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Gimme Shelter

Demonstrators take to the streets, say no to condos and yes to low-budget housing in the Sud-Ouest. p6

Good As Gold

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EDITORIAL INFIGHTING AND AMBIGUITY KEEPING CSU PROJECTS ON THE GROUND P23

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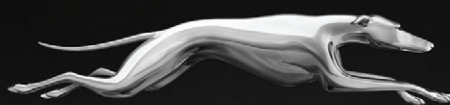
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ROLL FOREVER

Nestled in a nook along St. Laurent Blvd.'s main strip, with a bulky metal door adorned with a wreath of shattered Maplewood skateboard decks, TRH-Bar is pretty discrete from the outside.

But once you've taken a few steps up the steep, dark tunnel-like staircase with graffiti-plastered walls and hear the whoosh and rumble of skaters shredding the bowl reverberating through the walls, and the odd hooting and hollering rising to a crescendo of cheers and deck-tapping applause after someone sticks a banger trick, you know you've found the right place.

Sweat is palpable in the air upon entering, and beyond the Pabst Brewery Company-stacked bar and DJ booth is the core of the action—skaters whirling around the bowl surrounded by a rowdy crowd of onlookers, sep-

arated by a newly-installed wire fence and a loose mesh net reminiscent of a baseball game, there to catch unruly runaway boards rather than foul balls.

The bitter cold of winter has no power in this urban jungle—here, skateboarding is king.

Montreal's premiere skateboarding bar, TRH-Bar (pronounced "Trash-Bar") has only been open since April of last year, but has already become a hub of the Montreal skateboarding community. The main attraction is the newly remodeled wooden bowl on the first floor, situated in the centre of the complex, but a second level reveals a four-foot poly-board mini-halfpipe, a secondary bar, and a stage for bands and DJs.

► **Continued on page 12.**

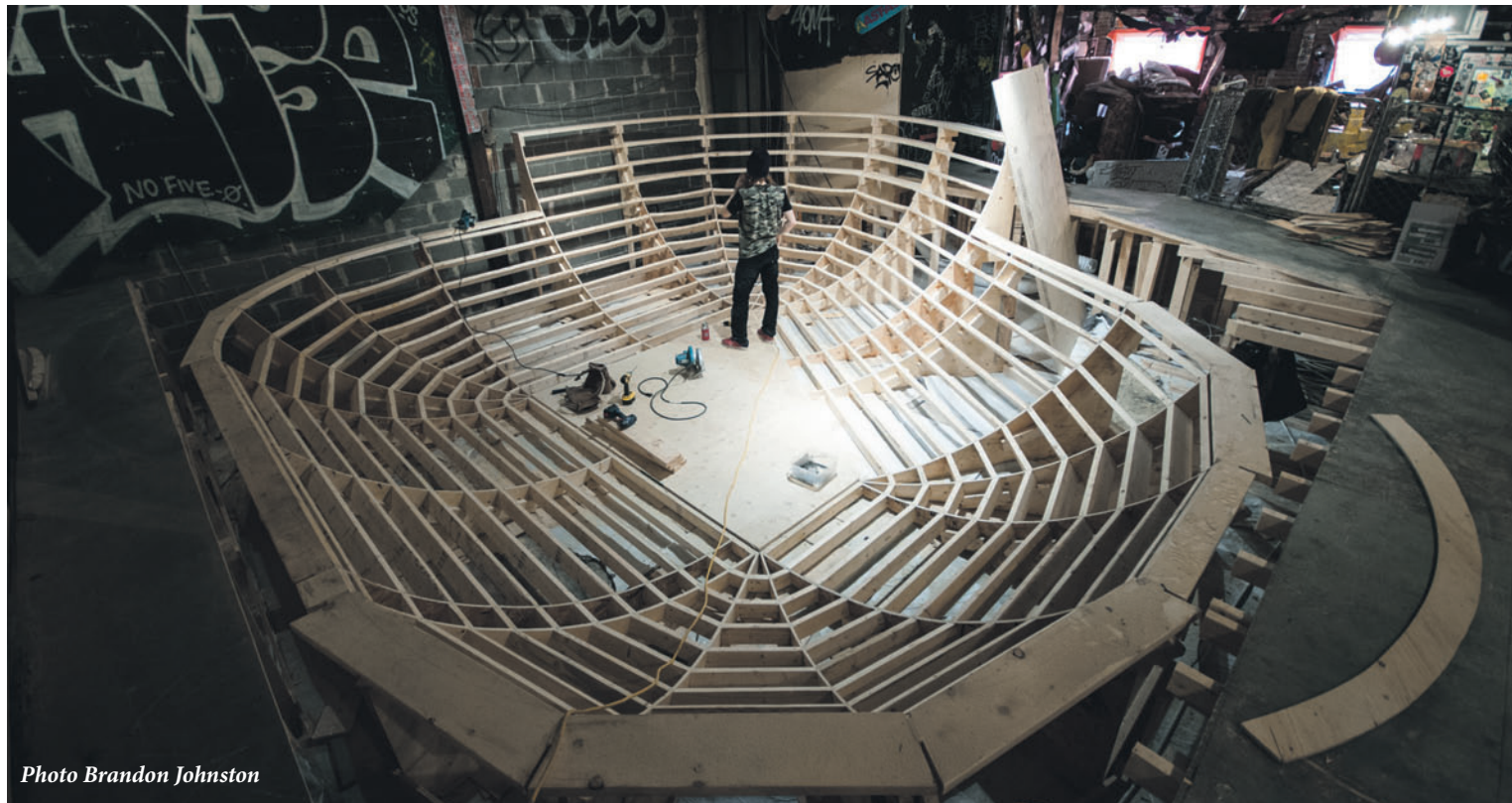


Photo Brandon Johnston

CASA TO BECOME ACCREDITED AFTER VOTE

John Molson School of Business students vote in favour of the accreditation of their faculty association, the Commerce and Administration Students' Association. **P5**

ISLAMIC FEMINISM AND THE CHARTER

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IF YOUR FRIENDS DON'T DANCE

Local dance company teams up with LOVE to create a charity-benefit production. **P11**

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MONEY CAUSING LATEST CAFÉ DELAYS

Lack of funds for a project manager's salary keeps development of the Hive and Mezz cafés grounded. **P9**

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Erotic poetry jam The Art of Performing Aural Sex reaches its eighth year in Montreal. **P10**

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Best tips to make your winter run safe and enjoyable! **P18**

ADVERTISING THE STEREOTYPES

The new Canadian Forces ad campaign does little to break down gender barriers. **P20**

THE LINK ONLINE

MEDIA FILE

We follow a few Concordia journalism students on their quest for that golden internship—hidden amid reams of dubious ones.

HUGE BOOST FOR PLAYOFFS

Needing a regulation win to all but qualify for the postseason, the Stingers women's hockey team won 3-1 vs. Carleton on Sunday.

THE TIMES THEY ARE A'CHANGIN'

Fringe Blog: So Bob Dylan sold out at this year's Super Bowl. So what?

CONU GRAD'S CHARTER VID IGNITES ON YOUTUBE

A Concordia graduate released a documentary on the Charter of Values two weeks ago, and it already has 20,000 views on Youtube.

PLAYOFF PUSH AT A STANDSTILL

The Stingers men's hockey team couldn't muster any points this week, going winless in three games.

THE ARCADE LIGHTS A CRITICAL FIRE

The Arcade Review, a new online magazine, takes on critiquing experimental games.

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.



Ivonne Hernandez, who may be deported to Mexico without her 13-month-old son, alleges her husband abused her.

Mexican Mother Facing Deportation without Infant Son

Alleges Abuse at the Hands of Husband

by Verity Stevenson @vestevie

Ivonne Hernandez fled four different states in Mexico, but she says her alleged abuser always caught up with her.

Seeking asylum from domestic violence, her escape led her to Montreal in 2009, where she eventually got married and had a child, but again ended up facing abuse.

Now after having lived in Canada without status for about a year-and-a-half, Hernandez, 41, is facing deportation on Feb. 7 without her 13-month-old son.

Her situation is not uncommon among many Mexican women now seeking asylum in Canada, and is raising questions about the country's treatment of refugee claimants, according to organizations speaking out on her case and fighting for her to stay in Canada.

"We've seen a few cases of women asking for refugee status in Canada, and who have been victims of violence [while] in the country," president of the Fédération des femmes du Québec, Alexa Conradi, told *The Link* after a press conference held by the FFQ on Monday.

"The Canadian response has

been, 'If you just [leave the country] you'll be fine, we recognize that you are a victim, but you need to go back and just move somewhere else.'"

Those organizations—Doctors Without Borders, the FFQ, Québec solidaire and Solidarity Across Borders—are advocating for Hernandez to "at least gain custody of her child, whether that be in Mexico or in Canada, that's priority number one," said her lawyer, Stewart Istvanffy.

But the March 6 hearing date to regain care of her child, who she only gets to see eight hours a week, is set a month after she has to leave the country.

Hernandez was denied custody due to her lack of status in a rushed hearing at the Superior Court in St-Jérôme on Jan. 10, initiated by the father after she left him with her son for a women's shelter. Hernandez says the judge ignored her domestic violence claims.

"Without considering her parental capacity and without investigating the parental capacity of the father either," said Sonia Dionne, director of the Maison d'hébergement Le Parados where Hernandez is living, at the press conference.

"The child is well developed. She took care of him alone and he is safe with her—we saw that, but who asked us this before taking her child away? No one," she added.

On Jan. 22, Hernandez was arrested by border police at Berri-UQAM metro station, where she was to pick up her child from his father.

She had been living at the women's shelter with her son since December, after leaving her husband, who she alleges has abused her physically and psychologically.

Hernandez was released on Jan. 24 on a \$4,000 cash bond and is required to report to immigration authorities regularly.

"I am guilty because I want to be free of that situation? I don't think so because all women, we need to be protected, we need to live in an environment clean from violence," said Hernandez at the press conference, tears welling up in her eyes.

In October 2011, she was denied refugee status on the basis that Mexico is considered to be a "safe country." Last February, then-Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism Jason Kenney added Mexico to a list of countries considered "safe," making it harder

for refugee claimants like Hernandez to get asylum in Canada.

"This is an extremely hypocritical way of refusing people who really are in danger. There's really no protection in Mexico," said Istvanffy, citing a judgment made by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights that claimed there was next to no protection for Mexican women facing gender-based violence.

Four months pregnant and despite facing the risk of being deported at any moment, she decided to stay because "she was happy, she was married," said Istvanffy.

Things went downhill from there. Her husband regularly threatened to denounce her to authorities, Hernandez said. Her decision to leave him was not easy though.

"I investigated months before because I knew it was dangerous for my baby, I tried to get the best advice that I could before I left," said Hernandez.

"In these types of situations, often there's abuse in the relationship between the person who is sponsoring and the person who is being sponsored. And often, they play around with this question of the papers," said Istvanffy.

All speakers present at the

press conference stressed the need for better protection for people in "these types of relationships."

"The message being given, today, is if you leave the guy, you can lose everything," added Istvanffy.

Due to privacy laws and because "removals are a [Canadian Border Services Agency] matter," Citizenship and Immigration Canada were unable to give comment on the case.

In an email statement to *The Link*, CBSA communications advisor Jacqueline Roby said, "It is necessary to proceed with the removal of failed asylum seekers and people who do not meet the immigration rules to ensure the integrity of Canada's immigration program" and that refugee claimants may appeal for "pre-removal risk assessment" before their deportation date.

Hernandez is set to appear before Federal Court on Tuesday for her last chance at staying in Canada.

"We always will be family and I just want the opportunity to stay close to my baby," said Hernandez. "Because if I leave, maybe I will not see him again."

Photo Shaun Michaud

Saying No to Condos

Protesters Demand More Social Housing in the Sud-Ouest

by Geoffrey Vendeville @geoffvendeville

So many condos and trendy shops have sprung up in St-Henri that even Patricia Viannay's nine-year-old daughter can spot the differences.

A member of local tenants' rights organization P.O.P.I.R. – Comité Logement and a resident of the neighbourhood since 2009, Viannay was among more than 100 protesters who marched through Montreal's Sud-Ouest borough on Saturday demanding the construction of social housing.

"Tenants are being driven out of the neighbourhood," she said. "We have many elderly residents who have been living here for 20 or 30 years and they're being forced out by property owners who want to convert their building into condos."

"They have nowhere to go because all these condos and real estate speculation has raised rents and property taxes."

The marchers were calling for 2,800 social housing units to be built in the Sud-Ouest, which they say would account for the families who spend half their income or more on rent. The protest was part of the Front d'action populaire en réaménagement

urbain's campaign calling for 50,000 new subsidized housing units province-wide within the next five years.

"There are many single people and families around here that need social housing," said Alfred Thorne, who has lived on the other side of the Lachine Canal in Verdun for 25 years. Since he moved in, he says condos have changed the face of his neighbourhood as well.

A Luxurious Shave

As the crowd cut across the neighbourhood walking along Notre-Dame St., event organizers pointed out new restaurants and shops that they described as symptoms of gentrification, including the luxury men's barber-shop Notorious.

Open since September, the Versace-furnished salon is known for offering a \$1,000 shave. Customers who pay top dollar can expect to be shaved with a gold razor, which is later dulled so that they can take it home.

In an interview with *The Link*, Corey Shapiro, who co-owns Notorious with Patrick Gemayel, also known as P-Thugg from electro-pop group Chromeo, said

shops like his benefit the neighbourhood.

"What an ignorant thing to say that it's bad to gentrify a 'hood that's run-down," said Shapiro. "We're not a large corporation; we're a hardworking artist and businessman, self-made from Montreal who have decided to inject money in an area."

"People should want to better themselves. No one wants to stay in a run-down apartment with cockroaches and rats—no one," he continued.

"This is a neighbourhood shop that respects others. There's something here for everyone," he added, pointing out that the barbershop's prices start at \$15.

Condos and Rising Prices

At the corner of St. Ambroise St. and St. Rémi St., the protesters stopped to drape a banner calling for social housing over a billboard advertising the L'Alcôve sur le Woonerf condo development. The price for a one-bedroom unit in the building starts at around \$160,000.

Pointing to the McGill University Health Centre superhospital construction site in the distance, Valérie Simard, a community organ-

izer at P.O.P.I.R., said the condominiums are being built specifically for the doctors and nurses who'll soon be working on the hill.

"This is one of the most disadvantaged parts of St-Henri," Simard said, walking along St. Ambroise St. near the old Canada Malt Factory. "Gentrification always starts from the centre and moves outward. We know this area is the next step."

Local residents and members of P.O.P.I.R. have long been rallying in opposition to the conversion of the defunct malt factory into a 600-unit condo complex. In December, protesters carrying homemade lanterns marched to the Sud-Ouest borough hall to deliver a petition with over 1,500 signatures asking that the factory be saved.

Simard added that public investments in that part of St-Henri are being made to pave the way for more condos. After years of planning, the borough finally unveiled the Woonerf Saint-Pierre, a pedestrian-only "green" alleyway, in the fall.

"The Woonerf is one of the prides of the Sud-Ouest [borough] administration," Simard said. "But we know it's just the first step in the so-called revitalization of the area to bring in developers and to encourage people to move into the neighbourhood."

A protest against federal cuts to subsidized housing is planned for Feb. 9, two days before Canadian Finance Minister Jim Flaherty will deliver the 2014 budget. The federal government devotes \$2 billion to social housing, down from \$3.2 billion four years ago, according to *The Montreal Gazette*.

Photo Geoffrey Vendeville

"Tenants are being driven out of the neighbourhood. We have many elderly residents who have been living here for 20 or 30 years and they're being forced out by property owners who want to convert their building into condos."

—Patricia Viannay, member of tenants' rights organization
P.O.P.I.R. – Comité Logement



Alfred Thorne wears a sign demanding that 50,000 new social housing units be built within five years at a protest in St-Henri on Feb. 1.

113,624
Social housing units
in Quebec

50,000
How many more
are needed, according
to the Front d'action
populaire en
réaménagement urbain

41,145
Low-budget housing
units in Montreal

2,800
How many are needed
in the Sud-Ouest
borough, according to
the tenants' rights
organization P.O.P.I.R. -
Comité Logement

Source: Société d'habitation du
Québec, as of March 31, 2013



Reggie's to Post its First Yearly Profit Ever if it Stays Closed

Student Bar Earns Quarterly Profit Before Closing for Renovations

by Andrew Brennan @Brennamen

Closed indefinitely for renovations, Reggie's bar has gone months without a single customer—but it's still set to post its first yearly profit ever.

"If Reggie's doesn't open between now and the end of the year, that would mean that this is the first [year] that Reggie's is profitable ever in its history," said CUSAcop President Scott Carr at the company's shareholder meeting last month.

Reggie's is managed by CUSAcop, the for-profit branch of the Concordia Student Union.

Over the span of the two fiscal quarters, of which the bar was only open for the entire duration of one, Reggie's garnered a \$3,744 profit on \$78,522 in revenues, according to CUSAcop documents.

That number may fluctuate by up to \$2,000 but is expected to remain in the black if the student bar is not reopened.

According to the Reggie's bar website cre-

ated over the winter holidays by CUSAcop staff to keep students up to date on the progress of renovations, CUSAcop was originally founded to oversee the Reggie's space in the aim of eventually turning a profit to offset the expenses of the CSU's predecessor, the Concordia University Student Association.

That was in 1984, and the bar has yet to actually post an operational profit over the duration of an academic year, according to Carr.

CUSAcop closed Reggie's in October for renovations and the bar was originally expected to reopen last month. Before that, the bar was open only between Wednesday and Saturday to curb operational expenses incurred from slow business days.

However, CUSAcop and the university's Facilities Management department have yet to agree on the extent of the needed repairs and what falls under the university's financial responsibility, and the bar's reopening has been delayed indefinitely until construction can begin.

An independent assessment was scheduled for last week, CUSAcop chairperson James Tyler Vaccaro told *The Link* on Jan. 13.

However, as of the beginning of February, Vaccaro says he is now expecting to receive the independent assessments starting Feb. 7.

According to Concordia spokesperson Chris Mota, Facilities Management and CUSAcop representatives will be meeting Feb. 4 to collectively survey the space.

"We're going to be doing a walkthrough of the space to take a look at the issues of concern on our end," said Vaccaro, which he says includes faulty plumbing and insulation issues that have prompted one independent inspection for asbestos in the space on Friday morning.

Vaccaro added that while they don't agree on the scope of issues plaguing the space, Facilities Management has been "open to addressing [CUSAcop's] concerns overall."

Carr, also the CSU VP Finance, said both CUSAcop and the CSU consider revamping the

bar and making it a long-term success a higher priority than reopening for the sake of doing so.

"Although we are proud to say that Reggie's posted a profit in [quarters one and two of fiscal 2013-2014] our focus this year remains rebuilding an amazing space to serve students in the years to come," Carr said.

"Honestly, I get the question almost every single day: when will Reggie's reopen? And I don't think anyone wants it to reopen more than CUSAcop's board," added Vaccaro.

"We realize it is a valuable space on campus and I know [it's a space] much used by students throughout the year as well.

"Right now it's really about figuring out all the problems that are in the space and coming to a common ground with the university [...] and then moving forward on the project so we can come out with something that's really beneficial to students," he concluded.

Photo Brandon Johnston

CASA Votes Overwhelmingly for Accreditation

Faculty Association Seeks to Ensure Continued Access to Student Member List

by Andrew Brennan @Brennamen

The Commerce and Administration Student Association is on its way to being accredited following an overwhelming show of support at the ballot box over the last two weeks.

Between Jan. 20 and Jan. 30, about 97 per cent of John Molson business students who voted did so in favour of accrediting the faculty association with the provincial government, with 2,373 students taking part in the vote, according to CASA VP Academic Loïc Sanscartier.

That amounts to just under 40 per cent of all JMSB undergrads. At least 25 per cent voter turnout is needed for the vote to be recognized by the government.

"It's great to get such a positive response, it shows that [students] know what we're doing as a student association and want us to continue what we're doing," said CASA President John-Michael Minon.

With the vote, CASA is set to become

the second faculty association granted status in the past two years. The Engineering and Computer Science Association received its accreditation in 2013 after it had previously lapsed.

According to Minon and Sanscartier, who spearheaded the initiative, CASA sought accredited status as a precaution to ensure continued access to its student member list, which is obtained from the Dean of Students.

Sanscartier added that being accredited also enables the association to continue renting out space for meetings and events.

Although it legally does not have to, the university currently provides these resources to CASA and other non-accredited faculty associations. According to Sanscartier, accredited associations automatically "have the right to them by law."

"In that sense it is [preventative] policy," he said.

"In case anything happens in the future, in case the school decides to change its policy to-

wards students associations—which you don't want to be the case, but you never know—we have this accreditation to ensure we are continuing to work for JMSB students."

This is not the first time CASA has received accreditation. It first sought independence from the Concordia University Student Association—the predecessor to the current Concordia Student Union—in the late 1980s.

Speaking to *The Link* at the time, 1987-1988 CASA President Derrick Ajmo indicated the public perception of CUSA as a radical liberal organization was "hampering [CASA's] relationships outside the school."

In gaining accreditation status, Ajmo asserted it would be easier for CASA to present a "conservative image associated with a good business school."

Despite pushback from CUSA, CASA was accredited in 1989, losing its status in the early 2000s following restructuring.

When the CSU was formed out of the ashes of CUSA, it also sought accreditation

multiple times throughout the 1990s.

CASA and the ECA both opposed the CSU's accreditation efforts in 1996, 1999 and 2000, but the undergraduate association finally voted in favour of accreditation in October 2000.

According to Sanscartier, CASA's latest bid for accreditation is in no way seeking to usurp any authority or powers from the CSU.

Multiple CSU executives and councillors also lent their support to CASA's accreditation campaign.

The results of the vote are now being prepared and sent to the provincial government to be recognized, according to Minon.

However, when the vote will actually be recognized remains unclear, he added, but from the response he has received from students the initiative is seen as worthwhile regardless.

"It's definitely super important to have as a faculty association," Minon said. "It's really important that we have the students' voice being heard."

Do Students Have a Right to Strike?

Panel Debates Merits of Regulating Student Protests Like Labour Strikes



Pascale Dufour (left), an associate professor at the Université de Montréal, and Jonathan Bouchard (right), the Fédération étudiante universitaire du Québec's vice-president of socio-political affairs, participated in a panel discussion on students' right to strike on Jan. 28.

by William Roy

During the days of the historic Quebec student strike of 2012, protesters, detractors, media analysts and those caught in the crossfire of nightly—and sometimes violent—marches routinely debated the right of students to strike. Over 18 months later, Jonathan Bouchard says it hasn't changed much.

"It is safe to say that we are at crossroads today regarding the student's right to strike," said the representative of the Fédération étudiante universitaire du Québec, the largest student interest group in the province, during a panel discussion hosted by Concordia University's School of Community and Public Affairs last Tuesday.

About 40 people attended the event at the Samuel Bronfman Building.

"When it comes to giving the state the responsibility of determining what the strike is, how it's done, it's extremely risky," said Benjamin Gingras, a student at the Université du Québec à Montréal and spokesperson of the Association pour une solidarité syndicale étudiante, Quebec's other major student interest group.

"There's clear state interference with how students organize."

Adrienne Gibson, a member of the Quebec Bar Association, echoed the concerns of

her fellow panellists, saying she thinks that rights to protest and assembly are quickly limited by too much legislation.

"When you legislate, you limit the right," she said. "It will be the judges who will decide the extent of it, and we know what judges think about strikes."

Panellist Pascale Dufour is an associate professor in political science at the Université de Montréal studying social movements in comparative politics. She says she thinks a lack of clarity to current legislation on student striking might be advantageous to students because it allows them to push the limits of what strike tactics they can employ without breaking the law.

It is also important to put Quebec's situation in a global context, according to Gibson. She says that the situation in the province is unique because it is the only place in the world where student associations are recognized by law and act as unions.

"The main element is money," she said. "Student associations, like unions, in Quebec have the power to receive student contributions, [...] which is completely different from what you can find in other countries."

Dufour says that legislating students' right to strike could be advantageous to the

movement in different ways.

For one thing, having a legal on-strike status would help students make inroads and mobilize with other activist groups, such as labour unions and women's interest groups, she said.

Dufour added that a legal framework around students' rights would make the student movement more efficient.

"If you have a legal right to strike and if you are recognized as a union, you can put more energy in times of crisis into the strike itself and not in the respect of the strike by the students who disagree with the mandate," she said.

Gingras said he does not think that the right to strike is unique to workers, or that it should only be recognized in the Quebec Labour Code.

"The right to strike existed before the labour code did," he said.

He says that students recognize themselves as "intellectual workers," which gives them the right to strike.

"We are not customers or clients of our colleges or universities, we are an active part of it," he said.

"We contribute to making the institution alive, not just as students but as researchers. When we go on strike, we are doing a political action by suspending our academic implications."

Although he said the best course of action is for students to not have their power to strike regulated, Bouchard said he is concerned that court injunctions employed in response to strike tactics may have now become a precedent.

During the Maple Spring protests, multiple students sought and were awarded injunctions by Quebec courts in an attempt to bypass protesters and attend their classes.

"A new strike would have that in mind where injunctions are possible and injunctions do work," he said. "If there is another strike, it will be in society's minds that individual actions can be more important than collective decisions."

How to deal with the possibility of injunctions in the future is a debated subject. Dufour and Gibson both suggested that each student association negotiate contracts with their university.

"The benefit of working with the universities and the unions would be that you're not dealing with the government," said Gibson.

"The flip side is that it is not going to be evenly distributed [among universities]," she continued.

"It could be an interesting focus for the student groups at this time."

Photo Natalia Lara Díaz-Berrio

The Right to Self-Determination and the Charter of Values

Social Justice Activist Leila Bdeir Speaks at Concordia about the Muslim Feminist Movement's Response to Bill 60

by Michael Wrobel @michael_wrobel

Quebec feminists and other progressive forces are currently confronted with an "important philosophical dilemma" in the debate surrounding the wearing of religious symbols, says self-described Muslim feminist and social justice activist Leila Bdeir.

A spokesperson of activist group *Présence musulmane*, blogger and professor of humanities and women's studies at Vanier College, Bdeir kicked off the Concordia-based Centre for Gender Advocacy's lecture series on race, gender and political resistance last Thursday by speaking about Islamophobia, media representations of Muslim women and the Parti Québécois government's proposed Charter of Quebec Values.

The charter—which has not yet been passed in Quebec's National Assembly—seeks to ban public sector employees from wearing

"ostentatious" religious symbols such as turbans, hijabs, niqabs, kippas and large crosses. Some feminists have declared their support for the charter, also known as Bill 60.

"If [Quebec feminists] believe that the right to self-determination constitutes an essential principle for women's equality, does this right also apply to women whose active self-definition leads to choices outside the Western secular norm?" said Bdeir, explaining the dilemma facing the province's feminists.

"In other words, are Quebec feminists willing to live with a certain number of realities with which they are uncomfortable in order to respect the right to self-definition of all women?"

Bdeir offered an open letter written by 88-year-old former Quebec television personality Janette Bertrand as an example of how some feminists see Muslim women who wear a religious headscarf.

"At this moment, the principle of equality

between the sexes seems to be compromised for the sake of freedom of religion," reads the French-language letter published by *La Presse* on Oct. 15. The letter states that men used to, and continue to, use religion in order to "dominate women, put them in their place, meaning beneath them."

Bertrand's letter was co-signed by 20 other feminists, many of them well-known personalities in Quebec, such as Djemila Benhabib, an opponent of political Islam and candidate for the PQ in the 2012 provincial election, and TV host Julie Snyder.

According to Bdeir, the letter is just one example of "how a significant number of feminists aspiring to what they describe as 'universal women's rights' actively reproduce paternalistic and oppressive practices."

In wider society, Muslim women are often seen as both victims of oppressive religious practices—despite the protestations

of Muslim women who say they freely choose to wear the hijab—and threats to state secularism, as in the case in the debate on the charter, Bdeir continued.

"Muslim women and their religiously motivated attire are now seen as the principle threat to *laïcité* and Quebec identity," she said. "No longer are Muslim women only perceived as dangers to themselves, but they are now perceived to pose a threat to the nation as well."

Bdeir told the audience that Muslim women are speaking up both in favour of and against the charter, but that a "double standard" exists that favours those on the pro-charter side.

"Rarely are Arab and Muslim women who come out in favour of the charter accused of not thinking for themselves by the majority group," Bdeir said. "Theirs are taken to be the legitimate voices of reason in support of the project."

Photo Michael Wrobel



Social justice activist Leila Bdeir speaks to a packed room about the Muslim feminist movement and the proposed Charter of Quebec Values on Jan. 30.

GSA Elects New Vice-Presidents

General Assembly Sees Executive Committee Grow From 3 to 5

by Jonathan Summers @jonathans_mtl

Nine months after creating the positions, the Graduate Students' Association finally filled the posts of VP Academic and Advocacy and VP Mobilization at a general assembly on Thursday.

Software engineering student Shewetaank Indora easily defeated Mostapha Marzban, Alex Ilobuchi Ocheoha and Robert Sonin for the position of VP Academic and Advocacy in a show-of-hands vote.

Meanwhile, Sonin, a philosophy student and former president of both the GSA and the labour union Teaching and Research Assistants at Concordia, won the much closer vote for VP Mobilization over Rohit Patil and Shide Salimi.

Over a hundred GSA members—far more

than the 63 required for quorum—crowded into the EV building auditorium for the vote, which was moved up to the top of the agenda. Still, some argued that the new executive positions are unnecessary, including current GSA President Mohit Sharma.

"The roles and responsibilities for those [positions] are contradicting with the roles and responsibilities with other staff members' positions," Sharma told the assembly.

He suggested, for example, that the VP External and hired staff members like the outreach and campaigns coordinators are already performing the tasks assigned to the VP Mobilization.

"From my perspective, it's a waste of money for you, for all of us students," said Sharma.

Nadia Hausfather, last year's VP External

for the GSA, disagreed. She had been on the Council of Directors when the decision was made to slash the GSA executive from seven members down to three, and in retrospect described it as an unsuccessful experiment.

"In my experience, three executives is not enough for a student association the size of the GSA," said Hausfather, who attended Thursday's GA. "The graduate student association of [the Université de Sherbrooke] and the graduate student association of [Université Laval] have at least seven executives in addition to seven paid staff."

"In terms of the staff," she added, "the staff are different than executives because executives are elected to carry out a political vision, right? The staff does what the executives decide and what council decides."

Indora and Sonin will only get to keep their jobs for two months, until the GSA's annual general elections in early April, when they may be eligible to run again.

Last April, GSA members voted in a GA to increase the size of the student association's executive committee by creating the two positions.

Thursday's long-awaited vote had been on the agenda at the GSA's last GA in November—along with a motion put forth by the Council of Directors to abolish the new positions altogether—but these were ultimately postponed because of a lengthy budget debate and a loss of quorum.

The proposal to abolish the positions was defeated at Thursday's GA, and the election of the two executives then went ahead as planned.

No Money, Mo' Problems

Hive Café Progress Slowed by Lack of Funds



The Loyola Luncheon, a CSU-sponsored meal program offering students a free, vegetarian-friendly lunch five days a week, seen here serving students in March 2013 out of the space slated for the Hive Café.

by Justin Blanchard @JBlanch6

Construction on The Hive Café has not yet begun—but that's not the only thing holding back progress on the project's development.

The Concordia Student Union's Referendum Oversight Committee is looking to fund the salary of a project manager who would oversee the creation of the co-operative board that would govern both the Hive and the student-run café that will replace the Hall Building Java U, according to the committee's report on its meeting last month.

Where to secure those funds remains undetermined, however.

"An assessment of the CSU's financial health as well as a breakdown of the bylaw interpretations will be presented at the next council meeting," said CSU VP Finance Scott Carr.

Gabriel Velasco, an Arts and Science councillor and member of the Concordia Food Coalition, suggested at the ROC meeting that money from the Student Space, Accessible Education and Legal Contingency Fund be used to pay a project manager.

But according to the ROC report, CSU Special Bylaw I states that the fund can only be used for the improvement of student space. Velasco says there's still a chance it can be used to fund a project manager, however.

"[The bylaw] is ambiguous," Velasco told *The Link*. "It's money that has been sitting there for a while. [...] There are other options but that seems to be the most viable one."

"The bylaw empowers council to use the

funds very broadly for 'improvements to student space,'" added VP Sustainability Ben Prunty. "So the important question to ask then is: is a student café a student space? Of course it is. Is putting a co-operative into the mezzanine space considered an improvement to student space? Since students voted 9-1 in favour of putting a co-operative in there, I'd say it is pretty clear that they consider it an improvement."

According to Carr, however, the funds will have to come from elsewhere.

"The money from the SSAELC fund is not available for projects currently due to circumstances beyond the CSU's control," said Carr, who refused to specify what those circumstances are.

Other options discussed at the ROC meeting included accepting requests for proposals from established co-operatives to bid on the space and having the Arts and Science Federation of Associations fund the project, both of which came with their drawbacks.

"ASFA, to my knowledge, does not have the funds necessary to fund this entire project," said Carr.

Meanwhile, "a co-operative that is run by students and already has existing capital would further limit the options presented," states the ROC report on the option of accepting an RFP.

A Co-operative Board

Prunty, a founding director of the CFC primarily in charge of governance for the Hive, introduced the idea of a shared governance

structure between the two cafés to the committee, arguing that such a model would help to reduce costs. The board would be composed of members of the CSU and the CFC, as well as other Concordia students.

"Each [food outlet] would have its own proper management, but the opportunities lay in the fact that the Hive has its own kitchen, and so it could supply prepared food [...] to other student-run locations around campus," Prunty told *The Link*.

"This would help drive down costs, not only financially, but also in people-power, since each location would not need its own board of directors and [annual general meetings], and things like that really do require a lot of organization and commitment on the part of students."

One potential issue with such a structure brought up at the ROC meeting was the burden that would be placed on one café if the other was not financially sustainable, but despite this Prunty says a shared governance model "would be the ideal."

"A lot of the work done on the Hive already could be shared with the mezzanine co-operative," he said, adding however that nothing is set in stone as council "has not deliberated on this particular option at length yet."

"Council will need to commit to one direction or the other so we can put resources behind [the project] and really start moving forward," he said.

Photo Benjamin Allard

Briefs

by Erin Sparks @sparkserin

Montreal Police Brotherhood Opposed to Polygraph Tests

Following allegations of corruption within the police force, the Montreal police union has announced its opposition to the use of polygraph tests for officers investigating organized crime, CJAD reported. Police chief Marc Parent says the tests should be administered as a way of ensuring that officers working in the organized crime department are held to the same standards as their American counterparts. The police union doesn't think the tests are necessary, however, arguing that they aren't entirely accurate and that a false reading could result in "disastrous" consequences for an innocent officer.

Search for Victims of L'Isle-Verte Fire Ends

Despite the unknown whereabouts of five people, the search for the victims of the Jan. 23 fire in L'Isle-Verte has ended, and investigators are switching to DNA testing, CBC Montreal reported. Bone fragments were found in the wreckage of the Résidence du Havre seniors' home where the fire started, and will be examined in the hopes of providing more information about those who are still unaccounted for. Police are still searching for the cause of the fire that killed at least 27 people.

PQ Unfair to Military Families, Say English School Boards

According to the Quebec English School Boards Association, the Parti Québécois is discriminating against military families who want to send their children to English schools, the *Montreal Gazette* reported. Military parents must be temporary Quebec residents in order for their children to qualify for English schooling, and the school board says that the government has recently become unreasonable in its requests. These include requiring parents to get affidavits from the Department of National Defense proving their temporary status, and having them explain why they do not want a French education for their child. The provincial Education Department has said it is re-evaluating what it means to be a temporary resident following the school boards' complaints.

Montreal To Give \$2.6 Million to Artists

Montreal and Quebec have decided to grant \$2.6 million to Montreal artists over the next three years, according to *La Presse*. Of the \$2.6 million, \$1.1 million is reserved for Aboriginal artists and other culturally diverse communities, and around \$600,000 will go to "innovative arts." Minister of Culture and Communications Maka Kotto said he was happy with the financial ability of the Conseil des arts et lettres du Québec in light of the boost in funding. The \$2.6 million being granted is a near 60 per cent increase from the last time arts councils in Quebec and Montreal collaborated on funding three years ago.



Performers at the 2011 Aural Sex event steaming it up onstage.

Talking Dirty

Erotic Poetry Jam Reaches Climax with 8th Year in Montreal

by Daniel Chen

While other muscles such as the *gluteus maximus* or the heart may be more realistic candidates for the title of “Mightiest Muscle,” the tongue has a distinct advantage, as it can do one thing the other muscles cannot—it can gossip about the other parts of the body.

At this month’s spoken word event the Art of Performing Aural Sex, the tongues of many a Montreal poet will be doing just that, in writhing, vivid, sensual detail.

On Feb. 9, Le Cabaret du Mile End will host what will be the eighth edition of the event. The brainchild of Concordia graduate Kym Dominique-Ferguson and his production company, Madpoetix, APASX is a pre-Valentine’s Day evening of erotic spoken word poetry, story-telling and movement dance performance.

“We want people to experience erotica on a different level,” said Dominique-Ferguson.

The event is meant to shed light on a topic

often left obscured in the shadows—the many folds and facets of intimacy and sexuality. APASX explores it all, from the everyday erotic to the strange, offbeat and intriguing. It celebrates, reveals and discusses the invisible world of sex and erotica that all too often remain firmly hidden in private fantasy.

“No matter how much we say Montreal is an erotic city, it’s still pretty conservative,” said Dominique-Ferguson. “We want to break that taboo; we want people to enjoy other people expressing their sexuality.”

An established Spoken Word poet who competed in last year’s Canadian Festival of Spoken Word, Dominique-Ferguson originally put on APASX with Montreal’s Caribbean community in mind back in 2007.

“I was about to graduate [from Concordia], [...] I was in the film program. I didn’t see myself going into film,” he said. “I’ve always been an entertainer in some way, shape or form. I said to myself, ‘What can I do to make an impact on Montreal using all

my different art forms?’” he continued.

“I did three years of theatre in Jamaica and six years of cinema in Montreal and I’ve been doing poetry almost all my life. I wanted to combine the three and have people experience that on an artistic level.”

The idea was to set up an event that combines fun with deconstructing social barriers.

“We look at sexuality as something very taboo, as the black [Caribbean] community is traditionally Christian,” said Dominique-Ferguson. “We wanted to break that mold a bit.”

But the event has grown in both diversity and size over the years, drawing people of all kinds to the sexy spectacle.

“We’re feeling an acceptance from the outside community,” said Kym. “When we first started going this show, there were more black people, more Caribbean people. Now we’re finding instead of an 80-20 [ratio of black to other ethnicities] it’s more 60-40; there are a lot more people from the Asian community, white community and the francophone community.”

The event looks to make an impact that is “different from everyone else in terms of the poetry world.” This drive for diversity could be, in part, what keeps the show moving forward.

“The goal is [...] to entertain people, to bring an erotic poetry back to Montreal,” said Kym. “Every year we have to bring it back, and to do that we have to switch it up because we have a lot of people that come regularly.

“So we can’t just give the exact same thing every time,” he continued. “We bring in dancers, poets. We switch up the poets every time, there’s music incorporated into it. Our goal is to bring in a larger audience.”

Setting the right mood plays a big role, too. “We have a DJ that plays...the right kind of music,” said Kym.

“What we want to do is create an ambiance of warmth, to get people in the mood. [...] There might be some singles, some people that are not. A lot of ladies get together and come, and a few couples.”

Ultimately, as Dominique-Ferguson explains, “The purpose of the event is to have a good time. We believe that it’s an entertainment product that can be enjoyed by everyone, no matter your ethnicity, background or gender.”

The act is divided into two parts, with the first concentrated on the romantic side, and things get down and dirty in the second half. However, Dominique-Ferguson noted that people tend to leave halfway through, perhaps spurred by the night’s topics.

“I suspect they leave because they want to...” Dominique-Ferguson says with a suggestive hand gesture.

The Art of Performing Aural Sex // Feb. 9 // Le Cabaret du Mile End (5240 Park Ave.) // 6 p.m. // \$20 to \$25 + fees advance, \$30 door

Photos Waid Hins

A Labour of LOVE

Montreal Dance Company Stages Production to Help Prevent Youth Violence

by Geoffrey Vendeville @geoffvendeville

More than once in rehearsal, emotion has gotten the better of the dancers in Sonia Balazovjeh's company.

For their latest production, the dancers in the non-profit company have linked up with the youth violence prevention program LOVE—an acronym for Leave Out Violence—to bring attention to the challenges facing youth, from bullying to drug abuse.

"Some pieces get so intense we all end up crying," said Lindsey Haywood, a member of the Sonia Balazovjeh Dance Company since 2010. "We're looking at each other, remembering Grade 6 when other girls were so mean to you, and called you ugly, brace-face and four eyes."

"For the moment, you have to stay in character to make sure your message comes across as genuine as possible."

Founder of the company, Sonia Balazovjeh, and her fellow dancers, who are trained in contemporary and classical styles, want audiences to walk away from their performance with a deep emotional impression.

"We really want it to be an experience for them rather than just a show," she said. "We always felt that if an audience comes and watches the show, claps and leaves, our message is lost. But if they come and we teach them something,

it'll have a longer lasting effect."

In the past, the dance company has donated all proceeds from their shows to other local charities, including the West Island Women's Shelter, 60 Million Girls foundation, and St. Mary's Hospital Foundation. Balazovjeh says her company's new partnership with LOVE is a natural fit.

"The concern that I had [to prevent youth violence] just kept brewing, until I was like, 'Okay, we've got to do something with this cause,'" she said.

LOVE debuted in Montreal just over 17 years ago. Sheila "Twinkle" Rudberg founded the program after her husband, Daniel, tried to stop a 14-year-old from mugging an elderly woman and was fatally stabbed.

The incident led Rudberg to launch an organization to curb youth violence and crime. LOVE got its start in a class of 15 students in a Dawson College CEGEP photography course and has since expanded to other Canadian cities and abroad.

Using spoken word poetry, journal writing and photography, volunteers for the organization teach non-violence to middle and high school students.

In its production "Addicted to LOVE," Balazovjeh's dance company is out to show that the social ills that the organization was

founded to address persist today—and that there are solutions.

The SBDC and its technical director, Robert Lynch, found inspiration for the show leafing through a collection of LOVE students' poetry, photography and journal entries. The booklet has been passed around among the company so much that it is creased and dog-eared.

"It's a very emotional show. We really wanted to get behind the psyche of what kids are dealing with on a daily basis," said Balazovjeh. "It's such a fast-paced world now, and there are so many pressures."

The dancers conveyed the students' experiences of physical and verbal abuse, addiction, and depression into movement. A year-and-a-half in the making, the show is the product of a collaborative process.

Each dancer had input in the show's conception, from choreography to music. The songs in the performance range from Patrick Watson to live music by local hip-hop producer and MC David Hodges and folk singer Stefanie Parnell.

SBDC will take the stage just a few feet away from the audience to try to convey the piece's highs and lows in intimate detail.

Many of the dancers in the company come from a gymnastics background so

there is no shortage of acrobatics in the performance. But, for SBDC, expression takes precedence over technique.

"Some pieces are very technical, but we have a few pieces where we throw the dance moves out the window. It's like acting," said SBDC dancer Dawn Patulli, who graduated from Concordia's John Molson School of Business in December.

The opening of the 90-minute show focuses on the difficulties facing youth. The second half is more hopeful, beginning with a sequence in which the dancers form a line-up in front of a mirror. Strapped to elastics symbolizing love and organization in the community, Petulli breaks down the wall.

"That's really the first piece in the show with that uplifting, soul[ful] feeling where we're really starting to reach for hope—which is what LOVE signifies through the show," she said.

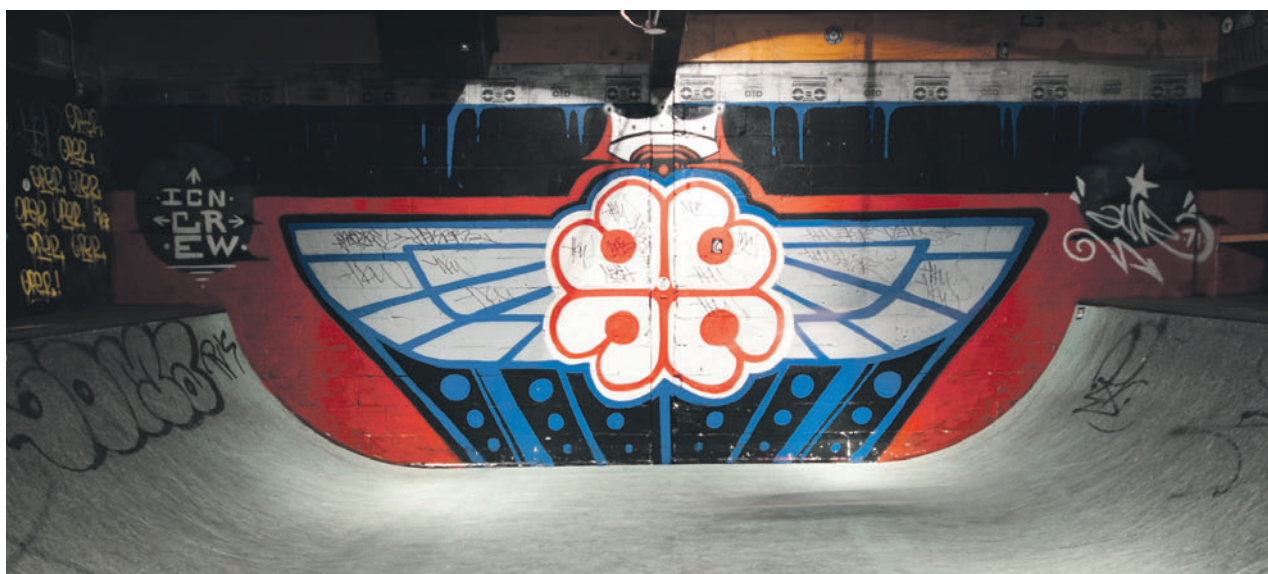
"Through LOVE [troubled youth] can get past whatever they're going through and [we can] help them in the right direction."

Addicted to LOVE // Feb. 7 and Feb. 8 // Espace Reunion (6600 Hutchison St.) // 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. // \$20 students with valid ID, \$37 regular advance

Photo Geoffrey Vendeville



Skate, Drink,



"The skaters say, 'Oh, that's a shitty bowl,' so let's re-do the bowl. We're here for them," —Fred V

Slam, Repeat

Montreal's Premiere Skateboarding Bar Unveils Brand-New Bowl

by Jake Russell @jakeryanrussell

► Continued from page 3.

The average first reaction to a skatepark/bar hybrid is one of shock and disbelief—how can insurance cover such a volatile mix of extreme sports, cheap alcohol and wild skateboarders?

Bar founders Fred Vitu and Joe Valina said it wasn't easy—it took months to arrange the correct permits and secure insurance, coming from an unspecified foreign country. Finding the right location proved challenging as well.

"We were working for a year looking around. We were driving together all over Montreal to find the right place, making phone calls," Vitu said.

The only known precedent to their skate project is alternative bar and venue Foufounes Electriques that once featured a mini-ramp, but the bar was forced to remove it due to lack of proper insurance.

"Before we tried to find the location, we had to find the insurance because of the Foufounes trouble. [...] It took a long time to find it, but as soon as we had it, then we went forward," Vitu said.

Even with the proper paperwork lined up, the skate bar still receives funny looks from some—most notably Montreal police.

"The cops, they don't like us too much. Since the beginning, they've been coming a lot," Vitu said.

As for the bar's abbreviated name, Vitu said that was less an aesthetic choice than one forced upon him and Valina by the Quebec language police.

"Because of the *Office de la langue française*, we couldn't call it 'Trash Bar,' so, in French, 'T-R-H,' when you say it, it [sounds like] 'Trash,'" he explained.

New Bowl, New Blood

TRH-Bar's original bowl was constructed free of charge by a friend of Vitu and Valina's last year, and was quickly covered in a sleeve of colourful spray paint artwork and skated on for months.

But the integrity of the ramp was eventually compromised. Air pockets in the wood sent cracks spiraling through stressed areas, and the extension of the bowl (the higher-raised end that reaches a vertical degree) became haggard and difficult to skate on.

With the bar's popularity taking off and sponsorships from companies such as Jagermeister and Pabst Brewing Company bringing in funds, Vitu was recently able to demolish the old bowl and build a new one from scratch.

"The skaters say, 'Oh, that's a shitty bowl,' so let's re-do the bowl. We're here for them," Vitu said.

Former professional skateboarder, events coordinator and Montreal native Eric Mercier signed on for the job of designing and constructing the new bowl. With 29 years of skateboarding under his belt and having built skateparks such as Montreal's 83,000 square-foot indoor park Le Taz, TRH-Bar's new bowl was an ideal endeavour.

"[The new bowl] is a better design, definitely. The materials are all the same, but if they're not installed properly, they become shit," Mercier said.

TRH-Bar held a launch for the new skate structure on Feb. 1, just three weeks after the initial demolition of the old bowl. The new bowl is larger, infinitely smoother and better designed

than its predecessor. Just one revolution pumping around the corners can reap a massive boost of speed, and skaters can grind for much longer around the coping, producing more satisfying tricks—but also cringe-worthy high-speed slams.

At the launch, skaters were hungry to get tricks or die trying. There were multiple collisions as eager skaters dropped in at the same time, and daring photographers lurked at the edge of the bowl or even jumped in to snap a photo of elusive aerial tricks in the deep extension.

Skaters brought their A-game for the best trick contest, with wall plants, big airs and steezy stalls going down all night—a sign of all the shredding still to come.

The Misfits and the Rebels

Vitu moved here from Soissons, France 10 years ago and hasn't looked back since. For him, Montreal was the perfect place to realize his dream of owning a skate bar.

"It's a great city—I've been travelling a bit around the world, and I love what's happening here. I think it's the best place to do this project," he said.

Mercier agrees that TRH-Bar is highly unique, which perhaps explains why it's already become a staple in the city's skate scene.

"The concept is good—everyone goes out anyways, and in the wintertime at least you have the ramp to skate, so why not combine the two together?" he said. "The guys saw an opportunity to open a skate bar, with a bowl and a ramp. It's a perfect combo for success, for the skate side of the bar scene."

The bar has been host to a wide range of events. Professional skateboarders from around the world have visited, such as rising star Torey Pudwill and the legendary Chico Brenes. Skate videos have held their Montreal premieres at TRH, including Emerica's latest video *Made*, along with music shows and more.

"We are always open for anybody to make an event here, whether a party, or film premiere or fashion show. Anything you want, you can do it here," Vitu said.

"We've also had a harp player in the bar. [...] She was playing harp, and there was graffiti [painting] at the same time and breakdancing."

Vitu says TRH-Bar is a no-judgment zone as well—all are welcome to drink, shred, party and have a good time.

"[We] don't judge about tattoos, or hairstyle, or dressing style or stuff like that. You can come wearing a shirt and a tie or a dress or be all dirty; we don't care," he said. "As long as you respect the people next to you, it's perfect, you're welcome in the bar."

Vitu says first-timers at TRH are often taken aback by the total immersion in skate culture, with walls covered in graffiti, skate decks hung up and even built into the very integrity of the bar's surface, skate videos constantly playing on screens everywhere, and of course the ramps themselves—it's a skatopia dream finally realized.

"Everytime you see a new person coming in the bar, you just have to see his face, just see the surprise," said Vitu. "I don't know what you can expect. Don't expect to have a really clean couch, or the best champagne to drink, or a fancy cocktail."

"Don't come for that. Come for everything else."

Photos Brandon Johnston and Jake Russell



Vitu, TRH-Bar founder



THE LINK

CONCORDIA'S INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1980

▶ Link Radio workshop

The Link Radio project keeps growing and growing, and now it needs YOU.

Ever wanted to be on the radio? Got some segment ideas floating around your noggin?

Well, we want to hear them! Join *Link* news editor and CJAD reporter/producer Andrew Brennan and coordinating editor Geoffrey Vendeville this Friday, Feb. 7 at 4 p.m. at *The Link's* office (H-649) and we'll share ideas and talk about what makes for good radio. Get those radio voices ready!



▶ Join The Link!

Looking to get involved with *The Link*? There's no time like the present! Stop by our office in H-649 on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. for our weekly story meetings, and come by on Fridays at 4 p.m. for workshops.

You can also email the appropriate editor if you have something to pitch—an article, a photo essay, a video—whatever it is, we'd love to hear about it. All email addresses can be found at thelinknewspaper.ca/about.

Hoping to be on next year's editorial board? Our elections are March 7, and in order to be eligible you need to have contributed at least four times to four separate issues this semester. There's still time, so get cracking!

Fringe Calendar FEB. 04 TO FEB. 10 by Riley Stativa @wileyriles

MUSIC

1 **Sharing + Aunty Panty + Pop Goes**
Feb. 5
Casa del Popolo (4873 St. Laurent Blvd.)
9 p.m.
\$5
This triple act show has something musical for everyone and their mothers (okay, that may be a bit of a stretch—leave mama at home). Share in Sharing’s experimental rock, the grunge post-rock vibes of Aunty Panty, and discover Pop Goes’s unique musical stylings.

2 **The Belle Game + The Darcys [18+]**
Feb. 6
Il Motore (179 Jean Talon St. W.)
9 p.m.
\$13 + fees advance
West meets east for this all-Canadian feature. Vancouver’s indie pop rock darlings The Belle Game team up with Toronto art rockers The Darcys in what promises to be a two-step, sway to the melody, get-your-groove-on show.

THEATRE

3 **Montreal MainLine Student Gala 2014**
Feb. 6 to Feb. 8
MainLine Theatre
(3997 St. Laurent Blvd.)
8 p.m.
\$13
Running for its fourth year in a row, this bilingual event will showcase four short plays written by young, bright and upcoming talent. The theme participants were asked to write around is “Montreal,” so don’t miss your chance to gain a new perspective on the City of Saints.

CINEMA

4 **Double Indemnity**
Feb. 9
Cinema VA-114
(1395 Rene-Levesque Blvd. W.)
7 p.m.
\$6 students and seniors, \$8 regular
Hailed as the quintessential film noir experience, *Double Indemnity* is the gritty tale of an insurance salesman lured off the honest path by a dangerous femme fatale. A black and white piece of film history that shouldn’t be missed (also, the only time it may ever be socially acceptable to rock a fedora without getting sideways looks.)

5 **Honour Your Word + Seeking Netukulimk**
Feb. 10
D.B. Clarke Theatre
(1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W.)
7 p.m.
Free admission (donations accepted)
This documentary double feature focuses on First Nation struggles in Canada. *Honour Your Word* follows the story of the Algonquin people of Barrier Lake fighting to protect their land and culture. *Seeking Netukulimk* is a poetic short film about a Mi’kmaq elder as he passes on the knowledge of practising treaty rights to his grandchildren through eel hunting. The director of the documentaries will be present for the screenings.

6 **LITERATURE**
McGill University History Department Book Launch
Feb. 4
Paragraphe Bookstore
(2220 McGill College Ave.)
4 p.m.
Free admission
History buffs rejoice! The McGill History department is launching three new books, including *British Queer History: New Approaches and Perspectives*, which is filled with essays and new information to make readers rethink queer issues through a fresh historical lens.

7 **OTHER**
Objet Sonore Lectures #2
Feb. 8
PHI Centre (407 St. Pierre St.)
4:30 p.m.
Free admission
The bilingual sound-centric speaker series returns! Two speakers (pun intended) will lecture on the rise of touch screen technology and how it is affecting independent recording practices, as well as on the way sound and speakers can effectively help to create visual art, respectively.

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

Check out more listings online at
thelinknewspaper.ca/calendar

Fringe Giveaway

TWO TICKETS TO SEE A BURLESQUE SHOW AT THE WIGGLE ROOM

Valentine’s Day falls on the first day of Concordia’s Reading Week, so if you’re trying to kick off the break with a bit of sass and scandal, you’ve picked up the right newspaper!

We’ve got two pairs of tickets for two separate shows at the Wiggle Room (3874 St. Laurent Blvd.) for two lucky readers.

Lucky reader no. 1 will get two tickets to see Dr. Wiggle’s Burlesque Emporium on Feb. 14 at 9 p.m., with the elusive Dr. Wiggle showcasing his sultry cabinet of curiosities. For Lucky reader no. 2, there are two tickets for the Blue Valentine Burlesque on Feb. 15 at 9 p.m., with a lineup of teasing dancers who are sure to make you fall in love.

To enter, like *The Link* on Facebook and like our official giveaway post. We’ll choose the winner for each show next Monday, Feb. 10 in our typical wacky fashion.

Good luck, and stay sexy, Concordia!



Concordia Gets a New Pond

New Student-Initiated Outdoor Skating Rink at Loyola to Officially Open

by David S. Landsman @dslands

Back in mid-October, Krzysztof Kmiecik had a vision. The Applied Human Sciences student specializing in leisure sciences and co-president of the Applied Human Sciences Student Association wanted to bring students together for a common activity: skating on an outdoor rink. It doesn't get more Canadian than that.

"I wanted to bring the Concordia University students together through commonalities in recreational activities," said Kmiecik, "and also help build a sense of community and belonging amongst students and staff."

Kmiecik first proposed the idea of building an outdoor rink to his professors after having several discussions with Sean Nolan, VP Social of the Arts and Science Federation of Associations. Nolan wanted to have an outdoor hockey

tournament but realized there wouldn't be enough participation and so joined Kmiecik's cause.

Right from the beginning Kmiecik knew his idea was going to be well received, as it would benefit both the Concordia student body and the university as a whole.

The only trick was to get funding, something he got help for from ASFA and the Concordia Student Union. He also got a helping hand from Dean of Students Andrew Woodall, who provided a donation of his own to the project.

"He is the [one] who spearheaded this entire project," said Crystal Harrison, the CSU's VP Loyola, of Kmiecik. "He reached out to everyone from the Dean of Students to Recreation and Athletics to Residence to Facilities Management to Security to Concordia Communications to ASFA and to us [at the CSU]."

It's a project that officially got

started this January. The materials were all ordered on Jan. 13, and construction got officially under way Jan. 20 when volunteers, members of Facilities Management, Concordia Stingers fan group SWARM, the Recreation and Athletics Department and even a few Stingers took part in making Concordia its very own pond in its backyard.

"The goal of the rink is to create more of a buzz around the Loyola complex," said Stingers defenceman Youssef Kabbaj. "It also helps to give a private outdoor rink to Concordia students [and staff] on which to relax before or after classes."

With the recent temperature fluctuations, the actual construction of the rink hasn't been the easiest of tasks, especially for Kmiecik, who was there every single day seeing his idea come to life.

"The weather hasn't always been kind to us," said Kmiecik. "But really, day in and day out I've

been very fortunate to have some of the very best volunteers out there.

"Last Tuesday I had [men's hockey coach] Kevin Figsby and a bunch of the hockey players come out and help with garnering all the materials, loading and unloading the truck and setting up the boards," he said.

With the rink being able to hold 50 to 60 people at a given time, it's sure to attract attention from students as well as faculty.

"It was really cool to have everyone come together on a Loyola project," said SWARM VP Communications Matt Garies. "All the students can enjoy it and that's great."

With the grand opening just days away, Kmiecik is excited to see his project come to life and for what's to come for the future of the rink, and so are his colleagues who helped make it possible.

"An awesome aspect of this project is its capacity to be re-implemented in the years to come," said Harrison.

"Hopefully the outdoor skating rink will become a staple at Loyola."

The rink itself, found in the football field's end zone measures 60-by-120 feet and will open to the public this Friday, Feb. 7 at 2:30 p.m. CJLO will be on hand to DJ the event, and free snacks, such as maple taffy and coffee will be made available for those in attendance.

Students can use the rink during the week between 1 p.m. and 5 p.m., and can also reserve it by contacting Kmiecik at least a week in advance at kmiecik.krzysek@gmail.com.

Kmiecik also urges those with a bit of spare time this Thursday between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. to come by, grab a shovel and help out. Volunteers are also welcome to stop by anytime and help supervise skaters or lend a hand in teaching those who are hitting the ice for the first time.

Photo Matt Garies



PHOTO OF THE WEEK

Photo by Leah Balass

Time in a Bottle: The sun sets over the frozen Lac Archambault in St-Donat.

Submit your photos to photo@thelinknewspaper.ca

We will be holding weekly meetings to brainstorm upcoming video features The Link will be producing. Drop by to meet our staff, pitch your ideas and find out how you can help be part of our new video team.

Meetings will be held every Friday at 3 p.m. in the Hall Building on 1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W. room H-649.



A Golden Opportunity

Team Canada Captain and Former Stinger Caroline Ouellette Seeking 4th Straight Gold Medal in Sochi

by Yacine Bouhali @MyBouhali

Representing Canada at the Sochi Winter Olympics is an honour that comes with high pressure to perform.

You would think representing Canada as captain of its powerhouse women's hockey team would put that pressure on a whole other level. But it's all the same to new team captain Caroline Ouellette, a former Concordia Stinger and three-time Winter Olympic gold medalist.

"Whether you're a captain, assistant captain, a veteran or a rookie [...], you're expected to bring home the gold medal, and as athletes that's what we expect of ourselves," said the Montreal native on a break from preparing with the national team in Austria last week, two days before leaving for Sochi.

Though Ouellette, who played for Concordia's women's hockey team in 2001, has helped Canada win gold in each of the last three Olympics, this year will mark her first attempt to do so while captaining the team.

Last month Kevin Dineen, Team Canada's new head coach, removed the captain's "C" from Hayley Wickenheiser, who held the role for the past seven years, and gave it to Ouellette in a move that stunned hockey fans across the country and Ouellette herself.

"It was a surprise [to be named team captain], I wasn't expecting it," she said. "It's a great challenge for me, but there are many good leaders on the team and I'll be counting on them to help me lead the team."

Ouellette's assistant captains will be defenceman Catherine Ward and veteran forwards Jayna Hefford and Wickenheiser.

"Our role as veterans is to think more about the other players and make sure they're feeling good and are confident as well," said Ouellette.

"I always try to give the example with the way I play—be intense but disciplined."

Discipline is an aspect that Ouellette believes will be crucial if Canada ends up taking on the United States, its biggest rival, in the final. The Canadians faced and defeated the U.S. in two of the past three gold medal games at the Olympics.

"The Americans have many forwards with lots of talent and speed, so we have to play a good defensive game and not take worthless penalties," said Ouellette.

"[Playing good defence] will give us chances to counter back on the transition," she continued. "We trust our offensive game. Lately we've been creating a lot of chances coming from our fore-check and we want to keep putting the accent on that aspect."

After Sochi

Over the last few years, Ouellette has been preparing for her future career as a hockey coach, knowing that one day she'll no longer be able to compete at the highest level.

Ouellette remains unsure as to when that day will come, however.

"Sometimes I feel like it's time to move on, but other times I say to myself that I really like what I'm doing," she said.

"[Retiring] is not on my mind right now. I'm focused on what's coming and we'll see after that."

But Ouellette admits she may soon be hanging up her stakes for good.

"I'm 34 years old and it's tough

to play over 35," she said. "It is very likely that [these Olympics] are my last ones."

If they are, a familiar place awaits her when all is said and done—a spot behind Concordia's women's hockey team's bench.

Ouellette assisted longtime Stingers coach Les Lawton at Concordia last season, a role she hopes to eventually take up again.

"I adore coaching. I loved being on the ice with the girls during the practices and showing them some tricks," said Ouellette.

"They always seemed excited and were eager to learn."

One player who grew fond of Ouellette is Stingers forward Jaymee Shell, who has kept in touch with Ouellette.

"[Ouellette] is a great coach and a role model for all of us. She's very knowledgeable about the game and they way she explained it to us just clicked," said Shell.

Shell isn't the only one missing Ouellette's presence—Lawton is equally eager to see the three-time medalist return to Concordia.

"We're in a little bit of [a negotiation period] right now to see if she'll be back. She was great for our program last year and we'd certainly love to have her back," he said.

"[Ouellette] played at the university level so she knows what is it like to be a student athlete, [and] she obviously competed against the best players in the world," he continued.

"If she could put her stamp on our program that would be very positive."

Top photo courtesy Team Canada, bottom photo David S. Landsman



"Whether you're a captain, assistant captain, a veteran or a rookie [...], you're expected to bring home the gold medal, and as athletes that's what we expect of ourselves."

—Team Canada Captain Caroline Ouellette



Cool Runnings

Do Winter Jogging the Safe Way

by Olivia Jones @Olivialijones

Cold and icy weather often makes you feel like just staying inside, but don't let it keep you from your daily jog.

Some might think it's dangerous to jog or run during the winter, but if practiced safely, the fresh air and exercise can be invigorating and enjoyable—even more than during summer.

"I find I get a lot more energy just from the cold," says Sophie Choquette, president of the Concordia Outdoors running club. "The heat [from the summer] can really

bring you down and dehydrate you."

Choquette adds it's important to check the weather before heading out for a jog this time of year.

"Obviously, what you wear is a huge difference [between winter and summer jogging]," said Choquette, who runs outdoors four or five times a week with the club. "Certain days you just can't go because it's way too cold, other days you just have to dress up very warmly."

The temperature isn't the only thing to be aware of. Montreal's winters also bring a heavy dose of precipitation, something that's

TIPS FOR SAFE WINTER JOGGING:

- ▶ Plan according to the snow and temperature
- ▶ Wear layers so you can adapt to sudden weather changes
- ▶ Wear a good sweater and a windbreaker instead of a jacket
- ▶ Don't overdress—your body heat will surprise you, even when temperatures drop below zero

- ▶ Wear slim-fitting clothing
- ▶ Watch out for other runners
- ▶ Avoid stairs, as they are often icy
- ▶ Avoid mountains or steep hills
- ▶ Run in well-lit areas
- ▶ Don't wear running shoes with netting or holes
- ▶ Use Yaktrax or a similar ice traction product if it's very icy

difficult to counter with better equipment (have you ever tried running in boots?).

"As far as shoes go, you just try not to run through slush and through ice," said Choquette. "So you just plan out your routes to be more on roads."

Of course, there's always the option of hitting the treadmill at your local gym for a good workout without the hassle of the cold, ice and snow. But as Choquette explains, jogging outside has its benefits.

"Some people don't mind running 30 minutes just staring at the same thing, but

for a lot of people, it's really not enjoyable," she said. "So [outdoor jogging] is just about seeing new scenery, and it's a lot more social when you can run outside because you can run with a group of people."

Concordia Outdoors organizes bi-weekly runs for students and, warm or cold, they leave their downtown office every Wednesday at 6 p.m. and Thursday at 2 p.m. for their regular eight to 10 kilometre runs. The club is open to anyone, no matter your skill level.

Photo Brandon Johnston

BOXSCORES

WEEK OF JAN. 27 TO FEB. 2



Sunday, Feb. 2 Men's Hockey—Concordia 2, Carleton University 7
Women's Hockey—Concordia 3, Carleton University 1

Saturday, Feb. 1 Women's Hockey—Concordia 1, McGill University 5

Friday, Jan. 31 Men's Hockey—Concordia 2, Queen's University 6

Wednesday, Jan. 29 Men's Hockey—Concordia 1, Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières 4

UPCOMING GAMES

THIS WEEK IN CONCORDIA SPORTS



Friday, Feb. 7
6:00 p.m. Women's Basketball at Bishop's Gaiters
7:00 p.m. Men's Hockey at Ottawa Gee-Gees
8:00 p.m. Men's Basketball at Bishop's Gaiters

Saturday, Feb. 8
2:00 p.m. Women's Basketball vs. Bishop's Gaiters (Concordia gym)
2:00 p.m. Women's Hockey at Ottawa Gee-Gees
2:00 p.m. Men's Hockey vs. UOIT Ridgebacks (Ed Meagher Arena)
4:00 p.m. Men's Basketball vs. Bishop's Gaiters (Concordia gym)

Sunday, Feb. 9 3:00 p.m. Women's Hockey vs. McGill Martlets (Ed Meagher Arena)

Check out Stingers game summaries & our weekly sports podcast, The Buzz, at thelinknewspaper.ca/sports

The CSU Needs a New Way of Representing You

Student Congress Aims to Give All Student Associations an Equal Voice

by Gene Morrow @replqwtl

The Concordia Student Union represents over 30,000 undergraduate students across four faculties and over 300 programs of study. Amidst this incredible diversity, it is a constant challenge to engage in a political representation that can be said to truly represent all of these disparate groups and students.

As it stands, the CSU relies on the active participation of students on its council of representatives, the personal contacts and networks of both executives and councillors and the results of elections and referenda that rarely break 10 per cent student participation to get its mandates and positions.

While we try to do the best we can, it should be clear that these structures are only approximate, at best, when it comes to saying that our mandates represent all our students.

We, as the CSU executive, are as aware of these basic problems in our current structure as anyone else. That is why we spend so much time debating about our electoral process, and how best to promote participation in it.

We know that we must bolster our existing processes and structure to better ensure their legitimacy and representativeness. However, alongside those efforts, there is more that can be done.

That is why we are proposing a new experiment in student governance that will try to fill these gaps in representation and help students across Concordia develop common positions that we can confidently say represent us in our diversity.

We've dubbed this new experiment the Concordia Student Congress. It represents an effort to bring together the political representatives of Concordia students from every level of the university, in a single venue, to vote on and adopt consensual positions that represent us all.

The fundamental goal of this event will be to try and develop a baseline political program that we can honestly say represents the diversity of opinions at Concordia. That is to say, positions that speak to students in as many programs, departments and faculties as possible.

This is an extremely important difference to make, and one of the points that most sets the CSC apart from anything that has been done at Concordia before. As opposed to our elections, referenda and general meetings, the CSC is not targeting individual students at Concordia, but rather the individual political units that represent them.

The goal in making this shift is to try and allow for the voices of smaller departments and faculties to speak louder and to carry equal weight in saying whether our positions represent them or not.

It is extremely important for the CSC to try and even out the power differences that often skew our political agenda making. We know

that certain faculties and programs are much larger than others, and that fact is already well represented in our current electoral system and on council. The CSC will therefore operate with a "one group, one vote" system.

Because this is an entirely new structure, the CSC would not have any formal decision-making powers; positions that are adopted would have to be looked over by council before anything binding was put in place.

Our belief is that, as students, we have just as many issues that unite us as we do that divide us. Our divisive points are already well represented and known, so we want instead to bring our common positions into relief; there are some things we can all agree on.

Throughout this week, we will be getting in touch with representatives of each campus group that represents an identifiable student population (at the departmental, faculty and university level) and inviting them to send a delegation to the Student Congress.

The process will then be to adopt an agenda for the meeting, consisting of possible positions for discussion, which will be debated and voted on by these delegates.

The meeting will use a system of modified consensus to try and ensure that any position adopted at the Congress realistically represents the interests of all, or nearly all of the student groups present, while specifically excluding the possibility of any majority overpowering the voices of other groups who are present. Our goal is to have everyone heard and to get everyone on board.

To be clear, this isn't to say that all of the CSU's political positions could be adopted in a totally consensual fashion. There are ideological oppositions within our membership that cannot be overlooked, and that must be played out and resolved through electoral politics.

The CSC is in no way an attempt to replace or sideline these struggles; it is merely an attempt to complement them and ground them in a common vision that can serve as a baseline for our aspirations as a student body.

I'd like to finish this piece with a plea. If you are involved in student politics, if you represent students in your department, or your faculty, please take part in this congress. If you are involved at any level of this university, please get in touch with your representatives and urge them to participate. The Congress is an experiment, and it will depend on all of us to make something happen.

For more information and to get involved, contact Academic@csu.qc.ca and President@csu.qc.ca.

Gene Morrow is the VP Academic and Advocacy for the Concordia Student Union.

Graphic Graeme Shorten Adams

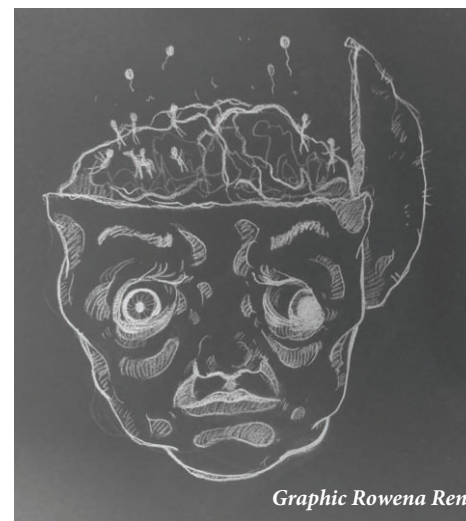


The Mental Health Issue Brainstorm

Not all of us have been affected directly, but we've all been touched by it in some way.

Mental illness might be the most important personal and cultural phenomenon we never talk about—but there are signs of positive change on the horizon. Even as mental health enters mainstream conversation, there remain plenty of gaps to fill, stigmas to demolish and intersections to expose. We need your help to map the unseen.

Join us on Wednesday, Feb. 5 at 5:30 p.m. as we come up with ideas for our upcoming Mental Health issue.



Graphic Rowena Ren



Dishonourable Discharge

Canadian Army Ad Campaign Enforces Gender Stereotypes

by Emily Campbell @emkcampbell

As I was travelling home by metro this week, I was greeted by a new advertising campaign directly targeting my gender. Mounted above escalators were enormous posters of women in diverse military uniforms, accompanied by what I assume were meant to be inspirational quotes, encouraging women to join the Canadian Forces.

Something about it didn't sit right with me.

Accompanying two of the women in camouflage gear and ceremonial dress were captions in English and French. "I always feel needed here," said one. "When I have something to say, everyone listens," said another. At first I laughed.

The advertising campaign is so transparent and dated; and the assumptions it makes and the stereotypes it enforces are so bizarre, as is the idea that joining the military is likely to either placate our inherent desire to "feel needed" or inspire respect solely by merit of serving in the armed forces.

I took a photo of the posters and continued on my way, but the message stayed with me. Such

seemingly mundane quotes paired with smiling military women felt both predatory and patronizing.

I started asking some of my female friends about their feelings towards these advertising tactics.

Hannah Morrow, a feminist performer and Concordia graduate, pinned down exactly why these advertisements are off-putting.

"[It's] the basic concept in advertising of preying off of people's insecurities, coupled with some obvious stereotypical ideas of what women's insecurities are, [such as] 'women are nurturing by nature,' the idea that we live to help others, and that we generally feel oppressed and unheard in our day-to-day lives," she said. "It's actually an interesting pair of ideas, since one seems to come from a notion of our inner natures, and one seems to come from an awareness of social realities."

One of the poster's quotes implied that I live to help others, that I need to feel needed, that I am a caregiver and mother figure—which I admit I can relate to. But it's an instinct that ought to be honed in humanity rather than pinned solely as a female trait, in an ad depicting

only women and geared at women—and, considering military statistics, likely created by men.

It's assumptive, stereotypical and reminds me of advertising from the '50s, where women were depicted as people whose sole purpose in life was to play caregiver to their husbands, children, country and so on.

Perhaps I'm just tired of advertising telling me who I should want to be.

With the other notable quote, it seems as though the advertisement is addressing the issue that civilian women don't feel that they have a voice in our society. In many ways this is true—female representation in Canadian government, media and within top tiers of business corporations is still dismal, so of course women don't feel that they have a voice here.

But to imply that joining the military is going to elicit the respect that women crave glazes over a more deep-seated issue in Canada.

On the other hand, pursuing a career in the military is a stereotypically masculine endeavour, so in a way this is a progressive advertising campaign. That's how Sergeant Edward Sanchez explained it when I called the Mon-

treau recruitment office to enquire about the motivations behind advertising geared towards women.

"A lot of people are afraid because of preconceived notions about the military," said Sanchez. "Women weren't interested in going to Afghanistan."

According to Sanchez, the military has a mandate to raise female participation in the forces to 25 per cent; army statistics show that about 12 per cent of current military employees are women.

"Most women are more conservative, they choose more clerical jobs, they don't choose infantry or mechanics," he said. "Women are welcome to apply and will be considered for all sectors."

Sanchez says that there is no affirmative action in the Canadian military, meaning that female applicants won't necessarily be given preference over male applicants in order to reach the 25 per cent quota. At the same time, the more female applicants there are the greater likelihood there is that women will serve a larger role in the military in the future.

There are a number of reasons why military enrollment hasn't

caught up with social progress, and the macho culture that surrounds the military is but another deterrent. The *National Post*, CTV and the *Huffington Post* have all recently published articles outlining the prevalent sexual harassment in the Canadian military. In the 2012 Canadian Forces Workplace Harassment Survey, nine per cent of female respondents reported being sexually harassed over the span of a year, and many have said they're fearful about voicing their concerns to higher-ranking officers.

No wonder women aren't joining the military—the institution's dated and stereotypical advertising as well as regular news stories covering the culture of harassment and silence do not exactly inspire confidence. If more women were to take part, though, perhaps the military culture in Canada could change.

Either way, female commuters get to be reminded about what the Canadian Forces thinks we want and need, until another poster depicting an emaciated model telling us how we should look and what we should wear goes up in its place.

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Graphic Caity Hall

Bypassing the Climaxing

Whenever I have sex with my girlfriend, things are great. We get hot and heavy, but she never really seems to orgasm. She claims it has happened a few times, but definitely not lately. I pretend it doesn't bother me, but it's shaken my confidence. I've tried everything I could think of—asking female friends for advice, rubbing her clitoris more, more foreplay, different positions, different speeds and styles of penetration, but nothing really seems to be working. I feel crappy about it and it's really unfair to her. Any suggestions?

—Unhappy Endings

First of all, this is in no way a measure of your abilities as a lover or partner. In fact, it really sucks to hear this framed as being unfair to your girlfriend, when it sounds like you're being a considerate partner who's placing the emphasis on her pleasure.

I came to two conclusions when reading your question. Either your girlfriend has never had an orgasm before—in general or specifically during penetration—or she isn't as committed to having one as you are.

While the possibility that your girlfriend has never had an orgasm may sound silly, it's not as rare as some people think. Many women have either never had one before or are unsure if they have—and as far as I'm concerned, actually having had an orgasm leaves little doubt. If she's not the type to explore her body on her own it's possible that she has orgasmed, or has had some without knowing how to make it happen regularly.

There's an expectation that sexually experienced women have had an orgasm and know how to

make it happen, so if this is the case, she may not readily express it. Porn plays a part in this by portraying women's pleasure as a given and easy to achieve, a perception that can put a lot of pressure on both partners.

It can leave women feeling like there's something wrong with their sexual response, leading to discomfort talking about it or even faking orgasms. It can also make these women's partners feel inadequate and guilty.

Nowadays we talk a bit more about how most women can't orgasm from penetration alone, but we still don't talk about how adding clitoral stimulation to penetration doesn't necessarily guarantee an orgasm.

If she's never had one before, it's unlikely that she'll have her first one from penetration—or know what she's looking for—and it's not a reflection of either of your abilities. Some women will never have an orgasm from penetration, plain and simple, and some don't really care to.

It's awesome that you're so committed to helping your girlfriend orgasm, but an important question to ask is whether or not she actually wants to have an orgasm during penetration. If not, then you likely won't have any success, no matter how much you learn or try to change.

While sex generally ends with male orgasm, the same is often not the case for women. Many women are unable to orgasm from or during penetration, preferring instead to orgasm before or afterwards through other sex acts like manual or oral stimulation, and enjoy penetration without the expectation of an orgasm.

This may or may not be the case with your girlfriend, but the bottom line is that it's important for you and your partner to be communicating openly about what you enjoy during sex.

You should also keep in mind that many people are not comfortable having orgasms in front of others. Orgasming involves some loss of control and some people get preoccupied with how they look or act

during it, and then can't have them.

In terms of moving forward, there are two things I'd suggest trying if your girlfriend has in fact had orgasms before. The first is to ask her to masturbate in front of you. Provided she's comfortable doing this, the best way to learn how to bring one's partner to orgasm is to see how they do it.

The second is to ask her to direct you when you're stimulating her. Assure her that you will not be offended and that this is about you wanting to please her. A good way to take some pressure off her is by suggesting clear directions so she knows what to say: faster, slower, higher, lower, more pressure, less pressure.

These suggestions won't necessarily help if she's never had an orgasm before. If this is the case, and she actually wants to have one, I always recommend learning and getting comfortable with having solo orgasms from masturbation before attempting to have them with a partner.

Learning what gets you off is an exploratory process, so it can take

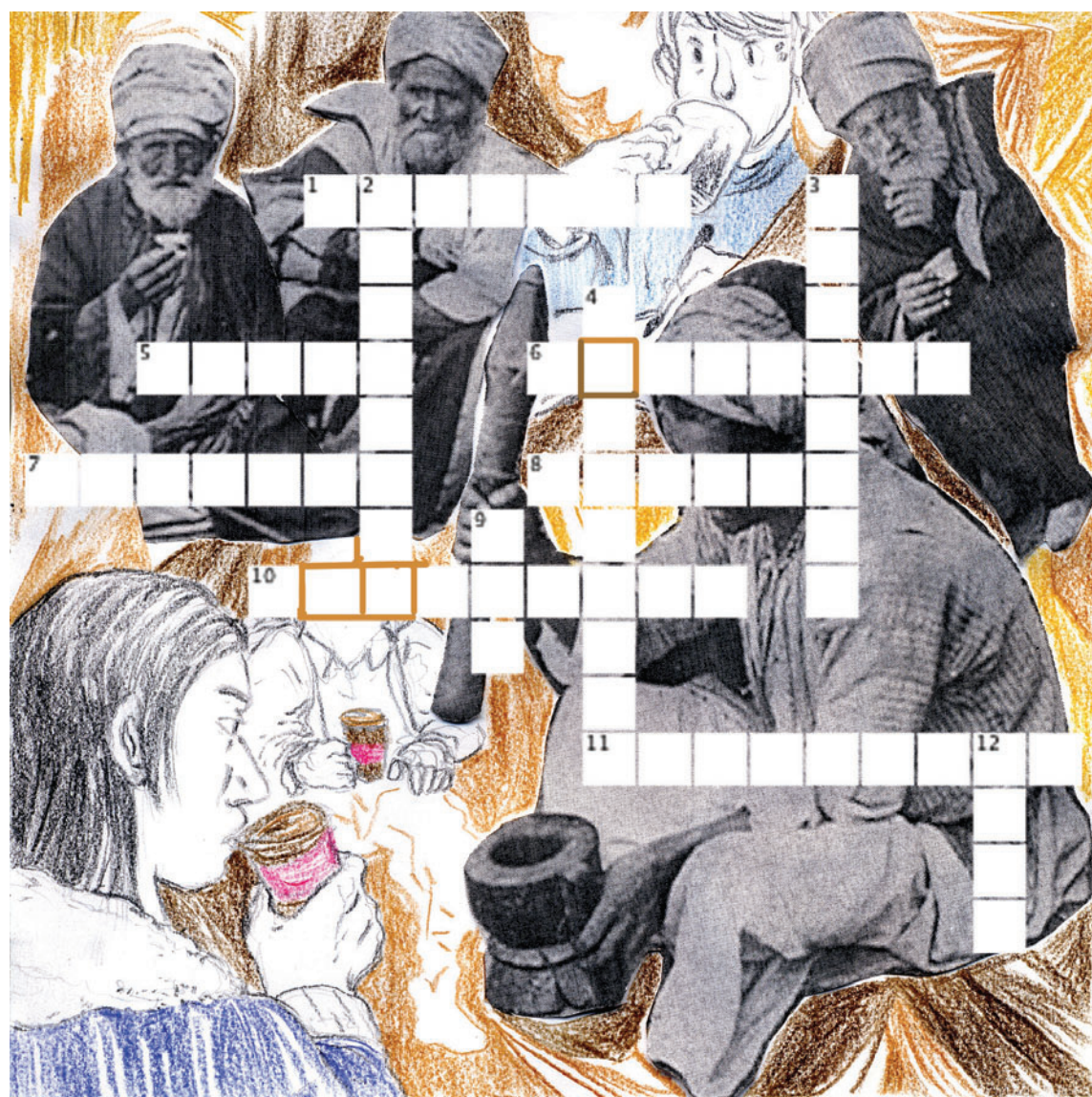
some time; it's best to be in a situation without the pressure or need for performance that a partner's presence can bring. Once she has solo orgasms figured out, it will be a lot easier for her to share them with you and to figure out how to have them in different ways.

The main thing I hope you take away is that this is a team effort, so you both need to be communicating your needs and working together for mutual satisfaction. I think your girlfriend's perspective on the situation would clear a lot up, so you could use this response as a way to start a dialogue with her on the subject and see where that takes you.

—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!



Whole Latte Love

by Liana di Iorio @MsBerbToYou

ACROSS:

- ▶ 1. This energy drink may actually give you wings with the amount of caffeine it contains. (2 words)
- ▶ 5. Tea is the second-most popular beverage in the world after this natural thirst-quencher.
- ▶ 6. This frozen summer staple comes in a "Coffee, Coffee, BuzzBuzzBuzz" flavour. What more could you ask for? (2 words)
- ▶ 7. The characters of this sitcom got their java from Gunther, the world's creepiest barista, at the fictional New York café Central Perk.
- ▶ 8. The world's most famous tea party was held in this city in 1773.
- ▶ 10. Not a coffee-lover? The dark, semi-sweet and milk variations of this creamy indulgence can also give you a little pick-me-up.
- ▶ 11. This company is famous for its mermaid logo and extensive lingo.

DOWN:

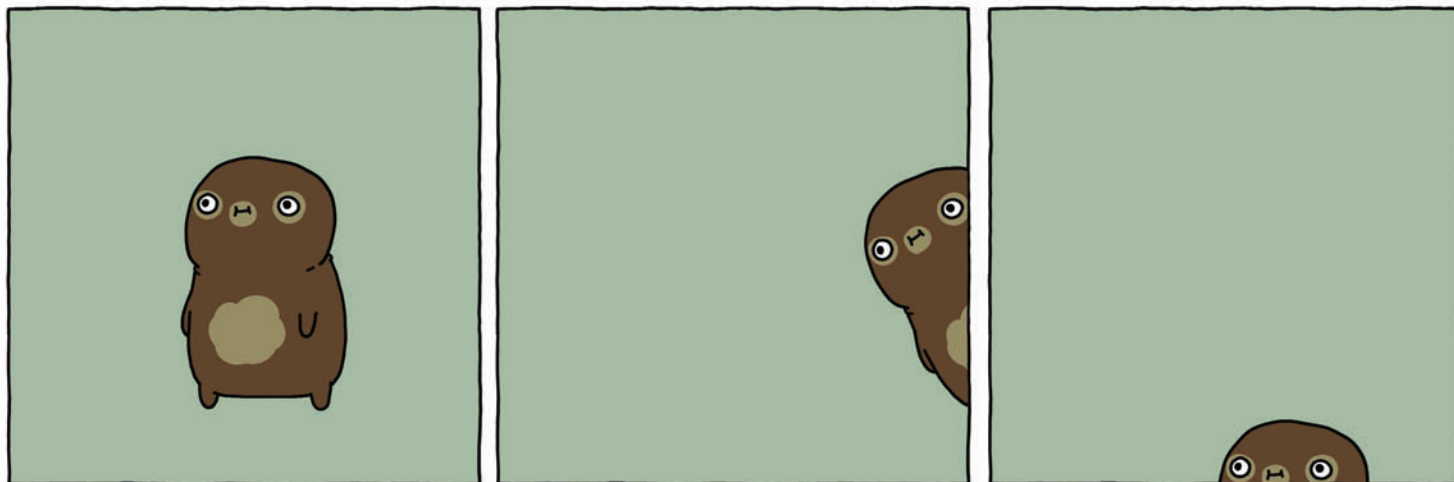
- ▶ 2. Served in a shot glass-sized cup, this concentrated coffee serves as the base for cappuccinos, macchiatos and 40 per cent of a student's blood.
- ▶ 3. Nutella and other spreads derived from this nut contain a healthy dose of caffeine—as if you needed an excuse to eat it.
- ▶ 4. In an attempt to out-latte coffee chains, this fast-food company gives away free coffee for a week several times a year.
- ▶ 9. While there are a few theories as to where this slang for coffee came from, the most plausible is that it's a shortened version of "jamoke," a slang word combining "java" and "mocha."
- ▶ 12. Part of Coke's name comes from this caffeine-rich nut.

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Graphic Graeme Shorten Adams

Power Theatre

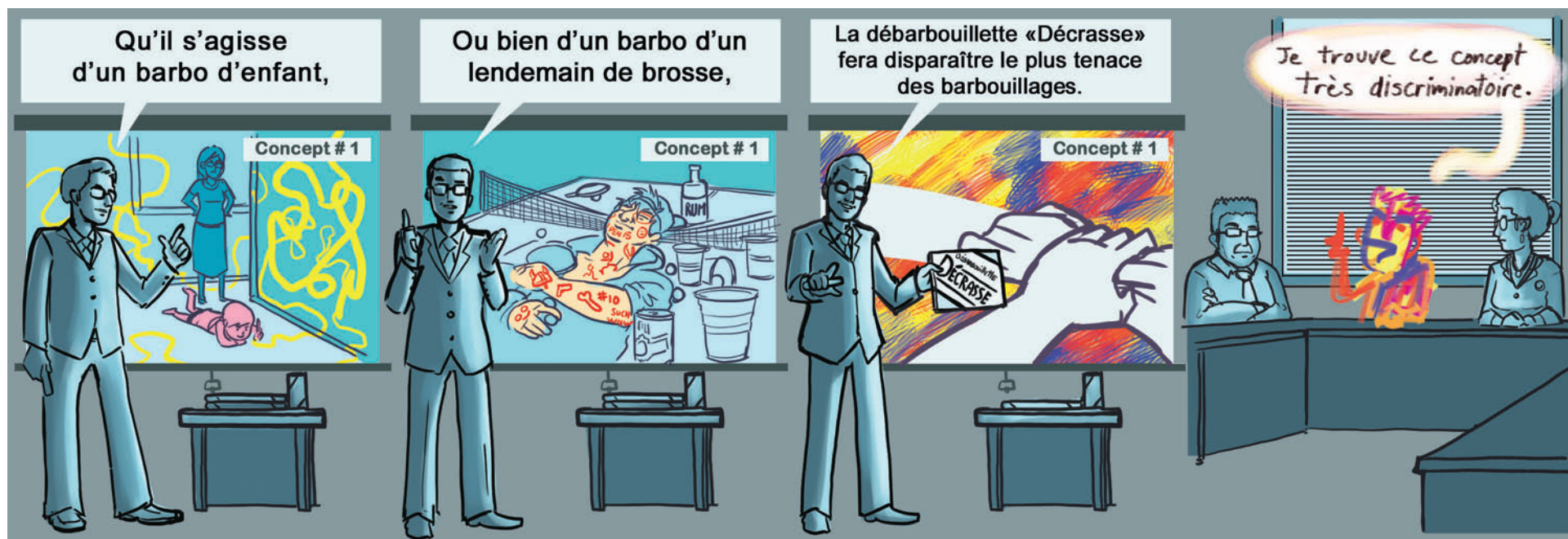
COMIC ALEX CALLARD

I FIND DRAWING CHARACTERS "PEEKING" MAKES THEM FUNNIER SOMEHOW.



Québécois 101

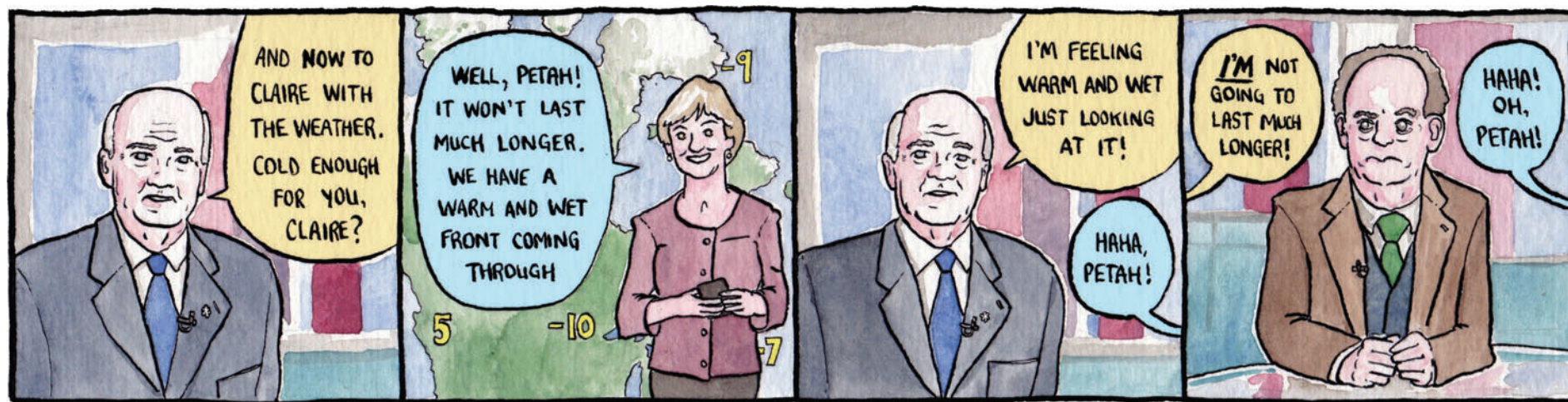
COMIC PAKU DAoust-Cloutier



Débarbouillette: (day-bar-boo-yet) A *débarbouillette* refers to a washcloth, but some people use it to describe an all purpose rag. The word "barbo" is a colloquial term in Quebec for the word *barbouillage*, which translates to daub, meaning to carelessly spread or colour something with a substance, such as graffiti.

False Knees

COMIC JOSHUA BARKMAN



NAH'MSAYIN? The Walking Virtually-Dead

So there I was, minding my own business, going through my mental to-do list as I headed to the metro (let's see—I have to renew my OPUS card, go to the bank—oh yeah, cheese is on sale this week—hey, did I ever respond to what's-his-name's email?), when without warning, the dude in front of me suddenly stops in his tracks, forcing me to swerve to avoid him, narrowly missing the elderly woman menacingly swinging her IGA bag. What's the deal?! What earth-shattering news could make him screech to a halt like that?

And then I saw it—silly me, the man got a Facebook notification. What was I thinking? *Of course* he had to check it in the middle of the stairs.

Do you really think that people can't wait a single second more before hearing what you had for lunch? Is the need to post your latest selfie or "like" a comment that

urgent? And if the need really is so great, why can't you have the basic courtesy to at least move to the side?

I propose that the city instates a new task force to combat this issue. We'll call it the Anti-Texting-in-Public-and-Taking-Over-Sidewalks-and-Blocking-Doorways Brigade.

Those fixated by their phones while blissfully dominating the entire sidewalk must be stopped. A fitting penalty would be to hold their phone just slightly out of their reach, watching them agonize over every incoming text they can't immediately respond to. Ah, sweet, sweet revenge.

So the next time you're out, have some common courtesy for everyone else who really doesn't give a flying fig what your cousin thinks of her new boots. And if you don't, the ATIPATOSABD will spring into action.

—Randy Pinsky



Graphic Caity Hall

Editorial



Losing Count of Student Space Projects

Like an airport ensnared in a bitter snowstorm, the Concordia Student Union's large-scale plans remain grounded.

Before the Hive and Mezz cafés can become a reality, management and infrastructure must be established—and the CSU has yet to agree on that first step—with the clock ticking on the current executive's mandate.

The idea of a singular management system coordinating both cafés has merit, effectively halving the number of executives and administrators needed to make both spaces run.

The theory is that the prep work put into the Hive could be transferred to the Mezz, saving time and funding, all under the same roof. It

makes sense, since both are being run under the co-operative model.

But it also feels like an all-or-nothing scenario. With one governance structure, either both cafés will get off the ground simultaneously or neither will open their doors for the foreseeable future. If The Hive Café stalls, so does the Mezz Café.

If we have a proposal that makes sense for the Mezz Café alone—which is co-operative and student-run, as mandated by undergrads—it seems unwise to not take it. The Mezz Café should be the priority of the two, since students will be missing their Hall Building caffeine fix if our union can't find a replacement for Java U.

For the Hive, those promised a new café in their first year are now

graduating without seeing any tangible progress. At least we know the Mezz space already has the capacity to work for a café, and unlike the Hive, construction is not a must.

We're still a long way from even breaking ground on these projects—and election season is only a month away.

It seems the CSU cannot agree on where the funds for these projects will come from either. In the interim, Reggie's bar partygoers will remain thirsty until the bar gets back on its feet—construction talks with the Concordia administration inevitably gummed up in the myriad of other construction projects the university has on the go.

It would be easy for the on-cam-

pus watering hole to be pushed to the back burner, as the CSU continues the five-year fumble with the Hive, now with the Mezz Café lumped in too.

Money's tight for these projects, despite the fact we have more than \$10 million in the CSU's Student Space, Accessible Education and Legal Contingency Fund. With one indefinitely closed bar, a soon-to-be vacant café space and the empty room we ironically call "the Hive," a project as huge as a student centre seems laughable at the moment.

We need to figure out how to fund the projects already in limbo, and the fact that we have millions earmarked for a project we may not even be capable of taking on is pretty painful.

This student space fund could be

the answer to some of these current café woes. We're collectively putting more than another million dollars in the fund each year; it's time that money does something more tangible than dubious space surveys.

The use of this fund for current projects will be discussed at the next CSU council meeting, and we urge our student reps to consider the mess our current student space is in when deliberating what kind of funding there is to improve the situation.

It seems foolish to chase the dream of a full-fledged student centre when we can't even manage a bar and a couple cafés.

Graphic Graeme Shorten Adams

THE LINK

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In "Not Another Brick in the Wall" [Vol. 34, Iss. 19], it was stated that the documentary *Professor Norman Cornett: "Since When Do We Divorce the Right Answer from an Honest Answer?"* was filmed "while Cornett was teaching at Concordia." In fact, Professor Norman Cornett was an invited guest speaker at Concordia at the time. *The Link* regrets the error.



Every Week is Poutine Week

Poutine Week brings out the glutton in all of us, and we at *The Link* want to see what the city can bring to the table—literally. Like a city-wide version of *Man vs. Food*, this week will see Montrealers scarfing down specialty dishes of poutine as fast as they can.

Check out our Fringe Blog this week for a short video chronicling three *Link* editors' journey into the cheese-curd-stuffed belly of the beast, trying out poutine around town. You can submit photos of some of your favourite poutine dishes to photo@thelinknewspaper.ca as well. Happy eating!

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