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CONCORDIA'S INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1980

the LANGUAGE issue

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WOLF: MONTREAL'S
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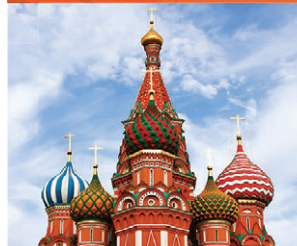
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DISPLACED & TRANSFORMED: THE CONDO EFFECT ON MONTREAL

"Gentrification" has become a buzzword in working-class-turned-hip neighbourhoods across Montreal, from St-Henri to Hochelaga-Maisonneuve.

Some equate gentrification with the renewal of run-down inner-city areas, while others fear that it transforms poorer neighbourhoods beyond recognition, thereby alienating longtime residents and leading to their displacement as rents and property values skyrocket.

It's no surprise, then, that gentrification polarizes opinion. In Montreal, the tensions between "gentrifiers" and "gentrified" have

sometimes gotten heated, with spray-painted anti-capitalist slogans finding their way onto billboards advertising new condo developments and on businesses' displays.

Occasionally, reactions to gentrification have been even more extreme. Last November, vandals in Hochelaga-Maisonneuve smashed the windows of four upscale restaurants in the neighbourhood. In 2004, another anti-gentrification group planted six packages disguised as bombs at condo construction sites in the city's East End.

Last week, 25 Concordia undergraduates and their professor waded into the turbid gentrifica-

tion debate. They put in roughly 2,000 hours of research last semester to determine how gentrification is affecting the little neighbourhood of La Petite-Patrie. They unveiled their findings at a press conference last Thursday.

A moratorium on condo conversions was introduced nearly 40 years ago, but that hasn't stemmed the gentrifying tide. The Concordia research study shows a steady decline in the availability of rental housing as more and more triplexes are being turned into condominiums.

► Continued on page 6.



Artist Andrew Carnegie

TALKING TO JAVA U'S MANAGERS AND CLIENTS

Java U's management reflects on the CSU's plans for a café co-op and wonders whether they'll have to pay for renovations. **P4**

INFIGHTING IN THE CSU

A rift between two CSU executives deepens as the debate keeps raging over how to open a café co-op in the Hall Building. **P5**

SHOT THROUGH THE HEART

The new art exhibit at the PHI Centre is full of heart—heart transplants, that is. **P8**

THE DUTCH-ESS OF CONCORDIA

Netherlands-born Stingers women's hockey rookie set to represent her native country in 2015 IIHF World Championship. **P23**

CONU ON BILL 60

Concordia will be the first university to present its stance on the Charter of Values at the National Assembly this week. **P7**

RIGHTEOUS RIOTS

Director Fahim Alam discusses his new film, and we preview Cinema Politica's upcoming docs. **P10**

I CHIME IN SAYING...

This week's Fringe Give-away will trigger flashbacks to high school—brace yourselves. **P11**

WHERE'S THE MEANINGFUL MORATORIUM?

The lack of enforcement of Montreal's condo moratorium means development runs unchecked. **P24**

THE LINK ONLINE

IT'S JAMMER TIME

The Global Game Jam is taking place in Montreal this weekend—and you are not prepared!

NEW MEDIA, NEW RESEARCH

Concordia's new media history research centre just won \$200,000 in international grant money. Find out what they're up to online!

ONE 'FLU' OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST

More flu shots are available as of Wednesday at Health Services. And in the nick of time—flu season is in full swing and already getting deadly.

SWEEPING STINGERS

The Stingers women's basketball team takes both weekend games against the Laval Rouge et Or.

FIRING NOTHING BUT BLANKS

Concordia's men's hockey team couldn't manage to get on the score sheet in lopsided losses against Carleton and Queen's this past weekend.

WINNING STREAK CONTINUES

Concordia's men's basketball team win their fifth-straight game.

LINK RADIO

Tune in to CJLO 1690 AM from 11 a.m. to noon every Thursday to hear our newest episode of Link Radio. Missed our last show? Check out thelinknewspaper.ca.

ONE WIN, ONE LOSS

The Stingers women's hockey team lost a close one Thursday against Université de Montréal, but bounced back with a shootout win 3-2 Sunday at Carleton.



The Java U in the Hall Building will close when its lease with the Concordia Student Union's for-profit arm ends.

BEHIND THE COUNTER

Java U Managers and Customers Speak Out on Café's Closing

by Andrew Brennan @Brennamen

After over 15 years in the Hall Building, Java U is set to be replaced in the spring with a student food co-operative.

The problem, management says, is that they still haven't been told directly that decision is final, and are still expected to pay \$20,000 for renovations to the bathrooms Java U shares with Reggie's bar.

The café has leased the space from CUSAcop—the for-profit arm of the Concordia Student Union—since 1998, but will be replaced by a student-run co-op after undergraduates voted overwhelmingly in favour of the proposal in a November referendum.

“[CUSAcop said last November] they would probably not renew the lease after May,” Java U franchise manager Jace Li said. “But it was us that asked [CUSAcop] for the update because they had not told us anything.”

In fact, Li says she only heard CUSAcop would be replacing the Java U with a student-run co-op after reading about it in *The Link* two weeks ago.

But CUSAcop President Scott Carr says it's “unfair to say there is no dialogue” between CUSAcop and Java U.

In late August, CUSAcop met with the location owners and Java U head office to let them know about the possibility the franchise's lease would not be renewed.

“The contract that we have is clear and we do not feel the need to be opening a dialogue with them on an ongoing basis about their

current lease agreement,” said CUSAcop chairperson James Tyler Vaccaro.

“We both know the obligations of both parties for it and we know the end date for it.”

CUSAcop was bound by CSU council in a vote on Jan. 8 not to renew Java U's lease, cementing the mandate established by the November referendum requiring CUSAcop to help establish a student-run lessee in the space.

A financial needs assessment is being completed by CUSAcop to evaluate the viability of installing different kinds of student-run co-op business models in the space. The report will be presented to CSU council in February.

Taking up Space

Java U was founded by Asher Adler, a Concordia graduate, and Ron Mofford in 1996. Their flagship location—still open today—is at the corner of de Maisonneuve Blvd. W. and Guy St. Thirty locations are now open worldwide, including in Egypt, Jordan and the United Arab Emirates, but the company's very first expansion was into the Hall Building mezzanine.

The current lease between Java U and CUSAcop sees the café pay about \$7,500 per month in rent, according to Li. Carr—also the CSU VP Finance—could not confirm how much the café pays in rent because that information may be confidential.

A student-run initiative is expected to lease the space for free, but no business models have been approved so far. Services and financial feasibility reports from a CSU committee and CUSAcop respectively are

being presented to CSU council in February.

Requests for proposals for the space are due Feb. 24.

According to Li, Java U is also responsible for paying for a quarter of the construction costs for any of the space shared between the café and the student-run bar Reggie's, which is currently closed for renovations.

Li says Java U was told they would be responsible for paying 25 per cent of the \$80,000 total cost of renovating the shared bathrooms, which she says is unfair considering they're being forced to vacate the space.

Carr says the contract is quite clear on Java U's financial responsibility for the bathroom space, adding that Java U is essentially paying for the damages incurred over their time in the mezzanine space.

“If the construction occurs before they are removed, then yes, the contract allows us to charge them,” he said.

“Because they've been around for so many years and they got the chance to use the bathrooms so much, you can throw it back and say the value of the bathroom has gone down over time because of so much use, and although they may not reap the benefits of a brand new bathroom they also reaped the benefits of a bathroom continuously being used.”

A Place of Our Own

Hayley-Jean Lochner is a final-year creative writing student at Concordia. She says she regularly buys coffee from the mezzanine Java U location primarily because of its

proximity to her classes.

“It's out of convenience [I go there]; it's at the bottom of the escalator and it's certainly not cheaper than other coffee places around [...]. As a space it's also not particularly inviting,” she said.

Geography graduate student William Zullo says he also frequents the campus café out of convenience, adding that the popularity of cafés around the downtown campus keep Java U from getting too busy or crowded.

However, both Lochner and Zullo say they wouldn't be against replacing the Java U with a student-run café.

“It'd be very interesting to see if things change if a student co-op was put in there,” Lochner said.

“It would make a big difference. If it was a student co-op I would go out of my way to go there,” she added—with one caveat: more affordable food.

As for Li, who says prices are as low as they can be considering the amount they spend on their cuts of meat and chicken, she says a student-run café can be profitable only with good management.

“I mean an actual manager, not a student doing the job. Students are busy with school and I know they need experience working as a manager but a manager is really important; they need to be in control,” she said.

“Whether a business makes money or not comes down to the manager. They need to do a good job.”

Photo Brandon Johnston

A HOUSE DIVIDED

CSU Co-Op Plans Delayed Amid Insults and Infighting

by Andrew Brennan @Brennamen

While the Concordia Student Union is no stranger to arguing among its members, last Wednesday's special council meeting set a new standard for in-fighting for this year's crop of executives and councillors.

The argument in question stemmed from a motion that would've seen an assessment of the CSU's finances done to determine the funding available for a student-run food co-operative to replace the Java U café located on the Hall Building's mezzanine. Problems arose when deciding who would oversee the project.

An amendment to task CSU VP Finance Scott Carr with overseeing the assessment was challenged by VP Sustainability Ben Prunty, who told council he wanted CSU General Manager Robert Henri in charge of the undertaking in order to quash any potential bias.

"To be clear, the [motion without my amendment] could have easily been used as an excuse to exclude necessary interested parties from the legal deliberations, and very plausibly this would have been to the detriment of the democratic process," Prunty told *The Link* in an email on Monday.

According to Prunty, keeping things in the hands of the GM—who answers only to the CSU president—will limit any bias against a co-op initiative in the Java U space.

The co-op initiative has faced its share of opposition and criticism since it began as a petition last semester. The results of an Oc-

tober referendum where students voted on whether to support the creation of a co-op—which passed overwhelmingly with about 80 per cent support—was challenged by CUSAcorp, the CSU's for-profit arm, which manages and leases the Java U space.

The CSU Judicial Board voted in November that the results of referenda were binding and that CUSAcorp can be directed by the CSU towards a unilateral decision.

Last week's special council meeting saw the CSU's referendum oversight committee present recommendations for establishing the food co-operative, prompting the motion for the financial needs assessment.

Prunty objected to having Carr—also the president of CUSAcorp—in charge of the assessment, which multiple members of council called an "insult" to Carr.

"It kinda makes sense to get the VP Finance to write a financial assessment," wrote Carr over Twitter. "Not going to lie, but kinda insulting."

Executive Conflict

Prunty maintains his amendment was only to ensure the CSU followed through on the mandate given to them by students.

"As one of the only people at council to have sat through both of the CUSAcorp Board's [...] attempts to subvert the successful petition process despite the fact that it was 100 per cent in keeping with the CSU's bylaws [...] I am very aware of just how far

biases can manifest themselves in legal matters when dealing with this question specifically," said Prunty.

"I have been the informal primary contact point between the CSU and the petitioners and I've alerted the petitioners in the past, and will continue to alert them as well as the rest of the student body when the democratic process is not being respected as fully as it needs to be," he continued.

"Good governance is paramount to a functioning student union."

But Carr also has his share of criticism for Prunty.

"I think the suggestions brought forward by Mr. Prunty were without foundation," said Carr.

"His arguments were unsubstantial but more importantly unprofessional. I'm here to do a job and I think that the uproar that we saw at council, who came to my defense, is a clear sign that they are satisfied with not only the quality of my work to date but the integrity," he continued.

"I just hope that Mr. Prunty will start acting like this is a professional institution."

Conflict Resolution

With its members divided and no end in sight to the volatile deliberations, the entire motion was tabled to the February general council meeting. CUSAcorp is also set to present its report on possible financial options for the student-run business.

Beyond the creation of a financial needs

assessment, the motion called for the union to adopt a "collaborative direct implementation" model to breathe life into the co-op. The model links the referendum oversight committee and CUSAcorp along with interested parties in establishing a business plan for the co-operative.

The CSU will also be consulting its lawyers to determine what money is available for funding the co-op.

The union is looking to determine if they are able to use money from the student space fund, which holds millions of dollars the union has collected for the last decade to someday purchase a student centre. Undergraduates currently pay \$1.50 per credit into the fund.

Despite the conflict, CSU President Melissa Kate Wheeler says the union is set on fulfilling the mandate given to it by students to open the co-op.

"Disagreements, especially over something this complex and important, are a natural part of decision-making," she said.

"We, as representatives of a larger body, are, and should continue to be focused on creating plans which are sustainable, cost-efficient and in keeping with the mandates we receive from our members," she added.

"Sometimes this results in conflict, but that isn't the point. The point is that we're moving it forward and fulfilling a mandate given to us directly by members of the CSU."

Photo Brandon Johnston



The Concordia Student Union special council meeting on Jan. 15.



The Sud-Ouest borough has seen a considerable amount of condo development in recent years.

DEBATING THE CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES OF GENTRIFICATION

Concordia Undergrads Find Rental Housing Decreasing in La Petite-Patrie Due to Condo Conversions

by Michael Wrobel @michael_wrobel

► Continued from page 3.

The Research

No matter which side you're on in the gentrification debate, the study's findings are surprising: they show the proportion of rental units in La Petite-Patrie has decreased from 96 per cent of units in 1991 to 77 per cent of units in 2013.

The study, led by Concordia professor Ted Rutland, also found that gentrification has affected some blocks more than others.

Take St. André St., for example. The proportion of buildings offering rental accommodations dropped from 93 per cent, or 150 buildings, in 1991 to 35 per cent, or 57 buildings, last year.

The students arrived at these numbers by analyzing 3,401 triplexes in the district, using government databases. The study was conducted in partnership with the Comité logement de la Petite-Patrie, a local tenant rights organization.

"[The research project] comes out of the tradition of trying to treat the city as a learning space [...] but also contributing to it," Rutland said.

Not only did the study find a reduction in access to rental housing, it also shows that nearly half of condo conversions in La Petite-Patrie use the undivided co-ownership model, while the other half used the divided co-ownership model.

Under undivided co-ownership, a building is owned collectively by all of its residents, with each resident owning a percentage of the whole building. The units aren't divided into separate lots, but a management agreement may stipulate which unit is to be used by each resident.

In contrast, divided co-ownership seeks to financially and legally separate each owner. Each resident owns only the specific unit they live in, as well as certain common areas like a backyard. This model is the one typically used in newly built condominium complexes.

Undivided properties were traditionally seen as a riskier investment, as lenders previously offered only one mortgage for the entire building—linking the financial futures of each co-owner.

Today, however, some lenders will provide individual mortgages to each co-owner, and

insurance protects the co-owners in the event that one of them should be unable to pay their mortgage. Because taxes are calculated based on the whole property's value, co-owners in an undivided building also pay lower taxes.

In 1975, the provincial government implemented a moratorium on the conversion of apartment buildings into condominiums using the divided co-ownership model. The goal was to preserve the amount of rental housing available, reducing the vulnerability of renters.

The moratorium remains in place in Montreal to this day, though the students' research calls into question its effectiveness as government policy. The moratorium does not regulate the conversion of a rental property into an undivided condo building, which is now as common a form of co-ownership as divided properties are.

Rutland said the ease of turning a rental property into undivided condos is one of the mechanisms through which gentrification is taking place in the neighbourhood while going almost entirely unnoticed by residents.

"Most of us who live in a gentrifying neighbourhood would notice if they tore down a bunch of buildings and built new condos, or if they built new condos in a previously vacant lot—it's very visible," he said.

"But the conversion to [undivided co-ownership] is something that happens behind the walls of buildings. Sometimes, it's just a change in legal structure where, all of a sudden, a triplex that was rented out to three tenants is [...] in co-ownership and you don't see anything."

Martin Blanchard of the Comité logement de la Petite-Patrie says the moratorium currently in place is ineffective because it doesn't address the undivided co-ownership model.

"A solution would be that undivided ownership stays as undivided ownership, not to create some type of pseudo-divided ownership in undivided ownership," he said, referring to the protections and benefits that co-owners in an undivided building now enjoy.

"It's kind of fiscally unfair that people who have a divided condo pay much more tax than people who are in the undivided condos, while [in terms of] the market value,

these [properties] are almost the same."

The Pros and Cons of Gentrification

But should we be truly concerned by gentrification? Opinions are mixed on whether gentrification is a positive or negative phenomenon.

"You'll hear people talk about gentrification when they're generally on the negative side of the issue, and you'll hear people talk about economic revitalization if they're more positive about it," says Concordia professor Peter Morde of the rhetoric involved in the debate.

In addition to displacing the residents of traditionally disadvantaged neighbourhoods through higher property values and rents, he notes that one of the negative consequences of gentrification is "greater pressure on the social infrastructure, [such as] ballparks and community centres, when there are a couple of competing groups for those kinds of spaces."

"Is it the case that not-for-profit youth sports [are] offered? Or is it the case that there are seniors' leagues for some of the gentrifying population that would be willing to pay for the ice time? These kinds of competitions for scarce public resources can come up as well," he said.

But gentrification may also have some positive consequences on neighbourhoods, says McGill University urban planning professor Raphaël Fischler.

"It diversifies the economic base of the neighbourhood with different stores, restaurants and cafés," he said. "A wider range of services becomes available. Some of them are not accessible to the population that was there before because of price differences, but overall, it enlivens the neighbourhood to a certain extent. It brings more people into the neighbourhood, more activity."

Fischler also noted that gentrification can benefit cities' coffers, as higher property values lead to more tax revenue. The neighbourhood's physical infrastructure may also be improved either to set gentrification in motion or to respond to the needs of the population moving in, he said.

Investments in infrastructure should be made regardless of whether or not an area is undergoing gentrification, however, ar-

gues Fred Burrill of P.O.P.I.R. - Comité Logement, an association of tenants in Montreal's Sud-Ouest borough, which includes gentrifying areas such as St-Henri.

"I think that the argument that people make for gentrification is that it brings with it a certain emphasis on green space and a building-up of the neighbourhood in terms of infrastructure, but those are things that should be done anyway," he said.

"I think it's important to break the link between gentrification and positive public investment."

According to P.O.P.I.R. - Comité Logement, the solution to the problems caused by gentrification lies in building more social housing.

"We think that, in fact, the private market can't solve the housing crisis, can't meet the needs of the vast majority of low-income people who need housing, and that the only thing that can do that is the widespread construction of subsidized social housing," said Burrill.

But for Annick Germain, a professor and researcher in the field of urban sociology at the Institut national de la recherche scientifique, the contemporary debate on gentrification and research into the topic largely misses the mark.

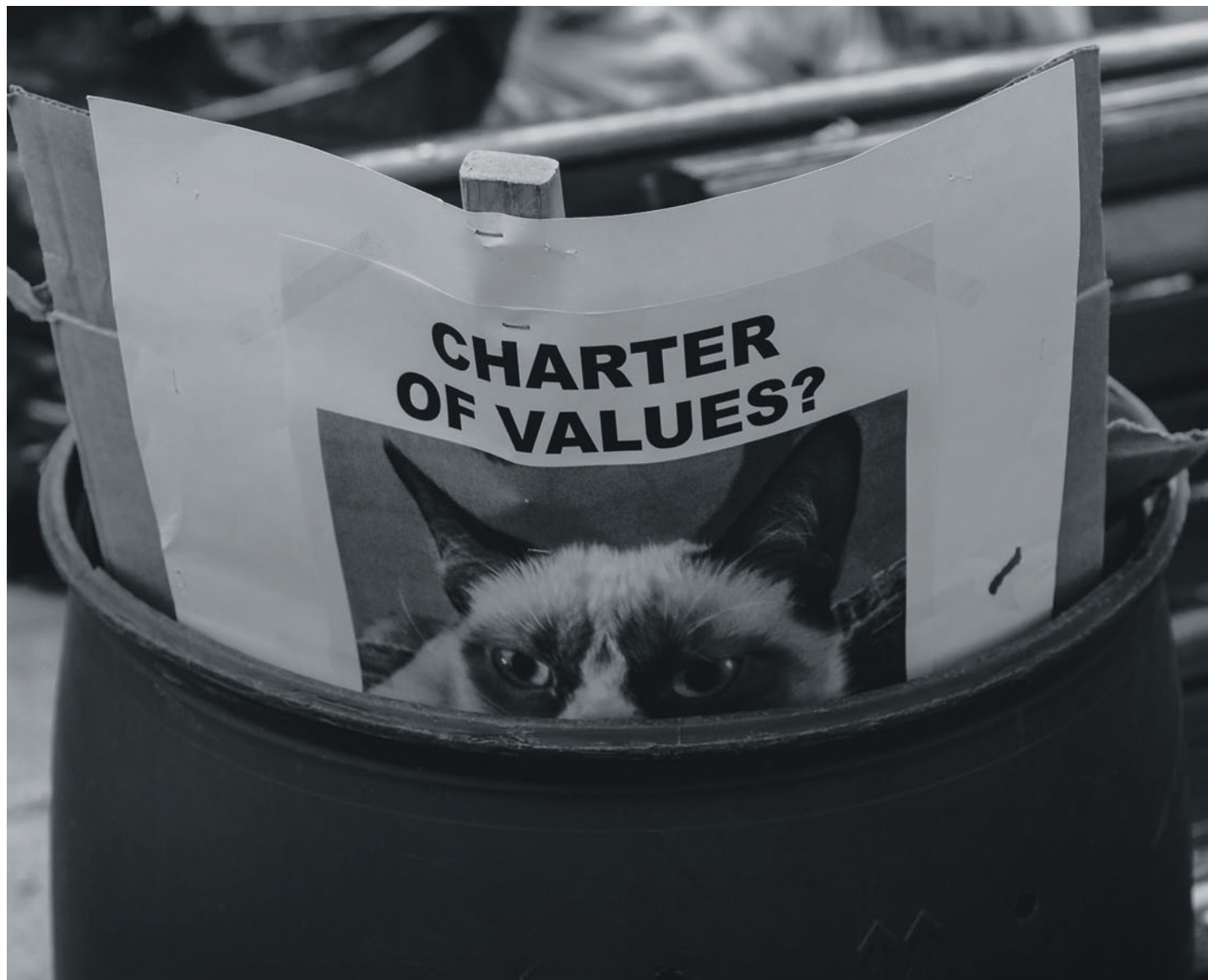
She said the term "gentrification" and its French-language equivalent "embourgeoisement" have been co-opted by individuals involved in an ideological debate and are no longer useful as a subject of academic analysis.

"These are notions that help groups make demands, and I find that it's no longer a concept that is as useful as it used to be for doing research," she said. "We put under the terms 'gentrification' and 'embourgeoisement' a ton of phenomena that are very different."

Historically, she says, a lot of working-class people were indeed displaced by gentrification as other social classes moved into their neighbourhoods and property values rose.

"But today, things are more complicated and it's reductionist to classify everything that's going on in formerly working-class neighbourhoods under the term 'gentrification,'" she continued.

Photo Brandon Johnston



BRIEFS

by Erin Sparks @sparkserin

Bixi Files for Bankruptcy Protection

Non-profit bike sharing company Bixi has filed for bankruptcy protection, the *Montreal Gazette* reported on Monday. Despite the announcement, the city still plans to keep the service in operation for the coming season, which is scheduled to begin in April, provided that negotiations with Bixi are a success. Currently, Bixi owes the city \$31.6 million of the \$37 million initially loaned to it, while the company is owed \$5.6 million from international customers it has sold the technology to. Last September, the auditor-general for the city expressed concerns that Bixi wouldn't be able to continue functioning given its financial situation.

Montreal Considers Equipping Officers with Cameras

Montreal police officers have requested that they be equipped with cameras, saying that videos posted online fail to properly place the events in context, according to the *Montreal Gazette*. Police spokesperson Ian Lafrenière explained that the rationale behind giving officers cameras, which would be fastened to their chests, is to "show both sides of the story." This potential increase in transparency is not without its critics, however, with civil liberties groups noting that these cameras could create issues with individuals' privacy. Officers in Rialto, California, were given cameras last year, and a study conducted found that instances of police using force decreased by 60 per cent.

School Buildings in State of Decay

Through an Access to Information request, CBC/Radio-Canada has found that 82 French-language school board buildings in Montreal are in a state of extreme decay. While heavy renovation is all that's required for the majority of the buildings listed, 27 are in an advanced state of decay, to the point where it would ultimately be more cost-effective to rebuild rather than renovate them. The buildings listed are located around the city, with some in the Plateau, others in Rosemont, and other still in areas like Ahuntsic or Côte-des-Neiges. The French-language school board operates 226 schools in total.

New Poll Shows Possibility of PQ Majority

In a recently released poll conducted by Léger Marketing, the Parti Québécois achieved the support of 36 per cent of those surveyed, with the Liberals close behind at 33 per cent, CTV News reported. The increase in PQ support would grant them a narrow majority in the event of an election, according to Léger Marketing vice-president Christian Bourque, cited in an article by the *Journal de Montréal*. The poll was conducted after the first three days of the hearings on the proposed Charter of Values, and marks the first time since March of last year that the PQ has scored higher than the Liberals.

FROM FIRST TO LAST

Concordia to Present Charter Stance to National Assembly

by Geoffrey Vendeville @geoffvendeville

The last university in Montreal to officially oppose Bill 60, Concordia will be the first to present its position at hearings in Quebec City on Thursday.

Concordia delegates will face the National Assembly at 2 p.m. to elaborate on a Dec. 17 statement that disagreed with key elements of the bill, also known as the Charter of Quebec Values.

"Many thought we were very late to the party," said Concordia President Alan Shepard at a university Senate meeting on Friday. "Turns out by the fact that we're testifying next week—and this [consultation] goes on until March—that we were probably one of the first to submit."

"Just like term papers or final exams, they all came in at the last minute."

The hearings on the bill began on Jan. 14 and are scheduled until Feb. 7.

Benoit-Antoine Bacon, provost and VP Academic Affairs, and Roger Côté, VP Services, were chosen to present the university's case.

"This will be a stressful moment for them

because the various political parties will be in the room. Everyone will try to score points off one another with us as the vehicle or medium by which that might take place," Shepard said. "We don't want to be taken advantage of by any political party in terms of how we present our ideas."

Although it supports elements of the bill, the Concordia administration criticized the proposed ban on visible religious symbols.

"You can agree with the principles of a lay state, equality between men and women, but the ostentatious religious symbols ban is a real problem for us," said Chris Mota, university spokesperson.

The ban would affect more than 7,000 full- and part-time employees of the university, hindering research and student recruitment, according to an official statement by Concordia.

"We need to have a community that's really diverse—and we do and it's a huge strength for us—and I would do everything that I can to protect that diversity and to celebrate it," said Shepard in an interview with *The Link* last fall.

Concordia also takes issue with the char-

ter on other grounds, Mota said.

"Universities are built on democratic thinking, freedom of thought and expression," she said. "Having that kind of law governing universities would be infringing on their autonomy."

The university officially registered its disapproval after receiving over 200 emails from students, faculty, and staff.

"This is a bill that people were passionate about on both sides. We wanted to hear from our community, and that takes time," Mota added.

The university's position was endorsed by 11 associations and student groups, including Concordia's full- and part-time faculty unions, the Graduate Students' Association, and the Concordia Student Union—which first voiced its opposition to the charter in a unanimous council vote in September.

Concordia's hour-long presentation at the National Assembly on Thursday will be followed by a brief question-and-answer period. The entire debate will be webcast on the National Assembly website and Radio-Canada.ca.

Photo Brandon Johnston

DOUG LESLIE BURSARY

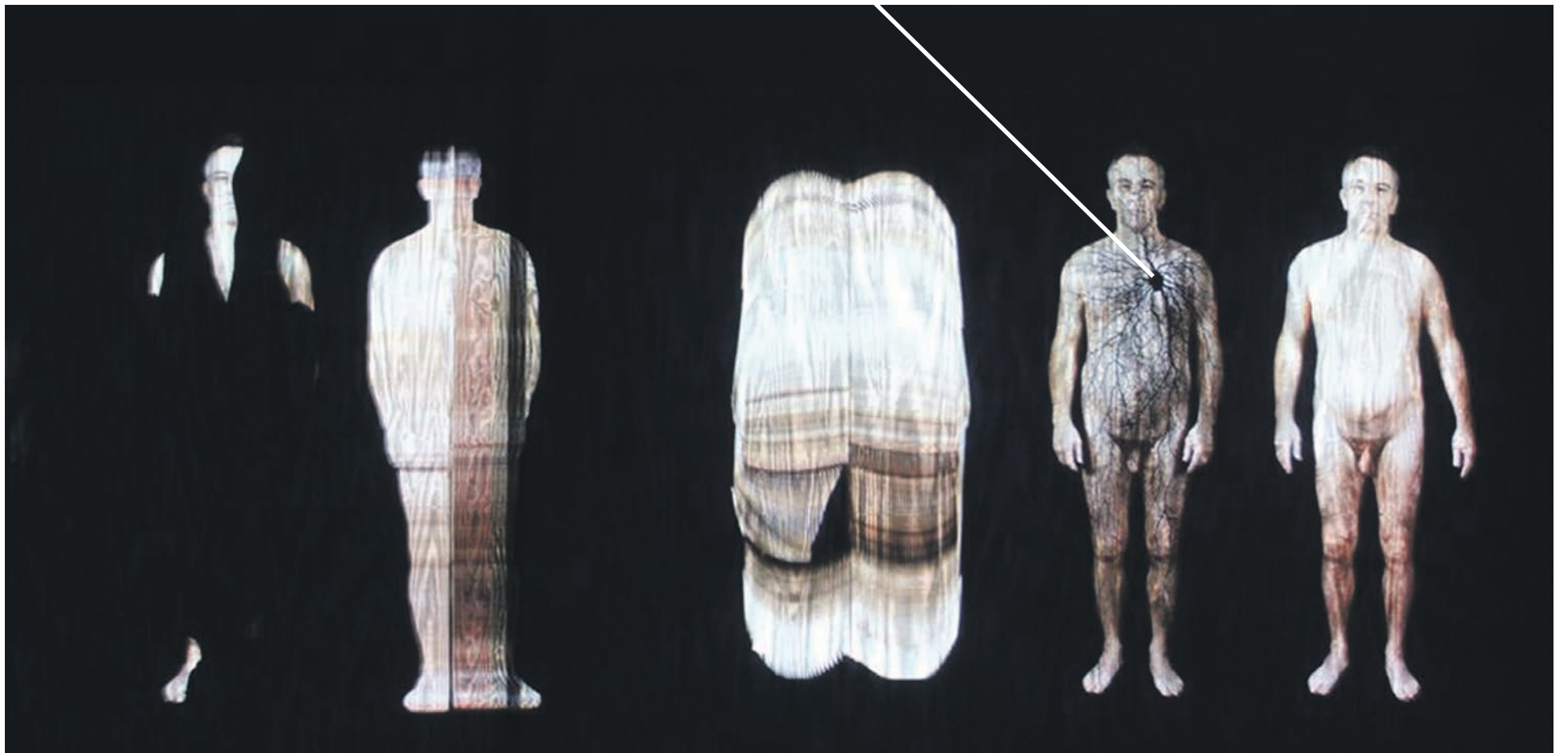
Congratulations to Brandon Johnston and Jake Russell, the first-ever recipients of the Doug Leslie Bursary!

The bursary was created in commemoration of Leslie, who served as the first editor-in-chief of *The Link*. He overcame financial difficulties to help guide the merger of the two campus papers at the time, keeping it afloat amid staffing shortages and organizational problems.

Acknowledging the huge time commitment the student press demands, this annual bursary awards either one applicant with \$1,000 or two with \$500 based on their contribution to *The Link* and financial need.

Thanks to *Montreal Gazette* reporters (and *Link* alumni) Philip Authier, Peggy Curran and the Dean of Students Office for their help in selecting the recipients, and thanks to all who entered. The time and effort you put into *The Link* is what keeps us going.

FIVE-POINT-PALM EXPLODING ART TECHNIQUE



New Art Exhibit *Hybrid Bodies* Examines the Psycho-Social Effects of Heart Transplantation

by June Loper @LoperJune

No organ in the human body is as coveted as the heart.

In poetic terms, it is the primal source of our most profound emotions, and can be given to—or shattered by—the ones closest to us. In bio-medical terms, it breathes life into our veins with every faithful beat, and when it ceases to function, we cease to exist.

But what happens when this highly significant cog of human machinery is passed from one to another in a surgical transplant? Will the recipient forever hear a tell-tale heart drumming in their chest?

Interdisciplinary artist, Concordia studio arts professor and one of the founders of the Hexagram: Media Arts Institute, Ingrid Bachmann has aimed a philosophical arrow at the idea of the heart—and the emotional and psychological ramifications a transplant between humans can have.

Bachmann is a participating artist and researcher for *Hybrid Bodies*, an exhibition linking art and medical science opening on Jan. 22 at the PHI Centre. She focused her contributing work on the emotional reactions of such a significant gift and the idea of shared boundaries that heart donation involves.

She stressed how overwhelm-

ing the sense of gratitude is among heart transplant recipients, and in an individualistic society such as ours, this feeling of gratitude comes with a certain discomfort and uneasiness.

“We are a culture that’s very uncomfortable with the notion of ‘gift,’ unlike the First Nations, who entrench giving and reciprocity as a fundamental element of their culture,” Bachmann said. “In many ways, the project is personal and individual but there is also a larger part of social and cultural elements on how we talk about death, ownership and gifts.”

To illustrate her ideas, Bachmann chose to work with Concordia dance students Linnea Gwiazda and Maxine Segalowitz on a filmed performance. For her piece, several video sequences play simultaneously on four different screens, creating an effect of fluidity and movement. Bachmann said the medium of dance illustrates the abstract experience of an internal psychological struggle.

“I really felt I needed to get out of my comfort zone,” she said. “When things are invisible, such as heart transplants, there is a real complexity about what is perceived and not perceived.”

“I wanted to do more abstract performance of language with the body.”

The Scientific Method

In 2010, seven doctors and researchers formed a research team known as the Process of Incorporating a Transplanted Heart, and published a pioneering essay called “What They Say Versus What We See: ‘Hidden’ Distress and Impaired Quality of Life in Heart Transplant Recipients” in the *Journal of Heart and Lung Transplantation*.

Feeling their message could be better received through a different medium, the team approached four international artists to give a voice to their patients’ emotional distress and uncertainties.

The artists were Bachmann and Catherine Richards from Canada, and Andrew Carnie and Alexa Wright from the U.K. *Hybrid Bodies* is their collective effort together.

From multi-channel video installations, to digital three-dimensional photography, sculptural pieces and sound works, *Hybrid Bodies* offers a wide range of different perspectives and approaches to the complex matter of heart transplants.

After having studied the video footage of several interviews of patients that have undergone the operation, each artist interpreted and illustrated the issue in their own distinctive ways. To a certain

extent, these interpretations reflect the different facets of the emotional coping process that many of them experience.

Visual artist Richards concentrated her piece, “Charged Hearts,” on the notions of artifact, gratitude and gift giving. She does so through the transformation of the heart as an object, molded into different shapes and built with several materials, such as glass and metal.

On a different level, Carnie’s work, “Seized Out of this World,” conveys the ideas of vulnerability and far-reaching self-consciousness that he perceived in the different testimonies. His video installation showcases nude human bodies interlocking and creating different organic, biological shapes, shifting as if fluid.

“Some believe that they take on characteristics of someone else in a sort of vague way [after a heart transplant],” said Carnie. “Even if they’re not, the fact that they’re thinking about it is really important, so they become destabilized. They enter this flux, looking at themselves, thinking about themselves.”

“Them being naked reflects our vulnerability to the whole procedure—we just become something that they’re going to operate on, a clinical object,” he continued. “It had that resonance of that vulnerability.”

Pushing the metaphor even further, Wright developed her piece, “Heartfelt” around the symbolic meaning of the heart. She merges cultural meanings around the exchange of hearts—love, relationships and emotions—with the literal exchange of hearts implied in the donation.

Using sound effects, she juxtaposes interviews of people expressing the difficulties they experience with love and relationships with people expressing their emotions following a life-saving heart transplant.

“Alexa links the symbolic aspect of the heart as the seed of love and its incredible weight in our culture with the physical effect of heartbreak and transplantation,” said Bachmann.

The artists invite show-goers to draw their own conclusions after visiting the exhibit—you’ll likely find a newfound appreciation for that tireless muscle in your chest upon leaving.

“We are not looking for facts neither claiming that our work is truth,” Bachmann said. “We only reveal big questions about life, death and identity.”

Hybrid Bodies // Jan. 22 to Mar. 15 // PHI Centre (407 St. Pierre St.) // Monday to Friday 12 p.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. // Free admission

ANOTHER ONE BITES THE CRUST

Inside Montreal's Booming Restaurant Scene—and the Struggle of the Up-and-Comers

by Riley Stativa @wileyriles

What's for dinner? If you're walking the pizza- and poutine-paved streets of Montreal, there are endless answers to that question.

There's a café catering to every craving. There are establishments, old and new, looking to serve up supper, and competition is stiff.

From the Crust Up

So what does it take for a fledgling business to stay above ice water with lemon in a city saturated in resto-bars, patisseries and fine dining experiences? What factors decide whether a new establishment will survive to serve another day or be forced to throw in the apron and emblazon darkened windows with the dreaded red "For Sale" sign?

"Get back to me in 10 years, and I'll let you know," said Brian Szubiak, head chef of Tartufo d'Oro, an Italian restaurant he opened with his brother Kevin in November 2013.

Tartufo d'Oro is located in the heart of Little Italy, where eateries with encyclopedia-length menus dish up standards like veal parmesan and fettuccini alfredo. It was something the Szubiak brothers decided to avoid when planning their menu.

"The vision was [taking] something that we knew—Italian cuisine—and doing it in a way that we found fun and exciting, and that you don't really find anywhere else," said Brian.

Besides the curious delights on their menu, which includes riffs on traditional fare such as ravioli stuffed with sweet potato and carrot, pesto sauce made of peppery arugula, and a Nutella and amaretto cookie gelato, the two entrepreneurs insisted that everything had to be done with a meticulous care from the crust up.

"We make all our own pasta, we make our own focaccia," said Kevin over the whirring clicks as Brian worked the pasta maker in the background, prepping for dinner service.

"We make things that meet our ideology—things that we know, ravioli and pesto, and sort of [turn them] into something a little more creative. We don't find it interesting to recycle the last 30 years," he said.

Changing the red sauce and pizza landscape of Little Italy is no easy task, but the brothers are hoping that what sets them apart is what will keep them as a fresh, successful and relevant institution for years to come.

Some Chess with that Espresso?

Another up-and-coming business looking to shake pretense is Café Chimera, a board game store and café hybrid in N.D.G.

Owner and operator Philip Campbell had already been running a game store when he and a business partner decided to move it to a larger location and get into the business of slinging java alongside the games, creating a warm atmosphere where people could come to play and socialize over quality coffee.

Campbell's own foray into the realm of coffee is recent. He didn't even start drinking it until he discovered Third Wave coffee, a movement focused on high-quality beans and developing relationships between growers, roasters and buyers—the microbrewery movement of the caffeine world.

"I didn't actually really drink coffee until about two years ago," he said. "I didn't know there was good coffee."

Thus, one of the prime goals of Chimera is to break down the public's preconceived notions about what constitutes a good cup of joe by keeping standards of quality high. In Third Wave coffee, it's common practice to compare the subtle flavours or nuances in a roast, the way one might at a wine tasting. It's a concept that often doesn't translate to a large proportion of the public.

"Originally the baristas would write the flavour notes of the coffee and people thought that meant flavoured coffee. They would write 'rhubarb' and people would be like, 'Rhubarb-flavoured coffee? That sounds disgusting,'" said Campbell.

Campbell's philosophy on education may extend to the public, but it begins with his staff. Many of Café Chimera's baristas were sent to courses to learn about how coffee is made.

However, a high standard doesn't necessarily mean high customer traffic. Café Chimera opened in September and has seen its share of struggles since then.

"We're still in the process of establishing ourselves," said Campbell. "We went through a lot of trouble starting up here."

"Certain spending got out of control," he continued. "You have to pay people, but then [you] have no money to buy more inventory, and that was our issue early on."

Cutbacks on hours and staff are one solution to such a problem, but Campbell sees some of the standards implemented by Revenu Québec as a large contributor to the struggle of new, independent businesses.

Specifically, he takes issue with the SRM, or Sales Recording Module, a device attached to cash registers in restaurants and cafés to ensure that restaurant owners do not take liberties when charging clients. It's a noble goal with some drawbacks, including the large cost it can incur for struggling establishments who may not be able to afford it.

"The boxes are \$600 to \$1,000 depending on if you get a new one or a used one. Then you have to pay someone to install it," Campbell said.

Such costs might only be the beginning when it comes to the SRM.

"There's people who bought an entirely new [point of sale] system, and then this law came into place and they had to throw [them] out, because they didn't work with the SRM," he said.

These major costs are a hindrance to independent businesses struggling to survive, whereas they're only pocket change to the



large chain restaurants in Quebec. Strictly speaking, the law might keep business owners honest, but it could very well shut them down while big business thrives.

Standing the Heat

A challenge shared by both the Szubiak brothers and Campbell has been handling the red tape that comes with opening a new business.

"[A challenge] has been finding out all the rules that you don't really think about, like permits, what you can do in terms of building," said Kevin. "You need contract workers on it, you can't just start mucking around."

On the other end of the scale, Campbell believes some of the food safety laws need revising.

"We have to contract out an industrial kitchen to do certain things [...] because we don't have three large sinks," he said. "We have a sanitizer and everything, [while] some cafés are under a dépanneur licence [and] don't have to adhere to certain food safety protocol."

Perhaps these are necessary evils, but they are also hurdles for busy owners navigating multiple roles. On top of handling administrative affairs, Kevin has been learning food preparation from his brother in order to help out in the kitchen, while Campbell

multitasks between café and game store.

Both Tartufo d'Oro and Café Chimera lean on a close-knit staff to create a warm, knowledgeable atmosphere they hope will be welcome and appealing to customers. They're both thinking big while keeping it small for now.

"[We] hire people that would mesh well with the rest of our family. So it's been a very warm atmosphere thus far," said Kevin.

In the meantime, it seems that all either establishment can do is keep pushing forward with sights set on the future, while staying true to their visions.

Brian cited three key things to focus on to increase their chance of success: "The quality of the food, the quality of the service and a clear direction or concept [...] to present to the public."

In a few months, the brothers have plans to update Tartufo d'Oro's menu, to keep themselves and customers interested.

"Every few months we're looking to find something new, something more," said Kevin. "We're looking to always do something that's fresh and innovative."

One can only hope that the public has an appetite for such food for thought.

Photos by Riley Stativa & Melanie Vallieres



NEVER STOP FILMING

Cinema Politica Screens Docs About 2011 London Riots, First Nations and More

by Nadia Helal @lalehaidan

For Oxford law graduate and impromptu filmmaker Fahim Alam, the last few years have been a hellish ride.

A few days after the tragic death of English protester Mark Duggan at the hands of police in August 2011, Alam was walking to his grandmother's place from work through his hometown of Hackney, England.

Roaming the streets of Hackney wouldn't be such a daring feat on an ordinary day, but during the harrowing weeks of the London riots, few areas in East London were genuinely safe, and Alam found himself in the wrong place at the wrong time.

Alam, along with thousands of others that week, ended up wrongfully thrown into prison after a skirmish with police, accused of hurling bricks at officers. Following his release, the young university graduate was then electronically monitored for six months, adhering to strict curfews while awaiting trial.

Alam's reaction to his unjustified im-

prisonment wasn't to get angry, however—it was to get constructive. Without any prior film or media knowledge, he picked up a camera and began documenting the London riots on the streets.

His documentary, *Voiceover: Riots Reframed*, is the result of his guerrilla tactics, trying to reclaim the viewpoint of the protesters from the mainstream media who made them out to be monsters.

The feature-length film is being screened all over England and recently made its Canadian debut at Concordia University through non-profit organization Cinema Politica, which primarily screens independent political films.

The documentary isn't aimed at any particular audience.

"The film is simpler than many other documentaries. Any age or social group could understand and gain knowledge from it," Alam said, while pointing out the importance of history and context in these situations.

"Tottenham's riot history goes back to the mid-'80s after the death of Cynthia Jarrett."

Jarrett was a 49-year-old African-Caribbean woman who died of a heart attack while police officers were searching her home for possible items her son may have stolen.

The following day saw black youth take to the streets, condemning the police as being institutionally racist.

For Alam, it seems little has changed over a quarter-century later.

Anyone capable of sifting through the 168 pages of the recently updated "Ministry of Justice: Statistics on Race and the Criminal Justice System" can plainly see that there are major disparities between the number of arrests and convictions between members of the "white" and "ethnic" communities in the UK.

Although the document states that "differences [between ethnic groups in the Criminal Justice System] should not be equated with discrimination," it's hard to set those suspicions aside in light of London's history where racism is concerned.

Alam was determined to showcase main-

stream media's bias through his own lenses.

"Crime may happen on someone else's doorstep, but no one gives it much consideration until it reaches the 'High Streets.' These days the public receives a very sanitized and segregated version of crime and war from the media," he said.

Alam explained how omissions could be just as important as what is being portrayed. But could this possibly change anytime soon?

"New narratives need to emerge focusing on a new form of propaganda," he said. "It may take years, but I'm building a new political history and getting through to more and more people."

In regards to charters like the Charter of Rights and Freedoms in Canada and the Charter of Values that Quebec is trying to introduce, Alam is hesitant in accepting such measures.

"I believe discrimination will happen regardless of such charters, but what's more important is to take a look at the colonial past of Quebec and Canada. History breeds these outcomes," he said.

Cinema Politica Upcoming Documentaries:

The Beginning & Taksim: Gezi Park and the Uprising in Turkey
Monday, Jan. 27

7 p.m.

D.B. Clarke Theatre

Free admission (donations accepted)

These two short Turkish films show rioters' perspectives during the summer 2013 rebellion and occupation of Gezi Park. *The Beginning* was heavily censored during production and their studio was raided during editing, but it became Turkey's best-selling film even though theatres wouldn't show it. *Taksim* tells the same story, and is part of a series on global uprisings. Special guests will be in attendance at the screenings.

Valentine Road

Monday, Feb. 3

7 p.m.

D.B. Clarke Theatre

Free admission (donations accepted)

This film tells the story of Lawrence "Larry" King, a 15-year-old biracial, queer student who was murdered at the hands of his white, 14-year-old crush in 2008. Their quiet community of Oxnard, California is torn apart by the crime. *Valentine Road* delves past the sensational headlines to examine the true story of hate crimes, accountability and the repercussions of victim-blaming. Featuring a virtual Q&A with director Marta Cunningham following the screening.

Honour Your Word & Seeking Netukulimk

Monday, Feb. 10

7 p.m.

D.B. Clarke Theatre

Free admission (donations accepted)

Honour Your Word is an hour-long documentary that focuses its lens on the Algonquin people of Barriere Lake, who have spearheaded a generations-long movement against the Quebec government for rights to their traditional lands. *Seeking Netukulimk* is a poetic 21-minute profile of Kerry Prosper, a seasoned fisher and Mi'kmaq elder who teaches his grandchildren how fishing for eels can be a parallel to fighting for treaty rights. Director of both films Martha Stiegman will be in attendance at the screenings.

FRINGE CALENDAR

JAN. 21 TO JAN. 27

by Riley Stativa @wileyriles

CINEMA

1 *The Beginning & Taksim Commune: Gezi Park and the Uprising in Turkey*
Jan. 27
D.B. Clarke Theatre (1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W.)
7 p.m.
Free admission (donations accepted)
A double feature about the uprising of the Turkish people against the government of Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, which has ruled the country for 12 years. From the initial upheaval to the people's occupation of Gezi Park, bear witness to the power of people in action in these docs.

LITERATURE

2 *Yarn, Crunchy Snow Edition*
Jan. 22
Le Cagibi (5490 St. Laurent Blvd.)
8 p.m.
\$5
If you're catching a cold, this storytelling event might be just the ticket for you, because as we all know, laughter is the best medicine. Catch a showcase of (mostly true) comedic tales, featuring six storytellers.

THEATRE

3 *Wake, Butterfly*
Jan. 23 to Jan. 25
Bain St. Michel Theatre (5300 St. Dominique St.)
8 p.m.
\$12 student/senior, \$15 regular
Written by a Concordia grad, this production follows a rebelling young woman in Montreal and a teenage sex worker in Bombay's red light district. When their worlds collide, both must walk the brink between life and death in the stirring new play by theatre and dance company Deepali Productions.

PARTY

4 Igloofest 2014
Jan. 23 to Jan. 25
Jacques Cartier Quay (333 Commune St. W.)
7 p.m.
\$18 individual tickets, \$40 weekend pass, \$120 full Igloopass
This icy and wintery celebration is back, commandeering the Old Port as party central for the next three weekends. DJs from all over will be melting the ice and dropping the bass for the Montreal masses, with all the trimmings of Igloofest like mini-curling tables and jaw-dropping ice sculptures galore all weekend long.

5 Hip-Hop Karaoke
Jan. 23
Le Belmont sur le Boulevard (4483 St. Laurent Blvd.)
10 p.m.
\$5 before 11 p.m., \$10 after 11 p.m.
While the title of this event may seem self-explanatory, it's something to be experienced firsthand. Hip-hop fans across the city hit the stage without a screen, performing renditions of their favourite songs, while a crowd jams to the live show. Got a song you know by heart? Sign up ahead of time and secure your place in the limelight.

6 Australia Day 2014
Jan. 25
(1314 Olier St.)
4 p.m.
\$15
Whether you're from the land down under and feeling patriotic, or just craving some shrimp on the barbie, it's time to celebrate Australia Day! Break out your summer gear (remember summer?) and get ready for frisbee, savoury pies and DJ beats! Crikey!

OTHER

7 Sex Trivia Night [18+]
Jan. 21
McKibbin's Irish Pub (1426 Bishop St.)
7:30 p.m.
\$10 for a team of up to four
Think you know it all when it comes to getting it on? Time to prove it! In association with the Centre for Sexual Pleasure and Health, this trivia night is going to have everything from free safe sex know-how and lube samples (while supplies last) to happy-hour pricing on drinks, and naughty prizes for the team with the biggest...er... amount of knowledge.

8 Concordia Greenhouse Annual House Plant Sale
Jan. 22
13th floor, Hall Building (1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W.)
12 p.m.
Free admission
Being green is easier than you think! This sale offers a variety of plants large and small, good for the sun or the shade, with a bonus discount for undergraduates who bring their student card. Supplies are limited, so be sure to show up sooner rather than later to get your (chloro)fill this winter!

T	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	2	3	4	5	6	1
7	8					

Check out more listings online at
thelinknewspaper.ca/calendar



FRINGE GIVEAWAY

TWO TICKETS TO SEE PANIC! AT THE DISCO

Do you write sins, not tragedies? Do you become anxious in discotheques? We've got the remedy—we're giving away two tickets, courtesy of evenko and Greenland Productions, to see Fueled By Ramen rock band Panic! At the Disco to one lucky reader! The show is Jan. 31 at 8 p.m. at Métropolis (59 Ste. Catherine St. E.). To enter to win, like *The Link* on Facebook and like our official giveaway post. We'll choose the winner at random next Monday, Jan. 27 in a hilariously wacky way, as per usual. Don't panic, and good luck!

**the
LANGUAGE
issue**



the LANGUAGE issue

Imagine a world without language. A world where you couldn't ask for a glass of water; where you had no way of communicating your feelings or explaining how to run a business.

Chances are humanity as we know it would be far less developed—or would it?

In some cases, the way we learn a language makes the integration into a new society a smooth transition. In others, our perceptions of language have inadvertently led to repressive policies.

As a newspaper in the heart of a city where the battle over language rights is ingrained in its history—and present—we figured it's time we learned where language is headed. Here's what we discovered.

—Justin Blanchard, Yacine Bouhali
& David S. Landsman, Language
Special Issue Coordinators

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Is Quebec's Language Divide Played Up By the Media?

LINGUISTIC RIGHTS AND THE ANGRYPHONE MOVEMENT BY VERITY STEVENSON

Quebecers agree on a lot of things—language isn't one of them.

In the past year alone, Quebec has made headlines not only across the nation but also internationally with such controversial affairs as Pastagate, and Bill 60.

But for Beryl Wajzman, these are more than just headlines in the newspaper. He says anglophones and allophones in Quebec are being discriminated against based on language.

"If you're a small business employing 15 people, and you put your money to work, many, many small businesses are owned by immigrants and if they can't be communicated with in [English], based on their needs, they're just going to close the door," said Wajzman, editor at *The Suburban* and publisher of *The Métropolitain*, in reference to the government's recent decision to go ahead with a policy introduced in 2011 to only interact with businesses in French.

Wajzman is not alone. He's part of what Richard Yufe, spokesperson for a group dubbed Canadian Rights in Quebec, called "a movement for language equality in Quebec" on Daybreak Montreal in May 2012.

The movement Yufe referred to is the resurgence of interest groups defending the place of the English language in the province.

Along with the election of the Parti Québécois in September 2012, newsmakers like the Pastagate affair, Bill 60 and, more recently, Creolegate, have caused much ink to be spilled on the hot topic that is Quebec's language dynamics. Think pieces of all sorts brought up the idea of the proverbial space taken up by the two languages spoken in the province.

Though officially francophone, Quebec's—and in particular Montreal's—bilingualism is often seen as one of its strongest assets. Over 42 per cent of the province's population speaks both English and French, according to the 2011 Canadian census.

The idea of a language divide in Quebec is nothing new, but it doesn't have the same momentum as in the late '70s and early '80s, when approximately 130,000 of the province's English-speakers left for fear of not being served in their language after Bill 101 passed in 1977.

According to a recently released report from the Canadian Institute for Identities and Migration, 28,439 Quebecers moved away between January and September of 2013—the highest number for that time period in 13 years.

According to Jack Jedwab, the institute's vice-president, that number is still smaller than that of 40 years ago and may be more for economic reasons than language or politics as it was in the past.

However, many in the media speculated that language tensions might have been, once again, one of the main reasons for the departure of so many Quebecers.

An article titled "More Quebecers are leaving the province" and published on CJAD's website Jan. 9—the day of the report's release—linked the statistic to PQ's rise to power as a minority government.

The same day, *The Gazette* published an editorial in which it said it's very likely the province's "degraded political climate" is "accelerating the outflow" of Anglophones.

Last May, Montreal journalist and pundit Dan Delmar penned an opinion piece for the *National Post* entitled "PQ power gives rise to 'Angryphone' lunacy."

"Angryphones" are "the most vigorous defenders of linguistic rights," as Delmar defined the term in the article. And they're back.

But they aren't the only ones outspoken on language rights. In December, the Société Saint-Jean-Baptiste, along with over 100 Quebec figures, including former premier Bernard Landry, launched a campaign termed "Uni-e-s contre la francophobie." The campaign aims at denouncing the alleged unfavourable portrayal of francophones and the province of Quebec in English media, dubbed "Quebec-bashing."

As a French-speaking territory located in a country that is predominantly English speaking, and neighbour to one of the most powerful English-speaking countries in the world, Quebec has fought hard to ensure the survival of its official language. The province fights even harder as globalization makes the use of the world's strongest languages widespread, as French is not included in this category.

Despite polarizing voices, others have tried to soothe. PQ Minister of International Relations, La Francophonie and External Trade Jean-François Lisée is known for reaching out to the Anglo community numerous times, and spoke out against the Office Québécois de la langue française's initial decision to slap a fine on the St. Laurent Blvd. restaurant Buonanotte for not translating words like "pasta" into French on its menu.

Delmar says such controversies being blown out of proportion is mainly to blame for the province's ongoing language issue.

"If I write about Angryphones every day, if I write about Societe Saint-Jean-Baptiste every day, you get the impression that these two forces are a lot more influential than they really are. A lot of this crisis has been manufactured by the media," said Delmar.

"But day-to-day, I think we get along just fine."

As for Steve Faguy, copy editor at the *Montreal Gazette*, he says neither the media nor the government is to blame.

"Ignorance is the real problem," he wrote in his blog in December. "Ignorance about Quebec, about the French language, about English Canada, about history, about basic human decency and about the facts."

PHOTO BRANDON JOHNSTON





An English Perspective From a French Point of View

SITTING DOWN WITH STUDENT-ATHLETES LEARNING
IN ENGLISH FOR THE FIRST TIME BY DAVID S. LANDSMAN

For many Concordia students, this year marks their first time living in a big city. Having to adapt to the various cultures found in and around Montreal can also be challenging. But what if Concordia was also the first time you were learning in a new language altogether?

For three members of Concordia's women's hockey team, defenders Marie-Joëlle Allard and Carol-Anne Gagné, and forward Anne-Julie Deschênes, coming to Concordia was a huge transition—not only in the classroom, but also on the ice.

"For me, the transition from French to English was especially hard because I never studied or spoke much English," said Gagné, who was born and raised in Fermont, Quebec near the Labrador border. "I do think that the transition has been a process. I succeeded my first semester in English, and I know that I still have lots to learn but I also know that I still have months and years to learn."

Gagné's usual defensive counterpart, Allard, was in a different boat regarding her transition.

"It's coming along really well," said the Victoriaville native. "I actually find that English is a lot easier to learn than French."

Deschênes, who played with Allard at CEGEP Limoilou, seems to side more with her former teammate than Gagné.

"It's going really well for me, I keep getting better," said the Mont-Joli native. "I'm quite satisfied with my grades of last semester, and my teachers have been understanding."

At the rink, the fact that practices are held in English by

coaches Les Lawton and Mike McGrath can make things difficult at times.

Fortunately for the francophones on the team—who account for eight of the 22-player squad—two of their other coaches are French-speaking, Lise Marie-Breton and Dave Paré.

Among their own ranks, the rookie trio say they're fortunate to always have someone to turn to when they're stuck thinking of a word or an expression.

"From the very beginning the girls have been very supportive and helpful," said Gagné. "They'll help explain what the coaches are saying, and even sometimes the coaches will try to speak to us in French too."

"They know what we're going through and really go out of their way to help us," added Allard. "They want to be there for support, not to laugh at us. And playing with my best friend [Marie-Pier] Cloutier is really a dream. She helps me on and off the ice."

It also helps to have family, friends and love ones to turn to during the transition for a helping hand.

"My father went through the same struggles and process when he went to study in the United States so he helps me out a lot," said Deschênes. "My boyfriend also studied CEGEP in English so he knows my situation well."

It nonetheless begs the question: why attend Concordia University, not only an Anglophone university but one far from the likes of Victoriaville and Fermont, in the first place?

The players' answers all had their personal touches, with

one major thing in common.

"It was definitely because they had the program I wanted to become an athletic therapist," said Allard, who's studying exercise science.

"It's the only university that offers the program so it wasn't a difficult choice. It also didn't hurt that when I was playing in CEGEP, Les approached me with the concept of a rebuild in women's hockey," she continued.

"And maybe it'll sound cliché, but learning English was also an interest of mine."

Concordia also offered the program Deschênes wanted to join.

"I decided to come to Concordia because I really wanted to continue playing hockey while getting my degree. Being in administration, I know that it'll be very useful, especially considering the John Molson School of Business is a great school," said Deschênes, who then echoed Allard's comment. "I also decided to come here because I wanted to learn English."

Gagné's explanation was similar.

"I chose to come here definitely for their strong hockey program," said the psychology major. "But I also did want to learn how to speak and write English because I know how important that'll be later on in life."

PHOTO ION ETXEBARRIA

Bienvenue à la classe d'accueil

'WELCOME CLASSES' INTRODUCE IMMIGRANT CHILDREN TO FRENCH LANGUAGE.

QUEBEC CULTURE BY JONATHAN SUMMERS

Picture a class of children each from a different corner of the globe. Some have been in the country for a few weeks, others several months. There may be two or three from one country or another but only one speaks Spanish, one Arabic, one Ewondo...

Nevertheless, when they're in class with their teacher, they're not allowed to speak Spanish or Arabic or Ewondo. They are all expected to speak only French.

This is Quebec, after all, and their class is a *classe de francisation* or *classe d'accueil*—translated as welcome class.

At École des Cinq-Continents, an elementary school in Montreal's Côte-des-Neiges neighbourhood, Manon Dubreuil has taught welcome classes at various grade levels for 20 years.

The goal, says Dubreuil, is to "make [students] functional orally so that they can integrate as soon as possible into a regular class."

"Welcome classes are not just about learning a second language but about integrating into Quebec society," she said. "For example, someone who is born in a country with completely different values, they aren't necessarily used to speaking, to having the right to express themselves."

Students can be admitted to the welcome class at any point in the school year, Dubreuil said.

"Normally, they stay in the class for 10 months, and those who need it can stay another 10 months," she added.

Dubreuil, who also teaches and supervises student teachers at the Université du Québec à Montréal, said her biggest challenge is preventing students from speaking their mother tongues in class.

Quebec's Charter of the French Language—also known as Bill 101—was passed in 1977 and states that the province's official language is French. The law requires that children be educated in French until the end of secondary school, whether in a public school or a government-subsidized private school.

However, there are exceptions. One involves the granting of a Certificate of Eligibility, primarily to students with a Canadian citizen as a parent or a family member educated in English in Canada. Additionally, there are special and temporary authorizations available for students in extenuating circumstances.

Also exempt from Bill 101 are those enrolled in non-subsidized—and generally more expensive—private schools, those who are homeschooled, as well as Amerind or Inuit students.

But the majority of children and teens who arrive in Quebec as immigrants end up in French public schools. Most of them can already speak French and go straight into regular

classes, although some benefit from a little extra help. Those who cannot are placed in classes like Dubreuil's.

In 2012, only about 38 per cent of immigrants arriving in Quebec did not already speak French, down from 49 percent in 2003, according to a recent article in *La Presse*. This number is expected to continue to fall as the provincial government implements measures favoring immigrants from French-speaking countries like France, Haiti, Algeria and Morocco.

As a result, the number of students in welcome classes is also falling. In Montreal elementary schools, 3,856 students were enrolled in welcome classes in 2009-2010, compared to 3,258 in 2011-2012. This last figure represents about three per cent of all Montreal elementary school students.

Some have argued that welcome classes do more harm than good, marginalizing new arrivals by labelling them language deficient and isolating them from their mainstream peers.

"Well, that's ridiculous," said Dubreuil. "That's completely crazy. They're not deficient of anything, they're learning a second language."

"Try to imagine spending an entire day in a class in Chinese, with students speaking Chinese. Imagine how exhausted you would be at the end of the day," she continued.

Dubreuil added that welcome class teachers work with regular class teachers to try and help the new students integrate.

"If a student in math, for example, is ready to integrate into a regular class, the regular teacher can accept to take them once or twice a week," she said.

"[Students] usually have fond memories of their welcome class."

Dan Grigore does. He arrived from Romania with his family at the age of 11. After joining the Grade 5 welcome class at his LaSalle elementary school, he started Grade 6 in the mainstream class in September.

"It was a wonderful experience," said Grigore, who had already learned a few words in French in Romania. "I think the teachers were very patient with us."

But what Grigore remembers best, aside from a class field trip to the *cabane à sucre*, is the friends he made in the welcome class and the support they provided.

"Being with kids who are in a similar situation as you, going through the same experiences and learning together at the same level, it helps a lot while you're being introduced to your new culture, to your new country," he said.

Grigore went on to learn English as a third language and completed a BA in commerce at Concordia in 2009. Looking back, he wonders how things would have been different had he not had the welcome class.

"I think if I had been thrown into the regular system without the [welcome class] or without other kids who had similar experiences, maybe I would have been more introverted, or had a lot of trouble making friends," said Grigore.

In terms of academics, he added, "I don't know how I would have performed against the Québécois kids."

Not that the welcome classes are without problems. For example, like many teachers in mainstream classes, Dubreuil said that she is seeing more and more students with behavioural and psychological difficulties.

But there are other issues unique to the welcome class.

"For some time, there have been underprivileged students who don't necessarily have services. The welcome class is considered the service," said Dubreuil. "Some are under-educated in their mother tongues."

She suggested that the diversity of the students' home environments also presents challenges in the classroom.

"These are kids who live a completely different reality at home compared to their peers, because at home they keep their traditions, like their way of eating."

"The other problem is parents who don't speak French, so they don't necessarily have help with their homework," Dubreuil added.

"But these are students who succeed pretty well anyway, in spite of the uphill battle they face."

On the plus side, her welcome classes are significantly smaller than the norm, with a maximum of 18 students. Also, she said that the students are generally more respectful, often coming from cultures that place more value in formal education.

"The students get very attached to us," said Dubreuil. "The welcome teachers have maybe a warmer approach. We have a special link with the children because they get attached to us and we're their first link to the new society."

"I know at a certain point [the provincial government was] talking about eliminating the welcome classes," she continued. "I think that's really not a good idea. The students should maybe get more services, but the system works relatively well."

GRAPHIC GRAEME SHORTEN ADAMS





Parlez-Vous English?

CEGEP EXCHANGES OFFER OPPORTUNITIES FOR BILINGUALISM BY VERITY STEVENSON

With the job market's consistently increasing competitiveness and fast pace, it feels like the further from the status quo our resumes are, the better our opportunities.

Apart from significant Twitter mentions and your Klout score, something that's often taken for granted—but is only growing in importance in employers' eyes—is language.

How many languages you speak, how fluently and even how you learned them may all be sweet spots for the professional you're trying to woo across the table, says Mark Goldenberg, a former federal assistant deputy minister who now conducts research for the University of Ottawa.

"[Language] especially stands out by what it says about the individual's openness—openness to other cultures, to learning new things," said Goldenberg, who led a study entitled "Two Languages: A World of Opportunities" in 2009. The study focused on bilingual education at the university level by the Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages.

"Workplaces aren't the same, and it's the end of your academic career, so if you don't use it, you lose it," added Goldenberg on the importance of acquiring or perfecting a second language at the university level.

The study attempted to assess the level of second-language learning in universities across the country. Given that French is Quebec's official language, but that it's a minority in the country, both English and French universities in the province recognized the need for a strong understanding of the two languages, and therefore a need for such a study, Goldenberg said.

But what Goldenberg's team found were "serious gaps and unmet needs" in intensive second-language learning in universities across the country, which is the most effective way to see results when learning a second language, according to the study.

Despite its uniqueness in Canada and its universities'

"increasing awareness of globalism," Goldenberg found that second-language teaching was conducted much the same way as it was in the rest of Canada.

The study published a series of findings and recommendations for universities in Canada to improve second-language learning. Among them were the fact that content-based learning in a second language—like taking a non-language based course in your second language—increases your chances of mastering it.

It also recommended that Francophone universities establish exchange programs with Anglophone ones and vice versa.

Two Montreal CEGEPs are experimenting with just that—a program that, in many ways, resembles what the OCOL suggested universities do five years ago.

Next-door neighbours Vanier College and CEGEP de Saint-Laurent are hosting students from across the lawn for over a third of their course load as part of an exchange program between the two colleges, aiming at improving students' second-language skills.

Although private Montreal CEGEPs Marianopolis College and Collège Jean-de-Brébeuf started a similar exchange program a few years ago, Vanier and CSL are the first public CEGEPs to go ahead with it, "signed by Quebec's education minister [Marie Malavoy] and all," said Loris Peternelli, the program's coordinator and a professor at Vanier, referring to the process of approval by Quebec's ministry of education.

Though the collaboration between the two schools and its focus on content-based learning follow the very principles the OCOL highlighted in its study, the program is not based on the study, nor did it consult the Commissioner's office, according to Peternelli.

Apart from the two CEGEP's proximity, the "great choice of universities and the doors it opens" were the main reasons for the initiative.

In September 2013, 10 CSL and four Vanier students became the first to test out the new program. Each of them is taking four courses at the other school, including chemistry for those in science and western civilization for those in social science.

The program had been in the works for a few years, but due to an extensive back-and-forth with the ministry of education, was only finalized just in time for the beginning of the school year, hence the small number of students enrolled.

"It's not for everyone, but a 30- to 40-student cohort is a good objective," said Peternelli, adding that now one semester in, the students' experience seems positive so far and that they had integrated very well with the other institution.

The goal is for students to feel comfortable and be fluent in the other language by the time they get their diploma of college studies, said Peternelli. To complete their DEC with the exchange under their belt, students not only write the usual CEGEP exit exam in their main college's language, but in the other as well.

"We have quite a variety of levels—most of the students have a strong mastery of French while the English varies, but, like they say, if you want to get something done, ask a busy person," added Peternelli, explaining that students needed an above-80 average to participate in the program.

Peternelli says he gets to meet with the students every once in a while to see how they're progressing within the program's framework and how they're integrating at the opposite school. Last time he met with them was before their one-month winter break between semesters.

"So far, it's really positive and they're integrating really well," he said. "I don't know how walking across the way is going to go in the winter, but that may be the only drag."

GRAPHIC PAKU DAOUST CLOUTIER

A Culture of Many Cultures

QUEBEC'S LANGUAGE LAWS HELP NO ONE BY JUSTIN BLANCHARD

Quebec's culture must be preserved—but I don't mean the one Pauline Marois has in mind when she says the same.

Since the days of the Quiet Revolution of the 1960s, the Quebec government has worked tirelessly to ensure the vitality of the French language and Québécois—or *pure laine*—culture in the province. And that's certainly admirable.

But the way the province has undertaken that task has been to repress its own minority linguistic and cultural communities. And that's absolutely wrong.

Bill 101 tells you what school you can attend. The Office Québécois de la langue française tells you “pasta” cannot be written on a menu and in what language you can and can't address your colleagues at work.

Today, with the Charter of Values, the government wants to tell you how to dress. This spring, if an election is indeed called and the Parti Québécois becomes a majority government, the party stated it will seek to re-introduce Bill 14, which would prohibit the province's own native francophones from receiving an education in English not only through high school—as is the current case—but through CEGEP as well.

And it's all in an attempt to protect the French language and preserve the Québécois culture.

And yet, French and the Québécois community aren't on the verge of disappearing anytime soon in Quebec.

Nearly 95 per cent of Quebecers said they knew French in the 2011 Canadian census, and it's the language most often spoken at home for 81 per cent of the province.

Talk show *Tout le monde en parle* is the province's most-watched TV program and over 83 per cent of the population is Catholic—a defining aspect of the province's heritage, as Premier Marois has made clear with her campaign to keep the crucifix in the National Assembly despite her push for secularism in the province.

Indeed, *pure laine* culture is firmly entrenched throughout the province. It's not because of Bill 101—it's simply due to the fact that, in the overwhelming majority of the province, most cities identify with one language and one culture. As demographer Marc Termote told *Maclean's* in 2011, “You will [speak only] French in Chicoutimi.”

It's a different story down in Montreal.

Here, French isn't the majority's mother tongue. Neither is English, for that matter. Instead, over one-third of the city's residents are visible minorities and over half are non-francophones. The allophones dominate in Montreal.

Ironically, this is mostly the provincial government's own doing. Rather than work to increase the birth rate once it fell below the replacement rate in the '70s, Quebec instead decided to make up for the disparity by admitting more immigrants to the province, over 90 per cent of whom naturally settle in its biggest city.

Couple this surge of new immigrants with a consistently growing number of francophone Montrealers moving to greener pastures in the suburbs in recent years, and the result is a declining *pure laine* community in the city—to the point that it may eventually disappear entirely.

Quebec's answer to all of this hasn't been to try and reverse the trend. Instead, it has focused primarily on establishing the supremacy of the French language and the *pure laine* culture under the umbrella of interculturalism.

Rather than seeing all cultures as equals under multiculturalism—a policy the rest of Canada has adopted—Quebec has instead imposed upon immigrants to the province and its centuries-old anglophone communities “a public culture [...] patterned after [francophones'] own needs, their own priorities and, most of all, their own particular sense of identity,” as Concordia political science professor Daniel

Salée wrote in his academic article “Quebec Sovereignty and the Challenge of Linguistic and Ethnocultural Minorities: Identity, Difference and the Politics of *Ressentiment*.”

No wonder so many immigrants to Quebec and the province's native Anglophones are high-tailing it westward by the busload.

Unfortunately, the Quebec government has yet to realize that a culture isn't preserved by imposing on people to adopt it, and that a province doesn't become unified by dictating what language its residents can speak or by having them choose between their religious beliefs or their job.

The Quebec government has yet to realize that “Quebec's culture” doesn't mean solely *pure laine* culture. Quebec's culture has become a genuine mosaic, and repressing some components of that mosaic in favor of others is not the answer to keeping French from declining in Montreal.

What the government's policies have accomplished instead is to increase ethnic tensions, shrink Montreal's linguistic communities and limit the province's own francophones' opportunities to expand their eligibility in an English-dominated global job market.

The surge in Islamophobia since the Charter of Values was announced, the all-time low enrolments in English schools this year and the fact that more and more allophones and francophones are attending anglophone CEGEPs in hopes of improving their English reveals as much.

It is time our government comes to terms with the fact that Quebec is multicultural, and that this is something to be celebrated; that it is an asset, not a threat.

It is time our premier realized that allophones, like Anglophones, have just as much right to their language and culture being preserved as that of her own.

GRAPHIC GRAEME SHORTEN ADAMS



I am fluently trilingual, but more importantly I understand and speak the languages of collaboration, acceptance, unity, and human interaction. What else do I need?



Bringing Down Dividing Barriers

QUEBEC MUST LET GO OF ITS 'US VS. THEM' MENTALITY BY CLAUDIA PORNARO

As I sat in my Intro to Psychology class last semester, I heard the professor say the words that best described my frustration with living in Quebec. The words were “us vs. them.” It’s a mentality described in Henri Tajfel and John Turner’s highly influential Social Identity Theory.

This theory proposes that people belong to certain social groups and have a sense of who they are based on their group memberships. These groups have sets of social rules that members will follow to be considered “us,” or to fit in.

I was born and raised in Montreal. My parents immigrated to Canada from Italy in the ‘50s. Starting over in a new country had its challenges. From the many stories I’ve heard, Italian immigrants were considered “them” for a long time. They were treated like the unwanted.

I can see why they created their own tight-knit community, protecting what was known and loved back home while fiercely securing its imaginary boundaries with social rules.

They formed their own version of “us” and anyone on the outside of it was excluded, while those on the inside were conditioned to stay well within its limits. It was only once I ventured beyond the community’s circle of influence that I saw a much more open and diverse world.

It made me curious, but it was a while before I was courageous enough to break out of my community’s hold. I never did well in a box that limited me to someone else’s

idea of what’s best, right or good. I needed to figure that out for myself.

Living in Quebec at large feels a lot like my childhood experience. Although I understand that Quebec has a rich history and every reason to want to hold on to their language and heritage, the approach used for doing so divides us as a population and limits us.

Quebec pours energy, tax dollars and resources into ensuring we are served in French, educated in French, and advertised to in French. Meanwhile, there are pools of unused potential in Quebecers that are stuck in frustrated stagnation because of the state of affairs.

I’ve seen it in the cab driver who told me his story of being a medical doctor in his homeland but having to drive a cab here instead.

I’ve seen it in the nurse who has an incredible manner to help humans but his Martinique passport does not open any doors, forcing him to return to his native soil.

I’ve seen it in the autistic young adult who is a genius with animation and video games but will no longer have services to help him put this talent to good use once he’s 21 with a mental age of 14.

He’ll most likely end up on welfare, playing video games in his basement. These people are all French-speaking and able and willing to work hard. Is protecting the language

truly ensuring a healthy and thriving Quebec?

Language is no longer what humans need to be protecting. What needs protecting, more than anything, is the quality of human life and the mining and realizing of human potential.

The old-school Italian community created an environment that lacked openness and failed to evolve in a new world, and Quebec has done the same thing.

In its need to conserve a language and status, Quebec has failed to acknowledge that the world is opening up and is offering ample possibilities for those willing to embrace change. It’s hanging on tightly to what used to be at the cost of great opportunities in what could be.

I guess you can say I’m a dreamer. I believe in bringing down the barriers that divide. My social identity is that I’m human. Everything else is up for grabs. I am a proud Quebecer and a proud member of the Italo-Canadian community.

I see much beauty and richness in both, but it’s their limiting and dividing rules that I no longer choose to abide by. I am fluently trilingual, but more importantly, I understand and speak the languages of collaboration, acceptance, unity and human interaction. What else do I need?

It’s time to let go of this province’s “us vs. them” mentality and create a new reality to show the world what we’re really about.

GRAPHIC GRAEME SHORTEN ADAMS

A Universal Language

WHAT CAN ESPERANTO DO FOR YOU? BY YACINE BOUHALI

The world is home to about 6,500 spoken languages. But what if there was one spoken by everyone?

This was the dream of 19th century Polish linguist Ludwik Lazarus Zamenhof. A native of Bialystok, Poland, Zamenhof's hometown was equally home to Polish, Belarusian, Russian and German communities, prompting a language gap between residents.

It is this language gap that spurred Zamenhof's belief that a universal language could be the key to achieving world peace. In 1887 he took it upon himself to create one: Esperanto— which translates to “the one who hopes.”

“Esperanto is what we call a constructed language, that many people learn as a hobby,” said Morgan Sonderegger, an assistant professor of linguistics at McGill University. “A constructed language is one that someone or a group of people made up all the rules and vocabulary for; [one] that didn't arise as a natural language [such as] English or Mandarin.”

The majority of Esperanto's roots are Latin, though some vocabulary is taken from modern languages such as English, German, Polish, Russian and French.

Since Esperanto's first world congress organized in France in 1905, it has been recognized as an alternate international language by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

Today, statistics show that there are between 100,000 and 2 million active or fluent Esperanto speakers worldwide. The International Academy of Sciences in San Marino, Italy, has even made Esperanto its current language of instruction.

“It all depends on the person's capacities, but Esperanto is fairly easy to learn, even more for someone who speaks French or Spanish,” says Zdravka Metz, who co-founded the Société québécoise d'espéranto in 1982.

“You can learn it in less than a month if you put effort into it.”

If you already speak English, the most widely used language in the world, there may seem to be little point in learning Esperanto. Metz says that isn't the case.

“Here in North America, English and French are enough for you to make yourself understood, but if you travel in Europe, English isn't enough,” says Metz, who grew up in Croatia, about 30 kilometres away from the Hungarian border.

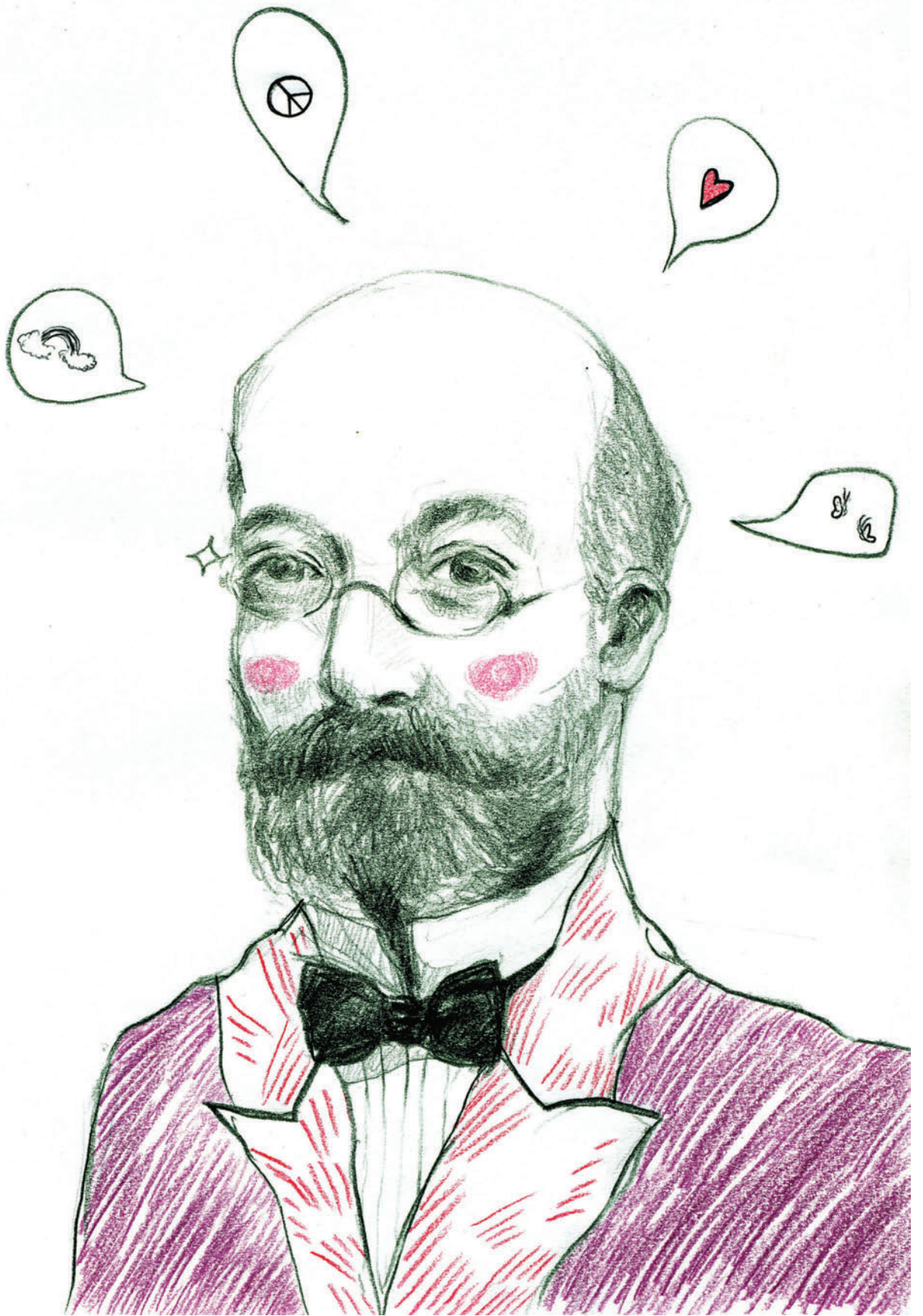
“If you're a scientist, a mathematician or a computer engineer and you want to share information with your peers worldwide, you won't translate your work in each main language; it's way more useful to communicate in Esperanto,” she added.

But could Esperanto actually replace English as the world's universal language?

“Maybe, I don't know,” Metz admitted. “Because when you learn Esperanto, you won't necessarily find a career [in the language].”

For Metz, the role of Esperanto today isn't so much achieving world peace, as its creator originally hoped it would, as much as simply facilitating international communication.

“I don't think it's essential for everyone to learn Esperanto, but it all depends on what you want to do in your life and how you want to use it to your own advantage,” said Metz. “If you like travelling once in a while, it can be useful to learn some of it, but if you want to work in the business world, for example, it might be useful for you to master it so can deal with people all over the world.”



GRAPHIC ROWENA REN



THOMAS LEDWELL TALK

Join us this Friday at 4 p.m. as CBC community editor Thomas Ledwell talks all things social media. Learn how to engage and grow your online audience, communicate effectively on the web, tweet strategically and more!

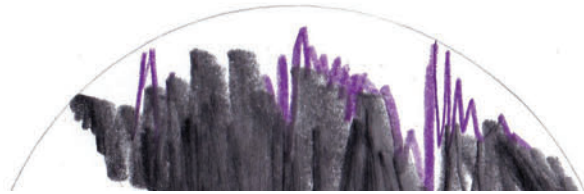
The Link

Friday, Jan. 24

4 pm

H-649, 1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W.

GRAPHIC GRAEME SHORTEN ADAMS



How to Read the Web

A BREAKDOWN OF SOME OF TODAY'S POPULAR CODING LANGUAGES BY VERITY STEVENSON

Programming languages make up the Matrix that is behind most new technologies. They are ubiquitous and yet we often have no idea they are there. Like any language, they are made up of a series of word combinations (often called tags) that produce the actual words, images and interactive websites on our screens.

Also like any language, they are constantly being updated in order to be more productive and to support changing technologies. Unlike the languages we speak though, there are people and even companies like Google and Microsoft behind every language, supporting the cost of keeping them alive. Those not owned by large companies survive off donations and individuals willing to work for free, similar to Wikipedia.

Here are some of the most popular coding languages today:

1. HTML + CSS

HTML (HyperText Markup Language) and CSS (Cascading Style Sheets) are presentation languages, meaning they determine the layout of a webpage. They're almost always used together and are behind most websites. Plus, they're the easiest to learn as their structure resembles English.

HTML was invented by none other than Tim Berners-Lee, co-developer of the World Wide Web, around 1990, when the Internet was making its first steps toward the mainstream. HTML is used mainly to determine structure and place data (text, tables, etc.). CSS was designed five or six years later, in 1996, to determine the alignment, text, background colour, font and other characteristics of content on a webpage.

2. JavaScript

JavaScript is another presentation language that is widely used. It was designed by Brendan Eich in 1995 and is supported by tech companies including Mozilla, creator of the Firefox browser. It's largely influenced by C and Java languages (described below) and allows for interactive webpages much like the Pulitzer prize-winning Snowfall feature by *The New York Times*. It's also used in video games now and even in new smartphones like the upcoming Firefox phone.

3. PHP

Used for both web-programming and general-purpose programming, PHP was designed in 1994 by Rasmus Lerdorf and is one of the most popular programming languages because it isn't too specialized. Most web software, like Wordpress, are written in PHP. And because most web hosts, like GoDaddy, also use PHP, employers usually look for coders who know it well.

4. Java

Created by James Gosling in 1995, Java is considered by many as the foundation of corporate computing. It's a very general and enterprise-oriented language that typically isn't used for web but is used for anything else, from Blu-Ray players to banking systems. It's also used to program operating systems by the likes of Windows, Mac and Linux.

5. C

C is the grandfather of all high-level languages like Java, Javascript, C++ (a very updated version of C) and the near-obsolete Perl. When computers were first invented in the '50s and '60s, developers had to do everything by hand, including complicated calculations in order for their machines to have a purpose. C was the link between the machine and the programmer. High-level language abstracts lower-level machine code, rendering code more programmer-friendly. It's powerful because it allows for the creation of fast application on all platforms and is also behind all operating systems and Adobe programs.

6. Objective-C

Objective-C is one of the early programming languages to resemble C. It was created in 1983 by Brad Cox and Tom Love. It is behind all iPhone applications.

7. Python

Python is another high-level language like Java and C, but is more readable and learnable. It's often used in science research programs for its ease of use with mathematics libraries, as it can calculate very large numbers quickly. It was originally published in 1991 and is now invested in heavily by Google, so it's bound to stick around for a while. Image-sharing applications and websites like Instagram and Pinterest use Python.

8. Ruby

Essentially the equivalent of Python—the two could be compared to Windows and Mac—Ruby was published in 1995 and was designed by Japanese developer Yukihiro Matsumoto. Its popularity stems from a framework called "Ruby on Rails" which facilitates the creation of websites coded in Ruby. These include include Shopify, Groupon and Twitter, which eventually switched to Java.

9. C#

Another offshoot of grandpa C, C# (pronounced "C-sharp") is a general-purpose programming language used to write Microsoft programs like Xbox and Windows. It was created in 2000 by Microsoft.

GRAPHIC SOPHIE MORRO

SPORTS BRIEFS

The Latest News on Your Concordia Stingers

by Julian McKenzie and David S. Landsman

Men's Basketball

Despite being behind for most of Saturday's game—by as many as 16 points in the third period—Concordia's men's basketball team pulled themselves together and extended their winning streak to five in a thrilling 62-57 victory over Laval on Saturday afternoon, sweeping their home-and-home series following a 73-63 final over the Rouge et Or on the road two nights prior. The Stingers sit in third place in the Réseau du sport étudiant du Québec conference with a 5-3 record.

Men's Hockey

Coming off their first back-to-back wins of the season, Stingers head coach Kevin Figsby and his team had high hopes heading into this past weekend's games against Carleton and Queen's, ranked no. 7 and no. 10 in the Canadian Interuniversity Sport, respectively.

But the Stingers left Ed Meagher Arena empty handed in both, losing 6-0 on Friday to the Ravens and falling 4-0 to the Gaels the following afternoon. The Stingers remain in sixth place in the Ontario University Athletics East Division with a 6-10-3 record.

Women's Basketball

Taking on Laval for the second time in three nights on Saturday, Concordia's women's basketball weren't able to dominate as they did on Thursday, when they breezed by the Rouge et Or 60-38. But the end result was nonetheless the same, as they left the Concordia gym with a 58-50 win to sweep the home-and-home series. Concordia has now won four of its five last games and sits in third place in the RSEQ conference with a 5-3 record.

Women's Hockey

It was a busy week for Concordia's women's hockey team, who first faced off the CIS no. 2 ranked Université de Montréal Carabins at Ed Meagher Arena on Thursday before paying a visit to Carleton's Ice House Arena for a matchup against the Ravens on Sunday. While the Stingers were unable to get the result against the Carabins, losing a hard-fought 3-2 decision, their efforts on Sunday were rewarded as they won 3-2 in a shootout. The weekend's results keep the Stingers in fourth place in the RSEQ conference with a 4-9 record.

Photo Ion Etxebarria



Stingers' Michael Fosu drives to the net in Concordia's 62-57 win over Laval on Saturday.

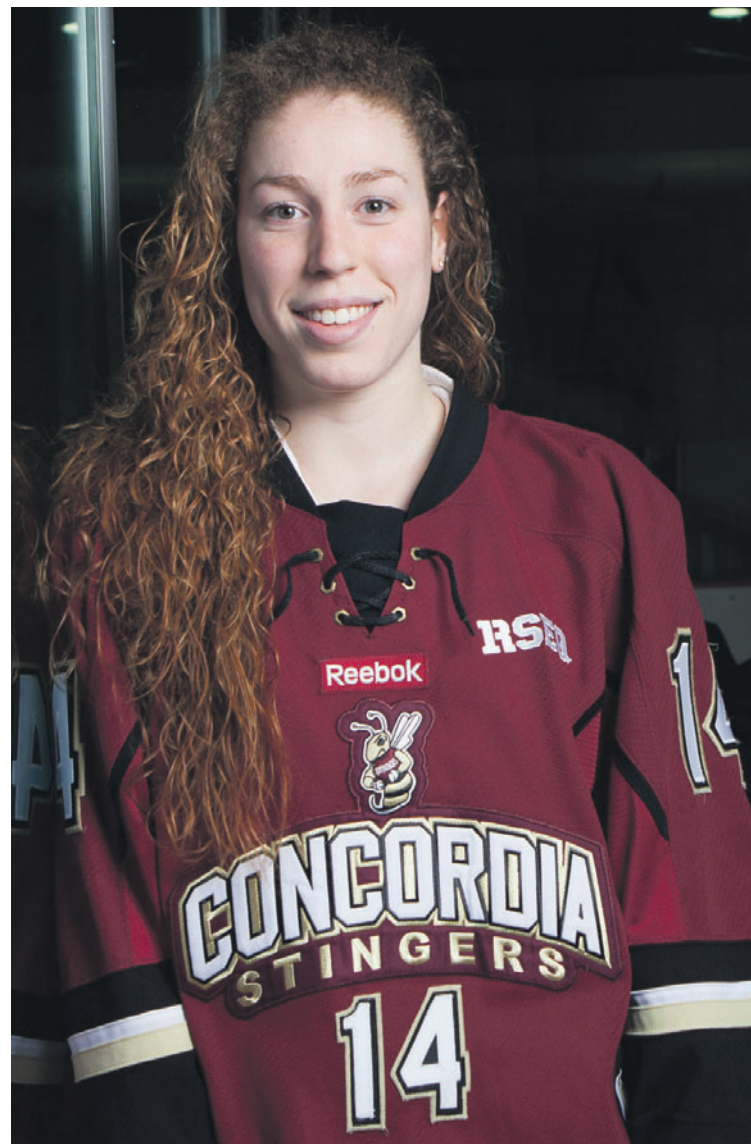
BOXSCORES
WEEK OF JAN. 13 TO JAN. 19

◆ ◆ ◆	
Sunday, Jan. 19	Women's Hockey—Concordia 3, Carleton University 2 (SO)
.....	
Saturday, Jan. 18	Men's Basketball—Concordia 62, Université Laval 57 Women's Basketball—Concordia 58, Université Laval 50 Men's Hockey—Concordia 0, Queen's University 4
.....	
Friday, Jan. 17	Men's Hockey—Concordia 0, Carleton University 6
.....	
Thursday, Jan. 16	Men's Basketball—Concordia 73, Université Laval 63 Women's Basketball—Concordia 60, Université Laval 38 Women's Hockey—Concordia 2, Université de Montréal 3

UPCOMING GAMES
THIS WEEK IN CONCORDIA SPORTS

◆ ◆ ◆		
Thursday, Jan. 23	6:00 p.m.	Women's Basketball vs. McGill Martlets (Concordia Gym)
	8:00 p.m.	Men's Basketball vs. McGill Redmen (Concordia Gym)
.....		
Friday, Jan. 24	7:00 p.m.	Men's Hockey at Nipissing Lakers
	7:00 p.m.	Women's Hockey at Montréal Carabins
.....		
Saturday, Jan. 25	6:00 p.m.	Women's Basketball at McGill Martlets
	7:30 p.m.	Men's Hockey at Laurentian Voyageur
	8:00 p.m.	Men's Basketball at McGill Redmen
.....		
Sunday, Jan. 26	3:00 p.m.	Women's Hockey at McGill Martlets

Check out Stingers game summaries at thelinknewspaper.ca/sports



DUTCH PRIDE

Stingers Rookie Blueliner Hopes to Help Lead Her Native Netherlands to the 2018 Winter Olympics

by David S. Landsman @dslands

When the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi get started in just under two weeks, Emily Even will be cheering Canada on like the rest of her Stingers women's hockey teammates.

But when the Olympics end and the International Ice Hockey Federation World Championship gets underway next April, Even won't only be cheering a different country on—she'll be playing for a different one, too.

A rookie defender for Les Lawton's women's hockey team, 19-year-old Netherlands-born Even will don her native country's colours when she takes to the ice in the six-team IIHF Women's World Championship Division 1 Group B tournament, to be held April 6 to April 12 in Latvia, for the chance to secure a spot in the 2018 Winter Olympics.

The other teams competing in the group are China, Kazakhstan, Hungary, North Korea, the Netherlands and host Latvia.

Even, who was born in Leiden, a small town 20 minutes outside of Amsterdam, lived in the Netherlands until 2009, when she was 15. That summer, Even moved with her parents and three siblings to Canada.

"My father wanted us to come to Montreal and experience Canada for its culture and language to give us the choice later on

in life whether we wanted to live in Canada or Holland," said Even.

The transition wasn't easy for Even, explaining that she was unhappy at first and had trouble adjusting to life in Canada. Even said it was only in Grade 10 at Westmount High School that she began forming close friendships.

But it wasn't until the following year, when she transferred to Lower Canada College in Notre-Dame-de-Grâce, that Even finally adopted her new home as her own.

"After coming to LCC for Grade 11, I realized that I loved it here [in Canada] and that I wanted to stay," said Even.

The last European-born hockey player for either one of Concordia's two hockey teams was Cecilia Andersson.

The Swedish-born goaltender suited up for the Stingers from 2003 to 2006, when she represented her native country in the Winter Olympics in Turin, Italy.

Even hopes she'll get to do the same in 2018. "Right now, the Netherlands are 16th worldwide when it comes to world ranking in women's hockey," explained Even. "And the top seven [ranked] teams go to the Olympics; if we win [the tournament in April] we can move up in the rankings fast."

An appearance in the 2018 Olympics

would be a first for Even (and her country), who began practicing for the Dutch national team at the tender age of 12 and officially joined the roster when she was 14 years old, playing her first game in a tournament held in France.

"In Holland, there are only 15 real hockey clubs," said Even. "But the players are all very dedicated to the game, they really want to be there—playing for my home country is still such a huge experience."

Even holds dual-citizenship from both the Netherlands and Canada, something she's made the most of. Despite living on the western side of the Atlantic, she was still invited annually to represent her home country in international tournaments.

In 2011, she was part of the Dutch team that went to Australia for that year's IIHF World Championship and took home the gold medal against the host team.

The following year she joined the team in England for the tournament's 2012 edition, and last year, in France, helped lead the team to a silver-medal finish in the competition.

Even has also played in exhibition tournaments in the Czech Republic and Germany, among other places.

Life in Montreal

After graduating high school from LCC in 2011, Even moved south of the border to play two seasons at a prep school in Millbrook, New York, where she held the title of team captain. Upon completing her studies

there, she decided to return home to Montreal and enrolled in Concordia's Leisure Science program.

Concordia was a natural choice for Even. "It was very close to home and they had the program I wanted and a brand new rink," said Even. "They also had a strong hockey program, so it was a win-win-win."

For Stingers veteran Jaymee Shell, Even is a welcome addition to the team.

"She's a good teammate and she brings a positive energy to the room and to our team," said Shell. "She has a shot that other goalies should fear and I like her style of play."

Still just in her first year with the Stingers, Even has many high aspirations that she hopes to accomplish throughout her time sporting the Maroon and Gold.

"It would be pretty cool to be named All-Canadian at least once," said Even. "I'd like to be a good, solid and consistent defence. And obviously I'd like to complete my bachelor's [degree] too."

Despite having settled in Montreal Even still holds onto her Dutch pride, and has scored in every world championship she's played in while wearing the orange and blue colors of Holland, a trend she hopes to continue this coming April.

"I really hope we can level up, and be able to compete at that level," said Even. "I hope I can play a major role and help contribute to my team."

Photos Ion Etzebarria

"She has a shot that other goalies should fear."
—Jaymee Shell, Stingers' alternate captain



Despite a moratorium on condos, new developments constantly spring up around the city.

CONNED BY THE MORATORIUM

Condo Ban Does Little to Stop Development

by Erin Sparks @sparkserin

Walk along the Lachine Canal, or through St-Henri and you'll spot it. Amid the low-rise brick buildings, sign after sign advertising a new condominium development coming soon, directing you to the sales office a few blocks over.

The continuing pattern of development and gentrification, particularly in neighbourhoods like St-Henri or Griffintown, has long been a source of conflict between the different parties involved, and in a recent presentation by Concordia urban planning students in the year-long class Urban Laboratory, another area emerged as a significant site of gentrification and unsanctioned condo development.

It was revealed that in the Rosemont-La Petite-Patrie borough, the proportion of rental units has decreased by nearly 20 per cent over the last 22 years—all as a result of condo conversions. The students also found that, on specific streets like St. Andre St., the change has been even more dramatic, shifting from 93 per cent in 1991 to a mere 35 per cent in 2013.

Analysis from the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation reveals that the number of unsold condominiums on the island will likely continue to increase, which would seem to suggest that the need for more condo developments isn't even there in the first place.

In theory, the drastic decreases in rentable units in areas like La Petite-Patrie should not exist, as Montreal has had a condo moratorium in place since 1975. That has done little to stop the semi-legal—and often outright illegal—condo conversion that happens across the city. The moratorium

applies to the entire city though is not enforced, leading to the disturbing trend of unsanctioned condo development in numerous neighbourhoods.

The moratorium was initially put in place with the intention of increasing the number of housing units available for purchase rather than rental, while simultaneously trying to maintain a solid base of units available for rental.

While there are those who support the moratorium, the loopholes that allow for condos to be semi-legally or illegally developed increases the strain being placed on those who cannot, or choose not to, purchase their homes; people who cannot afford to own rather than rent, and people like us—students, who are vulnerable to rental rates and the availability of affordable housing.

Two separate spheres must be taken into consideration with the moratorium as it stands now—home ownership and the availability of affordable housing available for rent.

Petite-Patrie, along with places like Griffintown and St-Henri, is being entirely reshaped through gentrification that, coupled with the unregulated moratorium, threatens the socio-economic structures that exist in these areas. Historically places of lower income residents, new developments in these areas force some of the most vulnerable people in the city out as they become unable to afford to live there.

The city has an inclusionary zoning policy. With such a policy, developers are required to ensure that a certain number of units in a construction project are reserved for affordable housing, but because the policy falls under provincial jurisdiction it becomes difficult to properly enforce.

As a result, those who cannot afford the lofty condo price tag are left out in the cold.

The zoning policy as it stands calls for 30 per cent of all new residential housing to be affordable, 15 per cent dedicated to social and community housing and another 15 per cent reserved for units that are either affordable to rent or own. In theory this would provide a significant number of units to those who need them. In reality, it isn't the case.

It isn't hard to see why the inclusionary policy is important; in areas like Petite-Patrie, where a significant number of residents are unemployed or low income, and where many rent, rather than own, their homes, the existence—and enforcement—of such a policy is key to ensuring that residents have a place to hang their hats.

Perhaps the most promising avenue to changing this would be to grant the city permission to take charge of enforcing the inclusionary policy. Given that the city arguably understands its demographics and its needs better than the provincial government, it's puzzling as to why it doesn't already have control over this policy.

As is the case with many governmental problems, increased transparency and the availability of documents, like those explaining precisely what the moratorium entails, could go a long way in ensuring that tenants are not taken advantage of. If tenants aren't even aware that such a policy exists, how can they know when they're being exploited or treated unfairly?

It's imperative that the moratorium policy be modified to ensure that the loopholes are closed. There's no point in maintaining a policy that does little to curb the displace-

ment of residents, but the policy itself should not necessarily be scrapped.

Instead, policy-makers should focus on closing loopholes like the one permitting building owners to convert rental units into undivided co-ownership spaces—where individuals own portions of the entire property—from which point the property can be converted into divided condominiums with only the approval of the Régie du logement.

This makes it possible for property owners to convert rental property into something that equates to essentially the same thing as a condo with negligible efforts, indicating a serious flaw in the moratorium.

The lack of regulation for conversion of rental spaces into these undivided co-ownership spaces represents a troubling disparity in the moratorium; property owners can use the loophole as a way of avoiding red tape, and the end result is the same: lower-income residents being forced out as the rent becomes too high.

As part of his platform during the mayoral race, Denis Coderre said the city should buy abandoned land and buildings around the island to reserve them for the development of community housing, and that "Montreal must fight inadequate housing using all its powers."

It's a promising start, and it's time that Coderre acts on it in a meaningful way—something that starts with regaining control over the zoning policy and finding a way to better enforce this moratorium.

After all, what good is a moratorium if the precise thing it's supposed to quell instead flourishes?

Photo Brandon Johnston



LUBE UP!

Over the past few years working as a sex educator, I've noticed that whenever I hear people talk about lube it always seems to be in the context of someone saying they don't need it. I also hear many misconceptions about lube and its uses, which is why I wanted to share my thoughts on why I think incorporating a personal lubricant into your sexual activities could change them for the better.

First let's talk about some of these misconceptions.

The one I hear most often is that lube is only for anal sex. It's true that lube can be a really important step in anal penetration, since the anus doesn't produce natural lubrication. It can make anal penetration smoother, more comfortable and even safer, because more lubrication means less risk of small cuts and abrasions, which can serve as an entry point for STIs.

But the thing is, lube does all these things for vaginal sex too! In fact, I recommend lube for all kinds of sex—anal, vaginal, manual (fingering, hand jobs, fisting), mastur-

bation, etc. Lube even makes condom use safer and more enjoyable. It reduces the chances of condoms breaking from too much friction, and makes penetration easier. It's precisely why most condoms come pre-lubricated, after all.

The next misconception I hear often is that lube is only needed if the receiving partner has lubrication issues. It surprises me how much people rely on natural lubrication when we talk so little about *how* to trigger and maintain it.

The truth is, many people do actually have difficulty maintaining natural lubrication for the entirety of foreplay and penetration, and this is totally normal, especially with longer sessions. Instead of addressing this though, we're taught sex in a way that normalizes friction, forced movements and even pain for women during vaginal penetration.

A clear example of this is the cultural acceptance of first-time sex as a naturally painful experience for women, when in fact the pain most

women experience is usually due to a lack of lubrication and proper preparation through foreplay, and therefore is completely unnecessary.

It's rare for our bodies to produce a continuous stream of lubrication when aroused, so even when highly aroused, it's normal to lose some or even all of that wetness, at which point penetrative acts can suddenly become uncomfortable or even painful.

So a recap on why lube is awesome: It will not only make sex safer, but also more comfortable, which means you'll probably be able to do it and enjoy it for longer. Pretty awesome, right?

Adding lube to your sex life can be intimidating at first, since there are so many types and brands out there, so here's a mini-guide to choosing a lube.

There are three types of lube out there: water-based, silicone-based and oil-based.

Water-based lubes are the most common and popular type. They are great for all kinds of sex and provide

an easy clean up because they eventually absorb into the body much like a moisturizing cream, and usually dry without staining the sheets or clothing. Since they're water-based, a little can go a long way in increasing or extending natural lubrication.

The only downside is that water-based lubes can dry up more quickly and require more application than other types. Recommended brands are organic ones like Sliquid Organics or Yes, since your skin will absorb it.

Other brands worth checking out are Bodywise Maximus, ID Glide and Pink. Try to avoid lubes containing glycerin or sugar, as these ingredients can lead to yeast infections and irritation.

Silicone-based lubricants are often thicker and won't absorb into the body, so they'll last longer without needing to apply more. This makes them ideal for situations without natural lubrication like anal sex, but they're still great in all other situations.

The downside is that they can

be messy since they won't dry up and disappear on skin, clothes, or sheets. Depending on the brand, they can also be sticky. They're not recommended for use with silicone-based sex toys since they can break them down, but most are certified as safe with latex condoms. Recommended brands include Bodywise Liquid Silk, Wet, ID Millenium, and Astroglide X.

Oil-based lubes are no longer recommended because they can break down condoms and linger inside the body with the possibility of trapping and causing infections.

There you have it, an introduction to why and how to give lube a chance!

—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 SexEd at 514-700-0445 for a confidential answer within 24 hours!



DO YOU SPEAK THE LINGO?

by Liana di Iorio @MsBerbToYou

ACROSS:

- ▶ 4. Though we like to refer to this food as pie, it's really more like a type of Italian cheesy bread.
- ▶ 8. For proof that English is evolving, please consult the inclusion of this Instagram-crafted word into the Oxford dictionary.
- ▶ 11. It sounds sort of aggressive, but “ich liebe dich” means “I love you” in this European language.
- ▶ 12. Thank you, Sigur Rós, for teaching us how to sing in this frozen language.

DOWN

- ▶ 1. You don't need a degree in this language to know that a "Carpe Diem" tattoo is a bad idea.
- ▶ 2. The name for this style of eating small, shareable dishes comes from the Spanish word for "cover" or "lid."
- ▶ 3. English has incorporated many words from other languages into its own, like this one, Hebrew for "peace."
- ▶ 5. A non-spoken language—unless you're Scarlett Johansson in *Her*—this is the most commonly known language of webpages.
- ▶ 6. This is a daughter language of Dutch and one of 11 official tongues of South Africa.
- ▶ 7. This linguistic group includes three different languages, those of Scotland, Ireland and the Isle of Man.
- ▶ 9. Though we speak the same language, a "rubber" to our innocent British cousins is this stationery tool and not a form of contraception.
- ▶ 10. Created by J.R.R. Tolkien, this language can count Orlando Bloom and Cate Blanchett as some of its speakers.

Graphic Graeme Shorten Adams

POWER THEATRE COMIC ALEX CALLARD

SPACE BABIES



QUÉBÉCOIS 101 COMIC PAKU DAoust-CLOUTIER



Tire-toi une bûche: “Tire-toi une bûche” literally translates to “pull yourself a log.” Whether it was back in the days of lumberjacks or at summer camp, a big log makes for a convenient improvised seat. In the spirit of preserving the wilderness in our daily lexicon, the expression “tire toi une bûche” colloquially translates as the invitation to “grab a seat,” and join the group.

FALSE KNEES COMIC JOSHUA BARKMAN



NAH'MSAYIN?

No Snooze is Good Snooze

I would've started this article way earlier if not for the snooze button on my alarm clock. It kills me to think of everything I would've accomplished by now if I hadn't slept in all those mornings.

The possibilities are endless: I could've written an epic novel, received a star beside Marvin Gaye's in the Hollywood Walk of Fame, started a polyamorous relationship with the Victoria's Secret Angels, gotten six-pack abs—who knows?

Few people nowadays know the history of the snooze button, or about its awesome power. It's not commonly known, for example, that Ancient Rome fell to the Vandals after the Praetorian Guard added a snooze feature to their sundials.

It wasn't until 1939 that English archaeologist Blunderbuss Cucumbersnatch rediscovered the

snooze button. The next year, MI5 sent him on a top-secret mission to Berlin with precise instructions to open a chain of watch stores and sabotage the Nazi war machine.

The plan worked.

The Luftwaffe prolonged their 15-minute catnaps and could no longer coordinate their blitzes; Operation Barbarossa was launched a month behind schedule; and Hitler stopped waking up in time to order from the “early bird” menu at his favourite diner—something historians say moved him to depression.

Finally, hunkered down in his hideout in April 1945, Hitler received a telegram from Winston Churchill: “You snooze, you lose, bro.”

—Geoffrey Vendeville, Coordinating Editor



Graphic Caitly Hall

Editorial



WERE WE JUST MAROIS'S PAWNS?

One year after forming a government in an election triggered by tuition protests, the Parti Québécois has launched a debate just as polarizing—if not more so. The ongoing hearings on the PQ's values charter show what op-eds on both sides have been claiming since its "leak" in September—that this whole debate is just thinly veiled Islamophobia.

Considering the PQ formed their government riding the wave of the Maple Spring, we can't help but feel used.

The week before the September 2012 election, the words "A Deal With the Devil" appeared in block text on our cover. It illustrated a debate we'd had in our meetings leading up to the election: Could a progressive or federalist vote for the PQ without selling out their own values? With the best chance of unseating the Liberals, was a vote for

the PQ endangering religious minorities for a tuition freeze?

A plan for a values charter was never hidden by the PQ; it was a clear part of their campaign platform. But what was less clear was how far it would go.

We're now in the midst of a public spectacle—250 hours of testimony that, in his opening remarks on the first day of the hearings, Minister Bernard Drainville stated would not change Bill 60's proposed ban on religious symbols for public sector employees.

With the latest poll numbers showing that the Marois government is in the best position for a majority since it took office, it now feels like we, as part of the 2012 student movement, were used by a politician wearing a red square when it suited her needs.

As far as the Maple Spring is

concerned, we essentially got what we wanted. Though there are still student groups advocating for free tuition, the 75 per cent increase over five years was cancelled. Instead we saw a less than three per cent increase this year, and tuition increases are now tied to the average household income.

The special law putting restrictions on the right to demonstrate was also struck down. With both these moves announced the morning after her election, we couldn't help but feel a sense of victory alongside Pauline, even if we hadn't voted for her.

But that sense of victory is long gone, replaced with the bitter truth that the leading party is not capable of seeing the world from outside its *pure laine* point of view.

This charter—denounced by the Quebec Bar Association, unions,

universities and the province's own human rights commission—has brought Islamophobia's ugly head to the forefront of political discourse. It's allowed the rant of a man pick-pocketed in Morocco, and a woman being "scarred" by walking in a mosque to be part of the public record.

While the Liberals flounder in trying to come up with their own populist decision, the PQ line hardens.

As students demanding cancelled tuition hikes, we were catalysts to the PQ's government, Marois quickly bottling the rage awakened by the strike. The government can argue the charter is meant to represent the secular nature of the state, but that doesn't change the fact that the province's religious majority will never be forced to choose between their job and their faith.

This charter does nothing to pro-

tect the people that its supporters claim are subjugated—it just denies them a chance to work in the public sector. It normalizes the persecution of difference in the public sphere.

This fear of difference is not exclusive to Quebec, but the government is both validating such thinking and giving it a platform.

It's why Quebec women's centres are reporting an increase in verbal and physical attacks against Muslim women since the charter was first introduced in September. It brings Quebec closer to Europe than Canada—in that this country does not have openly anti-Islam political parties.

That's something that should be celebrated, but instead civil liberties are being attacked. And we just can't shake the feeling that we're in some way complicit.

Graphic Graeme Shorten Adams

THE LINK

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Please contact the Dean of Students Office with any questions:
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