

# THE LINK<sup>35</sup>

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EDITORIAL: BILL C-36 FAILS THE VERY PEOPLE IT SHOULD PROTECT P.15



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We sit down with Stingers football coach Mickey Donovan in an exclusive video interview.



# For the People, By the People —Just Not *All* the People

## Advocates: Government Leaves Thousands of Sex Workers Out of the Discussion on Bill C-36



From left: Anna-Aude Caouette, Robyn Maynard, Frank Suerich-Gulick, Claude Poisson, Chantal Montmorency and Viviane Namaste.

by Verity Stevenson @vestevie

When the Supreme Court of Canada struck down its prostitution laws in December, sex workers' rights advocates had reason to celebrate.

But now, they say not only did the government write a new law as harmful as the ones it's meant to replace, but it's also forgotten about several groups of people it should be protecting.

The five groups decried the federal government's lack of consultation with them in drafting the bill at a press conference Friday morning at the Parthenais Stree office of Stella, a Montreal organization "by and for sex workers."

"We were invited to testify, but never consulted—and yet, we represent thousands of sex workers and fight sexual violence every day," said Anna-Aude Caouette, Stella's coordinator.

She will represent Stella at the hearings on Sept. 11 in Ottawa.

The bill, C-36, was introduced by the Conservative government in June to replace a set of sex work laws that were struck down by the Supreme Court of Canada in December.

It would punish those who buy sexual services and would prohibit the use of public space to advertise sex workers' services unless they advertise it themselves.

Justice minister Peter MacKay said the bill's goal would be to discourage sex work as a whole.

But five advocates at the conference, representing trans, male, female and drug-using sex workers, say the bill, which is currently being studied by the House of Commons justice committee, doesn't take those groups into account.

They said it treats all sex workers as victims by confounding human trafficking and sex work. "It's insulting," Caouette said, explaining that sex work is, for many, a profession like any other.

The laws that were struck down included prohibiting "living off the avails of prostitution" and communicating in public for the purpose of prostitution.

They were deemed unconstitutional by the Supreme Court, which said the laws jeopardized sex workers' right to life, liberty and security, as outlined in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

On Friday, the group of advocates warned Bill C-36 would do the same, or worse, if passed.

"The new bill's preamble victimizes us and re-marginalizes sex workers by considering sex work, prostitution, as always being exploitation," Caouette said at the conference.

"It leaves us no space to denounce acts of violence if, always, our work is considered violent."

Targeting clients is just as bad as targeting sex workers, the advocates said. Their premise is that sex work should not be criminalized, neither for receivers, nor providers of sexual services.

"Criminalizing the purchase of sexual acts has a direct impact on the workers. In itself, saying the clients are perverts is so derogatory," Caouette told The Link after the press conference.

"If sex workers are mothers, sisters, aunts, students or whoever they may be, I can only imagine that the same goes for clients. Maybe they are your father, your brother—who, one day, buy a sexual service. It doesn't make them a pervert, you know," Caouette added.

At the conference, she sat among five

other advocates from different organizations, including Claude Poisson of RÉZO, a group advocating sexual health for the city's male LGBTQ community; Chantal Montmorency of the Association Québécoise pour la promotion de la santé des personnes utilisatrices de drogues; Frank Suerich-Gulick of Action Santé Travesti(e)s et Transsexuel(le)s du Québec; Viviane Namaste, a teacher at Concordia's Simone de Beauvoir Institute; and Robyn Maynard, also of Stella.

All of the advocates said the law would create dangerous conditions for sex workers, pushing them into alleyways and industrial sectors to escape police surveillance and to protect their clients and income.

Maynard said she sees how the previous laws on sex work, introduced in the late 1980s and struck down in December, affect sex workers, who have been forced to work in hiding.

And hiding from authorities is isolating, she added, explaining that it's safer for them to work in groups in order to safely negotiate and screen clients.

"So, if sex workers did ever need any help, they'd be very unlikely to go and seek any assistance," Maynard told the small crowd of media, tucked into a small room decorated in red.

"This is especially true because too often violence against sex workers can come at the hand of police."

The same goes for sex workers who use drugs, Montmorency of AQPSUD said, noting displacement into less frequented areas like alleyways makes it harder for them to have access to resources like clean

needles and condoms.

The bill would also make it difficult for organizations to support sex workers by prosecuting those who "counsel or encourage" prostitution—a provision that could be interpreted several ways, Montmorency explained.

Namaste, of the Simone de Beauvoir Institute, highlighted that the basis of feminism is to consult the group of people affected in a situation—in this case, sex workers.

"I think we need to ask a question in terms of consensual relations between adults: does the criminal law have a role to play? Do we need it there?" she told The Link.

"And, what happens if we open that door? If you criminalize consensual relations between adults when there's an exchange of money [...] will you also criminalize consensual relations between men or between women?"

Caouette said Stella would rather see a model based on the laws in New Zealand, where justice targets those who exploit sex workers—people who prompt others into sex work or disperse their earnings.

Instead of labeling the sex industry as inherently bad with increased surveillance and prohibitions, she said she'd like to see authorities ask sex workers across the country what their needs are. Then, they should deal with it according to different areas, she said.

"At Stella, we are cisgender women, we are transgender women, we are single mothers, we are students, we are nurses, we are drug users, we are alive and we want our community to be respected, and especially not criminalized."

photo Shaun Michaud



# Activists Bill McKibben, Ellen Gabriel Speak at Concordia

## Indigenous, Migrant Rights Tie into Climate Justice



350.org founder Bill McKibben addresses the dangers of climate change before a crowd of a few hundred students at Concordia.

by Noelle Didierjean @noellesolange

The links between indigenous rights, migrant justice and environmental activism were explored at this academic year's first major speaking event on Wednesday, when a few hundred students turned up to listen to activists Bill McKibben and Ellen Gabriel in Concordia's Alumni Auditorium.

"We have taken a beautiful world and we have begun the process of really de-creating it," McKibben told an attentive audience.

McKibben is the founder of 350.org, a website devoted to environmental activism on an international scale.

The movement takes its name from the fact that many climate scientists argue the ratio of carbon dioxide to other molecules in the atmosphere should be reduced to 350 parts per million, a "safe" level.

The speech was given in promotion of the People's Climate March, a mobilization drawing attention to the UN Climate Summit happening later this month.

McKibben outlined his beginnings in activism and explained the importance of action to the crowd.

"About 25 years ago, [scientists] gave us pretty much an unequivocal warning about climate change. [...] They told us what was going to happen, and nobody did anything," he explained.

"The problem above all problems [is that] the fossil fuel industry is the richest industry there ever was, and that's not hyperbole. Exxon made more money last year than any company in the history of money. And, when

you have that kind of money, it buys you a lot more political influence than you actually deserve to have."

Ellen Gabriel, a Mohawk human rights activist and artist, echoed McKibben's views on the corporate role in environmental decay.

"Stephen Harper [and] whoever the CEOs and the board of directors of TransCanada and Enbridge are, I accuse them of crimes against humanity," she said.

Gabriel cited potential leakage of the harmful chemicals used in fracking and other forms of oil extraction as reasons for her accusation.

Gabriel said Indigenous communities are often those most affected by climate change. She told audience members that, according to the UN Commission on Human Rights, "resource extraction is the most pressing and most urgent [problem] in regards to the violation of indigenous peoples' rights throughout not just the Americas, but throughout the world."

In a similar vein, Shaina Agbayani, a Filipino climate justice activist, encouraged audience members to think of "climate justice as migrant justice [and] as Indigenous solidarity."

Agbayani had just returned from the Global Power Shift conference in the Philippines.

"A major question for me, coming back to Canada in predominantly white climate justice organizing contexts, is how do we make our movements more inclusive?" she said.

Agbayani explained that her mother was

driven to move to Canada under the live-in caregiver program because she couldn't sustain her family in her country of origin. She highlighted the fact that this was despite the fact that the Philippines has enough natural resources to sustain its population five times over.

"The reality is that the way that natural resources are being mismanaged, expropriated, exploited, particularly by foreign corporations, [prevents it from] being channeled to the local communities," she said, adding that Filipinos are pushed by this external influence to immigrate to more prosperous countries *en masse*.

Agbayani concluded by saying the close relationship between emigration and climate change means that "migrant justice work is a form of climate justice work," because it involves the people most affected by climate change.

McKibben also touched on the role of indigenous peoples and citizens of the Global South in environmental activism, when speaking about the International Day of Climate Action, 350.org's first international mobilization to draw attention to climate change.

"I've always been told that environmentalism is something that only rich white people that didn't have to work [could participate in]," he said.

"It took about 20 minutes of watching these pictures [from the International Day of Climate Action] come in to realize that that was nonsense, that most of the people around the world who were taking up this cause were poor and black and brown and

Asian and young."

McKibben said the environmental movement benefited from "the leadership of especially the indigenous communities." At this point, McKibben was interrupted by audience member Amanda Lickers.

"There is no acknowledgement of indigenous territories whatsoever," Lickers said of the People's Climate March.

Lickers is an Indigenous activist, who supports First Nations' struggles against resource extraction, particularly in the oil sands.

"Many community organizers in New York City who belong to racialized communities, who were impacted by Hurricane Sandy, are not being meaningfully included," she said.

Lickers posited that the march instated "white organizers as authorities in boroughs that are predominantly black."

She also claimed that 350.org had partnered "with Zionist organizations which [support] the Palestinian occupation," citing Young Judaea, the Green Zionist Alliance and the UJA Federation.

McKibben didn't acknowledge the interruption, but said the march "included people who had lived through Hurricane Sandy."

Of McKibben's response to her comment, Lickers said, "he didn't address it, [...] he basically said, 'we have enough resources that we can make sure it's brown people in the front, and we can look like we have a real anti-colonial praxis, a real anti-racist praxis,' and it's just not true."

photo Brandon Johnston



# Talking with the Presidents

CSU President Benjamin Prunty on Bars, Infants and Food



by Michael Wrobel @michael\_wrobel

With the student-run Mezz Hive café already welcoming customers in the Hall Building, and its long-awaited counterpart on the Loyola campus expected to open as early as this week, the academic year is off to a promising start for Concordia Student Union President Benjamin Prunty and his team, which placed issues like food sovereignty and support for student groups front and centre in last March's elections.

Still, making headway on their lengthy to-do list will be an uphill battle. *The Link* sat down with Prunty to discuss the CSU's major projects.

## Reggie's

Students looking to grab a couple of beers with friends after class will have to go somewhere other than Reggie's, Concordia's student-run bar, yet again this year.

The bar—which is owned by the CSU through its for-profit wing, CUSAcorp—closed last October for renovations originally slated to take three months. Prunty now says the “best-case scenario” would see the bar reopening in February 2015.

“It’s unlikely that Reggie’s will be open for regular business this year, although it’s a possibility,” he said.

## Student Space

Prunty's team is also researching the possibility of building a greenhouse above the Hive café on the Loyola campus, which was also outlined in the elections.

“If it’s not something that we can guarantee in our year [as executives], it’s something we want to make sure is prepared for the year after,” Prunty said. “We can expect up to 50 per cent of it to be subsidized by the government in grants because of the nature of the project. That’s actually really helpful.”

This year's union is looking into the possibility of opening its own daycare service. The university's daycare service has a two-year

waiting list, according to Prunty.

“Concordia is kind of a home for non-traditional students, student parents being non-traditional students. [...] There are a number of students that have kids and the kinds of services the university offers are completely inadequate on this front,” he said.

But Prunty said the plan is still in “its infant stage, no pun intended,” as the CSU has begun only preliminary research into the project.

## Food Services on Campus

Prunty said he’s “not satisfied” with the university’s consultation process ahead of the expiration of its contract with food service provider Chartwells. But he acknowledged “a higher level of communication than there has been in the past between the university and the students on this issue.”

He said he wants to see the university take “clear steps” towards a more localized food system. Although administrators have told student representatives that “what students are pushing for is in line with the vision of the university,” Prunty says they will have to “put their money where their mouth is.”

He acknowledged the university’s help getting student initiatives like the Hive off the ground by prioritizing their construction, but added that Concordia’s next contract with a food service provider could hamper the growth of future student-run food initiatives.

“We want this contract to be transitional, and this means easing off, not increasing, the embedded control of key locations on campus,” he said. “We want students to be able to take on spaces that are currently administered by Chartwells, as per the current contract.”

Prunty said he’s still waiting to hear whether the contract’s length this time around will be shorter than the last one.

“Another 12-year contract could hinder the momentum that is here today.”

photo Michael Wrobel

Concordia President Alan Shepard on Oil, Consent and Politics



by Verity Stevenson @vestevie

With the range of topics that preoccupy the Concordia community being so vast, it’s nice to set the record straight with someone in charge.

*The Link* sat down with Concordia president Alan Shepard last week in his office on the eighth floor of the Guy-Metro Building for his views on some of the more pressing and talked-about issues this fall.

## The Divestment Campaign

Although many students are calling for immediate divestment, it’s an issue that needs to be examined carefully, Shepard said.

The university’s foundation has been in discussions with students about the issue since last fall.

Concordia is looking at environmentally conscious investment opportunities that could produce returns as large as investments in fossil fuel companies—returns Shepard says the university uses for bursaries.

One of the options is to invest in sustainable mutual funds, Shepard said, noting that although he hadn’t looked into it closely, they tended to be successful.

“But you don’t have to persuade me. You have to persuade a group of independent people who are on our foundation,” he added.

Environmental activist Bill McKibben, who spoke at Concordia last week, compared the movement advocating divestment from fossil fuels to the anti-apartheid movement that encouraged divestment from South Africa in the 1980s, the president said.

“I’m not quite sure that the analogy holds,” Shepard said, explaining that the movement was at its peak during his time as a student, striking a cord when he was reminded about it by McKibben.

“I’m not sure an analogy between the direct oppression of millions of people—

there’s something different, I’m not sure exactly what.”

## Sexual Consent Workshops

The Centre for Gender Advocacy is calling for mandatory consent workshops to be given to all students who live in residence and Jennifer Drummond, the coordinator at Concordia’s Sexual Assault Resource Centre, has told *The Link* they would be “really interesting to look into [it].”

But Shepard says he thinks they may not be effective.

“Saying it’s mandatory, in my view, actually can diminish its effectiveness, that’s one thing,” he said.

“And the second is I don’t want to single out all the people who live in our residences, which is about 900 students now.”

McGill University holds mandatory workshops for its students in residence through a program called the McGill Rez Project.

## Quebec’s Liberal Government

The Quebec Liberal Party formed government following the provincial elections on April 7, and Shepard says he’s happy with the new education minister, Yves Bolduc.

He added, however, that the university is grappling with severe cuts under the Liberals’ first budget, calling them “compressions throughout the land.”

He said Concordia is working out where it will have to cut, but that the university’s primary mission is “to provide an instruction environment for students and research environment for students and faculty that meets our objectives.”

“We’re trying to protect that area as much as we can,” he said. “We’re seeing a loss of revenue for the year we’re in right now—it’s inevitable.”

photo Brandon Johnston



# Vigil Commemorates Cyclist Killed by Police in Quebec City

## Protesters Allege Police Destroyed Evidence of Crash



Participants discussed police brutality at a vigil for a cyclist killed by police in Quebec City last Wednesday.

by Noelle Didierjean @noellesolange

Twenty people gathered at a vigil Thursday night at Place Émilie-Gamelin to commemorate the cyclist who died in Quebec City after being run over by police Wednesday.

“I would say all of Quebec will turn towards this event to say, ‘that was someone completely crushed,’” said co-organizer Blanche Deschênes, an anthropology student at Concordia.

“There’s a hatred that’s developing more and more towards cyclists, and I find it shocking because people don’t realize and it passes unnoticed.

“It wasn’t an accident, because they clearly displaced the proof,” Deschênes continued, referring to the fact that officers moved the

bicycle and patrol car at the scene.

“[Police] believe that they’re above everyone else, they feel they have a power that they shouldn’t have. They can allow themselves to do whatever they want without fear of incrimination.”

In comparison to the vigil of 200 people in Quebec City held the same night, the event in Montreal was small, so attendees decided to hold an informal discussion on the topic.

Despite the small size of the group, police vans cruised by only metres away from the attendees, giving way to a discussion on how to deal with police brutality.

“It’s been a long time since we’ve seen police punished for their actions. So long as we don’t riot to put them back in their place, they won’t understand. That’s just



how it works here,” said a member of the vigil who declined to give his name for fear of police retaliation. Other members of the vigil shared different perspectives.

“People will always endorse the police state and the culture of cars for as long as they endorse the capitalist state,” offered Yann Jobin, a student in digital arts at the Université du Québec à Chicoutimi.

“If people continue to endorse capitalism, they won’t see the misdeeds of the police and the problems with cars. I think that it’s good to take action, but I think that [educating] the people around us is just as important, if not more [important than action]. It starts from there,” he continued.

Félix, a student in political science at Université du Québec à Montréal and native

of Quebec City, offered background on the event. He also declined to give his last name for fear of police backlash.

He explained that the branding of the St. Roch neighbourhood as the tech centre of Quebec led to a rise in tensions between marginalized populations and the authorities following the initial wave of gentrification.

“It’s a really repressive conflict of gentrification in St. Roch [where the cyclist was killed]. I get the impression that [conflict happens] with the complicity of the municipal authorities who want to enact a social cleansing,” he told *The Link*.

photo Noelle Didierjean

## Weekly Calendar

by Athina Lugez @Athinalugez

### CURRENT AFFAIRS

**People’s Potato Workshop**  
Wednesday, Sept. 10, 3:30 p.m.  
Hall Building, 7th floor

**Free**  
This Wednesday, People’s Potato will be hosting a workshop to talk about their organization, provide information on how you can volunteer and explain their focus on sustainable foods.

### MUSIC

**M. Ward**  
Tuesday, Sept. 9, 8:30 p.m.  
Petit Campus (57 Prince Arthur St. E.)  
**\$25 advance, \$27.50 door**

M. Ward is a singer-songwriter, famous for his collaborative alliances with Monsters of Folk and She & Him. Back on tour, M. Ward will be flying solo and playing some of his best indie-folk songs from past albums. Sway the night away to his melancholic-yet-melodious music at Petit Campus!

**In-Flight Safety + Erik Lind & The Orchard**  
Thursday, Sept. 11, 9:00 p.m.  
L’Escogriffe Bar Spectacle (4467 St. Denis St.)

**\$10 advance, \$12 door**  
In-Flight Safety is a Canadian indie-band playing in Montreal this Thursday to promote their latest album, *Conversationalist*. Considered by some to have a sound reminiscent of early Coldplay, their newest album promises to make you feel emotions of both polar extremes.

### CINEMA

**Cinema Urbain: Festival du Nouveau Cinema Presents Paris, Texas by Wim Wenders**  
Tuesday, Sept. 9, 8:30 p.m.  
Place de la Paix

**Free**  
Watch *Paris, Texas* under the stars in Place de la Paix! This 1980s classic drama tells the story of Stanton, an amnesiac who mysteriously wanders out into the desert in order to revive his relationship with his brother Stockwell and track down his ex-wife who abandoned the family.

### ART

**Artist Talk with Travis McEwen for Exhibition “Bowl Cuts and Rat Tails: A Radiant Heterotopia”**  
Friday, Sept. 12, 6 p.m.

**La Centrale Galerie Powerhouse (4296 St. Laurent Blvd.)**  
**Free**  
An Albertan-born Concordia graduate student, Travis McEwen sets out to investigate the “emotional, psychological and social experiences” of being marginalized as a result of Western conceptions of gender and sexuality. It leads to a “heterotopia,” in which a “colourful community of fragile yet resilient individuals” in fact opens the door to a stronger sense of commonality, as La Centrale’s website puts it.

**Electronic Sound in a Shifting Landscape + Artist Like Us**  
Saturday, Sept. 13, 8 p.m.

**Dazibao (5455 de Gaspé Ave.)**  
**Free**  
This is your last chance to check out this enticing visual exhibit. Curated by Steven Bates in alliance with sixpackfilm and Index DVD, the expo gathers a collection of artworks from the 1960s by Austrian artists exploring the relationship between image and sound.

### THEATRE

**“Méandre” Circus Show**  
Friday, Sept. 12, 8 p.m.; Saturday, Sept. 13, 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.

**TOHU (2345 Jarry St. E.)**  
**Free**  
“Méandre” is a show unlike any other. Created by Edgar Zendejas along with the participation of students of the National Circus School, the show explores the boundaries of human consciousness as well as the fears and doubts that fill our mind—expressed through an artfully crafted choreography, fusing contemporary, jazz and ballet dance.

**L’Avenue Gourmande**  
Saturday, Sept. 13 and Sunday, Sept. 14, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Mont-Royal Ave.

**Free**  
If you’ll be strutting around Mont-Royal Ave. this weekend, don’t forget to stop by some of the nearly 40 stores and artisan shops that will be handing out free food and products this weekend. Get to meet the minds and chefs behind Grenouille, La Tablette de Miss Choco and the many other delicacies found on Montreal’s greatest strip. This event should be a pilgrimage for all food lovers!



# A Floral Banquet

## Montreal Artist Collective Conceptualizes Exhibit Around Botanical Wildlife and High-End Graphics

by June Loper @LoperJune

Exploring the floral theme, curatorial platform Collectif Blanc is presenting its third pop-up exhibition bringing together artists, editors and designers from all around the world to exchange and meet the Montreal public.

As part of the “Banquet de Jean” series of events inaugurating the new Shamrock Square near the Jean-Talon Market, Collectif Blanc paired up with Garçon Fleur—a company specializing in flower delivery by bicycle—to showcase hundreds of publications, ranging from rare vintage books to homemade zines on botany.

This one-of-a-kind initiative takes on the mission of making high-end graphic design accessible to both connoisseurs of the genre and the curious public.

On this occasion, people will not only be able to discover unique pieces and avant-garde design practices, but also meet and exchange with several different artists.

The collection includes a series of rare Japanese publications on flower design collected over several years by a Japanese editor, who specifically sent them over for the event.

Collectif Blanc also collaborated with graphic design company L’abricot, which will provide a print workshop designed for the event, allowing people to make their own floral posters using custom-made stencils.

Being a very vast thematic, the floral imagery allows for a great array of different interpretations, from romantic to conceptual and abstract.

Some artists perceive the flower as an

erotic symbol, whereas others link it to classical art periods or architectural gardens.

Gabriel Jasmin, an independent graphic designer from Montreal, explained that his approach consisted of focusing on the more historical representations of flowers during the Renaissance period.

“I looked at the subject from a different perspective. I’m not really into flowers or bright colors and I thought about the classical gardens like the Luxembourg Gardens, for instance,” he said.

“I did some research and I found these old printed books dating from the 1920s at the library.

“I then did a sort of summary of what I found in these books to explain the theories about the Gardens from the Italian Renaissance. I created a little zine playing with the layout and the images.”

The juxtaposition of contemporary works and more traditional botanical publications creates a harmonious combination in which vintage pieces and more recent creations feed off each other’s creative impulses.

Thanks to this platform, Collectif Blanc wishes to widen the horizons of graphic design and demonstrate that designers rightfully deserve to be considered as artists.

Marie-Ève Tourigny, a graphic designer and co-founder of Collectif Blanc, explains that many people, especially in Quebec, have preconceived ideas about design and lack opportunities to come into contact with design and print art.

“We see how the medium is changing and the growth of fascinating initiatives in

print emerging here and abroad. In our view, these initiatives are at the forefront of what the medium will become and the transformation it currently undergoes. However, they are not receiving enough visibility and that’s what we aim to change with our pop-up events,” said Tourigny.

Not only will this curatorial platform give the public access to incredible pieces, integrating culture into our everyday lives, but it also encourages intercultural collaborations between artists and editors from different parts of the world.

Brazilian publishing house Kaput Livros, as well as the British publishing house Book Stand, which specializes in floral publications, provided exceptional contributions.

A French group, called French Fourche, invited a group of Quebec-based designers to come and showcase their work in France this fall.

“We created this group in 2013 and we are the only one of this kind in Quebec. We realized the demand was very high and we were contacted by an incredible amount of people who wanted to collaborate with us, especially from abroad,” said Tourigny.

The closing party will take place at creative studio NOMAD Nation on Sept. 21. The event will be a little bit different and edgier, including more provocative works that can’t be showcased in a public space.

For the occasion, Garçon Fleur, temporarily renamed Gaspar & Roy, will be selling homemade flower-based cocktails and beer.

The exhibition will run the entire day, punctuated by a series of different performances.

Although the principal goal isn’t to become an art fair or selling space, most of the works showcased are quite accessible as Collectif Blanc wishes to stay away from the elitist circles by bringing design into the streets for everyone to enjoy.

Their next pop-up event will follow the thematic of typography. The location has already been reserved but cannot yet be revealed.

Tourigny hinted that it will be somewhere in a deserted factory.

**Collective Blanc: Édition Florale Exhibition // Sept. 13, 14 and 21 // Shamrock Square (70 Shamrock Ave.) // 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. // Free admission**

photo courtesy of Collectif Blanc



Salt And Wood Zine



Livre Ouvert Mauve by Valerie Leway



# The Colours of Montreal's Underground Music Scene

## Hip Hop Karaoke Organizers Discuss One of Montreal's Best-Kept Secrets



A participant at Hip Hop Karaoke's event raps out in front of a crowd.

by Michael Dorado @mike\_el\_dorado

Montreal has many hidden gems, one of them being its hip-hop culture. You don't necessarily hear it at the forefront—it's somewhat invisible, yet it surrounds us. You just need to know where to look.

That's what Hip Hop Karaoke wishes to accomplish—to gather a community of individuals who eat, sleep and breathe hip-hop on a daily basis. Hip-hop doesn't restrict itself to a genre. It's a lifestyle as well as an art form.

"Hip Hop Karaoke acts as an incubator for creativity and [positivity] through the congregation of interesting and diverse people," explained Olivia Benaroche, an event organizer at Hip Hop Karaoke Montreal.

Founded in 2011, Hip Hop Karaoke is a monthly event that brings a vibrant new twist to Montreal's hip-hop scene.

In a collaborative effort to bind entertainment and an inclusive environment, this organization aims to be a place where people can get together as a community to celebrate and pay homage to their favourite rap icons, as well as to meet like-minded performers and artists.

"Montreal has a very unique community

surrounding hip-hop culture because of the city's multiculturalism," said Benaroche.

Montreal, where a large number of people are fluent in two languages, is the end result of a vast creation of discourse since languages aren't conceived in the same way.

"[However], the association of people of different cultural backgrounds allows [us] to bind a community who use hip-hop as a common language to illustrate aspects of their own distinguished experiences," Benaroche said.

It doesn't matter how many nights you've spent at your local karaoke spot, because Hip Hop Karaoke flipped the script on traditional karaoke.

Gone are the days of bouncing balls and lyrics; this showcase is all about the stage presence, energy and persona.

"Also, there is just something about the flow and rhythm of hip-hop language that allows people to focus on the music and performance rather than adhering to a specific lifestyle or behaviour associated with hip-hop," Benaroche added.

The marriage of hip-hop and karaoke creates a special vibe, which brings an urban spark to Montreal's nightlife.

Yet, compared to other historical rap

cities across the United States and Canada, Montreal's hip-hop scene is scarce, even though there is local talent and promoters do a decent job at giving them the spotlight.

"The supply and demand isn't at the top of the list," Benaroche said.

If we look back historically, hip-hop preached about peace, love, unity and having fun.

From a culture that originated straight out of the Bronx, these were the fundamental principles of hip-hop created by the legendary Zulu Nation.

The Afrika Bambaataa song "Peace, Love, Unity and Having Fun" highlights this.

Dubbed the godfather of hip-hop, Afrika Bambaataa intended that these principles shed a positive light, in contrast to the violence, drug abuse and ethnic wars that plagued the streets during the 1980s.

"Even though this negativity still happens here and there, as the culture progresses, we play a big role in conflict resolution and enforcing positivity," Bambaataa once said.

Today, it would be difficult to associate these words with a hip-hop culture that is controlled by an industry that, ironically, gives rap a bad reputation. In today's age of style over substance, hip-hop glamorizes

money, drugs and sex. Yet, initially, this movement preached for peace, love and unity.

"I strongly believe that a lot of the people that come to Hip Hop Karaoke [...] feel they can connect intensely with the music," Benaroche said.

Benaroche encourages people of all ages, backgrounds and interests to join the event. Hip Hop Karaoke Montreal is an event open to all. From seasoned MCs to average Joes, people of all backgrounds are welcome.

"There is no such thing as a bad performance as long as you have heart and passion," Benaroche said.

"If you're a hip-hop head and want to know what all the fuss is about, look no further. Hip Hop Karaoke's 25th back-to-school edition is right around the corner," she added.

"With DJ Shash'u and D-Shade spinning the tracks, this promises to be an amazing night of hip-hop for everyone to enjoy."

**Hip-Hop Montreal Karaoke // Sept. 18 // Le Belmont (4483 St. Laurent Blvd.) // \$5 before 11 p.m. or \$10 after**

photo Brandon Johnston



# Pressure Cooked

Stingers End Weekend with Tough Loss to McGill



by Chanel Jacques @jacqueschanel

The Stingers women's soccer team season-opening weekend proved to be a lukewarm one, as they beat Bishop's 2-0 on Friday only to lose by the same margin against McGill on Sunday.

"It's definitely a hard transition to go to two games a weekend and transitioning over a nice win on Bishop is overwhelming," said defenceman Lindsey Brooks.

"We were overwhelmed by McGill and their high pressure."

The Stingers felt that pressure right from the opening whistle of their game against the visiting Martlets, who were aggressive and were constantly first on the ball.

The McGill Martlets did not take long to bury their chances when they came along.

In the 15th minute of play, Martlets midfielder Claudia Agozzino scored on a free kick, giving the Martlets the early advantage.

The Stingers were given a free kick of their own later in the first half, but midfielder Angela Stroubakis hit the post instead of the back of the net.

Concordia received another free kick in the second half, attempted by defender Lindsey Brooks, that once again hit the post.

In a double whammy of bad luck, McGill

ended up capitalizing on the ensuing counter-attack with a goal from Elisabeth Perrett.

The second goal did cast doubt for the Stingers, as an offside was given by a linesman, yet the referee allowed McGill's second marker to stand.

"The second goal was a bit questionable," said Sanchez. "I'll have to see the video [but] I thought both girls were offside."

The deficit proved to be too much for Concordia to overcome in a game that saw the Martlets dominate from start to finish with 16 shots fired to the Stingers' five.

Ten of McGill's shots were on net, in comparison to Concordia's two.

"As a team, the work effort was there, but there are obviously things we need to work on," said midfielder Shauna Silversmit.

"[It was a] tough game. I think the difference was when they [the Martlets] had an opportunity they were optimistic. We had our chances more so in the first half, but we didn't bury them and keep the game close," said head coach Jorge Sanchez.

The Stingers, who stand at 1-1 on the season, will now turn their focus to their next game against the Laval Rouge et Or, also at 1-1.

"Laval is one of the top teams in our league," Sanchez said. "It'll be a tough game; we'll hope [for] the best."

# Bittersweet Beginning

Concordia Drops Season Opener to Rival Redmen



by Chanel Jacques @jacqueschanel

Every sports team likes to get off on the right foot at the start of the season, and there isn't a better way to do so than getting the better of your rival. The Stingers men's soccer team had hoped to do that over McGill on Sunday.

Unfortunately, Concordia fell short of their goal, losing 2-1 to the Redmen.

"For a first game this season, it's a little disappointing," said head coach Greg Sutton after the game. "I think we should have [had] a better result."

After battling for most of the game at 1-1, the Stingers allowed the winning goal in the 56th minute from McGill's Alexander King, who scored off an assist from teammate Antoine Chauvel.

"We weren't defending in the second half. We were always on the attack," said Sutton. "We needed to put more pressure, because obviously they were up by a goal."

"We made a lot of little stupid mistakes that cost us the game," added Stingers forward Vincent Murray.

Seemingly frustrated by the end of the match, Murray was involved in a skirmish with McGill's goalkeeper after a scoring chance.

Goalkeeper Max Leblond, who took exception to Murray running into him on the chance, reached for and grabbed Murray's neck.

"The rule with goalkeepers is that you're

really not allowed to touch them, but as a striker, you're obligated to go for that ball," explained Stingers defender Olivier Georges.

"Vincent just jumped and touched the goalie, the guy gets mad and grabs [Vincent's] throat."

The grabbing incident was among the many fouls and bits of physical play that occurred throughout the game. McGill and Concordia were charged with 15 fouls apiece. Each team also received three yellow cards, but there were no expulsions.

Concordia found itself down a goal from the 23rd minute of play when McGill midfielder Valentin Radevich opened the scoring with a goal past Stingers goalkeeper Wes Aucoin.

The goal did not beat the Stingers down, as they replied near the end of the first half with a goal from midfielder Nick Sisti, who headed his equalizer off a corner kick from midfielder Karim Haroun.

The Stingers felt they were on the cusp of a positive result until allowing the game winner in the 56th.

"We just need to continue to push after scoring that first goal," Sutton said.

"We did pretty good, we just got unlucky," aid Georges. "We talk a lot on the field but we need to be better at communicating."

The Stingers now sit at 0-1 on the season.

photos Laura Lalonde

## Box Scores

Week of Sept. 1 to Sept. 7

Friday, Sept. 6	Women's Soccer—Concordia 2, Bishop's 0
Saturday, Sept. 7	Baseball—Concordia 10, Carleton 0 Baseball—Concordia 1, Carleton 2 Football—Concordia 25, Bishop's 15 Women's Rugby—Concordia 29, Carleton 17
Sunday, Sept. 8	Baseball—Concordia 8, Ottawa 5 Baseball—Concordia 12, Ottawa 2 Men's Soccer—Concordia 1, McGill 2 Women's Soccer—Concordia 0, McGill 2

## Upcoming Games

This Week in Concordia Sports

Wednesday, Sept. 10	7:00 p.m. Women's Rugby vs. McGill Martlets (Concordia Stadium) 9:00 p.m. Men's Rugby vs. McGill Redmen (Concordia Stadium)
Thursday, Sept. 11	7:30 p.m. Baseball at UdeM Carabins
Friday, Sept. 12	7:00 p.m. Football at McGill Redmen (Molson Stadium) 8:30 p.m. Men's Soccer vs. Laval Rouge et Or (Concordia Stadium) 8:30 p.m. Women's Soccer vs. Laval Rouge et Or (Concordia Stadium)
Saturday, Sept. 13	1:00 p.m. Women's Rugby at UdeM Carabins (Terrain Vincent d'Indy) 4:00 p.m. Baseball vs. Carleton Ravens (Trudeau Park)
Sunday, Sept. 14	12:00 p.m. Baseball vs. UdeM Carabins (Trudeau Park) 1:00 p.m. Men's Rugby vs. Bishop's Gaiters (Concordia Stadium) 3:00 p.m. Baseball vs. UdeM Carabins (Trudeau Park) 5:00 p.m. Men's Soccer at UQAM Citadins (Stade Saputo) 7:00 p.m. Women's Soccer at UQAM Citadins (Stade Saputo)

■ Check out Stingers game summaries at [thelinknewspaper.ca/sports](http://thelinknewspaper.ca/sports)



# Gunning for Victory

## Stingers Beat Bishop's Gaiters for First Win Since 2012



Rookie running back Gunner Tatum (pictured left) led the way with 35 carries for 192 yards and a score in Concordia's season-opening win against Bishop's on Saturday—the first of rookie head coach Mickey Donovan's coaching career (pictured right).

by Julian McKenzie @JulianTheIntern

First came the Gatorade shower for head coach Mickey Donovan, then the swarm of maroon-and-gold-clad-players and coaches giving each other high-fives, chest-bumps and hugs on the sideline.

Finally, quarterback François Dessureault knelt down one last time at around mid-field as the head referee blew the final whistle.

On paper, it clinched a regular season game like any other—a 25-15 Stingers' victory over the Bishop's Gaiters.

But for a team that hadn't won a league match since 2012, you could forgive the Stingers for being overly enthusiastic after their win on Saturday at Concordia Stadium.

"We stuck together," said Donovan, fresh off his first league game as Stingers head coach.

"It's because the coaching staff that we have here, and the kids we have, we all believe in family."

Fourth-year slotback Jamal Henry was so overcome by emotion, his eyes red after shedding a few tears.

"I can't even start to explain how it feels," said Henry. "It feels like a dream."

The Stingers' last win dates all the way back to Oct. 13, 2012, when they took down their rivals, the McGill Redmen, in a 43-40 thriller at Percival Molson Memorial Stadium.

It was perhaps the team's only highlight of the past two seasons—the Stingers had two of their wins stripped off after an administrative violation in 2012, and ended up finishing with a 2-7 record.

Concordia then went winless in 2013 before head coach Gerry McGrath stepped down at season's end, replaced by Donovan in February.

"Two years we've been waiting for this," said Henry. "When a team goes without a win for a long time, that first win, even [our pre-season win against] Queen's was amazing, and this, a regular season game, I can't ask for more."

Donovan, a Concordia alumnus and former linebacker who twice helped lead the Stingers to the provincial final, kept the game plan simple on Saturday: pound the rock on offence, bend-but-don't-break on defence.

It didn't bear fruit at first—after trading field goals with Bishop's and allowing a touchdown in the second quarter, the Stingers found themselves down 13-9 at the half, trying to withstand the rainy and wet conditions.

But as the sun finally appeared for the second half, the Stingers' defence began to shut down the Gaiters' offense, allowing only two points and recording three interceptions.

Among them was a game-changing interception return from linebacker Jeremy Pelletier with over six minutes left in the third quarter.

"[Donovan] was telling me the whole time, [Bishop's was going to throw it] there, it's going to be there," said Pelletier on the 43-yard interception return.

It led to a four-play, 22-yard touchdown drive that gave Concordia the lead for good.

"He put me in the right position. I got the ball. I just put my head down and I just saw

**"Two years we've been waiting for this. When a team goes without a win for a long time, that first win, even [our pre-season win against] Queen's was amazing, and this, a regular season game, I can't ask for more."**

**—Jamal Henry, Stingers slotback**

daylight," he continued.

"We're going to bend," said Donovan. "The great thing is that we don't break. Our guys didn't break today. When we needed a play, our defence stepped up and we did a good job."

Offensively, freshman running back Gunner Tatum, a recruit from Texas, shouldered the load for the Stingers. He recorded 192 rushing yards on a Réseau du sport étudiant du Québec record-tying 35 carries, including a short touchdown run in the third quarter.

When Tatum looks back on this day, however, his stats won't be the first thing that comes to mind.

"Stats in my book is not a real popular

thing," said Tatum. "Winning with a positive attitude, that's what matters to me."

The Stingers were so run-heavy in their win, they only needed nine passing completions on 15 attempts from quarterback François Dessureault, who still managed to record a passing touchdown—a 31-yard strike to Henry late in the game.

Henry caught the pass mid-stride at about the 15-yard line before making a move on two defenders and bursting into the end zone.

"It felt unreal as I saw the ball coming towards me," said Henry. "I didn't know what to think. Actually, I didn't even think. I just reacted. When I evaded those two tackles, it felt like a dream, felt like it wasn't happening."

The score gave the Stingers a 25-13 lead with just over six minutes left in the fourth quarter, a deficit that proved to be too much for Bishop's to overcome.

While the Stingers will ride their opening-day high into their upcoming practices, they're already looking ahead to a matchup against the McGill Redmen this coming Friday—the team Donovan left to become the Stingers' head coach.

"They're a great team," said Donovan. "They're tough, they're well coached. We've got to be ready. We've got a hard week ahead us that we've got to work hard for and we can't slow down."

"Every team goes into a game expecting to win," said Henry. "So I'm expecting [McGill] to come out guns firing. And we're going to do the same. Whoever wants it most is going to win."

photos Matt Garies





Police lined up at a demonstration organized by students in 2013 on Ste. Catherine St.

## The Friend of My Friend Is Still My Enemy

### Why Sadly We Shouldn't March with Municipal Workers on Sept. 20

by Jonathan Summers @jonathans\_mtl

The Coalition syndicale pour le droit à la libre négociation is planning a massive demonstration against Bill 3 on Saturday, Sept. 20. If passed by Quebec's National Assembly, the bill would harm the pension plans of workers employed by municipalities across the province—in many cases retroactively and in contravention of signed agreements.

It might not be obvious at first glance, but these municipal workers are the natural allies of those of us who took to the streets during the 2012 student strike that ousted the previous Liberal government.

Pension plan reforms, tuition fee hikes, endless cuts to essential services—these are all hallmarks of the neoliberal ideology of austerity, which demands more and more from the middle and working classes in order to continue providing tax breaks and subsidies for the richest of the rich.

Sept. 20 represents a golden opportunity for students and others to march alongside workers in a formidable show of solidarity against austerity.

It's a chance to continue the work we began during the strike and build the foundation of a powerful, province-wide anti-austerity alliance.

But as much as I want to write a call to arms, an appeal to join our comrades in the street with our red felt squares and our pots and pans, I don't think I can.

The problem is not that municipal employees are paid too much or that I oppose their tactics.

In fact, I was surprised by the negative reaction some of us showed to their bonfire in front of Montreal's city hall in June and their boisterous siege of the building last month.

This reaction, I think, was largely rooted in bitterness that we could never have pulled off such actions ourselves during the strike—and

we can't let bitterness be what motivates us.

The irony is that municipal employees have been condemned by elected officials and the media in much the same terms as we were.

They are unruly, lawless and even violent, according to the agenda-setters and newsmakers; their behavior is supposedly undemocratic and outside the realm of legitimate action.

The disastrous long-term effects of the neoliberal ideology are, of course, far more violent and undemocratic than any of our demonstrations.

Editor-in-Chief Brandon Johnston's article "How To Protest (and How Not To)" in last week's issue of *The Link* was informative and well intentioned, but I feel it's patronizing to dictate to our allies how they should and shouldn't mobilize for social justice.

In the case of our municipal employees, now is the time for us not to critique their tactics but to show solidarity in any way we can.

What we unfortunately can't do, however, is join them in the street on Sept. 20 because of, well, the police.

The Service de police de la Ville de Montréal routinely intimidates, beats, sprays, gases and arrests en masse those who participate in demonstrations. But they will likely be attending the Sept. 20 demonstration as participants themselves.

After all, they too are municipal employees who will be affected by Bill 3. You may have noticed them wearing their camo pants and red caps in protest.

Gabriel Nadeau-Dubois, who served as co-spokesperson for the Coalition large de l'Association pour une solidarité syndicale étudiante during much of the student strike, somehow managed to eschew sarcasm in a letter to police officers that was published in *La Presse* in June.

The roles have changed since 2012,

Nadeau-Dubois told them, and now it's their turn to fight the same fight against austerity we did.

"Like many other young people who have social justice at heart, I am in solidarity with your mobilization," wrote Nadeau-Dubois.

Meanwhile, Jason McLean admitted in an opinion piece for *ForgetTheBox* last month that he was torn between his support of the protests and his disdain for the police.

He proposed that "ASSÉ or another group on the SPVM hitlist organize a solidarity demo against [Premier] Couillard and Bill 3" as a kind of test.

"Best-case scenario, this ushers in a new solidarity where cops in future demos start ignoring their commanders and refuse to enforce bullshit laws against those who stood with them," wrote McLean.

"No matter what happens, though, this would be a chance for activists to truly take the high road while flipping the script on those in power and their enforcers, if only for a bit."

This idea does have its appeal: activists wearing red squares marching in solidarity with the police—who have suddenly taken a liking to the red square themselves—would surely confuse the heck out of them and leave Quebec's power elite, so dependent on the age-old strategy of divide and conquer, shaking in their shoes.

A solidarity demo is one thing, but marching side-by-side with police is out of the question. On a strategic level, it would be naïve to expect this to "usher in a new solidarity."

But more importantly, as a matter of principle, we absolutely can't do it when we know what police have done to Guy Blouin in Quebec City; to Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri; to Eric Garner in New York City; to Fredy Villanueva right here in Montreal;

and to countless others.

The cops who did these things are not just a few bad apples. By the responses of their colleagues, we know they are indicative of the entire institution.

After all, according to the defence attorney for one of the officers who beat Kelly Thomas to death in Fullerton, California, they were just doing their job, "what they were trained to do."

Are the police even actually workers, or just a repressive, murderous mechanism of the state and corporate interests?

On a purely practical level, many of us who are survivors of police brutality ourselves are simply too frightened to even think about joining forces with our aggressors, even if it is supposed to be for the greater good.

For any profound change to take place, the cops will have to put down their weapons and join us. But it definitely has to be them that join us—whether by choice or by obligation—and not vice versa.

It has happened elsewhere and it will have to happen here. Hopefully, by at least becoming allies with their allies, we can speed this process along.

In the meantime, maybe the best thing we can do on Sept. 20 is instead join the Convergence des luttes anticapitalistes for their general assembly from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

It'll be held at the Université du Québec à Montréal, with the exact location to be posted on the door of room J-M770. That might be a good place to talk about organizing a solidarity demonstration against austerity.

Solidarity with all workers. Solidarity with blue collars, white collars, firefighters and bus drivers! But sadly we can't march with them as long as they march with the police.

Top photo Brandon Johnston, bottom photo Laura Lalonde







# Sex & Pancakes

## Consent Quickie

Welcome to the final week of back-to-school quickies! If you're just joining us, be sure to check out the last two weeks for quickies on condoms and on-campus sexual health resources. This week will be a quickie on consent.

In preparing for this week, I considered whether it's possible to cover a topic as huge as consent in a quickie. Defining consent covers the basics, but this would ideally be accompanied by opportunities to put the theory into practice through examples of how to actively question, give or withhold consent, and how to recognize when someone else is doing the same. Working within the constraints of this column and believing that some education is better than none at all, I hope for this to be a starting point, not a replacement, for your further research and personal reflection.

So, what is consent? While the word might be new to you, the concept isn't. In simple terms, consent is permission for something to happen or agreement to do something. Consent is not only used around sex. Anytime you agree or disagree to go somewhere, to do a favour for a friend, to be examined by a doctor or anything else,

you exercise your right to give or withhold consent.

Consent is implicitly taught from an early age, such as when children are taught to ask before touching others or using items that don't belong to them. What is really being taught is that one should ask for consent before acting in a way that could potentially cross someone else's boundaries.

Consent is present in most areas of our lives, but this column is going to focus on consent in the context of sexual activity with another person.

The Canadian Department of Justice defines "consent to sexual activity" as the voluntary agreement to engage in the sexual activity in question. Situations in which consent is not obtained include those in which:

1) consent is expressed through the words or actions of someone other than the person, e.g. "Hey, my friend said she'd sleep with you!"

2) the person involved is incapable of consenting to the activity, e.g. under the age of consent (16 in Quebec), drunk, high, sleeping, passed out, etc.

3) a person abuses a position of trust, power or authority to induce another to

engage in an activity, e.g. sex with your babysitter, teacher, parent, camp counselor, etc.

4) a person expresses, by words or conduct, a lack of agreement to engage in an activity, e.g. they say no, they avoid eye contact, seem disinterested or uncomfortable, take a passive or inactive role, pull away, etc.

5) a person, having consented to engage in sexual activity, expresses by words or conduct a lack of agreement to continue, e.g. a person says yes but after starting changes their mind—this clause highlights the idea that consent can be revoked at any time.

With this working definition in mind, what does consent look like in practice? Consent means being told directly by your partner that they want to be fooling around with you.

Consent is a 'yes,' a 'keep going,' a 'don't stop,' and an 'I like that.' Consent is enthusiastic, not hesitant. It's not a "Yeah, I guess we can do that" but a "Fuck yes, let's do that!"

Above all, consent is respect. Respect for another human being's agency and their right to refuse to do anything they don't want to do.

You can make sure you're engaging in

consensual activities through consent-checking—literally, verbally asking if you have consent. "Can I touch your \_\_\_?"

"Is it okay if I \_\_\_?" "Do you want to keep going?" "Is this okay?" For many people, verbally asking for consent is awkward, partly because it involves making yourself vulnerable to the possibility that your partner will say no. This, however, doesn't mean that consent-checking is to be shied away from, because the things that make us uncomfortable are often the ones that hold the greatest potential for growth.

—Melissa Fuller @mel\_full

**For more tools and information on consent, check out [www.consented.ca](http://www.consented.ca), visit the on-campus Sexual Assault Resource Centre (SGW, GM-300.27) or the Centre for Gender Advocacy (2110 Mackay St.).**

**Submit your question anonymously at [sex-pancakes.com](http://sex-pancakes.com) and check out "Sex & Pancakes" on Facebook. Quick health question? Just need a resource? Text SextEd at 514-700-0445 for a confidential answer within 24 hours!**

# Nah'msayin?

## McGillionaire Frosh Swarm

As summer winds down in Montreal, autumn heralds in not only cooler temperatures, but also a restocking of youth. Students, returning to resume their studies, surge the city with a feeling of energy and beauty.

However, a vile creature has been smuggled into the city: the infamous McGillionaire Frosh (*McGillus Frossus*).

An easily recognizable animal, McGillionaire Frosh can be identified from afar by its neon sunglasses and brightly coloured T-shirts sporting stupid slogans like "Jurassic Frosh" or "Harry Frosher."

When excited, they often spray Super Soakers at each other and are known for totally not "turning down" for anything.

A herd animal, McGillionaire Frosh travel in large packs, often taking up entire

sidewalks while moving at a snail's pace and screaming Engineering Department chants—despite not actually knowing anything about engineering yet.

Although mostly harmless, the Frosh should be avoided, especially at night, as they have been spotted projectile vomiting and pissing in public spaces.

Like locusts, McGillionaire Frosh swarm the city annually and are viewed as a temporary problem, resolved by the harsh stroke of reality, midterms and Daddy's credit card running out.

—Brandon Johnston,  
Editor-In-Chief

Graphic Caity Hall





**FALSE KNEES** COMIC JOSHUA BARKMAN



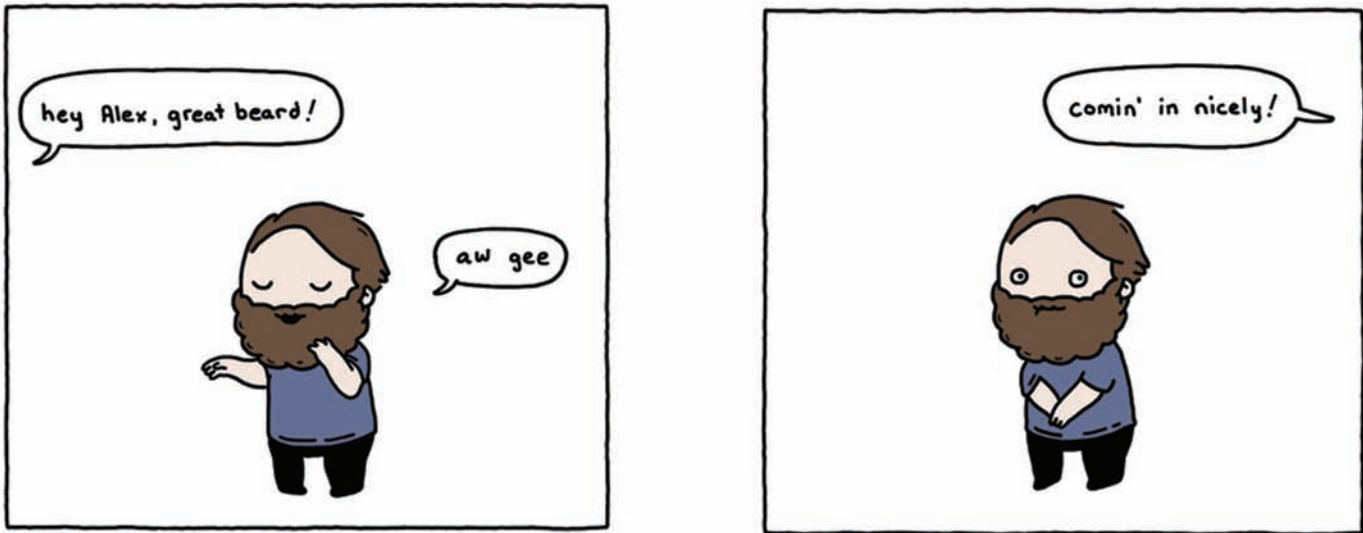
**BOOP** COMIC CAITY HALL



**BALLOON VENTURES** COMIC MANGEKKO JONES



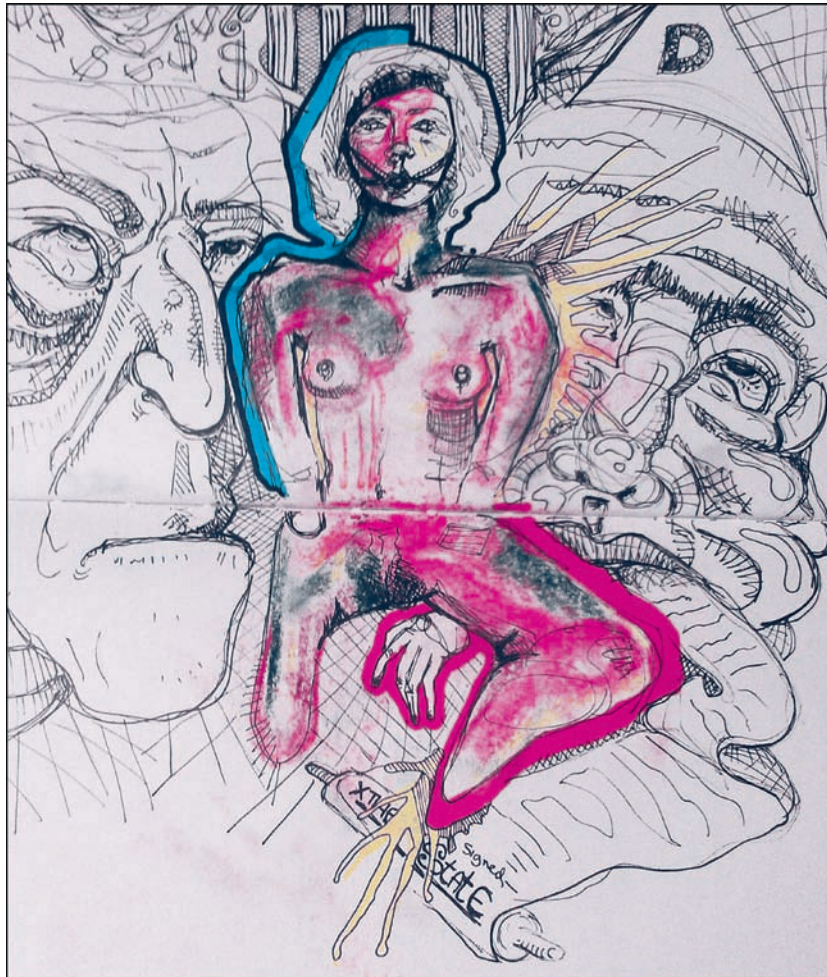
**POWER THEATRE** COMIC ALEX CALLARD



sometimes I live vicariously through my comics



## Editorial



# Bill C-36 Fails to Meet Sex Workers' Needs

Last December, sex workers were led to believe Canada would finally take the necessary steps toward ensuring their safety when the Supreme Court struck down the country's prostitution laws, deeming them unconstitutional. Although sex work was technically legal, the red tape surrounding it effectively criminalized the industry.

Last year's historic ruling was supposed to change that. It said outlawing bawdy houses, street solicitation and living off the avails of prostitution—which prohibited working out of the same apartment or hiring bodyguards and secretaries—is unconstitutional.

The proposed Bill C-36, introduced in June and meant to replace the original anti-prostitution laws, would not only keep sex workers from legally making a living off their profession, it would harm the very people it's meant to protect.

The same reasons that sex workers were afraid to report crimes, including rape,

under the old laws are far from corrected in their newer incarnation.

The criminalization of sex workers' clients, in itself, posits sex workers as victims.

Practical implications of this blanket characterization are disastrous insofar as safety; if a sex worker were to report a rape by a client, for example, it could not be taken seriously since the law views all clients as abusers.

In addition to being dangerous for sex workers themselves, the law reinforces patriarchal visions of women as helpless, and their bodies as not theirs to oversee.

The premise of Bill C-36 is to eliminate sex work, and while not all sex workers are women, the conceptualization of female sex workers as exploited and abused is still apparent in the law-making process.

Those who would like to introduce measures to eliminate sex work confuse human trafficking with sex work. For many, sex work is a profession like any other and

indiscriminately categorizing them as victims is not only dangerous but insulting.

One of the bill's more dangerous articles makes it illegal for sex workers to operate within public spaces. This forces sex workers into dark corners, where they will be at further risk of being violated.

The bill is also vague in noting that sex workers may not operate where minors may be present—which may be used as a loophole to prosecute sex workers.

None of this is helpful to Canada's sex workers—if there are no johns paying for sex, sex workers can't make a living selling it.

And that's government's ultimate goal—completely eradicating the world's oldest profession from the country.

As said by justice minister Peter MacKay, Bill C-36 “recognizes that the vast majority of those who sell sexual services do not do so by choice” and the government views “the vast majority of those involved in selling sexual services as victims.”

We believe the Conservatives realize they haven't consulted the sex workers who don't view themselves as victims and have done so on purpose.

In Montreal, the voices of thousands of sex workers went unheard in the process of the bill's drafting.

It seems the government's true goal is to save the victims of human trafficking. That's certainly a cause worth fighting for.

But doing so by violating the rights of other Canadians trying to earn a living the way they have chosen to is not the way to go about it.

Our government should be forging a progressive way of handling the reality of the sex industry, in a way that ensures the safety of those working within it.

Attempting to eliminate the practice altogether is both unrealistic and harmful to those who make a living off it.

graphic Madeleine Gendreau

## THE LINK<sup>35</sup>

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In “Kettling, Enforcement of Bylaw P-6 Prove Controversial” [Vol. 35, Iss. 2], it was stated that “a demonstration held on March 15, the most recent one tackled in the lawsuits, ended with no tickets being issued under the bylaw.” In fact, it was at a protest on June 7, 2012 that no tickets were issued under municipal bylaw P-6. *The Link* regrets the error.



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## Concordia Shuffle

September 19, 2014

1:30 at the Grey Nuns Building

The annual 6.5-km walkathon from Sir George Williams Campus to Loyola Campus unites the community to raise funds for scholarships and bursaries.



Concordia Part-Time Faculty Association