill 60 both in and outside the provincial National Assembly.

"The government said that in the spring they will call for people to come and make presentations," he said to other governors at the Dec. 11 Board meeting. "It's possible that Concordia would be invited [to state its concerns]."

David Douglas, president of CUPFA, told *The Link* he considers the values charter to be a wedge issue driving a snap election in the spring, particularly to weaken the PQ's chief ideological competitor among sovereignists, rival provincial party Coalition Avenir Québec.

However, he added that if the bill does end up being ratified into law, CUPFA would continue to voice its opposition to the charter, denouncing it as a violation of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, which under Canadian law supersedes any provincial legislation.

As for Wheeler, she says the CSU is also prepared to keep denouncing the charter and would be ready to mobilize if necessary.

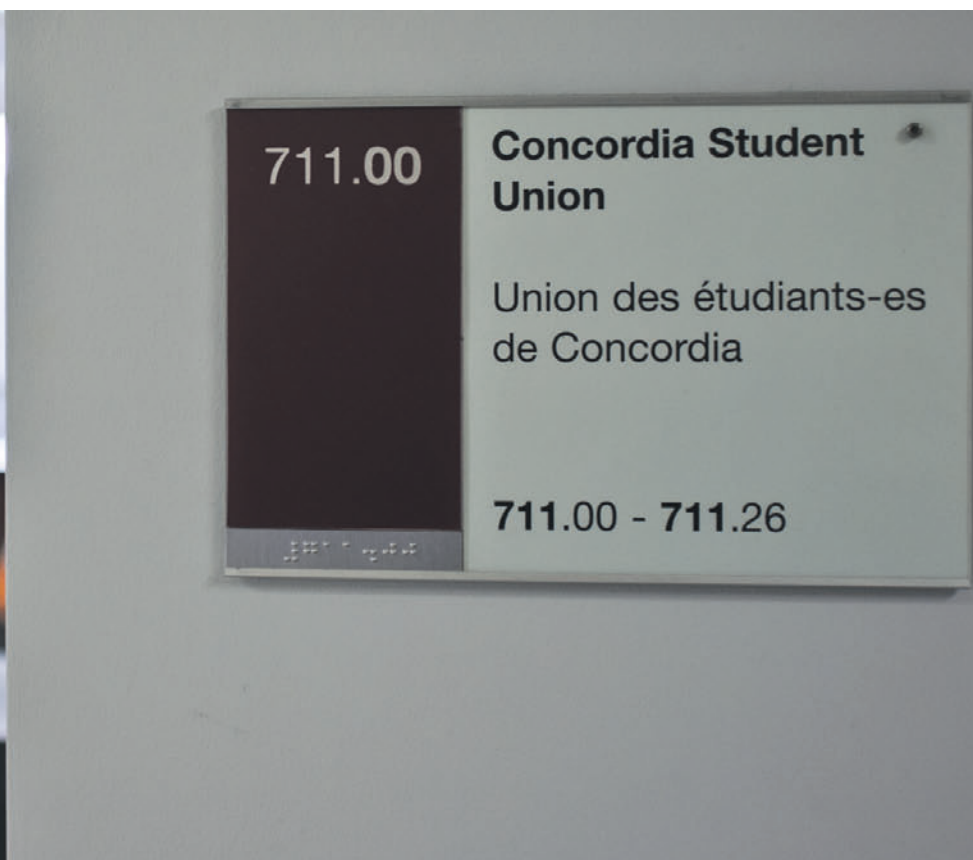
"The next step for us is really going to be about paying attention and being ready: being ready to take a strong stand—which we've already done, but be ready to defend that stand publicly," she said.

"We're ready to roll; this isn't going to sit well with us if it gets pushed much further."

Photo Brandon Johnston



Thousands of protesters have descended into the streets to voice their opposition to the proposed Charter of Values since the Parti Québécois put forward an initial list of proposals on religious accommodation on Sept. 10.



CONCORDIA BRIEFS

by Michael Wrobel @michael_wrobel

No CSU Winter Orientation Planned for This Year

The Concordia Student Union will not hold a winter Orientation this year as the week of events “historically has not attracted enough students to justify its cost,” the union announced Monday.

“The CSU Executive feels that [low attendance in the past] has not been a reflection of poor planning, but rather of the event itself,” reads a press release from the union. “It is for this reason that we have chosen not to hold a winter Orientation this year.”

The CSU executive is instead promising to host a “student engagement fair” and events related to the topic of gender, as well as a party at the as-yet-unopened Hive Café. The café is meant to be a student-run alternative on the Loyola campus to Chartwells-operated cafeterias.

Last year, the student union allocated \$60,000 towards its winter Orientation.

Simone de Beauvoir Institute Reacts to Supreme Court Decision on Canada's Prostitution Laws

Concordia's Simone de Beauvoir Institute, a college devoted to studying feminism and social justice, supports the Supreme Court's decision to strike down three Canadian laws related to prostitution.

In a unanimous ruling on Dec. 20, the Supreme Court deemed prohibitions on brothels or bawdy houses, public communication for the purpose of prostitution and profiting off of prostitution to be unconstitutional.

“For the Simone de Beauvoir Institute, to strike down laws which increase violence against women is an important feminist victory,” reads a statement posted to the Institute's website. “The decision of the Supreme Court recognizes the importance of removing legal barriers to women's safety and security.”

The institute was granted intervener status by the Supreme Court, allowing it to make arguments in the case despite being a third party. In legal documents filed with the court, the institute stated it doesn't subscribe to an “abolitionist-feminist discourse” that views prostitution as fundamentally harmful to women.

The institute argued that criminalizing public solicitation could potentially endanger sex workers, as it prevents them from communicating their limits or evaluating their clients sufficiently before moving into private spaces. According to the institute, “laws which prevent clear communication between sex workers and clients prevent a frank discussion of sexuality between consenting adults.”

The institute also opposed the ban on brothels and profiting from prostitution.

“Sex workers cannot work together out of the same apartment, because the apartment would be considered a common bawdy house,” reads the institute's statement. “Similarly, sex workers cannot hire a driver or a bodyguard, who would be considered to live off the avails of prostitution.”

The Supreme Court gave Parliament one year to rethink the country's prostitution laws.

Concordia Refutes Low Graduation Rate Cited by La Presse

An article published in the Jan. 3 issue of *La Presse* has been pulled from the French-language newspaper's website after Concordia contested some of the facts it contained.

The article claimed Concordia's graduation rate has fallen sharply in recent years. According to the article, 75 per cent of Concordia students who began their studies in 2001 had obtained their diplomas six years later, but by 2012, only 48 per cent of those students who entered Concordia six years earlier had graduated.

Such a graduation rate would put Concordia far behind other Quebec universities. According to the article, the Université du Québec à Montréal, the Université de Montréal and McGill University had completion rates of 68 per cent, 78 per cent and 84 per cent, respectively, for the cohort of students entering university in 2006.

But Concordia argues its graduation rate—actually 74.2 per cent for full-time undergraduates, according to the university—is favourable compared to the national average.

“This faulty information about graduation rates is the result of an error in interpreting the data provided to the newspaper,” reads a statement posted on Concordia's website.

According to the university, the reporter compared 2006 graduation rates for full-time students to 2012 graduation rates for part-time students, leading to the incorrect conclusion that graduation rates had fallen drastically.

Student-Run Co-operative Café and New Administrative Jobs Discussed at December CSU Meeting

Councillors and executives of the Concordia Student Union were divided at the last council meeting of 2013 on the best way to create a new café on the Hall Building's mezzanine in the location currently leased by Java U.

In the CSU's November byelections, undergraduates voted 89 per cent in favour of giving the union a mandate to “establish or help found” a student-led co-operative café or restaurant in the space, which is managed and operated by the CSU's for-profit arm, CUSACorp.

However, CUSACorp hopes to put out a request for proposals, a process that would see interested parties like non-profit organizations or businesses submit proposals to the CSU which would then be evaluated according to a predetermined set of criteria, such as whether the food will be locally sourced or the café would provide employment to students. CUSACorp would then ask students to vote on the different proposals received.

Councillors in favour of CUSACorp's position argued that the referendum question in November unfairly presented voters with only two options—a student-led co-operative or a for-profit business like Java U. A CUSACorp report presented by VP Clubs and Internal James Tyler Vaccaro—also the chairperson of CUSACorp—at the council meeting argued “a method which allows for the CSU's members to vote on various food service options empowers them in the decision and provides them with the opportunity to make an informed choice.”

VP Sustainability Benjamin Prunty told *The Link* that “[CUSACorp's] recommendation was short-sighted and that adopting it would be in contravention of the Judicial Board's reference decision.” The JB decided on Nov. 9 that the results of a referendum are binding on the CSU and that the CSU has the power under Quebec law as sole shareholders to issue directives to CUSACorp, de-

spite the CSU's own bylaws stating the union will respect CUSACorp's autonomy.

“I have to be very firm in standing by the mandates that I get from students so long as they're not injurious to other students,” CSU President Melissa Kate Wheeler told *The Link*.

“I think that there's something to be said for the wording of the question. I think that the question excluded other alternatives and that's definitely an issue, but I don't see that as enough of a problem to move away from the heart of what that question was, which I think is pretty easily discernable—that [voters] want something student-run in the Java U space.”

Wheeler said she'd like to see interested individuals within the CSU work with CUSACorp to “install something student-run, local, healthy and cheap into that space, whenever it becomes available.”

The topic was eventually tabled until the next council meeting, which is scheduled for Jan. 8.

The meeting also saw the union create three new paid positions: an events coordinator, a sustainability coordinator and a financial assistant. Wheeler said the goal is to assign some of the “non-political” administrative tasks currently performed by vice-presidents to union employees instead.

“There's enough work that is purely administrative that we could create these positions safely,” Wheeler said.

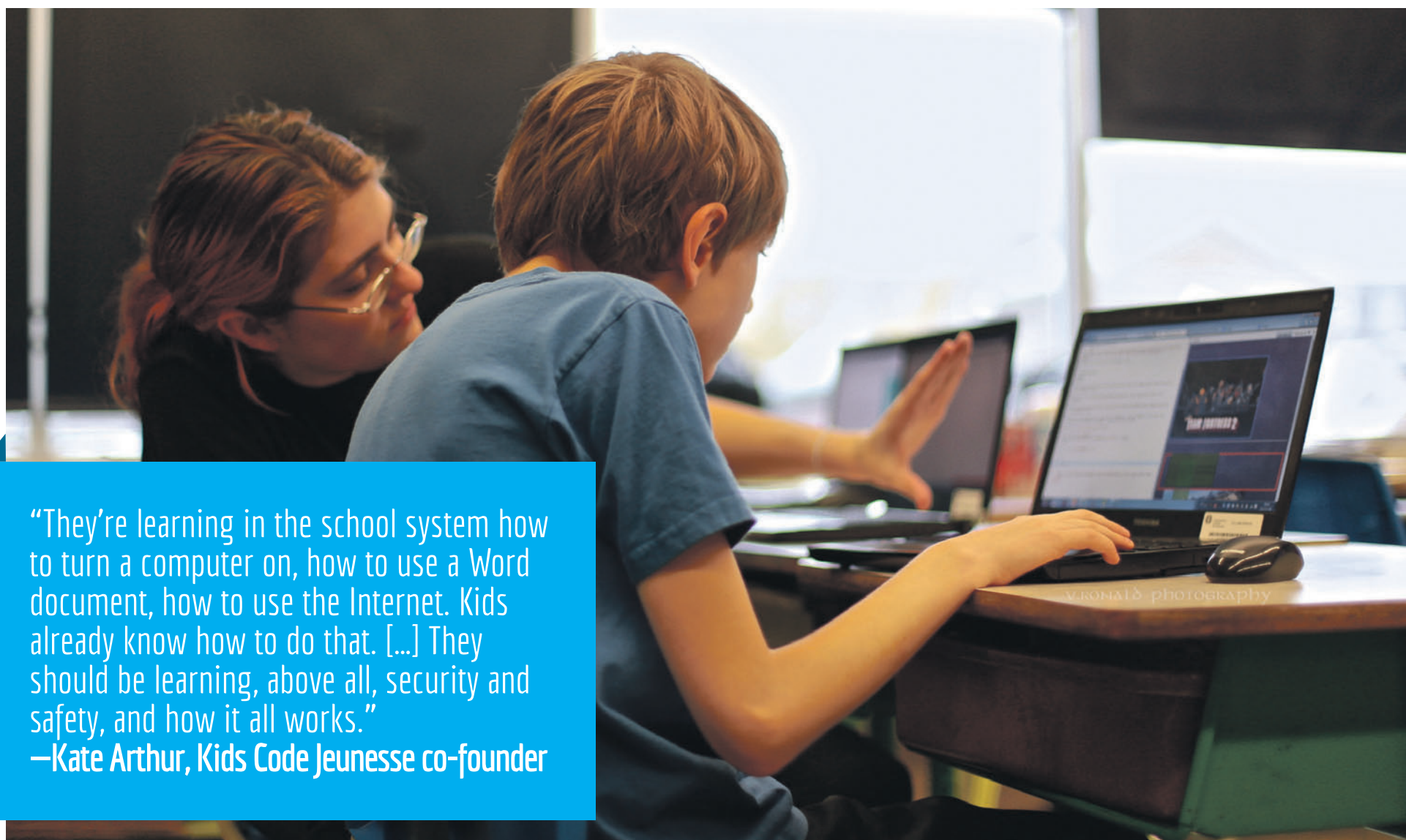
“The point in all of this is to liberate, to a certain extent, the VPs to have more creativity, flexibility and whatnot in their own positions, because what we have found is that student unions with more staff get more done [and] have a higher project completion rate and a shorter time frame for those projects.”

Wheeler said the positions wouldn't be filled this academic year as the current executive has only six months left in its mandate. However, next year's executive will have the option to fill the positions, provided that it budgets for them.

“We've created these positions as an investment in the next executive,” said Wheeler.

— With files from Andrew Brennan

Photo Brandon Johnston



“They’re learning in the school system how to turn a computer on, how to use a Word document, how to use the Internet. Kids already know how to do that. [...] They should be learning, above all, security and safety, and how it all works.”

—Kate Arthur, Kids Code Jeunesse co-founder

Kids Code Jeunesse co-founder Gersande La Flèche teaches HTML to a student at the École au Pied-de-la-Montagne.

PROGRAMMED TO LEARN

Kids Code Jeunesse Teaches Computation Literacy to Elementary School Children

by Colin Harris @ColinnHarris

► Continued from page 3.

More Than User-Friendly

When the Kids Code Jeunesse teachers at École au Pied-de-la-Montagne asked students what a computer was, most answered “Google.” Despite spending hours in front of screens every week, there’s no guarantee these children get a better understanding of how the technology really works just by using search engines and social media.

The course material created by Kids Code Jeunesse provides the young students a glimpse into how much control they can have over the information displayed on a web page—a medium in which they do so much consuming.

“We’re giving them the ABCs, and they start to create words, create sentences and write phrases,” said Arthur. “For us the younger you teach them, the more power they have to communicate in that language. It’s a tool for them to express what’s going on in their head.”

For some students, it offered a whole new take on learning. Arthur recalled being approached by a mother just before the winter break, who asked if she was the one who had brought coding to the school.

The mother went on to say it had changed her son’s life, that before he

didn’t want to be in school but that he loved computers and technology.

“She said, ‘He was failing everything, and [then] you introduced programming,’” said Arthur. “It’s what keeps him going.”

Kids Code Jeunesse was started in the fall of 2012 by Arthur and Gersande La Flèche, who works as a programmer at DMCS Canada, a Montreal-based IT firm owned by Arthur and her husband. La Flèche, a creative writing student at Concordia, is one of the volunteer teachers who go into classes to show kids what coding can do for them.

La Flèche’s interest in computers began with unblocking music websites in her school’s computer labs and storing algorithms in T-83 graphing calculators to cheat on exams at age 14.

“I didn’t realize I was doing something called computer science at the time, and that people do this for a living,” she said.

Arthur and La Flèche have designed two programming courses, one for Grades 3-4 and another for Grades 5-6. The younger class learns on Scratch, a visual programming interface developed by MIT, and the older class works in pure HTML—the foundation of web design today.

The first months of the project started with convincing school directors that coding was a skill worth learning. LEARN Quebec, a non-profit educational foundation

that supports English education in the province, was the first to show an interest, and La Flèche taught the two courses made available to Quebec students online.

And now, after a successful semester at the École au Pied-de-la-Montagne, the eight-class courses will be taught at the Merton Elementary School in Côte St-Luc and the General Vanier Elementary School in St-Leonard.

Arthur also noted that video game developer Ubisoft and simulation technologies manufacturer CAE have recently volunteered programmers to come into classes.

Such partnerships will be important for the project going forward, as Kids Code Jeunesse is not currently receiving any government funding. Arthur has taken time off from her job at DCMS to work on Kids Code Jeunesse full-time until the organization can hire an administrator.

Kids Code Jeunesse is currently running an Indiegogo fundraising campaign, which is just past the halfway mark of their \$5,000 goal, to be raised before Jan. 19. The funds will help produce learning materials such as posters and cheat sheets, and pay for transportation for the teachers, who are student volunteers from Concordia and McGill University.

This semester’s curriculum builds on what the group learned

during their pilot project, and this time will include a lesson on copyright. A technology specialist hired by the EMSB will also spend an hour with the kids on safe surfing before their coding classes begin.

“Teaching something like computer science is definitely a challenge for elementary kids, but at the same time it’s something they get really excited about,” said La Flèche.

“It’s an interesting combination of learning a lot of very complex spelling and syntax and not make spelling errors, but it’s also like a puzzle where you’re looking for the mistake.”

Beyond being a different approach to getting kids interested in math and science, Arthur said the exercises also help the students pay attention to detail—since a little error could break the entire program. Students would also debug their peers’ work.

“You go to Ubisoft’s offices and it’s completely wide open, everyone’s working in teams. You have to work with programmers, designers and story editors,” said Arthur. “Computer programming is not sitting alone in your own little world and we try to break that [preconception].”

La Flèche noted that programming feeds into children’s love of building things and showing what they’ve made to their friends.

“At one point, one kid learned how to create iframes [frames em-

bedding another HTML document] in a web page, and all of a sudden his site had his favourite Pokémon profiles, his favourite hockey player,” said La Flèche.

“[And] then suddenly all the other kids are copying the iframe code from each other.”

Despite the elementary school teachers often not having any background in computation, École au Pied-de-la-Montagne is still using Scratch.

“One of the large hurdles at the moment is the schools not having the educators who can teach computer programming,” said Arthur. “That’s why we have university students coming in, so [the teachers] do the ‘teaching,’ and we do the programming.”

This semester the organization is working to better equip the teachers to continue using code after the eight-class course is completed.

“What we’re trying to do is create a talented pool of future employees,” said Arthur. “Just like how we teach people to read and write, we’re not expecting the next James Joyce—but you’re going to need to know how to read and write to get many jobs.”

To learn how to volunteer with Kids Code Jeunesse or to contribute to their fundraising campaign, visit kidscodejeunesse.org

Photo Vanessa Ronald

L'ORGANE FAILURE

Funding Suspended to Concordia's Defunct French-Language Magazine

by Andrew Brennan @Brennamen

Over two years after its last publication and despite two attempts to revive it, Concordia's former French-language magazine *L'Organe* has had its fee levy suspended for three semesters—and it will be permanently removed unless students decide to bring the magazine back.

L'Organe's six-cent-per-credit fee levy that it has received from Concordia undergraduates since 2003 was officially suspended by the university's Board of Governors Dec. 11, roughly 30 months after the magazine published its last issue.

In April 2011, the magazine experienced a mass exodus of sorts when its masthead members largely quit or had finished their mandate and were thus unable to return the following year.

Students tried twice to revive the publication, but both attempts were unsuccessful.

Julien Poirier-Malo served as president of the defunct fee-levy group in 2012-2013 and spearheaded the most recent attempt to restart *L'Organe*, which he says was beset by setbacks, particularly in acquiring access to the group's funding from students.

"I took over *L'Organe* in the summer of 2012 after a year abroad. It had been on the ice for over a year already, and I decided to bring it back to life," he said.

"From June to September, I recruited contributors from various fields, and we began to work on the first issue.

"While all of this was going on, the bank account was still under [former general manager Gabrielle LeFort]'s name, and I didn't have access to any money," Poirier-Malo explained.

"We had time to almost finish the issue before the administrative procedure started."

That's when Poirier-Malo ran into trouble. "Weeks later, the bank contacted me to tell me that the [organization's file in the provincial enterprise register] had not been updated for over five years, and that the account should not have been open to anyone since then, including Gabrielle," he said.

"In other words, they discovered a huge flaw in their own system. I then tried to find the 2007 [editorial staff] and bring them together to sign governmental documents in order to update the [register], in order to have the [TD Bank] account under my name."

In April 2013, Poirier-Malo was graduating and had to abandon the project after months with no results.

"It was a real nightmare," he said.

The university collects fee levies per credit from undergraduates and helps dole them out to fee-levy groups. Only the Board of Governors has the authority to suspend or revoke a fee levy, and Concordia continued collecting *L'Organe's* fee levy after the magazine folded.

During discussions at the Board of Governors' December meeting, Concordia Student Union president and undergraduate BoG representative Melissa Kate Wheeler indicated students would decide what to do with the collected funds currently sitting untouched.

She told the Board it would be the "next year's exec's problem" to deal with because her team had no interest in putting it to ballot in the upcoming CSU general elections taking place in March.

She told *The Link* it is up to students at large to mobilize if they want to see *L'Or-*

gane born anew, and that for now the CSU will only continue to ensure the funding is collected by Concordia's Dean of Students office and kept safe.

"We don't have any intention at the moment of putting it to referendum because this fee levy has only been suspended, not eradicated," she said, adding the union plans to spend the outstanding fee levy account on a future French publication, or as otherwise decided by referendum.

"Since its suspension, a few students have come forward saying that in fact there should be a French newspaper on campus—and I tend to agree—so what might end up happening if those students are serious and they want to start organizing then we can always keep that sum safe with the university [...] and after three semesters we could reinstate the fee, potentially," she said.

How much money the *L'Organe* fee levy has collected in the absence of any publishing is unclear; according to Concordia spokesperson Chris Mota, the university acts as fiduciary for the student group's accounts and therefore cannot reveal their contents.

The CSU, which does have to divulge the financial information, was unable to provide *L'Organe's* finances before press time.

Poirier-Malo says it is important for an English-speaking school in a bilingual city to have media in the province's predominant language and that he hopes to see the publication return.

Wheeler agrees.

"Its value in an academic institution is undeniable," she said. "I would love to see it resurface, I really would, and if anybody's interested then they should certainly come to us for help organizing."

BRIEFS

by Erin Sparks @sparkserin

SAQ Employees Call for Increased Security

Some employees of the SAQ, the province's liquor distributor, hope to see an increase in store security due to situations of feeling forced to sell alcohol to minors or aggressive or intoxicated clients, CJAD News reported. Workers have also requested more training in how to deal with these situations. According to Katia Lelièvre, president of the SAQ's union, certain employees working alone are unlikely to refuse service to minors or older individuals who are intoxicated for reasons of personal safety, regardless of laws against selling to those under the age of 18.

Guard Dogs Left in Cold Draws Animal Welfare Advocates' Ire

Animal welfare advocates have leveled complaints against a Montreal-based plumbing company regarding their treatment of two guard dogs, both of which were kept outdoors in freezing temperatures. According to CBC Montreal, J. Jodoin Plumbing rented the dogs from a company that remains unnamed, and local animal ambulance K-911 received a number of phone calls from those concerned about the dogs given the frigid weather that has recently hit Montreal. The SPCA is expected to visit the shelter to inspect the dogs' living conditions.

Five-Alarm Fire Decimates Hochelaga Building

An overnight fire in Montreal's Mercier-Hochelaga-Maisonneuve borough resulted in the evacuation of approximately 10 residents, the *Montreal Gazette* reported. The fire began Friday night and took almost nine hours to bring under control, and a total of 250 firefighters were involved in the process. Despite the large amount of structural damage, no injuries were reported. According to Montreal police spokesperson Simon Delorme, the SPVM's arson squad will be investigating the blaze, as its cause is currently undetermined.



THERE WILL BE BRAWL

Concordia Graduates Turn Shakespearian Podcast into Literary Reality

by Riley Stativa @wileyriles

To brawl, or not to brawl? For Concordia graduates Daniel J. Rowe and Eric Jean, there is no question.

After meeting in a Shakespeare course during their undergraduate days in 2009, the pair began meeting once a week to read the playwright's work. The ante was quickly upped, and their podcast *Bard Brawl* was born.

"It sort of grew and grew. This group was just made, different people would come and go, and we read through a bunch of plays," said Rowe.

Thus far, the group has covered 24 of the Bard of Avon's 38 credited plays, sharing in ye olde tradition of reading and acting together, without ever taking themselves too seriously.

"We just think that there's sort of a climate around Shakespeare and other well-known authors—this idea that you have to have some sort of special understanding to get it," Jean says.

"Instead of treating it with this certain amount of reverence, treating it like it's something special—we clearly like Shakespeare and we think that he's great and everything—but we're also willing to make jokes about it."

In the fall of 2012, Rowe and Jean launched their podcast, which consists of one act and one sonnet per episode, with accompanying commentary from those performing.

Even more recently, the "brawlers" stepped up their game, raising funds with an Indiegogo campaign to fund the launch of their first literary journal, aptly titled *Zounds!*, a Shakespearian exclamation of surprise or indignation.

The journal will feature more than just literary essays, offering poems and artwork as well as photography and graphics, all inspired by Shakespearian sources. Each edition will have a different theme, with the first focusing on Sonnets 1 to 17.

"I think it's really cool to put the *Bard Brawl* perspective through various media," said Stephanie E.M. Coleman, an original member of the reading group, a performer

on the podcast and a visual artist who is currently working on the design and layout for *Zounds!*, which is scheduled to launch before the end of the month.

"The scenes and stories in Shakespeare are like fables or parables that you can insert into any time," she said. "It's sort of an endless source of inspiration, as far as artwork goes."

This timeless variety is something that is reflected not only in the content of the journal but also in the philosophy of the brawlers—there's something to be discovered within the Bard's work for everyone.

"The goal and the mission has always been to not be exclusive," Rowe said. "The best thing is when people take it for what it is. Have fun, get excited, come and read."

The group has a history of making believers out of skeptics, turning reluctant readers, dragged by a friend or significant other, into lead characters within a few weeks, a testament to the universal appeal of the work.

Jean cites the variety in experience and backgrounds in the group as a serious asset.

"We also find [that] sometimes people who don't have any sort of formal training in this stuff actually have really interesting insights, because they don't have all this baggage about what you're supposed to be able to say about these things," he said.

That even includes Rowe's own parents, who joined the recording for the most recent play tackled in the podcast, *Timon of Athens*.

"The idea is we're not critics, we don't like to rip things down, which is why it's really open, anyone can come," Rowe said.

In the meantime, the readings and podcasts continue, with an eye set on reaching the peak of an Elizabethan Mount Everest.

"First, we have to get through the whole canon, of course," Rowe said. "Then we can write that on our tombstones. That's all anyone wants, right?"

Graphic Leigh Macrae



LINK LIVE SESSION: SOAP-BOX ASSEMBLY

We're back from our short winter hibernation with our first Live Session of the new year! Watch folk 'n' roll quartet Soap-Box Assembly perform their new single, "Working for the Manic," in their cozy Mile End pad.

thelinknewspaper.ca/sessions





PUT YOUR (JAZZ) HANDS IN THE AIR

Weekly 'Jazz Parties' at Cabaret Playhouse Kick Off Sunday

by Jake Russell @jakeryanrussell

If you've ever found yourself bored on a slow Sunday night in Montreal, yearning for the excitement of the weekend to continue, Concordia graduate and musician Brandon Goodwin is looking at you—and wants to jazz up your life.

The drummer of local six-piece jazz band B's Bees, Goodwin is spearheading new weekly "jazz parties"—a flirty blend of jazz music and social mingling to warm up otherwise cold and dreary Sunday nights.

"The purpose of calling it a party is to make it more of an atmosphere," Goodwin said.

"It's more of a hang-out thing than just like, 'Oh, come and be silent and watch my band every week.' That's not the point of it; it's to create an atmosphere."

Hosting the parties on Sunday nights was a specific choice by Goodwin, who was trying to fill a void he noticed in social outings on the weekend.

"Generally, I don't really know of something [happening] on a Sunday night," he said. "That was sort of why I picked that

night, because it's a quiet night."

Each month, different local jazz ensembles will be showcased at the parties, with special guests making appearances as well. This month's guest is acclaimed Montreal saxophonist Al McLean.

Goodwin says the new weekly event is a way to keep Montreal's "very strong" and "internationally known" jazz community thriving throughout the siege of winter. But the event's nature as a party/show hybrid also makes it an accessible avenue to introduce newcomers to the jazz scene.

That includes featuring more than just big bands on stage for the jazz shindigs: DJ Nicky Raizinz will be spinning electronica-infused jazzy beats between sets—"his own interpretation of jazz," as Goodwin describes it—and playing out the end of the night to keep vibes and spirits high.

"He's a really well-known DJ in Montreal for hip-hop and house music, but I've known him for a while and he's really into jazz, so I asked him to do it because it's something new for him and I think it'll be really cool," Goodwin said.

Concordia Roots

Goodwin graduated from Concordia in December 2012 with a degree in music, and his band came together in May of that year—a creation spurred by the university itself.

"B's Bees actually started through Concordia. I was given a scholarship in 2012 to put together a group to play the Montreal Jazz Festival [...] and they said I could do anything I wanted," Goodwin said.

"I was like, 'Ok, well, I'll do the band I've really wanted to do for a while.' So we played the Jazz Festival; it was our first show. That was a pretty awesome experience," he continued.

Over half of B's Bees' members have Concordia roots—Goodwin and Dalhi Gonthier, the group's tenor saxophonist, are Concordia graduates, while Joe Ferracuti and Julien Sandiford, who play piano and guitar respectively, are in their final year. Bassist Antoine Ferron and trombonist Christopher Vincent round out the band.

At the jazz parties, the performing bands will be professionally recorded—a mutually beneficial arrangement with a fellow Concordia grad, Goodwin says.

"My friend Perry just graduated from Concordia and he's starting to do professional recording," he said. "It'll be [a way] for him to build up his portfolio. So it's a mutual working relationship, and we'll put the tracks online for free downloads."

Along with audio recording, the shows will be live-streamed online every week, to expand the performing bands' fanbases and

as a courtesy for those wishing to rock without leaving the warm embrace of their toasty apartment on cold nights.

"I mean, if it's like minus-30 out, people can still watch it at home if they want to," Goodwin said.

The jazz parties will be pay-what-you-can at the Cabaret Playhouse in the Mile End. Goodwin says it's an ideal venue for the new event series, comfortably hosting 80 to 100 show-goers.

"It's a good location in the Mile End; there's a lot going on there, and the stage is the perfect size for a seven-piece band," he said, adding how previous venues saw large jazz bands forced to play elbow-to-elbow on cramped stages.

A description of the jazz parties online emphasizes the social aspect of the upcoming events, hinting at partygoers potentially making new friends, chatting with other creative individuals or even meeting a future significant other while attending such a party.

Goodwin's sales pitch, however, essentially come down to two things.

"If you come to the jazz party, you just might find out that you love jazz, and that you also love to go out on Sunday nights," he said.

Weekly Sunday Night Jazz Party with B's Bees and Al McLean // Jan. 12 // Cabaret Playhouse (5656 Parc Ave.) // 9 p.m. // Pay what you can

Graphic Graeme Shorten Adams

"[The parties are] more of a hang-out thing than just like, 'Oh come and be silent and watch my band every week.' That's not the point of it; it's to create an atmosphere."—Brandon Goodwin, drummer of B's Bees

FRINGE CALENDAR JAN. 7 TO JAN. 13 by Riley Stativa and Jake Russell

MUSIC

1 Coup D'État Launch
Jan. 10
Cabaret Underworld
(1403 Ste. Elisabeth St.)
9 p.m.
\$5
Come and help celebrate the launch of Coup D'État, a local company with their sights set on helping out Montreal bands through promotion, booking and more. The launch will feature music by Atoms of Silence, Greg Laraigne, and Jonathan Becker and The North Fields.

2 Wrong Hole + Vomit Squad
Jan. 11
Barfly (4062 St. Laurent Blvd.)
9 p.m.
\$6
Whether you're into hardcore, scum rock, psychedelic jams, drum machines or some wild combination of all of the above, this gig has you covered.

THEATRE

3 At Home at the Zoo
Jan. 9 to Jan. 18
Theatre Sainte Catherine (264 Ste. Catherine St. E.)
8 p.m.
\$14 + fees advance
An adaptation of Edward Albee's 1958 classic one-act play *The Zoo Story*, this production by new Montreal theatre company Chocolate Moose tells an all-too-human tale of loneliness, class differences and the failure to communicate when two men share a bench in New York City's Central Park.

CINEMA

4 A Touch of Sin
Jan. 10
Cinema du Parc (3575 Parc Ave.)
Times TBA
\$8.50 ages 13 to 25, \$11.50 general admission
Hailed as a "brilliant exploration of violence and corruption in contemporary China," and winner of Best Screenplay at last year's Cannes festival, this new film based on true events sheds light on the repercussions of capitalism on the everyday citizen in China's new booming economy. Originally in Mandarin and Cantonese, the film will be shown with English subtitles.

5 VoiceOver: Riots Reframed
Jan. 13
D.B. Clarke Theatre (1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W.)
7 p.m.
Free admission (donations accepted)
This feature-length documentary about the 2011 England riots showcases the "voices of the resistance" themselves. Get a look inside the Tottenham uprising and then step back to get the bigger picture, as the film examines the role of police, racism, government and beyond in modern society.

PARTY

6 Bareoke (Strip Karaoke)
Jan. 9
Cabaret Playhouse (5656 Parc Ave.)
10 p.m.
\$2 before 11 p.m., \$3 after 11 p.m.
Do you dare to take your love for singing in the shower to a more public venue? This event challenges performers to lay down some vocals—and their clothes along the way. You can take off a single sock, or get all the way into your birthday suit: either way, it all goes down in a nude-friendly environment at Bareoke.

DANCE

7 Au Sein des Plus Raides Vertus (Work in Progress)
Jan. 11
Segal Centre for Performing Arts (5170 Côte-Ste-Catherine Rd.)
8:30 p.m.
Free admission
Part of the choreographer-in-residence program at the Segal Centre, Catherine Gaudet's dance recital aims to explore the human psyche and condition through physical movement.

T	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
			1	2		
		3	4			5
	6			7		

Check out more listings online at
thelinknewspaper.ca/calendar

FRINGE GIVEAWAY

FREE PAIR OF TICKETS TO SEE YUCK

British indie group Yuck are bringing their Dinosaur Jr.-esque melodies to Montreal next weekend, and you and a friend are invited!

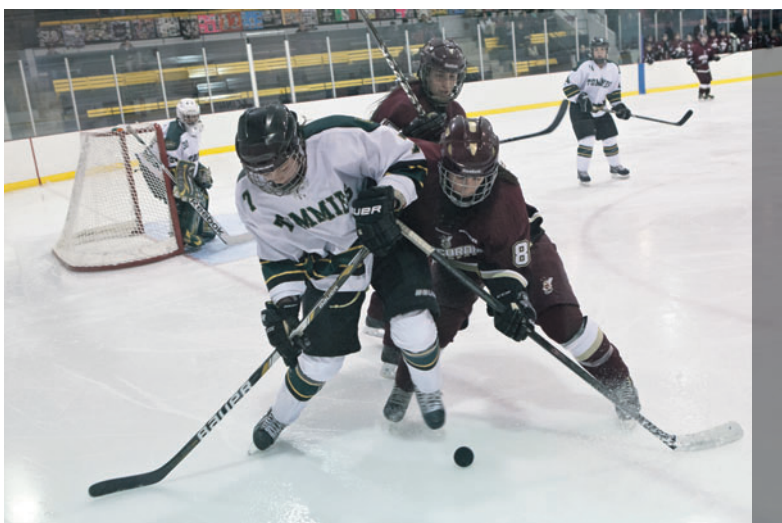
Yuck will be playing at Il Motore (179 Jean Talon St. W.) on Thursday, Jan. 16 at 8 p.m. and we have a pair of tickets (courtesy of Blue Skies Turn Black) to give away to one lucky reader. Aren't you glad you picked up *The Link* today?

To enter to win, like us on Facebook and like our official giveaway post. We'll announce the winner on Monday, Jan. 13 online, and in our following issue on Tuesday, Jan. 14. Good luck!

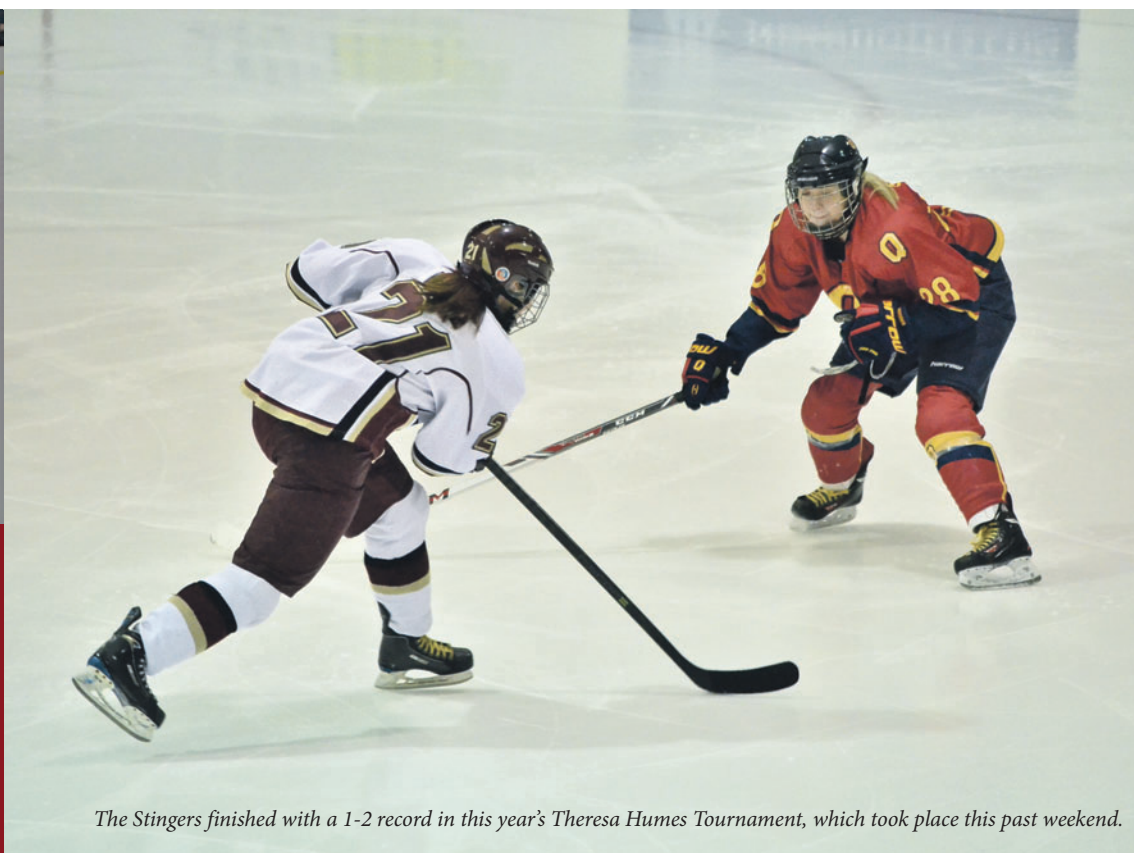
facebook.com/thelinknewspaper

BACK IN ACTION

Stingers Struggle in 46th Annual Theresa Humes Tournament



“When you’re off for six weeks everybody is in the same boat; it just looked like we may not have been ready in the net.”
—Les Lawton, Stingers Head Coach



The Stingers finished with a 1-2 record in this year's Theresa Humes Tournament, which took place this past weekend.

by David S. Landsman @dslands

Playing competitive hockey at the top of your game isn't always an easy task coming off a month-long hiatus, let alone coming back to play three games in three days. For some more than others, it's difficult to get back into the groove.

That was the case for Concordia's women's hockey team, who took to the ice over the weekend for the first time since Nov. 30 as they hosted the 46th annual Theresa Humes Tournament at Ed Meagher Arena.

The team finished a disappointing 1-2 on the weekend, losing a tight 3-2 game to the York Lions on Friday before edging St. Thomas University 3-2 the following day and finally losing 5-0 to the nationally fourth-ranked Queen's University on Sunday.

“When you're off for six weeks everybody is in the same boat; it just looked like we may have not been ready in the nets,” said Stingers head coach Les Lawton.

Three of the five other teams participating finished 1-2, but only the Stingers finished with a minus-5 point differential overall, worst in the tournament.

Despite his team's struggles, Lawton nonetheless took away some pos-

itives from the exhibition games.

“Our team play was really great and didn't fold the tent all weekend. I'm happy with where we are.”

His players felt similarly.

“Playing in my second [Theresa Humes Tournament], it's really special, and for a great cause,” said sophomore Stingers goaltender Carolanne Lavoie-Pilon, who started the team's first and third game in this year's tournament. “It's definitely a challenge to play against teams we only saw once [in September], but it feels good because it shows how we've evolved since the beginning of the year.”

The Stingers showed some signs of rust in their first game of the tournament, falling behind 2-0 in the second period to the Lions—a team they had beaten 5-3 in an exhibition game earlier this season.

But Concordia found its groove soon thereafter, with blueliner Gabrielle Meilleur squeaking the puck past Lions goaltender Megan Lee with just over three minutes left in the period.

Less than a minute later, rookie defender Emily Even sent a long stretch pass to veteran Jaymee Shell, who went upstairs on the backhand to even the game at two-apiece.

“It felt really good; it's definitely something I've been practicing a lot with our skills coach

[Nathaniel Marx],” said Shell of the highlight-reel goal.

“That was payback for being off all of December. It's the longest I've been off the ice for six months; that was definitely a confidence booster.”

The two sides fought back-and-forth in a more balanced third period, but the scale eventually tipped in York's favour when the Lions' Sarai Whitty found Lavoie-Pilon out of position for the game-winning score.

The Stingers were more fortunate in Saturday's game. Facing off against St. Thomas, who they had lost to at the Lethbridge Tournament in preseason, the Maroon and Gold scored seven minutes into the contest when a Tommies defender was stripped in her own zone by third-year winger Audrey Morand, who shot the puck past goaltender Kristin Wolfe for the game's opening score.

Just over six minutes later, after another Tommies defensive turnover, veteran Alyssa Sherrard took a feed from teammate Tracy-Ann Lavigne and sniped a shot top shelf to extend the Stingers lead to two.

St. Thomas finally got on the scoreboard with a power play goal midway through the second period, but the Stingers put the game out of reach late in the third when rookie winger Kerianne Schofield

tipped a shot through Wolfe's feet to make it 3-1.

The final score read 3-2, but it didn't tell the whole story: the Stingers out-shot the Tommies 34-8 on the day.

“I'm disappointed that I didn't score with all those chances our line had,” said Lavigne. “But I know it will come because we are just missing the goals. Other than that we (line of Marie-Pier Cloutier, Erica Porter and Lavigne) played an awesome game together.”

“We really played a full 60-minute game tonight,” added rookie defender Carroll-Anne Gagné. “Everybody really worked hard tonight, and it was a fun game. As defence we had lots of confidence, and not letting them the chances helped.”

But whatever confidence the Stingers built on Saturday was of little help in Sunday's finale.

Queen's dominated the game from the start, scoring three times on seven shots in the span of 4:48.

Lawton had seen enough at that point, pulling Lavoie-Pilon and replacing her with third-stringer Frédérique Berger-Lebel, who's last start was in September.

“I'm not going to lie, I've been waiting for a little while [to play],” said Berger-Lebel. “I was ready, had a good warm-up, but I was stressed

having not played a game in four months. Down 3-0 already was tough to come in, but I did my best.”

The Stingers fought valiantly the rest of the game, but it wasn't enough as Queen's went on to score two more goals to win the game 5-0, and finish first in the tournament with a perfect 3-0 record.

The rough loss hit particularly hard for captain Erin Lally and alternate captain Mary-Jane Roper, both of whom have played their last Humes Tournament as their eligibility runs out at the end of the season.

“I personally am really trying not to think about it at all,” said Lally. “Any great thing coming to an end is really sad. I'm not going to let that bring me down.”

“For the longest break and quickest transition it still felt good to be back on the ice,” said Roper. “If we didn't have so many turnovers it could've been a different outcome.”

The Stingers, currently sitting in fourth place in the five-team Réseau du sport étudiant du Québec Conference, next take the ice Jan. 12 against the Montréal Carabins at Ed Meagher Arena for their first regular season game of the year. Puck-drop is at 3:30 p.m.

.....
Photos from left to right:
Ion Etxberria and Matt Garies

THE LANGUAGE ISSUE

Have you ever felt held back from experiencing different cultures because of a barrier you dared not cross?

Or perhaps you once had difficulty putting your thoughts into words, or had another language-related experience you'd like to see in print? Come share your thoughts with us as we take a look at language in daily life.

Stop by our brainstorm this Wednesday, Jan. 8 to pitch any story ideas you have on language and help shape a special issue on how words affect today's society.

Come by our office and let your words flow!

Wednesday, Jan. 8 at 5 p.m.
The Link's Office
1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W.
H-649

Graphic Graeme Shorten Adams



PHOTO OF THE WEEK RETURNS WITH A VENGEANCE

Have a knack for taking photos? Want to get your work published? *The Link* is revamping the Photo of the Week feature for weekly print issues!

Submit work of anything you happened to capture the previous

week in the city or on campus and your photo could be printed.

The deadline for submissions is Sunday at noon every week.

Photos can be sent to photo@thelinknewspaper.ca



Photo Brandon Johnston

LACE UP YOUR SKATES

The Best Outdoor Skating Rinks in Montreal

by *Yacine Bouhali and David S. Landsman*

As winter drags on and the temperatures dip to unseasonable lows, what better way to have fun than skating outdoors or a good ol' fashioned game of shinny? Call up your friends, grab your skates and put on your tuque: here's our list of the best outdoor skating rinks in the city.

Laurier Park

Located in the heart of the Plateau, Laurier Park is a five-minute walk from Laurier metro station. The park has two large rinks and a smaller one better suited for three-on-three games or just skating for fun. Week-day evenings and weekends during the day are the best times to go if you're looking to play traditional six-a-side games. You'll also be able to put your hockey gear on or take a break in the temporary shack that the city has put in place for the rink's users. Like most other outdoor rinks in town, there's no water fountain, so bring your own fuel and enjoy what this park has to offer.

Beaver Lake

Just beside Beaver Lake in Mount Royal Park you'll find a refrigerated ice surface where you can skate for free until 9 p.m. from Sunday to Thursday, and until 10 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. This place is great to visit in the evening when you can play a game of shinny to a backdrop full of Montreal's colorful lights. In the building across the ice, you can rent skates for \$9 for two hours or sharpen your own for \$7. The rink is open until March 9.

Bonsecours Basin

The \$6 fee entrance you'll need to pay to skate on Montreal's Old Port skating rink is fully worth it. With its two ice surfaces (one natural, one artificial), this is the place to be if you like to get funky while skating, with musical evenings starting everyday at 6 p.m. You can dance to the hits of the '80s on retro Fridays, but you might prefer the romantic Thursdays or the rhythm-heavy Saturdays. One thing you'll surely enjoy is the amazing view of the Old Port and its buildings while sipping on some hot chocolate. The rink is open until 9 p.m. from Monday to Wednesday and closes at 10 p.m. from Thursday to Sunday. You can rent skates for \$8 or sharpen yours for \$7.

La Fontaine Park

Located in the Plateau, La Fontaine Park has one of the biggest natural ice surfaces in Montreal—so big, you'll feel like you're skating on a frozen river. After dark, thousands of lights illuminate the usually high-quality ice. You should skate just long enough so you can say that you deserved the tasty poutine at La Banquise, a famous spot for Quebec's main dish. The rink is open until 10 p.m. every day and offers a skate rental and skate sharpening service. Entrance is free.

Girouard Park

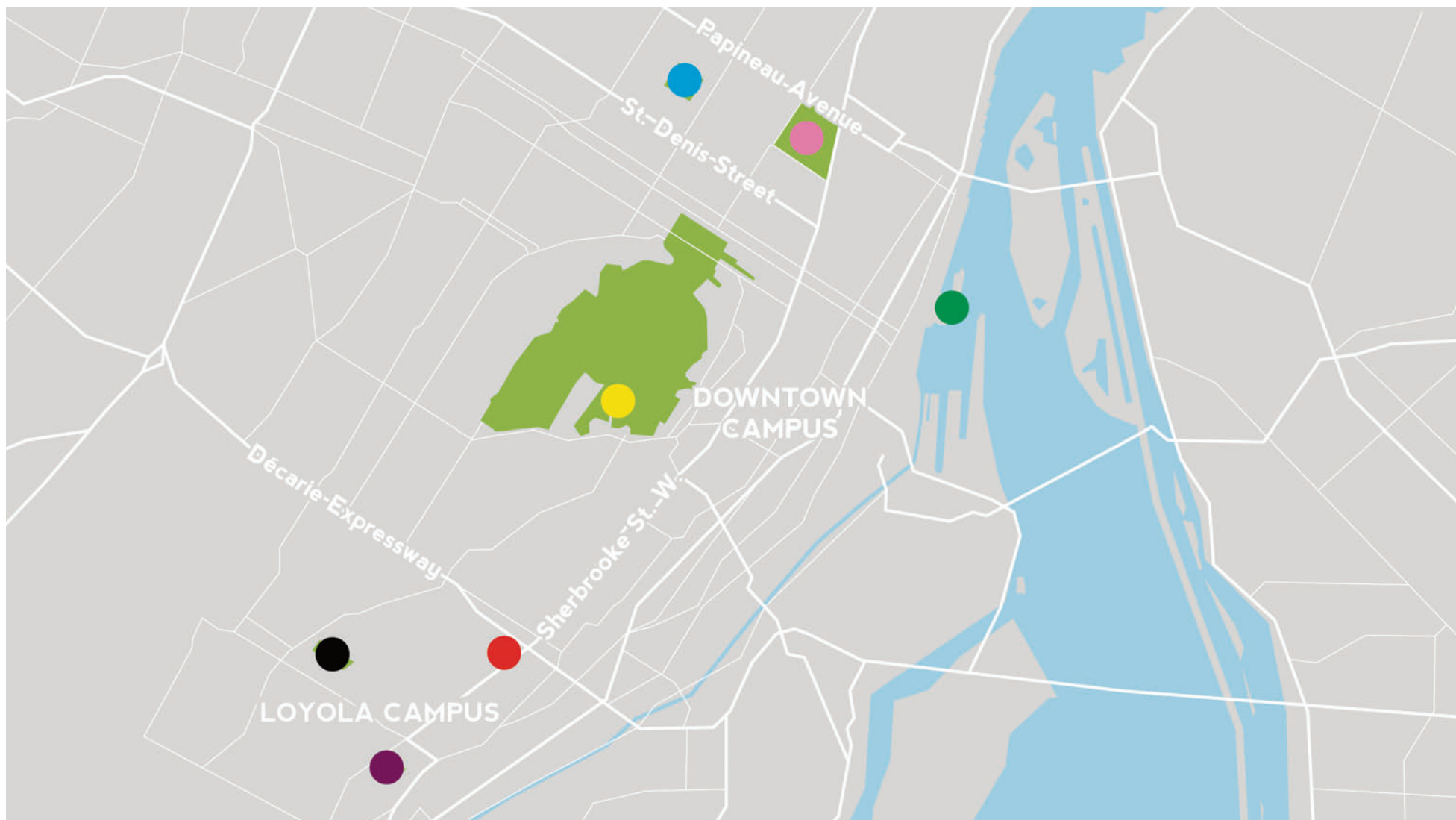
Girouard Park doesn't offer much to sit on aside from snow piles outside the rink, but it's a great spot for hockey players of all ages to lace up and have a great time with friends—or complete strangers. There are official NHL nets to go alongside a pair of shovels by the boards, so you can shovel the snow-covered ice and get your game on. The rink is open every day and the lights only go out at 11 p.m.—plenty time for you to settle your 3-on-3 draw.

Confederation Park

The Patinoire Bleu Blanc Rouge in Notre-Dame-de-Grâce opened to the public only last winter, but has quickly become a go-to place for hockey fans of all ages in the quaint family neighborhood. What stands out with this arena as opposed to others on the list is that it features actual NHL regulation measurements, with official boards, nets, a high-tech refrigeration system and the logo of the Montreal Canadiens adorning centre ice to top it all off.

Trenholme Park

If you're ever around Loyola with a few hours to kill, and aren't so much a fan of lingering in the library twiddling your thumbs until it's time to head to class, you should take a short walk (or an even shorter bus ride) to the Trenholme Park rink and get your skate on at this old wooden outdoor rink. It's a quality rink that usually attracts a good number of people from all walks of life, and to top it off, right across the street are a few convenience stores, the Ultramar gas station and some small restos for you to warm up in before heading to your next destination.





COLD AIR DON'T CARE



Concordia's Ski and Snowboard Club Hit the Slopes to Start the New Year

Fundraising and sponsorships make hitting the slopes affordable for members of Concordia's Ski and Snowboarding Club—and help keep it among the university's most popular clubs.

by Yacine Bouhali @Mybouhali

In a province where winter sports reign supreme, it comes as little surprise that Concordia's Ski and Snowboard Club was hailed as hosting the "Best Off-Campus Event" and was named "Most Active Club" by the Concordia Student Union in 2012.

The club branded itself as the CSSC in 2007, and today boasts over 2,500 members in their Facebook group, and counting.

Their rise to the top could largely be attributed to simple economics: offering a popular product cheaper than the competitor.

"The purpose of the club is to offer cheap ski trips to students who can't necessarily rent a car or go to the hills, because all the hills are within minimum 30 minutes and the good ones are like two hours away [from

Montreal]," said CSSC president Sheldon Arcand Laliberte, who first joined the club after attending one of their ski trips four years ago.

"Tickets for ski hills are really expensive; it could cost almost \$100 just to go skiing once. We're able to offer that for less than half that price and that includes transportation."

Everything from fundraisers—the club's "Howler party" last year drew about 1,000 people and raised a few hundred dollars—to partnering up with sponsors makes it all possible.

"We order in bulk and order on certain days that we can get [our trips] cheaper," Laliberte explained. "We order through agencies where they pool different people. We're part of a pool so we send say 100 people to [a] mountain. Well, that one day this agency is sending a couple other groups of 100 people, so we're a 700-person order where we can re-

duce the price from \$90 tickets to \$40, \$45."

Long-term relationships with bus companies further allow the club to receive cheaper rates, "so instead of paying \$1,500 for a coach bus we can reduce that by about 30 per cent," says Laliberte.

A recreational club, the CSSC is open to skiers of all levels, including total newcomers to skiing or snowboarding.

"A lot of people ask me if they're good enough to come on the ski trips—we want them to know that this club is not just about good skiers, everybody is welcome," said the club's VP External Ian Townsend.

"There are so many new skiers that come [on trips each year]; Concordia is such an international school and you don't have snow in Dubai, so [joining the club] is definitely a good opportunity to learn, experience the good side

of the Canadian winter and meet great people."

The CSSC held their first trip on Dec. 19 at Mont-Tremblant, when 56 skiers and snowboarders hit the slopes. This weekend's ski trip to Owl's Head is already sold out, but there are still spots available on the club's main ski trip of the year, held at Mont Sainte-Anne from Jan. 17 to Jan. 19.

The CSSC organizes ski trips nearly every weekend throughout the winter season, hitting mountains around Quebec and even occasionally crossing the border into the United States.

For more information on the club and their upcoming trips, you can visit www.surfthesnow.org, check them out on Facebook or drop by their office at 2020 Mackay St. room P-103.

Photos Sheldon Arcand Laliberte

BOXSCORES WEEKS OF DEC. 2 TO JAN. 5

◆ ◆ ◆	
Saturday, Dec. 28	Women's Basketball—Concordia 59, Wilfrid Laurier University 47 (Adidas Tournament)
Sunday, Dec. 29	Women's Basketball—Concordia 86, Queen's University 34 (Adidas Tournament)
Monday, Dec. 30	Men's Basketball—Concordia 71, University of Toronto 69 (Non Conference) Women's Basketball—Concordia 63, Memorial University 51 (Adidas Tournament)
Tuesday, Dec. 31	Men's Basketball—Concordia 71, St. Lawrence University 47 (Non Conference)
Friday, Jan. 3	Women's Hockey—Concordia 2, York University 3 (Theresa Humes Tournament)
Saturday, Jan. 4	Women's Hockey—Concordia 3, St. Thomas University 2 (Theresa Humes Tournament)
Sunday, Jan. 5	Women's Hockey—Concordia 0, Queen's University 5 (Theresa Humes Tournament)

UPCOMING GAMES THIS WEEK IN CONCORDIA SPORTS

◆ ◆ ◆		
Friday, Jan. 10	6:00 p.m.	Women's Basketball vs. UQAM Citadins (Concordia gym)
	7:30 p.m.	Men's Hockey vs. Laurentian Voyageurs (Ed Meagher Arena)
	8:00 p.m.	Men's Basketball vs. UQAM Citadins (Concordia gym)
Saturday, Jan. 11	2:00 p.m.	Men's Hockey vs. Nipissing Lakers (Ed Meagher Arena)
	5:00 p.m.	Women's Basketball at UQAM Citadins
	7:00 p.m.	Men's Basketball at UQAM Citadins
Sunday, Jan. 12	3:30 p.m.	Women's Hockey vs. Montréal Carabins (Ed Meagher Arena)

Check out Stingers game summaries at thelinknewspaper.ca/sports



LEARNING TO LEARN

Moving Beyond Memorization in University

by Gonzo Nieto @gonzebo

As students, chances are most of us have had exams with questions that require us to remember bits of information, seemingly testing little more than our ability to memorize things on demand.

We go into the exam hoping that the questions are on the material we were able to memorize, instead of the stuff we didn't have time to review. And once it's over, we joke about how we'll forget all the stuff we memorized in a week anyways.

We tell ourselves that it's a necessary part of pursuing a degree, that if we want to graduate, we'll have to deal with it.

This attitude highlights two different perspectives of students around us: for some, coming to university is about the job opportunities a degree can generate, and so the resulting diploma becomes a means to a better job or income in the future. For others, the education received is the primary goal.

Far from being an insignificant difference in viewpoint, one's own perspective on this influences the ways in which we think about not only what, but how we are taught in the classroom.

Being too focused on the degree at the end of the road can keep us from being adequately critical of the instruction we receive along the way, because it places too great an emphasis on grades and leaves little room to question whether we're getting the skills we'll need in the post-schooling world.

We should be questioning the skills we're being taught—for the amount of time and money we put into our education, we deserve to know that we're getting what we're paying for. Is memorizing countless facts on demand what we're here to learn?

Memorization is of questionable importance when compared to other abilities, and arguably doesn't deserve the emphasis that

it still receives in our education.

People naturally memorize and recall information as needed, like the cashier that can recall dozens of product codes without needing to take a class or be tested on it. When there's a recurring need for a particular piece of information, it gets committed to memory.

In university, it's just as important to pay attention to what we're taught as it is to be critical of *how* we're taught and tested. A focus on the education we receive empowers us to have certain expectations and standards on the sort of learning and growth that we'll take away from these years.

If this is the case, then what kind of questions can we ask about the ways in which we are taught? How do we know we're building useful skills?

All Teaching is Not Created Equal

First, we must consider the different cognitive skills we can pick up through education.

In 1956, a committee of educators, chaired by educational psychologist Benjamin Bloom, produced a classification of educational objectives.

Bloom's taxonomy categorized learning skills in three separate categories: cognitive, affective and psychomotor—in other words, knowledge, attitude and skills, respectively. The majority of teaching and learning in university deals with cognitive skills, so it makes sense to focus on those for now.

There are six skills in the cognitive category, arranged in a hierarchy from lowest to highest: remembering, understanding, applying, analyzing, evaluating and creating (or synthesizing).

Remembering deals with little more than the ability to store the data relevant to one's field of study in one's mind and recall it at a later date. It's the rote memorization that comprises so much of our testing and evaluation.

Understanding is quite self-explanatory,

and is exemplified by the ability to explain an idea or concept in one's own words.

Applying refers to using the concepts we understand and the information we can bring to mind in order to solve novel problems (an important distinction, as previously encountered problems do not necessarily require knowledge and application, and can instead be solved through memory alone).

Analysis involves the ability to break down information into coherent fragments, distinguish facts from the inferences we make, and discover the relationships between these components.

Evaluation is about making judgments based on a set of criteria, like when you critique the validity of or provide support for an idea, or justify a viewpoint or decision.

Creating is the ability to combine information and ideas in new and previously unencountered ways, allowing for innovation and alternatives to known ways of thinking or doing things.

Professors should optimally consider these six different levels of learning when they write their exam questions, and depending on how a question is formulated, it can test a student's ability on any of the levels.

Just as professors can use this tool, students can use the concepts provided by the taxonomy to judge the sort of cognitive skills emphasized by the education they are receiving (an exercise which, if you're following along, would require the application of an understanding to evaluate something).

Today, much of the information we might be required to memorize can be accessed within minutes using the potent computers most of us carry in our pockets. It's difficult to conceive of a future situation where we'll need to apply information we learn without being able to search through a book or the Internet for help.

An education applicable to what we can expect to confront after university should therefore presumably place greater emphasis on knowing how to search for and find reliable information and piece it together intelligently, rather than on the ability to memorize.

When we are tested largely on memorization and understanding, we are being taught to function as consumers of knowledge rather than learning the skills necessary to evaluate and create knowledge.

The point of this article isn't to imply that you're getting a raw deal and you should be up in arms because you're only being taught to memorize, because that isn't the case.

A thoughtful look at your classes should reveal that while some professors do focus more on memorization, others make the effort to engage higher-level processes so their students may come away with different ways to think and approach new information.

What is important is to spend some time thinking about these differences. Think about what you take away from these different types of teaching and how that compares to what you expect from your education. It's important not to shy away from engaging with professors and peers over your thoughts on what your classroom experience should be like.

For some, this semester will mark the end of your first year, while for others it signifies the end of your degree. Wherever you are in your education, it will benefit you in the long term to be critical of how you are taught, and to assess whether that aligns with what you expect to take away from being at university. Having a set of ideas with which to evaluate the instruction we receive is a first step in doing so.

Graphic Graeme Shorten Adams



IN FROM THE COLD

SPVM Still Ill-Equipped to Deal with Homeless

by Geoffrey Vendeville
@geoffvendeville

A homeless man wearing a long gray T-shirt and jeans torn below the knees stands in the piercing cold as an SPVM officer warns him, "If I get another call about you, I'll tie you to a pole for an hour. I swear."

"Look at me in the eyes. I swear. I swear, I'll tie you to a pole," he says, wagging his finger.

The man remains unresponsive.

Then the person behind the camera speaks up.

"Do you know that's a threat you have no right to make, sir?"

"Back up, please," the officer says to the man filming.

By now, you've probably seen the video captured outside Jean-Talon metro station.

Published on YouTube on Jan. 2, it has already been viewed over 400,000 times. Not surprisingly, it's elicited a wave of criticism, including a few tweets from on high, the Montreal mayor's office.

But many have tempered their criticism by underlining the difficulty of intervening in situations like these, often involving people

with mental health issues, substance abuse problems or both. Others have gone as far as to say that dealing with homelessness shouldn't be the police's problem.

"Police officers are not social workers, and they have other things to do than to get someone to smarten up and dress up," said a letter in the *Montreal Gazette* on Jan. 4 (as if getting off the street was simply a matter of "smartening up").

Homelessness and its concomitant problems are by no means the police's responsibility alone, but if this incident proves anything, it's that the police are still ill-equipped to deal with these issues.

As a side note: homelessness and mental illness are clearly not one and the same problem, but they are closely entwined. According to a 2008 provincial study on homelessness, an estimated 30 per cent to 40 per cent of the homeless in Quebec have mental health problems and 10 per cent suffer from "severe and persistent mental illness."

The YouTube video comes at an unfortunate time for the SPVM. It was posted days after the police force announced the creation of a

special team composed of one regular officer and a social worker to patrol neighbourhoods and help homeless people out of the cold.

The SPVM received four calls about the man causing a disturbance at Jean-Talon before the incident. Where was this team when it was needed?

It's hard to say how many 911 calls involve homeless people, but, according to SPVM Commander Ian Lafrenière, 10,000 to 30,000 per year involve individuals with mental health issues.

"It's a situation that's perfectly impossible to handle by ourselves. We need the help of other partners," he said.

To illustrate the trickiness of intervening in these sorts of emergencies, Lafrenière described another incident that occurred last Friday but wasn't caught on camera. Police officers responded to a 911 call about a homeless man who had been expelled from Place-des-Arts metro station.

After negotiating with him for half an hour, the police convinced him to follow them out of the station. When they stepped outside, he showed the officers that he was

concealing two knives and said that he had been ready to kill himself, or draw a knife on them and commit "suicide by cop."

With regards to the recent YouTube video, Lafrenière told the *Gazette* that the officer's actions were "unacceptable and unexplainable." On Friday, the policeman had a meeting with his commanding officers and is facing sanctions, the details of which can't be disclosed for legal reasons.

Well, that's a little unsatisfying. It would be nice to be sure that the SPVM is taking this matter seriously and following up with appropriate action, but without further information it's impossible to know.

It's important to note that the officer in question was said to have a good record and that he had tried to bring the homeless man to a shelter, before threatening to tie him to a post in the bitter cold, like a dog on a leash.

While it may very well have been an empty threat, an unfortunate slip of the tongue, it's inexcusable coming from an officer of the law.

More important than the sanctions are the precautions the SPVM should be taking to make sure this

sort of thing doesn't happen again. By all appearances, homelessness in Quebec is a growing problem.

"Though initially limited to urban Montreal, homelessness has now spread to a number of Quebec's regions," reads the province's report from 2008. "And those who work with the homeless have come to the unsettling conclusion that the phenomenon is growing, diversifying and becoming increasingly complex."

The same study found that resources for the homeless in Montreal, such as shelters, are becoming increasingly stretched.

It's easy to see where this is heading. As more and more people fall through the cracks, confrontations like the one recorded outside Jean-Talon will become more frequent. It's a serious public security issue that the SPVM needs to be ready for.

But it's a burden that we should all share. It's commonly said that you can judge a society by how it treats its most vulnerable. It's about time we bring our most needy in from the cold.

Photo Brandon Johnston

REFLECT BEFORE SEX IN 2014

It's the start of a new year, and in keeping with tradition many people have picked their resolutions for 2014. There's been a lot written online this week about sexual resolutions, and the ones I keep coming across are about having more sex, being more adventurous and trying something new in bed.

There's nothing wrong with these goals, but they seem to be missing an important first step: reflection. Setting intentions can be great for personal growth, but resolutions often have the unfortunate effect of making us focus on what we're not doing, and thus on the negative. Instead, it might be better to figure out where we're at before deciding on changes we'd like to make.

This is where a sexual inventory can help. A sexual inventory is an extensive list of boundaries, situations and activities for you to reflect on and choose a yes, no, maybe, I don't know or fantasy response to.

This can be a great start to getting to know yourself better sexually because it isn't about framing aspects of your sexuality as right or wrong, but rather about taking inventory on how you feel about

them in order to clearly identify and acknowledge what you want.

We so rarely stop to ask ourselves about these things that sometimes they don't even come up until a boundary is crossed. An inventory offers a dedicated time to reflect on what you're into and what you aren't. You're asked, "Who am I and what do I like?" rather than, "Who should I be and what should I like?"

Doing so regularly also allows you to see how your answers change over time. It's best done without the pressure that resolutions sometimes impose, and it's important not to look at any aspect of yourself as negative or problematic, but instead start at neutral and make the goal to fully know and accept yourself. From there you can use the results however you want.

Sexual inventories are also really fun to share with a partner, although I only recommend them with someone you're comfortable with, since the questions can be quite personal.

Many websites have created sexual inventories but I recommend checking out Scarleteen's

"Yes, No, Maybe So" sexual inventory if you're looking for one to try.

Sexual inventories and sexual resolutions can be awesome individual tools, but they're even better when paired together. An inventory allows you to identify who you are and where you're currently at, and from there you'll probably be able to more easily identify sexual resolutions you want to commit to.

However you choose to approach the new year, I hope 2014 will be a year of great sexual self-discovery and most importantly, if you ever need help, you know where to find me!

—Melissa Fuller, @mel_full

Submit your question anonymously at sex-pancakes.com and check out "Sex & Pancakes" on Facebook.

Got a quick health question? Just need a resource? Text SextEd at 514-700-0445 for a confidential answer within 24 hours!

Need some extra help? You can always contact Concordia Counselling and Development at 514-848-2424 ext. 3545 for SGW and ext. 3555 for Loyola.



IT'S SNOW JOKE

by Liana di Iorio @MsBerbToYou

Across

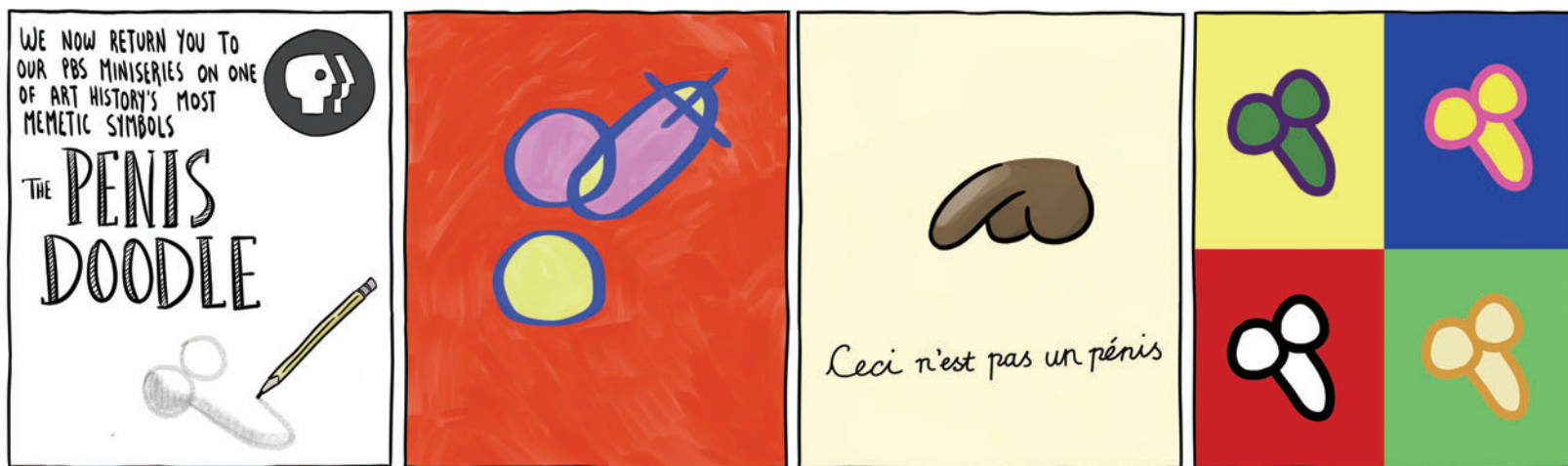
- ▶ 2. In lieu of a cooler, some crafty party-goers make use of this snowy exterior area to keep their drinks cold during the winter months.
- ▶ 5. No, world, not all Canadians live in these frozen domes.
- ▶ 7. Once upon a time, the earth was so chilly that it froze over, wiping out this giant woolly animal.
- ▶ 9. In December 2013, Metallica became the first major band to perform on this frozen continent.
- ▶ 11. Believe it or not, you can make ice cream with the liquid state of this element.
- ▶ 12. It might be bogus, but some firmly believe in this science, which purports to preserve living beings by freezing them.

Down

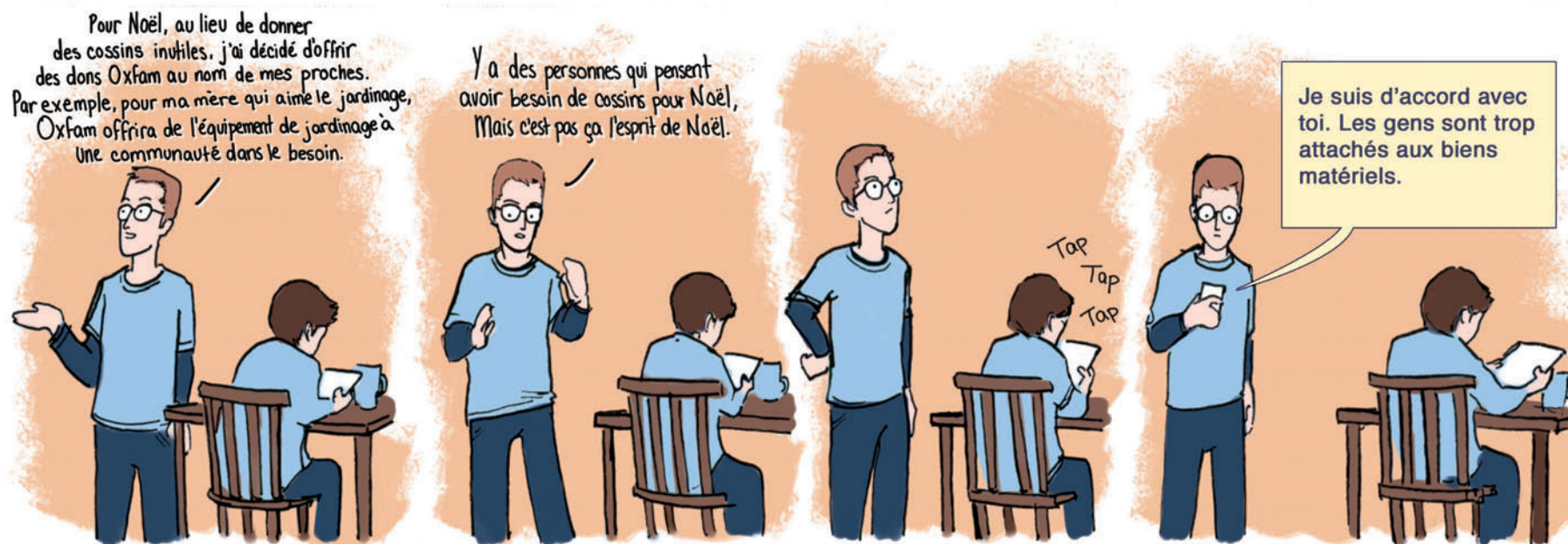
- ▶ 1. Come finals week, this frozen, triangular food becomes a staple in the diet of many students.
- ▶ 3. Josh Gad voiced this icy creation in *Frozen*, Disney's latest animated creation.
- ▶ 4. Montrealers experienced record low temperatures last week, with this factor making it feel even colder (2 words).
- ▶ 6. This is one of the only foods that actually tastes better frozen. It's like ice cream, except a bit healthier for you.
- ▶ 8. Yes, world, a lot of Canada is made up of this permanently frozen soil.
- ▶ 10. Before he fought mummies, Brendan Fraser defrosted in 1992's *Man*.

Graphic Graeme Shorten Adams

POWER THEATRE COMIC ALEX CALLARD

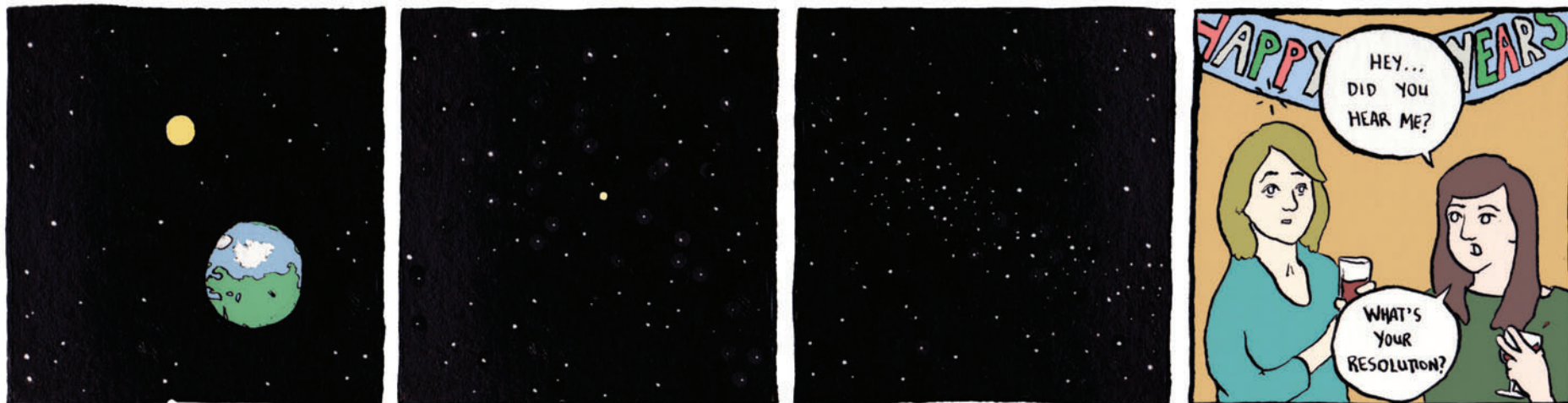


QUÉBÉCOIS 101 COMIC PAKU DAoust-CLoutier



Cossin (coss-aihn): Used in a colloquial context, “cossin” refers to a nondescript object, like a bauble, that generally serves little purpose or holds little interest.

FALSE KNEES COMIC JOSHUA BARKMAN



NAH'MSAYIN?

Read This with a Pinch of Salt, Then Take that Salt and Sprinkle it on the Sidewalk

Montreal, I've got a bone to pick with you. Because I'm pretty broke I don't have a metro pass, which means I walk or ride my bike pretty much wherever I go.

I love the outdoors as much as the next person, but this means that every time I leave my apartment I have to face my own Public Enemy No. 1: the sidewalk. Or, more specifically, the absence of salt on this skating rink you call a sidewalk.

I've lost track of the number of times I've been walking down the street only to come across a single pile of salt unceremoniously dumped in the middle of the sidewalk, with no attempt made to spread it out more than a square foot.

It's as though someone emptied an entire bag of salt on a single patch of concrete, gave it a few kicks, shrugged and said, “Eh, good enough,” and carried on with their day, confident that they'd pretty much nailed it.

Look guys, I get it. Times are tough, and a penny saved here and there really adds up. But you're already (sort of) using the salt; can you at least pretend to give a damn? I'm tired of walking down the icy deathtrap of St. Denis St., shuffling like a zombie to trap as much salt under my boot as possible so I don't slide down the street like an out-of-control bobsled racer.

—Erin Sparks, Managing Editor



Graphic Caity Hall

Editorial



THE LEVY DOESN'T BREAK

In a move that brings the monthly magazine back into our collective consciousness, Concordia's Board of Governors has suspended *L'Organe's* fee levy—after the publication has been out of print for two years.

L'Organe is not dead, however. Students have three semesters to bring it back before its fee levy is removed, which just means that three semesters' worth of money won't be collected. Since it *has* been collected for the past two years without printing, this isn't cause for concern—just due diligence on the part of Concordia's Board that students don't pay for a service they're not getting.

Fee levies at Concordia are forever, technically. If you can keep functioning, then your levy is safe. If operations cease, like *L'Organe*, then funding is put in jeopardy. That's why CUTV needs to re-apply for its fee levy under new management this spring.

We hope to see a revival of *L'Organe*. Magazines are one of the few bright spots in today's uncertain print industry, and getting

that first shot at being published is invaluable. It was also the only French-language publication Concordia had. If you want to be part of *L'Organe's* return, then get in touch with the Concordia Student Union.

It's important to note that *L'Organe's* current situation is no fault of the university administration, nor of the way fee levies are handled in general. Its staff all left in the same year, and banking complications delayed attempts to get the magazine running again. Turnover issues get a whole lot messier when there's nothing to keep running.

This is a product of the kind of independence fee levy groups possess. They must sink or swim by themselves, holding their own by-laws and maintaining their governing body. As not-for-profit corporations, they must abide by applicable laws. Their strength, above all else, lies in their self-determination.

For campus media like *L'Organe* (and yours truly), it means the freedom to be critical of those in power at Concordia

without the fear of being shut down.

There has been talk of new policy on defining student groups, but the current system is not broken. And it's imperative that the independence that defines fee levy groups at Concordia remains intact.

Concordia policy should not dictate any part of a fee levy group's bylaws; the makeup of its board must be decided by its membership. University policy putting restrictions on who can be on a board works against its independence.

The university may also soon provide financial and advisory services to fee-levy groups and those seeking a levy, but making these services mandatory would contradict this independence.

Such services could surely be a huge help to certain groups, but making them compulsory wouldn't make sense for groups with their own administrator. As this policy shaping moves forward, there should be nothing paternalistic about the

way fee levy groups interact with the university administration.

Concordia's Policy on the Recognition of Student Organizations and the Use of University Space is not currently listed on the university website but is available through search engines. It's what defines student groups, and what privileges they are afforded, in balance with the rights of students and the university Code.

The preamble of the policy sums up this need for independence nicely: "Freedom of expression is a fundamental principle and one which is a prerequisite to the essential mission of a university, namely the pursuit of knowledge. This principle requires the ability to question and debate any subject even the most controversial."

It's in this spirit that fee levies must be maintained, above all else. It's essential to what makes Concordia, well, Concordia.

Graphic Graeme Shorten Adams

THE LINK

CONCORDIA'S INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1980

Volume 34, Issue 16
Tuesday, January 07, 2014
Concordia University
Hall Building, Room H-649
1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W.
Montreal, Quebec H3G 1M8
editor: 514-848-2424 x. 7405
arts: 514-848-2424 x. 5813
news: 514-848-2424 x. 8682
business: 514-848-7406
advertising: 514-848-7406
fax: 514-848-4540

The Link is published every Tuesday during the academic year by The Link Publication Society Inc. Content is independent of the university and student associations (ECA, CASA, ASFA, FASA, CSU). Editorial policy is set by an elected board as provided for in The Link's constitution. Any student is welcome to work on The Link and become a voting staff member. The Link is a member of Presse Universitaire Indépendante du Québec.

Material appearing in The Link may not be reproduced without prior written permission from The Link. Letters to the editor are welcome. All letters 400 words or less will be printed, space permitting. The letters deadline is Friday at 4:00 p.m. The Link reserves the right to edit letters for clarity and length and refuse those deemed racist, sexist, homophobic, xenophobic, libellous, or otherwise contrary to The Link's statement of principles.

Board of Directors 2013-2014: Laura Beeston, Julia Jones, Clément Liu, Hilary Sinclair, Julia Wolfe; non-voting members: Rachel Boucher, Colin Harris.

Typesetting by The Link. Printing by Hebdo-Litho.

Contributors: Sheldon Arcand Laliberte, Joshua Barkman, Alex Callard, Paku Daoust-Cloutier, Liana di Iorio, Ion Etxebarria, Betty Fisher, Melissa Fuller, Matt Garies, Jane Gatensby, Leigh Macrae, Gonzo Nieto, Verdis Ronald.

Cover photo by Ion Etxebarria

editor-in-chief	COLIN HARRIS
coordinating editor	GEOFFREY VENDEVILLE
managing editor	ERIN SPARKS
news editor	ANDREW BRENNAN
current affairs editor	MICHAEL WROBEL
assistant news editor	OPEN
fringe arts editor	JAKE RUSSELL
fringe arts online editor	RILEY STATIVA
sports editor	YACINE BOUHALI
sports online editor	DAVID S. LANDSMAN
opinions editor	OPEN
copy editor	JUSTIN BLANCHARD
community editor	OPEN
creative director	JAYDE NORSTRÖM
photo & video editor	BRANDON JOHNSTON
graphics editor	GRAEME SHORTEN ADAMS
business manager	RACHEL BOUCHER
distribution	SKYLAR NAGAO
system administrator	CLEVE HIGGINS

THE LINK'S FRIDAY SPEAKER SERIES

JAN. 10: REPORTING FOR RADIO

News editor Andrew Brennan and coordinating editor Geoffrey Vendeville go over the basics of filing a radio story, where making snap-decisions and tight deadlines are the norm. Come learn the ropes or pitch a story for our weekly radio show.

JAN. 17: NASH WORKSHOP

Our delegates, fresh from the Canadian University Press National Conference in Edmonton, share what they learned. From freelancing tips to photo and videography techniques, come see what all the fuss is about and find out how you could represent *The Link* at next year's conference.

JAN. 24: ENGAGING ONLINE READERS

CBC Montreal community editor Thomas Ledwell dives into the best practices in starting conversations with readers and how to grow your online audience. Become social-media savvy with this workshop.

JAN. 31: CLOSER TO THE ART

Join our Fringe Arts team as they tackle the hard-hitting, fringe-tastic questions, such as: What is art? How do I nail down an interview with my favourite band (without crying)? How do I wade through all the jargon? All this, plus the chance to take home a CD or book of your very own to sharpen those review skills!

FEB. 7: LINK RADIO WORKSHOP

We want you to be part of Link Radio. Learn how we put together our weekly radio show, get the low-down on how to write for broadcast and try out your own radio voice with our microphone. Be a part of our quest to dominate the airwaves.

FRIDAYS @ 4 P.M. // THE LINK OFFICE (1455 DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD., H-649)