



LINK

CONCORDIA'S INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1980

TAKE BACK THE NIGHT

Why Don't We Have a Sexual Assault
Centre at Concordia? Page 05

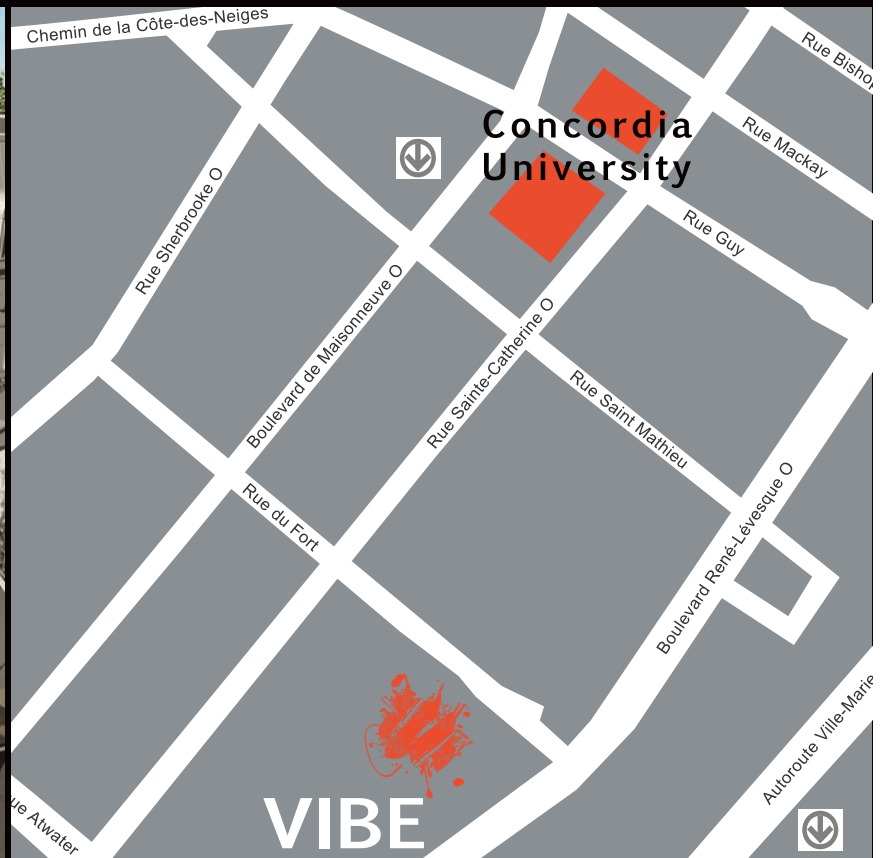
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CONCORDIA'S MILITARY CONNECTION

by Geoffrey Vendeville



◆ PHOTO GEOFFREY VENDEVILLE

Last week, *The Link* received an email—subject “Concordia’s Military Complex”—containing information about the university’s ostensible ties to the Department of National Defence and military industries.

The email was sent by a student activist from the newly formed Anti-War Efforts Group.

“It’s an attempt to show that the military is deeply involved in Concordia’s administration, deeply involved in the funding of Concordia and deeply involved in the research at Concordia,” said Gabriel Velasco, one of the original members of the AWEG.

The group sprang up in September as an offshoot of the Mob Squad, a campus-based activist organization that supported the student strike and stands against the privatization of universities.

So far, the Anti-War group has roughly a dozen active members and a mailing list of about two hundred people.

The group’s research was partly based on a five-year-old pamphlet entitled “Military

Research in Our Universities” by another local activist group and summarized in a flowchart scribbled on the back of a concert poster—hardly what one would call compelling evidence.

Indeed, it would have been easy to disregard their allegations, had they not found a few real—albeit ambiguous—links between Concordia, the defence department and large corporations involved in different aspects of military production.

While Concordia’s so-called military ties aren’t nearly as clear-cut as they appear in the AWEG’s makeshift flow chart, they do appear to exist.

In reality, the picture is blurry: a web of hazy associations encompassing a research council, several major corporations and the university’s highest administrative body, the Board of Governors.

Continued on Page 7.

THE LINK ONLINE

LIVE SESSION

We filmed B.C.’s Current Swell last week when they stopped in Montreal for their cross-Canada tour. They played a stripped-down version of their soulful tune “I Want a Bird” for us at Santropol before their explosive set at Divan Orange. Watch the video at



thelinknewspaper.ca/blogs/link-live-sessions

BASKETBALL

Both the men’s and women’s basketball were undefeated going into their match against McGill. Read about how they performed in our Sports section online.



CUTV General Assembly Approaches, But Questions Remain

BY COREY POOL @COREYRIVER

This time next week, we could be looking at a new Concordia University Television.

The station will be holding an official general assembly this Saturday, aiming to establish changes it will need to stay afloat.

After a month rocked with resignations, infighting, a frozen fee levy account, the locking and eventual unlocking of its doors, the loss of its provisional Board of Directors and legal legitimacy, topped off with its fair share of personal-gone-public drama—CUTV has again become newsworthy.

The station is now forced to completely reconstruct itself, or fall apart, again.

The general assembly's proposed agenda includes the adoption of bylaws, the appointment of an auditor and the election of an official BoD.

Members are encouraged to bring amendments to the current draft bylaws.

Though the issue of defining membership has been a sore spot throughout the CUTV saga, it was clarified at last week's meeting.

Members are defined as Concordia undergraduate fee levy-paying students, volunteer members having completed the requisite four hours of work and station employees.

Community organization partners that pay a fee and donors were also identified as voting members of CUTV.

However, before the GA can happen, several important details need to be finalized, including how members will be registered for the assembly.

"We haven't done that yet, but it

will definitely be based on lists that we're gathering now," said Gabrielle Bouchard, the 2110 Centre for Gender Advocacy peer support and trans advocacy coordinator who has chaired the past two meetings, and has taken on an active role in organizing the GA.

"Donors were one of the categories of people that could vote, so obviously we will need the list of people who donated to CUTV," said Bouchard, adding that this list does not necessarily exist yet. "For students, we're going to ask for the help of the Concordia Student Union."

The rest of the GA's structure—including the voting process—is still undecided, but should be finalized by week's end.

"I really wish that we'll have a strong set of bylaws and a strong board by the end of that GA, so that CUTV can move forward," she said. "I also really hope for civility."

THE ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM

While the GA is generally welcomed by all, an increasingly vocal group of CUTV members, comprised mostly of volunteers and community members past and present, are ensuring their grievances are heard.

Concordia undergrad and former CUTV volunteer Kian Ettehadieh's main concern is the proposed bylaws.

"I know that this is also the concern of many members and people at the station that are involved," he said.

On Nov. 14, a group of members published an open letter titled "Members Speak Out" that addressed multiple issues within the structure of CUTV.



Gabrielle Bouchard (far left), moderates last Monday's CUTV meeting where the eligible voting population for the upcoming GA was identified. PHOTO ERIN SPARKS

Though the letter is now closed for signatures, it gained approximately 50 names in a handful of days.

"At the meetings, we agreed the station needs to continue existing, and so we need to make it a legal organization," said Ettehadieh, adding that existing internal conflicts at the station should not be overlooked in attempting to set things right.

"We're addressing the issue, but not addressing its cause," he said.

On Oct. 30, the Concordia Student Broadcasting Corporation, which oversees Concordia student radio station CJLO and formerly oversaw CUTV as well, ruled that "increasing tensions with staff members" were the cause of then-station manager Laura Kneale's resignation.

On the day Kneale left, the entire original three-member provisional Board of Directors, including Kneale, resigned.

Since then, numerous members

have approached *The Link* to voice frustrations with the station's management, highlighting its hierarchical structure as a fundamental problem.

"I'm perturbed by the way things have been going, but this is nothing new," said Clifton Nicholas, a Concordia student and former CUTV volunteer and equipment manager. "I left CUTV for a reason; I was forced out by [Executive Director] Laith Marouf and the inability of Laura Kneale to control him."

When *The Link* contacted Marouf to comment on the GA and these issues, he refused to comment and hung up the phone.

For the past several weeks, Marouf has been alleging through Facebook posts that "evil reactionary opportunists" are challenging the station's coverage of the Quebec student strikes.

"He's been riding the horse of the student movement saying, 'Look at everything we did. We tried to take down a government,

and now they're trying to take me down,'" said Nicholas. "It has nothing to do with that. That's subterfuge."

According to Ettehadieh, however, the bylaws that have been drafted for the upcoming GA are problematic.

"We're meeting for a GA to pass bylaws and make CUTV a legal body, but Laith and company produced these bylaws without any member involvement," said Ettehadieh. "So the concern is in what we are making a legal body—are we just legitimizing the previous structure, or are we moving towards a new structure and doing things differently?"

Ultimately, Ettehadieh hopes that the GA can uphold the members' wishes.

"The culture within the station is that people want to be members. They feel like volunteers, but they want to be members who are actively participating in the decisions and direction of the station—and that's what I'd like to see."

CITY BRIEFS

BY ANDREW BRENNAN @BRENNAMEN

SPACEMAN LANDS IN LIB RACE

The first Canadian in space is expected to announce his bid for leadership of the federal Liberal Party this Wednesday.

Three-time astronaut and former head of the Canadian Space Agency, Marc Garneau has been MP of the Montreal riding of Westmount-Ville-Marie since 2008.

With the elections set for April 2013, Garneau is already considered to be one of the primary contenders in the leadership race.

CHARBONNEAU GETS A MAFIOSO

Quebec Police served alleged Mafioso Vito Rizzuto with a subpoena earlier this week. He is being asked to testify at the Charbonneau Commission, the anti-corruption inquiry examining possible mob collusion in government construction contracts.

Rizzuto's name has surfaced several times during various testimonies, notably from former Quebec construction entrepreneur Lino Zambito, who said Rizzuto handled a vast number of the city's construction contracts.

NO VIOLENCE

Women's rights groups in Quebec are revving up for a 12-day campaign to support the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women.

Other groups are also showing their support. Montreal police are introducing a five-year plan to help diminish conjugal violence. Efforts to promote awareness of gender-based violence put forth by the CFL were recognized by the Canadian Minister for the Status of Women at the 100th Grey Cup game on Sunday.

SUSPENDED FOR ANTI-SEMITISM

A Montreal talk show host has been suspended without pay after he sympathized on-air with anti-Semitic comments last week.

Known to some as "King of the Night," Jacques Fabi of 98.5 FM allowed a caller on his show to go on for minutes about the Israel-Gaza conflict, resulting in pro-Holocaust and anti-Zionist statements being aired on the largest radio station in Quebec.

Jewish organization B'nai Brith Canada and the Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs in Quebec had called for a formal apology from Fabi earlier this week.

MARCHING TOWARDS A SOLUTION

Protest Speaks to Need for Sexual Assault Centre at ConU

by Michael Wrobel @michael_wrobel

As upwards of 100 people took to the streets of downtown Montreal Friday to participate in the Take Back the Night protest, the message was clear: sexual and gendered violence needs to stop.

"We need to stop accepting the idea that sexual assault is normal and expected, that if we walk alone at night, if we wear short skirts, if we drink too much, that we should expect sexual assault might happen," said Julie Michaud, the 2110 Centre for Gender Advocacy's administrative coordinator.

A SAFE SPACE AT SCHOOL

Friday's march was organized by Concordia's 2110 Centre as part of their ongoing campaign to bring a sexual assault centre to Concordia.

The campaign's objective is to pressure Concordia's administration to create a new centre on campus that would provide support services to victims of sexual assault and raise awareness of sexual and gendered violence.

"Universities are a pretty intense site of sexual assault and sexual harassment," said the 2110 Programming and Campaigns Coordinator Bianca Mugenyi. "It's really key that as a community, we have services [available to] survivors of sexual assault."

According to the 2110 Centre, one in four women will experience sexual assault during their post-secondary studies.

Mugenyi says that a sexual assault centre at Concordia would provide students who have experienced with support, information and referrals.

Such a centre would also help to build a "culture of consent" at the university.

"There'll be more people available to facilitate workshops and public education programs," said Hilary King, who is involved in the 2110 Centre's Sexual Assault Centre Campaign. "It's not just about a safe space for sexual assault survivors, but a place to start building a campus-wide community that is anti-sexual assault."

CIRCLE OF SUPPORT

The Women's Studies Student Association at Concordia has voted to support the 2110 Centre's campaign and proposals for a sexual assault centre at the university.

"Sexual assault and sexual violence are real issues," said WSSA VP Communications Hector Villeda-Martinez. "The university has a responsibility to the student population. Perhaps at school a person can find information, a safe space where they can inquire, where they can seek counsel, where they can seek help."

Last week, the Concordia Student Union unanimously voted to endorse the WSSA's position on—and plea for—a sexual assault centre at Concordia.

"The university has been saying that there's no space for the sexual assault centre," said CSU VP External Simon-Pierre Lauzon.

"The first step in going about helping the 2110 Centre is to define what space is needed. Then we'll go talk to the university and find out what their position on this is. From that, we'll be able to formulate a campaign, a response or whatever is needed."

In attendance at the march were two members of the Sexual Assault Centre of the McGill Students' Society, Natalie Geffen and Lily Hoffman; the two support the campaign to create a similar centre at Concordia.

"Creating a space where people can talk about [their] experiences and come to understand what consent and healthy relationships means [...] is fundamental to creating a positive and respectful university campus," said Hoffman.

McGill's Sexual Assault Centre offers support groups and a phone-in helpline to victims of sexual assault. The centre also has an outreach branch that goes into high schools to talk to students about building healthy and consensual relationships.

Mugenyi remains optimistic that Concordia will soon have a sexual assault centre of its own. In the meantime, the 2110 Centre's campaign will keep up the pressure on the university.

"Given the strong support from students, the CSU and the [Graduate Students' Association], and the momentum of the campaign, I feel optimistic," said Mugenyi. "We just need to get the administration on board."

SPEAKING OUT

The first documented Take Back the Night event was held in Philadelphia, PA in 1975 after a young woman was stabbed to death walking home at night. Since then, women's groups, rape crisis centres, colleges and universities have organized thousands of rallies internationally.

"Everybody should have the right to be safe wherever they are," said Michaud. "We want it to be really clear that nothing you can do makes it okay for somebody to do something to you against your will."

According to her, we live in a rape culture which normalizes sexual assault.

"Apologies for rape are all around us—whether it's in advertising, in films that make light of rape or in the comments of your friends who might tweet something about a chemistry test having 'raped' them," she said. "We need to start challenging this rape culture and start creating a culture of consent."



PHOTO KEITH RACE

Montrealers take to the streets in protest of sexual and gendered violence.

The protest also dealt with other issues affecting Canadian women.

Simone Lucas of Women in Cities talked about the need to make public spaces safer through a gender-based approach to municipal planning, and Maya Rolbin-Ghanie from Missing Justice spoke about the hundreds—possibly thousands—of missing or murdered indigenous women in Canada whose cases have not been adequately investigated by the police.

The march began at Norman Bethune Square before proceeding down Guy St., Ste. Catherine St. W., McGill College Ave. and de Maisonneuve Blvd. W. A police escort accompanied protesters along the route.

As they walked, protesters held signs and chanted, "Patriarchy has got to go," and, "Stop the violence, stop the rape."

The march ended at the terrace behind Concordia's Hall Building, which was identified by Women in Cities as one of the least women-friendly places on campus, since it is secluded and lacks sufficient lighting at night.

"Everybody should have the right to be safe wherever they are. We want it to be really clear that nothing you can do makes it okay for somebody to do something to you against your will."

—Julie Michaud, 2110 Centre for Gender Advocacy
Administrative Coordinator

TOWARD THE TABLE

Students, Government, Third Parties Plan for Education Summit

by Jane Gatensby @janegatensby

After months of anticipation, the Parti Québécois government has announced that its summit on universities will take place mid-February—almost a year after the Quebec student strikes began.

First put forth on the PQ's July 2011 platform, the summit aims to revisit issues at the root of this spring's student strikes. The aim is to seek out solutions to issues relating to university education in Quebec, including the controversial topic of tuition fees.

Speaking at a press conference earlier this month, the summit's planners—Quebec Premier Pauline Marois, Mem-

ber of the National Assembly Léo Bureau-Blouin and Higher Education Minister Pierre Duchesne—outlined their ambitious goals for the summit, set to take place over two days in Montreal.

"The revival of dialogue will allow us to come to [...] a collective definition of the role of post-secondary studies in Quebec," said Duchesne, adding that the summit would be held to address the needs of "the almost half-million students in our universities and CEGEPs."

Leading up to the summit, the government will host four thematic meetings, each aimed at delving into a different issue faced by Quebec's universities.

The first, centred on educational quality, will be held in Quebec City on Nov. 29 and Nov. 30.

"The goal is to come to the summit having already clarified certain things," said Duchesne.

Representation at the summit will be split between student federation representatives, the government and external parties, like the Conférence des recteurs et des principaux des universités du Québec and Quebec's major trade unions.

While the PQ has announced that it will be arguing for the indexation of tuition fees to inflation, others around the table will have different objectives.

FEUQ

Representing over 125,000 students, the Fédération des étudiants universitaires du Québec plans to counter the PQ's indexation proposal during the summit.

In an interview with *The Link* last week, FEUQ President Martine Desjardins made clear that her organization believes "without compromise" that indexation is a form of tuition hike.

"Having another tuition freeze is our main objective," she said.

"Proposing tuition fee hikes while having no discretionary objectives doesn't make sense. [Students] have had indexation since 1994 actually, because we're paying more and more administration fees," she added.

Also among the FEUQ's objectives for the summit are the cancellation of fee hikes for international students and the negotiation of a better financial aid deal.

"To have \$7.00 a day for your food, when we know that, well, milk for your Kraft Dinner is \$3.25. [...] You don't have enough money for your macaroni," said Desjardins.

Desjardins called the FEUQ's rapport with the government "more open" than it had been under the Liberal Party, but stressed the importance of standing firm.

"When you have this kind of relationship, sometimes you take a step back; you don't put pressure. That's what we don't want to do," she asserted.

Desjardins added that given the government's minority status, students could not afford to be complacent.

"We need to make sure the government understands that we can go out into the streets again if we want to," she said, stipulating that the first step was to come to the table and discuss the issues.

"Right now we have an opportunity to talk and put forth objectives for 10 to 15 years to come, so we'll take it," she said.

CSU

The Concordia Student Union has also been planning for the summit, under the direction of VP External Simon-Pierre Lauzon.

"We're definitely going to be involved, either through the FEUQ or actually going to the summit," said Lauzon.

Some of the CSU's objectives for the summit are maintaining a tuition freeze and stopping the international student tuition hike.



Students demonstrate during the March 22 day of action.

◆ PHOTO DAVID MURPHY

CSN

Also present at the table will be representatives from Quebec's three main central union groups, including the Confédération des syndicats nationaux.

The CSN will be there to promote its own platform on education, and also to play its well-rehearsed role of negotiator.

In an interview with *The Link*, Francis Lagacé, vice-president of CSN's Montreal chapter, tasked with the union's education dossier, outlined the CSN's objectives.

"We want the minister to do everything necessary to preserve the primary mission of universities, which is the development and transmission of knowledge and culture in the perspective of contributing to human, economic and social development," he said.

The CSN expressed concern last month about ASSÉ's possible absence from the summit.

"Obviously, ASSÉ is free to make its own decisions," said Lagacé. "[But] I think it's

worth it for them to go, to have their voice heard and hear what others have to say.

"Our position is always to negotiate, to always try to find common ground. That's how we work," Lagacé explained, adding that, from an analytical perspective, "when an organization has pre-established positions that are radical, that put into question the very institutions that one is negotiating with, it makes the job more difficult."

With or without ASSÉ, the CSN wants to promote the idea that "universities are not businesses, they are social institutions with a mission [...] to serve the population [...] to serve knowledge," Lagacé said.

He expects this vision to conflict with that of university rectors, who "see [universities] as businesses."

Speaking about university administrators' high salaries and bonuses, Lagacé commented that "it's not normal, it's not a bank."

CONCORDIA

Although Concordia spokesperson Chris Mota was not able to tell *The Link* whether the Concordia's administration would be participating in the summit directly, she said that the university would take the summit's outcomes seriously.

"The bottom line is whatever directive the government gives us, we will respect," she said.

She explained that Concordia representatives would be participating in some of the thematic meetings as part of CREPUQ, and

that "a long-term vision, sources and process for university financing" was a priority for Concordia, along with "issues beyond tuition."

When asked about the new budget, Mota quickly pointed out that the university remains underfunded.

"We've been reducing spending everywhere we can without that affecting the academic mission," said Mota. "Eventually, if there is not significant funding, then it will impact other areas we don't want to touch."

ASSÉ

Unlike the FEUQ, the Association pour une solidarité syndicale étudiante is not approaching the summit with much optimism. In fact, the organization is still unsure as to whether it will even attend.

In a press release following the announcement of the summit, ASSÉ spokesperson Jérémie Bédard-Wien cited the presence of "economic elites" at the summit as a problem for the organization.

He also pointed out that, in ASSÉ's view, many of the possible outcomes of the summit—like the indexation of tuition fees and

a "quality assurance" policy—seemed to have already been decided on by the government.

The matter is still open, however.

"Now is the time for reflection and debate in our student associations," Bédard-Wien said.

ASSÉ's member associations will meet next month to decide on whether or not the federation will send representatives to the summit.

QUEBEC

Over the past few weeks, Higher Education Minister Pierre Duchesne has made a series of declarations that are unlikely to please university administrations.

First, he touted a report saying that universities were not, in fact, underfunded. Then, he told the press that university administrators would have to "tighten their belts."

Finally, in connection with the unveiling of the PQ's new budget on Tuesday, Duchesne proposed that universities adopt "an approach of reducing spending."

Though the budget foresees a 2.7 per cent total increase in university spending, CREPUQ, the association of university rectors and principals, has said it is "worried" about the budget's consequences for universities.

This means that the government will have its work cut out for itself at the summit, fighting students on indexation and rectors on funding.

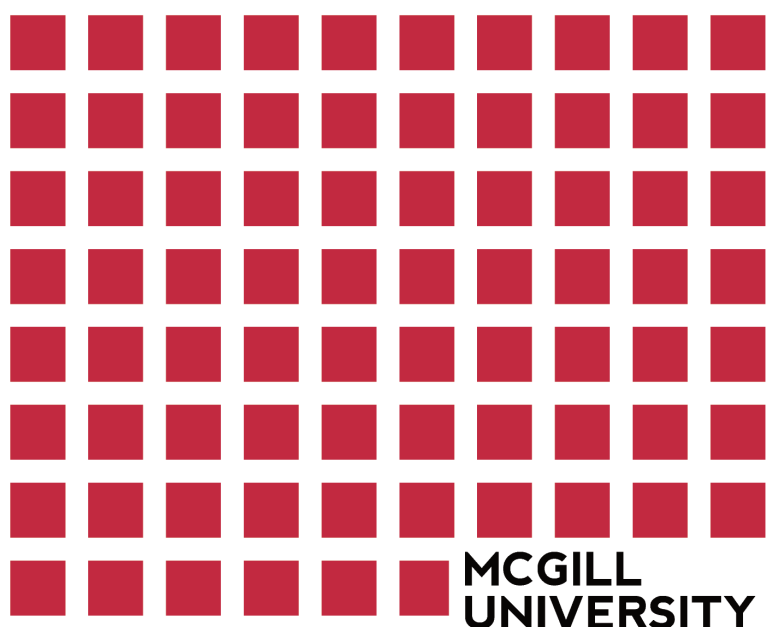
DOES CONCORDIA HAVE A MILITARY COMPLEX?

Questionable Links Between ConU, Military Uncovered

by Geoffrey Vendeville

PUBLIC CONTRACTS BETWEEN QUEBEC UNIVERSITIES AND THE DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE

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◆ INFOGRAPHIC JAYDE NORSTRÖM

Continued from Page 3

“EMBEDDED IN THE UNIVERSITY”

Since January 2011, the Department of National Defence has awarded nearly a million dollars in research funds to Quebec universities, according to openly accessible information from Public Works and Government Services Canada.

While McGill University has been the recipient of the lion's share of this sum—\$759,374—Concordia received the second-highest amount of any of the provinces' universities over this period, with \$68,956.

In an email to *The Link*, a university spokesperson explained that two of Concordia's most recent contracts with the defence department were for scientific literature reviews.

Although they don't call themselves pacifists, members of the AWEG oppose war under almost all circumstances and say that military research has no place in universities.

“It would be difficult to argue that the money spent on military research couldn't be better spent on something else,” said Terry Wilkings, another member of the group. On Nov. 29, the AWEG plans to march in a protest starting at Phillips Square against Canadian sanctions on Iran.

According to Velasco, Concordia's contracts with the defence department are merely the tip of the iceberg.

“There are other governmental agencies that deal with military stuff,” he said. “If you look at those contracts, we get even more money.”

Equally troublesome to Velasco are Concordia's links to defence companies at different levels of the university's administration.

“The military is embedded in the university,” he said.

Velasco pointed to Michael Novak, who sits on the school's Board of Governors and is also chairman of Canadian engineering giant SNC-Lavalin.

Until it sold its bullet-making division to General Dynamics in 2006, SNC-Lavalin was one of the largest producers of ammunition for the Canadian military, and was a supplier to the American and British governments.

Earlier this year, SNC-Lavalin was at the centre of a scandal involving a Senior Executive of the company's subdivision based in Tripoli, which was building a prison in Libya and had close ties with the later-deposed dictator, Moammar Gadhafi.

Velasco also voiced concerns about a few members of the school's Industrial Advisory Council.

Made up of over 30 members that also hold important positions at major companies, the council helps direct program development at Concordia and acts as an intermediary between the university and industry leaders.

Velasco claimed that several members of the council are also executives at what he dramatically described as “straight-up military corporations.” The list includes Presagis, Rolls-Royce Canada, Pratt & Whitney Canada and MDA Corporation.

None of these companies are out-and-out military corporations, but all are involved in military production and are publicly listed as defence companies.

“I think it's important that as students we start questioning who's sitting on our administration and what sort of control corporations have at our university,” Velasco said.

“It's an attempt to show that the military is deeply involved in Concordia's administration, deeply involved in the funding of Concordia and deeply involved in the research at Concordia.”

—Gabriel Velasco, Original Members of the AWEG.

FIRE-FIGHTING DRONES

Of particular concern, Velasco argued, are Concordia researchers' ties to the development of military unmanned aerial vehicles, commonly known as “drones.”

“The research that's done at Concordia, specifically regarding UAVs, is being used in various missions and operations in conflicts around the world right now,” he said.

In one corner of his elaborate hand-crafted flow chart, Velasco pointed to a professor's name: Dr. Youmin Zhang—with arrows winding upwards connecting it to various companies all the way up to the Israeli military.

In an interview at his office, Zhang was puzzled to hear that he had been implicated in the design of military drones.

“It's really a surprise to me,” he said with a bemused look. “We didn't touch on that, we didn't work on the military applications.”

He said the goal of his research is to help create a navigation system for UAVs that would eventually replace manned aircraft on dangerous assignments, such as tracking forest fires and carrying out search-and-rescue missions.

“My original motivation—my dream—is to try to improve the safety and reliability of civilian applications. We try to save lives; save airplanes.”

Zhang said he has never received any funding from the Department of National

Defence, nor has he ever been approached to work on military technology.

“I love peace and I think war between countries is bad,” he said, sitting behind his desk, decorated with small-scale model passenger planes and military jets.

Iman Sadeghzadeh, a PhD student and teaching assistant to Zhang, said the anti-war activists' concern is typical of the widespread misconceptions clouding the public's view of UAV technology.

“When I tell my friends I'm working on UAVs, the first thing they say is, ‘Is it for a military application? Are you making drones to send to Afghanistan or Iraq?’ And my answer is, ‘For sure not.’

“We are working on fault-tolerant systems to save lives, not to take people's lives.”

Although his research is intended for civilian use, Zhang said his work is publicly accessible and could potentially be used by the military—and anybody else for that matter.

“You know, [scientific research], it's a kind of knife,” he explained. “You can use it for surgery or you can use it to kill someone.”

Like Zhang, Sadeghzadeh is strongly averse to working on attack drones.

“I myself would never like to work on military applications. Never.”

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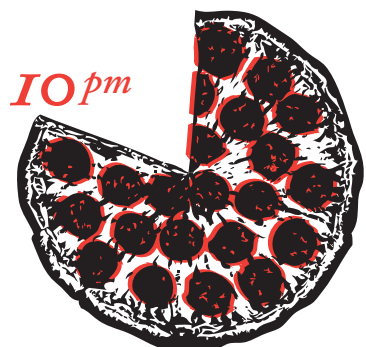
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English CEGEPs and Universities Brace for Bill 101

How New Language Laws Could Affect ConU

BY ELYSHA DEL GIUSTO-ENOS
@ELYSHAENOS

Concordia's president Alan Shepard is concerned about Quebec Premier Pauline Marois's promise to expand the scope of Bill 101 to English-language CEGEPs.

"If the government proceeds with plans to restrict English-language CEGEPs to anglophones who are an English successor, this poses a very serious risk to Concordia," Shepard said. "We need to make sure we have a comprehensive strategy across Quebec, Canada and internationally."

Shepard noted that if implemented, the expansion of the bill could result in shrinkage to the pool of applicants to Concordia.

He said that only a little over half of Concordia's student population is anglophone, and that francophone and allophone students each represent about a quarter of the student body.

Bill 101 currently restricts access to English elementary and high schools, but Marois has said

the expansion to include CEGEPs—like John Abbott, Vanier, Marianopolis and Dawson—can be "expected."

The premier has expressed concern over immigrant students going to English CEGEPs and then subsequently integrating into English communities instead of French ones.

CEGEP students are generally over the age of 18. If applied to them, Bill 101 would restrict their ability, as adults, to choose their language of education, a fact that some in the local anglophone media have pointed out as being at odds with the Parti Québécois's slogan, "À nous de choisir"—It's for us to choose.

Shepard pointed out that within the reality of an expanded Bill 101, a student who is interested in one of Concordia's programs and coming from a French-language high school would not be able to prepare for that transition by attending an English CEGEP first.

He said the new restrictions



Dawson, one of Montreal's English Colleges, could be affected by the expansion of Bill 101.

◆ PHOTO LESLIE SCHACHTER

"will have an impact down the road for Concordia."

Bill 101, also known as the Charter of the French Language, was enacted under Quebec's first Parti Québécois premier, René Lévesque, in 1977.

Currently, under the section concerning the language of instruction in Quebec, the charter states that a child can attend an English school if one of their parents attended an English elementary school.

Marois has promised to table a

new charter within 100 days of her taking office that will include CEGEPs as institutions bound by these restrictions.

The limitations placed on English-language schools have been responsible in part for a 20 per cent drop in enrolment in the past decade for the English Montreal School Board, with three elementary schools closing due to low enrolment this year and the EMSB recommending plans for the closure of nine high schools in the near future.

"If you restrict English-language CEGEPs only to people who have an English-language certificate, CEGEP numbers will go down dramatically among non-anglophones," Shepard said.

Concordia has been reviewing its recruiting strategy since September.

"Protecting a strong pool of applicants is on my mind always—as for any university," Shepard said. "[The expanded Bill 101] will have an impact, definitely. Should it come to pass."

JB ISSUES DECISION REGARDING ELECTORAL INFRACTIONS

VP Academic & Advocacy Position No Longer Up for Grabs

BY MEGAN DOLSKI
@MEGANDOLSKI

Due to violations of proper procedure, the ballots provided to students at this week's Concordia Student Union byelections, taking place from Nov. 27 to Nov. 29, will be missing one executive seat.

Despite the availability of the position being publically announced around campus, students will not be checking a box to fill the vacant VP Academic and Advocacy position.

This comes as the result of a provisional decision issued by the CSU's judicial board, set to be solidified officially in writing by the end of this week.

Last week, CSU Council motioned to have two separate electoral infractions brought to the JB for ruling.

They first asked the board to determine whether or not sufficient notice was given to legally open the position of VP Academic and Advocacy for byelection, which was left vacant on Sept. 30 following the resignation of Lucia Gallardo.

The JB unanimously ruled that position was never legally open, as the council had no legal grounds,

according to their standing regulations and bylaws, to open an executive position.

As a result, the power to appoint a new VP to fill the vacancy rests with CSU President Schubert Laforest.

"I will meet with my executive soon and we will be reassessing our portfolios and deciding how to move forward," said Laforest. "I haven't made a decision in terms of the appointment, but it will be brought up at the next council meeting. I want to get this done as soon as possible."

The second infraction sent to JB was concerning the number of Arts and Science councillor spots officially open for byelection.

Three open spots were initially announced on Nov. 2, but due to several forced and voluntary resignations by councillors shortly thereafter, CSU Chief Electoral Officer Justin Holland attempted to open three more seats on Nov. 6.

In another unanimous decision, JB voted that this second set of vacancies was not legally opened, and therefore would not be on the ballot for the upcoming byelections.

The board noted, however, that it was within the CEO's power to issue a supplemental directive that

would open the spots.

Such a directive was issued later that day. As a result, six Arts and Science spots will be open in this week's byelections.

In order to address both infractions, the JB held a public hearing last Friday. Despite the issue being highly contentious and debated at a CSU Council meeting earlier in the week, there was a noticeably low turnout of interested parties that came to speak to the matter by week's end.

"It was unfortunate that the plaintiff, being council itself, couldn't send a few people to comment on the case," said Nick Cuillerier, newly appointed chair of the JB.

"The judicial board will be looking at adding to our code of procedures an additional section as to how to go ahead to cases that are referred to by council for an opinion, rather than a direct complaint by someone—to see if we can figure out a better format than we did Friday."

Those who did attend were Holland, VP Loyola Stefan Faina, and Hajar El Jahidi—who would have been the sole candidate to run for the VP Academic and Advocacy position, had it remained open.

Each of the three speakers put

forth similar sentiments—that while the CSU might have made a procedural error, it would be in the best interest of students to open byelections to as many candidates as possible.

"We have noticed there is a stu-

dent apathy problem—not going through with [these elections] goes against the point and is self-defeating," said Faina. "This could harm the CSU. We don't want to make this bigger than it is."



The CSU board room should be slightly less empty after this week's byelections.

◆ PHOTO ERIN SPARKS

THE SEX ED YOU NEVER GOT IN HIGH SCHOOL

Women's Studies Hosts Panel, Makes Plea for Alt Sex Ed

BY HILARY SINCLAIR,
@HILARYSINCLAIR

The average sex education curriculum is incomplete.

The current scope of issues and ideas covered in conventional sex education classes needs to be expanded beyond the confines of heteronormative relationships, says Hector Villeda-Martinez, VP Communications for the Women's Studies Student Association.

On Nov. 21, the WSSA hosted "The Queer Sex Ed You Never Got in High School," a speakers panel at the Simone de Beauvoir Institute.

"We need a panel such as this to dispel myths and to start an inclusive conversation about sex, sexuality and health that is sorely lacking," said Villeda-Martinez.

"Let's be frank, here: just because some queers have access to community outreach programs and Women's Studies programs—that does not mean that all queers do," he said. "Queer people are everywhere, really, and [many of them] are deprived of these kinds of conversations."

The trio of panelists was made up of former AIDS Community Care Montreal volunteer Valerie

Webber; Ana Alvarado of Action Santé Travesties et Transsexuelles du Québec; and Alex McKenzie, sexology student and intern for the queer youth advocacy organization Project 10.

In 2005, an education reform was passed that knocked sexual education out of the hands of health specialists and into those of math, science and social studies teachers.

"In regards to sex education in general, there's a giant lack in our education system right now," said McKenzie.

Webber hoped the panel would attract young people who were seeking to fill gaps left over from their previous sex education. She said while lack of education is problematic, the way sex is currently thought about and talked about in schools is detrimental.

"It's too short, it's too biomedical, it's too heteronormative," said Webber. "It doesn't focus on the issues of consent and other things that play into how safe people can be."

She said that without proper deconstruction of terminology, individuals who aren't already alienated by the heteronormative and presumptuous notions about what sex is become de-



From left to right, Alex McKenzie (panelist), Valerie Webber (panelist), Valerie Clayman (WSSA), Ana Alvarado (panelist), Hector Villeda-Martinez (WSSA).

◆ PHOTO JULIA JONES

tached from the issues.

"We need to start educating people regarding sexuality and the diversity that exists," said Villeda-Martinez. "Thus far, notions and education regarding sexuality are predominantly one-sided—a man has sex with a woman in order to make babies."

Villeda-Martinez said that questions asked about queer sex-

uality and health are integral to the way we learn about and understand each other.

"Queer sex ed has to be all-inclusive because we recognize that sexuality is fluid and therefore our partners could be trans, bi, questioning."

McKenzie said that the queer aspect was really what was missing from his primary school sex

education—adding that if sex education is reinstated in the province it will likely materialize into a curriculum that is heteronormative.

"Everything that I learned in regards to being a gay man and having homosexual relationships I learned on the go—as I was growing up from my own relationships," he said.

A ONE-UP FOR START-UPS

District3 to Foster Innovation at ConU

BY VIVIEN LEUNG
@VIVIEN_LEUNG

Start-ups around school are about to get a little extra help.

District3, a new Concordia initiative slated to launch this January, aims to use the university's multi-disciplinary potential and leverage cross-faculty interaction in hopes of giving student start-ups a push to get off the ground.

The project promises to provide those interested in tech entrepreneurship with access to mentors, investors and business development support.

Just as it seeks to reach out to diverse portions of Concordia's population, the idea behind District3 is the product of various parties coming together.

For the past year, Xavier Hervé, a Concordia engineering alum, honorary doctor and holder of an MBA from the prestigious INSEAD business school, has been in talks with Robin Drew Dean of the Engi-

neering and Computer Science program about starting a student-driven "innovation centre" at Concordia.

Serendipitously, the Commerce and Administration Student Association's Adam Castonguay and Charles Gedeon, along with Engineering and Computer Science Association's Ali Tahouni and Sydney Swaine had been contemplating a similar idea.

They were inspired after reading about Concordia President Alan Shepard's time as provost at Ryerson University and his important role there in facilitating the Digital Media Zone, a start-up incubator geared towards students.

So far, outreach for District3 has catered to business, engineering and computation arts students—programs the organizers believe are most closely "associated with entrepreneurship."

However, Hervé empha-

sized that all students should feel welcome to participate in the project in any capacity, regardless of their background. Swaine

added that more outreach will be done towards a broader scope of faculties once the initiative has passed its initial implementation phase.

There are currently four or five experienced CEOs signed on to work alongside students with District3, and Gedeon hopes the initiative will be able to offer more support for students who have less well-rounded business plans.

"Unlike regular incubators, we are much more open. If a team doesn't have an idea we might be open to helping them find one," he said. "Whereas real incubators with venture capitalists, they require that you have a business plan."

Gedeon envisions District3 as a stepping-stone between the classroom and the business world.

"A company grows with us to an extent where we don't have the facilities for them, so

they exit and join a bigger incubator like Founder Fuel."

He emphasized that these are just ideas, until the details are finally decided on.

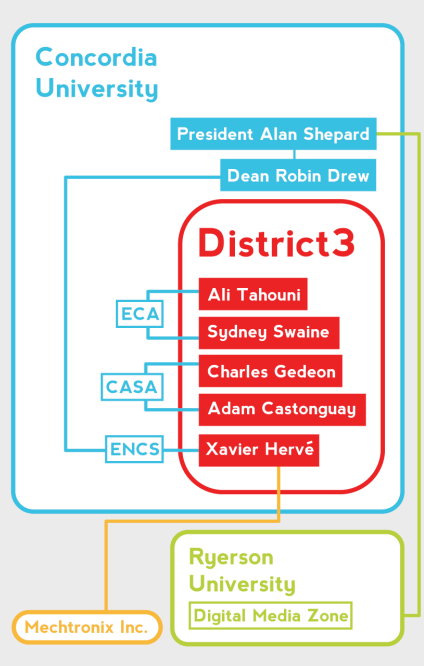
The inclusiveness of the project hinges on the development of the admissions process. District3 will have to walk the line between supporting inexperienced talent and being selective about dispersing its resources.

Many facets of the project remain to be determined, but for now the team is aiming to be as receptive and open as possible to the needs of the Concordia start-up community.

"We want to see what the reaction to it will be," said Gedeon. "[District3] is very reliant on the environment; we want to adapt to changes around us."

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TITUS ANDRONICUS WANTS TO SLEEP ON YOUR FLOOR.

Patrick Stickles on Living at Home and Touring on the Cheap

BY KATIE MCGROARTY
@KATIECMCG

Patrick Stickles is, by most definitions of the term, kind of a rock star.

In all likelihood he's graduated from the youthful stage of parentally-enforced suburban depravity.

But when we spoke three weeks ago, he was in the midst of reliving his suburban punk adolescence, back in small-town New Jersey, living in his childhood home with his parents.

"It was because of a failed romance," Stickles laughs in explanation of why—after moving to New York when Titus hit the small-time—he had slunk back across the Hudson River with his tail between his legs.

"I'm stagnating in the childhood home I grew up in," he said.

He's literally counting down the days until his next tour for the band's latest record, *Local Business*, their follow-up to *The Monitor*—the drunken-singalong-ready record that put them on the map.

Living the idealized big-city life with a significant other only to break up and return to the town you once hated is something that has been tirelessly recounted, and in true Zach Braff style, if Braff was a fist-raising punk—Stickles is bummed.

Breaking up is something that Titus Andronicus and its founding lead singer know all too well. After going through what Stickles counts as "a lot" of changes to their lineup through the years, the band is now touring for the first time with the musicians that actually recorded the album they're promoting.

"When we recorded all the other albums, the band pretty much fell apart after the recording of it. So we're looking at some pretty faithful recreations of the songs from the records this time around," said Stickles.

"I'm feeling confident," he said in a voice that sounded anything but. "I think we're going to rock. At least, I'm hoping we're going to rock."

When we talked, it was exactly one week before the band would leave on their North American tour. Stickles was excited to escape what he calls the "stagnating boredom" of suburbia, but he did admit that leaving on tour isn't quite as thrilling the umpteenth time around.

"I guess you can never recapture the initial excitement of hitting the open road, but that's just



"Unless we wanted to make some kind of weird R&B album or something, we can't worry too much about staying trendy."

—Patrick Stickles, Lead Singer & Guitarist for Titus Andronicus

like everything else," he said. "I'd imagine it's less exciting to jump out of an airplane the second time, right?"

Boredom is probably not something that anyone who has seen Titus Andronicus live would associate with the band.

They're exciting, they're lively and they're loud, with Stickles pounding ferociously at his guitar and inciting the crowd to mosh and sing along with the many chants in the Titus repertoire.

Still, in the indie rock world of next-big-thing buzz bands and one-hit wonders, longevity is a challenge. But Titus Andronicus don't change their sounds to conform to the flavour of the week, or what would make the Pitchfork homepage—they stick to their guns, which Stickles described as keeping it intense, rocking and using major pentatonic scales.

"You can't take anything for granted. We can't rest on our laurels and we have to try to outdo the next band, try to stick it out,

you know?" he said.

"Because tastes change so much so fast these days—with the Internet and everything—so unless we wanted to make some kind of weird R'n'B album or something, we can't worry too much about staying trendy."

If you forget the aspect of playing shows every couple of nights, the touring life can start to evoke the monotony of the suburbs if not done right. The constant stream of interchangeable hotels, motels and hostels can be soul crushing, said Stickles.

So to avoid the repetitive cycle, Titus does something usually reserved for bands playing house parties and travelling in a parent's borrowed Volvo—not a band whose last album, *The Monitor*, scored high on pretty much every influential "best of the year" chart (including *The Link's*) for 2010.

While on tour, they sleep on the couches of strangers, or futons or sometimes in spare beds—for a night, they'll take over the apart-

ments of anyone who offers. Despite their recent success, they stay true the promise on their old MySpace page: "Above all else, Titus Andronicus want to sleep on your floor."

"It's all about keeping the overhead low," Stickles said.

"When we're meeting new people all the time, it keeps it fresh, it keeps it interesting and it helps us to get closer to our fans and get to know more about them, the stuff that they're into and see what they're like as people. A lot of bands don't get that opportunity, or if they have it, they don't take it."

And staying relevant sometimes means acting like the perfect roommate—at least for a night. Although putting a call out on your website for places to crash in exchange for free tickets to their show may sound like a recipe for an ill-fated date with a lumpy pull-out, Stickles said, for the most part, it's not that bad.

There is the pressure to enter-

tain—they run the risk of being remembered more for their couch-surfing demeanor than the performance—and it's sometimes hard to party every night. But leaving fans with something more personal to remember them by may even help the band stay relevant—not an easy feat.

"It's just that it can all go away, you know? Like we said, they're really fickle, and what may be the coolest thing in the world one minute may be completely irrelevant tomorrow," said Stickles.

"It's easier to make a lasting connection with a real person than it is with pixels on a computer screen, so hopefully the people that we stay with remember us fondly and hopefully that translates into a more lasting love for the band."

Titus Andronicus + Ceremony + Topanga / Nov. 28 / Il Motore (179 Jean-Talon St. W.) / Advance \$15.00 / Door \$17.00

DESIGNERS IN A DANGEROUS TIME

New UQAM Retrospective Profiles Student-Strike Artists



BY MARGAUX LOPER

For many, the student strike of 2012 was captured by the media—photos of red-square clad marchers; video of police officers in riot gear clashing with students; and articles from every side of the political spectrum denouncing the students, the police and the government.

For some, though, the strikes were a chance to get creative.

The École de la montagne rouge was an initiative primarily started by students studying design at the Université du Québec à Montréal, looking to leave behind an alternative, more artistic trace of the past year.

Not only did this group stand against the increase in tuition fees, it also expressed a desire to stir broader debates and questions about the education system in Quebec.

It produced a number of graphic designs and artifacts that gave a voice and a visual to the student protests; now, long after the end of the *printemps érable*, those art works are on display at UQAM as part of *Création en temps de crise sociale*.

Guillaume Lépine, one of the co-founders of the École, sees the show as a means of giving the ideas and the artistic community that sprang up during the protest a venue to be seen in retrospect.

"Since the École de la montagne rouge has closed its doors, the exhibition takes place to form an overview and commemorate of all the work that has been done during the protests, so that they won't sink into oblivion," explained Lépine.

The name for the group echoes that of

terialization of the ideas rendered in this cause.

But it wasn't as simple as that, initially; the student strikes and their participation in the movement led the students to question what the role of graphic designers should be in our society.

Lépine noticed that there weren't many groups of graphic designers in Quebec before them that worked in a context of social and political struggle, strikes or syndicated movements. But this politically charged period in Quebec's history led them to, through their work, serve a more ideological purpose.

Their images and slogans, for instance, echoed another famous moment of social upheaval: the widespread student protests in France in 1968, which featured iconic images and slogans like "Be realistic, demand the impossible" and "It is forbidden to forbid."

"The impact of the images and slogans of May 1968 [...] greatly inspired us," said Lépine. "It was somewhat inevitable, because it leads to a direct, graphic and simple communication with people."

However, the members of the École de la montagne rouge did not seek through their work some sort of historical recognition—nor follow any particular traditions.

"It is not our role to judge if whether or not we fall into a historical context," Lépine said. "We created compositions believing in this social movement, in dedication to the cause."

When talking about their achievements, the members of the École prefer referring to them as works or images rather than creations. As students in graphic design, their goal was primarily to establish a strong visual

"Is what we do engaged art or engaged design? I don't know; we would rather leave this open to interpretation."

—Guillaume Lépine, Co-Founder of L'École de la Montagne Rouge

Black Mountain College, an American alternative art school founded in the 1940s, but with an added touch of red, from the red square, a symbol of the Quebec student movement since 2004 meant to signify both a certain revolutionary aspect and the colour of debt—student debt.

"We inspired ourselves from the Black Mountain College to pay tribute to what they've done and create our own community through our school. [It's] a collaboration among students helping each other without portraying teachers as possessors of knowledge but as guides in our research," said Lépine.

The student strikes carried with them an atmosphere of consciousness-raising urgency that led the members of the École de la montagne rouge to understand the importance of mobilization—no matter what form it took.

"Visual communication concretizes abstract ideas and increases their existence," Lépine said. "Any combat should exploit this visual power."

Their designs and artistic works have become symbols of this social and political uprising and helped the movement grow larger and stronger—giving a simple and direct ma-

communication through the use of concrete images and symbols in order to strengthen an abstract ideology.

Lépine explained that their group had many discussions on the nature of their work when it came to their design backgrounds.

"Is what we do engaged art or engaged design?" he asked. "I don't know; we would rather leave this open to interpretation."

That wasn't the only thing that was left up to the viewer. Most of the artists remained anonymous, so the group's work remained about the work and not about the creators.

"We didn't want people joining the group just so they could have their names published somewhere," Lépine said. "Most of the posters weren't even signed."

That spirit remains in *Création en temps de crise sociale*, as well.

"We wanted to document our productions in order to constitute an anthology, but it was never to launch a career. These works were created for purely ideological purposes."

Création en temps de crise sociale /
Until Dec. 9 / Centre de design de
l'UQAM (1440 Sanguinet St.) / Free /
centrededesign.uqam.ca

Stories from Death Row

The Exonerated Shows Realities of the Wrongfully Convicted



GRAPHIC PAKU DAOUST CLOUTIER

BY ELYSHA DEL GIUSTO-ENOS
@ELYSHAENOS

The last criminal execution in Canada was in 1956.

Before that, 438 people were exonerated—in other words, proven not guilty and freed before the noose could be tied.

Six people who were falsely convicted of murder will have their stories from death row told in *The Exonerated*, which runs until Dec. 2 at the 4001 Space.

The play offers up the accounts of five men and one woman who languished on death row—one for 22 years—before being found innocent of the crime they were convicted of committing.

Although the play is based on tragedies brought on by the United States' judicial system, there is a sense that Canada is not immune to making the same mistakes.

"If it's first brought to light in the American context, the instinct is to think, 'Well, it's not that bad here,'" said Concordia grad Chris Hicks, who plays Delbert Tibbs in *The Exonerated*.

He added that in the context of the U.S., the jail system has been called a kind of "21st-century slavery."

"I really do think you have a lot of laws that favour jailing people who are maybe of a lesser financial background, or who are aligned with a certain visible minority—and you do see that here in Canada," Hicks said.

"I think if you compare it to the States, the incarceration there is much larger, but I think the core mechanisms that cause them to operate are similar," he continued.

The theatre company producing the docudrama is Third Eye Ensemble, a company that aims to give a voice to subjects, topics and people suffering from injustice, and the majority of the ensemble are graduates of Dawson College's Dome Theatre.

The Exonerated had a run last year, and a core group has been working on it steadily ever since. Rehearsals for this run began nearly three months ago. Hicks said that, mostly due to the unorthodox subject matter, the staging uses a "less-is-more approach."

The play, which was written by Jessica Blank and Erik Jensen, is based on a series of interviews they had with the individuals who were falsely imprisoned.

"The words that were captured in the interviews were compelling enough and important enough to not be distracted from," Hicks said.

Documentary theatre takes special considerations to produce, considering the material is drawn from living people.

"It's a tough thing to do," said Raphael Grosz-Harvey, who plays Kerry Max Cook. "As actors, we jump in and out, but this is very different. It's documentary theatre. It's all taken from transcripts and recordings from interviews with the writers of the play. You have to be delicate. It's a real person's life—it's not a character."

Kerry Max Cook is one subject who ended up on death row at 19 years old and spent 22 years incarcerated, accused of rape and murder. He was finally released following the collection of DNA evidence that linked a former lover as the killer of the murdered woman.

His story becomes even more tragic; while Cook was on death row, his brother fell into a depression that led him to a life of heavy drinking and falling in with a dangerous group of people.

Cook's brother was shot because of his involvement with that new crowd, and the murderer spent only three years in jail for it. It adds to the tragedy and frustration Cook felt over his 22-year wrongful imprisonment.

The stories of each of these people are told with a very stripped-down set, so nothing dis-

tracts the audience from the narrative.

"It needs actors who can tell this story, chairs would be nice, and that's about it," Hicks said of the staging.

Hicks' character, Delbert Tibbs, is a man who was convicted of murder in 1974 but was later exonerated. In the play his story is told, but he is also written in as a kind of narrator. He links the stories together, but also offers perspective on the issues while discussing his own.

Grosz-Harvey admitted that the heavy subject matter can make it difficult for an audience to watch. It is so powerful, though, that when the play was shown to a U.S. governor in 2002, it is said to have influenced his decision to commute the sentence of everyone on death row in his home state of Illinois the following month.

"It's a very profound play," Grosz-Harvey said. "It hits you over the head a bit sometimes. And it's so real. It's hard to watch in certain moments because of how unfair what some of these people have gone through is."

The Exonerated by Third Eye Ensemble / Nov. 28 to Dec. 2 / 4001 Space (4001 Berri St., Suite 103) / 8:00 p.m. / \$15.00

WOMEN BEHIND THE CANVAS



New Mag to Add a Dash of Feminist Art to ConU

BY KATIE MCGROARTY
@KATIECMCG

Yiara magazine's logo features a face in profile.

The profile has been used for centuries to render idealized beauty—the faces of the wealthy and the powerful, the influential and the admired.

But here, the Victorian silhouette in the logo is used in a non-traditional sense to display the withered outline of an elderly woman—a stab at the kind of ideal female beauty depicted throughout the history of art.

After being disappointed by what they saw as an underrepresentation of women in their art history courses, six Concordia students have decided to do something to fill that void.

So, *Yiara* was formed.

"We started realizing that in our art history classes we weren't talking very much about women in classes that maybe we should have been, like in decorative arts, which is something usually associated with woman—and there was not one woman mentioned," said Assistant Editor Tess Juan-Gaillot.

"I don't think it has anything to do with the bias of the teachers, because when they talk about it, they know quite a lot about it, but I think it's more the curriculum that they have to make it very small, and I don't think it should be expanding as much as it should be."

The women started a project that may seem unconventional in a world where print media is on the decline, and budgets for student-

run projects are notoriously low.

The magazine, currently funded through the Fine Arts Student Alliance, is set for release on March 8—International Women's Day.

Although the university has a variety of student publications printed yearly, monthly, and weekly, Juan-Gaillot said that they hope *Yiara* will become a place for a certain type of writing and subject matter not yet represented within the school.

"So something like a mix of the [Concordia] *Undergraduate Journal of Art History*, it's very professional-looking and academic, all art history essays pretty much. So we wanted to kind of mix that professionalism with something a little more like *Interfold* which has just visuals pretty much," she said.

"We're trying to find a middle ground, while bringing our own to it—which involves being very open, but having a feminist centre."

As for what to expect for what exactly will fill the pages, Juan-Gaillot, along with Editor-in-Chief Raissa Paes and four other executive members will choose from submissions of poetry, academic writing and visual art.

"We're looking for a few longer academic essays, usually in art history, but if it's not in art history and it talks about women in art, then we're fine with that—it just has to be of a pretty high calibre."

Marketing themselves as a feminist magazine dedicated to the publication of both contemporary women artists and their influence throughout history, Juan-Gaillot

was surprised by the sometimes negative feedback they received from fellow students.

"We've actually gotten a lot of negative feedback, from students walking by, asking what I'm putting up and things like that, they just don't understand it, and in a very negative way, I mean," she said. "They'll say things like, 'Why would you call it feminist? I feel like that excludes so many things.'"

Juan-Gaillot said that their mandate is quite the opposite of exclusive. They're looking to keep their content as diverse and inclusive as possible, and are looking forward to seeing the different definitions of feminism that come out of the submissions.

"We're trying to keep it as open as possible. I come from a place where people really view the word feminist in a very, very, very negative way—and I'm very sensitive to that," said Juan-Gaillot. "Coming to call myself feminist, or to call my work feminist, is a really big deal to me."

As an official club of FASA, *Yiara* received a grant of \$1,000; the magazine recently received special project funding from the Concordia Council on Student Life and is waiting to hear back from the Concordia Student Union about another potential grant.

The editorial team is currently planning to get as many copies printed as possible by early March, and then distribute them around Concordia campus and the surrounding student-heavy areas.

"We're also open to outside of Concordia—which is a big deal, be-

cause a lot of the things here, magazines at Concordia are, I mean, since they receive funding from places like FASA, they try to keep it within the school," said Juan-Gaillot of their open submissions policy, meaning that as long as you are a student you can submit work in either French or English.

"We're open to UQAM, McGill—anyone who is a student technically, so we can keep it student-

based. As long as you count as a student then that's pretty much the only requirement."

As for specific of content, Juan-Gaillot insisted that it stay simple.

"As long as you talk about women, in some shape or form, and there's some sort of critical element to it, then you're fine and that's kind of what we're open to, and see what we get—then judge everything on that."



Yiara Magazine

FRINGE CALENDAR

NOV. 27 - DEC. 3

MUSIC

1. High on Wire + Goatwhore
Nov. 27
La Tulipe (4530 Papineau St.)
7:00 p.m.
\$20.00 advance / \$22.00 door

FILM

2. Cinema Politica: We Are Wisconsin!
Dec. 3
Hall Building (1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W., H-110)
7:00 p.m.
PWYC

ART

3. Queer Partnerships
Nov. 26–Dec. 7
VAV Gallery (1395 Rene Levesque Blvd.)
Free

4. Photography Showcase

Nov. 27
Dawson College (3040 Sherbrooke St. W.)
6:00 p.m.
Free

5. Salon Data II: Looking Through Time

Nov. 28
Eastern Bloc (7240 Clark St.)
7:00 p.m.
Free

OTHER

6. Political Barriers to Better Food Policy (Panel Discussion)
Nov. 28
H-110 Auditorium (1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W.)
7:00 p.m.
Free

7. Anti-Colonial Thanksgiving

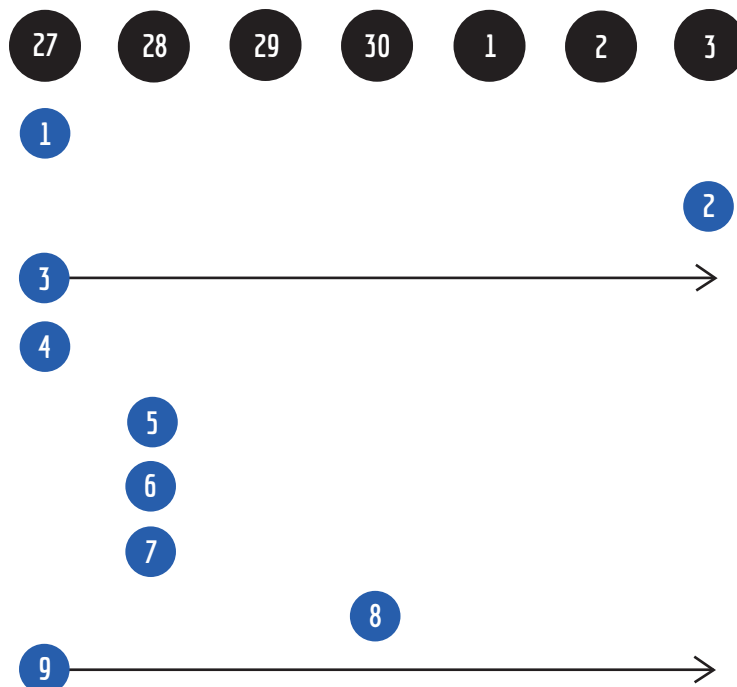
Nov. 28
Centre d'éducation populaire de la Petite-Bourgogne et de St-Henri (2515 Delisle St.)
5:30 p.m.
Free

8. Fucked Up Fridays (Comedy)

Nov. 30
Burritoville (2055 Bishop St.)
8:30 p.m.
\$7.00 / \$5.00 with burrito purchase

9. Combine: 2012

Until Dec. 7
FOFA Gallery (1515 Ste. Catherine St. W.)
5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Free



PHOTOS OF THE WEEK



Concordia rookie forward Marilyse Roy-Viau bursts past two McGill defenders in the Stingers' 72-63 win over the Martlets last Saturday at the Concordia Gym.



Concordia fifth-year forward Evens Laroche drives to the rim in the Stingers' heartbreaking 69-68 loss to the McGill Redmen last Saturday.

PHOTOS LESLIE SCHACHTER

BOXSCORES
WEEK OF NOV. 19 TO NOV. 25

SATURDAY, NOV. 24

Men's Basketball	Concordia 68, McGill University 69
Women's Basketball	Concordia 72, McGill University 63
Men's Hockey	Concordia 4, Ryerson University 0

FRIDAY, NOV. 23

Men's Hockey	Concordia 6, Nipissing University 5
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UPCOMING GAMES
THIS WEEK IN CONCORDIA SPORTS

30	6:00 p.m.	Women's Basketball at Laval Rouge et Or
	7:30 p.m.	Men's Hockey at Queen's Gaels
	8:00 p.m.	Men's Basketball at Laval Rouge et Or

1	7:30 p.m.	Men's Hockey at Toronto Varsity Blues
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◆ UFC Fighter Nears the End of a Career Marked by Losses



Montrealers pack the Bell Centre for a Mixed Martial Arts fight in 2011.

PHOTO RILEY SPARKS

Rich Franklin, Company Man

BY CHRISTOPHER CURTIS @TITOCURTIS

Rich Franklin was a company man.

I can't think of any other way to eulogize Franklin's career as an Ultimate Fighting Championship fighter.

It isn't a backhanded compliment. Franklin is undoubtedly one of the most important figures in the UFC's young history not because of his talent or style, but because he stepped up and took his lumps when the company needed him to.

Without him, Montreal probably wouldn't have fallen for a fighter like Georges St-Pierre. St-Pierre owns one of the many houses on the street of Mixed Martial Arts fame, but it was Franklin who paved the road.

Some fighters have the ability to capture our imagination; they have a greatness to them that transcends sport and borders on black magic. Think of a man like Muhammad Ali, whose speed and rhythm looked much more like art than prize fighting.

Rich Franklin wasn't an artist—he was a craftsman. Watching Franklin fight was like seeing an experienced mechanic take an engine apart. I'll never forget his tactical, meticulously strategic win over Matt Hamill in 2008.

He threw combinations like he was plugging numbers into a mathematical formula. Finally, after three rounds of working on a much larger, younger opponent, Franklin ended the fight with a kick to Hamill's liver. There was nothing close to flashy about it—it was hard work and a good game plan made possible by fundamentally sound kickboxing.

Franklin was the fighting equivalent of basketball's John Stockton: hard work, Wheaties, passes the ball well, says his prayers and plays defence because coach says defence wins championships.

But Franklin likely won't be remembered for his workmanlike victories. His most-watched fights, his most historically significant matches, were his brutal defeats.

Anderson Silva built his career on a pair of soul-crushing wins over Franklin. In their first fight, which forever ended Franklin's short run as UFC Middleweight champion, Silva curb-stomped Franklin. The beating Franklin was forced to endure was so one-sided, so vicious that he had to have his face reconstructed immediately after the match.

Certainly, there was no shame in losing to a fighter many consider to be the greatest in mixed martial arts history. Of course, after taking such a public, humiliating beating, no one would have blamed Franklin for digging a hole in the middle of some desert, crawling into it and slowly dying.

But Franklin was a company man. One year later, when Silva had blown out the only other credible opponents in his weight division, Franklin stepped up and took a rematch.

Once again, he was dispatched within the first round. This time, however, Franklin was spared the embarrassment of having his nose separated from the middle of his face by a barrage of knee strikes.

In stepping up to take his medicine, Franklin helped ignite Silva's legacy. The UFC wouldn't be on network television, it wouldn't be the highest-grossing pay-per-

view draw in the world without people like Anderson Silva.

But every Silva needs a Franklin.

Someone credible has to be on the wrong end of those highlight reels. We can't all be the one throwing super sweet kicks.

It would be unfair to simply qualify Franklin as a yardstick. He was a champion when the sport was still called "cage fighting" and when you still had to explain to people that you weren't, in fact, the product of incest for enjoying a little hand-to-hand combat.

Franklin was the guy the UFC could drag out and put on TV to show you how normal cage fighters can be.

At the beginning of his career, when he was throwing down in backwoods beer halls for a few hundred dollars, Franklin taught high school math full time.

He wasn't a bouncer or a street fighter; he didn't roll off of a barstool and into the octagon. Probably the most interesting thing about the math teacher from Ohio was that he bore a stunning resemblance to Jim Carrey.

It remains unclear if Franklin will announce his retirement from MMA soon. The decision is his, of course, but after suffering an ugly knockout against a middle-of-the-pack fighter earlier this month, I don't see the value of keeping Franklin around for much longer.

In the end, I suspect Franklin will do whatever his UFC bosses tell him to. Franklin is, after all, a company man in a sport increasingly dominated by individualists.

Again, this isn't a backhanded compliment. Franklin always stepped up. He fought on short notice and moved up or down in weight classes depending on what was needed of him.

There were never any scandals with Rich, no inappropriate tweets or ill-conceived political statements. It often made him a boring interview subject, but he was the clean-cut, wholesome champ the UFC needed when it struggled to shed the Mad-Max-in-the-Thunderdome gladiatorial image it had cultivated in the 1990s.

When he leaves fighting, Franklin will be the last of a generation of athletes that ushered the UFC into the modern era of MMA.

Chuck Liddell retired, against his will, after a series of knockout losses left him punch-drunk. Tito Ortiz called it quits long after a series of back surgeries left him unable to keep up with the sport's elite fighters. Randy Couture's UFC career ended, appropriately enough, with his front teeth being kicked in by a much younger opponent.

With any luck, Franklin will walk away while he's still healthy and not so far removed from a time when he could hold his own with the world's best.

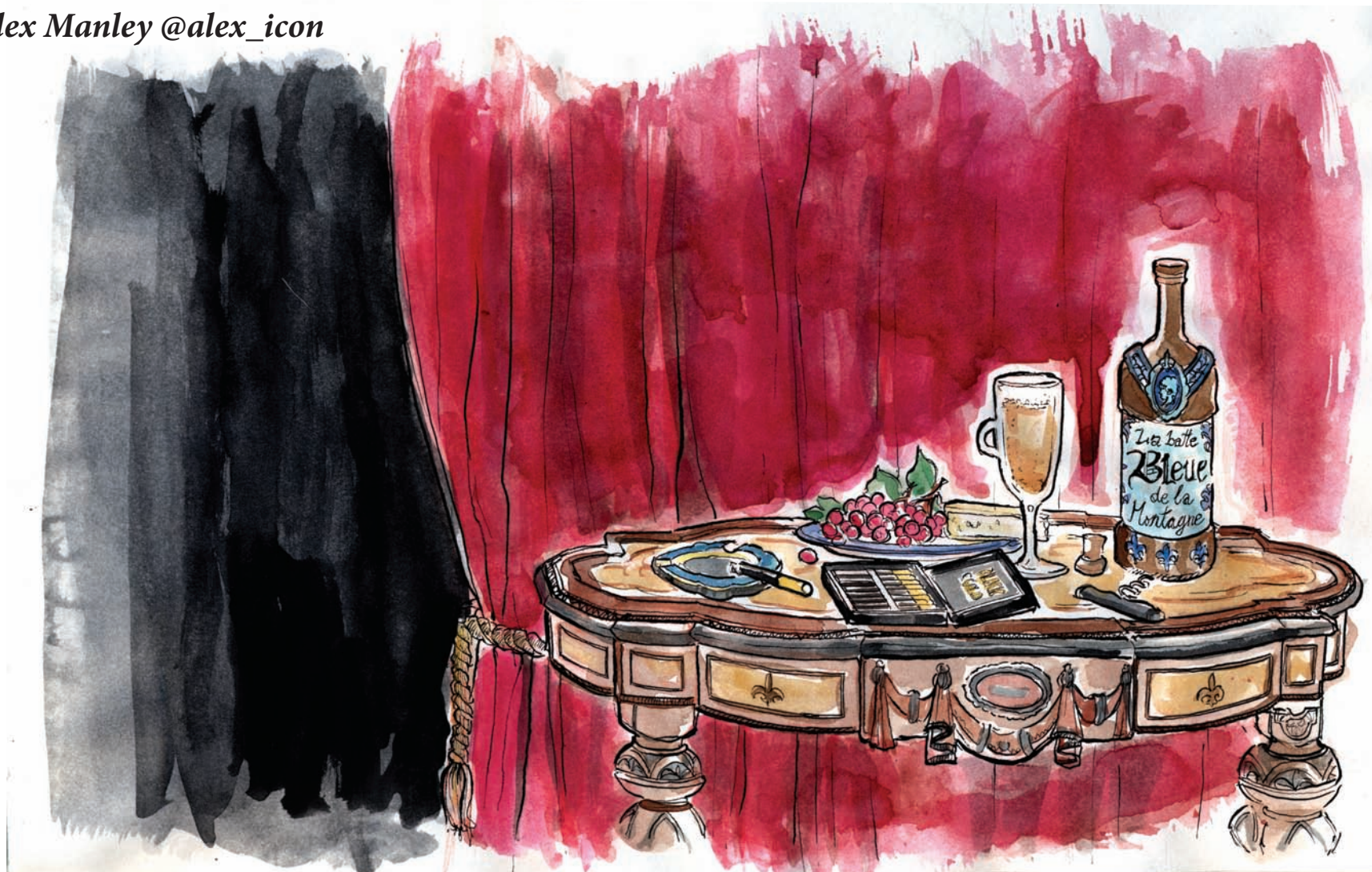
History rarely remembers the kind of trailblazer that Franklin was. After all, who wants to read about a math teacher with a penchant for losing when it counted most?

But still, Franklin's blood paved the way for athletes to be in a position to refuse dangerous bouts and collect multi-million dollar fight purses.

DEATH BY TAXES

What Does the PQ Government's New Budget Mean for Students?

by Alex Manley @alex_icon



GRAPHIC PAKU DAOUST-CLOUTIER

On Thursday, the Association pour une solidarité syndicale étudiante organized a protest for free tuition in Montreal, the latest in the long-running series of student movement marches occurring on the 22nd of the month.

According to Montreal's *The Gazette*, the protest drew several thousand students—months after Pauline Marois's Parti Québécois government promised a renewal of the tuition fee freeze.

In fact, two of the groups that had helped propel the student movement to the forefront of the provincial debate—the Fédération étudiante universitaire du Québec and the Fédération étudiante collégiale du Québec—were not involved.

But the fact that ASSE was able to draw so many people so long after the issue had faded from the headlines speaks to the fact that Quebec's students are not done being concerned with their bottom lines and the importance of a post-secondary education.

Many of their fellow students, if we're being honest, probably had no interest in a protest for free education. It's a nice idea, but it's hard to actually imagine it happening in a place that fought so vehemently over last year's proposed increase, and where opinion polls still show

a strong majority disagreeing with the idea of a tuition freeze.

Still, they would do well to pay attention to the PQ's new budget, tabled Nov. 20.

The budget lines garnering the most attention, for many, are the sin taxes—increased taxation of cigarettes and liquor. At a basic level, smokers and drinkers will feel a slight hit—an extra \$0.50 per pack on cigarettes and similar increases on beer, wine and spirits.

Rare is the student who doesn't partake in at least one of those two; if they'd increased taxes on coffee as well (Okay, that won't happen, but coffee is going to keep getting more expensive, so brace yourselves) they might have more than a few thousand students out in the streets.

Still, if complaining about Marois's draconian/puritan measures will get you play with those who took the PQ's election as a sign of next month's coming apocalypse, there are some bright spots for the working poor—and, of course, the studying poor.

The Liberals' plan to charge every Quebecer \$200 a year for health care has been revised into a tiered system that will see those earning \$18,000 or less—if you're reading this, chances are that's you and all your friends—excused from contributing. Those earning

\$150,000 a year or more, meanwhile, will pay \$1,000 a year.

The rich will also see a slight increase on their income tax, with those earning six figures and up (sorry, Montreal Canadiens players) seeing their rate hike from 24 per cent to 25.75 per cent.

Meanwhile, a proposed hike in Hydro-Québec's fees has been relaxed somewhat, with a two-thirds decrease from the Liberals' intended version.

The new hike, which goes into effect in 2014, should cost people living in apartments on average \$72 less per apartment than the hit they would have taken, savings that could easily be funneled back to the government through judicious alcohol and cigarette purchases.

(If you still live at home, households are set to take advantage of \$288 worth of savings in that regard.)

All told, these are pretty common-sense moves that will redistribute wealth in a very Quebecois manner, and represent the social values (campaign trail hints of xenophobia aside) that people voted for the PQ to see implemented.

Of course, many in the media have noted that this is a much less left-leaning budget than PQ governments of years past would have

tried to pass, and that it bears little resemblance to the party's pre-election campaigning. In fact, it smacks of conciliation and general nervousness more than anything.

Which is fair. The PQ was a party elected as a minority government. Their pro-student stance certainly won them many votes from the youth set, but many students also voted for Québec Solidaire—or not at all.

As when she donned and then doffed the red square over the summer, Marois has shown herself to be capable and willing to be a tactician first and an inspiring, principled leader second. She didn't win the election on a Barack Obama-style wave of hope, nor did her party gain a host of seats in a Jack Layton-style orange crush. She squeaked in.

Whatever else its strengths and weaknesses, the bulk of this budget is not for or about students—it's to keep the PQ in power without triggering an election or pissing off big business. But it also didn't do anything to incite the student leaders back into the streets, largely by keeping Marois's promise to erase the Liberals' tuition hikes.

From that perspective, it's nice to know that our premier considers students as something to be feared and taken seriously.

Sure, we're no pharmaceutical industry or mining industry with millions of lobbying dollars to spend and/or money and jobs to threaten to take elsewhere. Heck, we're not even a political party that could move to stymie her efforts in the National Assembly.

But there are a lot of us. We can vote. And boy, do we know how to bang on pots and pans, which, if the summer taught us anything, is the best way to go about getting your voice heard and your demands met in this province.

So thank you, Madame Marois, and cheers to Finance Minister Nicolas Marceau. It's not the best budget in the world but, as a pollster quoted in a recent *Gazette* article pointed out, "No budget ever satisfies more than 50 per cent of the population."

Oh, and a parting note: Even after the hike, Quebec's taxes on cigarettes are still the lowest in the country.

So anyone who supported the tuition fee hike on the grounds that Quebec's tuition would still be lower than anywhere else in Canada—and the students should just quit complaining—should have a fun time trying to argue that we should have more expensive education rather than more expensive carcinogens, all else being equal.

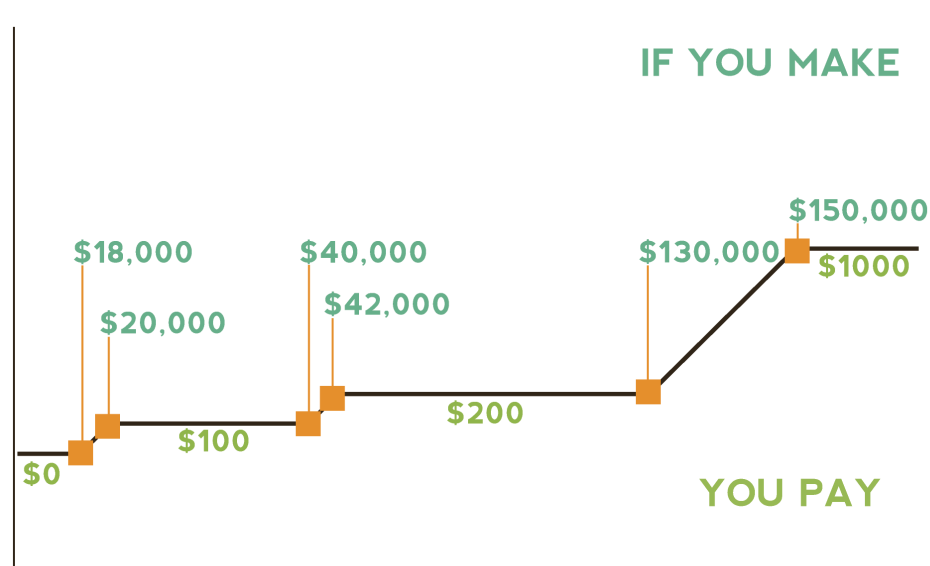
THE PQ BUDGET

How the New Budget Will Affect You

Infographic Hilary Sinclair @hilarysinclair

Here's a couple things from the Parti Québécois 2013-2014 budget that directly affect you, the student. Overall, things that harm your major organs are going to cost you, but it'll be cheaper to fix them after and keep warm.

HEALTH CARE



HYDRO QC



YOU SAVE
\$288/YR \$72/YR



LETTERS@THELINKNEWSPAPER.CA

No War on Iran

Israel's recent attack on Gaza is not simply an isolated regional issue; instead it is the embodiment of an oppressive foreign policy, which uses military might to punish all nations who dare question western hegemony in the Middle East and around the world.

Such a violent and murderous policy can also be found in the current treatment and depiction of Iran. Deceptively being framed as an issue over nuclear capabilities, the current conflict in Iran is but another example of the use of violence and hypocrisy in order to maintain and control power in the Middle East.

This summer, as fear mongering about nuclear weapons was reaching its height, the Harper government expelled Iranian diplomats from Ottawa—a move usually reserved for the overtures of war. It certainly did nothing to help bring about a peaceful solution—Canada now has no conceivable way of negotiating with Iran, except in larger international talks, though it seems to have no interest in doing so. Our government has also repeatedly pledged to stand behind Israel, no matter

what the circumstances—including, quite possibly, an unprovoked attack.

The United States, meanwhile, which Israel expects to be its main backup if it chooses to attack the perceived "threat," has opted for a program of harsh international sanctions. These restrictions on trade and imports are intended to make the government more willing to comply, or else turn the people against the government. The reality is that these sanctions are having disastrous effects on the Iranian people, causing a shortage in rudimentary drug supplies needed by millions, as well as severe food shortages and inflation.

Whereas Iran is a signatory to both the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Non-Proliferation Treaty, two internationally respected agencies concerning the control of nuclear armament, Israel is a signatory to neither. Furthermore, international inspectors routinely investigate Iran's nuclear capabilities, yet are not even allowed into Israeli nuclear facilities. Such a double standard demonstrates that this is not a conflict concerning the dangers of

nuclear weaponry. Instead, it is once again related to Western domination over sovereign states. Historically, military intervention has never proven to be a solution. Positive change can only come from the Iranian people themselves.

Join Anti-War Efforts Concordia on Nov. 29 at 1:00 p.m. in front of the Hall building, in protest against arbitrary sanctions and double standard foreign policy.

—Gabriel Velasco, BA School of Community and Public Affairs

On Chinese Students and Fortune Cookies

The Link's coverage of the horrific homestay experiences of international Chinese students has been stellar, the decision to run the photo of a fortune cookie with the article, less so.

Though Chinese international students appropriated the fortune cookie in defense of their interests, The Link should have been more discerning of what endorsing the association implies.

In the 1870s, Chinese men were imported in large numbers to complete the Canadian Pacific

Railway, quickly and cheaply, a condition for British Columbia to join the Dominion. The working conditions were dangerous and Chinese-Canadians were paid a third of what workers of all other ethnicities received.

Once the CPR was completed, Chinese Canadians came to be seen as threats because of their willingness to work for much lower wages. The government of Canada passed a series of acts, commonly known as "The Chinese Exclusion Act," to make it as difficult as possible for Chinese Canadians to be reunited with their families in North America.

The tense climate of prejudice against Chinese Canadians excluded them from most sectors of the economy. They were relegated to laundromats, corner stores and, of course, restaurants.

Menus were adjusted to "Western" taste buds and served in highly exoticized environments. Most patrons sought cheap, touristic experiences of Chinese culture. The fortune cookie, actually Japanese in origin, was used to fill the lack of desserts in traditional Chinese cuisine.

Fortune cookies are an artifact

of the Chinese Canadian struggle to become integrated with our compatriots. They were popularized because Chinese Canadians were forced to perpetuate their own oppression in order to survive.

These patterns of internalized racism are difficult to detect and not altogether avoidable. However, printing the image of a fortune cookie alongside an article about Chinese students tacitly sustains stereotypes that, I'm certain, The Link doesn't want to. As a Canadian of Chinese origin, I would have appreciated a bit more sensitivity and context.

That said, I have a great deal of respect for The Link's efforts to give a voice to victims of injustice and I look forward to reading more on this important issue.

—Vivien Leung, BFA Design

The Link's letters and opinions policy: The deadline for letters is 4 p.m. on Friday before the issue prints. The Link reserves the right to verify your identity via telephone or email. We reserve the right to refuse letters that are libelous, sexist, homophobic, racist or xenophobic. The limit is 400 words. If your letter is longer, it won't appear in the paper. Please include your full name, weekend phone number, student ID number and program of study. The comments in the letters and opinions section do not necessarily reflect those of the editorial board.

ANTI-CLIMACTIC SOLO



I'm a 21-year-old female who loves to watch porn. I usually get really turned on and really wet, but my orgasms aren't very strong. They happen so fast and are nothing compared to the build up and how turned on I was. When I masturbate to only my fantasies or memories, without the porn, my orgasms are much stronger. Why are my orgasms less intense when I'm more turned on and wet?

—Slippery When Wet

When you're watching porn, the mental and visual stimulation can be much stronger than when you're on your own.

You no longer need to put the work in to imagine something that turns you on, and you can visually explore all kinds of fantasies that you may not have thought up on your own.

The porn you're watching is likely something that really gets you going without having to put much effort in on your end,

so the problem may just be that you're over-stimulated.

While you might have a stronger build up, the intensity could be too much for you, making your orgasm come much quicker than usual.

This can be great if you're in a get-it-done kind of mood, but if you want to take your time then maybe you should save the porn for another time. Remember this isn't necessarily a bad thing.

In my opinion, you probably don't want to be too dependent on porn to give you your best orgasms anyway.

When it comes to how wet you are, we usually assume that wetter is better. While wetness can be really hot and feel amazing it can also be frustrating since it can make sensations less intense.

When there's too much lubrication there's usually less friction and that friction can be key to clitoral and vaginal orgasms for many people. So the mix of being over-stimulated and soaking wet may not be working out for you.

If you really love watching porn for the added material, but you have better, longer

orgasms without it then try watching it for inspiration to think about later when you masturbate without it.

The extra step of fantasizing about things you've seen without having them right in front of you could help curb the over-stimulation. You can also keep masturbating with the porn but accept that your orgasms may just not be your best. To help with extreme wetness try keeping tissues on hand to dry yourself off so that you'll have more friction.

Luckily, if you ever have this wetness problem with a partner, condoms and dental dams are a great way to add friction.

For penetrative sex you should always stick to lubricated condoms since you don't want so much friction that they tear, but there's still more friction with a lubricated condom than without a condom at all.

It's also important to note that while many people enjoy and need more friction to reach their orgasms, when you're with a partner that friction makes you more prone to small cuts, tears, and irritations that become an entry point for STIs.

Porn can be an amazing tool that allows

you to explore your most private desires. It can be a great sexual outlet whether it's in preparation to live out these desires or just to experience them at a distance since many people have fantasies that they would never want to personally experience.

If you enjoy porn then I think it's worth considering that while you don't have mind-blowing orgasms you're still exploring and learning more about your sexuality, which will lead to better orgasms in the future.

—Melissa Fuller, @mel_full

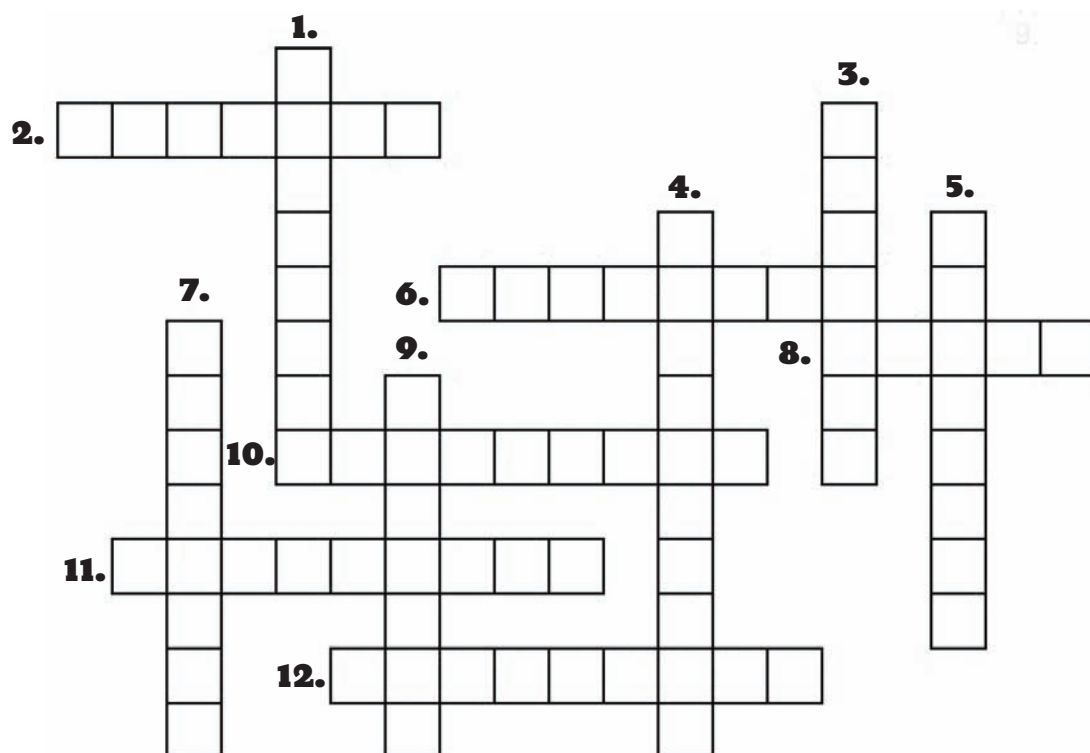
Submit your questions anonymously at sex-pancakes.tumblr.com and check out "Sex & Pancakes" on Facebook.

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

Got a quick health question? Call info-sant  at 8-1-1 from any Montreal number.

CANADIAN MAMMALS

HILARY SINCLAIR @HILARYSINCLAIR AND ALEX JEFFERY



ACROSS

2. Symbols of Canada's strength as a nation, these rodents slap their tails against the surface of water to warn others of impending danger.

6. These shaggy rabble-rousers will trick you with their laziness and then charge when you least expect it. They're one of the biggest mammalian dangers to tourists.

8. This mousy-looking mole-ish mammal is not, in fact a rodent. It produces venom that can kill a mouse lickety-split and has been used in blood pressure medication.

10. The most robust of the weasel family, these marine cuties snooze in groups called rafts. (2 words)

11. Contrary to popular belief, these salt-water delights are markedly different than those insufferable bulbous-headed ninnies commonly known as dolphins.

12. This sturdy, strapping carnivore is reputed for its ferocity, even without Adamantium bones.

DOWN

1. This 1991 video game is named after these furry tundra rats, although contrary to the plot of the game, no one is needed to stop them from committing mass suicide by running off cliffs.

3. This marsupial comes fully stocked with a hearty immune system that's able to battle the venom of even the dastardliest pit viper and is disconcertingly talented at playing dead.

4. This bounding species breeds like mad, so you'll never run out of stew supplies. You can also serve it 18th-century-style with a glass of port and its own blood.

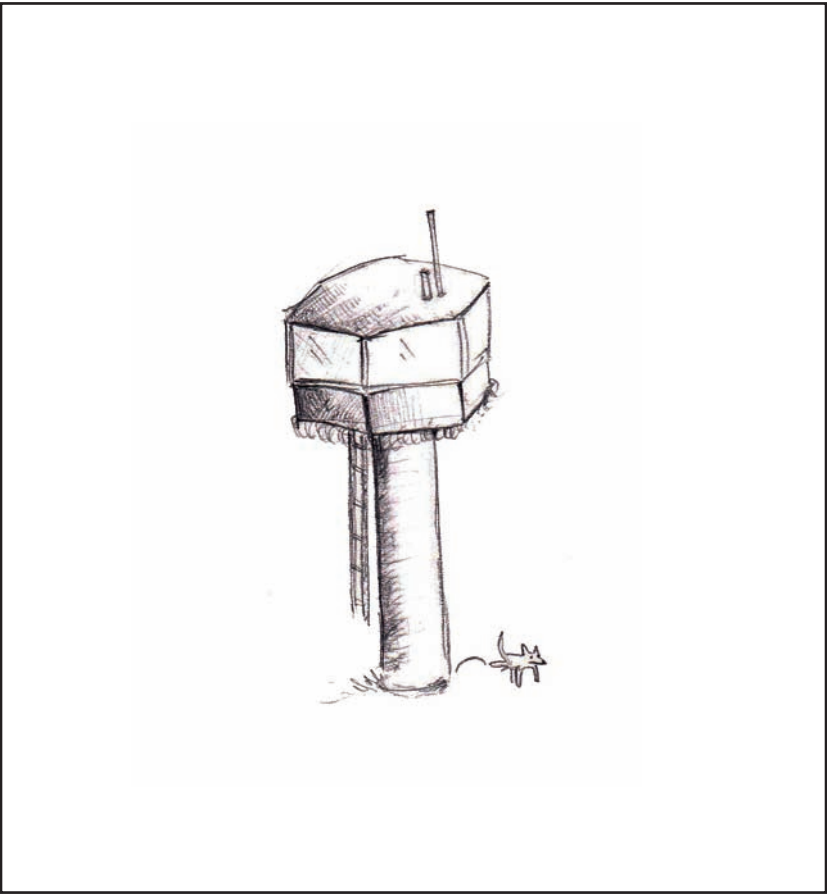
5. These unicorns of the sea don't devour their prey; they merely suck them into their mouths like marine chocolate milk.

7. The males of this hefty species attract mates with their aggressive personality and musky odor.

9. This furry antlered animal can be found regally roaming the Arctic tundra. Its main predator is the grey wolf, but younger members of the herd can also be snatched up by golden eagles.

BARTON FLATS

COMIC JONATHAN WOODS



LINKOGRAPHY

CAESAR'S LAST DRINK @CAESARCLINT

PREP TIME 1 MINUTE
MAKES 1 SERVING

 **SPLASH**  **LIBERAL AMOUNT**

YOU WILL NEED:

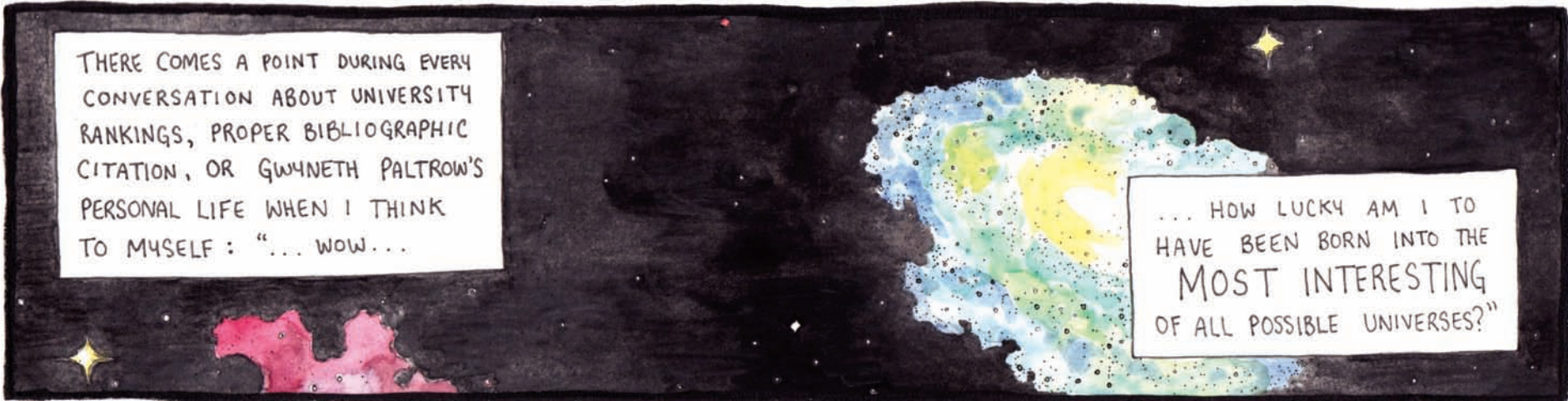
- SPIRAL STRAW
- ONE TOMATO
- ANY SIZED CUP
-  CLAMATO JUICE
-  LEFT OVER PARTY WINE
-  HEAVY CREAM
-  WHISKY
-  VODKA



GRAPHIC CLÉMENT LIU

False Knees

COMIC JOSHUA BARKMAN



NAH'MSAYIN?

Ode to a Pants-Free World

If I seem a bit angry in this Nah'm-sayin, you'll have to forgive me. I was wearing pants when I wrote it.

See, I hate pants. I hate everything about them—the way my ass crack always shows up at unexpected times and in ways that would boggle the mind of a quantum physicist.

I hate that every 10 years, we all arbitrarily decide to swing the fashion pendulum from Hammer-baggie to hipster-hopeyoudontlikebloodcirculationinyourgenitals.

But mostly I hate that pants make me hate my grandparents.

I love them. I truly do. But having fled the grimness of war-torn Europe, where a power-mad fascist made everyone wear drab pants (my knowl-

edge of history is horrible), you'd think they'd go somewhere where pants are not mandatory throughout the Hoth-esque hell of winter.

Australia. California. Congo. Whatever.

Instead, they looked at a map and said, "Let's go to the country that contains Winnipeg. Except we'll go to a part that has occasional weather that doesn't require pants, JUST TO TEASE OUR GRANDKIDS WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF A PANTS-FREE EXISTENCE, BUT THEN WINTER COMES AND BOOM! PANTS!"

In conclusion, Levi Strauss was an asshole.

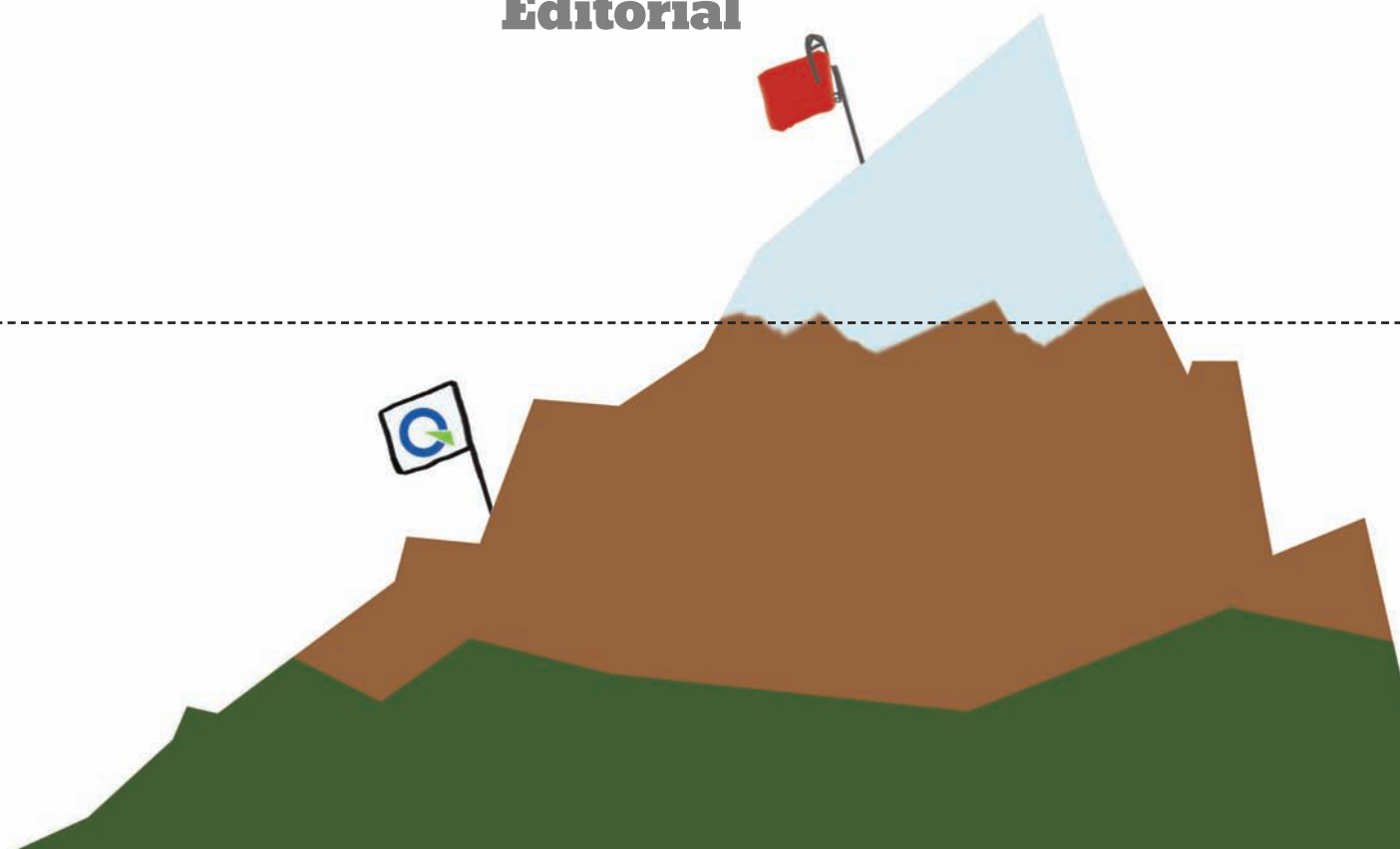
—Adam Kovac @adamjkovac



GRAPHIC JULIA WOLFE

Editorial

FREEZING POINT



TOWARDS THE SUMMIT

The toughest storm that students weathered during their 100-day ordeal to halt tuition hikes probably was not Jean Charest's strong-arm tactics.

It was the endless onslaught of subtle doublespeak used to delegitimize the entirely reasonable demand for accessible education—calling the strike a “boycott,” claims that schools were “underfunded” and calling certain demonstrators “extremists.”

As the movement picked up steam and Charest was eventually ousted, it seemed that the election of the temporarily red-square touting Parti Québécois leader Pauline Marois was the end of tuition increases—at least until the next election.

But now students face the same kind of word-mincing they were subjected to during the half-year of resistance.

Ironically, the change is now coming from the very party that,

to many, was a surrogate for their cause to the population at large.

The PQ has announced it will hold an education summit this February where nothing will be off the table—except free education—and one with “open negotiations” that will be driven by a clear plan by the PQ for an indexed tuition increase against organizations fractured by diverging views on education, tuition and negotiation.

With the unveiling of their plans for the February education summit, the PQ is now rearing an ugly head in their plan to raise tuition. The PQ has made it clear that they will be arguing for an indexed increase to tuition—meaning a strategy to increase tuition based on inflation.

Working under the guise of negotiation is an affront to the tens of thousands of Quebec students who took to the streets for a tuition freeze and a betrayal of the

promise that “[tuition] increase is cancelled for this year, for 2012-13 and for the next years” made only a few months ago by Marois.

Using alternate language to convey a reality that will, in fact, make an affordable education unrealistic to some students is ludicrous.

While many may be satisfied by an increase that makes the cost of tuition relative to the cost of living, we are tired of bearing the brunt of universities' financial incompetence and ineptitude.

No matter how far the student movement has come, the reality remains that asking for more money from students to fund mismanaged institutions before solving the mismanagement itself is, at its core, a counterproductive approach and unfortunately one that Quebec seems to be haunted by.

Putting more money into a broken system is not going to fix

it. Making universities base their spending off budgets and studies proven to work will.

Any increase in tuition detracts from the fundamental problem with money in many universities—it's not a shortage, but a lack of concrete ways to ensure any more money paid by students is going to be worth their while.

Before the Maple Spring, the Parti libéral du Québec themselves funded a study that concluded that the problem was not underfunding in universities but in fact mismanagement.

Similarly, studies that corroborate this assessment find serious faults in the methodology of the study frequently used to justify the claim that underfunding is a legitimate claim.

Namely, that it is based not on what means Quebec universities have at their disposal but what the difference between their

funds and the funds of universities in other provinces are.

Representatives at the education summit are going have to prepare to make sure the PQ sticks to the reasons many of the students had faith in them to begin with, the tuition freeze needs to stay a freeze—not a rewording of the initial plan.

On that note, this is the perfect time for groups representing students to show that they can do more than be seen at tuition hike protest bellowing into a megaphone and actually stand their ground to bootstrap real change that can benefit the entire province.

The election of the PQ wasn't supposed to be the better of two tuition-hike-evils but an end to them for any amount of time. We, as students, need to make sure that they stick to that, and have to make sure that those representing us will, too.

◆ GRAPHIC PAKU DAOUST-CLOUTIER

THE LINK

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