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With less than a week until the municipal election, you're hopefully taking a closer look at the various platforms of the different candidates and their respective parties.

Perhaps your heart lays with mayoral candidate Richard Bergeron of Projet Montréal and his promises to repeal bylaw P-6 and construct a tramway; or maybe you're more on board with Marcel Côté and Coalition Montréal's promises to promote green roofs and encourage urban agriculture; or maybe you're just plain confused.

The Link can help. Need help figuring out who you should vote for? Head to our website to read profiles on candidates from all major parties, including mayoral candidates Richard Bergeron, Marcel Côté, Denis Coderre and Mélanie Joly.

See a breakdown of the platforms of the four major parties, and figure out if you're even eligible to vote in the first place. In this issue you'll find a recap of the finer points of last Friday's mayoral debate, as well as the one between candidates running in the Plateau-

Mont-Royal district.

Interested in learning more about Coderre? Turn to Page 8 for our profile. Curious about who's running with Le Vrai changement pour Montréal—Groupe Mélanie Joly in the Côte-des-Neiges—Notre-Dame-de-Grâce district? Head to Page 9 to see what they have planned for the neighbourhood. And read our editorial at the end of this issue to find out who we're voting for.

Whatever your political persuasion, be sure to head to the polls on Nov. 3 and cast your ballot.



CSU RESIGNATIONS

CSU councillor resignations continue, totalling six in two months. **P4**

FIRST LADIES

BBAM! Gallery hosts travelling butt-kicking female artist exhibition. **P12**

KICKED OFF THE THRONE

McGill upsets Stingers women's rugby in provincial finals. **P26**

CFC PETITION VERIFICATION

CSU to check student status of signatories on Concordia Food Coalition fee-levy petition. **P5**

TWO SHOTS IN THE DARK

Black Theatre Workshop puts on hip-hop production condemning police violence. **P13**

SHEDDING LIGHT ON MENTAL ILLNESS

Mental illness doesn't make you less of a person, and more needs to be done to erase its stigma. **P27**

THE LINK ONLINE

FRINGE CALENDAR

There ain't no party like a Fringe Cal party, this week featuring a band on the run across Canada, Halloween bashes, art exhibits and only a 50% chance of straw fedoras.

FUNDING COMMUNITY RADIO

CKUT FM is hoping you're getting into the gift-giving season early this year. McGill's community station is in the middle of its annual funding drive. We have the full story later this week.

BERGERON! JOLY! CODERRE! CÔTÉ!

After months of campaigning, Montreal is heading to the polls to decide on its new government. Who will get the mayor's seat? Who'll be Concordia's local councillors—and are they friends to students? Find out this Sunday.

LINK RADIO

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



CSU COUNCIL CONTINUES TO DWINDLE DOWN

El Jahidi and Nasser's Exit Marks Six Councillor Resignations in Two Months

by Andrew Brennan @Brennamen

With the resignations of Hajar El Jahidi and Bilal Nasser, the Concordia Student Union has lost six councillors in the last two months.

"It was just not feasible in terms of time, it was nothing else but that," El Jahidi told *The Link*.

El Jahidi's resignation came mere minutes before the start of a regular council meeting on Oct. 23.

"Due to time constraints, and the new regulations about council meetings happening twice a month (from what I have been told) I will not be able to fulfill my duties," she wrote.

However, CSU chairperson Nick Cuillerier was quick to point out in an email message forwarding El Jahidi's resignation to the rest of council that the meeting schedule in place, in which the union is to meet twice each in October, November and January, has been in place since June 2011 and is not new.

Nasser's resignation letter was published to council on Oct. 24. Giving no reason for stepping down from his position, Nasser said in his letter he hopes his seat will be filled by someone who can "hopefully enrich the CSU and [will] continue providing Concordia students with the maximum amount of benefits."

Nasser could not be reached for comment before press time.

Union Apathy

The CSU's current council was elected in April, with 20 councillors elected to represent their respective faculties.

But CSU bylaw 6.2.2 allows for up to 30 councillors to sit on council at any one time, so long as bylaw 6.2.1—which states council

shall be composed of a minimum of two representatives from each faculty—is adhered to when the union decides total council seats for the upcoming academic year.

However, while the faculty itself had the highest proportional voter turnout at the last CSU election, fine arts students currently have no councillors representing their faculty.

Following the resignations of Nasser last week and former councillor Omar Badawi Sept. 29, engineering and computer science students have only one member left on council, Chuck Wilson.

John Molson business students also began the semester with three representatives on council, but have lost a councillor following Yassine Chaabi's removal from office for breaking the CSU's meeting attendance policy. Chaabi could not be reached for comment before press time.

With CSU byelections taking place in about three weeks, there are currently 14 councillors remaining in the union.

But if voter turnout is any indication, Concordia students are not concerning themselves with their union's politics. Less than four per cent of undergraduates voted in the last CSU election.

First-time arts and science councillor Alanna Stacey told *The Link* that part of the problem is general indifference or wariness among students towards the CSU because of the disapproval of previous years' councils and their decisions.

"Because of past years there is an extreme level of distrust [among students]," she said.

"Most students would be automatically turned off to learning or knowing or involving themselves with it, because why would you want to involve yourself in something corrupt?"

Stacey added that she became involved

with the CSU because she wanted to know the actual workings of Concordia's internal politics, beyond what was visible on the surface.

She says she also decided to run as an arts and science councillor to help bring accountability and transparency to the CSU.

Adam Veenendaal, another first-time CSU councillor for arts and science, told *The Link* that it was the perceived shortcomings of councils from years past which prompted him to seek election.

"It seemed there was a sort of deadlock in council, from what I was reading in the papers, over the last year under the last executive," he said.

"I wanted to get involved to break that deadlock," he continued, later adding he is doing the job "out of a sense of duty."

Three of the six councillors who have vacated their seats on council since August served as CSU executives last year.

El Jahidi was unanimously appointed to fill the then-vacant VP Academic and Advocacy position last November.

Ex-VPs Clubs and Student Life, Nadine Atallah and Alexis Suzuki, resigned before they were implicated in the spending of over \$9,000 on an end-of-year party at Newtown bar on Crescent St. for last year's executive and other CSU members.

Atallah resigned from her post as councillor the day before the Newtown party was to be debated before council in September. She told council in her resignation letter she had a class she was required to take the same time council regularly meets.

Suzuki resigned Aug. 29, giving no explanation.

A Hard Day's Night

Stacey and Veenendaal both told *The Link* that council meetings are known to be notoriously long, which Veenendaal admits could be a reason multiple councillors were "scared off" to the point of resigning.

El Jahidi offered similar reasoning in her resignation letter, stating that having multiple meetings each month ending well past midnight is not conducive to her studies—especially when she has a class early the following morning.

Steps have been taken to curb the lengths of meetings, according to Veenendaal and CSU President Melissa Kate Wheeler. Some of the more apparent changes include limiting time for discussion of agenda points and being more stringent on adhering to decorum.

But whether it is a dislike of late-night meetings or distrust in the union, Stacey says the dwindling down of the CSU has its repercussions.

"There's an automatic decline in our productivity if we have less hands to do the job," she said.

For Stacey, a major change in student involvement will only happen once current CSU is recognized for the good work she says they are doing.

"When there is a better reputation, a better word behind the CSU, it will automatically help the level of student participation [in the CSU]," she said.

A CSU byelection is taking place Nov. 19 to Nov. 21. Those interested in running for council must pick up a nomination form from the CSU offices before Nov. 1.

Photo Andrew Brennan

CSU HAS THOUGHTS FOR FOOD

Food Referendum Questions Seek Student Support in CSU By-Election

by Andrew Brennan @Brennamen

Despite calling a special council meeting in order to approve a request for a fee-levy referendum by the Concordia Food Coalition, the Concordia Student Union will have to wait until the end of the week to find out whether the CFC's petition actually contains enough verifiable signatures for the question to be included on ballots in the upcoming CSU by-elections.

"Out of the 952 signatures submitted, I was able to verify 696 signatures through our student membership list," said CSU chairperson Nick Cuillerier.

"This number falls short of the 750-signature requirement for referendums as per [CSU Standing Regulation] 138."

The CFC's petition was originally presented to council Oct. 9 during a regular council meeting, but because the petition was brought forward after the deadline designated by the CSU's standing regulations, council had to vote to ignore its own regulations in order to accommodate the CFC's request.

According to CSU Standing Regulation 138, any "non-CSU group seeking a new fee levy must submit an application to the policy committee for review and approval at least two months before the first day of the nomination period of the Fall by-elections [...] in order to be considered by council."

However, the CFC did not come forward to make their interests known to the CSU until late September, according to CSU VP Academic Gene Morrow, who met with CFC member Gabriel Velasco.

The CFC is a coalition of food groups at Concordia looking to replace global conglomerate Chartwells as the major food service provider on campus. The CFC is currently seeking approval to be included on the CSU's by-election ballot to ask undergraduates to contribute a fee levy to the group per course credit.

Chartwells' contract runs out in 2015.

Council was unable to reach a decision at the regular council meeting, but was able to approve the CFC's fee-levy referendum question at a special council meeting one week later.

According to Cuillerier, the CSU will wait momentarily in a kind of limbo until the 256 signatures are rechecked.

"The outcome will depend on the result from the Dean of Students Office," he said. "Shortly after I informed the CFC of their lack of signatures they asked the Dean of Students Office to check illegible signatures with the corresponding student ID."

"They agreed [...] and we are currently waiting to hear back on the result which should be known by the end of the week," he continued.

"As a result from this, the CSU will be asking a referendum question to students asking permission to collect their student ID number for the sole purpose of verifying their eligibility as members."

A second food-related referendum question has also been approved for inclusion on by-election ballots.

The question would ask students whether they wish to "mandate the CSU to establish or help found a cooperative café or cooperative restaurant, of a type that is predominantly controlled by students either through the membership or directly through the board of directors, within the location that is currently leased to Java U in the Hall Building (on the mezzanine)."

The space leased to Java U is operated by CUSAcop, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the CSU. Concordia originally leased the second-floor space to the CSU with a mandate it be leased and managed by CUSAcop, according to CUSAcop chairperson and CSU VP Clubs and Internal James Tyler Vaccaro.

According to Velasco, who helped spearhead the petition for Java U's space, the petition was not included as a CFC project so it could first garner support among student department and faculty associations.

At least nine arts and science member asso-

ciations have pledged their support to the initiative, including the Sociology and Anthropology Student Union, the Students of Philosophy Association and the School of Community and Public Affairs Student Association.

But Vaccaro says the CSU's relationship with its corporate arm CUSAcop could pose legal challenges for the CSU and CUSAcop if a student-run space is mandated to open on the Hall Building's second floor—which is why the motion tabling the referendum question at council was amended so the question would be sent to the CSU's judicial board first to ensure its legality.

"The idea behind bringing it to the [judicial board] is to even see if there is legal standing for the CSU to be mandated to bring this forward in a space that they don't technically manage," said Vaccaro.

CSU VP Sustainability Benjamin Prunty, a member of the CFC and supporter of a student-run space taking over Java U's current location, told *The Link* he believes the wording should allow a student-run project to be approved.

"[The referendum question] speaks of mandating the CSU and not the council of the CSU. This is specifically relevant because the CSU is the sole shareholder of CUSAcop stocks, not the council of [representatives]," he said.

Cuillerier confirmed a petition with 739 verified signatures was provided to the CSU along with the referendum question.

A referendum question only needs 500 signatures if it is not asking for a fee levy per credit from students.

According to Cuillerier, if the judicial board does not approve the referendum question, it will be removed from the ballot. The deadline for submitting referendum question requests was Oct. 25.

For Vaccaro, he says his main concern with a new mandate via referendum is that he thinks council is rushing to solve the problem without fully evaluating the issue.

"It's really a shame that we weren't ap-

proached to open dialogue and to really discuss this [beforehand]," he admitted.

"It's not something that should be mandated immediately when we still have a tenant in that space, and to be honest the board doesn't appreciate having a gun put to our heads to be making this decision immediately," he continued.

"Java U is still our tenant, and they will be our tenant for quite some time now, so CUSAcop's goal is not to push them out and our goal is not to be making a decision immediately."

A student-run business in the space also presents questions of financial sustainability, according to Vaccaro.

"CUSAcop should be there to act as an apolitical organization generating profits for students, that are grown by sustainable businesses that can keep going and can work with students. It should be a job creator for students on campus," he said.

"If we're providing all these services and operating at a loss, I don't think we're really doing our jobs to be investing in the student experience."

"Yes, you are providing [the student-run group] with a great space and a great location, but if it's losing money every year and has to be bailed out, there's a problem there," he continued.

But Prunty says there are other options. "I am confident that if finances are the issue, then we have alternatives to the rental agreement," he said. "There are alternatives that don't require an increased fee levy."

As for Velasco, he says ultimately the spirit of the referendum question is to give students the final word.

"We wanted to make sure that students have a say in terms of what [takes over the space], whether it be a co-op café or whether it be another cafeteria, or a Starbucks or Tim Hortons," he said.

"I just feel that whatever the decision is, students should be consulted."

Photo Erin Sparks



CSU VP Sustainability Benjamin Prunty is the union's most vocal supporter of student-run food options on campus.

CITY COVERAGE

MAYORAL DEBATE
HELD AT CONCORDIA

Candidates Discuss How to Tackle Corruption and the City's Financial Situation

by Michael Wrobel @michael_wrobel

Montreal mayoral candidates Richard Bergeron, Denis Coderre, Marcel Côté and Mélanie Joly took to the stage of Concordia University's Oscar Peterson Concert Hall on Friday night to debate governance, finances and relations with other governments.

The English-language "town hall meeting" was hosted by *The Montreal Gazette* and radio station CJAD 800 AM. The questions asked during the debate were based on submissions, and some were read by audience members.

Montrealers will cast their ballots to elect the city's next mayor, city councillors and borough councillors on Nov. 3.

Cleaning Up City Hall

Côté, the leader of Coalition Montréal, said he'd bring about "major reforms at city hall, a quiet revolution." An economist and co-founder of SECOR, a management consulting firm, Côté touted his experience in the business sphere.

"Montreal needs help," he said. "What happened at city hall should never have happened, and I joined the mayoralty race to ensure it will never happen again."

Côté said that "the best defense against corruption is a well-managed organization" and that the city's administration is currently poorly organized. He said that more checks and balances must be introduced and the concentration of power in the hands of a few city officials needs to be eliminated.

"We have to eliminate the bureaucratic silos at city hall, and there's a lot of them," he continued, adding that the city needs an ethics commissioner.

Coderre, the leader of Équipe Denis Coderre pour Montréal, said he would change "the culture of management" at city hall and put in place a zero-tolerance policy for corruption.

"I want to bring [in] an inspector-general who will be kind of a police of contracts who will be there, totally independent, to depoliticize the procurement process," he said.

Joly, the leader of Le Vrai changement pour Montréal—Groupe Mélanie Joly, said, "The most important problem [...] is that only certain people have access to informa-

tion, and information is power."

She said she would make sure that all of the data held by the city's administration is made public.

"To do that, we [propose] a chief digital officer, a person who will be in charge of transferring all that information through the web, through social media, and that way, there won't be only one inspector-general, like Mr. Coderre is saying, there will be 1.2 million inspectors-general in Montreal," she said.

Bergeron, the leader of Projet Montréal, said that his party "was open and transparent before it became fashionable, and that will not change."

He said the party has demonstrated 10 years of integrity since the party's founding.

"I have come to know Denis Coderre, and I confess he's not a bad guy," Bergeron said.

"But Denis Coderre chose to surround himself with the very politicians who brought shame to Montreal, 25 in all, politicians who may not be corrupt, but who nonetheless didn't hear anything, didn't see anything [and] didn't say anything," he continued, referring to the fact that some of the candidates running with Coderre are former members of the now-defunct Union Montréal party.

Union Montréal has been the subject of allegations at the Charbonneau Commission, the public inquiry examining possible corruption in the awarding of public construction contracts.

"That's a recipe for another four years of business as usual," Bergeron said.

On Montreal's Finances

The mayoral candidates also expressed differing opinions on how to tackle the city's financial situation.

Côté said that "there has been no CEO in this shop for over five, six, seven, maybe 10 years, nobody really in charge of the purse strings, so all the members of the executive committee are pushing for their own pet projects."

"We have to put discipline there, and then gradually there will be a budgetary margin freeing up," he added.

Côté said money that is freed up could later go towards the Société de transport de Montréal, the city's public transit corporation, or towards repairing Montreal's streets.

Bergeron said the city's overly complex operational budget requires "simplification."

"We have too many high-ranking civil servants, not enough engineers," Bergeron said, jokingly adding that he'd hire Côté to rethink the city's administration. "When we [streamline the administration] with Mr. Côté, we can save more or less \$100 million a year."

Bergeron also said he'd discuss how to better fund the city's transportation system with the provincial government.

Meanwhile, Joly called Montreal "a property tax junkie."

"Seventy per cent of our revenues come from property tax," said Joly. "When you compare it to other big cities, Toronto is 39 per cent and in the U.S., major cities [are] around 18 per cent. It's time that Montreal gets a special status from Quebec [in terms of funding]."

She said it's "clearly the only solution" and that her party is "the only one talking about it."

Côté said asking for a special status for Montreal "will not work, you won't get it." He said that Joly's suggestion that she could persuade the provincial government to give Montreal 0.5 per cent of the Quebec Sales Tax was "totally politically impossible." The city has to be realistic and clean up its own administration, he added.

Coderre said the first step is to take a closer look at Montreal's budget once elected, adding that he believes people are mad "rightfully enough" about tax increases.

"Yes, we need a fiscal pact eventually, we need to negotiate, but we need to clean our own house first," he said.

Improving the Economy

Bergeron said a major economic concern is the migration of young, middle-class families towards the suburbs outside Montreal's city limits.

"Year after year, in the last 12 years, we lost 22,000 people—that means between 6,000 and 8,000 young families," he said. "The result of [this migration] is that \$2.5 billion a year is invested by Montrealers outside of Montreal."

Bergeron said that retaining families is a priority for Projet Montréal and that the public transit system needs to be improved to encourage families to remain in the city. He

added that examples from around the world suggest that "attractive cities attract new companies, companies of the 21st century."

Coderre said he'd bring the Old Port back under the city's jurisdiction. Currently, the federal government manages and develops the site through the Old Port of Montréal Corporation, a subsidiary of the arms-length and self-financing Canada Lands Company.

"I'd like to create a cruise ship port [on the site] and a fair exposition with a duty-free area," he said, noting how important the historic site is to tourism in Montreal.

Joly said she'd improve Montreal's economy by eliminating corruption through greater transparency, improving traffic congestion on the city's road network by investing in a bus-based rapid-transit system and reducing "red tape" by clarifying procedures for obtaining permits and authorizations from the municipal administration.

Côté said he'd make sure the city is well-managed in order to inspire greater investor confidence.

"Investors and private entrepreneurs will be the ones rebuilding our economy if we don't disrupt [investors] with one of our biggest problems [in] Montreal—our recurring battle on nationalism and on language," he said.

With that remark, Côté tried to put a controversy about comments by one of his candidates behind him.

Louise Harel, a former Parti Québécois minister now running for a city council seat with Coalition Montréal, said last week that the party would make one of the members of the city's executive committee responsible for the promotion of the French language. She also expressed concern about the number of English-language signs in stores.

At the debate, Côté said Montreal should get involved in the language issue in this way so that the provincial government doesn't have the sole responsibility for handling it, which it has done "clumsily" in the past.

"We have to manage our linguistic duality," he said. "We have to live with it and manage it, and the mayor has an important leadership role in that regard. [...] This city will be built on creativity and knowledge."

Photos Leslie Schachter



From left to right: Denis Coderre, Mélanie Joly, Richard Bergeron and Marcel Côté.

CSU CO-HOSTS PLATEAU CANDIDATES' DEBATE

Green Spaces, Public Transit and Bylaw P-6 Among Topics Discussed Ahead of Municipal Election

by Jonathan Summers @jonathans_MTL

Candidates in Montreal's Plateau-Mont-Royal borough for the four major parties running in the Nov. 3 municipal election went head-to-head in a debate in the Hall Building's D.B. Clarke Theatre on Oct. 24.

The debate featured sitting borough mayor Luc Ferrandez of Projet Montréal; Piper Huggins, a candidate for the Jeanne-Mance district's city councillor seat with Coalition Montréal; Eleni Fakotakis, a candidate for the Jeanne-Mance district's city councillor seat with Équipe Denis Coderre; and David Côté, a candidate for the Mile End district's borough councillor seat with Le Vrai changement pour Montréal.

"Given that youth engagement in politics is so low, I didn't expect most of our students to go out of their way to attend an external debate," said Caroline Bourbonnière, VP External for the Concordia Student Union, which co-hosted the debate. "I thought hosting one at Concordia would facilitate their participation and spark an interest for politics."

Thomas Daigle, a graduate of Concordia's journalism program and weekend anchor of CBC News Montreal, moderated the debate. It was attended by about 80 people—largely students who live in Plateau-Mont-Royal—and revolved around three main themes: urban planning and housing; public transit; and life in the borough, including municipal bylaw P-6 and saving local businesses.

On Urban Planning

Ferrandez spoke about the impending closure of the Royal Victoria and Hôtel-Dieu hospitals as "fantastic opportunities" for the borough. Aside from providing more room for green spaces, Ferrandez said that their parking lots could be turned into new housing projects, including social housing.

"[Developers] will ask for zoning laws to change them from hospitals to condominiums, or hospitals to office buildings, or anything else," said Ferrandez. "There, we can interfere and say, 'Okay, yes, if you give us 20 per cent for social housing,' for example.

We've been very good at doing that."

Huggins, the incumbent borough councillor in the Jeanne-Mance district and until recently a member of Projet Montréal, challenged Ferrandez, demanding more social housing instead of condos. She also criticized him for imposing fines on bar owners in the borough as well as failing to protect existing green spaces.

"You'd think that Projet Montréal, because they're a green party, would actually stand up to the threats but unfortunately they haven't, which is why I left the party a month ago over the refusal to save the Notman Garden, which is a historical garden on the corner of Milton and Clark [streets]," said the former Concordia student and board member of CUSACorp, the CSU's for-profit subsidiary.

"It's got the oldest trees on the Plateau, 30 trees, some rare trees, and they might even be the oldest trees in Montreal."

Fakotakis, another former Concordia student, previously served as borough councillor in the Mile-End district from 2005 to 2009 with the scandal-plagued and now-defunct municipal party Union Montréal. She was called in at the last minute to represent Équipe Denis Coderre in the debate, replacing borough mayor candidate Gilbert Thibodeau.

Repeatedly stressing the need to involve the public in decision-making, Fakotakis insisted that more public consultation should have been undertaken by Ferrandez's administration before it implemented measures to calm traffic in the borough.

However, she appeared underprepared and provided brief answers to the moderator's questions, leading Daigle to urge her to elaborate at one point.

Côté, an activist-turned-entrepreneur, was the only political neophyte in the debate but appeared relaxed and related well to the young crowd.

He addressed the commitments of Le Vrai changement pour Montréal regarding green spaces throughout the city: promoting urban agriculture with 20 new community gardens throughout Montreal in the next four years; planting 300,000 trees by 2021; and making green or white roofs obligatory for new large buildings.

In the last municipal election, in 2009, Projet Montréal candidates swept all seven available positions in Plateau-Mont-Royal, taking control of its borough council for the first time.

Borough councillor Carl Boileau left Projet Montréal in 2012 to join the Vision Montréal party—now a component of Montreal mayoral candidate Marcel Côté's Coalition Montreal. Huggins parted ways with Projet Montréal in September.

Ferrandez defended his party's initiatives in the borough over the past four years against attacks from his opponents.

"We've tried something that everybody's talked about for years," said Ferrandez. "We've tried to make it possible for people to live close to the city, as much as possible without the car, in a district that will attract as much as possible families. And that has brought to us a tremendous amount of critics and resistance."

On Public Transit

Regarding public transit, Fakotakis and Côté both questioned Ferrandez on Projet Montréal's proposal to bring the tramway back to Montreal. All three of his opponents instead promoted their parties' plans for bus rapid transit, which they suggested would be less expensive.

"Sometimes the [bus rapid transit lines are] the best option, but not all the time," replied Ferrandez. "Maybe on certain arteries like René-Lévesque [Boulevard] or Avenue du Parc, it would be more intelligent in these places to put the tramway."

"The tramway is narrower. It has in some cases some advantages," he continued.

Huggins and Côté agreed that student pricing for monthly transit passes, currently only available to those aged 25 and under, should be extended to all students regardless of age. Ferrandez went even further in advocating that it be applied to all low-income residents.

There were a couple of issues on which the candidates deviated from party lines. For instance, Côté confirmed that his party, like the others, is in favour of creating more bike lanes. However, as a cyclist and a representative of the Mile End, he said that he is opposed to the plan because bike lanes are dangerous and take up too much space.

On Bylaw P-6

As for municipal bylaw P-6, Huggins said she agrees with the requirement that protesters provide their route to police in advance, but will push to repeal the bylaw, which also prohibits the wearing of masks during a protest.

"Luckily, under the Coalition Montréal, I have a free vote," said Huggins, referring to her party's promise to allow its elected officials to diverge from the party line. She suggested that if all the councillors could vote independently of their party, the contentious bylaw would have been repealed already.

Exactly where Coalition Montréal stands on the bylaw as a whole is unclear, although the party is in favour of that same requirement supported by Huggins, according to *La Presse*.

David Côté, who also suggested he would vote against P-6, said the same about the requirement for itineraries to be given to police.

Ferrandez was less nuanced.

"We are the only party that has refused and rejected P-6," he said, adding that Alex Norris, the incumbent Mile End city councillor and Projet Montréal candidate running against Huggins and Fakotakis for the Jeanne-Mance city councillor seat, led the charge against P-6.

Fakotakis was the only candidate who came out in favour of the bylaw.

"The right of freedom and the right of expression is not inhibited by P-6 necessarily," she said. "I think it's paramount to protect the public, and the public includes students."

Nevertheless, Fakotakis added that the police are sometimes too aggressive, citing as an example the 2008 shooting death of Fredy Villanueva.

Towards the end of the debate, Côté ultimately said that he would vote for Ferrandez for borough mayor, given his party's lack of a candidate for that position.

The debate was co-hosted by the CSU, the Graduate Student Association, the Students' Society of McGill University and the Post-Graduate Students' Society of McGill.

Photos Leslie Schachter



From left to right: Piper Huggins, Eleni Fakotakis, Luc Ferrandez and David Côté.

CITY COVERAGE



Montreal mayoral candidate Denis Coderre at a debate on Oct. 25.

MAKING MONTREAL A 'SMART' DESTINATION

Mayoral Candidate Denis Coderre Discusses his Vision for the City

Michael Wrobel @michael_wrobel

Denis Coderre started his political career as a three-time loser.

He fell short in three elections before finally being voted into office as a Member of Parliament for the Bourassa riding in 1997.

"All those years of relentless efforts have earned me the nickname of 'Mr. Tenacity,'" he said in his first speech in Parliament.

He served as a minister in the Chrétien government and has been re-elected five times.

After the Liberals' defeat in the 2011 federal election and the resignation of party leader Michael Ignatieff, Coderre said he wanted to be a party leader—regardless of whether it would be in Parliament or at city hall—and that he would either enter the Liberal leadership race or run to become Montreal's next mayor.

Finally, on May 16, he announced his candidacy for the city's top job.

His campaign hasn't been without controversy. Hecklers tried to interrupt his campaign launch. In an English-language debate televised on CTV, mayoral rivals Richard Bergeron and Marcel Côté criticized Coderre for allegedly having vague plans for the city.

"You can't surf your way into the mayor's place, you have to be specific," said Côté, the leader of political party Coalition Montréal.

"When I hear Mr. Coderre speaking, I realize that he has a plan for himself—to be the mayor of Montreal—but he has no plan for Montreal," said Bergeron, the leader of Projet Montréal, who has also claimed his political opponents lack ambition.

In an interview with *The Link*, Coderre said he does indeed have goals for Montreal, but that it's important to be realistic.

"There's a difference between dreaming and reality," he said. "I think that what we need to do first is build the link of trust between the population and the city."

"It's a matter of putting up the template,

all together, to make sure that what we will do for the next four years, we will deliver," he continued.

"And by doing that, we will become an antidote against cynicism."

He said his dreams for the city include holding FIFA World Cup events in Montreal if Canada is chosen as the host country for the international soccer competition in 2026, as well as having Montreal's municipal government take control of the Old Port, turn it into a port for cruise ships and "provide access to the river to the citizens."

Currently, the Old Port of Montréal Corporation, a subsidiary of the federal government's arms-length and self-financing Canada Lands Company, manages and develops the historic site.

Furthermore, in addition to marking the 375th anniversary of Montreal's founding and the 50th anniversary of the 1967 International and Universal Exposition, Coderre said he wants to improve the city's infrastructure so as to leave a lasting legacy.

A High-Tech City

A central part of Coderre's platform is to turn Montreal into a "smart city" where citizens can engage with their municipal government online and be involved through the means of digital communications "in the decisions that affect their daily lives."

In his interview with *The Link*, Coderre used potholes and vandalism like graffiti as examples, saying that a truly "smart city" would allow you to alert the municipal administration to these problems.

"You take your smartphone, take a picture of it, sending [it] back to public works, and then [within] 24 hours, they can manage it," he said. "If you can have that kind of a relationship, it means that it works and people will have a closer link with that [government] institution."

Coderre's platform states that his party will create a web-based platform that would

allow for more dialogue between residents and the city's administration, as well as provide "relevant, geo-localized information to residents, visitors and tourists" on topics such as history, arts, local services and businesses.

The platform also commits the party to supporting "the development of a multimodal trip planner that allows Montrealers to optimize travel within the city based on the time of day and their departure and destination points, taking advantage of the various means of public transit at their disposal (subway, bus, Bixi) and circumventing any blockages."

In addition, Coderre told *The Link* that he will look to roll out Wi-Fi zones "everywhere on the island, underground and above."

The Société de transport de Montréal, the city's public transit corporation, announced on Sept. 25 that it was bringing together telecommunications companies Bell, Rogers, TELUS and Vidéotron to create a mobile network in Montreal's metro at an estimated cost of \$50 million.

Once the system is fully operational five to seven years from now, it will allow passengers to browse the Internet on their mobile devices while commuting throughout the city's subway network.

Coderre's platform takes it a step further by not only committing to providing cellular service in the metro, but also Internet access through Wi-Fi technology in new buses and bus shelters.

Improving Public Transit

Coderre also told *The Link* he is committed to bringing about more "urban mobility" through a wide array of transportation methods.

He said he'll focus on the planned extension of the metro's blue line towards Anjou, the planned commuter train line towards eastern Montreal and the off-island suburbs, a possible light-rail transport link to the South Shore on the planned replacement for the Champlain Bridge, and more cycling paths.

He added that the city needs to fight for another commuter train line from the west

end and better coordinate its transportation strategies with neighbouring municipalities.

"We don't need a tramway," he said, referring to Bergeron's plans to build an initial tramway network 10 to 15 kilometres in length by 2017.

He also characterized mayoral rival Mélanie Joly's plan to create 130 kilometres of bus-rapid-transit lines as an unrealistic plan.

In BRT systems, buses travel in reserved lanes along most of their route, allowing them to avoid traffic congestion, and passengers pay their bus fares before boarding, reducing wait times at each of a limited number of stops.

Additionally, BRT vehicles often can control traffic signals and have priority at intersections, distinguishing them from buses that merely use reserved lanes.

"The rapid bus that we were supposed to have on Pie-IX [Boulevard], now it's going to be due for 2019," Coderre said, referring to the long-delayed project that would see a BRT line built between Notre-Dame St. in Montreal and Highway 440 in Laval.

"What you're looking for is a better way to make sure that you attack and tackle the congestion and traffic," Coderre continued.

Coderre's own party is committed to increasing to 370 kilometres the total length of the reserved bus lanes throughout Montreal—the same target the STM set for itself in its Strategic Plan 2020, which was adopted by the transit corporation's board of directors in 2011.

Reserved lanes are a component of any BRT network, although Coderre said true BRT lines require more underground infrastructure and wiring than simple reserved lanes.

"It's better to have a reserved lane and good communication [in terms of] technology [...] to make sure that we also coordinate the traffic lights to make sure we have the fluidity of that transportation, than try to promise something that you can't deliver and people will be cynical again about politicians," he said.

Photo Leslie Schachter

MÉLANIE JOLY'S LOYOLA TEAM

Breaking Down the Vrai Changement pour Montréal—Groupe Mélanie Joly Candidates in Côte-des-Neiges—Notre-Dame-de-Grâce

by Michael Wrobel @michael_wrobel

Montreal mayoral candidate Mélanie Joly has managed to rally an eclectic mix of candidates behind her ahead of the Nov. 3 municipal election.

In the city's Côte-des-Neiges—Notre-Dame-de-Grâce borough, the candidates running under the banner of her party, Le vrai changement pour Montréal—Groupe Mélanie Joly, include a graduate of Concordia's journalism diploma program, the daughter of a former Quebec premier and the owner of a bagel shop.

In their campaign material, the five candidates representing Joly's party in the borough promise to improve public transit, repair streets and sidewalks and create a tourist-friendly zone around Saint Joseph's Oratory, among other projects.

The Concordia Graduate

Andrew Ross is Groupe Mélanie Joly's candidate for borough mayor of C.D.N.—N.D.G. He completed a graduate diploma in journalism at Concordia in 2001, as well as a bachelor's degree in history and political science at McGill University.

The 35-year-old father of four, who has lived in N.D.G. for 14 years, said sweeping away the corruption and collusion taking place in the city's administration is a priority. He said he believes it's not a systemic problem, but rather a problem with the officials currently governing Montreal.

"By bringing in new faces, new ideas—people who are new to the political process—we'll be able to make real change at city hall," he said.

Rival political party Projet Montréal is in favour of the construction of a tramway network, which would include a line along Côte-des-Neiges Rd. Ross said his party doesn't consider the tramway a realistic solution.

He said his party believes in "public transit projects that are cost-effective, realistic, practical and that can be done immediately."

"A tramway project would cost billions of dollars that the city does not have," he said. "What we suggest instead [is] a bus-rapid-

transit system, and that is something that we would deploy across the city.

"It costs a fraction of the price tag of a tramway system and we'd be able to get much more [out of it] using the technology that we already have," he continued.

Ross said that a BRT network wouldn't sacrifice "the future of our children and grandchildren" to build "someone's vanity project," a reference to Projet Montréal leader Richard Bergeron's longtime support for the tramway and his political party's view that it can lead to urban development and neighbourhood renewal.

Ross said his party would push for articulated buses to be introduced onto the 105 route along Sherbrooke St. to provide greater capacity and better service "so that Concordia students coming from Vendôme [metro station] and coming from anywhere else in the city using the metro system can actually get to Loyola [campus] without getting caught in traffic or crammed into buses like sardines."

Ross said the bus terminus at the end of the route near the Montreal-West train station would need to be rebuilt to accommodate articulated buses, as the "turning radius is too tight" at the current bus terminus. He also said that the city would need to use a vacant property next to the bus terminus to enlarge it.

As for the planned development of the former Montreal Hippodrome raceway into a new residential neighbourhood, Ross said it can't be done in a "cookie-cutter style."

"You don't want to ghettoize a new development," he said, promising to make sure that there would be a diversity of housing options suitable for single people, families and seniors and that the area would be built into the party's proposed BRT system.

"It's not just about building housing; it's about building the services that come along with it, to make it a place that people want to live in," he continued.

"That means the parks and the green space; that means encouraging business to move into the sector too, so that when you live there, you feel that the services that you need are available at your fingertips."

From a Family of Politicians

Marie-Claude Johnson is Groupe Mélanie Joly's candidate in the borough's Notre-Dame-de-Grâce electoral district.

Her family has long been involved in politics. The 34-year-old's grandfather, Daniel Johnson Sr., served as Quebec's premier as the leader of the Union Nationale party from 1966 until his sudden death in 1968. Her uncle, Daniel Johnson Jr., served as premier under the Quebec Liberal Party banner for most of 1994.

Her father, Pierre-Marc, was also premier for approximately three months in late 1985, having been the leader of the Parti Québécois.

Johnson has worked as a political advisor to Quebec Liberal Party politicians Raymond Bachand and Monique Jérôme-Forget, according to *La Presse*. More recently, she co-founded a strategic consulting firm.

In an interview with *The Link*, Johnson said she's now "very excited" about entering politics herself at the municipal level.

"I've always been interested in municipal affairs," she said, adding that she is an urban planner by training. "I never quite practiced, but of course, I'm interested in all these issues; I understand them."

She noted the challenges facing the borough, including those arising from the reconstruction of the Turcot Interchange and the McGill University Health Centre's new Glen Campus superhospital.

"The local community needs to be represented in [discussing] the effects that these projects have on them, which are mostly positive, but there needs to be decent coordination and a strong enough voice—whether it's mine or Mélanie's voice—to carry [their concerns to] city hall," she said, adding that the construction could result in more traffic, which can bring more consumers into the area's commercial areas but could also hurt residents' quality of life.

Johnson also mentioned the millions of visitors entering the borough every year to visit the St. Joseph's Oratory as a possible source of challenges.

"When you bring three million people into the streets and the services are calculated in [terms] of the number of residents,

then we have a problem," she said. One of the party's campaign commitments is to create a new tourism zone around the oratory.

Additionally, Johnson said her party would change Montreal's current practice of awarding construction contracts for infrastructure projects to the lowest bidder.

"It's already in the law that you can use the quality bidder [...] and factor in sustainable development and quality of infrastructures," she said. "It's already there, we just don't use it. So, we don't have the intention of reinventing the wheel, we are just going to use the tools differently."

The Bagel Shop Owner

Kashmir Randhawa might be a recognizable face if you occasionally drop by Dad's Bagel, a Sherbrooke St. staple which has been selling bagels and Indian food since 1994.

The owner of the bagel shop, who used to be a financial controller and director in the Indian Army, is Groupe Mélanie Joly's candidate in the Loyola electoral district, which is home to Concordia's Loyola campus.

"Traffic in the morning is very congested," Randhawa said. "My question is, why don't [city officials] open up Cavendish Blvd. all the way to Highway 40 and ease some traffic problems over there?"

"And now they want to reserve the bus lanes on Sherbrooke [St.], which will be a disaster without opening Cavendish and taking some traffic from there [in] another direction," he continued.

Linking the two separate segments of Cavendish Blvd. has been in the works for 50 years. Currently, one segment ends in St-Laurent and the other begins on the other side of a rail yard in the independent municipality of Côte-Saint-Luc.

According to a TVA report, Joly said that connecting the two sections could be done within four years.

Randhawa also said a combination of subsidies and lower taxes could help to ensure that there are more affordable apartments for students in the area around the university.

Photo Leslie Schachter



From left to right: borough mayor candidate Andrew Ross, mayoral candidate Mélanie Joly, Loyola city councillor candidate Kashmir Randhawa, Côte-des-Neiges city councillor candidate Raphaël Assor, Darlington city councillor candidate Kamala Jegatheeswaran, and Notre-Dame-de-Grâce city councillor candidate Marie-Claude Johnson.



INFLUENTIAL THINKER NOAM CHOMSKY SPEAKS AT CONCORDIA

Lecture Tackled Problems with Neo-Liberal Governments and Alternatives to the Current Economic System

by Alejandra Melian-Morse @AMelianMorse

Concordia was host to “the father of modern linguistics” last week.

World-renowned linguist and activist Noam Chomsky spoke about the problems with governments’ adoption of neo-liberalism as an ideology to a sold-out D.B. Clarke Theatre last Saturday.

The talk was organized as part of the Concordia Student Union’s Speaker Series, a program that debuted in 2008.

“I thought it would be a milestone for us if we brought him in because he is a model for many Concordia students,” said Caroline Bourbonnière, the event’s organizer and CSU VP External.

There was much enthusiasm within the student body about Chomsky’s appearance, many waiting for hours for tickets that sold out within an hour of going on sale. Only 400 tickets were available for the talk, which was due to its short notice, according to Bourbonnière.

“I sent them a very detailed account of our history of activism at Concordia,” she said, “and they finally said yes, a month prior to the event.”

With such little time to organize, the CSU was unable to find a larger venue available downtown and the D.B. Clarke Theatre ended up being the only option.

Tickets were so sought after that they were being resold by students at higher prices, according to some posts on Facebook.

The talk was streamed live to an overflow room in the MB 1.210 auditorium; however, there were technical problems with the YouTube account used to broadcast the event and Royal Bank of Canada commercials came on every 15 minutes, interrupting Chomsky’s talk.

Nonetheless, the lecture appeared to be well received by the students present. Alanna Stacey, a CSU arts and science coun-

cillor and Concordia political science student who attended the talk, was inspired by being able “to be in a room with so many intellectuals, so many people who are interested in getting to the bottom of the problems we’re facing in our generation and our society.”

Bourbonnière was also pleased with how the event turned out.

“I’m happy with the way the audience conducted themselves,” she said. “They were so excited yet they remained calm and were so respectful of Noam Chomsky.”

Public Opinion vs. Policy

Entitled “The Neo-Liberal Assault on the Population,” Chomsky’s lecture critiqued neo-liberalism, the economic political theory that liberalization through free trade and the free market is the best way to support people’s well being.

“There is a standard doctrine according to which the capitalist democracy is supposed to be the best possible system, despite its flaws,” Chomsky said, but he says the notion is an illusion.

His lecture proceeded to discuss what, in his view, is really going on in society. The talk centred on what Chomsky refers to as the “real existing capitalist democracy” of a society, or RECD, as opposed to the idealized democracy he says is propagated by politicians and the media.

The talk was not, however, a debate of the political left vs. the political right, or liberals vs. conservatives. Chomsky discussed instead the view that there is only one party in the United States—the business party.

This includes the left of the political spectrum, and he quoted various liberals—including Franklin D. Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson and John F. Kennedy—who described their views of the masses as being unable to be in charge of their own lives, and the necessity for them to be controlled by a small group of elite, intelligent leaders.

A large portion of the talk focused on the political elite’s failure in actually representing the public, and the tendency for dissonance between public opinion and public policy.

“In polls, for years, the major issue for the public was jobs, naturally,” Chomsky told the audience. “For the very wealthy and the financial institutions, the issue is deficits.

“The polls are very clear, and the policy has also been very clear,” he continued. “There’s a laser light focus on deficit reduction which has an institutional effect, reducing still further the ways we can benefit from the system.”

According to Chomsky, “That [this] policy is the opposite of public opinion is a typical property of RECD.”

Assault on the Environment

The neo-liberal assault on the population also includes its policy on the environment. In this area of public policy, Chomsky said, “Canada increasingly resembles its southern neighbour and is one of the leading [environmental] culprits, not just in the form of the tar sands but also through Canadian mining, which is a plague around the world.”

Chomsky feels that not just Canada, but all neo-liberal nations that put big business first are dedicated to maximizing the environmental catastrophe.

According to Chomsky, it’s the “countries that have large and influential indigenous populations” that are “well in the lead in seeking to protect the Earth and prospects for decent survival.”

Chomsky didn’t just attack neo-liberal governments, however. His talk also offered interesting alternatives to the system.

He mentioned the bailout of the American auto industry in 2008 and presented an alternative picture, asking the audience to imagine what the effects would have been if autoworkers had taken power and turned the industry into a cooperative system. This,

he said, would have extended the possibilities of public transport and lessened the country’s dependence on personal vehicles.

The World We Live In

As critical as he is of the current system, Chomsky stressed the importance of working in it.

During the question period, a student mentioned Russell Brand’s recent viral video in which he encourages frustrated youth not to vote and asked Chomsky for his opinion on the matter. Chomsky told the audience of the importance of living in the world that we really live in and not the one we wish to.

“In countries as powerful as ours, small changes in policy can have a big impact,” he said, explaining that voting is a way to make those small changes.

As someone involved in student politics, Bourbonnière took this advice to heart.

“When a student asked whether we should be involving ourselves with toxic people or a toxic system in order to change policy, I was really happy when he said that’s the only way in, the only way you can make some change,” she told *The Link*.

“I feel really strongly about that point of view. [...] You’re always going to need people within the system to help.”

In closing, Chomsky stressed to the audience the impact they can have on the world.

“There are shafts of light, and as always throughout history, there are two tendencies, two trajectories. One is towards repression and destruction and the other is towards justice and freedom,” Chomsky said.

“The question is, which one is going to prevail? We can adapt a famous phrase of Martin Luther King [Jr.]’s: there are ways to bend the arc of the moral universe towards justice and freedom [...] but not without dedicated and committed effort, the kind that’s up to you.”

Photo Brandon Johnston



DEEPENING DIVISIONS

Charter of Quebec Values Continues Ongoing Dispute for Public Support

by Andrew Brennan @Brennamen

When Philippe Couillard took to the podium last Saturday morning to address his caucus, the Quebec Liberal Party leader said he was expecting the Parti Québécois government to call an election for this fall—and he was ready to pounce on the PQ's flagship legislation currently galvanizing public opinion in Quebec.

Couillard has been a vocal critic of the Charter of Quebec Values since it was first proposed but, calling the PQ's plan to ban religious symbols in public places a "toxic" initiative, the PLQ leader told about 400 party members just how far he was prepared to go to challenge it.

"Our individual freedoms are non-negotiable," he said. "If the PQ government thinks it can take our rights and freedoms away, let me just say: over my dead body."

But by Saturday afternoon, Premier Pauline Marois had already announced that her government would not be sending Quebecers to the polls this year.

In the following days, media analysts questioned publicly if the announcement also spelt out the unlikelihood of the charter being adopted, but that didn't stop thousands of people from converging on downtown Montreal both Saturday and Sunday to raise their voices—both for and against the charter.

Support Levels Swaying?

Whereas Saturday's pro-charter demonstration was marked by rain and at times strong winds, Sunday's anti-charter protest saw much more favourable conditions.

However, while thousands were estimated to have taken part in the pro-charter rally, the anti-charter initiative capped out at less than one thousand participants.

Last month was the exact opposite. A Sept. 15 protest against the charter had a turnout numbering in the tens of thousands, but a pro-charter rally one week later had only about 500 demonstrators taking part.

Since these inaugural demonstrations for both sides of the charter debate, anti-charter protests have consistently shrunk in size, while pro-charter rallies have continued to gain more participants with each passing demonstration.

However, anti-charter demonstrations

have consistently been double, if not triple the size of pro-charter rallies, up until the marches that took place this past weekend.

A Feminist Charter?

Actor Joëlle Morin was one of 20 women co-signers of an open letter appearing in *La Presse* and *Le Journal de Montréal* on Oct. 14 articulating support for a charter restricting public workers from wearing religious head coverings and visible symbols.

Spearheaded by Quebec TV personality Janette Bertrand, who was the inspiration for centering Saturday's demonstration on the protecting of the rights of "Janettes"—used as a synonym for women of the world—the group claims secularizing the state is the only way to ensure equality among the sexes.

"I think it's definitely time we show that respect between men and woman and between different communities starts with neutrality, no bias," said Morin.

Demonstrators from international feminist group Femen echoed the sentiment with a display of solidarity.

Three young women exposed their breasts, sporting painted slogans on their chests.

Femen spokesperson Xenia Chernyshova's read "God is Feminist" in thick red paint. While being detained by police, She told *The Link* she believes some religions oppress women and therefore need sanction.

"We're here for *laïcité*, so in English it's secularism. We're here to yell to the whole world [...] that we should be all neutral in our appearance and in our minds, especially in public places," she said.

But Québec solidaire MNA Amir Khadir, who attended Sunday's anti-charter protest, says forcing women to not cover their faces isn't the right answer.

"The PQ pretends [the charter] is for equality, so let's talk about equality. These women from visible minorities are heavily discriminated against already," he said.

Lamine Foura, an organizer of Sunday's anti-charter protest, voiced similar concerns, saying Islamic women could face job loss and other repercussions for simply wanting to follow their faith.

"[The charter] will create dependency to [the womens'] husbands or to their father,

which is against women's rights. The fact that they are working for the government is the proof they are free," he said, adding that making decisions for women goes against freedom of religion, which Foura believes is "the foundation of North American society."

According to Moncef Derraji—president of the Congrès Maghrebin au Québec, which helped to organize the Sunday protest against the charter—the charter's focus on state neutrality is not neutral to the cultures and beliefs of Muslim women.

"Neutrality doesn't mean that if I put on a hijab I'm not neutral," he explained. "The most important thing is to have a good service; who cares about [a] hijab?"

Religious Bias?

Michel Virard, president of the Quebec Humanist Association, an atheist group that is a part of the coalition of pro-charter groups that organized Saturday's pro-secular demonstration, told *The Link* he sees the charter as something to protect society—and particularly children in the public school system—from being brainwashed by religion.

"I have a grandchild, and I don't want him to be influenced by religions that are not mine," he said.

"I don't want him to be exposed day after day to symbols that are totally foreign to me, and sometimes very opposite to my democratic thinking."

Sailaha Abdenbi of the Quebec Association of North Africans for *Laïcité* says her organization would support the charter because it will keep fundamental Islam and Sharia, the moral code of Islam, from Quebec's public sector.

"*Laïcité* is the best way to live together in peace," she said.

But Khadir disagrees, saying he supports secularism but "not over the head of religious minorities, especially women."

"We think we have to take into account the danger felt by many Quebecers about their language, their values [being taken away]," he said.

"That's okay, but we can do that by including everybody, not excluding [everybody]. In the Quebec that I know we don't need to pile over others to ensure our own security."

Photos, left to right: Brandon Johnston, Andrew Brennan

"I have a grandchild, and I don't want him to be influenced by religions that are not mine. I don't want him to be exposed day after day to symbols that are totally foreign to me, and sometimes very opposite to my democratic thinking."

—Michel Virard,
Quebec Humanist
Association president

BRIEFS

by Erin Sparks @sparkserin

Suspicious Package Found at Trudeau Airport

According to police, a suspicious package found on Sunday at the Trudeau Airport contained all of the necessary elements for a bomb except the explosives themselves, *The Montreal Gazette* reported. The package was found near the airport's U.S. departures area, and police have detained a 71-year-old man for questioning. After searching the man's apartment and car, police reportedly found nothing of interest, but some documents were taken. The man was headed for Los Angeles.

Protesters Rally Against Hospital Becoming Condos

Though no plans have been announced to convert Montreal's Hôtel-Dieu into condos, protesters gathered to rally against the potential decision on Saturday, CBC Montreal reported. In March, the Montreal University Health Centre decided that it would eventually sell the hospital, and those in attendance on Saturday voiced their opposition to the possibility of condos appearing on the site. Because of the hospital's location in the Mount Royal area, a designated historic site, any such development would first have to be approved by both Quebec's Ministry of Culture and the city itself.

No Provincial Election for 2013

Marois has announced that there will be no provincial election for this year, putting to rest any speculation otherwise. Some believed that an election would be called for Dec. 9, but Marois clarified that the PQ has no intention of calling an election, according to *The Montreal Gazette*. Instead of a provincial election, two byelections will be held on Dec. 9 in the Montreal ridings of Outremont and Viau, and Marois is encouraging Quebec Liberal Party leader Philippe Couillard to run. Couillard succeeded Jean Charest after the former leader resigned last September and has not yet been elected to the National Assembly.

Mayoral Candidate Jailed

As the municipal campaign period winds down, a mayoral candidate for the town of Ange-Gardien in southern Quebec has landed himself in jail, and will be unable to vote or do any last-minute campaigning. CJAD reported that Mario Leclerc is currently in jail for a number of charges, including armed assault and indecent exposure. The current mayor of Ange-Gardien, Pierre Lefrançois, said he's "just focused on staying alive for another week," according to CJAD. If Lefrançois dies prior to election day Leclerc, the only other mayoral candidate in the town, will become mayor by default.

IRONIC RETRO POP

BBAM! Gallery Hosts *Ladies First* Pop Art Touring Exhibition

by Seila Rizvic @BadPlatitude

How women are presented in art, film and other media is a favourite topic among feminists.

The theory is that by looking at how women are *represented* within a society, we can also see how they are *perceived* in that society, thereby creating a link between these images and the cultural repercussions they create in regards to the treatment of women.

For example, if women are portrayed in a sexualized light, they are more likely to be treated in a sexualized manner, and so on.

The fact that men are, more often than not, the ones deciding how women are to be portrayed, is one of the biggest controversies behind this subject of representation. This is something Vancouver artist Nicole Steen understands very well, and aims to confront with her annual exhibition—reclaiming women's representations of themselves.

Since 2006, Steen has coordinated the *Ladies First* exhibition of women painting women, a 20-plus-strong group of pop artists touring their work across North America.

"The idea was to bring together work from all over North America and Europe, as well as showcase local female artists," Steen said.

"I really felt that women's pop art at the time was under-represented, and I wanted

to contribute to ladies' art to foster more of a sense of community."

Lowbrow art, also known as pop surrealism, has been an active part of the art world for a few decades now. For BBAM! Gallery owner Ralph Alfonso, bringing the *Ladies First* exhibition—which began in Vancouver in honour of International Women's Day in 2007—to Montreal was all about "exposing Montreal to some key artists" from this scene.

Located in St-Henri, this hole-in-the-wall venue compliments the offbeat aesthetic of the exhibition nicely. Montreal also has its own pop artists to offer, with Layla Folkmann and Lacey Jane of the Montreal duo Hot Sluts and Poutine exhibiting their work, as well as Alysha Farling and MC Turineck of Bush Party.

Female representation in the Montreal art scene is alive and well, according to Alfonso.

"As far as BBAM! is concerned, every show we've had has been female artists, with one exception," he said. "It wasn't something planned. That's how it worked out in terms of what made sense for our pop culture vibe."

Ladies First features many prominent artists of pop surrealism, like Seattle-based artist Lisa Petrucci, whose quirky, nostalgic paintings of kittens and pin-ups girls have an air of mischievousness behind their seemingly simple demeanour.

Detroit-based artist and former punk

rock musician Niagara is also exhibiting her work. Her style is definitely Warhol-inspired, featuring portraits of women with retro-coiffed hair and highly arched brows painted in bold pinks, greens and blues.

Many of Niagara's paintings have captions like "I am holding my temper" or "With all my heart I still love the man I killed," making them simultaneously sweet and scary.

"I want the women in my paintings to speak," Niagara said.

One of her most popular prints features a blonde woman in an off-the-shoulder party dress and red lips pointing a gun at the viewer. The caption simply reads, "Run."

Steen's work features some similar influences—subversive retro pin-ups and striking portraits in bright colours.

"I am kind of fascinated with the idea of glamour, idolatry and beauty standards and what effect it has on the way women are viewed and presented," she said.

The artwork presented in this sixth edition of the annual exhibition range from the sugary-sweet to the dark and brooding, with a plethora of shades in-between.

It's interesting to note that the show's theme of "The female and the feminine" leads many artists to explore a more retro era—the old Hollywood stars of the 1940s, '50s and '60s.

However, these works ought not to be interpreted as simply a wistful look back at by-gone times. The subversive element of pop surrealism lies in its ability to contrast the garishness and campiness of retro art, with a sophisticated painting style and, most importantly, a heavy dose of irony.

As Steen put it, "Pop art reflects what is going on in our media culture and places us in the observer position looking at ourselves."

Self-reflection has some striking effects. It forces viewers to reconsider the images they see everyday and ask themselves to acknowledge the exaggerated, gratuitous depictions of scantily clad women that pervade Western media culture.

At the same time, pop artists of *Ladies First* clearly take a certain pleasure in creating these same exaggerated forms, but re-appropriating them as symbols of feminine power.

Ladies First aims to put a feminist twist on retro pop culture classics, and Alfonso is excited to host the boundary-breaking tour in his gallery.

"If you like '50s or '60s pop culture, that kind of rockabilly coolness and Betty Page sensuality, this [exhibit] is for you."

***Ladies First* Vernissage // Oct. 31 // BBAM! Gallery (3255 St. Jacques St.) // 6 p.m. // Free admission**



Clockwise from left: Artwork by Megan Besmirched, Niagara, Jennybird Alcantara.



New Hip-Hop Theatrical Production Confronts Police Brutality

by Julian McKenzie

Mainstream hip-hop isn't generally known for moving its listeners to tears, but with just a little digging into the underground, you'll find a plethora of raw material that isn't afraid to speak the harsh truth.

Hip-hop culture intersects with the world of theatre in *Sal Capone: The Lamentable Tragedy of*, written by Montreal actor, poet and Concordia alumnus Omari Newton, and put on by Montreal's own Black Theatre Workshop.

Newton has acted in such television shows as the American comedy *Blue Mountain State* and currently has a role on the Canadian sci-fi series *Continuum*, based in Vancouver. *Sal Capone* is his playwriting debut, but he's no stranger to the written word.

Once upon a time, Newton was also the MC of the Montreal hip-hop/jazz ensemble Kobayashi, and he continues to write slam poetry.

"I've always been a writer," Newton said over the phone from Vancouver, where he now lives.

Newton's play follows the story of members of a hip-hop group, Sal Capone, whose worlds are shattered when their DJ is fatally shot by police.

The storyline was inspired by a true story that unfolded right here in the City of Churches—the tragic tale of Freddy Villanueva, an 18-year old Montreal North res-

ident who was killed by the SPVM in 2008.

According to Newton, Villanueva's tragedy was the biggest influence for the play, but *Sal Capone* is not just a simple retelling of Villanueva's death.

"I was just upset," said Newton. "This was a kid of colour from my hometown."

Newton's close friend and acclaimed theatre director Diane Roberts pushed him to channel his grief and frustration through writing *Sal Capone*, and she is now directing the play.

In addition to its hip-hop core and police brutality themes, *Sal Capone* addresses gender equality, homophobia and racism. The recently proposed Charter of Quebec Values even gets a satirical shout-out, as does Premier Pauline Marois.

The play manages to incorporate spoken word and rap performances, and opens the show with a performance from the Sal Capone trio. The set consists of an urban, graffiti-covered cityscape, fitting for the environment envisioned by Newton.

The production also has a multimedia component, using numerous audio and video clips to carry the story along and shake up the conventions of traditional theatre.

The State of Hip-Hop

Canadian actors Tristan D. Lalla and Kim Villigante portray Freddy and Jewel respectively, the rappers of the hip-hop group Sal Capone. Letitia Brookes, a graduate from

Concordia's theatre program, plays Freddy's younger sister Naomi and has a short cameo as the ill-fated DJ of Sal Capone.

When comparing the trio to the hip-hop artistes of today, Newton said that the group represents the style of "backpacker rap," and lists current rap stars Joey Bada\$\$ and Lupe Fiasco as comparisons.

Newton mentioned old school hip-hop artists such as Run DMC, LL Cool J, Public Enemy and the Wu-Tang Clan as some of his hip-hop idols growing up. But for research for his play, he paid close attention to the styles of contemporary rap artists, citing superstars Drake, J. Cole and Kendrick Lamar as influences.

Despite the various violent connotations associated with hip-hop, Newton only cites hip-hop in its materialistic and industrial form as a negative influence.

"I don't blame hip-hop for its ills," he said.

"I don't think it's hip-hop, the art form, [...] I think it's hip-hop the industry that's destructive."

Newton credited Lamar for reviving his interest in modern hip-hop culture. He admitted he was "bored" with the scene until he heard the Compton native's jaw-dropping verse in Big Sean's song "Control" earlier this year, which has caught fire in the rap scene for its unstoppable flow and for calling out of some of today's biggest rappers.

"I actually feel encouraged about the [state of] hip-hop culture," Newton said.

Newton admitted that audiences' responses to *Sal Capone* will likely depend on their level of knowledge of hip-hop culture and trivia, and a number of references to the scene are things only a hip-hop head would know, such as hip-hop video website Worldstarhiphop.com and the latest rap feuds.

But insider allusions aside, Newton is sure the relatable themes and authenticity of the production will keep even the least-hip-hop-savvy show-goer engaged.

When asked about the unconventional title of his production, Newton made reference to the "really grandiose titles" of Shakespearean and Greek tragedies. *Sal Capone: The Lamentable Tragedy of* is his way of building up the acclaim of the Canadian MC who, save for a few examples, do not garner as much attention or respect as an American rapper.

"This is really just my 'F-U' to the under-representation of MCs in Canada," he said.

While this may be Newton's first venture into playwriting, it won't be his last.

"I definitely want to write more," he said.

Sal Capone: The Lamentable Tragedy of // Oct. 23 to Nov. 10 // the MAI Centre (3680 Jeanne-Mance St.) // 8 p.m., Sunday matinees 3 p.m. // \$20 students, \$25 regular

Photo Brandon Johnston

THE LINK'S FRIDAY SPEAKER SERIES

NOV. 1: NOV. 8: NOV. 15:

PROTECT YOUR SOURCES.

A how-to on email encryption by *The Link's* systems administrator, Cleve Higgins.

Right after this, at 5 p.m., we'll walk to the Greenhouse to make a sweet handmade *Link* banner. We'll provide tea, craft supplies, nice people and weird jokes. All talents appreciated, from hand sewing to tightrope walking.

CITY BEAT 101.

Montreal Gazette reporter (and former *Link* news editor) Christopher Curtis talks about what it takes to cover news in Montreal.

PROFESSIONAL PAGE DESIGN.

The *Link* creative director Jayde Norström hosts a workshop on page layout and design.

NOV. 22: NOV. 29:

REPORTING OVERSEAS.

Have a dream of doing journalism abroad? *Link* alum and current CBC reporter Damon van der Linde is back from Africa with good advice.

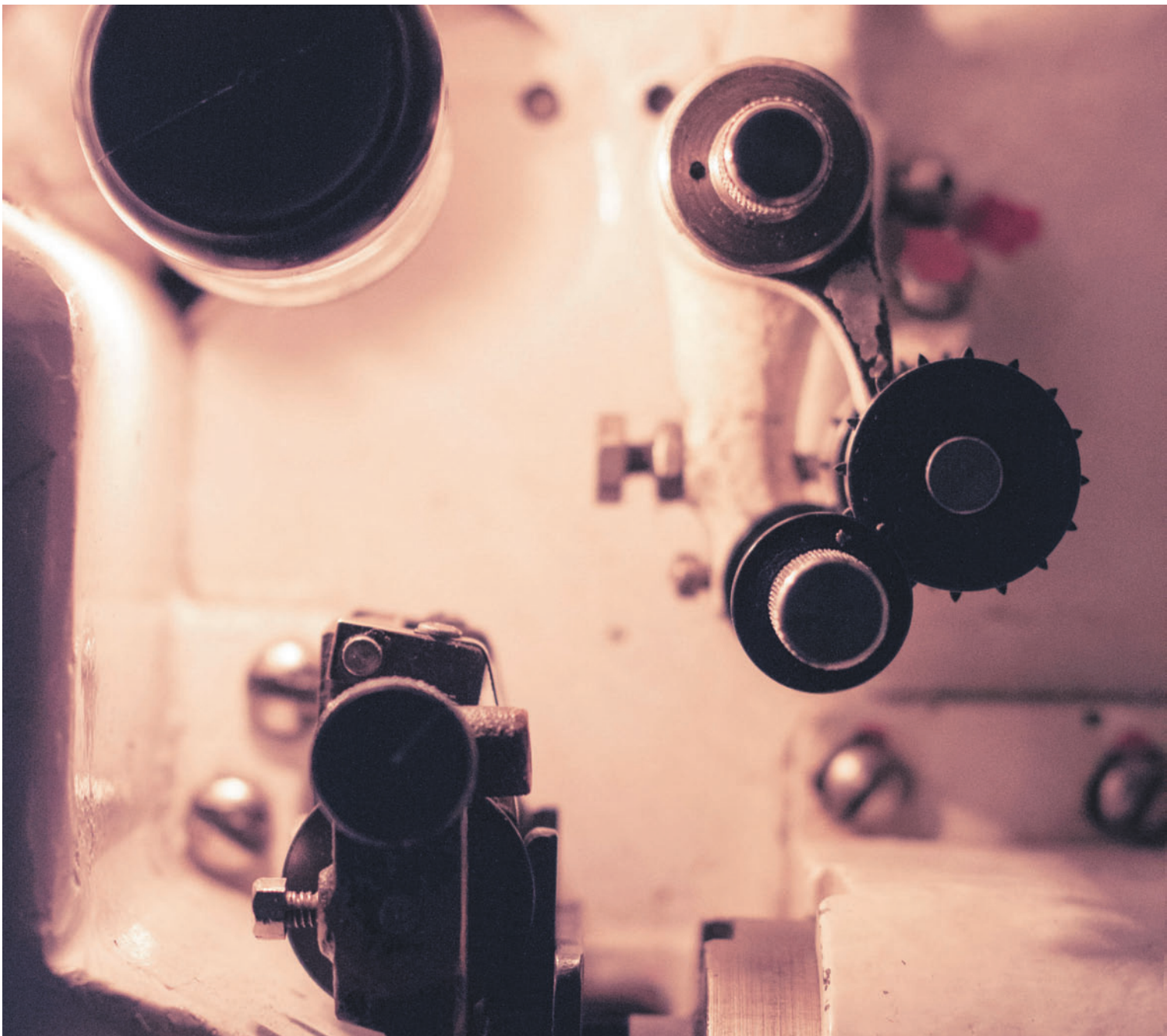
THE ART OF INTERVIEWING.

Go beyond the Q & A and learn how to get the best answers with our workshop covering interview techniques.

FRIDAYS @ 4 P.M.
THE LINK'S OFFICE
1455 DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD.
H-649



Graphic Graeme Shorten Adams



IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE

Concordia's Undergraduate Film Magazine *Afterimages* Celebrates Students' Love of Cinema

by Jake Russell @jakeryanrussell

An afterimage is a ghost image on your retinas, an impression that light makes on your eyes that remains present even after you close them.

Now, it's also the title of Concordia's newly founded undergraduate film magazine.

Afterimages is a celebration of cinephilia and those films that are engrained in our memories, and is welcoming submissions for its second-ever issue.

The magazine was started a year ago by film studies and art history student Nina Patterson alongside fellow film student and friend Jennifer Sin. Launching a brand-new magazine as a duo proved to be a challenging endeavour, admitted Patterson, who is now the editor-in-chief of the publication.

"It was just the two of us, kind of just scraping to get money and get people to submit," she said.

Patterson explained the significance of the afterimage phenomenon in naming the new magazine as something that just "made sense."

"An afterimage is the image you see on your eyelid after you close [your eyes] after staring at a pic-

ture. In film this is quite relevant, when you're staring at the screen and close your eyes," she said.

"It's about the impact film has on people and how it kind of resonates [with you]."

As for why she felt Concordia needed a film publication, Patterson said she noticed a lack of exposure for work by film studies undergrads, including her own, and that this inspired the magazine's beginnings.

"We felt there was a gap for film studies students to get their work out there. Film production students' work is promoted a lot, but we were kind of left behind," she said.

The first issue was published last May with funding by FASA, and was printed by Rubiks. Over 20 pages long, it featured a diverse mix of film stills, film reel graphics and essays on various cinema subjects.

Among them is Rainer Werner Fassbinder's 1974 film *Ali: Fear Eats the Soul*, an exploration of the ups and downs of actor Jeff Goldblum's career, and an exposé on early representations of minorities in film and how Bruce Lee and the kung fu genre ushered in a new era of film without stereotypes.

But distribution of *Afterimages'*

premiere issue proved a bit problematic.

"It's kind of hard to get it out to Concordia overall," Patterson said.

"The Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema is very enclosed in its own world, and I wanted the magazine to reach film lovers or [students] in any department."

The first issue was distributed by hand around fine arts centres on campus, such as the cinema department in the Faubourg Building, the Visual Arts Building on René-Levesque Blvd. and the Moving Image Resource Centre in the Hall Building, which is Concordia's go-to film library and viewing space. Patterson hopes the second issue will extend its reach across campus into sectors not associated with fine arts.

Pushing Boundaries

With Sin studying abroad this term, Patterson is now the sole leader of the publication. But since the release of the first issue, a dedicated *Afterimages* team has assembled to take on their second issue, including writers and visual artists.

Patterson said a goal of this second issue is to be much more accessible to those not as well versed in the ins and outs of cinema.

"This year we're trying to focus on shorter articles that someone who picks it up would want to read, as opposed to a longer essay, although we are going to include a couple strong essays," she said.

"The difference will be shorter, maybe more exciting articles, such as Top 10 lists. Like something you'd read in a magazine rather than in a scholarly journal."

As for the visual aspect of the magazine, Patterson said that is evolving and branching out as well, while still remaining connected to film.

"We have two photography students planning photo shoots, [...] and we have someone interested in doing comics related to film," she said.

Patterson hopes this issue will reach a nice equilibrium in its ratio of academic content to pop culture-oriented content.

"Since we're getting people to write for the magazine as opposed to submitting their essays from class, I'd say the balance [between mainstream and academic films] will be more level," she said.

"Someone wanted to write about *Spring Breakers*, and someone's already written something about *A Clockwork Orange*, so its like clas-

sic and really important films but also contemporary films that kind of push boundaries," she continued.

"That's actually what we're looking for this term: films that push boundaries."

Some of Patterson's own favourite films include Wes Anderson's quirky flicks, and the critically acclaimed French film *The Diving Bell and the Butterfly*, which tells the true story of *Elle* magazine editor Jean-Dominique Bauby, who could only communicate by blinking after suffering a stroke that left him almost completely paralyzed.

Pushing boundaries is just a loose theme for the second issue, a way to generate inspiration rather than hinder any submissions, Patterson said.

She has high hopes that *Afterimages* will remain in Concordia's collective consciousness for years to come, like a good film often does in the minds of its cinema students.

Afterimages is now accepting essays, illustrations, poetry, photography and comics with a cinematic focus. To submit, email afterimages.concordia@gmail.com by Friday, Nov. 1.

Photo Amelia Moses

FRINGE CALENDAR OCT. 29 - NOV. 4

by Riley Stativa @wileyriles

MUSIC

1 Chris Velan + Ria Mae + Delanoche
Oct. 29
Divan Orange (4234 St. Laurent Blvd.)
9:30 p.m.
\$10 advance, \$12 door

With comparisons to venerable artists Paul Simon and Jack Johnson, you can be sure that Montreal native Chris Velan's album launch will be chock-full of chill vibes and acoustic guitar tunes, with only a slight chance of straw fedoras (unless that's what you're into).

2 Laureate + Café Racer + The Frisky Kids
Oct. 30
Crobar (1221 Crescent St.)
9 p.m.
\$5

This aptly titled Halloween Rock Show features everything from three kickin' local bands, to guy and girl prizes for best costume at the show, to even, according to their Facebook event, a guarantee that things are going to get sweaty. Be sure to bring your best monster mask...and maybe an umbrella.

3 The Fugitives + White Ash Falls
Nov. 1
Quai des Brumes (4481 St. Denis St.)
9:30 p.m.
\$8 advance, \$10 door

Before launching their latest album, *Everything Will Happen*, in mid-October, Vancouver indie collective The Fugitives are making a stop in Montreal on their Canadian tour, bringing their intimate lyrics and warm folk rock with them.

FILM

4 *Ruins: Chronicle of an HIV Witch-Hunt*
Oct. 31
D.B. Clarke Theatre (1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W.)
7 p.m.
Free admission (donations accepted)

A true tale of humanity's horror, this documentary showcases women from Athens, Greece who were forced to become subjects of HIV testing by the Greek government in the weeks leading up to the 2012 May general election. When 26 of them were found positive, they were arrested and publicly exposed as a threat to the Greek way of life, used in an unjust demonstration of the government's control.

5 *The Broken Circle Breakdown*
Nov. 1
Cinema Du Parc (3575 Parc Ave.)
TBA
\$11.50 general, \$8.50 young adults (13-25 years old with proof of age)

This Danish melodrama with English subtitles was described by Yahoo! Movies as "a cross between *Walk the Line* and *Blue Valentine*." The story follows the relationship of tattooist Elise and banjo player Didier, who fall in love despite their opposing views on religion and clashing personalities—only to find their relationship tested when their young daughter falls ill.

ART

6 *Émergence Vernissage*
Nov. 2
Espace 2 (6355 St. Laurent Blvd.)
2 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Free admission

This exhibition features 26 of the most recent paintings by Montreal artist and former Court of Quebec judge Suzanne Coupal. With a style described as "instinctual and raw" and featuring bright colours, thick layers of paint and subtle transparencies, it's clear Coupal considers painting to be her way of escaping the rigid nature of practicing law.

PARTY

7 The Horror Halloween
Oct. 31
Cabaret Underworld (1403 Ste. Élisabeth St.)
11 p.m.
\$10 advance

One party dares to stand against all the others who put their events on last weekend, reclaiming the night of the 31st for a party so good, it's scary. This monster's ball promises shocking performances, horror film visuals, drink specials, a costume contest and more.

29	30	31	1	2	3	4
1						
	2					
			3			
		4				
			5			
				6		
	7					

Check out more listings online at
thelinknewspaper.ca/calendar

FRINGE GIVEAWAY

TWO TICKETS TO CHROME SPARKS,
SOLAR YEAR AND APIGEON

Ambient chillwave aficionado Chrome Sparks is coming to Montreal, and if you're reading this, you're invited!

The synth-saturated act will be playing alongside two Montreal natives, shoegaze group Solar Year and heartfelt indie band APigeon, at O Patro Vys (356 Mount Royal Ave. E.) on Friday, Nov. 8 at 8:30 p.m., hosted by regional concert promoter Indie Montreal.

Teaming up with Indie, we at *The Link* have a pair of tickets to give away to a lucky winner! Like us on Facebook and like our official Giveaway post to enter, and we'll announce the winners next week on Monday, Nov. 4.

Stay Fringe-y, and good luck!

thelinknewspaper.ca/media



THE LINK



the MAPLE SPRING REVISITED

Inside the Student Movement: A First-Hand Account of the 2012 Tuition Protests

by Erin Sparks @sparkserin

Of all the things I witnessed during the 2012 student strike, the most powerful image I can recall comes from the March 22 rally.

I was watching the crowd as it approached the Old Port when someone with a microphone yelled that the last group of demonstrators had just left Place du Canada, where the march had originated what felt like hours before.

The march was so massive that it had to travel almost five kilometres before everyone had cleared out its starting point.

To me, that's what the strike was. It wasn't about throwing rocks or setting fires, but about more than 200,000 people together on one day, peacefully marching to let the Charest government know that the scheduled tuition hike was, in a word, unacceptable.

Much of the media coverage of the strike—or boycott, as some chose to call it—was framed in a very negative way. Students were lazy, they were entitled, they ought to suck it up and fork over the cash. Tuition in Quebec was the lowest in the country, so why were people complaining?

Arguments that weren't clearly thought through or relied on false information perverted the message that those who supported the strike were trying to send, much to students' frustration.

Now that the protests have died down, it's time to look back on what it was like to be out every night documenting the madness.

How Things Started

On March 7, 2012, the Concordia Student Union held a general assembly that ended in a majority vote supporting a one-week strike. Around this time, the anti-strike movement at school began, setting the tone for an emotionally charged few months.

On March 22, the first day of the Concordia strike, over 200,000 people from across the province marched peacefully through the city, denouncing the Charest government and

the planned tuition hike.

While the school-wide strike only lasted a week, various individual departments, including my own—sociology—remained on strike for the remainder of the semester, and took varying degrees of action throughout.

Bill 78 and the Manifs du Soir

There were nights when things got out of control. After the adoption of Bill 78 on May 18, the nightly protests frequently got out of hand. Under the bill, all protests of 50 people or more required an itinerary be submitted to the police beforehand, and restrictions were put on where people could protest.

In short, it was an egregious bill that vastly reduced the right to assemble in an attempt to stamp out the ever-growing student movement.

Bill 78 changed the entire dynamic of protests. It made demonstrations illegal before they'd even started, and while some were permitted to proceed as long as no illegal acts were permitted, riot police quashed others after only a few minutes.

What could have otherwise been a night of peaceful protest would erupt into a flurry of pepper spray, CS gas and flashbangs. Hundreds were arrested en masse, including passersby and journalists.

I saw more than a few broken bank windows and there were individuals who seemingly went out of their way to instigate violence, both in uniform and not. At the same time, there were nights when hundreds marched until 4 a.m. without incident.

It was hard not to look at the police as a provoking force during the nighttime protests—more often than not, it seemed overzealous police had been the ones escalating things, not the demonstrators.

Despite the occasional burst of violence, looking at the student movement as something fuelled by people looking to start a fight is unfair.

In reality, it was a movement spurred on

by people who saw the hikes as dangerous, as something that was going to make it harder to get a university education, while simultaneously feeding into a system of corruption and financial mismanagement. It was a movement made up of both students and those who hadn't sat in a classroom for years.

Like every social movement, its members existed on a spectrum ranging from the militant activist to the casual protester, and classifying the strike as something led by a gang of entitled, iPhone-toting brats is irresponsible and plain wrong.

Technology and the Strike

Social media, Twitter in particular, played a heavily significant role in the student movement. A volley of hashtags, like the still-popular #manifestours, were born, and it became easier than ever before to organize, track and meet up with an ongoing protest.

Twitter was used to both help people evade arrest and prevent themselves from getting swept up in something they didn't want to participate in. Protests became trackable through an Android app developed during the strike, and a Google map was created to compile actions taken by striking students, such as the placement of red squares on various Montreal landmarks like the Mount Royal Cross.

There were also instances of journalists using Twitter as a guardian angel to avoid arrest. On May 17, along with other members of *The Link* and *The McGill Daily*, I was kettled alongside a dozen or so other people, some of whom were not even involved in the protest.

Upon being denied release by the police guarding the kettle (despite the presence of press passes), we began calling for help on the Twittersphere, tweeting our situation.

Just after 2 a.m., they were about to process *Link* reporter and photographer Pierre Chauvin when we were released after a Twitter exchange

with the SPVM. Justin Ling, a freelancer working for OpenFile at the time, had a similar experience.

C'est Pas Une Offre, C'est Une Insulte

Few attempts were made by then-Premier Jean Charest to appease striking students, and what attempts were made, like the offer to stretch the proposed hike over seven years rather than five, were only met with more protesting, with students seeing the offer as an insult.

Aug. 1 marked both the 100th nightly protest and the announcement of a provincial election. The demonstration was largely peaceful, and there was a strong sense of hope from those marching. Maybe, after all of the pot-banging and marching it was really over.

On Sept. 4, the Parti Québécois came to power and the proposed hike was cancelled along with Bill 78 (though much of its effect remained in Montreal in a slightly different form as municipal bylaw P-6). Under the Marois government, tuition is now indexed to the cost of living, something that raises questions about whether or not students really did win.

Issues of police brutality surfaced during the student movement, and the troubling absence of the police union from the Ménard Commission, the inquiry into the events of the strike, means that police who committed violent acts likely won't be held accountable.

Class action lawsuits have been filed against the city for the mass arrest and heavy use of kettling during the strike, but the actions of individual officers have gone unpunished, setting a terrifying precedent.

The student movement, which was so central—and polarizing—to the lives of so many Quebecers, and so captivating to those outside the province, arguably ended over a year ago with the cancellation of the Liberal Party's hike. But its effects are still resonating in Montreal, and likely will continue for a long time.



WHO WATCHES *the* WATCHERS?



How Filming the Police is Lawful and Necessary

by Jake Russell @jakeryanrussell

In schools and workplaces, the concept of “if you see something, say something” is often employed to encourage transparency about peer misconduct. But what if, at a protest or just during a night out on the town, you witnessed police brutality? What would you do?

The real question might be—what *can* you do?

With the fourth annual candlelight vigil for those killed by police officers held last week, and the notoriously hell-raising holiday Halloween coming up, police accountability should be on everyone’s minds.

Filming the police is something the average citizen is often hesitant to do—especially if police are clad in all-black paramilitary tactical gear complete with a facemask and riot shield, something popping up more and more recently, from the Arab Spring, to the Occupy protests, to the 2012 Quebec student strikes.

This issue hits especially close to home with the recent P-6 bylaw controversy prohibiting protestors from wearing masks, while riot police as a rule cover their face and often conceal their badge numbers—and thus their identities—to protestors or concerned bystanders.

Right out of the gate, it should be known that it is not illegal for citizens to film public servants. Any contrary claims by police are false, confirmed Abby Deshman, director of the Canadian Civil Liberties Association’s public safety program.

“There is no law prohibiting people from filming police on duty in public spaces,” she said.

Deshman went on to say that such activities are constitutionally protected, with the Supreme Court upholding that journalists and citizens engaging in lawful newsgathering are protected under freedom of expression and freedom of the press.

Section 129 of the Criminal Code prohibits “willfully obstructing” police in the execution of their duty—but standing at a distance holding a camera does not, in fact, qualify as an obstruction.

“To date, I haven’t seen any cases in Canada where simply filming a police officer has been found to be obstructing their duty, and I would strongly argue that it couldn’t,” Deshman said.

But this often doesn’t stop police officers from responding to being filmed with violence, which is usually why citizens are filming them in the first place.

At the recent candlelight vigil, Montrealeur Didier Berry spoke about his experience trying to lawfully and peacefully record SPVM officers and the violent repercussions.

“I was trying to film an arrest that I thought was unfair, at a distance,” Berry said.

“They never told me what I did wrong or notified me of my rights. They beat, insulted, and choked me until I lost consciousness.”

Deshman said that by disobeying a direct order from a police officer, you’d be opening yourself up to obstruction charges, even if such orders were not legitimate.

“Whether or not those charges would hold up in court [...] is another question. I don’t know of any case law on this point in Canada, so it’s untested waters,” she said.

“My take would be that police ordering you to stop filming without some accentuating circumstances would not be a lawful order. You would not be guilty of obstruction for not following it,” she continued.

Badges Don’t Grant Extra Rights

The CCLA is just one of many civil liberties organizations in Canada and the U.S. that support the proactive filming of police. A group founded on this idea is Cop Block, a decentralized grassroots project born in the liberty-loving state of New Hampshire.

According to their website, the organization is dedicated to “documenting police actions whether they are illegal, immoral, or just a waste of time and resources, then putting direct pressure on the individuals responsible.”

James Carroll, an activist with Cop Block,

says filming police is “all about transparency,” and that it’s “an exercise of freedom.”

Critics of Cop Block are often quick to claim activists just hate cops for personal reasons, and that their concerns aren’t valid.

“I think it’s very reasonable for people to be wary of [police], and they have every right to be,” Carroll said.

“History shows how power corrupts and cops are human, therefore imperfect, just like everybody else.

“They should never be held above anybody simply because they have a public job in which they wear uniforms and a badge,” he continued.

But police accountability doesn’t have to come only from citizens’ cameras, either—the practice of police wearing lapel cameras to constantly record their actions while on duty is now becoming more commonplace.

The police department in Rialto, California utilized the program and the city saw an 88 per cent drop in complaints against police officers in the first year, according to *The New York Times*.

“When you put a camera on a police officer, they tend to behave a little better, follow the rules a little better,” Rialto’s police chief, William A. Farrar, told *The Times*.

“And if a citizen knows the officer is wearing a camera, chances are the citizen will behave a little better.”

Deshman is open to the idea but questions the details of the program, like who would review the footage, and whether the officers are able to turn off the camera at will.

“It’s a complex proposal,” she said. “We know that video can be an incredibly powerful accountability tool, [but] we also know it can be incredibly privacy-invasive.”

Carroll supports the idea as well, but was quick to mention that almost all traffic stops are recorded with dashcams and that there are still thousands of police abuse cases reported every year.

Weapons of War in the Streets

Organizers of last week’s vigil reported that Montreal police officers killed 11 citizens in the last five years alone, whether in stand-offs, car crashes or unprovoked shootings.

As for militarized police responses to protests and rallies, Deshman said a visible display of force by the police is counter-productive and will only make matters worse.

“We know from multiple studies that if police arrive at a protest wearing full hard-tactical gear and openly carrying heavy duty weaponry that it escalates the situation,” she said.

But even without the frightening bells and whistles of militarized police, everyday encounters such as traffic stops with regular officers can still lead to citizens feeling intimidated.

An unlawful order barked from a police officer in the heat of the moment to turn off your camera may strike fear in you, and based on precedents, not complying could result in illegal detention, or even a physical assault by the officer.

But Deshman said that citizens participating in accountability measures are crucial in stopping police abuse, emphasizing the importance of monitoring practices.

“We know that video evidence of police misconduct is often the most compelling evidence that you can put forward,” she said.

“We’re seeing multiple police officers being brought to charges on the basis of citizen video and photography.”

Shining the light of accountability onto the select officers accustomed to abusing their power has become our responsibility as citizens. We need to peacefully combat police brutality and bring justice to the victims of police violence with the lenses’ all-seeing eye. We need to keep the cameras rolling—no matter what.

—With files from Geoffrey Vendeville



ACCESS *this*

Why Canada's Access to Information Must Be Improved

by Erin Sparks @sparkserin

This year marks the 30th anniversary of the Access to Information Act. At the act's inception, Canada was heralded as a progressive body for freedom of information, but modern times have proven otherwise.

A combination of factors, like reports of organizations simply failing to acknowledge requests, has marred the face of freedom of information in Canada. Yet while things may seem dire, not all hope is lost for Canadian transparency.

Since 2005, advocacy group Newspapers Canada has performed an annual audit to determine the state of access to information in Canada. Among other things, the audit looks at the speed at which requests are returned and the amount of information provided.

The 2012 audit gave Quebec a C-grade for its speed of disclosure and an F for the completeness of the returned requests, placing them second-to-last nationally in both categories.

At the federal level, Canada received a D for the length of timeliness, and only a C for the completeness of the requests. Perhaps the most shocking thing is that these grades aren't that shocking.

A Need for Reform

According to Concordia journalism professor Alan Conter, it's not out of the ordinary for Western countries to score low grades on audits like the ones done by Newspapers Canada.

"Countries that have initiated access to information legislation as a human right tend to have more rigorous access [standards], so Western democracies don't score as well," he said, noting that reforms are necessary if things are going to improve.

Calls for reformation of the ATI Act have been echoing for years, with organizations like the Halifax-based Centre for Law and Democracy and the B.C. Freedom of Information and Privacy Association making pleas for modernization, as well as government bodies like the House of Commons Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights.

"All of the information officers from the mid-90s onward have been calling for reform, and they pretty much get ignored," Conter said, adding that access to information under the Harper government has been particularly bad despite 2006 promises to reform the act.

In the latest annual report by Suzanne

Legault, Canada's information commissioner, she notes that there has been a "clear deterioration" in Canadian access to information, pointing to the 42 per cent increase in administrative complaints from the previous year.

Organizations like the RCMP have stopped acknowledging requests within the 30-day period guaranteed under the act, Legault reported, which is consistent with what freelance journalist Tim Groves has experienced.

"They'll delay, delay, delay and they often don't get back to you for much longer," Groves said.

In Legault's 2012 report, numerous organizations cited budget cuts and understaffing as reasons why ATIs were not acknowledged or responded to within a reasonable period. For Conter and Cooper however, that isn't a valid excuse.

"[McGill] said it's a huge bureaucratic challenge for them, they don't have enough resources, [that it's because of] underfunding of universities, and yet they [allegedly] hire a bunch of new staff," Cooper said.

"[It's like] running a hospital but you fired half the doctors, and you're surprised that health care isn't being properly delivered," said Conter.

There are countless ways the ATI system could be reformed—the Centre for Law and Democracy has outlined specifics that are in need of updating, like how Parliament itself is exempt from the act. The recent Senate scandal alone shows that needs to change, said Conter.

Groves sees modernization as a hugely important step, saying that needless redactions of information create unnecessary obstructions.

"I won't get a spreadsheet, I'll get a photocopy of a spreadsheet, with each page printed individually," he said.

"If the system were pressured to allow spreadsheets and data released in a data-readable format, it would do such a service to people."

McGill and ATIs

For Allison Cooper, it's a question of how open organizations want to be. The former Students' Society of McGill University VP Clubs and Services filed her first ATI while working on the Nov. 10 Independent Student Inquiry, which looked into the events that occurred on McGill's campus during the 2011 Day of Action.

Riot police clashed with protesters, and students occupied the James Administration

Building for several hours following a tens-of-thousands strong, peaceful march.

"If public bodies were actively publishing their information beforehand, we could just search it for what we needed," Cooper said, referencing the model followed by OpenOakland, a California-based organization that tries to promote open government.

Cooper was one of 14 respondents named in a motion filed by McGill earlier this semester, where the university argued that based on the "systematic nature of the requests," as well as their "abusive character," they should be granted the right to refuse requests already filed by the group, as well as future requests that could "reasonably be associated."

McGill claimed that there was a coordinated effort from certain publications, including *The Link*, to not only gather information for stories, but "as a retaliation measure against McGill in the aftermath of the 2011-2012 student protests."

McGill and the motion's respondents went before Quebec's Commission d'accès à l'information to argue their case, and on Oct. 7 the commission ruled that the university did not have the authority to block requests at their discretion—a welcome sign for Cooper.

"The last result from the commission [said] that one of McGill's requests to outlaw future requests was absurd, and yes, it was absurd," she said.

The university is still in mediation with the respondents regarding outstanding requests that have not yet been returned.

"[Overturning part of the motion] was really promising, in that it's serving the purpose of the law," said Cooper, adding that she hopes things stay that way.

Among other things, McGill used the broad nature of the requests being made to justify their motion. For Conter, filing specific requests is one way to combat the lagging or nonexistent response rate.

"A request that's very sweeping offers the opportunity for the agency to move slowly on it," he said.

Groves pointed to the importance of understanding the system you're filing with.

"When you're requesting records, you have to keep [in mind] that people are working on those ways [to block information]," he said. For him, it's key to understand those barriers and find ways to work around them. In other words, it's about being realistic.

The Myth of the Smoking Gun

Groves doesn't believe the ATI system is as broken as many say, and doesn't see the complaint-based narrative as useful.

"I'd love a system where you could get even more records and it was easier, [but] what does [that narrative] serve when people complain about the access to information request system?" he said.

News organizations regularly use ATIs as a way of gathering information, and while Groves pointed out that, "rarely are you going to get the smoking gun," he also emphasized that people still receive completed requests.

"It doesn't mean that [information is] always as good as you want [...] but it's not broken in the sense that it's a useless system," he said.

The narrative surrounding the ATI system is damaging, Groves said, and it often prevents people from exploring ATIs themselves.

"When I do workshops on filing ATI requests, I see how scared people are," he said.

"They bring up these stories about how broken the system is [...] as a way of stopping themselves from filing their first request."

While he's had some bad experiences within the ATI system, Groves doesn't think it's helpful to perpetuate the idea that filing is a waste. He pointed to the importance of pressuring the government as a way of bringing about change, something Conter agrees with.

As Groves says, the key is to simply start filing requests.

"[There should be] pressure on departments so long as people start using the system," he said, mentioning that the first request is the most daunting, but that the more you file, the easier it gets.

"It's something that's in reach for everyone and could be put to use in many cases."

Conter also thinks journalists have an important role to play.

"They need to attempt to make it more of a public issue in writing about it," he said, adding that it's the media's responsibility to make sure the public is aware when things have been denied, and what barriers are being put up.

Bureaucratic secrecy can be a significant block, but if the media continues to pressure the government while reminding people that access to information is a right, changes could happen.

"The media ought to be stomping their feet a little more loudly," said Conter. "Access to government information is a right, not a privilege."

“**T**he media ought to be stomping their feet a little more loudly. Access to government information is a right, not a privilege.”
—Alan Conter, Concordia University journalism professor



DON'T BELIEVE EVERYTHING YOU READ

Sponsored Content Isn't Harmless

by Colin Harris @ColinnHarris

Newspaper ad revenues are plummeting, faster than anyone predicted. The rapid loss in revenue is forcing newsrooms to make decisions they probably never thought they'd have to make.

One increasingly popular decision is to provide “native advertising” services to sponsors. It's a tactic being seen by newspapers industry-wide, from *Wired* to *The New York Times*.

It amounts to newsroom staff creating content sponsored by a third party, making the decision to write the article a business matter rather than an editorial one. As a new form of advertising, the level of control the sponsor gets over the content isn't firmly established—just a range of ad package options offered by media organizations.

A lot of these ads seem to be harmless fluff, such as a feature at a sponsor's resort or a paid product review where you may only notice the

“Advertisement” tag after reading half of it. These articles typically don't try to emulate hard-nosed, investigative journalism, although the design style will match that of regular content.

But even so, the worth of this kind of advertising (and it does have value, currently one of the few upward trends in the newspaper business) is derived from the fact that, at least for a moment, the reader is tricked into consuming an ad.

It's a clever technique to be sure, but paid portrait work by news media is just capitalizing on the trust readers have in an established media institution to be fair, and to get things right. The cost of this new kind of ad to that credibility doesn't seem to be part of the equation in the sponsored content gold rush.

Postmedia, one of the biggest media groups in Canada, regularly runs a page of content “in association with” the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers in its *Financial Post*.

The CAPP logo is seen on the pages of the *Post's* “Energy” section (with Google's DoubleClick ad services recording the clicks through this link), and in print, syndicated in the business section of Postmedia's national chain of newspapers. That CAPP connection is noted less clearly (if at all) when syndicated online, however.

The CAPP is, in their own words, “the voice of Canada's upstream oil, oil sands and natural gas industry,” essentially a lobby group funded by energy companies. Much of what gets printed in the “Energy” section amounts to corporate portraiture, recounting the careers of these illustrious “oil men.”

“Find us on Facebook and show your support for the oil sands industry,” reads a more traditional ad to the right of one of these sponsored stories. Well, you were just reading about how ahead of the curve petro-states

are in carbon capture technology, so why not? You've just been warmed up to the idea by another ad in disguise.

The sad truth is that the more ambiguous the intent of the article is, the more valuable it is to clients. And while pro-oil sands content gets sponsored, there's little financial incentive to sniff out the other side of the story.

It just seems like bad practice to run this kind of advertisement for a politically contentious issue—the responsibility for honest journalism is falling to the wayside to keep the lights on.

The old mentality is that advertising and editorial should be kept separate. Although newspapers are scrambling to find any new source of revenue, it's imperative that they realize their credibility is the most valuable asset they hold. Sacrificing that for an advertising strategy is a dicey bet, even when putting aside the risk of a misinformed reader.

DECODING BODY IMAGES



What Industry Insiders Have to Say About the Portrayal of Bodies in Fashion

by Margie Ramos

Fashion, music and advertising industries in modern media have long been criticized for marketing body images, from “thinspiration” to “sexploitation.” The most daring of them use shocking, erotic and pornographic images of teenagers and young women for profit, pitching these images as “artistic.”

But how much is too much? And can the “artsiness” of such ads justify the degrading way its models are portrayed?

Highly sexualized content often drives an increase in sales and profit for leading brands, such as the bold and scandalous clothing company American Apparel, which was founded by Montreal native Dov Charney.

The same goes for products of the music industry, from Miley Cyrus’s controversial music video “Wrecking Ball” to Rihanna’s latest music video “Pour It Up,” which features strippers and Rihanna herself in the slightest amount of clothing possible twerking with spread legs on a throne.

Rihanna also bares it all for her latest British *GQ* cover, channeling Medusa wearing nothing but snakes. While these kind of marketing tactics create a buzz, they also create uproars.

Toronto-based fashion photographer Bruno Wong thinks that the increasing occurrence and acceptance of sexual and explicit themes and imagery in popular culture have a “huge impact on society.”

“It’s going to change all of our expectations on ourselves and each other,” he said.

“Girls will have it worse because of society’s emphasis on female beauty.”

And girls seem to always have it worse when it comes to American Apparel’s ads.

Their male models are portrayed casually wearing their unisex clothes like an everyday hipster walking through the Plateau.

But the female models are shown wearing clothes with their nipples exposed, not wearing underwear and bearing a lot of unnecessary skin for a simple flannel shirt advertisement. These ads could be considered artsy to some, but it’s predatory and voyeuristic to others.

Sok-Many Chea, co-owner of Montreal-based clothing line Mosaik, said, she finds the ads “disgusting” and “not attractive at all.”

“I guess they keep doing it because it works for them,” she said.

Wong, who has worked for top modeling agencies in Toronto, Vancouver, New York and Los Angeles, and who also has a background in marketing, sees it a little differently than Chea.

“It’s refreshing to see ‘girl next-door’ types of models over traditional fashion models,” he said.

“I actually prefer it.”

When asked about how he feels about the way American Apparel portrays young women and teenagers as sex objects in their ads, showcasing them half-naked at lewd angles and wearing only one item most of the time—like American Apparel’s “assless pantyhose” or high-knee socks—Wong replied, “Not surprised.”

“It’s a bit extreme, but that’s how everything is moving—the extreme of things,” he said.

“Pretty soon, we’ll be seeing nudity in ads and ads will be more online, where there isn’t as much red tape.”

The line between artistic and pornographic gets increasingly thinner as more and more skin is shown off. So, where do we draw the line?

“Tastefulness, not raunchiness,” said Wong. “And if raunchy, then stylish and complementing the overall brand rather than for shock value.”

But nudity in art has been present for centuries, and such pieces are often heralded for their beauty. What outrages and shocks many people in our century is the vulgariza-

tion of sex and sexuality using photographs of teenagers and young women, exposing them to the public and the media in derogatory way for shock value and other marketing-related purposes.

“I feel discouraged. It’s not sexual, it’s repulsive,” said Chea, regarding American Apparel’s most provocative ads.

“Sex is a beautiful thing. It should not be shown that way.”

Jillian Tracey Zrihen, owner of Tracey Brooke Public Relations, plays devil’s advocate and sees the profitability in American Apparel’s unconventional methods of marketing body images.

“It seems American Apparel ads are mostly after the shock value to grab potential buyer attention and break through the clutter from every other fashion retail chain out there,” said Zrihen, who possesses more than 10 years’ worth of experience in the marketing, PR and fashion industry.

“The ads can be described as sexy, awkward, edgy or just weird, but they have us talking about them. At the end of the day, that is really the primary goal in advertising,” Zrihen continued.

“The ads might not be in a tasteful manner, but they managed to differentiate themselves and create a consistent image that targets a specific demographic.”

American Apparel, without a doubt, is doing a good job at differentiating their brand, and they’ve gained a niche and brand loyalists. As much as the general public, and even the people within the fashion industry, disapprove of American Apparel and other clothing companies that use sexploitation to increase sales, the reality is that these brands are in demand.

Consumers support them either because

they really like to wear their products or because they want to be associated to the brand personality, image and character of these clothing companies—bold, different, sexual, young and naturally beautiful. Many times consumers do not see the inherent unfairness in portraying young women on display this way.

As long as sex is in demand, marketing explicit imagery of human bodies in the fashion industry will not go away unless a restrictive policy is imposed, like in a more conservative country such as Saudi Arabia.

But that wouldn’t fly in North America—after all, this is the land of freedom of expression, and equality. The only problem is that fashion, music and advertising industries sometimes abuse that freedom simply to boost profits.

As for the line between artistic and pornographic, it seems American Apparel agrees with Marshall McLuhan, the Canadian philosopher of communication theory who once said, “Art is anything you can get away with.”

Such “art” includes the photo of young Asian model Kyung, who is wearing an American Apparel Lamé Suspender Swimsuit with her bare breast exposed in the air, and an innocent and girlish expression on her face.

At the end of the day, the “artsiness” of her photograph still does not change the fact that Kyung is still just a girl, someone’s daughter, whose breasts were exposed for profit, selling not only the silver swimsuit she is wearing but as well as her body image and innocence.

We can go on and on about the pornification of our society, and what is wrong with exploiting young women like Kyung in these industries and how marketing their explicit materials as artsy does not justify the content, but despite what society says, the fact remains: sex sells. It’s an easy lowest common denominator.



AGAINST *the* WEB



Breaking News and the Shame of Social Media

by Graeme Shorten Adams

“Less than 10 per cent of what the Internet is used for is good,” declared my professor of European history one morning, as students stared one another down across the picket lines of the Maple Spring. Admittedly, my memory of his exact quote is hazy—he might’ve said less than one per cent.

At the time, I had just deleted my Facebook account for good and I was surprised to find myself agreeing with him. Now, nearly two years later, I would offer a more generous percentage—but it’s the spirit of his statement rather than the statistics that has stuck with me.

The social media response to the Boston Marathon bombings this past April has become a textbook example of just how useless the web can be. In retrospect, it’s astonishing how so many people got so much wrong so quickly.

Shortly after Boston police released video footage of the perpetrators to the public, Reddit users mistakenly identified one of them as 22-year old Brown University student Sunil Tripathi, who had gone missing a month before the bombings. Tripathi had a history of depression and reportedly had taken a hiatus from his studies because of it.

As Tripathi’s name began to pop up on Twitter, media personnel from both old and new platforms began spreading the misinformation further. Reddit, 4chan and Twitter users celebrated, with no shortage of cringe-worthy rhetoric—a “victory” of new media over the old.

Tripathi’s family, already highly distressed, was flooded with the disgusting but unsurprising messages we’ve come to expect any time a community finds a new target, especially in the Internet age of laptop social justice crusaders.

When the true identities of the bombers

were revealed, many of those responsible for fueling the mistaken-identity inferno either slipped back into anonymity or deleted their relevant tweets, and only a few offered apologies.

One month after the bombing, Tripathi’s body was found in Rhode Island’s Providence River. It’s difficult to know whether Tripathi was alive during the frenzy. Police say his death was likely a suicide, but that has yet to be confirmed.

Even after the Tripathi debacle, social media’s potential to ease or exacerbate crises remains ambiguous.

“There’s always been misreporting; social media amplifies the misreporting exponentially,” said Lisa Lynch, a Concordia journalism professor specializing in the relationships between new and old media.

“But it also leads people to catch errors much more quickly than they might otherwise.”

Lynch cited similar stories where social media was often responsible for breaking news, like Hurricane Sandy and the Arab Spring, as events where organizations like NPR and *The New York Times*, as well as independent contributors, put intensive verification systems in place for social media.

“The media knows better,” she said.

“People are realizing that, more than rules, some structures might be necessary as well, like a dedicated social media person in times of crisis. I think [the Boston bombings] was a good moment of coming-of-age of certain kinds of modalities of social media.”

Lynch believes that the timing of the Tripathi accusations, which were largely put together in the small hours of the morning, played a key role in why the misinformation was accepted so uncritically by some mainstream news outlets.

“I was shocked that the information had lasted that long, and I think it wouldn’t have if the story had broken at 10 in the morning instead of 10 at night, or whenever it broke,” she said.

“It was a time when fewer people were around and up who might have been doing that kind of adjudication, when the news had slowed down a bit and news outlets were looking for updates for the story.”

Lynch added it was also a prime time for people to come up with conspiracy theories.

“As much as Reddit straddles the mainstream, it’s also a place where 18-year-olds at three in the morning are going to try to play junior detective,” she said.

“So I think the error in that case was using Reddit as a source. There was a lot of laziness within the media.”

Herding the Mob Mentality

It’s clear that both old and new media have a lot of growing up to do after what happened to Sunil Tripathi, but the way forward isn’t clear. Although structural changes to social media are conceivable, Lynch doubts they’d be imposed through outside channels.

“I don’t think [change] is going to happen at the level of legislation,” she said.

“I think it’s going to happen platform by platform.”

Lynch mentioned that Twitter and Facebook, which have a much stronger corporate identity than Reddit, have already implemented stronger moderation practices—even, in Twitter’s case, localized censorship.

Similar changes seem less likely for Reddit and other democratically run sites, but Lynch said that those communities could come together to make similar decisions, cit-

ing Wikipedia’s recent communal choice to ban anonymous submissions.

Yet even Reddit, as shown by a public apology on the Reddit blog following the Tripathi case, can put on an official face when it needs to. Many websites that have no pre-digital incarnations—most obviously Facebook—are becoming, in their own way, as institutional as the old media they broke away from.

The mimicry runs both ways. Obviously, mainstream media frequently makes the same mistakes Reddit did, but those mistakes occur mainly because older platforms have been forced to adopt the means of newer ones in order to stay relevant.

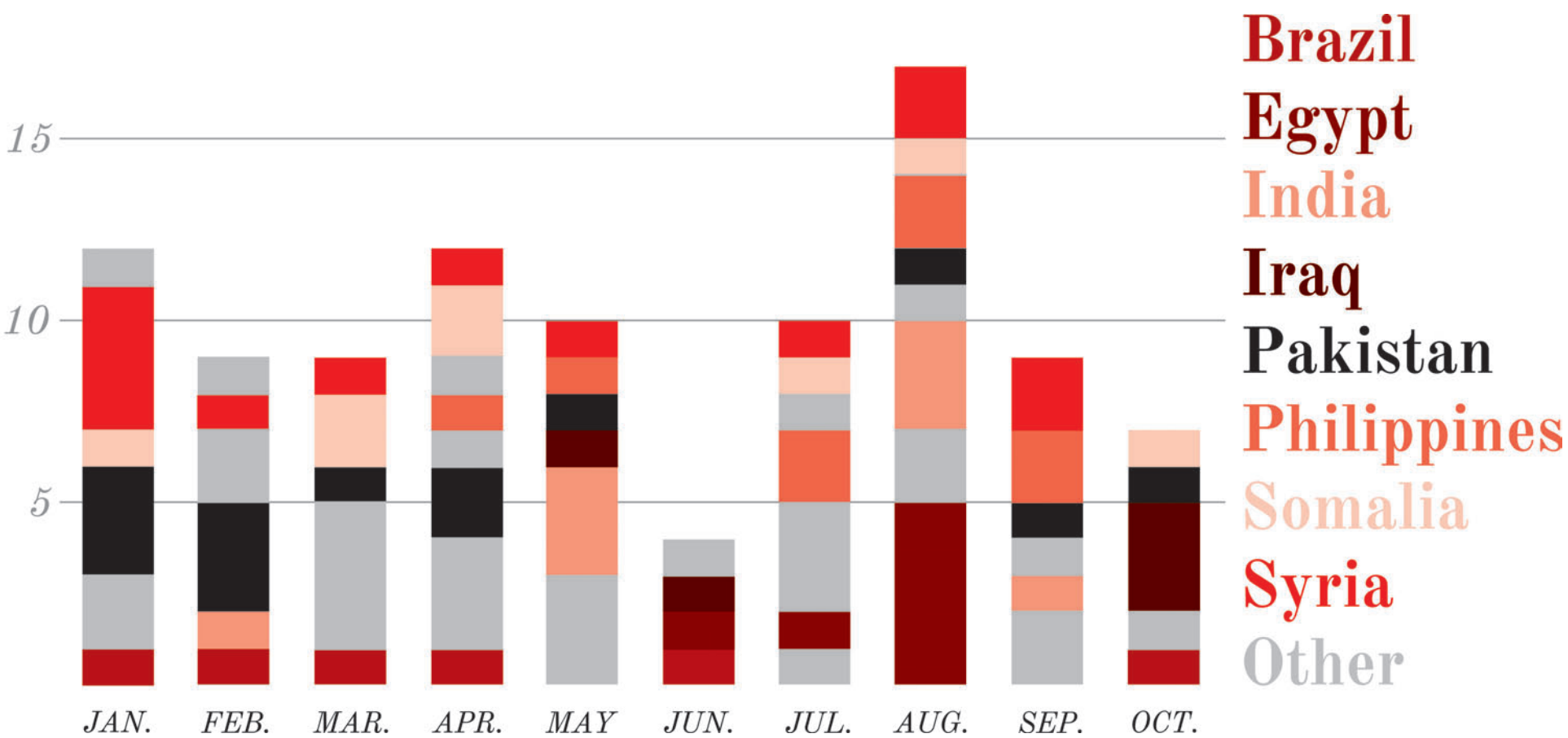
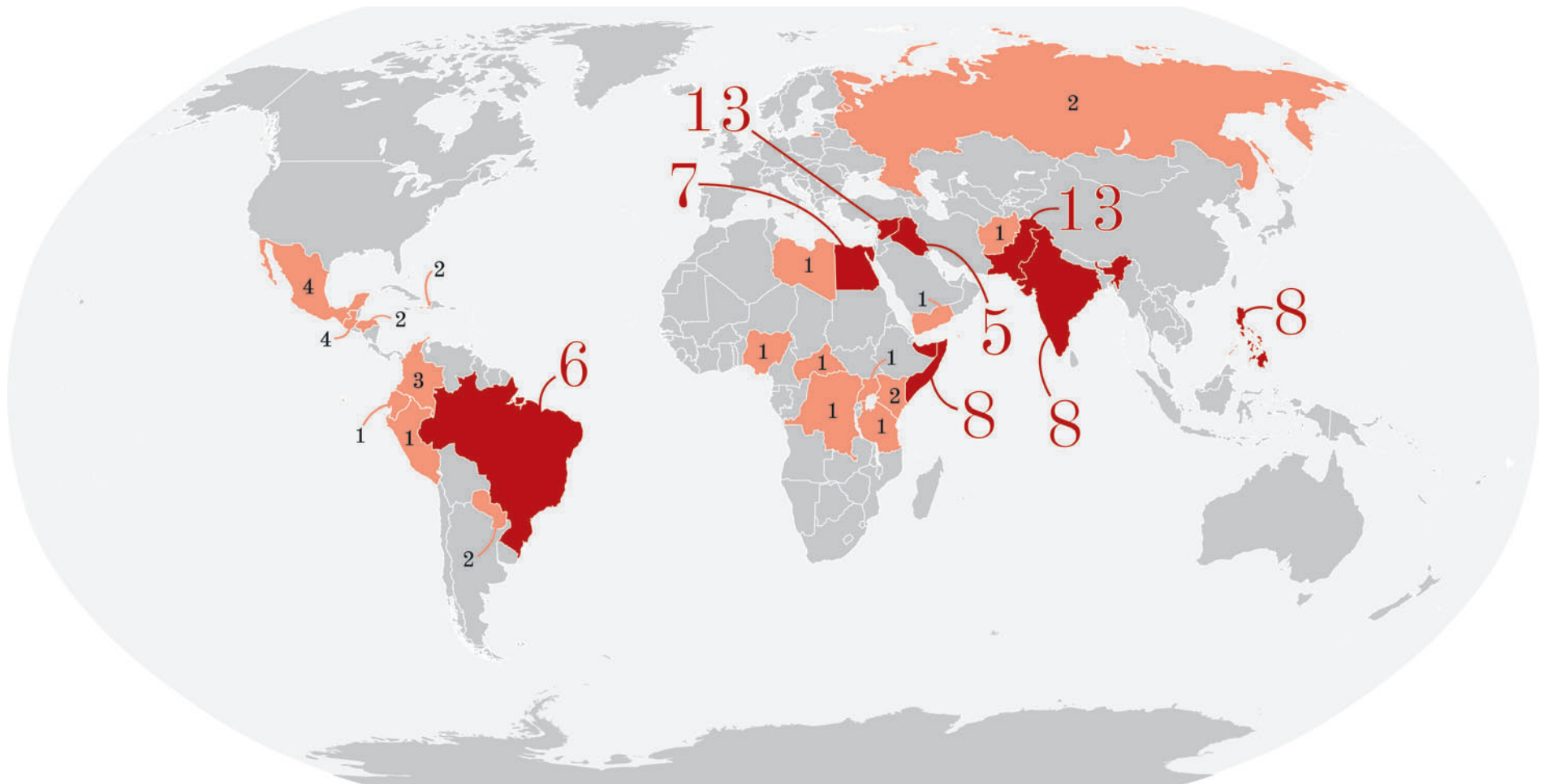
Twenty-four hour TV news channels and Twitter depend on the same element—speed—but the web just does speed better. The crisis of mainstream media’s continued relevancy wouldn’t be occurring right now if that weren’t the case.

After the Sunil Tripathi incident, it seems clear that social media needs to be more heavily critiqued than ever—especially by our generation, which is becoming increasingly defined by it. Our confidence in our own authority has dangerous consequences.

The problem might not lie with any intrinsic sense of entitlement our generation has, but more with how the structure of social media encourages entitlement. And as Lynch says, those structures can only change from within.

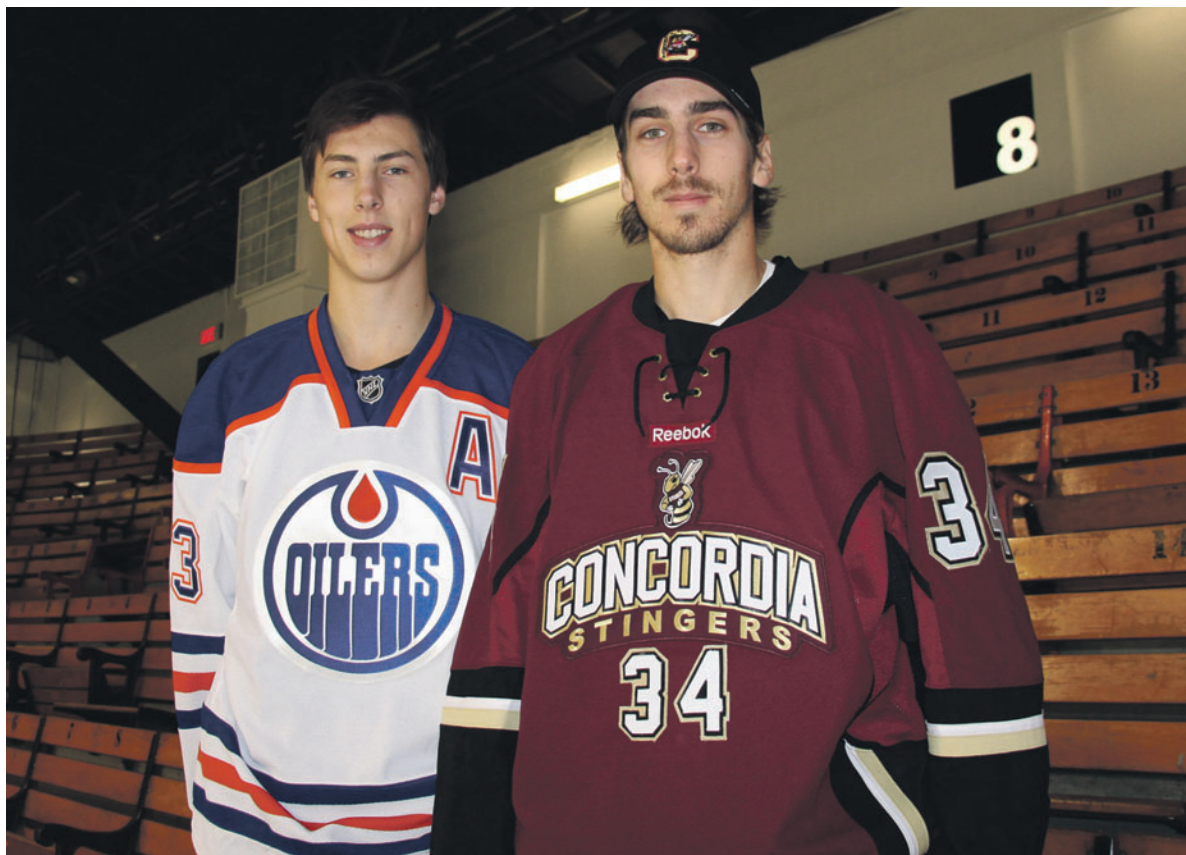
The Internet is a radical democracy in theory, but if its practice involves torturing the family of an innocent man, it doesn’t deserve the title. If there’s one thing the social media landscape needs to learn, it’s when to shut up and wait. Otherwise, we may let something even worse slip past our better natures next time.

99 JOURNALISTS HAVE BEEN KILLED SO FAR IN 2013:



ALL IN THE NAME

The Link Sits Down With Stingers' Adam Nugent-Hopkins and Brother Ryan of the Edmonton Oilers



Brothers Ryan (left) and Adam Nugent-Hopkins make the most of the rare chances they get to see each other.

by David S. Landsman @dslands

If you're from Edmonton, you've probably heard the name Nugent-Hopkins mentioned at least once—it's starting to become a household name. But if you live in Montreal, you wouldn't think there'd be another one in our very own backyard.

Indeed, there are two Nugent-Hopkins brothers—both play hockey and both are young, but most of all, both are humble.

Ryan Nugent-Hopkins, 20, was the no. 1 draft pick of the Edmonton Oilers back in 2011 and has been a centrepiece in the team's recent youth movement. Adam, 25, is a rookie for Concordia's men's hockey team.

Growing up in Burnaby, B.C., the two sons of Roger Hopkins and Debbie Nugent developed a passion for hockey as young boys.

"I remember a few times we tried making our very own backyard rink," said Adam, reminiscing of his youth. "It just ended up flooding the entire backyard; our parents weren't too happy with that. Especially when Amber [the family dog] would come in all muddy."

"We did throw some great road hockey games though in the backyard," said Ryan, now in his third year playing in the NHL.

Though there's a five-year age difference between the two brothers, they say it didn't keep them from building a strong bond as kids.

"Growing up, we were the closest of friends," said Ryan. "Being the younger brother I learned a lot from [Adam]. And even now we're able to stay close and it's always really good to see each other when usually we wouldn't be able to."

The brothers say they try to stay in contact, regularly talking whenever they can, but that they know not to bug each other too much.

"When you get the chance, it's always nice to see your brother," said a smiling Adam at the Verdun Auditorium this past week.

Ryan was in town to play the Montreal Canadiens last Tuesday night—only his second career game in the city. The Oilers won 4-3.

"We're always there for each other and that's what really matters," said Adam. "Family is first and always foremost."

The brothers' tight bond isn't to say they were the perfect poster boys as kids and that they didn't have their moments while still living under the same roof. But it was never anything too serious.

"Like any brother relationship we had our fair share of scraps," said a laughing Ryan, "As long as [Adam] was the one who got in trouble, I was fine."

"Yeah, Ryan would love to go crying and running to mom," Adam quipped.

Draft Day

One day that the two siblings will never forget is June 24, 2011—the day Ryan was selected no. 1 overall in the NHL draft in St-Paul, Minnesota.

"The whole weekend was surreal, [it] was a pretty crazy feeling," recalled Ryan. "It was a lot of fun, and a great trip for the family. Even my billet family [the family who takes you in during your junior hockey years] came down and that was extra special."

Surprisingly, it wasn't Ryan who was most anxious on draft day. Rather, it was his brother who couldn't contain himself.

"I was probably more nervous than he was," said Adam. "It was still up in the air where he was going, and it was really nerve-racking. You want him to be the best he can be."

But those nerves died down quickly when it was announced Edmonton had selected Ryan first overall.

"Edmonton was a great fit, a great team in the rebuilding mode with all its young players," said Adam. "And definitely as a family we wanted him to go there because it was closer

to home—and I know how important that is for Ryan. Having played junior in Red Deer [for the Western Hockey League Rebels], all his friends were there," he continued.

Three years later, Ryan has certainly lived up to the expectations that come with being the top pick in the draft. In last year's World Junior Championship, he helped lead Canada to the bronze medal game and was the tournament's point leader with 15.

In the NHL, he's scored 86 points over his first three seasons as a centre for the Oilers—third-most on the team in that span behind star players Taylor Hall and Jordan Eberle.

"It was a great fit then, and obviously has worked out perfectly—the next step is [for us to start] winning," said Adam.

You would expect that standing in the shadow of his younger brother would make the Stingers defenceman jealous, but he says it's just the opposite.

"I never, ever think of it that way—I'm more proud of all of what he's done," Adam said. "I'd rather put the pressure on myself to be successful—and be the best me I can be. That's what counts for me."

You would also expect that Adam, paying to play university hockey, would be jealous of his younger brother's seven-year, US\$42 million contract extension signed in September.

Wrong again.

"To be honest, I just congratulated him on it," said Adam. "We come from humble beginnings, so money isn't really a foundation, you could say. It's great; he's set for life, and I'm happy and proud for him."

It's the kind of money offered to leaders. And as a former no. 1 overall pick playing for a young, rebuilding team, Ryan knows he needs to be one.

"Our team is a very young squad and we feel a bit of pressure, but we have to stop using the excuse that we're a young team, and play our game," said Ryan, confident his 3-8-

1 Oilers, currently in last place in the Pacific Division of the Western Conference, can turn it around.

"Our next stop is the playoffs."

He's not the only Nugent-Hopkins being counted on to lead. As one of the older members of the Stingers, Adam is doing his best to help guide his own young team to the postseason.

"I know that being one of the older guys I try to offer the guys as much as guidance as I can," said Adam. "I give my best, stay positive and try to lead by example."

So far, so good: The Stingers currently sit in fourth place in the Ontario University Athletics Eastern Conference with a 2-1-2 record, Adam credited with an assist in the team's 10-3 home opener win over Royal Military College last Friday.

"We're definitely on the right track," said Adam. "We have a great program, a great coaching staff and some very good players. Making a run for the national championship isn't a far goal."

The team's season opener, on Oct. 9, was Adam's first competitive regular season hockey game in seven years.

Over that span, he took a hiatus from the game to be a strength and conditioning coach, helping young athletes reach their top fitness level.

One such athlete was Ryan, spending the last two years as his younger brother's own strength and conditioning coach.

It's something Adam takes great pride in—especially as it provided him the opportunity to remind Ryan that for all his ability on the ice, the elder Nugent-Hopkins brother will always have his own superior skills.

"I can get him at other things," said Adam with a smile. "I can definitely bench press more than him. It's a start."

Photo David S. Landsman



A NEW SHERIFF IN TOWN

McGill Martlets Stun Stingers 41-34 to Win First Provincial Title in 8 Years

by Justin Blanchard @Jblanch6

Stingers women's rugby head coach Graeme McGravie said in September his only two goals for this season were to go undefeated in the regular season and make it to nationals.

The Stingers accomplished the first one with relative ease. But they'll have to wait until next season for a chance at accomplishing the second one.

The McGill Martlets stunned the Stingers 41-34 at Concordia Stadium last Friday night, overcoming freezing temperatures and a frenzied home crowd to win the Réseau du sport étudiant du Québec conference crown.

The Martlets, ranked sixth in the country, are headed to nationals for the first time since 2005.

The fourth-ranked Stingers, who had captured the provincial title four times in the last six years, were left struggling to explain the loss.

"I don't know what happened to us in the first half," said fourth-year number 8 and team captain Hughanna Gaw.

"I don't know if they came out hot or we came out cold, but they definitely played the first half like they wanted it more than we did."

McGravie kept his explanation simple. "We lost," he said bluntly. "We didn't make

enough tackles and we lost."

Friday night featured Round 2 of a battle of strength versus strength, with the Stingers' provincially top-ranked defence taking on three of the top five scorers in the conference, including RSEQ MVP Brianna Miller.

The first time these two teams met, in Week 3, Concordia eked out a 17-15 win.

This time around, scores came early and often—for McGill, that is.

The Martlets opened up the scoring just two minutes into the game when centre Caroline Suchorski broke a tackle near the Concordia 10-metre line before bursting down the right touch line and into the try zone to give her side a 5-0 lead.

The Stingers answered in the ninth minute, when rookie centre Alexandra Tessier spun the ball over to fourth-year fullback Jenna Giuliani, who beat McGill centre Casey Thornburn to the corner of the try zone from 30 yards out to tie the game.

But that's when the Martlets began to settle in, spending most of the remaining half on Concordia's side of the field. It was a half that saw the usually technically sound Stingers hampered by sloppy play.

"We missed one-on-one tackles that you just can't miss in the final," said Gaw.

"Those were crucial tackles that we just let slip through our fingers."

The Martlets made the most of Concordia's miscues, scoring three more tries and a converting two kicks en route to a 24-12 halftime lead.

The Stingers' woes continued into the second half, finding themselves down 38-15 with just 25 minutes left to play.

It was enough time for the Stingers to mount a furious comeback, however, as they cut the deficit to just 41-34 at the 75-minute mark.

"We could've easily packed it in at halftime, but we came back as a team and we didn't give them anything," said Gaw. "We fought for it."

With momentum on their side, mere seconds remaining and the ball back in their hands, the Stingers pressed into the McGill 10-metre line and looked headed for a chance to tie the game.

But the team was called for obstruction moments later when a Stinger ran past the ball carrier and into an opposing player, giving possession right back to the Martlets.

With victory all but official, Miller punted the ball into the McGill half of the stands as the fulltime whistle blew.

"We gave them too many chances and too many points [in the first half]," said McGravie. "By the time we started playing our

game in the second half it was too late."

It's the most points the Stingers have given up in a single game all year; the team allowed a conference-best 62 points all regular season long and gave up just 3 in their 35-point win over the Laval Rouge et Or in the semifinals.

"I didn't expect them to score that many points on us," said Tessier, wiping away tears. "Tonight, [the defence] just didn't work together. We made some little mistakes and that's what cost us the game."

As for her own performance, the RSEQ recruit of the year had little to say.

"I wish I did more," she said.

Tessier, who led the Stingers in scoring in the regular season, finished with no points on the night.

As heartbreaking a loss it may be, it's one that surely will serve as motivation for the Stingers' 2014 season.

"This is a resilient group," said McGravie. "We'll be back. You look at the scoreboard and that's enough to fuel you coming back."

He wasn't just talking about himself.

"I was planning on not coming back, and this makes me want to really come back," said Gaw. "I don't want to finish like this."

Photo Matt Garies

BOXSCORES WEEK OF OCT. 21 TO OCT. 27



Sunday, Oct. 27

Women's Soccer—Concordia 2, Université de Sherbrooke 3
Men's Soccer—Concordia 3, Université de Sherbrooke 2
Women's Basketball—Concordia 59, Bishop's University 34
(Carleton tournament finals)

Saturday, Oct. 26

Women's Basketball—Concordia 61, Carleton University 48
(Carleton tournament)
Football—Concordia 21, Université de Sherbrooke 28
Men's Basketball—Concordia 70, University of New Brunswick 80
(non-conference)
Women's Hockey—Concordia 1, University of Ottawa 2

Friday, Oct. 25

Men's Rugby—Concordia 19, McGill University 13
Men's Soccer—Concordia 1, Université Laval 4
Men's Hockey—Concordia 10, Royal Military College 3
Women's Rugby—Concordia 34, McGill University 41 (RSEQ finals)
Women's Soccer—Concordia 0, Université Laval 2
Women's Basketball—Concordia 51, University of Guelph 46
(Carleton tournament)

UPCOMING GAMES THIS WEEK IN CONCORDIA SPORTS



Friday, Nov. 1

7:00 p.m. Men's Rugby vs. Montréal Carabins (Concordia Stadium)
7:30 p.m. Women's Hockey vs. Montréal Carabins

Saturday, Nov. 2

7:30 p.m. Men's Hockey vs. McGill Redmen (Corey Cup)
(Verdun Auditorium)

Sunday, Nov. 3

2:00 p.m. Men's Basketball at Vermont Catamounts (Exhibition)
3:00 p.m. Women's Hockey vs. Carleton Ravens

Check out Stingers game summaries at thelinknewspaper.ca/sports



BRINGING MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES OUT OF THE SHADOWS

The Crippling Stigma and Lack of Help for Students with Psychological Problems

by Erin Storus

It took me a long time to forgive myself for what had happened to me back in high school, when I was diagnosed with both obsessive-compulsive disorder and depression.

There were days when it just seemed easier to give up instead of being stuck in a cycle of helplessness. When you're trapped in your own mind, you'll just keep running into yourself.

I felt that no one would understand what I was going through, because how could they? To someone not being affected by it, mental illness is a hard thing to try and wrap one's head around. They wouldn't be able to help me, and would probably just get sick of trying.

I couldn't tell my parents because I didn't want them to see how their daughter was suffering; I was always supposed to be the strong one in the family, and because of this I was alone.

One of the hardest parts of my ordeal was the way I was judged by those around me. People at school never said anything, but they didn't need to—I saw the way they looked at me and whispered about how sickly I had become. The thing about high school is that once people find out there's something “wrong” with you, you're no longer seen as an equal; you've suddenly become someone less, someone abnormal.

It's especially true when there's something wrong mentally. The mentally ill have always been shunned, not just in high school, but also in society as a whole. Things

aren't as bad as in the past, but even now I'm still embarrassed to tell my peers that no, I can't let you have a sip of my water because of how crippling afraid of germs I am.

Eventually, when it became too much to handle, I confessed my dark thoughts to my parents. They took me to see a psychiatrist, and after an hour and a half of my own brutal honesty I was handed a diagnosis.

After seeking help it didn't take long for happiness to reappear in my life, and my pain was no longer just my burden to bear. Between a therapist and the support of my family, life got substantially better for me. I was happy.

When I came to university three years later, things started to become difficult once again. Here I'm far from home, away from my family and my best friends. Slowly I began to sink back into the pit I had made years before, and I let it happen because I was scared.

Talking to fellow first-year students, I discovered that I was not alone in my problems. Many others were also feeling anxious, depressed and isolated, but felt that they couldn't share these thoughts with others.

One woman I spoke to had attempted to reach out to a psychologist here at Concordia, but had had very negative results. She told me that if the psychologist had been dealing with someone with fewer problems they might have been helpful, but that they didn't make her feel any better.

I couldn't believe what I was hearing but she just shrugged it off, saying that she

guessed she was just too complicated a case, something that no person dealing with psychological issues should think.

Perhaps it was just that particular psychologist, perhaps she didn't explain herself well and perhaps it was just a misunderstanding. But I don't know if I can believe that, especially because she was not alone in her experience.

Concordia student Marlon Kroll also expressed great disdain for Concordia Health Services. After feeling anxious and unfocused for a significant period of time, Marlon had decided to seek help.

He made an appointment with a Concordia psychiatrist, who decided that grilling him on his life for 30 minutes gave her enough information to understand who he was and what he was going through. He ended up leaving her office with a prescription for Ritalin.

He felt that it was “ridiculous” to be prescribed medication right off the bat like that, so he refused to take it.

Eventually, Marlon decided to go back to the psychiatrist and express his feelings, but things didn't go so smoothly. She told him that if he didn't want to take the drugs then it was his own fault and there was nothing left to talk about. In her eyes she had done what she was supposed to do, and it didn't matter that he was still suffering.

The initial response when a student seeks help because of mental health issues

should not be to simply give them drugs and send them on their way. Life is so much more complicated than that, especially for university students who are still figuring themselves out.

What we really need is someone to talk to; we need support. I was fortunate enough to have all that and more from my psychologist back in Toronto, but these students were getting nothing.

So who's to blame? Is it the doctors, Concordia Health Services, the administration, the Ministry of Education, Recreation and Sports? Why are those in need not being paid attention to?

These students didn't turn to friends for help because of how intensely stigmatized mental illness is, and it's extremely unfortunate. Because of this stigma people are suffering alone. I was suffering alone.

People need to rise above their tendency to judge others; chances are all of us will experience some form of mental unrest in our lifetime, no matter how insignificant it may seem.

Yes, I have OCD, and yes, there have been times when I locked myself indoors for a period of time. But I'm still me, and the woman with depression and the man with anxiety are still themselves.

Mental illness does not make you any less of a person, and more needs to be done to help those who are suffering.

.....
Graphic Graeme Shorten Adams

The Doug Leslie Bursary



CONCORDIA'S INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1980

The labour of love at a student newspaper provides a wealth of training and connections gained only through countless hours of volunteering, and is a necessary entry in the resumés of budding industry hopefuls.

However, the sacrifice of long unpaid hours serves as a deterrent for many looking to break into their field. To help young contributors in financial need, The Link Publication Society has decided to create a bursary in the memory of Doug Leslie, the first editor-in-chief to lead *The Link*.

Leslie was an English literature student who overcame financial difficulty to champion the newspaper through its teething stage as the two campus papers merged. He was coaxed into becoming the first editor; his first words in print as EIC were "Frankly, I never thought I'd be doing this."

According to his colleagues, Leslie left behind his reservations and began a

column that became "the heart and soul" of the new paper, which was beset with short staff and other organizational issues in its inaugural year. Leslie also fought to keep the paper independent of the student council.

He died in August 2012, leaving *The Link* as his legacy.

The award will be available to a registered, returning student who is in financial need and is a staff member (reporter, designer, photographer, artist, etc.) of The Link. Staff members are defined as those who have made four (4) contributions to the newspaper in a semester. Contributions may be rolled-over from the prior semester before the applications are due.

The deadline for submission is Friday November 22, 2013 at 4 p.m.

Applicants must include a letter explaining their level of financial need, merit and motivation for the bursary, along with three (3) clippings from *The Link*.

The bursary recipient(s) will be announced the third week of January.

The following contributors and masthead members are eligible to apply:

Graeme Shorten Adams, Justin Blanchard, Yacine Bouhali, Andrew Brennan, Alex Callard, Paku Daoust-Cloutier, Liana Di Iorio, Josh Dixon, Betty Fisher, Alex Gauthier, Flora Hammond, Colin Harris, Brandon Johnston, David Landsman, Alejandra Melian-Morse, Paula Monroy, Jayde Norström, Seila Rizvic, Jake Russell, Erin Sparks, Riley Stativa, Geoffrey Vendeville and Michael Wrobel.

The following contributors need one more submission to be eligible:

Sara Dubreuil, Matt Garies, Alexandre Hureau, June Loper, Margie Ramos and Erin Storus.

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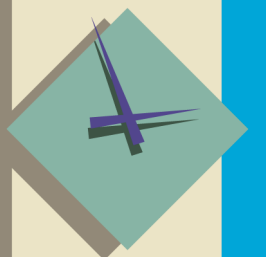
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Want to learn the ins and outs of the journalism industry? Interested in having your work critiqued by some of the best in the business? Down to network like crazy and have a glass of wine (or 10) with some of Canada's finest?

If this sounds like your cup of tea, and you've contributed to *The Link* this year, come by our office (1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W., H-649) by Nov. 8, 2013 and tack up a letter telling us why we should send YOU to the student journo party of the year.

ELECTIONS ARE ON FRIDAY, NOV. 15 AT 3 P.M.

FOR MORE INFO, EMAIL
EDITOR@THELINKNEWSPAPER.CA.



MALE SEXUAL ABUSE IS STILL ABUSE

This is a weird question to ask, but it's a topic that I have rarely seen or read about in the media. I am a male in my mid-20s, and I was at a party recently where I think that I was sexually harassed, dare I say abused by this drunk girl. Everyone says that I am overreacting; now I feel guilty, dirty and undignified. Am I overreacting?

—Anonymous

Your feelings are completely valid, and friends that respond by telling you that you're overreacting are only helping to make you feel guilty for having completely normal feelings.

You aren't dirty, guilty or undignified for someone else having crossed your boundaries. Regardless of gender, it is everyone's right to determine and express their boundaries regarding what physical contact they do and don't feel comfortable with.

Everyone deserves to have their feelings respected rather than dismissed, particularly in such a sensitive situation where an incident of sexual harassment is the source of those feelings.

You're absolutely right that sexual harassment hardly gets talked about in the context of a male victim and female aggressor. This is partially due to our socialization around gender, and par-

tially due to the difficulties surrounding the collection of statistics on sexual abuse.

Many cases of sexual abuse go unreported. It's common for victims to be made to feel guilty or ashamed of their abuse, which can keep them from having the kind of confidence or support necessary to report their incident.

In addition, many forms of sexual harassment and abuse, such as catcalling and groping, have become so common that we let them pass us by daily. Thus, such incidents go virtually unreported. As a result, most statistics around sexual abuse are drastically lower than the reality.

Sexual abuse is also most often depicted as gendered, with women most commonly shown as the victims and men as the aggressors. Nonetheless, cases of sexual abuse with a man as the victim and a

woman as the aggressor do happen, but reports of sexual abuse are even lower among men.

Stereotypes around male sexuality tell us that men are supposed to want sexual attention from any woman at all times, which makes it difficult for men to say no to sex they don't want, or to open up about abuse they've experienced without feeling emasculated.

When they do open up, it's often treated as a non-issue or met with lines like, "What are you complaining about, that's awesome!" Some of my male friends have expressed that they don't know how to turn down physical advances from women, and always end up feeling as though they're overreacting and not justified in feeling uncomfortable.

Even when we do talk about sexual abuse directed towards men, it's most often in the context

of when they were children, and can be more easily digested as a victim who was overpowered.

Or it's presented the way Chris Brown recently did in an interview where he bragged about having "lost his virginity" (read: been raped) at 8 years old by a 14-year-old girl. Huffington Post writer Olivia Cole wrote a fantastic response to this interview, saying, "[...] [T]he same poisonous system that tells women they are rapeable tells men that they are not."

Around discussions of sexual abuse, I've often seen a tendency to frame certain victims or situations as more legitimate than others. One way we see this in the de-legitimization of sexual abuse recounted by male victims.

Abuse is abuse regardless of who is receiving it and the gender, or other characteristics, of the vic-

tim should not serve to qualify or dismiss the abuse.

If you're having feelings as a result of an incident, I highly recommend finding a close friend or family member who will take your feelings seriously, or reaching out for support and counselling through Concordia Counselling and Development or the Centre for Gender Advocacy.

Regardless of how you choose to deal with this, it is your experience and no one has the right to delegitimize it.

—Melissa Fuller @mel_full

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

Concordia Counselling & Development: 514-848-2424 ext. 3545 (SGW) or ext. 3555 (LOY)

The Centre for Gender Advocacy: 514-848-2424 ext. 7880



28 CLUES LATER

by Liana di Iorio @MsBerbToYou

Across:

► 5. In the second of five *Night of the Living Dead* sequels, the survivors of the zombie outbreak take refuge in one of these mass-shopping buildings

► 6. Director of *28 Days Later* (or *That One Movie Where Cillian Murphy Doesn't Play A Total Creep*), who went on to direct *Slumdog Millionaire* and *127 Hours*

► 7. This former *Cheers* actor played a gun-slinging undead slayer in 2009's *Zombieland* (first name).

► 8. Milla Jovovich tries to contain an outbreak of a zombie-making virus in this film based on a video game. (Two words)

► 10. In this movie, released in February, Nicholas Hoult showed the world that yes, even zombies have a soft spot for blondes (2 words).

► 11. In this 2012 animated family horror movie, a young boy helps zombies escape from a mob of humans.

► 12. Sam Raimi directed *Army of _____*, where the protagonist is stuck in the Middle Ages and must battle zombies before he can come back to the present. Could it be any more '90s?

Down:

► 1. A special kind of zombie-vampire hybrid attacks Will Smith and turns this metropolis into a ghost town in *I Am Legend*. (Two words)

► 2. Quentin Tarantino's BFF Robert Rodriguez directed this movie, in which Rose McGowan's right leg is torn off by zombies and replaced with a machine gun. (Two words)

► 3. Filmmaker George _____ put zombies on the big screen with his movie *Night of the Living Dead* back in 1968, way before they were cool.

► 4. The title character in Edgar Wright and Simon Pegg's 2004 zombie rom-com.

► 9. The tagline of *I Was a _____ Zombie*, a 1987 cult-classic reads: "I was young, reckless and in love. Then... I was DEAD, young, reckless and in love."

Graphic Graeme Shorten Adams



POWER THEATRE COMIC ALEX CALLARDQUÉBÉCOIS 101 COMIC PAKU DAoust-Cloutier

Avoir les yeux dans la graisse de binnes: This expression literally translates to “having your eyes in bean grease.” This expression actually means to be in an alternate state of mind—distracted, because of alcohol excess, fatigue, or because that person is in love with someone.

FALSE KNEES COMIC JOSHUA BARKMAN

NAH'MSAYIN?

Hands Off the Handicap Button

So you're rushing towards the Mackay St. entrance of the library building, coffee in hand and heavy backpack on your shoulders. You arrive at the big, metal doors behind a few other people. A petite girl with shiny hair, phone in hand and a leather purse dangling off one arm presses the handicap button with her free hand. She stops walking. Nothing happens.

You wait for her to do something. Her eyebrows scrunch together. Then she takes a couple steps forward and opens the door using her *own human strength*.

"That wasn't so hard, was it?" you say. She looks at you like you weren't supposed to be talking to her and kind of laughs.

If this is actually a fantasy of yours, rejoice! It happened in real life! Sweet, petty atonement. I'm just waiting for a similar chance to catch one of those serious-faced professors carrying important briefcases full of important papers pause and avoid eye contact with students (who are inevitably in a hurry to print something) until the door opens really slowly before them.

Maybe you think it's rude to publicly address ridiculous behaviour and hey, maybe it is. But do you also think the door opener would have broken without the maniacal overuse by able-bodied pedestrians?

Can you truly claim to enjoy an extended blast of cold air when people use those buttons unnecessarily in the winter and you're left shivering in your boots? It's harming the environment, man; heat indoors is not a natural occurrence past October. Plus, those rotating doors are SUPER FUN. I mean, really.

And please don't tell yourself you're doing the people behind you a favour. You're not. Unless they are physically unable to open the door because they're in a wheelchair, or on crutches, or have some sort of arm or wrist injury, or a severe back injury with muscle relaxants on their person to prove it, you're just bothering them. Don't be such a lazy human.

—Kayla Morin



Graphic Graeme Shorten Adams

Editorial



WHY WE'RE VOTING FOR PROJET MONTRÉAL

Bleary-eyed from covering the debates, talking to candidates and breaking down the issues, it's a bit of a relief that the city will finally go to the polls on Sunday.

As we've been covering the race for city hall, we've found there's only one party with a vision that we can support.

And that's Projet Montréal.

Projet and their mayoral candidate, Richard Bergeron, have a holistic vision for the city, focused on improving the quality of life on the island of Montreal in the long run, and are presenting candidates in every district.

Growing from an environmentalist movement and with a leader holding a PhD in regional planning, we also have high hopes that the party could make much-needed progress on reducing Montreal's carbon footprint—resulting in a cleaner and healthier city for everyone.

Their transit plan is complete, featuring calls for dedicated bus lanes, a tramway and metro expansion. It's a clear statement that the city needs to be easier to get around in order to stop families from leaving it for the cheaper homes of the outer suburbs.

Montreal mayoral candidate Denis Coderre said our transit system is already "accessible to all" at a debate held at the Megaphone Montreal speakers' corner. It makes us think he and his team never use public transit, let alone thought of parents with strollers during rush hour or people in wheelchairs taking the metro.

Coalition Montréal, and its mayoral candidate Marcel Côté, hasn't presented us with a coherent vision, and we are against Montreal having its own language watchdog, which the party has suggested.

Le Vrai changement pour Montréal—Groupe Mélanie Joly's platform doesn't offer us anything enticing that we don't also find in Projet's platform, and while very well presented, her party's platform doesn't seem to extend much further than the buzzwords of bus-rapid-transit lines and open data.

With Joly's candidates running in only half of Montreal's districts, much of the city won't even have the chance to elect her candidates to the city or borough councils.

Coderre says we need to stop beating

ourselves up over the corruption issue, but we simply don't trust a party with so many ex-members of Union Montréal—a party often named at the Charbonneau Commission.

Coderre has argued that it is unfair to imply guilt by association, but those with clean hands were blind to their party's corruption. After two mayors resigned in shame, we simply cannot afford to have city representatives who were either oblivious or keeping quiet about breach of public trust.

In contrast, Projet Montréal has a vision that can actually turn the page on this dark chapter in the city's history. Plans for a better public transit system and creating new, affordable neighbourhoods where old rail yards currently stand gives us hope that the exodus of families off the island will slow down.

It was also Projet Montréal that led a charge to repeal amendments made to bylaw P-6 during the Maple Spring.

We aren't without our own reservations for Bergeron as mayor, however. As the mayoral candidate with the most city hall

experience, he's clearly been working out his detailed plan for this city for years.

But if things don't fall into place like he thinks they will, how will he follow through on his lofty goals? As his competition has pointed out, Bergeron's platform is highly ideological, and this might hinder any compromise with those who aren't part of the Projet caucus.

Some of Projet's goals are extremely ambitious, long-term projects that will require substantial funding from the federal and provincial governments. But if someone was going to fight for project funding for the island of Montreal, we want it to be Bergeron, who points out that billions have already been spent to largely benefit car commuters on the South Shore.

We need city leadership that has a detailed vision for the city that goes beyond a few buzzword promises. As students, we are this city's future.

We need to elect a municipal government with the long term in mind, with great goals worthy of this great city.

We need to vote for Projet Montréal.

Graphic Graeme Shorten Adams

THE LINK

CONCORDIA'S INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1980

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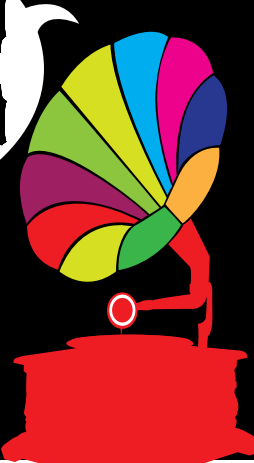
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In "The Changing Face of Concordia in China" [Vol. 34, Issue 9] it was reported around 4,000 international students were admitted to Concordia this year. This number reflects the number of applicants, not those accepted into the university. *The Link* regrets the error.





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WHERE TO FIND THE LINK THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS

Bikurious Montréal 1757 Amherst • **Presse Café** 3501 Ave. du Parc • **Pita Pit** 3575 Ave. du Parc • **Cinéma du Parc** 3575 Ave. du Parc • **Le Coin Grec** 4903 Ave. du Parc • **Frites Alors!** 5235 Ave. du Parc • **Caffè in Gamba** 5263 Ave. du Parc • **New Navarino Café** 5563 Ave. du Parc • **Café l'Artère** 7000 Ave. du Parc • **Dépanneur Café** 206 Bernard O. • **Sonorama** 260 Bernard O. • **Burritoville** 2055 Bishop • **Irish Embassy** 1234 Bishop • **Comedy Works** 1238 Bishop • **Grumpy's** 1242 Bishop • **Kafein** 1429 Bishop • **Smoke Poutinerie** 2019 Bishop • **Madhatter's Pub** 1208 Crescent • **Brutopia** 1219 Crescent • **Boustán** 2020 Crescent • **Galerie Fokus** 68 Duluth E. • **Maison du Tibet** 129 Duluth E. • **Utopia** 159 Duluth E. • **Tienae Santé & Végétarienne** 279 Duluth E. • **Café Grazie** 58 Fairmount • **Arts Café** 201 Fairmount O. • **La Maison de la Torrification** 412 Gilford • **Sushi Man** 1435 Guy • **Java U** 1455 Guy • **Comptoir du Chef** 2153 Guy • **Kam Ho** 1448 Mackay • **Second Cup** 2002 Mackay • **Eggspectation** 1313 Maisonneuve O. • **Caffè Cuore** 100 Marie-Anne O. • **Paragraphe** 2220 McGill College • **Cheap Thrills** 2044 Metcalfe • **Second Cup** 5550 Monkland • **George's Souvlaki** 6995 Monkland • **L'Echange** 713 Mont-Royal E. • **Café Expressions** 957 Mont-Royal E. • **Café Art Java** 837 Mont-Royal E. • **Centre des mets chinois de Montréal** 961 Mont-Royal E. • **Restaurant Mont-Royal Hot Dog** 1001 Mont-Royal E. • **Starbucks** 1241 Mont-Royal E. • **Freeson Rock** 1477 Mont-Royal E. • **Dilallo Burger** 2523 Notre-Dame O. • **Rustique** 4615 Notre-Dame O. • **Café St-Henri** 3632 Notre-Dame O. • **Frites Alors!** 433 Rachel E. • **L'Oblique** 4333 Rivard • **Juliette et Chocolat** 1615 Saint-Denis • **Frites Alors!** 1710 Saint-Denis • **Yuan Vegetarian Restaurant** 2115 Saint-Denis • **Beatnick** 3770 Saint-Denis • **Eva B** 2015 Saint-Laurent • **Bocadillo** 3677 Saint-Laurent • **Bizarde** 3770 Saint-Laurent • **Liberia Espagnola** 3811 Saint-Laurent • **Frappe St-Laurent** 3900 Saint-Laurent • **Copacabanna Bar** 3910 Saint-Laurent • **Le Divan Orange** 4234 Saint-Laurent • **Les Bobards** 4328 Saint-Laurent • **Om Restaurant** 4382 Saint-Laurent • **Kg Délices** 5206 Saint-Laurent • **Snack'n Blues** 5260 Saint-Laurent • **Café Santropol** 3990 Saint-Urbain • **Barros Lucos** 5201 Saint-Urbain • **La Panthère Verte** 66 Saint-Viateur O. • **Batory Euro Deli** 115 Saint-Viateur O. • **Club Social** 180 Saint-Viateur O. • **Fats Billard** 1635 Ste-Catherine O. • **Buns Burgers** 1855 Ste-Catherine O. • **Nilufar** 1923 Ste-Catherine O. • **Café Ciné Express** 1926 Ste-Catherine O. • **Bull Pub** 2170 Ste-Catherine O. • **Shaika Café** 5526 Sherbrooke O. • **Maz Bar** 5617 Sherbrooke O. • **D.A.D.'s Bagels** 5732 Sherbrooke O. • **Co-op La Maison Verte** 5785 Sherbrooke O. • **Head and Hands** 5833 Sherbrooke O. • **Café 92°** 6703 Sherbrooke O. • **Second Cup** 7335 Sherbrooke O. • **Bistro Van Houtte** 2020 Stanley • **Mémé Tartine** 4601 Verdun



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FOOD COURT

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Szechuan Cuisine
- **DELI-M**
Smoked Meat
- **FORMOSA**
Taiwanese Teas & Cuisine
- **FONDUE CHINOISE EXPRESS**
Chinese Fondue
- **POULET TIKKA**
Indian Cuisine



FAUBOURG

SAINTE-CATHERINE

- **BENDO SUSHI**
Sushi
- **SAMIR**
Lebanese Cuisine
- **YUKI RAMEN**
Japanese Noodles
- **BANGKOK CUISINE**
Thailand Cuisine
- **SAINT-CINNAMON**
Cinnamon Rolls - Crepes



GREAT SPECIALS FOR STUDENTS!

1616 STE-CATHERINE W.

**RIGHT AROUND
GUY ST. CORNER!**

