

LINK



Industry To Luxury

P. 3

Art + Feminism

Yiara Magazine is set to launch its anticipated fourth issue. **P. 7**

Here's the (Goalie) Situation

Robin Billingham has had an up-and-down two seasons with the Concordia Stingers. **P. 11**

Editorial

The Link endorses members of the Act Together slate. **P. 15**

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THE LINK

NOTICE OF ELECTION

The Link Publication
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representatives

Elections will be held
Wednesday March 29
at 4 p.m.
in *The Link's* office.

All Link's contributors
with staff status are
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Lachine Canal factories historically made for a steady source of employment to the 30,000 predominantly poor residents in the area until the 1950's.

PHOTOS KELSEY LITWIN

WHAT HAPPENED HERE?

Exploring Communities at the Edge of Deindustrialization.

KELSEY LITWIN
@KELSEYLITWIN

Standing outside of the Point St. Charles library, I am surrounded by the sound of approaching flames. The *sizzle, crackle* and *pop* of the spreading warmth is growing louder and louder; sirens wail; people are shouting over my head in a way that evokes both celebration and panic.

I open my eyes and look around. There is no fire.

Sara Breitreutz, the voice speaking to me through my headphones, explains, "Fires have long been common in the Point." I continue to walk the perimeter of the firehouse-turned-library, approaching a playground. "Especially as factories started to close in the 60's and 70's and many buildings were left empty," she continues.

Breitreutz is the narrator for *La Pointe: The Other Side of the Tracks*, an audio walk created by Concordia's Centre for Oral History and Digital Storytelling. She was one of the 30-member team involved in creating the multimedia tour through the deindustrialized southwest borough of Montreal.

"The residential areas were built along the factories," explained Professor Steven High, a co-director of the centre. Up until the construction of the St. Lawrence Seaway in 1959, the riverbeds of the Lachine Canal were home to a predominantly poorer section of Montreal's population. The factories that lined the canal were a steady source of employment for the 30,000 residents of the area until the 1950's. Then the factories closed up shop because ships no longer passed through the canal.

"Between 1961 and 1991, half of the population of the south-west vanished," said High. "Basically the area got hollowed out." He explained the streets that used to guide people to and from work now seemed empty.

As deindustrialization progressed, the neighbourhoods began to identify with "dys-

function," High continued. "You'd almost think the whole area was on fire," he said. The text that accompanies the *La Pointe* audio walk explains that fires are a characteristic of neighbourhoods experiencing a socio-economic crisis, much like in Detroit today.

The audio walk replicates what High describes as the "symphony of industrial sound" that buzzed in the air of Montreal's southwest during the turn-of-the-century. "It connected people," said High of the noise. "Now industrial sounds divide [...] It's no longer unifying in the same way."

In 2000, the population of Point St. Charles dropped to 13,000 people.

Now, gentrification, in the form of boutique shops and condominiums, is repopulating the areas along the Lachine Canal. The socio-economic reality for long-term residents, however, has been much slower to build up.

"There's a real sense of helplessness," said Eliot Perrin, a Concordia graduate history student who is affiliated with the centre. "Inner-city residents see the problems that their city is facing on a daily basis and that comes from deindustrialization." The isolation furthers as high-rise condos are constructed and new businesses find homes in these once working-class neighbourhoods.

Gentrification and deindustrialization, Perrin said, are "economically and aesthetically linked." Industry provided a substantial amount of jobs in inner-city Montreal, he explained. "Often times, the new job replacements have been in the service industry, providing [options that are] baseline, minimum wage," he added. The justification, he said, is that "a space of production becomes a space of consumption." It replaces and flips the economic engine that once existed in those spaces.

The economic reinvigoration is out of reach for those who remained in the shadows of industry long after it left. "Instead of being a part of the larger economy, it's selling to people who are a part of the same economy," Perrin explained. The professionals who move into the high-class new constructions are able to consume at a different rate than the working-class who still live there. "People think that these old industrial sites have that authentic appeal even though they don't understand what the empty factory means," he said.

High, who authored a book on the social and cultural impact on deindustrialization titled *Corporate Wasteland*, understands there is a romance to what he calls "ruin-gazing." The appeal of these gritty industrial spaces is

that they carry a collective history, inspiring a melancholic nostalgia for what has been.

"People [are drawn] into it as, 'Wow! The power of us!'" High said. "We started to see the deindustrial sublime." The danger in doing so, High remarked, is that the communities that were closely affected by the degradation of these spaces are not welcomed into the rejuvenation process. "So I was asking, 'Why are people interested in the ruins, but not the poor people living nearby?'"

Those are the questions that High would like to instill in the minds of his students. Through the creation of inclusive projects, like the audio walk, High demonstrates that it is possible to study history from a different point of view. "In universities [...] you're looking outward onto other histories or other people. You're learning about them," he explained. "What we're trying to teach is how do you learn with people, in partnership."

The Centre for Oral History and Digital Storytelling offers its affiliates the opportunity to study, share and engage with the past. Their projects allow researchers to ask, as High said, "How do you connect people to these stories? How do you curate that connection?"

After all, High said, "History is not just there. It's each of us."



The abandoned factories that line the Lachine Canal represent a collective history for residents of Montreal's south-west.
thelinknewspaper.ca/news • March 29, 2016

CSU ELECTION: MEET YOUR EXECUTIVE CANDIDATES

Out of 16 Candidates, 8 Will Be Elected To Fill Next Year's Executive

VINCE MORELLO and JOSH FISCHLIN
@VINNYMORELLZ @FISHYNEWSWATCH

Concordia Student Union general elections begin today, and aside from the Loyola Coordinator spot, all executive positions are contested. Polling lasts from March 29 to 31.

Two slates are running—*Empower Concordia* and *Act Together*. There is one candidate running independently. Despite slates, students vote for candidates by position.

Additionally, five referendum questions will appear on students' ballots. Quorum for the election is 450 members.

Rachel Gauthier

Student Life Coordinator

Gauthier served as a CSU councillor this past year, so she is familiar with how student politics work.

If elected, she plans to take advantage of the green spaces Concordia has to offer on its two campuses. She also wants to help give exposure to student groups, and to student events as well.

"Students should vote for me because I have gained the knowledge necessary during my time on council to know exactly what my mandate entails," Gauthier said. "I believe I have the skills and the drive to become the next student life coordinator."

Aloyse Muller

External Affair Coordinator

Muller has been an executive at the Liberal Arts Society for two years. He served as its president this year. He also has experience in dealing with administration through his work as a senator.

"I have been outspoken about what I stand for, and I think folks can judge me on my past actions rather than on my promises," Muller said.

If Muller is elected, he wants to work with the provincial representation Association for the Voice of Education in Quebec, and other student associations to prevent the rumoured deregulation of programs for international students. He also sees the CSU as a resource for student run initiatives.

"This means working to augment the visibility of these groups, more poster space, better online promotion, and offer logistical support, but also respecting their complete independence," he said.

Rami Yahia

Internal Affairs Coordinator

Yahia has been an executive of Solidarity for Palestinian Human Rights, where he learned the many issues clubs experience in accessing space and acquiring funding. He also has experience in distributing funds to clubs and student groups.

If elected, he wants to focus on helping groups within the school and make them aware of the avenues of funding that they can reach out to. He wants to work with the student life coordinator to have a second clubs fair in the winter semester. Yahia would also like to develop a report on unused spaces on campus as well, so that they can be properly used for student initiatives.

Lucinda Marshall-Kiparissis

General Coordinator

Marshall-Kiparissis has been a councillor on the CSU for two years, and a member of its policy and Loyola committees. She's also the engagement coordinator with Sustainable Concordia, the campus outreach coordinator for CJLO 1690AM and on the board of directors for Frigo Vert. She has served on the university senate as well.

"We all understand how important grassroots student activity is at Concordia," she explained. "In our roles as representatives on a central body, we'd do our best to respect, promote and facilitate the spaces for things that happen outside the CSU offices."

If elected, she wants to advocate for student interests through administration. She also seeks to assure the school respects the anti-austerity and environmental mandates set by undergraduate referendums, as well as continue current CSU projects such as daycare, affordable housing and assisting student run businesses.

Sophia Sahrane

Academic and Advocacy Coordinator

Sahrane has experience working at the CSU Advocacy Centre. While there, she learned how the university functioned in regards to their policy structure, and represented students in university disputes.

"I am qualified and dedicated to making Concordia more accessible, both physically and academically, a safer space," she said.

If elected, Sahrane wants to facilitate the process for students to get internships and work experience in the field that they study in. She also wants to support student-parents by aiding in their recognition by the university.

"I also want to promote dialogue on issues of mental health, self-care, sexual assault, sexual assault bystanding, gender issues, racism, and anti-oppression dialogues in general, to try to get rid of the stigma that surround many if not all of these issues," she said.

Lana Galbraith

Sustainability Coordinator

Galbraith is currently an executive for the Arts and Science Federation of Associations, where she drafted a new ethical purchasing and sustainability policy. She's also a member of senate, a workshop consent facilitator at the Centre for Gender Advocacy, and was last year's president of the Liberal Arts Society.

Galbraith plans on lobbying the school to divest in fossil fuels, support Concordia groups that are socially and environmentally sustainable, and encourage curriculum on sustainability in all faculties.

She also wants to increase the amount of gender-neutral bathrooms on campus and make sure all CSU events are safe.

Marcus Peters

Loyola Coordinator

Peters has been elected to the CSU council twice and has worked with a variety of fund committees. He was also elected as the finance coordinator for the Sociology and Anthropology Student Union, where he has been working on the fossil fuel divestment campaign.

If elected, Peters wants to build off of currently successful projects, and increase funding for the Free Lunch Program hosted at The Hive on the Loyola campus.

"I believe the best way to promote Loyola campus life is to build off of these successful initiatives, as well as fashion the spaces that currently exist towards the promotion of student life," he said. Like his *Act Together* teammates, he wants to promote sustainability within the university and in the projects he will oversee as Loyola Coordinator.

ACT TOGETHER

Adrian Longinotti

Finance Coordinator

Longinotti volunteers as a councillor and member of the finance committee on the CSU council.

"Being able to manifest my knowledge and experience from working in the financial sector into on-campus initiatives allows me to maximize my experience as a student," Longinotti said.

If elected, he wants to have constant communication with the student body, which includes transparency with the distribution of finances between student groups and clubs.



Lucinda Marshall-Kiparissis
is the face of Act Together.

NIKOLAS LITZENBERGER

Bryan Sa Pimentel

Sustainability Coordinator

Sa Pimentel has experience working with a few community organizations, such as the Terry Fox Run and the Salvation Army. In CEGEP, he participated in National Model United Nations.

He would like to increase funding for The Hive, People's Potato, and the Greenhouse on Hall Building's twelfth floor. This wouldn't necessarily mean a fee-levy increase, according to Sa Pimentel, but he couldn't elaborate on where the extra cash would come from.

He would like Concordia to host a "Green Campus Week," which would involve having various green initiatives come to the school and show student how to be sustainable in their everyday lives.

Other initiatives he would like to pursue would be to replace some of the old water fountains around school—possibly with the help of engineering students—and use non-toxic washing products.

Diana-Joy Bautista

External Affairs Coordinator

Joy-Bautista has served as a regular member and as Treasurer of the Zeta Tau Omega sorority, and sat on the board of directors of the International and Ethnic Associations Council.

She would like to increase transparency at the CSU by making information more accessible to the public.

"There's a lot of issues with regards of having our public image more exposed," she said.

Increasing recognition and compensation for Concordia's sports teams is also important for Joy-Bautista. She doesn't yet know how much more compensation they should receive.

Tiffana Paulrajah

Finance Coordinator

Paulrajah is a student of the John Molson School of Business. She has served as vice-president communications of the International and Ethnic Associations Council, and is a part-time financial advisor at TD Bank.

If elected, she would attempt to negate the effects of austerity, particularly with regards to tutorials.

"[Students] actually stand outside the classrooms waiting like two or three hours beforehand, and there's still not enough places," she remarked.

Paulrajah would also like to speed up the check requisition process, which is how people are paid back by the CSU for events they hold.

Her biggest goal would be to implement the "Smart Spending Doctrine," which is meant to increase collaboration between associations and increase prudence when it comes to spending.

Eddy Kara-Sarkissian

General Coordinator

Kara-Sarkissian has served as president of the Armenian Students' Association, was on the board of directors of the International Ethnic Associations Council twice, and was clubs coordinator during his time at Vanier College.

Empowering students means, "hearing them out," he said.

He would like to implement what *Empower Concordia* calls the "Smart Spending Doctrine." The plan has two points: collaborate with associations across campus, and make sure that every council decision adds value and benefits students.

Kara-Sarkissian believes it would be healthy for the union, and a lot could get done if students had the "opportunity to show up and debate their views about things that would be voted on."

If elected, his goal would be to have a student body that is more informed about what is going on at the university. Addressing concerns with understanding the CSU's jurisdiction, Kara-Sarkissian said the policies *Empower Concordia* pursues wouldn't be "completely done and implemented by the CSU." They would rather gauge public interest with regards to the policies and work with departments that have the power to address student concerns.

EMPOWER CONCORDIA

George Moustakis

Student Life Coordinator

Moustakis has served as a VP for the Hellenic Student Association of Concordia, as well as vice-president events for the International and Ethnic Association Council.

If elected, he would continue to hold events like Orientation. He would also like to create events like "CSU Idol," "Amazing Race," and "recreational and competitive" sports games in collaboration with other universities.

Moustakis would like to host guest speakers to address topics like sexual harassment, stress, bullying, staying motivated at school, and small business growth. In addition, he will be looking to create workshops dealing with healthy lifestyle, the job market, life improvement and motivation, and skills growth.



Eddy Kara-Sarkissian is the face of Empower Concordia

HÉLÈNE BAUER

Antonia Macris

Academic and Advocacy

Macris has worked on numerous organizations across campus, such as the Hellenic Student Association, the Arts and Science Federation of Associations' External Committee, the Coms Guild, the Geographic Undergrad Student Society of Concordia, and the Zeta Tau Omega Sorority.

She would like to increase student awareness to some of the services across campus, like the Housing and Job Bank, Advocacy Centre and Legal Information Clinic.

Macris would also like to see the implementation of a student complaint office for those services, which she called an "informational HUB," to point students in the right direction.

Under her mandate, a "professor office hour oversight program" might be created in order to address complaints that professors don't provide proper feedback to their students. This could possibly be addressed through "interactive" online office hours.

Other initiatives include fixing the MyConcordia portal by working with the IT department, and creating policies with regards to final grade submissions.

Jing Ruby Zhao

Internal Affairs Coordinator

Ruby Zhao has worked as the Events Coordinator for the Concordia Chinese Student Association. She is also on the executive team of the International and Ethnic Associations Council.

She would like to implement a "mentoring system" for clubs' executives to receive "training and proper guidance."

Increasing clubs' funding by "looking at where to cut within the administrative body of the CSU," and allocating funds to improve student spaces are other initiatives he would like to pursue.

Additionally, she would like to improve the CSU's communication with the Concordia student body.

Zhao could not be reached for comment on her platform by press time, as her info derives from a blurb she wrote on the CSU elections website.

INDEPENDENT

Omar Riaz

External Affairs Coordinator

Riaz has experience working as both the treasurer and the president of the Vanier Student Association. He has also sat on the Vanier College Board of Directors, and was involved in the Royal Canadian Air Cadet program.

He would like to work with organizations that "tackle specific causes that Concordia students are passionate about," such as mental health, consent, and career building.

Opening up internship networks for students and lowering the eligibility criteria for internships would be something he'd like to implement.

Continuing to work on anti-austerity initiatives that are already in place is also important for Riaz. Other initiatives include bringing more speakers to Concordia, and increasing transparency by making yearly budgets and council meeting minutes easily available to students.

Most importantly, he would like to educate students on what the CSU has to offer.

thelinknewspaper.ca/news

More Election Coverage

Also up for grabs in the CSU election are spots on the union's council. Go online to see a breakdown of the candidates.

CSU Elections 2016: Referendum Questions Breakdown

Five Questions on the Ballot Could Affect the Fees You Pay and Whether You Oppose the Construction of a Pipeline

JONATHAN CARAGAY-COOK, KELSEY LITWIN, and JOSH FISCHLIN
@HIIMBIRACIAL @KELSEYLITWIN @FISHYNEWSWATCH

Education & Tuition Increase Positions: Do you as a member of the Concordia Student Union, approve the adoption of the following positions?

This question asks the undergrad body whether they support the CSU's efforts to oppose government efforts to allow universities to increase international student tuition to make up for budget cuts in higher education. Voting "yes" to this question will back up the CSU's position for accessible education for international students.

Currently, international students enrolled in engineering, computer science

and at the John Molson School of Business have their tuition fees entirely determined by Concordia administration, rather than being regulated by the provincial government.

This is because the Quebec government deregulated these disciplines in 2014—which means they're no longer provincially funded, and universities like Concordia can charge whatever they want

and keep the money.

Thus far, Concordia hasn't made drastic changes—unlike McGill, which charges over \$30,000 per year for certain international programs. If the question passes, the CSU would be able to speak authoritatively about the situation in senior university bodies like the Board of Governors or Senate, according to Terry Wilkings, the CSU General Coordinator.

"It's a very strong stance if you pass it

through referendum," he said.

To make any change to tuition fees, Concordia's Board of Governors must approve it. Wilkings said the question's timing is ideal, because the provincial government released its new budget recently, and the university's Board will likely decide on its tuition fees soon as well.

If passed, the position will be adopted into the CSU's positions book, which can only be reversed with a future referendum.

Canadian Refugee Initiative: Do you agree to pay 37 cents per credit indexed to inflation in accordance with the Consumer Price Index of Canada, to the Canadian Refugee Initiative, effective Fall 2016?

With a fee-levy of \$0.37 per credit, the Canadian Refugee Initiative will integrate newly immigrated refugees within the Concordia community by providing them with general across-the-board support, and also provide new opportunities for Concordia students. The initiative stems from Concordia's Syrian Students' Association.

If passed, about 45 per cent of the money will go towards their Business Development Centre as well as offering paid and unpaid

internships. Kinan Swaid, president of the SSA, explained that the Business Development Centre would be a resource for the greater Concordia community, not just refugees.

Swaid said the Refugee Centre would pair entrepreneurs with refugees who have the knowledge and skills that they were looking for.

"Most of [the refugees] are engineers, doctors," he said. "There's a lot of manpower that can be used."

Another 17 per cent of their budget will be allocated towards housing for the refugees. The goal, Swaid said, is to buy a property to create subsidized housing for student immigrants, refugees and undocumented refugees.

Other services include a legal aid clinic, academic counseling and a bursary and scholarship program.

"Instead of making them wait and depend on the government, our goal is to make them self-sufficient," Swaid said.

CSU Health and Dental Plan: Do you agree to raise the annual cap (the maximum amount that could be charged to a student in any given year) placed on the CSU health and dental plan fee incrementally, according to need, but not exceeding an increase of \$30.00 (from \$195.00 to \$225.00)?

This past year, the CSU charged students \$193.07 for its health and dental plan through its provider Alliance Étudiante pour la Santé au Québec, according to Terry Wilkings, the union's general coordinator. The last time the plan's fee increased was in 2005, he said.

The point of the question is to adjust to rising costs, he explained, as the current plan couldn't match a one per cent increase. Last year, the CSU ran a similar referendum question asking for a \$46 increase, but it failed. This time, the question asks for a \$30 increase and

has been expanded to specify that it's seeking more access to mental health services. Wilkings said the expanded coverage would allow students to use a registered clinical counsellor and a master in social work. Currently, students can only be covered for using a licensed psychologist.

The CSU increase is smaller this year because students rejected it in 2015, Wilkings said. If the question passes, the CSU won't need to request another increase for five to seven years, he added.

ASEQ conducted a survey earlier this year of 1,100

undergraduate Concordia students. Among other results, 43.6 per cent of respondents said they would approve an increase in the plan's cost to maintain the current coverage. 36.5 per cent of those surveyed said they were in favour of increasing costs to expand the coverage.

"Incrementally" means the plan would rise at most three to four per cent per year, which Wilkings said is the average rate of inflation. If the question doesn't pass, he said the plan won't be able to cover new costs, meaning students would have access to less coverage.

International/Ethnic Association Council (IEAC): Would you agree to raise the fee-levy from the current \$0.06 per credit to \$0.12 per credit, allowing the IEAC to allocate funds towards growing the cultural and ethnic club-base within Concordia, effective Fall 2016?

Established in 1981, the IEAC represents 11 ethnic student groups on campus. This includes groups like the Concordia Ukrainian Student Union, the Arab Student Association, and the Hellenic Student Association, among others.

In March, the IEAC co-hosted an event called, "Unifying Concordia Soccer Tournament 2016," where teams paid a \$100 fee to play, and

presented its 34th Cultural Expressions Show, a cultural variety show. It's unclear why the umbrella organization wants a fee-levy increase. The website's events page hasn't been updated since November of 2014, which was the last time it asked for a fee-levy increase and lost. An executive from the IEAC could not be reached for comment by press time.

Energy East & Line 9 Pipelines: Do you as a member of the Concordia Student Union (CSU) agree that the CSU adopt the following position? "That the CSU oppose the Energy East and Line 9 pipelines as well as any form of tar sands development."

The CSU wants to take an official stance against the TransCanada Energy East and Enbridge Line 9 pipelines.

The Montreal Metropolitan Community opposed the Energy East pipeline in January. Mayor Denis Coderre justified the stance saying, "It still represents significant environmental threats and too few economic benefits for greater Montreal." The pipeline would transport 1.1 million barrels of oil sands crude from Hardisty, Alta.

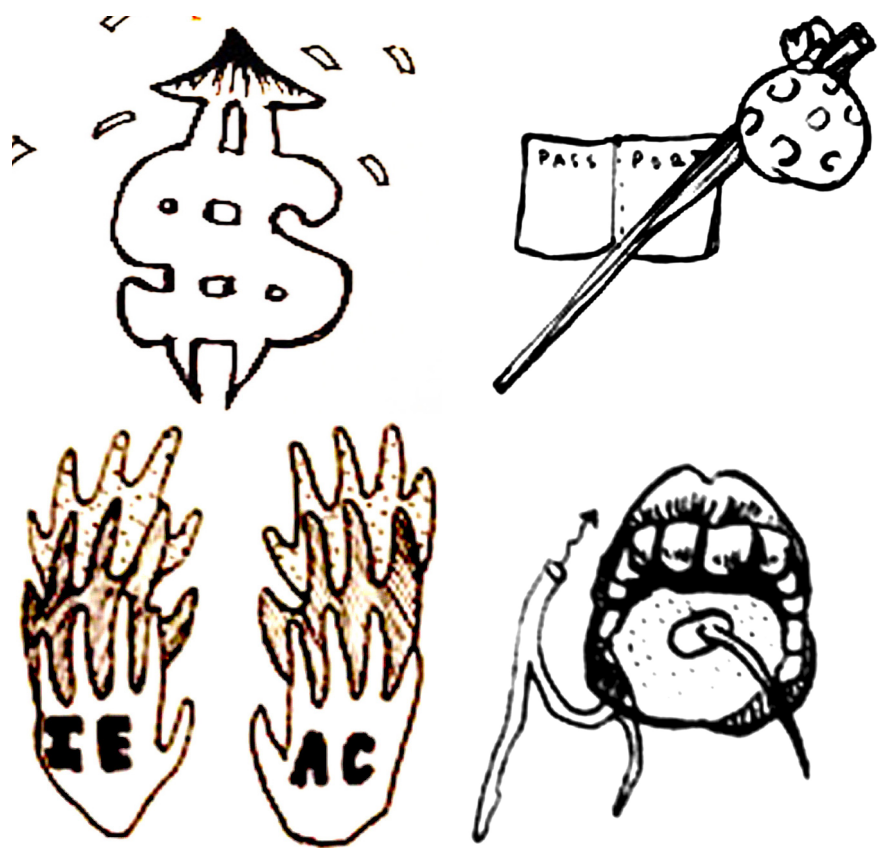
to Saint John, N.B. daily, travelling through southern Quebec, including Montreal and Quebec City.

Enbridge's smaller Line 9 pipeline has also faced strong resistance. The Supreme Court of Canada has recently approved an appeal to the pipeline by the Chippewas of the Thames First Nation.

The original Line 9 pipe was built in 1976 to carry oil towards Eastern Canada, although the flow had been reversed in the late 1990's to carry foreign oil westward. Enbridge now wants to reverse directions

again, to transport oil from western to refineries in the east. The decisions have been motivated by the fluctuating prices in Canadian and foreign crude oil, as well as the desire to export Alberta's oil. Line 9 received a go-ahead last October, and began pumping 300,000 barrels of oil daily from west to east despite protests criticizing its safety.

If this referendum passes, the CSU will officially be opposed to both of these pipeline projects, and can engage in mobilization against them.



MADELEINE CLAIRE GENDREAU



Beyond Your Feminist Feed

Fourth Year of Yiara Magazine Aims to Expand Perspectives on Art History

MELISSA GONZALEZ-LEY

Art, history and feminism—these three topics are difficult to conceptualize individually, let alone collectively. And yet, a team of undergrad students is attempting to do such a task—all within the confines of a magazine.

Yiara, a feminist art and art history magazine based out of Concordia, strives to critically analyze these subjects while including a wider range of perspectives.

“I care a lot about what stories get told. You see a lot on Instagram and online, but you also start to get tired of seeing the same things,” said Amelia Wong-Mersereau, Editor-in-Chief of *Yiara*.

The magazine, in its fourth year of publication, isn’t just pages of beautiful pictures and design. Rather, it has enough social conscience and political engagement to recognize that the kind of feminism most people are exposed to leaves many voices unheard.

To some, feminism is a monolithic, intimidating ideology spouted by middle-class, cis-gendered white women—but this point of view is limited, and in no way representative of half the world’s population.

To remedy this situation, some feminists, —namely the women at *Yiara*—want to give a voice to marginalized women of different social classes, cultures, races and religions.

“We all decided together that we weren’t just going to be passive and publish things that looked nice,” said Wong-Mersereau of herself, and the rest of the 14-person team. “We actively want to be thinking, ‘Has this story been told before, and who have we not heard from who doesn’t necessarily get published?’”

Multiple feminist perspectives can occasionally be divergent, but those at *Yiara* aren’t worried. “Feminism is a discussion, right? It’s



not a fixed definition, and because it’s a discussion, it doesn’t mean that it’s always going to be cohesive,” explained Wong-Mersereau. “There’s going to be conflicting parts to it, and were okay with having text that doesn’t necessarily work with another image.”

Yiara’s mandate to publish new perspectives on feminism in art hasn’t changed, but since its inception in 2013, the free magazine has grown and evolved.

The number of printed copies have gone from 300 to over 500 in the past year, and is entirely funded by sponsors and grants. They received a record number of submissions in both English and French from students at Concordia, McGill, Université de Montréal and UQAM. In addition, the publication is available online and their website is updated with content not found in the magazine.

The upcoming issue will feature a series of paintings, a woven piece, an embroidery piece, a curatorial proposal, a critical essay, poetry, prose, and photography—all written and designed by women or non binary folk.

“So that’s huge,” said Wong-Mersereau. “But of course, there are so many things we still want to do, to just keep getting bigger and better.”

This ambitious, thoughtful magazine shows no signs of slowing down soon and hopes to appeal to a wide range of readers—not just mainstream feminists.

“There’s so many things that get in the way of people picking up a magazine that is feminist or calling themselves feminist,” but at the end of the day, “feminism is a conversation that is open to all and is inclusive to everyone,” according to the magazine’s editor.

Yiara Magazine’s Launch Party and Vernissage // March 31 // 1181 Ste. Catherine St. W. // 7:00 p.m.



Yiara uses various mediums to express its feminist pillars. These collages are in sync with the magazine’s social conscience.

COLLAGES COURTESY SARAH AMARICA

Nostalgia

SARA CAPANNA

It is amazing how time flies
 On wings of sand that seem to
 Fall faster and faster each day.
 One turn of the clock's hands ago
 You were bundled into a Halloween costume,
 Running excitedly to a stranger's house
 To receive candy you would eat for months to follow.
 The clock's hands tick a quarter of an hour
 And you are running around a cousin's house
 At Christmas, causing mayhem and mischief
 In your velvet dress.
 Blink once and you are here.
 Halloween costumes have gotten short enough
 To reveal the pale skin beneath them.
 No longer makes your skin tingle with joy
 Your Christmas list has been razed down to two lines
 And you just want a distraction from the mayhem
 That Christmas music you listen to
 Of quasi-adult life.
 That mischief that used to create
 Alcohol is spilt across all the days of
 Has been replaced by a phone screen.
 The magical seasons you used to love,
 Pandering to those who simply want to forget
 The Polar Express taught us that those who don't believe
 Will never again hear the sweet ring of the bells.
 In the magic that overcame me as a child?
 And enjoy the moment.
 Has my innocence evaporated just as quickly
 Why is it that I can no longer believe
 Have I seen too much misery?
 Have I felt too much sadness?
 As the sands of time?
 Why must the holidays be subjected
 To the banality that plagues your average Wednesday?
 Why must I be subjected to the cruel dripping
 That takes away the feelings I hold dear?
 Of the sand in the egg timer
 Why?
 Why?
 Why?

In The Summertime

JULIET BOOKER

In the summertime
 The only summer we spent together
 I drank lemonade until my gums bled
 And ached from the sugary sores
 Jag är ledsen att jag inte kunde vara din frälsare

I sat next to him in the afternoon sun
 Until my skin burned a red so deep
 It matched my tainted, bloody teeth
 Jag är ledsen att jag inte kunde vara din frälsare

I held my eyes open under the sea
 Watching his strokes for so long
 Their lids stung and their veins swelled from the salt
 Jag är ledsen att jag inte kunde vara din frälsare

In the mornings now I wake up
 And smoke until my pink lungs lie by my feet
 On the pavement outside his childhood home
 Jag är ledsen att jag inte kunde vara din frälsare

Maybe one day early next summer
 He will walk outside and pick them up
 Wouldn't that be nice, to breathe again
 Jag är ledsen att jag inte kunde vara din frälsare



MORAG RAHN-CAMPBELL

thelinknewspaper.ca

Put some (digital) spring in your step

Printemps Numeriques kicked off their 150+ events this spring on March 21, with a party featuring Mayor Denis Coderre.



From left, Kathleen Couture and Kate Beirness talked about Beirness's background in sports journalism on Saturday, March 26, 2016.

KEEPING FANS ON YOUR SIDE

Representatives From the Sports Industry Spoke About their Experiences at Concordia

SAFIA AHMAD
@SAFSOTG

Without the fans, professional sports would count for very little. Tim Zenner's job, as director of ticketing and fan engagement for the Detroit Lions, is basically to make sure his fanatics feel appreciated and happy without having their wallets emptied.

At the John Molson Sports Marketing conference that took place this past Saturday, Zenner highlighted the importance of finding a balance between fair ticket prices for fans, while maintaining competitive pricing relative to other NFL teams. The Lions rely heavily on analytical research in order to determine the optimal ticket price.

"[We looked at] what customers were really willing to pay," said Zenner. "The price can drop as low as a dollar or be high like \$10,000, depending on the demand of the event. Our seats are priced at \$100—let's say at midfield. But we found out that there were X amount of customers that were willing to pay \$30 for them."

Despite increasing ticket costs by 4 per cent, the Lions have some of the cheapest prices in

the league. Competitively, compared to other teams, Detroit has a long way to go on the gridiron though.

"The team went winless in 2008," said Zenner. "There were times a price increase was just out of the question just because how poorly the team was playing. And because of that, they started to really fall behind while all the other teams were starting to increase their tickets incrementally over the year."

On top of going winless that season, Detroit like the rest of America, was left reeling after the economic recession of 2008, when the housing bubble crashed, leaving many without a home.

"It was tough," said Zenner. "Some people, no matter how hard they wanted to stay [...] it was an expense that they could afford to let go of."

While the Lions can be given credit for cheap tickets and refusing to increase prices during hard times, most of the honour should go towards their fans' devotion, whose long-time support has helped fill seats.

"The great thing about Detroit [is] how passionate that fan base was for the Detroit

Lions, and how hungry they are for a winner," said Zenner, in admiration.

Buying into a group's culture is also an important aspect of fan loyalty that cannot be overlooked, as vice-president of finance and general counsel of the Chicago Bulls Ram Padmanabhan learned with the shoe culture in the NBA.

"It was probably one of the things I was least aware of, the sneaker culture... it's a real thing," said a surprised Padmanabhan at the conference on Saturday.

The Bulls have done an excellent job extending their reach beyond American borders. It has become commonplace to see people sporting Air Jordans, the brand of sneakers named after Michael Jordan; it's a worldwide phenomenon. By embracing basketball's shoe culture, merchandising in the NBA finds itself at another level compared to other professional sports leagues in the US.

"If you go to a hockey game, if you go to a football game, people wear the jerseys of the teams," explained Padmanabhan. "In basketball—the tank tops—I don't think you really see anyone wearing them. Each sport has its

own uniqueness. Certainly, the shoe culture is something that's really cool about basketball. It's almost like a museum, sort of like an artistic part of the sport."

Succeeding in Sports Business

If there is one thing that Zenner, Padmanabhan, and TSN's Chris Schultz and Kate Beirness have in common with regular fans, it's that they too, are huge sports fanatics. They all took different paths that lead them to where they are today.

Schultz started out as a pro football player, while Beirness gave up on her dreams of becoming a basketball player. Zenner left his home with nothing but his car and his guitar for a career in music, as Padmanabhan first worked in a law firm.

Each speaker took their own unique path towards their career in sports, but made huge sacrifices in order to get there. For instance, after working for Rogers Sportsnet, Beirness gained two and a half years of unpaid, broadcasting experience in Barrie, Ontario for CTV.

"Those years I left a paying job, to work for free, ultimately put me in TSN," said Beirness.

While they've been successful, they all believe students wishing to work in sports business need to approach it in the same way that an athlete approaches a sport: with hard work, discipline, and preparation.

"The people that have longevity in this industry are the ones who worked their asses off," said Beirness.

"When you play a [football] game, you spend six days getting ready for the game, instilling in me the value of preparation," explained Schultz. "When you go to work, you have to be ready to go to work. There is no such thing as not showing up in the right mentality in this business. Show up prepared."

If there is one thing that each speaker stressed, it was leaving your comfort zone and gaining valuable experience.

"That's how you grow. If you push yourself, you'd be surprised where you can go," stressed Schulz.



From left, Chris Schultz and Tim Zenner discussed sports marketing on Saturday, March 26, 2016.

PHOTOS VINCE MORELLO



Robin Billingham watches his teammates from the bench as Concordia's backup goalie at the Corey Cup on Feb. 12, 2016.

VINCE MORELLO

The Curious Case of Robin Billingham

Following the Career of the Second Year Concordia Hockey Goaltender

VINCE MORELLO
@VINNYMORELLZ

At the beginning of 2015, Robin Billingham was *the guy*.

The goaltender helped the Concordia Stingers win the first game of the Ontario University Athletics playoffs against the McGill Redmen on Feb. 11, saving 40 out of 44 shots. The second game two days later became a different story. After McGill scored five unanswered goals, Billingham was pulled.

Concordia's then head coach, Kevin Figsby still had confidence that his starting goaltender could win the series in the final game.

"The only reason I took Billingham out was because the score was 5-0," said Figsby. "There was only seven minutes to go, and he's starting Sunday's game."

It didn't happen. Billingham was pulled again after three goals, and the Redmen eventually won 6-3, ending the Stingers' post-season hopes.

In the world of goaltending, the line between being a hero and a zero is a thin one. In university hockey, if a goalie has one bad game, they could be sitting on the bench for the foreseeable future.

"Goaltenders face unique challenges, in terms of the mental difficulties in any given game," Billingham said. "You need to be focused 100 per cent at all times, and any mistake that you make is usually magnified."

The 2014-15 season was Billingham's first year with Concordia, but he already had two years of university hockey experience before

coming to Montreal. With the University of Ottawa Gee-Gees, Billingham served mainly as the back-up goalie. After the team was shut down due to sexual assault allegations against a few players in 2014, he was invited to try out with the Stingers. He ended up making the team and the starting job at Concordia.

"It was challenging because I had to make a transition, a decision on whether or not to kind of stay in Ottawa or to make a move and come to a different city," Billingham remembered.

Fast-forward to this year's playoffs in February, and the Stingers were in the same position against the Redmen, but this time Billingham had to watch from the bench. Despite coming in as relief to starter Miguel Sullivan in the first game, he did not see ice again for the rest of the series. Concordia again lost to McGill.

"[Sullivan] came in and he played very well," said Billingham. "He definitely pushed for the starting job, and heading into playoffs he did take it."

Stingers head coach, Marc-Andre Element, never saw Billingham or Sullivan as a starter or backup. Sullivan started 14 games, while Billingham started 13 in the 2015-16 season—he won two games. Element liked having them both, as they pushed each other to improve and that's why they split most of the starts in the regular season.

"As a coaching staff, we go with our gut and see who had a good practice," said Stingers goalie coach, Alex Petizian. "I really like to think of the goalie tandem as a team within the team."

Throughout his career on the Stingers, Bill-

ingham has had some issues with consistency. In some games he would almost singlehandedly help the team win, but other times, he let in savable goals that cost the team.

Getting over bad goals is one of the biggest challenges goalies face, according to Petizian. But in university hockey, the games are so few and far between that it can be harder to forget about a poorly played game. This is an issue that Billingham faces.

"I'm usually fairly hard on myself in terms of what happens. I want to win bad," he said. "When you are struggling and your team struggles, it's sometimes difficult to separate that from your performance and look at yourself objectively."

To battle the issue of not seeing game time for a while, the coaches like to make the goalies work hard in practice. The team regularly has game scenarios during practices, so that goalies can be ready if they have to play during any given game.

Billingham says Petizian has taught him skills to improve both his mental and technical game.

"We've been working on a lot of patience, over the year," Petizian said. "Being more efficient in the movements that he has, as well as reacting to quick plays around the net."

Going into the offseason, Billingham will see a sports psychologist, which isn't uncommon, even for professional athletes. Current Pittsburgh Penguins goalie, Marc-Andre Fleury, went to see a psychologist after his less-than-stellar playoff performances, which cost the team in the NHL playoffs in previous years.

Billingham hopes that seeing a sports

psychologist can help him deal with high stress situations while in net. As the Stingers goalie, he has seen a high amount of shots. The higher the amount, the more goals he's likely to let in. The more he lets in, the harder it is for him to keep his save percentage high.

"I think we're still learning to mesh as a team in the defensive zone," Billingham said. "That makes it difficult for a goaltender to kind of play consistently and post the numbers that would describe a successful season."

Element believes that winning is a team effort. He'll never blame goalies for a goal because hockey is a team game.

"If they score a goal that means there's five other guys that probably made a mistake before," he said. "That's why we are a family. The defensive aspect [of a game is] all related to the team."

But for next year, Element has confidence in the soon to be third year goaltender.

Element plans on having a private conversation with Billingham to really identify the issues he should work on for the next season.

"We had a couple of discussions with him and the goalie coach but Billingham's a smart guy, he's a guy that works so hard in practices," Element said. "We're really excited to have him aboard the program."

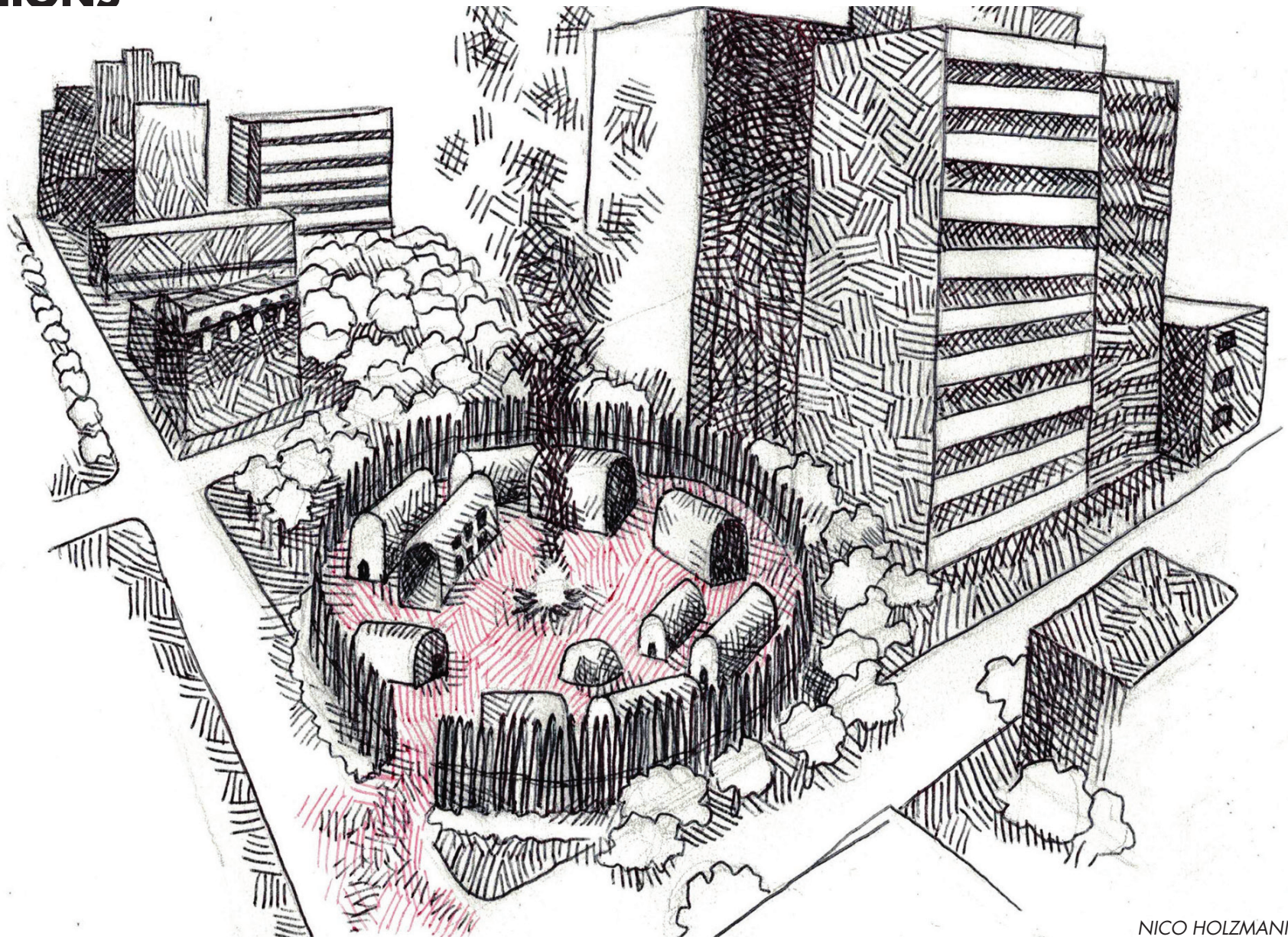
With a long summer ahead, Billingham is currently working on his marketing business, Billingham Marketing Solutions, but when the season starts, it's back to being the best goalie he can be.

"Every single night I come in, I want to win," he said.

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Media Pro on the Podcast

TSN's Kate Beirness was on Pressbox Hattrick to talk about the JMSM half-time conference.



NICO HOLZMANN

Concordia Needs to Represent Indigenous People

Support the Petition by First Peoples Studies Member Association

SEBASTIEN BURKE

A petition is currently circulating online demanding a stronger commitment from President Alan Shepard and Provost Benoit-Antoine Bacon to the indigenous community at Concordia University.

The group that launched the petition is the First People's Studies Member Association, which represents students in the First People's Studies program at Concordia. It is also one of the university's main voices for indigenous students.

The department formed its own student association earlier this year, breaking away from the School of Community and Public Affairs Student Association.

The petition found on change.org, focuses on changes that the association would like to see made to Concordia's "strategic directions" plan, in order to ensure that "indigenous cultures, histories, and systems of knowledge" are respected inside and outside of the classroom.

The petition proposes measures for the university to take in order to rectify "issues of ignorance and misunderstanding resulting from educational failures of the past and present for Indigenous and non-Indigenous alike."

"What we need are concrete commitments and plans," said FPSTMA President and Kanien'kéhá:ka Shiann Wahéshon Whitebean. "Indigenous histories are hardly being taught at Concordia, with the exception of the First Peoples Studies program. This is one of the things that we hope will change with our petition."

The suggestions include the creation of

an Indigenous Advisory Board; reviewing and implementing the Truth and Reconciliation commission's recommendations; and establishing a First People's house to serve as a hub for Aboriginal culture at the school. The petition also asks that Concordia expand its "ability to support indigenous research grounded in the community."

"These initiatives will benefit all of Concordia and facilitate positive relationships between urban indigenous in the Montreal area, local indigenous communities, and the larger Concordia-Montreal community," Wahéshon Whitebean said.

The authors of the petition are looking for 100 signatories before presenting their demands to Concordia's administration.

Regarding indigenous representation, there is one area where Concordia is succeeding—relatively, at least. This is with its indigenous literature course, First Nations/North American Native Literature.

Although the focus is literature—which itself is an integral part of a culture's history—students also learn about "the varying perspectives on Indigenous history and relationships with colonial powers," according to Meredith Marty-Dugas, a student enrolled in the course.

Marty-Dugas also praised the professor teaching the course, Sarah Henzi—a non-indigenous person—for her acknowledgment of the different First Nations and ensuring each nation's voice is heard through guest speakers brought into the class.

While a class like this is a strong step forward, it is not an absolute solution.

This issue is present in all levels of education, and needs to be addressed as such.

Recently, the Quebec government has proposed a new history class that would be implemented in high schools around the province. This new course is being criticized for excluding non-francophones and its general lack of racial diversity.

The non-francophone groups, including indigenous nations, are being presented as antagonists against francophones, said John Commins, a Montreal teacher, during an interview with Radio-Canada.

In Ontario, the provincial government has taken an opposite approach. Ontario has mandated that every public servant, teachers included, receive indigenous cultural competency and anti-racism training.

"We as a country need to realize that there is a big difference, culturally, between the way we educate children from B.C., Quebec, the Maritimes or even in downtown Toronto. Therefore we need to realize that each Indigenous nation had and has their own way of educating their children," said Bernard Leger, an indigenous high school teacher from Ontario who includes Aboriginal theatre in his lessons.

A disclaimer before the following section: it is written from the perspective of someone with a mix of French, Irish, and indigenous heritage who hasn't experienced open discrimination as other indigenous peoples have.

Issues such as the representation of indigenous people begin on a small scale, but quickly explode onto a larger scale in a multitude of

directions. For every step forward that has been found, a step back was always soon to appear.

Indigenous history is Canadian history. While this is not a particularly new or brilliant observation, it is one that is often overlooked.

By neglecting the needs and voices of indigenous students until recently, there has been a failure to acknowledge indigenous issues as part of those that face Concordia. By teaching a francophone-centric curriculum in high schools across the province, there is a failure to acknowledge the indigenous population as part of Quebec.

These problems stem from a divide that has been created in the Canadian identity—an identity which, in itself, is absurd, because of the immense diversity within this nation—which allows some to be "more Canadian" than others.

For the changes that the FPSTMA has proposed to succeed, those in the majority must show their support. If a marginalized group says there is oppression and things need to change, it is not the place of the majority to question them.

Again, nothing being said here is new or brilliant. However, the target of this article is not those that are well versed in this issue. The majority of the population needs to reach a basic understanding, if there is to be substantial progress.

Everyone's duty, whether they are oppressed, privileged, or—in my case—a weird mix of both, is to fight inequality at all levels. Progress doesn't just happen through protest and legislation. There must be a commitment on the personal level to a change in mentality.



A Vote For Empower Concordia Means a Vote For Change

I am of the belief that everyone, regardless of their background, has the ability to add value. *Empower Concordia* has a very experienced team, whose executives are very intelligent and hardworking.

The core of *Empower Concordia*, Eddy, Ruby, Tiffana, Diana, George and Antonia has experience in the International Ethnic Association Council. Bryan has vast leadership experience in Little Burgundy Shoes. Eddy has experience being Clubs Director at Vanier and being on the board of directors in the IEAC. He's also worked very hard to change how Montrealers perceive Canadian films as this year's Montreal International Wreath Awards Film Festival President. The team's vast experience in student life means that this team has the know-how and the right values in order to successfully lead the Concordia Student Union.

Empower Concordia values responsibility and diversity. Their platform reflects social responsibility they want to increase funding for student run programs like People's Potato and Frigo Vert. They understand that these programs provide a lot of value for the students and their importance shouldn't be minimized. The sustainability program would also encourage more integration by increasing volunteering opportunities.

Empower Concordia's platform will encourage better integration between different faculties by increasing communication and organizing more events in order to bridge the gap and to increase levels of participation in the CSU. The team would ensure that as many students as possible are represented having a team composed of students from various disciplines and ethnicities.

On the fiscal side of the responsibility equation, the finance coordinator has set up the "Smart Spending" plan. This would make sure that clubs are adequately financed while at the same time making sure that students reap the maximum benefits of CSU activities. All financial transactions will be evaluated in terms of student benefits. Given the finance coordinator's professional and volunteer experience in the field, it is sure to say that the finances are in good hands. Also, their Finance Coordinator candidate Tiffana is majoring in Finance, compared to *Act Together's* Adrian who does not.

Above all, the team believes in hard work; they are prepared to work hard in order to solve difficult problems such as corruption and transparency. Yes to increasing student participation, financing for clubs as well and its importance should absolutely not be minimized. I feel *Empower Concordia* would work harder to tackle difficult issues that plagued the CSU in the past.

—MARDIG BIDANIAN

Support Act Together

The purpose of this letter is to express my support for *Act Together*.

The students behind *Act Together* are committed to a better Concordia Student Union, and have a clear vision. Through their involvements, they have developed an acute awareness of issues pertaining to the student body, and are able to identify their solutions.

I have personally witnessed the relentless dedication of many of *Act Together* candidates, to the extent that it is inspiring. I can attest to their caring initiatives towards their peers.

In addition to being easily approachable, each candidate is rich with knowledge and hands-on experiences that substantiate the significance of their potential.

They are receptive to the challenges of student life, and I can say with certainty that their contribution to Concordia University as members of *Act Together* is unparalleled.

—FARHANA J. HAQUE

People's Potato Responds to Empower Concordia

The People's Potato Collective has noticed over last week's campaign period that one of the slates—*Empower Concordia*—has named us in their platform, and we thought it was important for us to outline our position.

We've not followed the campaign too closely but we feel it necessary to respond. Namely, we're not affiliated with either slate, and we never endorse candidates for council or executive positions.

Regardless of who is elected, the People's Potato will strive to work in coordination with the Concordia Student Union, in the interest of reducing student poverty and increasing access to healthy food on campus. We'll continue working towards other key aspects of our mandate.

Empower Concordia has included our organization, along with the Frigo Vert and the Hive Co-op, as those fee-levy groups who warrant financial support, and we agree with this proposition. Yet we question why these groups were singled out, and whether *Empower Concordia* would pledge their support to fee-levy groups such as the Concordia Greenhouse, QPIRG Concordia, the Co-op Bookstore, and the Centre for Gender Advocacy, to name a few.

We would like to stress that we oppose politics of division and austerity, and we actively fight against these when we encounter them in our organizing efforts at a grassroots level. The dynamic at play—intentional or not—acts to divide the community and indicate certain groups as less worthwhile, or as lesser contributors.

Many of our sister organizations have strengthened and enriched the Concordia community for years, by diversifying the services and programs offered under the umbrella of the CSU. These programs have required tireless efforts, and that in turn requires financial support.

We stand with other fee levy groups, and would like to remind all candidates that the CSU is a community project that we have all built together. Many students, grassroots organizers and paid staff have put their energy and time into making this community great, but this work needs to be done in solidarity and cooperation—in admiration of difference, and by finding strength in our numbers to resist the language and politics of neoliberalism.

Finally, we would like to wish good luck to all aspiring councillors, senators and executives in the coming election, and we look forward to working with those seated in the coming months.

—JAMIEY KELLY, ON
BEHALF OF THE COLLECTIVE

Vote for Lucinda Kiparissis

Polling for the upcoming Concordia Student Union elections will be upon us shortly, beginning Tuesday, March 29, and ending on Thursday, March 31. During this campaign period, *Act Together* has been working diligently to promote their progressive vision for the Concordia community.

Among them, is Lucinda Kiparissis, who is running for General Coordinator with *Act Together* and is an experienced student representative with a wide array of experience.

I had the opportunity to serve on the School of Community and Public Affairs Student Association with Lucy during the 2013-2014 academic year. During that time, as executive secretary for the SCPASA, she was resourceful, and repeatedly proved she was a problem solver.

Lucy was organized, punctual, reliable, and always attended meetings well prepared. She was always friendly and personable, with a penchant for mediating disputes and keeping egos in check. Overall, Lucy did a tremendous job fulfilling her duty to advocate on the behalf of SCPA students.

Most importantly Lucy has always exemplified good politics, not only talking the talk but also walking the walk. She condemned oppressive behavior, was proactive, and encouraged discourse. She supported events and conduct that promoted the diverse groups present within the SCPA community, while upholding a non-hierarchical structure for our executive.

During the upcoming polling period I urge you to vote for Lucinda Kiparissis, who will do an excellent job as your CSU General Coordinator.

—CHRIS SAVARD

Amnesty International Concordia Supports Act Together

At Amnesty International Concordia we are particularly concerned with accessibility, sustainability, safe spaces, equal distribution of power, financial transparency and community connection at Concordia University, in Montreal, and in the global community. It is therefore our great pleasure to endorse *Act Together* for the 2016-2017 Concordia Student Union executive team.

Act Together consists of eight dynamic individuals with diverse backgrounds, skills and experiences, who are extremely committed and ready to face the challenging task of managing the CSU. In addition to being a cohesive group of likeminded and passionate individuals, each member has been involved in various student associations, clubs and fee-levy groups.

Act Together's aims include, but are not limited to:

1. Engagement: the team wants to engage Concordia University's wonderfully diverse student population by making the CSU more accessible—in part, through the implementation of an interactive website that will serve as an information hub for what is happening on campus, including social events and services available to students.

2. Sustain: *Act Together* is committed to making Concordia's campuses more sustainable through new initiatives and continued support to existing ones.

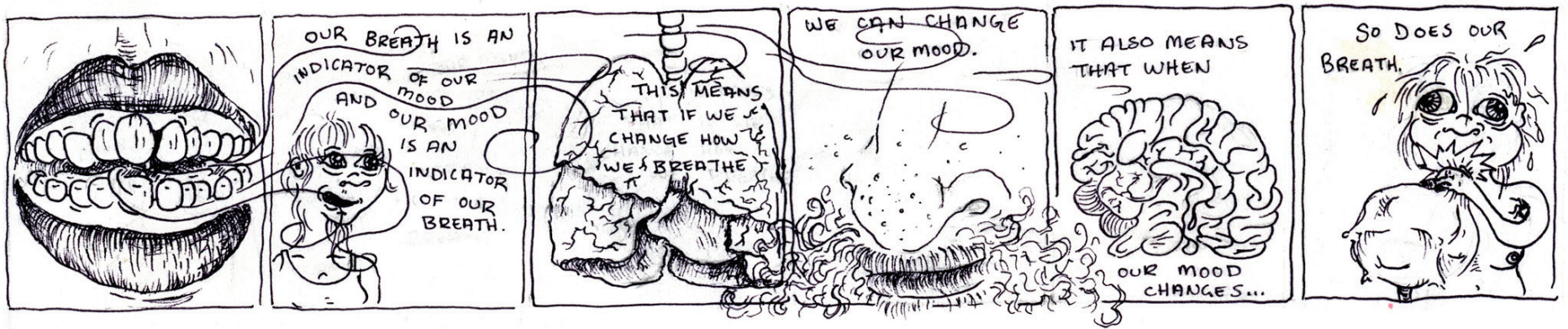
3. Connect: the team plans to create opportunities for the student body to connect across departments and faculties. Their pledge to enrich academic life would include facilitating the search for internships.

Over the past week we have witnessed their commitment to engaging students as they have campaigned for this election. The team has actively approached students throughout Concordia's campuses, ready to discuss their mission and answer questions. Their honesty in discussing the CSU's limitations/shortcomings, and their openness to suggestions and constructive criticism has been very refreshing.

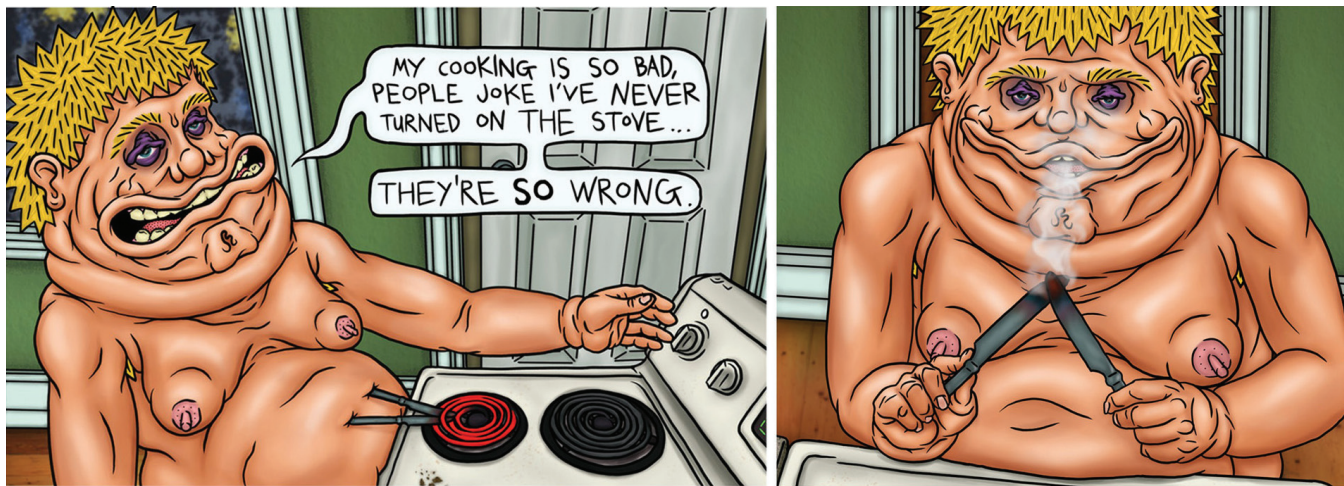
We believe this team is the best qualified, and their vision for the Concordia Student Union is one which AIC would love to see come to fruition. Our intentions are to vote for *Act Together* during the upcoming election.

—AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL CONCORDIA

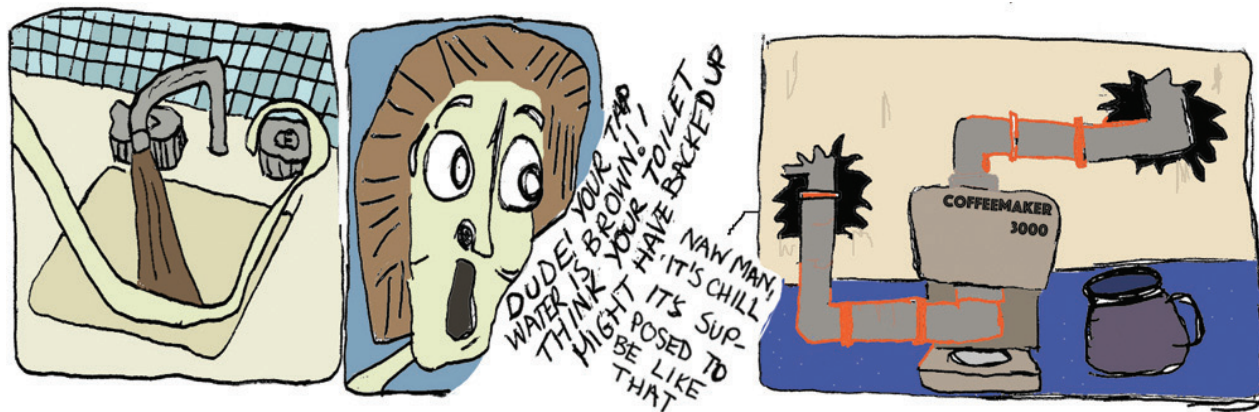
Crap Comics by Morag Rahn-Campbell



Ryan the Wretch by Reid Jenkins



Drowning by Matisse ApSimon-Megens



The Adventures of Every-Man by @samdchurchii



Caity Comics by Caity Hall @caityhallart





MORAG RAHN-CAMPBELL

EDITORIAL

Let's Act Together in the CSU Elections

It's that time of the year again.

From March 29 to 31, undergraduate students will be asked to vote for their Concordia Student Union council of representatives, senators, and executive. Two slates—*Act Together* and *Empower Concordia*—are running for the executive spots. Omar Riaz is the sole executive candidate running alone.

Emphasis should always be placed on the individual candidates, rather than the slates they're running with. But these people are running on teams and thus they can be evaluated as such. Put simply, *Act Together* has more Concordia know-how than *Empower Concordia*.

The team led by Eddy Kara-Sarkissian does not seem to have a total grasp of their abilities under CSU jurisdiction. Items like bursaries and scholarships for Stingers players and mitigating the amount of soda the university has are all goals they've outlined on their website. These are issues the CSU can try to influence if they wanted to, but ultimately don't have final say on.

Empower Concordia is proposing some changes that would be logistically impossible. Their platform isn't adequately explained, despite a long list of barely-defined goals.

For example, despite purporting a desire for a safer space for women, the slate lists under "Introducing new events," the possibility of creating a Concordia's Next Top Model—the tinge of irony is hard to ignore.

For these reasons, *The Link* is endorsing the *Act Together* slate to serve on the CSU executive for the upcoming academic year. It should be stated again that candidates are voted for individually. Most of the team's faces are familiar, but it's not necessarily wise to endorse a team blankly. *The Link* stands behind some members of the team in particular, such as Lucinda Marshall-Kiparissis, Aloyse Muller and Lana Galbraith. These three have demonstrable experience sitting on numerous student and university bodies such as CSU council, Concordia's Senate and more.

During the polling period, students will also be asked to vote on five different referendum questions. Here are *The Link's* views on the five questions:

On Opposing Tuition Increase For International Students:

In February, *The Link* ran an editorial condemning the provincial government's decision

to deregulate tuition rates for international students — a move which could raise their tuition by 25 per cent. That stance remains. International students are an important part of the Concordia community, and solidarity must be shown with them. Students should vote "Yes" for this question.

On Canadian Refugee Initiative:

We are currently moving into an era wherein mass migration will become more and more frequent. For this reason, an institutionalized means to assist migrants in the struggle of relocation should be paramount to Canadian policy. As a large, multi-cultural university, Concordia and CSU assistance for migrants should be expected as natural. Students should vote "Yes" for the fee-levy for a refugee centre at Concordia.

On Fee-levy increase for International-Ethnic Association Council:

The IEAC is a good thing on paper, but many issues about this question are still unclear. There have been no signs of campaigning from their part leading to this referendum question, while it's unclear what exactly the

IEAC does. For those reasons, it's best students vote "No" on the fee-levy increase from six cents to 12 cents per credit for student organization.

On Opposing the Energy East and Line 9 Pipelines:

Concordia's current youth population will be the first generation to live through major climate change. As a student body then, climate maintenance should be of utmost concern. The two pipelines both have serious potential to contaminate drinking water in the likely event of a spill. The CSU should oppose both pipelines and further tar sand development, and *The Link* encourages students to vote "Yes" on this question.

On CSU Health and Dental Plan:

The CSU's health and dental plan's fee has not been raised since 2005. Though health-care in all forms should arguably be free, these increases fairly match current inflation, and it's good that the CSU can offer a relatively cheap health and dental plan. *The Link* encourages students to vote "Yes" to the fee increase.

THE LINK

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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.

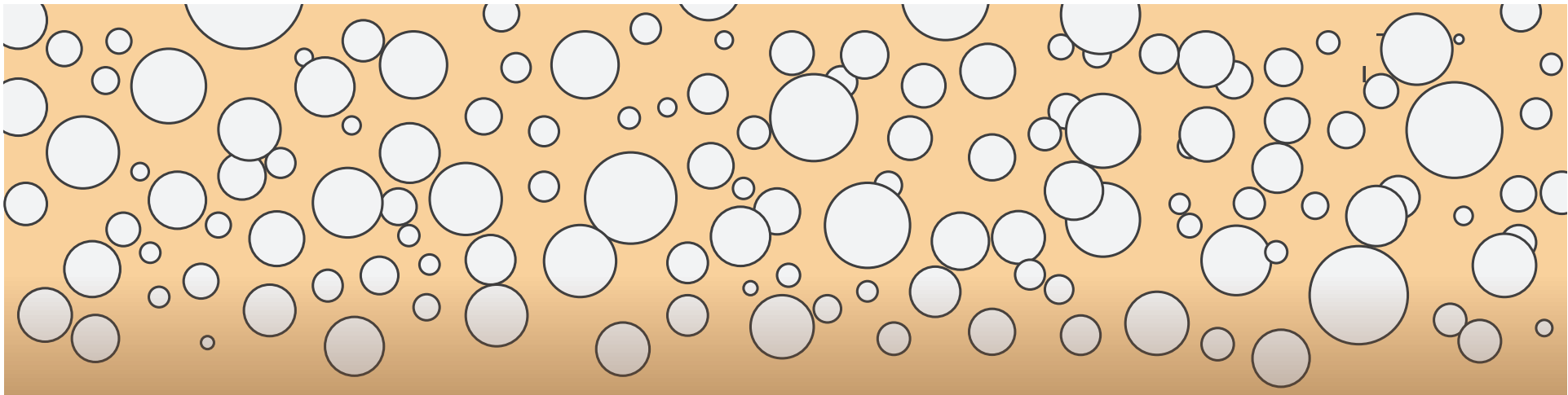
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***There's nothing more fun than an event that rhymes.
What's an event that rhymes?***

A DRINK WITH THE LINK!

It's our last hoorah before heading into finals. Join our editors for the last Drink With *The Link* of the semester at Andrew's Pub (1241 Guy St.) on **April 8 @ 9 p.m.** All current and future contributors welcome! It's our chance to say thanks for a solid Volume 36.

April 8 @ 9 p.m. // Andrew's Pub, 1241 Guy St.

THE LINK

**The Link Publication Society Inc.
Annual General Meeting
Thursday, March 31, 2016, 4 p.m.**

1455 de Maisonneuve W. Blvd. Room H-649

Agenda

- 1. Call to order
- 2. Election of a secretary
- 3. Reading and approval of the agenda
- 4. Reading and approval of the minutes of the 2015 AGM
- 5. By-law amendment
- 6. Board of directors report for 2015-2016
- 7. Presentation of the 2014-2015 financial statements
- 8. Appointment of the auditor
- 9. Presentation of financial statements as of the last day of February 2016
- 10. Presentation of the preliminary budget 2016-2017
- 11. Election of the board of directors
- 12. Other business
- 13. End of the assembly

All Concordia undergraduate students are eligible to attend and vote.

Election of the Board of Directors

The candidates for the two (2) positions, open to members at large, are Matt D'Amours and Laura Lalonde.

The candidates for the two (2) positions, open to members of the community who have had staff status within the last three (3) years, are Colin Harris & Erin Sparks.

Constitutional amendments are available at *The Link* office.

THE LINK

**THE
WORK
SHOP
SERIES**

JOIN US AT THE LINK OFFICE

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

How to Survive Without a Copy Editor

The saying goes that "good writes are rewrites," but whoever slapped that on a coffee mug on Etsy never went into the trenches as a copy editor. This workshop will cover everything from how to write better articles and avoiding making your CE PO'd, to everyday stylistic errors to avoid in your work.

**Friday, April 1
@ 4 p.m.**

Around the World with Words

Being away from home can be inspiring, but not all travel writing is equal. Learn what makes a good travel story, from researching while travelling to pitching and working for a travel magazine by outgoing Fringe Editor and enRoute intern Marie Brière de la Hosserraye.

**Friday, April 1
@ 6 p.m.**

Multimedia-ing Journalism

The Link newspaper is a newspaper, but also a website! Do you know what you can do with a website? Cool multimedia stuff! Our reporter Matt D'Amours does cool multimedia stuff for our newspaper, that's also a website, and he kinda sorta knows what he's doing some of the time!

**Friday, April 8
@ 4:15 p.m.**