


THE **LINK**

144 days

hours	minutes
17	33

page <div>5</div>	problem since CUPFA has been out of contract.		
	sports The Chosen One	fringe arts SexGarage Police Raid: 25 Years Later	editorial Tribunals Against Student Are Near
	Meet the newest captain of Concordia's most dominant team so far. Samantha Ewing; captain of the women's rugby team.	Linda Dawn Hammond's candid photo series on the SexGarage police raids of 1990.	The charges against protesters from last semester's strikes are little more than a show of force from the university admin.
	X 		

thali
6 Years



THALI • 2 different meat dishes, 1 vegetable, rice, naan, salad + papadam • \$10.00
VEGETARIAN THALI • 3 vegetarian dishes, rice, naan, salad + papadam • \$9.00
BIRYANI • Chicken, Lamb or Vegetarian • \$9.00
DOSA \$8.50 • **TANDOORI CHICKEN LEG** + naan • \$6.75
BUTTER CHICKEN with rice + naan • \$11.50
WRAPS • Chicken, Lamb or Vegetarian • \$5.75 (+ \$1 for Butter Chicken Sauce)
All taxes included - We accept cash and debit card.

1409 St. Marc • 514-989-9048 [thalimontreal.com](https://www.thalimontreal.com)



les Mardis RÉTRO
 LES CHANSONS CULTE
 DES ANNÉES 50 À L'AN 2000
CAFÉ CAMPUS
 BIENVENUE SUR VOTRE PISTE DE DANSE!
 57 PRINCE-ARTHUR E. [f](https://www.facebook.com/cafecampusmontreal) CAFE CAMPUS MONTREAL

Your business
 THE LINK
 40 000 students

ADVERTISE IN THE LINK
 514-848-7406

Twitter
 @linknewspaper



ASFA
 Needs You
 to be the change
 In The **2015-2016**
GENERAL ELECTIONS

October 20th, 21st & 22nd

Positions Available

- President
- Vice-President of Internal Affairs
- Vice-President of Academic & Loyola Affairs
- Vice-President of Communications
- Vice-President of Finance
- Vice-President of Social Affairs
- Vice-President of External Affairs & Sustainability
- Independent Councillors (5)

Pick Up Your Nomination Forms

ASFA OFFICE (Top Floor) Sept 23rd-Oct 6th
2070 MacKay Street

For More Information, contact CEO@ASFA.CA

facebook.com/thelinknewspaper

ANDREW'S PUB
1241 Guy
 South of St. Catherine Street

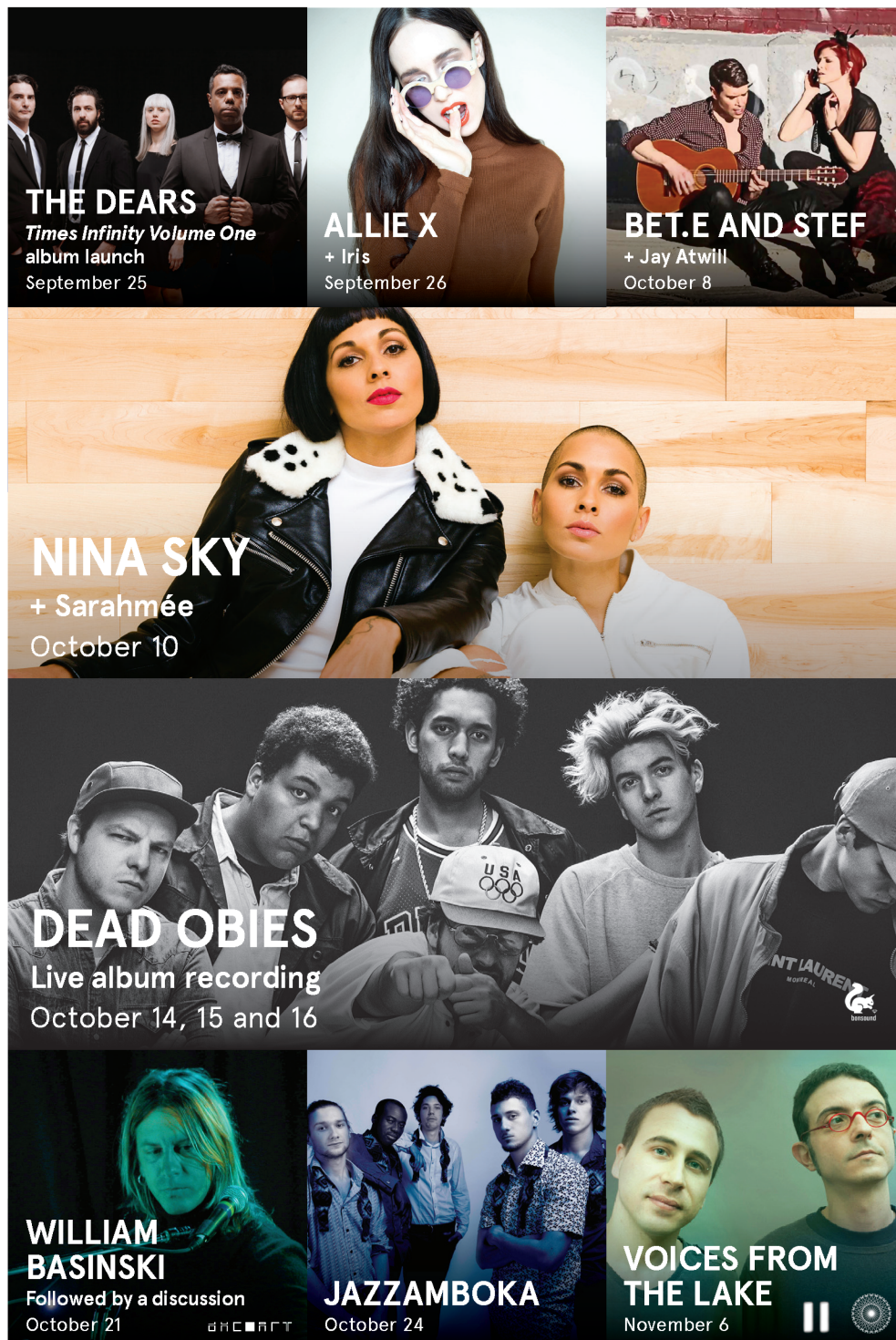


- Free pool table all day
- 20+ kinds of shooters: 4 for \$10.00
- Large Beer \$4.50
- Pitcher: \$13.00
- Mix Drinks: \$3.50
- Thursday Karaoke

Taxes Included
 Facebook: Andrews Pub - official

Booze to fit a student budget

Fall shows at the Phi Centre



THE DEARS
Times Infinity Volume One
 album launch
 September 25

ALLIE X
 + Iris
 September 26

BET.E AND STEF
 + Jay Atwill
 October 8

NINA SKY
 + Sarahmée
 October 10

DEAD OBIES
 Live album recording
 October 14, 15 and 16

WILLIAM BASINSKI
 Followed by a discussion
 October 21

JAZZAMBOKA
 October 24

VOICES FROM THE LAKE
 November 6

Phi Centre—407, Saint-Pierre Street, Old Montreal—phi-centre.com

[Square-Victoria—OACI](#)

phi.



Concordia and UQAM students marched through the streets of downtown Montreal on Sept. 16, 2015.

PHOTO WILLIE WILSON

WHEN STUDENTS JOIN FORCES

UQAM and Concordia Unite for Politically Oppressed Students

BY HÉLÈNE BAUER @HELENVBAUER
AND SANDRINE CORBEIL
@SANDRINECORB

A group of Concordia University and UQAM students are working together to denounce actions taken against student strikers in Spring 2015, which they call political repression.

Over 25 Concordia students are about to undergo tribunals after receiving complaints from the university for disrupting classes through pickets and strikes, according to student activist group Solidarity Concordia. At UQAM, nine students are facing expulsions, but only one has been formally expelled from the university.

Students from both schools marched together Sept. 16 to demonstrate solidarity with classmates facing formal consequences for their involvement in the Spring 2015 anti-austerity student strikes.

Wednesday's protest started at the Place Pasteur on UQAM's campus. Students joined together to show their shared ideological stance on the political repression of students. About 100 protesters marched from UQAM to Concordia, where the protest ended in the lobby of the GM building in which Concordia's President Alan Shepard's office is located.

Movement Against Austerity

Last spring, some Concordia students voted in their respective student associations' general assemblies to strike as a way to protest against the Quebec government's austerity measures. Over 25 students participated in picket lines throughout the university and received formal complaints from professors for disobeying article 29 g)—“obstruction or disruption of University activities”—of the school's Code of Rights and Responsibilities. Months later, Concordia joined the professors as co-complainants.

“They wanted to diminish a political move-

ment that was democratically voted at general assemblies,” said Myriam Tardiff, spokesperson for a tribunal support committee formed out of Solidarity Concordia. The disciplinary tribunals could potentially lead to expulsion. Only one tribunal has a date set, which is scheduled for Sept. 29.

According to Solidarity Concordia, the accusations are based on political discrimination and undermine the students' democratic process. An online petition was launched to urge Shepard to cancel all strike-related charges against students.

“In a democracy, people have the right to protest,” Shepard said in an interview with *The Link*. “But people also have the right to feel safe.”

Controversy Around UQAM Expulsions

Today, the case around the 21 student arrests following the occupation of an UQAM building in April is still unresolved. Members of L'Association Facultaire Étudiante des Sciences Humaines (AFESH) continue to fight and show their support for the targeted students, said Esther Paquette, secretary of the student association.

Since the start of the new fall semester, months after the arrests and accusations, AFESH voted to go on strike on two separate days—Sept. 16, the day of the march, and Sept. 30, which is predicted to be the day of a teacher's strike.

Following the arrests, students received a letter from the school summoning them to speak with a university executive committee for further determination of punishment. The official charges held against nine students are “turbulences during the strike and disruption of public events.”

One student, Justine Boulanger, was expelled and another, René Delvaux, was prevented from continuing his Master's degree in political science. Some were released with a

warning, and others are facing anywhere from a one-year suspension up to expulsion.

Boulanger and Delvaux were the only two elected student members of the university's Administrative Council—UQAM's equivalent of Concordia's Board of Governors.

“It is not random that we were both targeted and rejected,” Delvaux told *The Link*. Delvaux said he has been running into ideological conflicts with the Administrative Council for years. Since there are currently no students left on the board, all the progress made in terms of slowing budget cuts and other austerity measures were pushed back and ignored, he said.

Samuel Cossette, another one of the nine students who faced expulsion at UQAM, said administration targeted them randomly. He continued that they could've chosen anyone from thousands of students who participated in the strikes and demonstrations.

“They were targeting student activists, but it was more of a demonstration of force,” he said. “They had a strategy to break the strike movement.”

Breaking the Student Movement

As the case advances, it's becoming more suspicious that the arrests were discriminatory, unwarranted and impolitical, according to Delvaux. “It was all an orchestrated strategy,” he said, echoing Cossette's theory.

The students didn't have access to the evidence held against them before their hearing and didn't have the right to be represented by a lawyer, according to Cossette. They were sent to the executive committee without being judged by the faculty first, which is the usual procedure, he added.

The teaching community was stunned by the severity of the sanctions, Michèle Nevert, president of UQAM's teachers union (SPUQ) previously told *Le Devoir* last spring. Usually, students summoned by the disciplinary com-

mittee face suspensions not exceeding 15 days. The SPUQ thinks the penalties are a disproportionate response to the faults committed.

Resolving the conflict through expulsions, tribunals and police force is a way for politicians to “break the collective action” and to silence those who want to exercise their right, Nicole Filion, Ligue des droits et libertés coordinator told *Le Devoir*. The university's mission was perverted, she said.

“This institution was created to make education more accessible. It became a business of repression.”

In an open letter signed last spring by a coalition of almost 100 professors and lecturers, the authors denounced the paradox of the student repression, writing that students are being punished for mobilizing against austerity measures, which will, in turn, threaten the very existence of the institution.



PHOTO SARAH JESMER

Many Projects Planned for Transgender Concordia This Year

Offshoot Club of Queer Concordia Looking to Create a Safe Space on Campus

BY SARAH LOZINSKI
@SARLOZINSKI

In response to what they believe to be a critical need within Concordia University, Transgender Concordia—in partnership with Queer Concordia—is launching the Gender Empowerment Fund, a project conceived by board members at the beginning of last year and in development since November 2014.

The fund employs Come As You Are, a sex shop based in Toronto, Ont. In recognition of the costly nature of many necessities for transgender students, such as binders, stand-to-pee devices and packers, the Gender Empowerment Fund will partially or fully subsidize the purchase of these items for students, in the hopes of encouraging students to feel safe and supported within the university.

Ché Baines, a member of Transgender Concordia, told *The Link* that one of the objectives of the club is to make the university more of a safe space, the fund being one of the first steps to achieving that end.

“A goal for this year is to make tangible project,” said Luiza Albernaz, another member of Queer Concordia. “[We want] to make this school more accepting to queer and transgender students.”

Two years ago, it was becoming clear that the needs of transgender students differ from those of queer students at Concordia. Transgender Concordia, an offshoot club of Queer Concordia, was formed in 2013 to serve the needs of the

non-gender-binary conforming community, and trans men and women.

With the Annual General Meeting of Queer Concordia approaching, the topic of political advocacy within both clubs came up. It is scheduled for Sept. 23. While the opinions of interviewees are not representative of Queer Concordia or Transgender Concordia, Albernaz expressed her goal of seeing a level of activism come into the organizations.

“If the Gender Empowerment Fund takes off, we would like to impose a bigger budget [for the project],” Albernaz said. “Being a student levy group, I would like to see Queer Concordia partner with political [movements].”

Albernaz went on to say that this year’s AGM would hold special importance for both clubs, as Queer Concordia is opening up a spot on their Board of Directors for a member of Transgender Concordia.

The representative will be a head at Queer Concordia to ensure the partnership these clubs have worked to establish remains strong within the upcoming year. Albernaz and Baines were sensitive to the fact that there are different needs between queer and transgender students. They both hope that the clubs will continue to be safe and welcoming spaces to all students.

During the discussion of safe spaces on campus, the topic of the university’s sensitivity training was broached. Albernaz and Baines were enthusiastic about the training, expressing that it reflects the positions their clubs have been taking on for years. Baines said that the training “brings us closer to this utopia where asking people their pronouns is as common as

asking them their name.”

Albernaz and Baines were involved in the writing of the program alongside the Centre for Gender Advocacy. While they are both incredibly grateful for what the training has given Concordia, Albernaz felt that what the university has implemented is barely above basic.

“We shouldn’t have to say thank you for having a safer space,” Albernaz said.

Queer Concordia is having its Annual General Meeting on Sept. 23 at the CSU Lounge (Hall building 7th floor)



PHOTO SARAH DIMMOCK

Home Away From Home

Aboriginal Student Resource Centre Hires New Support Worker to Keep Up With More Students

BY MICHELLE PUCCI @MICHELLEPUCCI

Cheryl Lahache went from being a Concordia student in First Peoples Studies to the new support worker at the university’s Aboriginal Student Resource Centre.

Months removed from graduation, she’s still adjusting to the new role, which replaced a previous writing assistant position at the centre. Her enthusiasm for the position is recognizable in her strong laugh when she interacts with students.

“I still don’t believe it some days,” Lahache said.

Despite the challenges of studying and writing about First Nations and Inuit people—because so many traditions were passed down orally—Lahache said her studies continue to help her in her work with aboriginal students.

“Now I have a better understanding of native people in Quebec and people coming from out west,” she said.

The aboriginal centre also collaborates with the First Peoples Studies to organize the inaugural First Voices week last year and works within the urban aboriginal community network.

Nadine Montour, coordinator of the Aboriginal Student Resource Centre, called the space a place where community boundaries are broken.

“You just want your people to be empowered,” Montour said.

Lahache remembers feeling like she didn’t fit into academia when she was a student. When she said it aloud in the aboriginal centre one day, other students turned to her and said they felt the same way.

“We were all struggling at the beginning of the semester, thinking professors were trying to change our thinking,” Lahache said. “But it’s only because we were evolving and we were trying to figure out where we sat—in the university and in our communities.”

“If you don’t say it out loud you think you’re alone.”

For Lahache and other aboriginal students, finishing her studies meant balancing two worlds: her community and her schooling.

This year, the Aboriginal Student Resource Centre welcomed about 20 new students, and the numbers are growing, according to Montour.

“We’re trying to build our community at Concordia,” she said.

Potential or future students tend to stop at the centre first for advice and information, Montour added. “I don’t know what it is, if it’s out of habit, that most aboriginal students are going to go look for an aboriginal centre.”

Some students come from communities with 300 people, she said, which is probably less than the number of people they’ll see in one day in the Hall building, where the centre is located. Montour said new students are younger and full-time, with more people choosing to continue post-secondary studies out of high school.

Lahache’s role as a student success worker was created to keep up with the number of students who drop in for one-on-ones regarding registration problems, navigating the university’s resources and living in Montreal. She’s at the centre on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

“We couldn’t even keep up with people anymore,” Montour said.

As the coordinator of the centre, Montour is also responsible for outreach and recruitment of aboriginal students and

cultural programs. The centre promotes city-wide cultural events by aboriginal people and welcomes Elder Morning Star twice a week, when she meets with all students.

Housing is among the top concerns for new students; many are from out of town and looking for affordable housing, and the centre wants to provide services to alleviate the pressure. Lahache said taking a workshop by the Concordia Student Union’s Housing and Job Bank has given her enough insight to impart on students.

Montour hopes the new position can help promote services for aboriginal people and encourage students to create new associations or clubs themselves.

“That is our goal—to get students to come here and have that community and have that safe space—but we also want to encourage them to go out and try new things and get out of their comfort zone,” Montour said.

Aboriginal Student Resource Centre (1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W. Room H-641) // Monday to Thursday 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. // (514) 848-2424, ext. 7327



Cheryl Lahache is the new support worker at the Aboriginal Student Resource Centre at Concordia.

PHOTO MICHELLE PUCCI



Patrice Blais is CUPFA's Vice-President Collective Agreement and Grievance.

PHOTO WILLIE WILSON

NEGOTIATIONS ONGOING FOR PART-TIME FACULTY

CUPFA Still Without a Collective Agreement

BY DANIELLE RUDNICKA-LAVOIE
@RL_DANIELLE

The Concordia University Part-Time Faculty Association (CUPFA) has been without a collective agreement for 144 days, according to a clock counting up the minutes on its website Tuesday morning.

The union's last agreement, which expired on April 30—and was only officially signed on March 17—has not yet been replaced with another contract, despite negotiations being held three times per month since the end of August.

"We're trying to get things moving," said Patrice Blais, Vice President of Collective Agreement and Grievance at CUPFA in an interview with *The Link*.

After the collective agreement expired at the end of August 2012, negotiations started right away for the 2012-2015 agreement. According to Blais, the approach towards labour was not proactive because there was a lack of academics on the negotiating team, as well as an aggressive attitude towards negotiation from both sides.

A change of tone in the negotiations was necessary to move forward, he said. "People were not in solution mode."

The negotiations of the 2012-2015 collective agreement only made headway in the fall of 2014, when CUPFA had to make a decision to finalize negotiations up until that point. Their most recent agreement was reached in principle on Sept. 28, 2014, according to a statement released by the university. Regardless of the fact that Concordia's administration wanted to make a longer deal, the CUPFA negotiating team did not want to agree to anything past the fiscal year of 2015. This ended with

a retroactive three-year agreement that was finalized just a month before its expiration. Blais called this an "interim agreement."

"The university has very little money to bring to the table," Blais acknowledged. "It's about getting part-time faculty more involved in research, by having them more active on committees and university bodies—also understanding that the university will have limits on how much money they want to bring to the table."

"What we want to get is work, respect and recognition. Those are the priorities of our negotiations."

Currently, part-time faculty members make \$7,865 per three-credit course, plus an eight per cent vacation pay—a pay rate that is generalized to all part-time faculty, regardless of discipline or seniority. The university may assign courses to the same professor multiple years in a row to lessen their class preparation workload, but this is not always possible.

Budget cuts in education and the public sector from the provincial government have made the current negotiations arduous. Concordia has lost \$30 million since December 2012, according to its former Chief Financial Officer Patrick Kelly. Part-time faculty members have been the hardest hit by these cuts, suffering a seven per cent decrease in the number of courses taught in the past year, which represents about sixty jobs lost, Blais said. "Our members are worried about this. They're the victims of the academic cuts being made," he said.

With no suggestion that students enrolment at Concordia is decreasing, some classes will be canceled and fewer sections will be offered in existing courses—with a higher reliance on online courses.

"These are not good times when you're cutting left, right and centre. Our slogan is that 'Our working conditions are your learning conditions,' which is the message that we like to send to our students," said Blais.

The effects of this are unknown for the moment but the most concrete results of this are class overcrowding as well as a drop in the quality of how a class can feasibly be taught.

"If courses are cancelled, students suffer," stated Ted Stathopoulos, President of the Concordia University Faculty Association (CUFA), which represents full-time faculty.

The situation is worse in certain departments than others, according to Blais. The department of economics decided to completely cut out part-time faculty in favour of hiring limited-term appointments (LTAs), which are lecturers who teach seven courses per year on contract for replacements or temporary positions. LTAs may get rehired year after year, replacing part-time faculty.

According to Blais, the Faculty of Arts and Sciences has been the hardest hit by budget cuts, with the department of sociology and anthropology's course offers declining the most rapidly from 58 postings in the 2013-2014 academic year to 22 in 2014-2015. Statistics for the current academic year are not yet available.

"We're going strongly after some minimum amount of work that can be given to part-time faculty," said Blais. "We need some kind of guarantee by the university because we cannot tolerate that the situation get any worse."

Blais could not comment publicly on the negotiations concerning monetary clauses or salary demands, because they have yet to be tabled.

CUFA, which represents full-time faculty at

Concordia, had their collective agreement for 2015-2018 approved by the Board of Directors on Sept. 16, ending the shortest negotiations Stathopoulos has seen in his 30-year career at Concordia, lasting only eight months. "The norm used to be one or two years," he said.

CUFA members voted for the agreement with a 94 per cent majority, which Stathopoulos said he was satisfied with. He mentioned that only certain sections of the agreement were opened during negotiations in order to make talks more efficient and come to an agreement earlier.

Amendments to the agreement include a \$400 professional development allowance for LTAs, a pay scale increase based on past year's inflation rates, as well as step increase in compensation to LTAs who teach upwards of four different classes per year.

Stathopoulos attributes this effectiveness to a "more academic" negotiating team and to Concordia President Alan Shepard's administration, which he said has changed the course of negotiations for the better.

"[With the previous administration] the answer to our questions used to be 'We don't have to tell you,'" he said. "This time we didn't have that attitude, they were very cooperative."

"I want to be optimistic that what worked for us will work for [CUPFA]," Stathopoulos continued. "Things are going in the right direction. The culture [of the previous administration] was negative and I think it takes a long time to fix that."

Both faculty associations are awaiting pension reform negotiations.

Concordia's spokesperson Chris Mota stated the university couldn't comment on bargaining agreements that are ongoing, but said that they "enter all bargaining in good faith."

WORKSHOP

THE LINK
SERIES

**TUESDAY
SEPT. 22
AT 6 P.M.**

**FRIDAY
SEPT. 25
AT 4 P.M.**

The Link's Guest Editor Workshops continue on **Tuesday Sept. 22 @ 6 p.m.** with **Damon van der Linde** from the *Financial Post*. UN communications guru **Elysha del Giusto-Enos** will be giving critiques for this issue (the one you're holding), and van der Linde will have advice for the next issue at our story pitch meeting.

Good feature writing is a gift for the reader, but it can be gut-wrenching and mind-numbing if you don't know where to start. Stop by our offices on **Friday Sept. 25 @ 4 p.m.** for our next Workshop and Speaker Series with *Montreal Gazette* feature-writing pros **Christopher Curtis** and **Jesse Feith**.

**It's Free and open to everyone.
See you there.**

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

1455 De Maisonneuve Blvd. W., Suite H-649
Montreal, QC H3G 1M8
(514) 848-2424 ext. 7405
thelinknewspaper.ca

Come try our food court **International Cuisine**



FAUBOURG
SAINTE-CATHERINE



**ONLY 2 STEPS
FROM CONCORDIA!**

**Great
specials for
students!**

- **BANGKOK CUISINE**
Thailand Cuisine
- **CHANG LAI**
Dim Sum & Dumplings
- **FONDUE CHINOISE EXPRESS**
Chinese Fondue
- **FORMOSA**
Taiwanese Teas & Cuisine
- **JAPOTE**
Japanese Fast Food
- **JULIETTE & CHOCOLAT**
Chocolate in all its forms
- **KINKA IZAKAYA**
Japanese Cuisine
- **LA BELLE ET LA BŒUF**
Burger Bar
- **POULET TIKKA**
Indian Cuisine
- **SAMIR**
Lebanese Cuisine
- **WOK IMPERIAL**
Szechuan Cuisine
- **YUKI RAMEN**
Japanese Noodle

1616 STE.CATHERINE ST. W. • RIGHT AROUND GUY ST. CORNER!

MONTREAL CHARACTER SERIES: DAVID MITCHELL AND WILLIAM EAU



PHOTO BRANDON JOHNSTON

DIYers, Musicians, Good Pals

BY ZACH GOLDBERG
@ZACHGOLDBERG

This was a pretty casual interview.

I met David Mitchell in the fall of 2014. It was, in fact, for an interview much like this one. Since that first ill-fated, recorded encounter fell by the wayside, not much has changed. If anything, Mitchell has continued to chug along, unperturbed, steadily climbing.

Mitchell and his best friend and business partner William Eau are, ostensibly, two of the preeminent doers within the DIY scene in Montreal. If you want to make something musical happen, whether bands, shows, promotion, releases, you name it, these guys probably know how. Combined, the two run one record label (Stack Your Roster, which Eau founded and oversees), book shows for agencies around the city and play with several bands with varying levels of success.

I met them both for our second attempted interview almost exactly a year after our first conversation. This time, however, I was not the host. I met the boys at the Stack Your Roster HQ around suppertime on a rainy Sunday evening. I donned my rain jacket for one of the first times this fall, and trudged over, field recorder wrapped in a wool sock, and hands full of gift beer.

Like I said, this was pretty casual.

David Mitchell
24 Years Old
Born and Raised in Montreal

William Eau
24 Years Old
9 Years in Montreal

Tell me about how you met.

[The two share a very tender glance, which I immediately mention. They both laugh.]

Eau: We met in-

Mitchell: Grade 7. We knew each other in Grade 7 but we weren't friends.

Eau: Right. We became friends in Grade 8 when after school, I was waiting to get picked up, I think, and you came up to me, and were like, "You play drums, right?" And I said yeah. And you said, "We should play music together."

So when did Stack Your Roster come to be?

E: That was when my friend Charlie was living here. He has this electronic label called Infinite Machine. He was originally deep into hardcore and screamo and stuff.

M: Like, he put out the Suis la lune *Heir 10*. He toured the west coast with Kidcrash in like 2006.

E: He was deep into all that, but then sort of graduated from it, and started his electronic dance music label. I was living with him at the time, a couple years ago, and he kept talking about, "Oh, I want to start a sub-label for other music that's going on with all new people." For his more rock-oriented friends.

M: There were a lot of screamo bands that he was trying to just help out with releases. And I think Will's mandate was just, here are all these awesome local bands that are awesome

and putting up releases that are just going up on Bandcamp, and not having any sort of support system or anyone to help out with physical releases. We just sort of wanted a platform to create a community around a bunch of bands we thought were really cool in the city.

E: You lived with me for like a month after he [Infinite Machine's founder] moved out, didn't you?

M: Yeah, but that was like a year and a half after Stack Your Roster was a thing.

What informs how you operate SYR, as a distro, as a label, as a Haus?

E: I guess that one's like a little more of a time-related thing. I guess, it's just informed by all the half-assed things that started out as Stack Your Roster. We were printing botched cardboard and cutting them with scissors, and not anything with any precision, or quality, even. Definitely now I just look at what I'm into and what I would buy. And try to emulate that. I said earlier that professionalism is overrated, but at the same time, if I'm working on a press release or something, I try to be as professional as possible. Especially if I'm trying to get a press connection with somebody I don't know. If I spend my time doing that as professionally as possible, it won't take away from whatever allure may be there for the people who want to hook us up with a sick press thing, or anything.

How would you define success?

E: Not what I'm involved with, necessarily. But I guess that my perspective is that success

is this weird thing that doesn't really happen and you just constantly try to attain it, because otherwise what other motivation would you have to attain it? Yeah, maybe that's defeatist. I'll retool that.

M: I guess it's just satisfaction or accomplishment. Feeling accomplished is success to me. I mean, it's a pretty simple answer, but just realizing goals is how I measure success. Like if I envision something I want to do, and then I do it, that's success for me. Not necessarily what the thing is, but the act of doing it.

What message do you want to get out there, as people?

E: Make art with your friends. Don't be afraid to let people know that you make art.

M: I'd like to say that everyone should prepare for the imminent IDM [intelligent dance music] revival of 2016. Call us if you're making IDM in 2016. I want to hear all your IDM.

**"If I envision something I want to do, and then I do it, that's success for me."
—David Mitchell**

Station 25 Love-In © Linda Dawn Hammond / IndyFoto.com July 16, 1990.



Station 25 Love-In © Linda Dawn Hammond / IndyFoto.com July 16, 1990.

PHOTOS COURTESY LINDA DAWN HAMMOND

LINDA DAWN HAMMOND: ON THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SEX GARAGE POLICE RAID

A Quarter of a Century Later, Sex Garage Still Remembered

BY MATT D'AMOURS
@MATTDAMOURS

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the police raid on the “Sex Garage” loft party in 1990, where many patrons were beaten and arrested. The event is historically significant for Montreal’s LGBT community. It was immortalized by the photography of Linda Dawn Hammond.

Hammond, a graduate of Concordia university, was recognized for her contribution this summer as a guest of honour at Montreal Pride.

I spoke with Hammond over the phone about her experience at Sex Garage, and the impact of her work. Answers have been edited for length and clarity.

When were you at Concordia?

I was in the photography department doing my Bachelors of Fine Arts, and I graduated in 1990.

You ended up being at the Sex Garage party taking photos—how did you end up photographing events like that?

I started shooting the club scenes in New York and Toronto back in 1976, ‘77—the beginning of the punk scenes, and there was an overlap with the gay and the punk scenes in the clubs that I attended. And then when

I moved to Montreal I became acquainted with Nicolas Jenkins who had been living in New York. He had been working in various clubs there and wanted to bring the kind of the inclusive club scene to Montreal.

In the gay scene, things were quite separate: the lesbians had their own scene, the gay men had their own scene, and the trans people ... weren’t really very welcome in many scenes. So Nicolas wanted to bring everyone together, and this is what sort of differentiated the Sex Garage party from other events, because straight people were also there. It wasn’t just gay people, regardless of what the police thought at the time.

Let’s move on to the night of the police raid on Sex Garage. Was there anything unusual about the party? Was it particularly rowdy or anything?

No [laughs], absolutely not. I mean, there wasn’t really much going on that was out of the ordinary for that type of event. It would have probably disturbed some people, if they were very conservative, because there was dancing, and there was sort of ... one might consider it semi-nudity, because some people were wearing thongs.

But aside from that, no, it was just a regular party as far as I’m concerned. And there was no issue of a noise complaint, because it was in a warehouse area [in Old Montreal] where

there were no neighbours that were actually living there—it was all band practice spaces.

What was the series of events? Did the police order people to vacate the building from outside?

No, they actually came in. They entered twice, and no one that I know saw them the first time. People were kind of skeptical. We heard through people that were working there that the police had been there, and that they told us all to leave. But, as no one had seen them, and the lights were still down, and the music was still playing, people just kind of ignored it, thinking “Well, maybe that’s just another performance piece. You know, maybe these weren’t really cops, right?” [Laughs.]

And then we started hearing another rumour, which was that somebody had actually left the party—because they had forgotten their coat—and tried to come back in, and they were taken between cars and beaten really badly. And that was Bruce Buck, who was friends with a lot of people there. They were quite shocked at that. I have friends that witnessed that from an adjacent loft space.

Fast-forward; there are now a lot of people outside who are being brutalized by the police. And there you are, snapping pictures. I’m just curious, on a technical level, what were the unique challenges of photographing this event?

My problem was that I had gone prepared to shoot a party, not to shoot an event like this, so I only had my 28mm lens with my analog camera. And a 28mm lens is actually quite wide, which means that if you step back even a few feet, everything is going to look very small, you won’t be able to identify anybody. So that meant that if I wanted to get anything of any substance, I had to be right in front of, let’s say for instance the police who were removing their identification badges. I needed to be right in front of them, just a few feet away.

And I’d been shooting all night, so my flash batteries were starting to fade, and I didn’t have any extra ones. So every time I took a shot, I wasn’t going to stand there waiting for my flash to regenerate in front of the police – you know, where they could get their hands on me. So I would retreat, wait for the flash batteries to come back to full power, and then move back in again. And of course every time

I did this, they knew exactly where I was.

And I was right there with the police, and they were beating people. I guess at that point, they decided that they’d had enough of me photographing ... and one of the cops came up behind me, knocked my knees out from under so I fell forward, and then hit me across the chest area where I was holding the camera. I sort of fell forward, but then I twisted so I could protect my camera and keep it away from them.

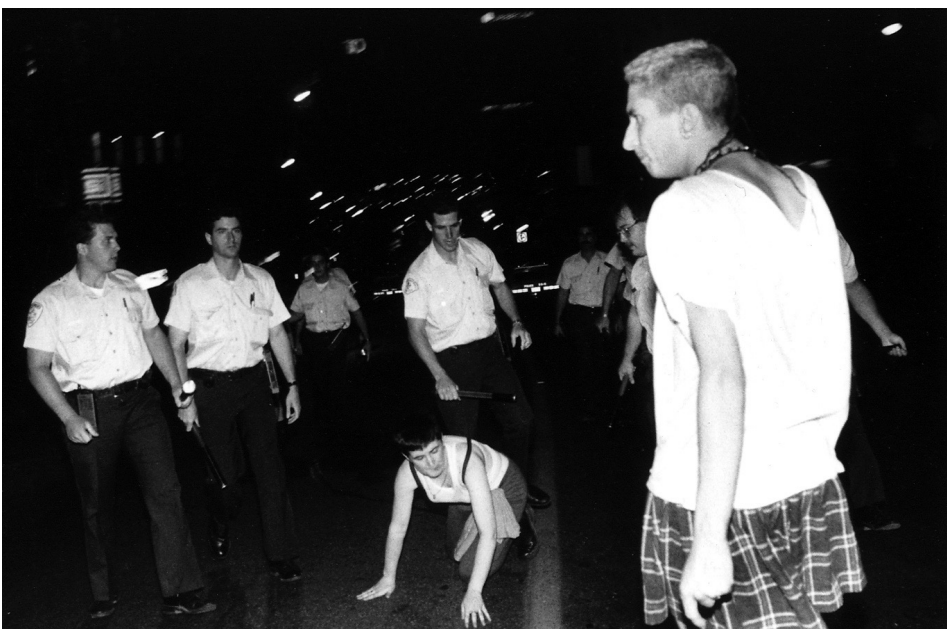
Do you ever think about how Sex Garage would be remembered if you hadn’t been there to take those photos?

I’ve been thinking about that more recently, because of all the attention we’ve been getting over this. I thought that it had been relatively forgotten. I was very surprised when [the 25th anniversary] came up. Even at the 10th anniversary, I couldn’t generate any interest whatsoever. But I’m so happy that people are remembering it.

People say, “What are the best photos you’ve ever taken,” and probably, in all honesty, I think the work that I did in Oka after this is probably my best work. But in terms of the importance to a particular community, yeah, I do recognize these photos are extremely important. Because, if I hadn’t been there, there would have been no proof that this even happened—nobody would have cared.

So here we are, 25 years after Sex Garage. How do you feel about the way things have developed since then? Has there been any progress?

The fact is that, yes, things have improved for the LGBT community in terms of relations with the police—I will say that. But looking at Quebec, what I’ve seen of the student protests makes me believe that things haven’t improved at all. As a matter of fact, it’s made me reflect upon how they would have responded to us if they had the kind of weaponry that they’re using on the students. We would have been tasered, and we would have been probably pepper sprayed and tear-gassed back then, but they only had their [batons] instead. So in a sense, no, I don’t see how things have improved at all. As a matter of fact, I think you have less rights to congregate and to protest now. Isn’t that correct? They’ve made it illegal.





in almost every picture #12

PHOTO ERIK KESSELS



in almost every picture #10

PHOTO ERIK KESSELS AND MICHEL CAMPEAU



Useful Photography #007

PHOTO ERIK KESSELS

RELATIONS WITH STAGED INSTANTS

BY ROXANNE BARIL-BÉDARD
@METANYMIE

The sky was pouring buckets of rain as my car lights reflected puddles on a dark Saturday evening. Driving in the rain always puts me in a kind of film noir mood.

I was headed towards 5455 de Gaspé Ave., an ancient industrial building, repurposed into sheik art galleries in the heart of the Mile End. The galleries were now hosting a handful of vernissages for the Mois de la Photo à Montréal, an month-long biennial event showcasing contemporary photographic works in 25 locations across the city.

Soaking wet, I set foot inside the loft-y space, following the small crowd through the high ceilinged corridors that echoed our footsteps. I wandered between the four gallery spaces—Atelier Circulaire, Occurrence Espace d'art et d'essai contemporains, Optica and Centre Clark—taking everything in. The people gathered around the photos were remarkably dressed, smart and posh, outfits dominated by the crazy eyeglasses lording the

room from atop their noses. I'm guessing they were artists and other actors within the high-brow photographic community; certainly an inspiring crowd to loiter around.

Now, I say high-brow with a tongue against my cheek. I'm poking fun, I mean no harm.

I must admit, however, that some of the vignettes explaining the pieces and their intent really read to me like name-dropping exercises, and felt to be lacking in details, leaving me sometimes puzzled, incapable of reaching the mimetic comprehension they invoked, even with my academic and scholarly background. I don't imagine they would read any better to the uninitiated. They certainly didn't restrain my enjoyment of the collections; I just thought it was kind of funny and a little cliché to find opaque descriptions of artist works in art galleries; it was almost akin to a *Portlandia* moment.

Of the collections I saw, what I enjoyed most were the carefully curated, seemingly mundane photographs, sometimes very personal shots like family portraits, or other times product shots, archiving a consumerist environment.

It was the case of Eric Kessels' *All Yours*, at Occurrence, which presented a collection of photos of birthday parties, travels, classified ads, etc., and exposed them like postcards in metallic towers, inviting the audience to take the printed pictures, effectively turning them into the curators of their own mini photo collection. By choosing to organize these trivial pictures neatly by themes and motifs, Kessels is inviting the audience to reflect on the photographic context: the event of its production, its intended audience and relative privacy or intimacy, and the emotional attachment that underlies our relation to photographs. It felt quirky and strangely shy to effectuate my selection of photos I wanted to take home.

I am curious about the development of the expo: which piles of photos will be gone before the others, having successfully charmed most people into taking them? I wonder.

Photographs can also be more abstract, inviting interpretation. Manipulated to the point that only shaky, superimposed outlines were visible on a grayish background, Centre Clark projected the collection *Memories*

Center, by Grégory Chatonsky and Dominique Sirois on the walls of a room enveloped in red lights. It invited the audience to participate internally in recreating the subject of the pictures, their context and the situation that allowed them to emerge. The work set itself apart with its ambiance, underlining the act and locus of reception of images. You can also consider the photographic object through contemporary exploration of the limits of the medium and the narrative exercise it calls forth. These obscure shots really managed to pinpoint the implications of the medium.

Being so intricately embedded in the fabric of our daily lives, photographs are often taken for granted, and these multifaceted expositions allow the audience to pose and examine their relations with the pictures they encounter or lack thereof. Allow yourself the opportunity to reflect on their implications by visiting one of the galleries; most of it is free, and it lasts all month.

Mois de la Photo à Montréal // Sept. 10 to Oct. 11 // Various locations // Free to \$8 // moisdelaphoto.com

THE LINK NEEDS A CURRENT AFFAIRS EDITOR

We need a Current Affairs editor who fills the print edition every week with longer, in-depth features and profiles of news around Concordia.

Join *The Link*

If you're interested in journalism, design, illustration, photo, video, radio and anything to do with media and publishing.

Stop by our weekly story meetings on Tuesdays at 6 p.m.

We'd love to see you around the office.

Concordia's Hall Building, room 649

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

1455 De Maisonneuve Blvd. W., Suite H-649

Montreal, QC H3G 1M8

(514) 848-2424 ext. 7405

thelinknewspaper.ca

SEEING THE LIGHT

New CEO Graham Brown on New Challenges and the Inclusion of Men's Rugby in Canadian Interuniversity Sport



Graham Brown was unveiled as the new CEO of the CIS

PHOTO ALEX D'ADESE

BY TRISTAN D'AMOURS
@TRISTANDAMOURS

The new CEO of the governing body of university sports, Graham Brown, is presently transitioning to his new job and bringing his business expertise from his current one as CEO of Rugby Canada.

The Canadian Interuniversity Sport announced Brown as its new CEO on Sept. 3 at Ryerson University. *The Link* contacted Brown in England, where he cheered on the nation at the 2015 Rugby World Cup.

The University of Windsor graduate gained notoriety by taking a professional approach to amateur sport organizations, elevating their statuses in the process.

"When I first started at Rugby Canada there were a lot of issues, we were a small staff; we were little bit in debt," Brown said. "There was a really great opportunity there and I think that's where I see the CIS right now."

"I think one thing I've learnt [at Rugby Canada] is how difficult things seem, but if you have a vision and everybody is buying into it, there is always light at the end of the tunnel."

What made Brown's appointment stand out were his clear intentions of turning the CIS into a business. This vision was at the epicentre of his former appointments, namely him turning Rugby Canada from a \$2.5 million business into a \$15 million one. This strikes similarities with CIS as the national organization is currently generating \$2.5 million per year, which, according to Brown, is "just barely keeping the lights on."

"Sports, and there are a number of them, have changed their business models to a strong governance, hiring very good staffs, follow strategic business plans that report in a transparent manner, and have a vision to grow not just to maintain," said Brown. "I think that was CIS's biggest challenges along the way. There wasn't much growth; they just maintained the business."

"If you are a business, you are trying to do this four quarters a year; each quarter you want to be better than the last quarter and that was the approach we took in rugby," Brown said. "I think that when you'll walk into the CIS office in a couple of years, you will find that it is very business-like, very professional."

Despite ruling out immediate inclusion of men's rugby—

only women's rugby is currently in the CIS—Brown said he isn't for the CIS's current regulation that if a sport is added into the CIS, another sport must be removed to accommodate it. This model is similar to what is done for the Olympics, according to the new CEO.

"If a sport like rugby is doing a very good job to develop and elevate itself, it shouldn't have a prerequisite that in order to make it in the CIS, another male sport has to drop out."

Another great barrier for openness to new sports in CIS is funding. The increase in wealth would make it possible to create more and give leeway to bend rules and regulations.

If the CIS brings enough wealth to the organization, Brown believes that men's rugby can eventually have its own national championship. However, Brown stresses a new championship should not be implemented if it is a "burden to the CIS or to the schools." Unlike the NCAA, a national championship berth for most sports can be a sign of financial burden more than financial success.

"I don't think it's fair to say that you are going to have [men's rugby] as a CIS sport now, but if we can turn the CIS into a more profitable enterprise, those decisions will be easier."

BOX SCORES

Tuesday, Sept. 15

Baseball—Concordia 2, Montréal 0

Wednesday, Sept. 16

Women's Rugby—Concordia 29, McGill 14

Friday, Sept. 18

Men's Soccer—Concordia 0, Montréal 3
Women's Soccer—Concordia 0, Montréal 3
Men's Hockey—Concordia 4, UQTR 7
Women's Hockey—Concordia 1, Nipissing 3
Men's Rugby—Concordia 16, Montréal 19

Saturday, Sept. 19

Baseball—Concordia 7, Carleton 4
Baseball—Concordia 4, Carleton 2
Football—Concordia 33, McGill 21
Women's Hockey—Concordia 4, Laurentian 0

Sunday, Sept. 20

Baseball—Concordia 7, Carleton 3
Baseball—Concordia 7, Carleton 15
Women's Soccer—Concordia 1, Bishop's 1
Men's Hockey—Concordia 4, Laurentian 0

UPCOMING GAMES

Wednesday, Sept. 23

7:30 p.m. Baseball at McGill Redmen (Gary Carter Field)

Thursday, Sept. 24

2:00 p.m. Women's Hockey at Saint Mary's Huskies (St. FX Tournament)
7:00 p.m. Men's Hockey at Western Mustangs (Western Tournament)

Friday, September 25

4:00 p.m. Men's Hockey at Windsor Lancers (Western Tournament)
6:00 p.m. Women's Hockey at St. Francis Xavier X-Women (St. FX Tournament)
6:30 p.m. Men's Soccer vs. Sherbrooke Vert et Or (Concordia Stadium)
8:30 p.m. Women's Soccer vs. Sherbrooke Vert et Or (Concordia Stadium)

Saturday, Sept. 26

9:00 a.m. Women's Hockey at Waterloo Warriors (St. FX Tournament)
12:00 p.m. Baseball at Ottawa Gee-Gees
2:00 p.m. Football vs. UdeM Carabins (Concordia Stadium)
3:00 p.m. Women's Rugby at Ottawa Gee-Gees
3:00 p.m. Baseball at Ottawa Gee-Gees

Sunday, Sept. 27

1:00 p.m. Women's Soccer at Laval Rouge et Or
3:00 p.m. Men's Soccer at Laval Rouge et Or
3:00 p.m. Men's Rugby at McGill Redmen (Molson Stadium)



Skater competing at the Montreal City Hall Poser Game Championship at Veterans Park on Wednesday, Sept. 16, 2015.

PHOTOS SHAUN MICHAUD

NUTHIN' LIKE A POSER THANG

David "Boots" Bouthillier Hosts 16th Edition of Montreal City Hall Poser Game Championship

BY SHAUN MICHAUD
@SHAUN_MIC

A dozen skateboarders take turns pulling tricks on a bench centred in an iceless skating rink. Forty or so spectators huddle around the boards, chatting, drinking and waiting for the tournament to begin. A loud blow horn signals the end of the warm up.

"Alright, let's get this thing started," says the organizer, the man with the blow horn, David "Boots" Bouthillier.

Eyes shine as he lifts up the trophy—a miniature wooden platform with the names of all past 15 winners inscribed in bronze.

It seems like a glamourized footstool with no cushion, though you wouldn't know it the way it catches the overhead floodlights' glow. A tiny skateboard sits on its top like a cherry on a sundae.

Welcome to the 16th edition of Montreal's City Hall Poser Game Championship. Every summer, skateboarders from all over come together in the outdoor rink at Veterans Park to test their skills and earn the bragging rights of calling everybody else a poser.

The rules are simple: the first competitor "calls" a trick that they then try to pull off the bench. If successful, all other competitors have to perform the same trick. After everybody's attempts, the first skater continues to propose until he misses.

Then, in turn, the next skater proposes a new trick.

"It's kind of like a game of horse," says Bouthillier, referring to the basketball duel.

Competitors who fail to land a trick get a letter, starting with P. The elimination process begins when skaters get enough letters to spell *POSER*. The entry fee is five dollars, which accumulated serves as the prize money. Winner takes all.

The tournament—now a staple in Montreal's skateboarding subculture—started in 2000 as a simple but brazen bet at City Hall.

"Bernard Mailhot invited everybody to play a game of poser on a bench," says Bouthillier. "The whole scene was there that day. The game started but then the police showed up and shut down the event."

Bouthillier says the group went to the now vanished Molson parking lot to finish the game. Sixteen years later, the championship is still going strong.

"Alex P-C and Oliviero Fontana made a plastic trophy with a wooden bench and a little plastic skateboard," says Bouthillier. "It wasn't much but the winner got that trophy"

After two years, Mailhot gave up on skateboarding and moved out of the city. Bouthillier took up the torch. Nowadays, he is better known for helping legalize skateboarding in Peace Park.

"The location changed several times because it's an urban event, it's not sanctioned by anyone," says Boots. "Even though it's the Montreal City Hall Poser Game Championship, we can't necessarily hold the event there."

Veterans Park seems a perfect spot for the event with its outdoor skating rink and boards—a picturesque scenery of Québécois urban culture.

"The last five or six or seven, eight years, we've been doing it here, because we don't have any problems and it's been great," says Bouthillier.

Due to its vague legal nature, the clandestine event continues to encounter problems though.

"For the 15th annual we set off fireworks and the police showed up. Neighbours thought they heard gunshots," says



Organizer David "Boots" Bouthillier (right) inspecting the trophy.



Zander Mitchell (right) is the winner of the 2015 Montreal City Hall Championship Poser Game.

Boots, laughing. "But the police were very cool. They just said, 'Don't set off fireworks again.'"

Now, in his mid-thirties, the skating aficionado and underground legend barely tries to hide his youthful enthusiasm.

A keg hidden in a garbage can provides refreshments for ladies and gents as the athletes outdo each other on the bench. The competition is fierce but doesn't last very long—20 minutes at most—before a skater survives all others. The way the game is set up, there can only be one.

"Antoine Asselin and JS Lapierre both won the trophy three times consecutively," says Bouthillier.

Last year's champion Zander Mitchell steps up. Some of the spectators had their money on him from the start. The gangly boy—who looks barely out of puberty—uncorks the winning bottle of champagne, spreads some foam on the pavement and guzzles down his prize. He's got the blasé look one can find in the eyes of most superior athletes. Somehow, they just know they're better than you at something.

"Keep the trophy," he says as he hugs Bouthillier and grabs on the purse money and champagne.

A friend of Boots and fellow skater, Karim Sikander, comes to the meet every year.

"Everybody from all over the city comes here. We find out who the best skaters are," he says. "Like today we had JS Lapierre and he didn't even win. Like where are all these skaters coming from?"

Sikander sang praise for the work of Bouthillier, who has been hailed by many as the godfather of skateboarding in Montreal.

"Dave is making huge waves for keeping skating legal in Peace Park," he says. "It's like a whole movement in itself. It drove out all the crackheads that used to go to there."

"Big props to Dave for solidifying the skate scene."



Competitor Mike Campbell drinking beer from the hidden keg.



Former three-time winner JS Lapierre pulls a trick on the bench.



Zander Mitchell grinding on the bench.

"Everybody from all over the city comes here. We find out who the best skaters are."

—Karim Sikander



O CAPTAIN, MY CAPTAIN!

Meet the New Captain of the Women's Rugby Team: Samantha Ewing

BY VINCE MORELLO
@VINNYMORELLZ

Off the field, you would never know that she was the captain of Concordia's most successful team this season so far. But on the rugby pitch, Samantha Ewing is a force to reckon with—one of Concordia's top players.

As a fifth year player, Ewing is no stranger to the Stingers' rugby program and its head coach, Graeme McGravie. It was an easy choice to make her captain this year.

"It feels good, definitely a little more pressure than I was thinking," Ewing said on being the leader of the squad. "I think it's working out because we have a lot of strong leaders on the team."

"[Samantha] is a great person on and off the field and she really takes the responsibility to heart. She's played under good captains before so she knows what her role is," McGravie said.

Despite not being captain before training camp, Ewing was already making her case for the choice, as was evidenced by her actions at training camp. She was instrumental in integrating rookies into a veteran team.

"[Ewing] took it upon herself to make sure everyone knew who the rookies were, she walks around and introduces herself to new people," McGravie said. "We were debating who the captain was going to be before the camp started and we noticed in the first couple of hours, she had taken on that leadership role by herself."

"[The team] did a pre-season tour and one little fun thing we did was we had all of them make these little Styrofoam toy bees," Ewing said. "It's just a little fun thing to make them feel a part of the team."

This early in the season, Ewing already feels that the locker room is more connected than in previous years.

"It's a really positive group culture, compared to other years—not saying that it's been negative other years—but sometimes I just feel like there's a separation from the backs and the forwards," she said. "This year our whole style of play is focused on working together, so it carries through on every part of the team."

Ewing's journey to the sport of rugby started in high school, and her skill in the sport was always apparent.

"Sports were mandatory. In the spring I could choose either between softball, track and field and rugby," Ewing said. "It was a natural choice for me to do a bit more of a competitive sport and physical."

"I just loved it right away, been hooked ever since," she added.

Her journey to Concordia wasn't always a forgone conclusion, but McGravie had already scouted her during her high school days and was aware of her talent and leadership qualities.

"In high school, when I recruited her, she was the captain there and she led by example," McGravie said. "She was one of the most sought after recruits when she was coming out of high school."

"The first day I met her I was like 'Whether it's on a rugby pitch or whether it's off a rugby pitch, whatever she wants to do in her life, she's going to be able to do it,'" McGravie continued.

The concept of being a "born leader" gets tossed many times in all sports; she embodies the term wherever she goes by the way she acts on and off the field.

"A quiet unassuming leader, not the 'rah-

rah' type that's for sure," McGravie said. "She leads by example and people just follow her."

Ewing has a humble approach to her new role on the team—she believes that leadership is something that should be shared.

"A leader is only as good as the people around there, so I feel like this year has been so great so far because we have such a great team together," said Ewing. "We have so many strong leaders on the team, it's not a strong

pressure on one individual."

Off to a roaring start that's seen the team outscoring their opposition 166-24 in their first three league games of the season, the team shows no signs of slowing down in their quest for a national championship.

"We want to win RSEQ finals," Ewing said on the goals for the upcoming season. "We want to make it to nationals and hopefully win that as well."



PHOTOS BRIANNA THICKE

JUST CHILL OUT

Dealing with Anxiety and Deadlines



GRAPHIC SAM JONES

BY KARINA LAFAYETTE

Your chest tightens. You try to catch your breath but find yourself gasping for air. You grow anxious as your tongue turns to cotton. Your heart pounds. Your brain tricks you into thinking the worst.

This is what a panic attack feels like, and for those of you who've had one, you know it can be a dreadful experience. While sitting in the waiting room the second time I had a panic attack, even the most sympathetic doctor couldn't change my mind about it.

Blood test, check heart rate. "You're in perfect health. It's just a panic attack. You're an anxious person."

Just a panic attack? As though it's become the norm in every day society. Feeling stressed all the time is often a rite of passage for students—it means you're learning to handle the real world.

And I am not an anxious person.

We're all guilty. Pulling all-nighters to finish a term paper, skipping meals to work on a project, canceling plans with friends and family to study, staying in toxic relationships just for the sake of having them. Yes, grades matter, but do they matter more than your health? Stress isn't caused by the real world, it's caused by how we manage ourselves in it. Lack of sleep and lack of steady meals are just two ways to increase your stress. When we have low blood sugar, cortisol (the stress hormone) levels rise from the adrenal glands, which leads to anxiety.

Anxiety, anxiety, please go away. Someone sing me a song.

One day I went to hang out with a friend right before he had a class presentation. Having not eaten since the morning, he stood there, pale-faced, as if he was about to pass out. While he headed to

class, I went to the store and decided to buy him an energy drink.

"No one's ever done this for me," he said later on.

No one had done that for me either. We don't even do it for ourselves. Don't skip out on playing pool with friends just to be top of your class. You're not selfish for putting your happiness first. Chances are your professor is hanging out with his buddies right now. If you're stressed about finishing a term paper on time, start writing it earlier.

As someone studying cinema, I have the habit of staying up editing projects until five in the morning. Then it got to the point where on nights I had to go to bed early for work, I couldn't fall asleep. Even the simplest task would give me anxiety. The panic attacks seemed inevitable, until I realized going out for a walk made them disappear. Soon enough, the minute I would feel my chest tighten, I was out the door.

That's when I realized two things: a) I wasn't active enough, and b) I take things way too seriously. We all do! Even when there are issues with the bus I worry how the people I have to meet are going to react to my being late. Usually, they're just happy to see me.

Ironically enough, anxiety has actually helped improve my quality of life. I exercise, and I pay attention to which situations are likely to trigger anxiety. Oh, and I make sure to do things that bring me joy. Personally, I enjoy writing and listening to music. If you have anxiety, it means you need to learn how to manage your time better.

If you find yourself stressed over the trivial, to the point of sacrificing your health for something that won't matter once you graduate, you need to reset your priorities. Sometimes it takes a panic attack for your body to remind you to just chill the eff out.

Nah'msayin?

Pizza Problems of Displaced East Coast Americans

BY JONATHAN CARAGAY-COOK
@HIIMBIRACIAL

I've eaten a full circle of pizza before. Yeah, I admit it. Sometimes when you play soccer for eight straight hours at Jeanne Mance park, you need a beautifully crafted carbo-load with cheese to prevent yourself from passing out.

But this isn't about my poor diet. It's about pizza terminology. If you read the first line and didn't stumble over it then you're nuts. A circle of pizza? Montreal peeps—and everyone else not from the east coast of America—it's called a pizza PIE—PIE as in a full pizza that you can take individual SLICES from to eat.

So Pizza-Pizza guy, when I come up to the counter drenched in sweat and panting, asking for a pie of PLAIN pizza, I want a circle of pizza filled with CHEESE. I don't want some weird Irish-pub-pie-equivalent with cheese and tomato sauce stuff inside. I want a freaking circle of pizza cooked to your pizza-chain standards of perfection.

Also, PLAIN means CHEESE, not a circle of dough with tomato sauce sadly splattered on it. I realized this hip east coast terminology was useful when an Italian friend from Montreal—who vehemently opposes the terms—accidentally said pie while debating whether to order individual slices or sharing a full geometric circular shape.

This friend says in Italy, a pizza is smaller so the term is not applicable. Well I say, in this globalized-fast-food world we live in, let's modernize. Let's innovate. Let's all call it a pizza pie. Besides, New Jersey and New York do everything better.



GRAPHIC MORAG RAHN-CAMPBELL

DEAR CSU: FANNY PACKS ARE NOT HIP

BY NOELLE DIDIERJEAN
@NOELLESOLANGE

Dear CSU:

Do us all a favour and stop trying to be hip.

No matter how bright their shine, no matter how much they'll up your insta-game, no matter how big the command "Take Action" is emblazoned on your faux-80s school spirit merch, the packs are #notback.

Scrolling through streams of executives getting paid close to \$30K a year to rep fanny packs branded with their logo is worse than witnessing a fashion no-no: it's nauseating.

There are a lot of things wrong with this picture, but the worst is the hypocrisy.

Under the "campaigns" section of the CSU website is a page on "Anti-Consumerism." The page features a lot of very impressive statements, like: "Simple living is a way of life that rejects the high-consumption, materialistic lifestyles of consumer cultures."

But isn't it materialistic to order a large quantity of low-quality clothes intended for a period of just two weeks?

According to their website, the CSU rejects consumerism because "Western-style consumption habits are degrading the planet" and "lives of high consumption are unethical in a world of great human need."

Unless the latter is referring to the enormous need for more garishly-coloured fanny packs on campus, it seems like this reporter's favourite student union has lost the right to a moral high ground.

"Extravagance and acquisitiveness are...an unfortunate waste of life, certainly not deserving of the social status and admiration they seem to attract today," the text proclaims.

Are fanny packs somehow exempt from consumption as defined by extravagance? Does it somehow not count because they're ostensibly encouraging people to "take action" against the

same capitalist structure the slogan decries?

According to former metal enthusiast and union apparatchik John Talbot, the team felt icky about buying branded clothing.

"I understand the hypocrisy of buying promo materials. That's something we had to grapple with a lot in orientation," he said. However, he believes that the 2,000 fanny packs for \$6,900 are a good investment.

"Fanny packs are going to last a long time," he said, adding that QPIRG and the CSU are planning on turning them into first aid kits for protests. Also, "people really like them."

Orientation coordinator Jeremy Blinkhorn elaborated, saying that before the fanny packs had even been bought, people caught whiff of the potential purchase and started asking around the CSU office for them.

"I'm not going to say they're hip, I'm going to say they're practical and regaining relevance" because of their usefulness, Talbot said. "Why do things need to be hip?"

If you're going to spend \$3K on fanny packs, I'd certainly hope they'd be hip.

I felt a little better about voting for the team once I learned that the orientation t-shirts and tote bags were made by Petites-Mains, a Montreal based company who hire migrant women and provide them work in manufacturing, as well as giving them lessons in English and French.

But supporting a slightly more ethical workplace in one endeavour doesn't excuse supporting the global textile industry, which exploits workers and harms the environment on a massive scale (and we haven't even talked about the union's "Climate Justice" campaign).

To the well-meaning members of Community Action: I voted for you because you're taking concrete steps toward making Concordia a better place, not your fashion sense. So please, more updates on the on-campus daycare and less ugly fast fashion.



GRAPHIC SAM JONES

Letter

Late Negotiations Stalling Equal Wages

Dear Editor,

There was some misinformation provided by Nader Jafari Nodoushan and Gounash Pirniya in the article "TRAC Wants Resolution for Wage Disparities" (Sept. 14 2015).

Pirniya's grievance is only an issue because of the current executive's ineffectiveness, and their complaint is the result of a pay structure negotiated by engineering students themselves, a problem that was solved over a year ago.

Last point first: the original discriminatory pay scales were negotiated in 2009-2010. The executive and bargaining teams were made up exclusively of engineers, with a PSAC advisor. To answer Pirniya's question, "Why is this just happening in engineering?" because engineers made it that way.

The bargaining team that took over in 2010—which included an engineer—did everything we could to address the disparity, but we had very little room to maneuver because the previous bargaining team had signed off on everything. Concordia refused to renegotiate the pay grade structure.

In 2013-2014, the bargaining committee—which also included an engineer—was able to abolish Grade 3 and Markers, who were bumped up to the next higher pay grade. This was done in part to specifically address the common practice in ENCS of splitting higher paying contracts into lower paying ones.

Pirniya said, "The fact that the union agreed to the wage disparity in the past doesn't mean it shouldn't be changed." True—that is why we changed it. In 2013-2014, the discriminatory pay scale, which forms the basis of Pirniya's grievance, was negotiated out of existence, and would have been abolished last May if TRAC had been able to enter negotiations over pay.

Negotiations never happened, because of an investigation into complaints against Nodoushan, who was ultimately accused of harassment and other misbehaviour in a report. PSAC ignored the report, tried to bury it, dumped the entire executive committee to hold a new

election and allowed Nodoushan to remain, despite the investigators recommendation of a one-year suspension. TRAC has been ineffective under Nodoushan and negotiations have gone nowhere.

The claim that Lab Demonstrators in ENCS are paid less than in other faculties is false. Most Lab Demonstrators outside of ENCS are undergrads or Master's students in Grade 2. Grade 2 undergrads are paid \$14.46, graduate students other than PhDs are paid \$17.79 and PhDs are paid \$20.01. ENCS Lab Demonstrators are paid \$18.53. The vast majority of Lab Demonstrators outside ENCS are paid less than ENCS Lab Demonstrators.

- Robert Sonin

TRAC Bargaining Officer 2010-2012

TRAC President 2012-2013

TRAC Bargaining Committee Member 2013-2014

TRAC Mobilization Officer 2014

UNI • STU • CAN • POL

Canada Needs Electoral Reform

BY MICHAEL WROBEL
@MICHAEL_WROBEL

Canada's plurality-vote electoral system, colloquially known as "first past the post," is broken. Depending on which party forms government after Oct. 19, this federal election may well be the last to use this antiquated way of electing Members of Parliament.

A switch to an electoral system based on proportional representation can't come soon enough.

In Canada, electors vote to determine their local Member of Parliament. The winning candidate doesn't need to receive a majority of the vote in his or her riding, only more votes than any of the other candidates. Votes for the candidates that come in second, third and fourth place can fittingly be described as "wasted" or "ineffective" votes because they serve to elect no one in this winner-takes-all system.

In contrast, every vote counts in an electoral system based on the principle of proportional representation. Proportional representation can be set up in a variety of ways, but the end result is always the same—each party's share of the seats in the legislature is a direct reflection of their share of the popular vote.

The first-past-the-post system has a variety of perverse tendencies that make a transition to a system of proportional representation a necessity.

For one, ever since Canadian politics began to move beyond a two-party system in the 1920s, most "majority" governments have been illegitimate. In 2011, the federal Conservatives formed a majority government with 54 per cent of the seats in the House of Commons, despite the fact that they were supported by only 39.6 per cent of those who cast a ballot. Similarly, the federal Liberals managed to win a slim majority of seats with only 38.5 per cent of the popular vote in 1997.

Majority governments in Canada often proclaim that they have a "strong mandate" to ratify their policies, but how can that possibly be true when these governments rarely receive majority support from the electorate? In only three elections since 1921—in 1940, 1958 and 1984—has a party formed a majority government after having obtained more than 50 per cent of the popular vote.

Canadian democracy is therefore clearly at odds with majoritarian democratic theory. Our winner-takes-all electoral system rarely complies with the concept of "majority rule."

Beyond giving us phony "majority" governments, the first-past-the-post system also distorts the popular vote so profoundly that the resulting seat distribution can seem quite unfair and arbitrary.

In the 2011 federal election, for example, our electoral system wrongly gave us the impression that voters in the Prairie provinces widely supported the Conservatives, Quebecers widely supported the New Democrats, and nobody but some hippy environmentalists in the British Columbia riding of Saanich—Gulf Islands voted for the Green Party.

In fact, almost a third of voters in Saskatchewan opted for the NDP, though the party didn't win a single seat in the province; 1.6 million NDP supporters in Quebec managed to elect 59 New Democrats, but 1.4 million Ontarians of the same political persuasion managed to elect just 22; and over 575,000 voters chose the Greens across the country, of which only 31,900 went towards electing Green Party leader Elizabeth May in her West Coast riding.

A core principle of democracy—that everyone's vote is equal—is challenged by our electoral system. Many Canadians cite the "meaninglessness" of voting

as the reason why they don't bother to cast a ballot. While I don't want to discourage people from voting, it's true that a vote in a riding that heavily leans toward one particular party doesn't have much impact. In contrast, a vote in a hotly contested riding is worth a whole lot. Knowing that an election's outcome often depends on the results in a few dozen battleground ridings, parties pour considerable amounts of money and personnel into close races while largely ignoring so-called "safe" ridings.

Advocates for the status quo often applaud the first-past-the-post system for creating "stable" single-party majority governments without majority support, as if this were one of its virtues. Introducing proportional representation, they argue, would only lead to unstable minority governments or fragile coalition governments, as well as more frequent elections.

However, these fears are unfounded. Proportional representation could just as easily lead to stable majority governments formed by a coalition of like-minded parties. Most importantly of all, such governments would actually represent the true will of voters.

Of the four national parties, only the Conservatives are firmly opposed to introducing a system of proportional representation. That's probably because they have the most to lose if such a system were to become a reality.

The Liberal Party has committed to electoral reform in this election campaign, but their stance falls short of unequivocal support for proportional representation. If they form government, the Liberals say they would convene an all-party committee to study various reform proposals, including proportional representation and instant-runoff voting (IRV), an electoral system in which voters rank the candidates on the ballot in order of preference instead of choosing only one candidate.

While IRV ensures that the winner is an acceptable choice for a majority of voters, it's still a system that results in a high level of disproportionality, favouring large national parties or regionally strong parties at the expense of smaller ones. Australia uses IRV to elect the members of its House of Representatives; election results from that country suggest this electoral system could benefit Canada's Liberals, who—as a centrist party—would likely be many voters' second choice.

The NDP and the Green Party, meanwhile, have long supported a move to proportional representation. Of course, they traditionally had the most to gain from this type of electoral reform. Both have stated that they'll work to introduce a system of proportional representation after this election.

The stances of Canada's main political parties are therefore all based, at least to some extent, on self-interest.

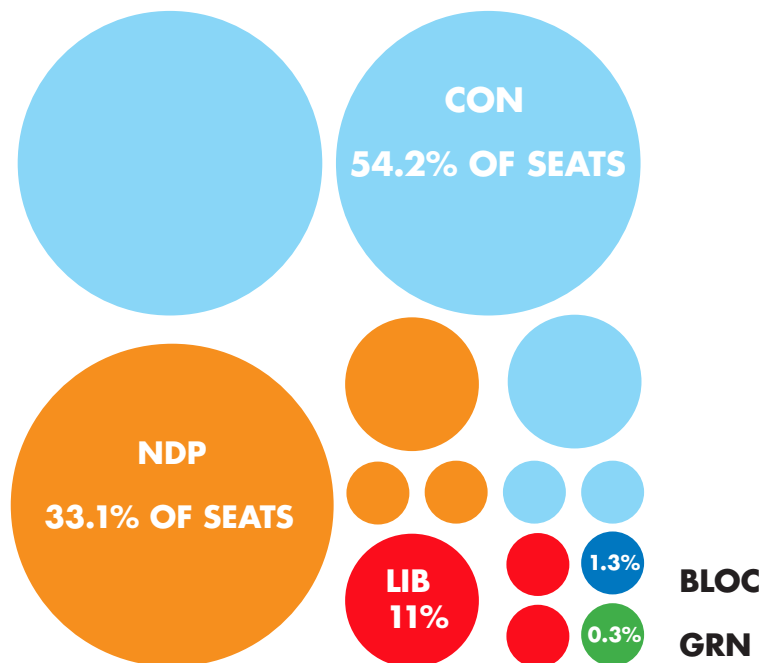
But the fact remains that electoral systems committed to proportional representation remain the fairest to voters, accurately translating the will of the electorate into the composition of the legislature.

The easiest way to achieve proportional representation would be to have a "mixed-member" legislature, in which we continue to elect MPs in ridings just like we do now, but a certain number of "top-up" MPs would then be added to re-balance the House of Commons and ensure that each party's share of the seats roughly corresponds to its share of the popular vote.

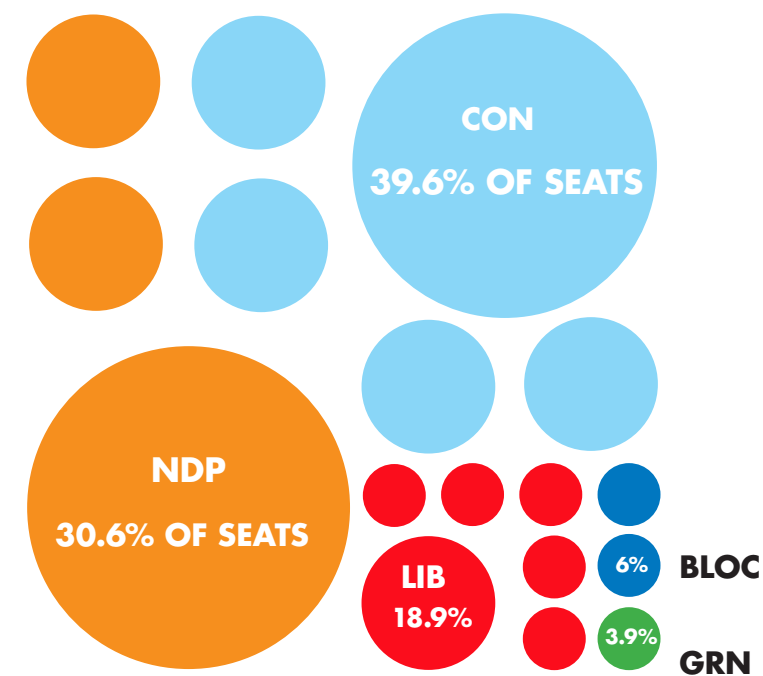
Canada, the United States and the United Kingdom are the only Western democracies that still use the first-past-the-post method. This electoral system breeds cynicism and results in a loss of interest in politics among many voters. We desperately need a system in which every vote actually counts.

2011 FEDERAL ELECTION RESULTS

WITHOUT PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION



WITH PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION

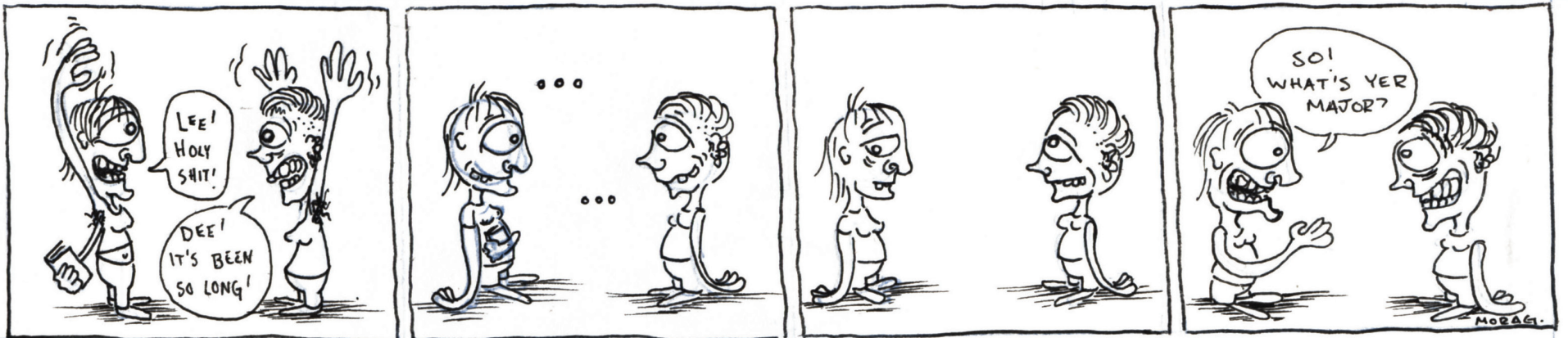


GRAPHIC GABRIELA DE MEDEIROS AND LAURA LALONDE

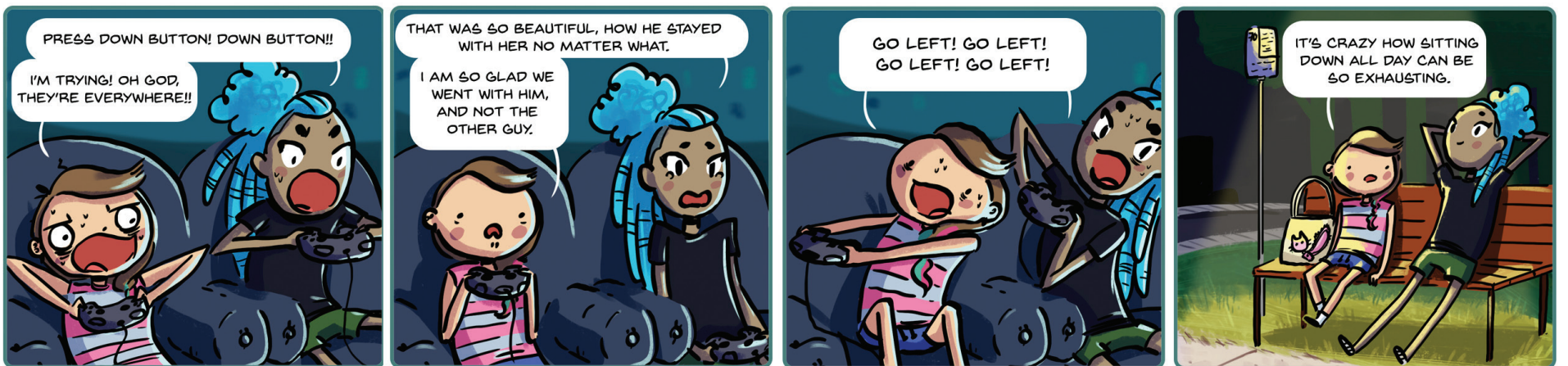
Standards by Graeme Shorten Adams @foreshortening



Crap Comics by Morag Rahn-Campbell



Caity Comics by Caity Hall @caityhallart



The Epic-Adventures of Every-Man by @samdchurchii



Balloon Ventures by Mangekko Jones





These Student-Protester Tribunals Are Just for Show

As we fast approach the Sept. 29 tribunal to determine the fates of some of over 25 student-protesters from this past spring's anti-austerity demonstrations, there is unmistakable apprehension and anxiety for all concerned.

Aside from the fact that any kind of punitive measures put upon socially-conscious and enthusiastic student activists is always going to be disliked by an engaged student body, the complaints brought forth against a seemingly-random group of individuals charged with classroom disruptions seem both dubious and arbitrary. Especially when you consider the aftermath of the much larger and more significantly disruptive protests in 2012, where students had their complaints waived, the protests that occurred earlier this year were negligible in comparison.

A major problem throughout the events is the general aversion and apathy from the majority of Concordia's student body, who don't take an interest in school politics and

student activism. It's a highly sympathetic position, as most students will tell you, that they have chosen to spend their precious time and money at university to receive an education, certification and/or accreditation. *The Link* captured some tension during one class disruption in the Hall building on March 23, as students and protesters shouted and almost came to fisticuffs.

It is important to remember that these protests were inspired out of not only provincial movements, but also solidarity with a global scene that saw anti-austerity protests rock the capitals of states around the world. Governments are increasingly squeezing on their citizenry as the effects of neoliberal economics have become catastrophically evident.

Concordia President Alan Shepard and former Chief Financial Officer Patrick Kelly have previously discussed the detrimental effects austerity measures have had at the school. Shepard sides, in theory, with anti-austerity rhetoric, but his opinion differs on how to go about combating provincial cuts.

The status quo, no matter how it presents itself with good intentions, has no interest in protesting anything, obviously, so the duty falls on our society's best and brightest, students. As for the annoyed and inconvenienced students who chose to bury their heads in the sand, perhaps it is that very same sense of apathy they had for the anti-austerity protests that will seal the fates of the over 25 students charged, since the tribunal proceedings seem to be going ahead at full steam.

Other than the generally disinterested student population, it is the university who has become a co-complainant, representing a few ticked-off faculty members who had the holy sanctity of their classrooms disrupted. The strikes were voted on and conducted legally as per the appropriate regulations and even authorized by the university who promoted days of dialogue and reflection.

Once referring to the protests as legitimate strikes, the university seems to be playing a different tune now and is deter-

mined to uphold a no-nonsense attitude to make an example of the randomly selected of student participants. The parallels between this tribunal and those conducted around the world throughout history are plainly seen, as a powerful administration seeks to strike fear and intimidation against future protests, regardless of their legality. These show trials are even more apparent at our politically active sibling school UQAM, where one prominent student politician and activist was expelled.

With each passing day, the grip of the powerful becomes stronger and the oppressed, students seeking the highest standards of education, may have very little recourse. The leaders in charge of the tribunal should keep in mind that Montreal has a long and proud tradition of protest, and it is the students who have always been at the forefront. Persecution will only incite their convictions further during the next protest season. And there is always going to be a next protest season.

THE LINK

Volume 36, Issue 05
Tuesday, Sept. 22, 2015
Concordia University
Hall Building, Room H-649
1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W.
Montreal, Quebec H3G 1M8
editor: 514-848-2424 x. 7407
arts: 514-848-2424 x. 5813
news: 514-848-2424 x. 8682
business: 514-848-7406
advertising: 514-848-7406

The Link is published every Tuesday during the academic year by The Link Publication Society Inc. Content is independent of the university and student associations (ECA, CASA, ASFA, FASA, CSU). Editorial policy is set by an elected board as provided for in The Link's constitution. Any student is welcome to work on The Link and become a voting staff member.

Material appearing in The Link may not be reproduced without prior written permission from The Link.

Letters to the editor are welcome. All letters 400 words or less will be printed, space permitting. The letters deadline is Friday at 4:00 p.m. The Link reserves the right to edit letters for clarity and length and refuse those deemed racist, sexist, homophobic, xenophobic, libellous, or otherwise contrary to The Link's statement of principles.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2015-2016: Colin Harris, Clément Liu, Jake Russell, Graeme Shorten Adams, Erin Sparks, Verity Stevenson; non-voting members: Rachel Boucher, Michelle Pucci.

TYPESETTING by The Link. **PRINTING** by Hebdo-Litho.

CONTRIBUTORS: Alex Bailey, Roxanne Baril-Bédard, Hélène Bauer, Natalia Blasser, Elysia-Marie Campbell, Sara Capanna, Alex Carrière, Lindsey Carter, Evgenia Choras, Alexander Cole, Sandrine Corbeil, Matt D'Amours, Tristan D'Amours, Alex D'Addese, Noelle Didierjean, Sarah Dimmock, Josh Fischlin, Josephine Fomé, Sam Jones, Caitly Hall, Sarah Jesmer, Brandon Johnston, Karina Lafayette, Nikolas Litzenberger, Sarah Lozinski, Gabriela de Medeiros, Chris Michaud, Julia Miele, Nick Pevato, Morag Rahn-Campbell, Danielle Rudnicka-Lavoie, Matthew Shanahan, Graeme Shorten Adams, Riley Stativa, Brianna Thicke, Michael Wrobel

Cover: Laura Lalonde

editor-in-chief **MICHELLE PUCCI**
coordinating editor **SHAUN MICHAUD**
managing editor **OPEN**
news editor **JONATHAN CARAGAY-COOK**
current affairs editor **OPEN**
assistant news editor **OPEN**
fringe arts editor **JUNE LOPER**
fringe arts online editor **ZACH GOLDBERG**
sports editor **VINCE MORELLO**
sports online editor **JULIAN MCKENZIE**
opinions editor **OPEN**
copy editor **OPEN**
creative director **LAURA LALONDE**
photo & video editor **OPEN**
graphics editor **MADELEINE GENDREAU (INTERIM)**
business manager **RACHEL BOUCHER**
distribution **MACKENZIE KIRBY**
system administrator **CLEVE HIGGINS**

CONNECT WITH YOUR PASSIONS,

**ENGAGE WITH
YOUR COMMUNITY!**



Connect with 50 organizations at the
VOLUNTEER FAIR

October 1, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.,
E.V. Building Atrium

Attend a workshop

October 29: **LAUNCH YOUR CAREER, VOLUNTEER!**

November 18: **STRATEGIC VOLUNTEERING**

Visit your on-campus Volunteer Resource Centre! (H-608)

f Concordia LIVE Centre

concordia.ca/volunteer

YOUR CAMPUS, YOUR SUCCESS,
YOUR STUDENT SERVICES

B A R DATCHA

THURSDAYS \$5 PINTS NO COVER



#98LAURIERWEST
BARDATCHA.COM

@#\$\$%!

fatkiD

Comedy
Tour

Hosted By
Liam Kelly

Featuring
Jeff Leesson

Special Guests

Jeremy Dobski, Emma Wilkie, Jacy Lafontaine, Habib Siam and Matt Shury

Starring

Adrian Sawyer

Sunday September 27th
Katacombes

1635 Boul St-Laurent

\$15 at the door - \$10 for students