

TUITION ON THE UP

As ConU governors
prepare to meet, students
prepare to fight back

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Paint the Days Away

A look into street art culture
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Rookie Impact

Forward Anthony De Luca off to a
leading start in his first year
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Violence Against Women

To end violence against women, we
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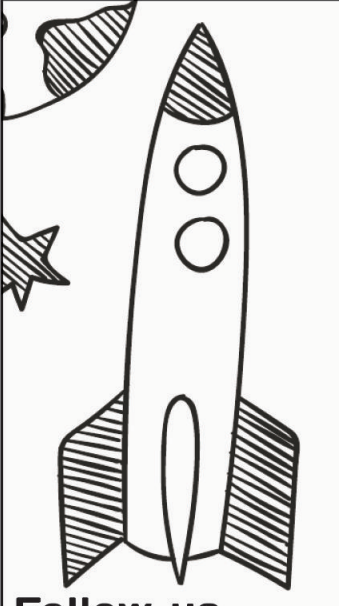
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Mobilization Heats Up as BoG Meeting Looms

Students Continue to Oppose Possible Cohort Pricing and International Tuition Hikes

JONATHAN CARAGAY-COOK
@HIIMBIRACIAL

Next week, Concordia's Board of Governors will vote on whether to introduce cohort pricing, a new pay system for international students in deregulated programs, which detractors say will lead to tuition hikes and turn students into "cash cows."

For student leaders, the main goal right now is to organize a protest on Dec. 14 when the governors will meet in the GM building downtown, according to Aloyse Muller, the Concordia Student Union's external affairs and mobilization coordinator. "We want to make sure it doesn't go unnoticed," he said.

As the highest decision-making body at the university, the Board has the final say on tuition costs for these international students. It has had this power since 2008 when the Quebec government announced it would stop funding—meaning it would deregulate—the programs of business, law, pure sciences, mathematics, and engineering and computer science, specifically for foreign undergraduates.

With no provincial funding for these programs, Concordia administration has been exploring how to fund them. At their meeting next week, the Board of Governors, comprised of university admin, faculty, students, and external community members, will discuss the implementation cohort pricing. This system guarantees a flat rate for international students in deregulated programs for the duration of their studies. If approved, it will begin in the 2017-2018 academic year.

"It's trying to make a fair and level playing field," said Concordia President Alan Shepard in an interview on Nov. 9. "It's trying to make sure that when the [govern-

ment grants] go, we still have the funds to offer a high quality of education."

The administration is framing cohort pricing as a strictly procedural matter, said Lucinda Marshall-Kiparissis, the CSU general coordinator and an undergraduate representative on Board. She continued that they are not addressing the concern students have regarding the possible tuition hikes that may come as part of new system. In preparation for the meeting, she will send a CSU statement denouncing cohort pricing, drafted earlier, this month to her fellow governors.

"We're going to try and talk to our peers," she said. "You don't necessarily see what's happening within the student body if you just go to these meetings." On Dec. 14, Marshall-Kiparissis said she plans to have questions and testimonials from students ready to be presented.

Many universities in Canada and the United States already practice cohort pricing. McGill offers this guarantee for international students in deregulated undergraduate programs, but they might have to spend upwards of \$42,000 per year for 30 full-time credits. At Concordia, the rates are lower, as international undergraduates in the same programs will pay around \$24,000 each year for the same course load.

"I don't propose to go to McGill's levels," Shepard said. As president, Shepard also serves on the Board. He added that through research and surveys of prospective students, they've discovered that international students value stability even at the costs of higher rates.

Enrollment of international students in deregulated programs has increased more compared to international students in regulated programs, according to university spokesperson Chris Mota. "The students are still coming and coming faster," she said.

About a month ago, students began mobilizing against cohort pricing, arguing that the administration wasn't being transparent about the process. The CSU hired two campaigners and started poster around campus, spreading the message that Shepard has a higher annual income than Prime Minister Justin Trudeau. For the 2014-15 academic year, Shepard made \$369,620 in salary, \$69,765 in taxable benefits, and \$40,231 in reimbursements. Trudeau, by comparison, makes \$340,800 per year.

"It's tough to say to someone that has to resort to using a food bank that their tuition is going up when the university president is almost making half a million dollars," said Muller. "[The administrators] aren't bad people but they're obviously disconnected from the people who are struggling each month."

On Nov. 24, two students from the John Molson School of Business organized a "Red Day," encouraging peers to wear red as a demonstration against possible tuition hikes.

A day before this, Sebastien Paul, an undergraduate history major, wrote an open letter to the Board of Governors, which he also shared with various media and student groups, including *The Link*. Paul said he's an active member in the LGBTQ community and has just started his studies in Montreal.

In the letter, which the group Queer Concordia helped draft, he said he feared the tuition hikes would have a "devastating" effect on future international students, in particular those from the LGBTQ community. He detailed the adversity his Indian partner faced during his Concordia application process and during his efforts to take out student loans.

"We know that many students come to Canada knowing their tuition will be higher than in their home country because often safety is an issue," said Zuzanna Smetana, a coordina-

tor from Queer Concordia. "This is especially true for queer students—this is an opportunity to meet people like yourself without the threat of persecution."

Montreal isn't a utopia, Smetana added, but the access to queer media and communities is a reason why international students study here, even at higher costs.

Six days after sending the letter, Norman Hébert Jr., the chair of the Board of Governors, responded to Paul, saying the Board "will carefully consider all arguments, including the ones you have outlined, in making its final decision about the proposal."

Shepard wrote a response, as well, which Paul said "mystified" him. In the email, the Concordia President wrote: "Should the cohort pricing proposal be approved by the Board, the university plans to dedicate a portion of the tuition fees to support international students," a statement no administrator has yet to make.

Mota confirmed that the president sent Paul the email, but couldn't elaborate on the statement. "What does that mean?" Paul asked in an interview on Friday. "If this was his plan all along, why are they being so quiet about it?"

The inspiration for the letter came from visiting friends of his partner, who are also international students, Paul said. He described poor conditions of five to six students living in a small space with no beds or furniture. These friends, he added, would rationalize their living situation as typical student life.

"I'm a student too," said Paul, "this is not how we live in Canada."

The next Board of Governors meeting will take place on Dec. 14 at 4 p.m. Non-governors, including students and press, are barred from attending the meeting, so an observer room will be set up in the Hall building, room H-633-1.

A HISTORY OF INTERNATIONAL TUITION AT CONCORDIA

2007

The Quebec government allowed universities to increase supplementary international tuition fees by ten per cent. Concordia's former president Claude Lajeunesse calls for a complete deregulation of all tuition, including that of Quebec students.

2009

On June 18, students protest in support of international students, after the BoG again approve to increase international tuition fees by ten per cent.

2014

After seven years of transition, Quebec completely stops funding international students in deregulated programs.

On Dec. 14

The BoG will meet to decide whether to introduce cohort pricing or not. Students are currently planning to protest the meeting.

2008

Undergraduate programs in administration, law, pure sciences, mathematics, engineering and computer science have officially been deregulated for international students. Because of a decision made by Concordia's Board of Governors, international students experience their first tuition hike of ten per cent.

2011

By now, international students have experienced a 35 per cent increase in tuition since 2005.

2016

In June, BoG voted to raise tuition for deregulated programs by 1.5 per cent to match the increase Quebec put on regulated programs earlier.



Andrea Krasznai is the current ASFA president.

NIKOLAS LITZENBERGER

Same Issues, Different Day

ASFA By-Elections Fail to Reach Quorum, Again

VINCE MORELLO
@VINNYMORELLZ

During the Arts and Sciences Federations of Associations by-elections in November 2016, 206 students voted, missing the requirement of 505 students for quorum.

ASFA represents 20,000 undergraduates.

"It's just a problem with every student association," said current Vice-President of Finance Christina Massaro. "It's always hard to get people to come out and vote."

This year ASFA had proposed a budget of \$4,744.04 to operate the by-elections. The exact amount spent on the by-elections was \$3,987.88, which is \$756.16 less than what was budgeted.

Current ASFA President Andrea Krasznai blamed the low voter turnout on a lack of advertising. She added that Andrea Gauthier, who ran for VP of Communications and Promotions, didn't initially know that an executive position was open.

"I don't think that there's much of a presence of ASFA on campus," said President of the Italian Student Association—one of ASFA's member associations—Melissa Di Lena.

According to ASFA's by-laws, 2.5 per cent of regular members need to vote in order to meet quorum. Whereas the Concordia Student Union, which represents the undergraduate student body, needs 450 students to meet quorum.

This isn't the first time ASFA has had trouble

reaching quorum. In the general elections of April 2015, 300 of the required 427 students voted in the election. The results were therefore not counted.

Then Chief Electoral Officer Andrea V. Fernandes said late planning and spoiled ballots were the issue.

Since the elections results didn't count, the positions VP Communications and Promotions and independent councilor remain unfilled. ASFA will be doing a call out for both positions and will appoint an interim VP of Communications and Promotions at a council meeting in January.

Another Failed Attempt

ASFA tried to increase its fee-levy by \$0.12 again during these by-elections. It has been collecting \$1.22 per credit since 2008. Previously, Massaro said the additional funds were to give more money to its member associations and pay ASFA employees such as its CEOs and polling clerks.

Should the fee-levy have increased, Massaro was expecting \$20,000 to be added to the budget, effective as soon as 2017.

Di Lena said it was unclear who was on the "yes" committee for the fee-levy question amongst executives and councilors. It was later revealed that the committee consisted of Massaro and Agunik Mamikonyan. A "no" committee had not been formed.

Di Lena added that the only real push for the referendum question came from the ASFA executives.

When asked about why there wasn't a strong campaign, Massaro admitted, "Lack of time, on my part." She added that if quorum had been reached, the fee-levy question would have passed.

This is the fifth time in two years that ASFA has asked to raise the fee-levy.

On Nov. 28, 2014, ASFA students voted down a \$0.38 fee-levy increase. In the following general elections of April 2015, another bid to increase the fee-levy by \$0.38 was made, but the elections didn't make quorum.

Last March, ASFA proposed a \$0.14 increase, which passed. *The Link* previously reported, however, that there was a mistake on the question of restructuring ASFA. After a miscommunication with the students on what was being voted on, all three questions, including the question on raising the fee-levy, returned to ballot for the sake of transparency, according to Massaro.

The second time it was asked, students voted down the fee-levy increase.

Massaro said ASFA would try for another fee-levy increase in the spring 2017 general elections.

Is Another Vote to Restructure on the Horizon?

Last year, students voted against the referendum

question to restructure ASFA twice. If the bylaw had passed, it would have cut the number of executives down from seven to three. The cuts would have included the social coordinator who plans events such as Frosh. It would have also made ASFA a "funding body" for member associations.

Former ASFA External Coordinator and a current CSU executive Lana Elinor Galbraith, said ASFA should look internally on how to make it a better student association.

"All of the executives should be thinking about what their role is and how they can better the association," she said.

She added that the plan for restructuring was rushed, and that there were questions as to what exactly would happen if ASFA actually restructured.

This year's executive team is looking to get away from the issues that have given ASFA a bad reputation among students. Krasznai said that individuals caused the issues in past years, and the individuals in ASFA today are making it better. These issues include reports of harassment, such as the Mei-Ling story.

"I think restructuring might be necessary but [last year's proposal] wasn't the way to go about it, and it's not what people wanted, because 'no' won," Massaro said. "I think we throw some really cool events. I understand but I don't necessarily agree. I'm not sure where I stand on [restructuring]."

This Week in News Online at thelinknewspaper.ca/news

Meet Thomas David-Bashore, your new Concordia Student Union Finance Coordinator.

Canada's Victim Service Centres

in 2011...

3/4 of the victims assisted were women

84% were victims of sexual assault

30% of whom received services related to sexual assault

CLAIRE LOEWEN

SARC Receives a Helping Hand

The Centre's New Service Assistance Alleviates Administrative Burden

OCEAN DEROUCHIE
@OSHIPOSHIE

Since its establishment in 2013, Concordia University's Sexual Assault Resource Centre has been a one-woman show.

Hidden in a labyrinth of hallways in the GM building on the downtown campus, its coordinator Jennifer Drummond held all of the responsibilities related to the management, counselling and volunteer-coordination of the Centre. As of last month, a little bit of weight has been lifted from her shoulders.

The SARC has hired a service assistant. Ashley Allen is the second person to be hired as a paid employee.

Allen's job as a service assistant is to ensure that the ship sails smoothly. She will handle some of the administrative duties that Drummond was previously managing herself. The ultimate goal with the new hire was to free up some of Drummond's time so that she could work on different projects and focus on supporting the people who come through her office.

The new hire is a big step for the centre, which is still in its infancy. Until Allen was brought on, Drummond was the only full-time employee. With the help of a volunteer team of about 15 people, Drummond has been providing one-on-one counselling support.

The SARC also offers a drop-in area for students, where, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on weekdays, anybody can pass by to receive support and talk to a volunteer. The space is separate from Drummond's office. Volunteers can accompany survivors to other services and appointments, on and off campus, if they would like someone to come with them. Allen's job will also entail scheduling the drop-in volunteers.

For Drummond, even with the help of volunteers, Allen, and other university resources such as Health Services or the administration, supporting the many students come through her office on the third floor of the GM building requires a lot of energy.



Jennifer Drummond is the Sexual Assault Resource Centre Coordinator.

OCEAN DEROUCHIE

"It's a lot of work. I am still alive—and managing," Drummond said.

A lot of people come through Drummond's office—a cozy, warmly lit place overlooking the downtown campus. "It's more than you'd think," she said, adding that she notices periods where the volume of people coming to talk to her increases.

"It tends to be..." she says, pausing. "You know how the statistics say that the first two to eight weeks of school is when a lot of instances of sexual violence happen? There's usually a spike right after that period."

There's another spike around finals, as students become stressed about school. "I think that can exacerbate something that is already going on," explained Drummond. "That's just my theory."

In the three years since SARC opened, Drummond said there has been a steady increase in visitors. "I think that is due to just more people knowing that we are here."

"There are pros and cons obviously," Drummond admitted. "I'm sure that this location

prevents people from coming"

The SARC can be hard to find if you don't know where to look. Coming out of the elevators on the GM building's third floor, one is met by a maze of grey-ish hallway. There is little to no signage, save for a few pieces of paper taped up here and there. "Sexual Assault Resource Centre," written in black ink directs visitors down to the hallways and to the SARC office, nestled obscurely among other offices, like Facilities Management.

The fact that there is no waiting room or reception area is also problem that could prevent students from getting the support they need. "If I'm in a meeting and someone comes and my door is closed, they might never come back. It takes all that courage to kind of get there in the first place, and there isn't anyone there."

The drop-in area is intended to help with that. Ideally, there is always a volunteer to talk to. A reception desk for the SARC would make a difference, explained Drummond. Especially, she said, with a service assistant behind it.

When the SARC formed in 2013, Concor-

dia gave it \$173,182 in seed money. "While they were conceptualizing [SARC], they didn't know what was going to be used or needed," explained Chris Mota, the university's spokesperson.

With another staff member, Drummond's time can be used more effectively to educate, advocate and provide support for the Concordia and Montreal community.

"[Drummond] has become the subject expert in the city," noted Mota.

Current statistics show that one in every four women, and one in every six men will experience sexual assault in their lifetimes. Those numbers can be narrowed down further to find that about 15 to 25 per cent of university-aged women, 18 to 24, will experience some form of sexual assault during their educational careers, according to a 2008 study.

In order to support a large institution like Concordia, more adequate facilities need to be provided to students, explained Drummond, so that no one encounters closed doors when they seek help.

Before the existence of the SARC, Concordia didn't have a specialized centre for dealing with issues of sexual assault and violence. Students had to seek help elsewhere or use broader aids at the school such as Health Services, or Counselling and Development, said Mota.

Despite all of this however, Drummond is very passionate about her work and ultimately feels that the university is making a solid effort to support her and the SARC. Considering the nature of the job, Drummond recognized the emotional toll that her position can foster.

"It can be tiring to hear about really upsetting things," she said. "You can't take that pain away from someone—you can't fix everything."

Drummond mentioned that there are tentative—but largely undefined—plans to move the SARC to a better location. With renovations taking place in the GM building, she hopes that they will be relocated to a space that will meet their needs. "Hopefully as time goes by, and as the centre grows, there will continue to be more resources allocated."

Montreal Food Banks: While Some Struggle, Others Thrive

Urgent Need for Aid Opens Up Room for Food Bank Revamp

JOSHUA DE COSTA
@JOSHDECOSTA21

Food banks need donations. It's not news, but an ever-pressing fact.

In a Nov. 24 press release, Dany Hétu, executive director at Moisson Rive-Sud, said demand for food aid in Montreal has continued to rise, but donations haven't kept pace.

This year's Hunger Count, an annual survey conducted of food banks across the country, revealed the number of requests per month for emergency food assistance in the greater Montreal region has risen by nearly 75,000.

But while many food banks may be struggling, others are thriving, transforming themselves into more than just food banks.

The NDG Food Depot, now located on Marlowe Ave., has undergone such a transformation over the last five years.

"We now offer more than 20 programs from growing the food, to cooking the food, to eating the food," said Daniel Rotman, executive director at the NDG Food Depot. "And about half the people who use the emergency food bank participate in one of these other programs."

Lisa Perrault, volunteers coordinator at Sun Youth, an NGO on St. Urbain St., said the organization has used a multi-pronged approach to combat poverty for quite some time. Sun Youth doesn't solely distribute food, she said, but still donations have diminished this year.

"Some of the companies are not donating to us this year. They would prefer to donate to their local organizations," she said.

At the NDG Food Depot, Rotman noted that demand for food baskets has risen—especially over the past few years—but so has the amount of donations.

"Maybe [the depot's transformation is] also helping to give people other access points to food so that demand will stay stable for the basket," he said.

Across the city, however, some food banks aren't faring as well as Sun Youth or the NDG Food Depot.

"We're more in a position to acknowledge the fact than to understand why," Richard D. Daneau, Moisson Montréal's Executive Director, said in a phone interview. "Half of the community organizations to whom we give food are saying that they're lacking food."

According to Daneau, the broader issue plaguing the city is the "changing face of hunger," which is a trend that has taken place over the last few years.

"We see from the stats that more and more students—with grants and loans—are going to food banks," he said. "That segment of the clientele is rising year after year."



NDG Food Depot celebrates its 30th anniversary on Tuesday, Nov. 29.

PHOTOS JOSHUA DE COSTA

"Poverty is increasing in Montreal, or hunger is increasing in Montreal. That is a cruel fact."

But issues surrounding food security—knowing where your next meal will come from—aren't limited to Montreal. Last month, a new study showed one quarter of Canadians worried about how to pay for their groceries, with fluctuating food prices forcing them to reconsider their eating habits.

Valerie Tarasuk, a nutrition professor at the University of Toronto, told the CBC last month that the government needs to act to solve food insecurity across Canada. Tarasuk suggested a basic income policy, where all citizens receive an unconditional sum of money paid by the government regardless of their employment.

"We have a huge problem with food insecurity among people in the workforce," she said. "But a basic income would reach everybody."

Recently, Ontario launched a basic income pilot to gauge whether the policy would reduce poverty and improve health in the province. Quebec also considered the idea in October. Last February, Premier Philippe Couillard said he was seriously considering a universal income program.

Food insecurity is the direct result of poverty, said Kim Fox, programming director at the NDG. Her charity is striving to do more than just the bare minimum to tackle it.

The depot operates more than 30

gardens in the neighbourhood and harvests more than 1.5 tonnes of organic fruit and vegetables each year. It's part of the depot's new approach, said Rotman, where the organization is pushing to provide programs that address the reason people come in for emergency food baskets.

"We're really looking at symptoms of poverty, rather than [the problem of] not having enough food on any given day," said Fox. "We're looking at building skills,

we're looking at education, we're looking at creating networks."

As part of her role, Fox ensures each of the depot's programs meet those overarching objectives.

"We don't think that just giving out food is going to combat food insecurity," she said. "We think a more holistic, well-rounded approach is going to have more effect on food insecurity."

According to Fox, part of that well-rounded approach is to create

a space for sharing and exchanging, where "we don't assume that we're going to teach people how to live their lives."

"A lot of charity models are built around 'one over the other,' she said. "[They say,] 'We know best, we have lots, we're going to give you and we're going to teach you.' We don't think that's a fair approach."

"There needs to be less of the top-down and more of the bubbling-up," she said.



A blackboard displays the NDG Food Depot's various programs and resources.

Organizing Against Precariousness

Quebec's Student Movement Fights Against Student Poverty

JON MILTON
@514JON

Students in Quebec today face a series of micro-economic crises that, together, create widespread student poverty and precarity.

This poverty manifests itself in a number of ways. Over 40 per cent of students across all forms of higher education amass “medium debt” during their studies, defined as anything from \$10,000 to \$24,999, according to a 2015 report by the Minister of Higher Education. Students work unstable low-wage jobs, often in the service sector. Students are generally expected to work unpaid internships as a form of training.

“Young people entering the job market are at the bottom of the totem pole, employment-wise,” said Jamie Robinson, an office assistant at Concordia Student Union’s off-campus Housing and Job Bank. “We have a shrinking employment economy, and it’s those people that are the first to go.”

“Companies aren’t offering full-time employment, they’re offering part-time and contract work—which is inherently precarious,” said the HOJO employee.

Robinson also said universities themselves contribute to masking the full extent of the youth unemployment rate. “People are coming to school because they can’t find work otherwise,” she said, “or the jobs that are available require a Master’s degree.”

Robinson explained that this is a way for companies to offshore training costs to public institutions, and that it is a symptom of neo-liberal austerity.

Based on what she’s seen at HOJO, she explained that finding work at all is very difficult for students. She says her organization sees a large amount of illegal internships appear in its job bank, many of which directly target students. She encourages students to learn how to recognize when internships are actually just unpaid labour.

An unpaid internship in Quebec is only legal when it fits into at least one of three legally defined categories—if it is overseen by a job training program, it is part of schooling, or it is for a non-profit organization with community benefit. Any other “internships” are illegal, unpaid labour.

Students in Quebec are notoriously resistant to accepting poor conditions. Ever since the Quiet Revolution, they have organized to defend and advance their interests.

The Association pour une solidarité syndicale étudiante is a federation of student unions throughout Quebec with over 70,000 members, including the Fine Arts Student Alliance and other departmental associations at Concordia. The federation launched a campaign against the student precariousness in November. According to Rosalie Rose, ASSÉ’s spokesperson, the campaign will be multifaceted and tackle different symptoms of student poverty.

“We’re demanding a \$15 per hour minimum wage,” Rose said. “And for Quebec’s regions, we demand that it be higher because of the higher cost of living.”

The movement for a \$15 per hour minimum wage is picking up steam in Quebec well beyond the student movement. Demonstrations in favor of the wage-increase topped 1,000 people this fall, and over two-dozen

groups have joined the “fight for \$15.”

ASSÉ is also demanding that all university internships be paid and that the institutional barriers for student access to financial aid be abolished. Rose specified that the parental contribution—where some students are not “poor enough” to access financial aid due to their parents’ economic status—is particularly problematic for a number of students.

In order to mobilize for these demands, ASSÉ has been working on organizing its members through visibility actions in schools. Rose says ASSÉ has dropped banners, helped organize protests and held workshops and trainings on the subject in schools.

Outside of schools, Rose said the federation has been building coalitions with other groups. She says ASSÉ has allied itself with community organizations and labour unions through the Red Hand Coalition. It is also working on building institutional solidarity between the student movement and other social movements.

Beyond the official institutions of the student movement such as ASSÉ, students are also organizing at a grassroots level. Last spring, CEGEP Marie-Victorin created the first Comité unitaire sur le travail étudiant. Other CEGEPs and universities have since created branches, and have formed a decentralized network of campus-level organizations. CUTE’s main demand is that students be paid a salary, similar to the student salary that exists in Denmark. The stipend-type program gives all Danish students the equivalent to \$900 USD a month, with no repayment expectation. The only condition is that the students not live with their families.

“Students are poor because their main job isn’t recognized as work and thus isn’t paid,” said Thierry Beauvais-Gentile, an organizer with CUTE.

“CUTE considers all students, at all levels, student-workers,” Beauvais-Gentile said, explaining that already-existing unions of teaching and research assistants should be expanded to include all students.

“We believe all student work should be considered valuable work and should be accompanied with decent salary and conditions,” he said.

Like ASSÉ, CUTE also demands that all internships associated with studies be paid. Beauvais-Gentile said he was inspired by doctoral students in psychology who have been on an internship strike for the past two months, and who have won increased bursaries in exchange for their internships. He said that CUTE is currently working on a framework to create “regional coalitions for salaries for all internships, at all levels of education.”

“In this way, we want to bring together student leaders but also women’s committees, affinity groups, mobilization committees and individual activists,” he said.

These student organizers are building coalitions within and between schools, as well as between students and non-student groups. Despite still being in its early stages, the movement against student poverty is gearing up for a long-term struggle.

“We will continue the fight for everybody’s emancipation through control over their own work, be it already recognized as such or not,” Beauvais-Gentile said.

**THE NEW
FACE OF
POVERTY**

\$14,063
average student
income in 2013

\$18,849
the poverty line

housing, food, tuition,
books, fees and
transportation make up

71.4
per cent of
student expenses

81.8
per cent of
students
rely on
income
other than
employment

KELSEY LITWIN

Concordia Alumnus Unites Profit With Charity

Hungry Box Serves the Public and the Homeless in One Shot

Sharon Yonan Renold

Can a Montreal business be as profitable as it is charitable?

If you ask Sean Scourse, the entrepreneur who started Hungry Box, the answer is yes.

Scourse started the company in 2013 with a plan to solve hunger in the city. The concept is simple: for every item of food sold, one goes to feed the homeless.

Their website explains, “For each Hungry Box purchased, we donate and personally deliver the exact same meal to young families scraping by, underfunded abuse shelters and anyone living on the streets.” They also deliver any leftover goods that were not sold throughout the day.

The idea had come to him in a slightly unconventional way. It came after what he called a moment of clarity. He thought of it after dropping out of Concordia University and leaving his business degree behind.

“I found that if my focus was on wealth, I’m doing it all wrong,” he explained.

Scourse knew from a young age that he would have a future in the restaurant business. Through the years, he noticed that healthy and affordable prepared food was hard to find.

“When you look at the options that we have, it’s really kind of crappy. There’s not any real focus on the customer’s health it all just seems to be about the bottom line,” he said. “If you look at the majority of options out there, it’s nothing that you would have made at home.”

But with such a particular business model—one that includes creating everything by hand, even that which is given away without charge—Scourse struggled to figure out the financial side of things. He found that cook-



Three homeless men enjoy donated sandwiches outside the old brewery mission off St. Laurent Blvd.

COURTESY HUNGER BOX

ing from scratch heavily reduced the overall production costs.

“Obviously the trade-off is that you’re adding time,” he explained. “We make our products every day. Our motto is that we don’t need expiry dates because nothing is resold the following day. Whatever we don’t sell is the first that we give to the hungry.”

The business took off with two open locations, a kiosk downtown and a space in Notre-Dame-de-Grâce where all the food

was produced. Scourse took on a partner, Jeff Roberts, and together they run the company.

Scourse had originally funded the company by scraping together his savings and \$25,000 of public funding. But profits came slowly. The kiosk alone cost \$3,500 a month and income of both locations hovered between \$11,000 and \$12,000. He explained that the losses were as significant as the gains.

“Even when we had a great

month, we’d get dragged down by the kitchen expenses. We had a crazy amount of debt,” he explained. “It was spiraling out of control.”

After months of financial difficulty, Scourse was forced to close down his downtown location in July 2015. The second location folded shortly after.

“I thought that at that point we were done,” Scourse admitted.

Shortly after, he was contacted by a friend who provided him with a new

space in which to prepare his food at night. With the new location, the team was able to focus on corporate catering rather than individual sales.

He now hopes to open two new kiosks downtown with a long-term goal of expanding internationally. He said how starting slowly in Ottawa would give him time to experiment and manage growth before going further.

“The next big step,” he said, “is world domination.”

WE’RE WHITE AND WE KNOW IT

Like the rest of the media, *The Link* is predominantly white—that’s why we make this callout. We want to provide a platform for those who did not grow up seeing themselves represented on TV, or may not have felt their voices were properly heard.

Last year, we published a Race Special Issue and we invited people from all communities to come and share with us. This year, we’re doing it again.

So if you feel like you’re underrepresented out there in the big white world, we invite you to our **Race Special Issue Brainstorm** on **Tuesday, Jan. 10 at 3 p.m. in room H-649 (1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W.).**

We encourage all types of contributions: from writing submissions (features, arts, sports and opinions), to photography and videography, and all kinds of graphics and illustrations.

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Female Entrepreneurs Take the Lead

Tales From the Trenches Highlight Women Who Have Defied the Odds

EMILEE GUEVARA
@EMILEEGUEVARA

Montreal is the worst city in Canada for small businesses.

Based on 14 indicators—from commercial tax rates to municipal government support—a study conducted by the Canadian Federation of Independent Business ranked Montreal 121st out of 121 cities across the country in 2015.

Caterina Rizzi, Judith Fetzter and Manuela Rigaud Theodore defied the odds. The three successful female entrepreneurs gathered on Wednesday, Nov. 30, for “Tales from the Trenches,” a new series of entrepreneurial-based talks from La Gare. Guests were invited to escape the rain and listen to three women speak about their experiences as business founders in Montreal.

La Gare, one of a handful of open-concept co-working spaces at the edge of the Mile End, hosted the event. Coats were hung, hors d'oeuvres served, beers handed out and guests settled in.

Rizzi is the co-founder and chief commercial officer of Breather, a short-term office renting serving. At their former jobs, Rizzi and her partner felt frustrated by a lack of productive space in the city. They wanted somewhere they could work in peace and quiet. So they created it.

Breather offers carefully designed locations spread across three prov-

inces, six states, and one European city, and is expanding into new cities next year. Rizzi and her team provide guests with an organized, stylish, peaceful environment for business meetings, conferences and events, she explained.

Rizzi felt personally driven by the desire to create a more productive work space, but was surprised by her team's quick mobilization around the idea, as well the interest of customer adamant enough to make her dream a reality.

When she spoke about wanting to create a service she had on so many occasions wished for, the other panelists nodded in agreement. This was a recurring topic throughout the night: the idea that if you want something that doesn't exist badly enough, it just might be the basis of the next brilliant business plan.

That's why Élisabeth Labelle decided to launch her own online magazine.

Unlike many other industries, fashion and design is very much a female-dominated territory. She found, however, there was one area that flipped the script.

“In terms of streetwear and sneakers, it's mostly men,” she said.

While some girls were role-playing mommies when they were young, Labelle was playing “business owner,” pretending she owned and ran restaurants.

“I've always wanted to be an

entrepreneur,” she said.

After creating *ankle* magazine, she took a step back from her full-time journalism program to pursue her passion more authentically. Now, she works full-time doing what she loves, and studies part-time at Concordia.

ankle features soft pink and blue pastel colours contrasted against black and white. It is pure visual candy. For the site, Labelle chooses which brands and creative projects she likes and gives them a specially curated platform. She works with contributors to write short-form pieces about the products, and she collaborates with local photographers, most of whom are friends, she explained during a phone interview.

But Labelle's insatiable entrepreneurial spirit demands a little taste of everything. On top of writing and taking photos for her Instagram, she ships and handles. She's a one-woman-show supported by her community, many of whom she met on Instagram.

“Instagram is a tool to not only create relationships with the customers and readers, but it also helps me find new brands for the online store,” she said. “Most of the brands I have right now are brands that I found while lost in a loop on Instagram.”

Social media sites help many of today's entrepreneurs network and reach prospective investors. While consumer culture has transformed

over the past decade, technology has opened doors not even knocked on by business owners of the past.

Though Labelle had always thought of herself as her own boss, she doesn't advise others to jump into something without premeditation.

“It's important to think for a while before being sure,” she said. At some point, though, she said, you just need to give it a shot. “Don't put too much pressure on yourself. Your business is supposed to be something you have fun with.”

When asked to share some entrepreneurial advice, Rigaud Theodore, founder and CEO of Envol—a booking, training and consulting service for emerging artists—spoke about embracing what makes one unique and different, rather than trying to conform to a herd mentality.

“You have to know yourself,” she said, “otherwise, you're going to try and build a business from the things other people say about you, not what you're capable of creating yourself. Take the time to know what kind of entrepreneur you want to be.”

While speaking about challenges along the way, Rigaud Theodore surprised the audience by revealing her current pregnancy. This new chapter in her life helped her realize the importance of recognizing when to let go and delegate.

“You need to realize you can't do everything on your own,” she advised the audience.

Fetzter, founder and CEO of the meal prep startup COOK It, knows about working while having babies, having just recently given birth herself. She said how upon announcing her pregnancy, many people felt concerned for her company.

“People asked me if we would close the business,” she said. People's stress and panic affected her, but not for long. Fetzter advised the audience to not let external stress and chaos get in the way of their goals.

Rizzi echoed Fetzter's sentiments and encouraged the audience to fight for their vision. “You're in it for the long-haul so you have to really love it. Don't do it because anyone tells you. Don't listen to anyone else,” she said.

“Oh, and get a good money manager,” Rizzi advised, an important piece of advice later emphasized by the other panelists.

Questions kept rolling and eventually the conversation opened up to participants; a Q&A that stretched on into the night, brought to a halt by the proud organizers who welcomed the guests to indulge in more drinks and taste the cupcakes provided by a dessert service owned by yet another hard-working woman with vision, Tracy Perrault.

The night was curated and catered from head to toe by women who seemed to disregard entirely the study that said there's no place for entrepreneurs in this city.

We'll see about that.



Tales From The Trenches hosted three successful female entrepreneurs to share their stories.

EMILEE GUEVARA

Rebirth/Rennaissance

Rococorrosive Explores Battling Mediums, Styles, and Colours

SHAKTI LANGLOIS-ORTEGA

For decades, talented urban artists have made Montreal's streets their open canvas and personal gallery.

O Friday night, many of Montreal's street artists gathered at Artgang Gallery in celebration of street artist Ms. Teri's first ever solo exhibition, "Rococorrosive." There is a good chance that you have already seen, obviously perhaps, the Concordia Fine Arts student's distinctive graffiti paintings on the city's walls or at last summer's Mural Festival.

As I stepped into the vast gallery for the first time, I was welcomed by mellow, old school hip-hop and R&B tunes, coupled with a chill vibe. At the back of the open hall, a small, secluded room hosted Ms. Teri's own imaginary world.

An intimate collection of Ms. Teri's most personal art was strategically displayed on the walls of the room. The most emblematic aspect of Ms. Teri's thoughtful artwork is the dichotomy between realism and fantasy, which has naturally become her signature style and the reason behind "Rococorrosive."

"You'll see a lot of contrast in my work and that's really where I live. It's not on one side or the other. It's kind of in this blend of contrast," Ms. Teri said. "Whether it's more dark stuff, light stuff, contemporary work, or historical art"

In most pieces, she delicately combines a rococo-style universe with diverging graffiti elements like spray cans and exit signs. Rococo is an artistic movement and style

taken from eighteenth century France that is associated with light colours, asymmetrical designs, curves and gold.

Though she is quite reserved and humble, Ms. Teri is not afraid to bring us into her own reality. Her partner-in-crime and fellow Montreal graffiti artist, Aliss, said the exhibition represents far more than a single chapter of her dear friend's life—it essentially illustrates an entire novel.

"Every single piece that she's made is completely interconnected to the life that she lives," Aliss said. "[Ms. Teri] doesn't show this art, she lives it."

Ms. Teri expresses the obscurity of her work using prominent soft pink tones and renaissance personages. This aesthetic was what Jessye Thomas, who works at Artgang, found refreshing.

"I find that [Ms. Teri] brings a feminine aspect to things that are normally a bit more masculine," Thomas said. "You can tell that she comes from the graffiti world. Even though it's not necessarily present in every piece, she adds her own touch."

Despite the rarity of women in graffiti in Montreal, Aliss stressed that the question of gender isn't a factor in their style of art. "We aspire to produce things that could move the conversation past that, and the fact that it's still a conversation is unfortunate because I don't think that it's relevant anymore," she said.

Though many people have discovered Ms. Teri's skills through her bold street art, Friday

night's expo showcased her mostly unseen studio creations. A couple of etching plates used to make specific paintings were exposed on their own, providing an exclusive behind-the-scenes look.

"I've been keeping it all for myself this whole time so it was time to show everyone how it's done and the work that goes into it," said Ms. Teri of the complex conception process.

On the wall, a redesigned spray can label transported gallery attendees to a dark evening. "Hop the fence and climb the stairs. Through the roof you're almost there," Ms. Teri's handwritten message said, "from the smokes and fumes shall rise felony in art disguised."

What sparked my curiosity as I walked around the crowded room were the countless details carefully displayed on every piece. All of them were specifically placed to recreate a meaningful aspect of Ms. Teri's life. After examining each piece of work at least twice, I was still discovering features that I had previously missed.

Many of them actually belong to a secret sort of code, which makes them easily unnoticeable. Above the door, for instance, she replaced an exit sign with an identical sign that read "ROSE." The same goes for the camouflaged "Ms. Teri" signature that can be distinguished in most of her paintings.

Her use of various media and techniques such as paint, drawing, sculpture, and serigraphy creates a blend of textures that communicate an absorbing message.

Ms. Teri's in-studio work, however, is quite different from her street art. She explains that accepting the results of her work and the way it looks is part of the process. But, more importantly, doing graffiti is all about being in the space and in the moment. "You step on a ladder that you made, and you don't feel the need to go back down. You learn from it," she said.

She strives for that moment of separation once she steps away from a recently finished piece. When asked what kind of reward she gets from such a challenging type of artwork, she chuckled and said, "Walking by it the next day!"

Although the evening was all about Ms. Teri, Artgang, along with rapper and Concordia Professor Yassin "Narcy" Alsalman, took advantage of the night to showcase a politically engaged shirt collection called "Worst of 2016," designed by Los Angeles-based artist Marks of the Beast.

"Art is a different form of politics," Alsalman said. "It can address politics, but politics divides whereas art brings people together. It's the ultimate people's power once it's used in the right way."

Through the warm and intimate evening, I discovered a lively graffiti culture used actively as a means of communication and unity. After all, Montreal's graffiti-covered walls could be telling us a powerful message. The next one you see might be one of Ms. Teri's.

Rococorrosive will be displayed at Artgang Gallery (6524 St. Hubert St.) until Dec. 30, 2016.



Ms. Teri's work harmonizes Renaissance art with a contemporary twist.

COURTESY WILL MACKENZIE

We'll miss ya, but we'll be back next semester.

In the meantime, submit your poems and creative works to fringeonline@thelinknewspaper.ca



Artists bring life to Montreal streets during the Hip Hop You Don't Stop Festival 2016.

COURTESY MARC PAGLIARULO-BEAUCHEMIN

The Steps to Making a Mural

Hip-Hop and Street Art: A New Outreach Program from Prevention NDG

JAMES BETZ-GRAY

Local outreach organization Prevention NDG is striving to provide an outlet to youth and artists in Notre-Dame-de-Grâce through its Urban Arts program.

Established in 1988 following an increase in home invasions, this organization aims to protect the community and improve quality of life. For 30 years, the organization has formed a number of projects with the ultimate goal of improving community conditions. It's made up of different branches focusing on varying social fronts, from decreasing youth crime to green initiatives, community outreach to anti-hypersexualization and urban arts.

In 2005, the Urban Arts program was created in collaboration with A'shop, a local street artist collective, and hip-hop artist Marc Pagliarulo-Beauchemin, also known as Égypto. The program supported the organization of legal murals and outreach workshops to educate youth on the consequences of vandalism. It also showcased the talents from kids in the hip-hop community to alleviate societal prejudices.

The Urban Arts team includes A'shop muralist Guillaume Lapointe and Marc Pagliarulo-Beauchemin, a local musician and organizer of the annual Hip Hop You Don't Stop festival.

Deeply involved in the beautification of city walls and art workshops, A'shop coor-

dinator Roscoe Idiosti said the workshops "help channel those energies by giving youth the confidence and resources to make more out of their talents."

Walking through NDG, there is no shortage of graffiti. For many years, tags have plagued home and business owners alike, with spray paint left caked onto walls at nearly every street corner.

However, Prevention NDG has been trying to rectify this. Working alongside A'shop, they've been turning those street-corner eyesores into beautiful murals.

Through the art-positive initiative, mural crews are contracted by the city.

A woman draped in yellow fabric walks gracefully through a cityscape of NDG landmarks. Surrounding her are birds, squashes and flowers. The mural entitled "Our Lady of Grace," made with funding from Prevention NDG's outreach program, has become a neighbourhood favourite.

"[They were] one of the first organizations to believe in what we do," said Idiosti.

Local NDG graffiti artists Germ and Blaze expressed respect for A'shop and its collaborative involvement in the community. "It makes the city nice and attracts out-of-towners to come paint walls," said Blaze.

"I like their involvement, would like to see more and more walls in the hood," added Germ, who is currently not involved in the

legal graffiti initiative.

Idiosti gives kudos to Prevention NDG for creating a market for street art crews and the unique skill set that comes with being a muralist. "They allowed us to show the talents that we had all along but did not have the resources to accomplish. They invested in the future of Montreal mural arts," he said.

While the art form is evolving and murals are becoming widely appreciated, the future of the subculture will be determined largely by the next generation of artists. "It's better that the youth stay out of trouble," quipped Blaze. But whether those kids will look for legal opportunities or give in to vandalism remains to be seen.

"Graffiti awareness could be bad if it takes away from the art form," said Germ. "It's something you have to learn on your own."

Much like the street-art scene, hip-hop culture also tends to be looked down upon by society as rebellious, vulgar or even criminal for promoting violent or hateful rhetoric. While this may be true for certain artists, even aggressive music stems from creativity that its audience can relate to. Considering the influence hip-hop has had on graffiti, public perception has a biased resentment towards the sub-cultures that speak out against the establishment.

Pagliarulo-Beauchemin has been hosting the Hip Hop You Don't Stop festival in NDG

for the past 11 years, trying to bring to light the positive facet of hip-hop music.

Owner of his own record label, he organizes a yearly weekend event at Girouard Park, Elementakiza. The name comes from a collaboration in 2013 with Elementality—a major hip-hop media outlet—and a play on words from 'takiza,' a Mexican barbecue where tacos are served. The goal of the festival is to "demystify what hip-hop culture is," said Pagliarulo-Beauchemin. The event is a platform for youth to get involved in the hip-hop movement, where they can benefit from public exposure and networking within the community.

Detroit recording artist Illa J, who performed at the 2016 edition of the festival, fosters an encouraging and positive outlook on hip-hop and expressing yourself that has influenced the larger community today.

"Yo, keep following your dreams—don't ever stop. Can't nobody ever stop you but yourself," said J at the Hip Hop You Don't Stop festival on Sept. 23.

"[The festival] is a great assembly point, making the hip-hop culture accessible and easy to understand in the eyes of people who might not," explained Idiosti.

As Prevention NDG's Urban Arts program begins planning for next year's events, A'shop will be hunting down contracts to paint murals this spring, and hopes to work with the city's mural program in 2017.

THE LINK CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dec. 6 - Dec. 13

<div><div>TU6</div><div><div>Pop-Up Shop - Dinette Magazine</div><div>Dinette Magazine is hosting an event where they'll showcase some of their favourite works. There'll be food, too. Check it out!</div><div>L'Arsenal Montreal • 2020 William St. • 5 p.m. // FREE</div></div><div><div>FASA Holiday Clubs Fair</div><div>The Fine Arts students of Concordia are gonna be showcasing and selling their artwork! But if that's really isn't your scene, there'll also be an afternoon of crafts.</div><div>Henry F. Hall Building • 1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W. • 11 a.m. // FREE</div></div></div>	<div><div>WE7</div><div><div>Board of Governors Meeting</div><div>Gather 'round and brainstorm some ideas for the upcoming meeting on tuition hikes that'll take place on the Dec. 14.</div><div>Henry F. Hall Building • 1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W. • 4 p.m. // FREE</div></div></div>	<div><div>TH8</div><div><div>Sad Girl Take Over at Gerts</div><div>Know anyone in your life that really kicked your heart in the ass? You wanna talk about it and maybe burn that person's photo in a ceremonial fire? Then this is your chance at the McGill campus bar.</div><div>Gerts Bar • 3480 McTavish St. • 1 p.m. // FREE</div></div><div><div>ArtJam Vol. 8</div><div>Come participate in this monthly event giving local artists and people with creative minds and talents in general a chance to showcase their cool work.</div><div>Nomad Live • 129 Van Horne Ave. • 8:30 p.m. // FREE before 9 p.m. - \$5 afterwards</div></div></div>	<div><div>FR9</div><div><div>Writing While Black Montreal</div><div>This will be the second instalment of the creative writing session for black writers seeking to encourage the exploration of literary work and discussion on the challenges and success of Black writers.</div><div>Black Theatre Workshop • 3680 Jeanne-Mance St. - Suite 432 • 6 p.m. // GA \$10, FREE if under 19 years old</div></div><div><div>Male Voices & Perceived Sexual Orientation</div><div>University of Toronto professor Ron Smith will discuss his experience as a consultant during the making of the film <i>Do I Sound Gay?</i></div><div>Henry F. Hall Building • 1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W. • 5:30 p.m. // FREE</div></div></div>
<div><div>SA10</div><div><div>Winter Soft Market</div><div>It's been a good run, but this'll be the last edition of the Soft Market. It's your last chance to check out some cool artists selling feminist and genderqueer stuff like patches, prints, stickers, buttons, and a whole bunch more!</div><div>Article • 262 Fairmount Ave. W. • 12 p.m. // FREE</div></div><div><div>Fundraiser for Standing Rock</div><div>We aren't exactly a hop, skip and a jump away from the actual location. But we can still come together as a community to do what we can in support of the Standing Rock Sioux Nation. All proceeds will go to the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe - Dakota Access Pipeline Donation Fund.</div><div>Psychic City • 3655 St. Laurent Blvd. • 8 p.m. // \$5 or PYWC</div></div></div>	<div><div>SU11</div><div><div>Trouble Ep Launch</div><div>Blue Skies Turn Black and Second Best Records present a live show featuring Eva Foote and Little Suns</div><div>La Sala Rossa • 4848 St. Laurent Blvd. • 9 p.m. // \$7.50 in advance, \$10 at the door</div></div></div>	<div><div>MO12</div><div><div>2046 (2004) at Bar Le Ritz</div><div>A futuristic screening of a film from the past. Drop by with friends, grab a drink, and check it out!</div><div>Bar le Ritz BDP • 17v9 Jean-Talon St. W. • 8 p.m. // FREE</div></div></div>	<div><div>TU13</div><div><div>Community Meeting to Resist Trump</div><div>A follow-up meeting open to the public. You wanna talk about the corrupt far-right politics, brainstorm ideas, and work together? This space is for you, then.</div><div>QPIRG Concordia • 1500 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W., suite 204 • 4 p.m. // FREE</div></div></div>

If you have an event you want featured, email: calendar@thelinknewspaper.ca

From the very bottom of our hearts,
we at *The Link* would like to say

THANK YOU

To all our readers, contributors, and everyone else who helped
make the first half of Volume 37 happen.

We'll be back on newsstands on Jan. 10, 2017.

Enjoy your holidays, and we will see you in the new year!

The Myth of a Venue that Never Died

A Look into the Rich History of Spectrum de Montréal

MARK DI FRANCO

Once, I opened a thrifted book from the Jazz Festival and a mysterious ticket stub fell from its dusty pages, fluttering to the floor before my feet. It was a relic—I would later find out—from the now-closed musical venue, Le Spectrum de Montréal.

That historical Montreal staple of the 1980s once offered intimate concert experiences, explained Philippe Chayer, a frequent patron.

“There was this constant exchange of energy between the band and the crowd. I’ve seen a lot of shows, but I rarely see that. It was pretty amazing.”

The venue was first established in 1952 as the Cinéma Alouettes. It was constantly evolving over the years wherein it underwent a series of name changes, and owners. Finally, by 1982, it became Le Spectrum de Montréal.

For many past concertgoers, the ticket stub would bring back a flood of memories. Le Spectrum offered not only a musical experience, but lent itself as a space to establish a closer bond between musicians and the audience, explained Chayer, who recalled a fond memory of when he saw The Smashing Pumpkins perform.

It wasn’t just the music that people came for. Le Spectrum was also valued for its cabaret aesthetic.

It was the ideal place for spectators and artists alike, Steve Ludvik—once a musician who performed the venue—explained.

“No matter where you stood in the venue, you got a good view and the sides were raised up almost like a mini terrace,” he said.

Before the venue was demolished in 2007, Ludvik witnessed metal and blues shows, including heavy-duty guitar player Kelly Joe Phelps.

Thanks to the work of L’Équipe Spectra, Le Spectrum’s reputation grew out of experiences like these. Company founders, Alain Simard, André Ménard, and Denyse McCann would later produce a variety of shows under their label.

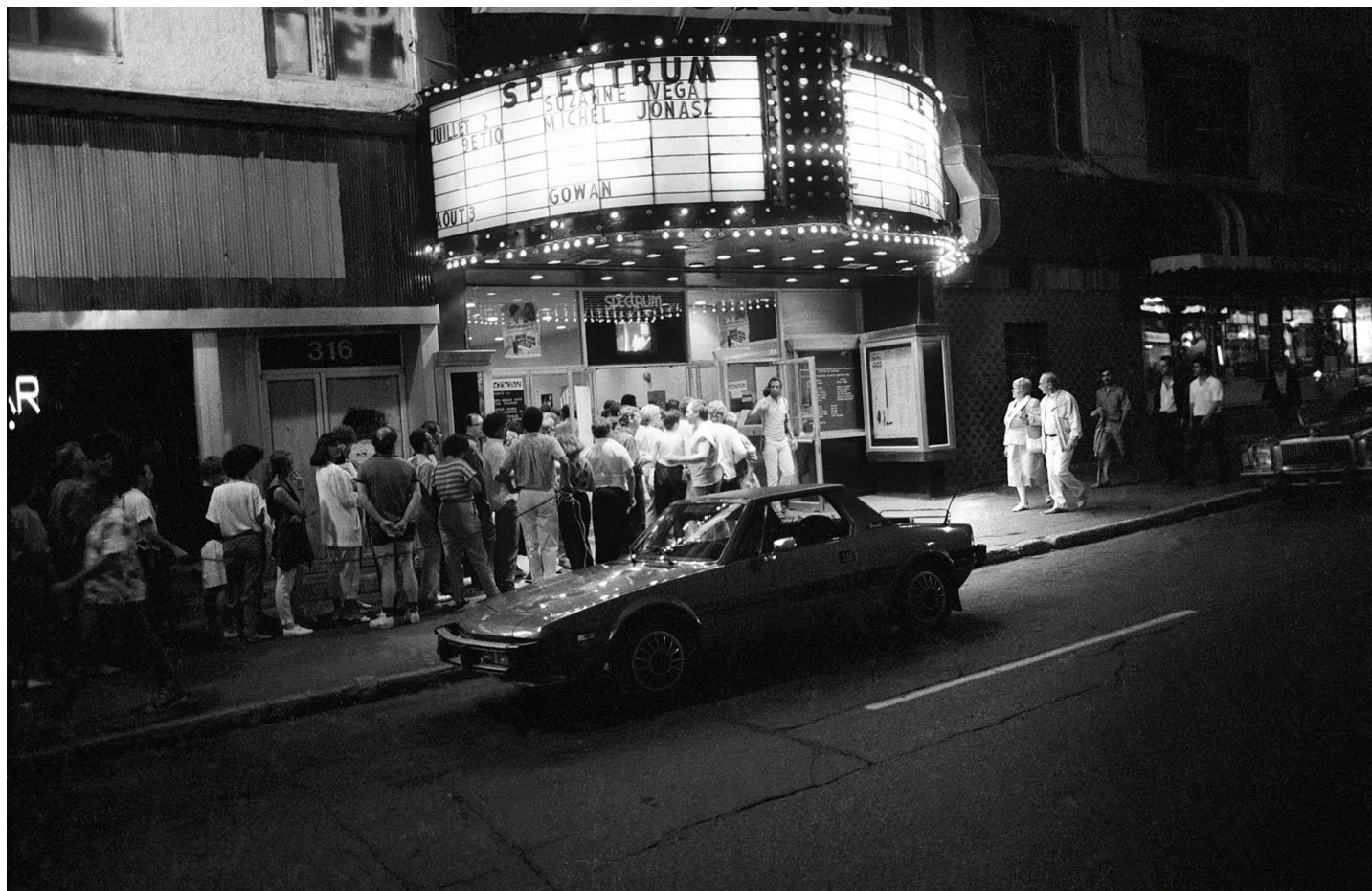
To this day, the company owns multiple events such as the Festival International de Jazz de Montréal, and two concert halls, L’Astral and the Metropolis.

Le Spectrum was not just a venue accompanying one or two-day concerts. The venue also hosted various festivals such as the Festival International de Jazz de Montréal and Les Francofolies de Montréal for some time.

The Festival International de Jazz de Montréal started using Spectrum to host shows in 1981. Various artists have performed in the venue such as B.B. King, Randy Bachman, Pat Metheny and Miles Davis.

In 1989, Le Spectrum de Montréal was the first venue to host popular French music festival Les Francofolies de Montréal. After that mind-blowing first edition, the concert hall became the festival’s main landmark—acquiring local and international artists such as Marjo, Jean Leloup, Michel Pagliaro, Plume Latraverse, Michel Rivard and many more.

The Jean Leloup concert in 1989 during the first edition of Les Francofolies de Montréal was a memorable moment in the festival’s history. Le Spectrum experienced a technical glitch and the power blew out five minutes before the show ended. Jean Leloup decided to descend into the



An archival photo of Le Spectrum in its heydays of the 1970’s.

COURTESY FIJM JEAN-FRANCOIS LEBLANC

crowd and continue his playing in front of the stage and outside of Le Spectrum. The venue experienced a crazy musical journey throughout innumerable concerts, festivals, television tapings and press conferences until Aug. 5, 2007, when it closed its doors for good.

L’Équipe Spectra could not afford to pay the steadily rising rent. Simard explained that they had lost half a million dollars in fees trying to save the theatre.

Today, the empty lot that once was Le Spectrum sits facing the bustling Quartier des Spectacles plaza, with no resurrection planned.

Even today, when walking down Ste. Catherine St. towards Place des Arts, there is an empty lot facing the L’Astral. To the fans of this venue, and especially the die-hard music fans, Le Spectrum will never die.

The venue was not only known for its concert venue, but as a place that was connected other musical clubs. Ludvik remembers how Le Spectrum was attached to other mythical music joints.

“Incredible venue, lots of magic happened there,” he said. “That whole strip was very cool because next door was a funky place called the Rising Sun, which hosted all kinds of freaky jazz concerts and up and coming punk rock shows. Wild scene on that strip!”

Le Spectrum is a precious memory to all who experienced a concert at this venue. The Spectrum de Montréal may be demolished, but the memories will never fade.

“This venue had a soul, a spirit, a vibration,” said Saulnier. “This venue had a staff that had no equivalent in town. This hall was mythical!”



In Le Spectrum’s place: gravel, fences, and realty signage.

MARK DI FRANCO

It's All Gold

Figure Skater Emile Baz Will Represent Canada At the Upcoming Winter Games in Austria

ALEXANDER PEREZ
@DASALEXPerez

Skating gracefully on the thick frozen surface, he proceeds to perform his routine—executing meticulous yet delicate maneuvers.

Meet Emile Baz.

After receiving an array of directions from his coach Louise Gagne during practice, the 25-year-old makes his way to the bench to rest. His mother, Lama Shakar is waiting—her arms stretched out for her son. Baz, gliding on the ice, embraces her.

Baz, who was diagnosed with autism at the age of seven, is a Special Olympics figure skater who has been lacing up the skates since he was six years old. For Baz, having trouble concentrating was challenging, but the sport provided a positive outlet to put his focus on.

"I enjoy [figure skating a lot]," said Baz. "The sport makes me happy."

"[Coaching Baz] always went well," said Gagne. "He was always nice. I know his mother had some trouble back at home, but I never had this on the ice."

In order to adapt, Gagne took the decision to take classes to work with Special Olympic athletes. Nineteen years on, the two meet up four to five times a week for training. "[Gagne] is like our family," said Shakar.

Over the years Gagne has witnessed firsthand Baz's improvements in the sport. When the two first met, Gagne said Baz would follow her around in the schools at which she taught. She also admitted that two have developed a good connection.

"He is often incorporated with my regular skaters and he's as good as them. He works really, really hard," said Gagne. "I'm the second mother—I like him like he was my son."

Baz has been competitively active in the sport for almost two decades, and he's seen his fair share of success.

In March 2016, Baz was a part of the Team Quebec delegation, made up of 51 athletes, to compete at the Olympics Canada Winter Games, in Corner Brook, N.L.

"For him to arrive here and to be able to [compete], said Shakar, "we were so happy."

The competition was held between March 1 and March 5; Team Quebec returned from Corner Brook hauling 60 medals. In Emile's respective sport, he was the only skater to win gold in singles figure skating.

"Oh my god, I was so happy. Really I can't describe, I was screaming, jumping, hugging him," said Shakar. "We were so stressed and afraid, but [Emile] was feeling like he was going to win."

Baz's recent achievement isn't the only honour he's received. Baz has quite the repertoire, winning gold at the Jeux du Québec in Sainte-Thérèse 2009, at the Canada Games in Halifax, N.S. in 2011 and in the Lévis Jeux



Figure skater Emile Baz looks to keep his gold medal streak alive at the World Winter Games in Austria.

PHOTOS ALEXANDER PEREZ

d'Hiver 2015.

Halifax in particular was a memory Baz and his mother won't soon forget. In a moment of pure nostalgia, Shakar remembered the medal ceremony: the red carpet, the podium, and the tears of joy that ran down her cheeks.

"When they announced Quebec, and his name, I was crying. It was so nice," said Shakar.

Baz's success in Hamilton didn't come easy, however. The first half of the competition was difficult due to the changes that were made on the ice. During competition, the ice traditionally has markers painted on for the skaters. This wasn't the case in Halifax.

"So we got to the Canada Games and [we had to] make the elements without lines and we were completely lost," said Gagne. "The practice ice had lines but not the competition ice."

Without the lines Baz finished last, but when he performed the second half of his program, he beat out the competition on points to win gold in the singles category.

Baz's dedication to the sport knows no boundaries. He is always looking forward to getting on the ice. Whether it's to practice or to compete, he can't contain his excitement to skate and express himself through the sport he loves.

"When we tell [Baz] that we're going to the arena and he needs to be ready for 1 p.m., he's ready at 12:30," said Gagne. "Even

at competitions, he's always ready, all of his stuff is in place."

Recalling her fondest memory of Baz, Gagne simply admitted that seeing him on the ice, joyful and smiling, is the one that stands out the most.

Baz will now hone his skills on the national stage. From March 14 to March 25, Baz will don the red and white for Team Canada at the 2017 Special Olympics World Winter Games, to be held in Austria.

"I feel great!" said Baz. "Because it makes me so proud to [represent] Canada."

Baz has yet to win anything other than

gold in competitions. Hungry for more success, he's looking to keep his streak alive in Austria.

"Every time he competes, he gets a medal, so for him he keeps wanting more and more," said Gagne.

With the games around the corner, both Baz and Gagne will look to make some adjustments in his routine on the ice.

"When we get to the World Games, we need to change things," said Gagne. "Sometimes it gets a bit crazy. It takes time to change things but with Emile I don't have difficulties."



Baz embraces his mother on the bench during practice on Wednesday, Nov. 23.

This Week in Sports Online at thelinknewspaper.ca/sports

Mens Basketball: Stingers come up big on the road against UQAM.

First Year Sting

Concordia Forward Anthony De Luca Leads Team in Scoring

VINCE MORELLO
@VINNYMORELLZ

The first time Stingers men's hockey forward Anthony De Luca skated was when he was two years old. It was during a snowstorm, and he didn't even have a proper rink to skate on.

"My dad didn't really want me to go skating," De Luca said. But he persisted, asking his uncles, who also played hockey to take him outside to skate in his backyard.

"My two uncles took me out back, snuck me out. My dad found out and everyone came outside and I just got the hang of it right away," he added.

Only two years later, at the age of four, he joined his first organized league.

For a while now he has been playing away from his hometown, Montreal. He played in Rimouski, for the Rimouski Oceanic—a team in the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League—for three years. Then he played in Alaska, a 12-hour flight away, for the Alaska Aces in the East Coast Hockey League.

Being back in the city for the first time in awhile, De Luca has enjoyed playing in front of his family and friends.

"It's been a while I haven't been able to do that," he said. "My parents are at every game and usually my cousins too, so it's really nice."

"We have a close family," De Luca added.

In his first season with the Stingers, De Luca leads the team with 24 points in 16 games. He was what Stingers men's hockey head coach Marc-André Element was looking to add to his roster over the summer.

"That's why I was after him the whole summer," Element said. "I knew he was a top end forward, a goal scorer."

De Luca said he decided to come to Concordia because he had confidence in the coach and the program. It also didn't hurt that a lot of his former teammates from the Quebec Major Junior Hockey

League, like Scott Oke and Dominic Beauchemin, were on the team.

He and current Stingers men's hockey forward, Philippe Sanche, who committed to the Stingers just two days before De Luca, decided that they wanted to go to a winning yet unheralded program like Concordia's.

Coming into training camp, De Luca had some adjustments to make. Playing in Alaska got him used to traveling and changing time zones often. But coming to USports, the shorter season taught him that he had to be ready for every single game.

"The goal is always to have a good start to the

year," De Luca said. "Unfortunately my two first games weren't as planned."

Despite the Stingers winning both those games, he was kept off the score sheet.

In the third game of the season, he started to show what he was going to be as a leader as well as a scorer for the team.

He got his first goal, although it seemed like it was in vain. The Stingers were losing 6-1 to McGill at the end of the second period.

This reminded De Luca of another game he had during his first year in the QMJHL.

The Rimouski Oceanic were down 5-1 to the Halifax Mooseheads team that included current Colo-

rado Avalanche forward Nathan MacKinnon, current Tampa Bay Lightning forward Jonathan Drouin, and Montreal Canadiens draft pick Zachary Fucale. The Oceanic won the game in a shootout, 6-5.

"I've always been the guy to say, just believe, and you never know what happens," De Luca said.

In the third period of the game versus McGill, the Stingers scored four goals in four minutes, but still fell short of the comeback. De Luca said this game really showed the amount of character on the team, and how the team would play throughout the season.

Since he joined the team,

the Stingers have had one of their most successful seasons in their history. It sits in fifth place in the Ontario University Athletics East Division.

The whole team, De Luca said, worked hard over the summer in order to be so successful.

"We got our captain in [Olivier] Hinse. We got guys in net, Philippe Cadorette and Philippe Sanche that are doing a good job," De Luca said. "It's just fun to be surrounded by good guys like that and everyone works hard for everyone's benefit."

But his teammates and coaches have taken notice of what De Luca brings to the team. Element believes that De Luca has the

ability to change a game all on his own and that he's had an important role with his teammates as well.

"He's not shy to say what he thinks to the other guys," Element said.

Current captain Olivier Hinse, who is in his fifth and final year with the team, said that De Luca needs to understand his role on the team, both on the score sheet, and in the locker room.

De Luca said he tries to be a leader as much as possible, but that there are a lot of strong leaders on the team. Therefore in terms of being named as an assistant captain or captain, he said, "we'll see where it goes."



Anthony De Luca has had a stellar first season for the Stingers, scoring the most goals in the league so far.

COURTESY BRIANNA THICKE

The Root of the Problem

Moving Beyond Reactive Approaches to Violence Against Women

SAVANNAH STEWART
@SAV_EDEN_S

This year, the UN Secretary General launched a campaign called 'Orange the World: Raise Money to End Violence against Women and Girls,' meant to bring financial support to the often-underfunded initiatives to end gender-based violence operating around the world.

Why do we need a campaign dedicated to this cause and these initiatives? Well, for starters, one in three women worldwide will experience physical or sexual violence in their lifetime. To put that in perspective, that's the same number of people in the world who actively use social media.

To successfully eliminate gender-based violence, we need to examine what's currently being done to tackle it. There are many essential services—from rape crisis hotlines to women's shelters to rape survivor advocacy volunteers, and even dance classes for survivors of domestic violence—that were started as a response to violence against women.

These services provide assistance to the millions of women worldwide who are survivors of sexual assault or domestic violence. They deserve all the funding the UN's Secretary General's campaign can send their way. How-

ever, they can do little to actually eliminate the issue altogether, since their focus is on providing support to women who have already been victimized rather than on prevention.

Many prevention-based initiatives exist, with more proactive responses to violence. Services such as self-defence classes for women or college flyers on how to avoid rape on campus—or even products like nail polish that changes color when dipped in a drink spiked with date rape drugs—are handy and in certain situations empowering for many women. But with regards to actually tackling the issue of gender-based violence, these services miss the mark.

The vast majority of violence against women is perpetrated by men. Any efforts to protect women, although helpful, will never end this violence. This is because it simply does not address the root of the issue. When we teach a girl that she is responsible for preventing rape, we are essentially telling her to "make sure he rapes the other girl instead." What we need to do is not just arm our girls, but do a better job of educating our boys.

Our culture enables violence against women. It teaches men that women exist to be under their control and in their possession, and it positions women as a source of satisfaction by any means—even if that means engaging

in sexual assault or physical violence. We may not necessarily tell our boys this outright, but starting very early, they internalize the opposite expectations society has for women and men—as well as its hurtful, preconceived notions of gender and relationships.

It takes years to unlearn what we're taught when we're young. If we stop exposing boys to the idea that the only things men gain from women are power and pleasure, if we start considering women in the media and in real life as full human beings with the same rights and limitations as men, we'll see a change in how men view women—not as possessions, but as equals.

To eliminate gender-based violence, we need to see a shift in how boys are taught about relationships with women. We need to provide education that teaches boys that women deserve full ownership of their bodies and their lives, in the same way that any man does.

One example is Ontario's new sex-education curriculum, which introduces students to the concept of a "yes means yes" model of consent, as opposed to the years-old mantra of "no means no." Students learn that without the presence of an enthusiastic "yes," they do not have their partner's consent. Silence or uncertainty are therefore just as damning as a "no."

This is exactly the type of initiative that

addresses the root causes of violence against women, because it stresses the fact that the feelings and opinions of everyone involved in a sexual act have equal importance. A man will be less likely to view a woman as something to "score" if he fully understands that she has just as much control over the situation as he does, and just as much to gain from the experience.

Of course, many anti-rape activists argue that rape is more about power than it is about sex, but if men are not taught that it is masculine or desirable to have power over women, then rape would surely lose its appeal for many.

Another education strategy that has the potential to reduce violence against women is the implementation of mandatory classes on the prevention of violence in relationships, like they've done in the U.K.

If we want to truly eliminate violence against women, initiatives like these need to become the worldwide norm. Services in response to rape and domestic violence that are mainly reactive or focused on helping women protect themselves have done a lot of good. But without addressing our cultural values that encourage men to seek control and power of women, they will forever remain secondary, because the cause of gender-based violence will still exist.



ZOË GELFANT

Letter: GSA Needs More Transparency

It's been almost six months since the present Graduate Student Association team took office, and they should have overcome their learning curve by now. Council meetings, which weren't initially announced to members, are now being announced. There has been more transparency in council affairs. However a lot still needs to be done.

There has been a lack of transparency in the finances of the association. The members haven't received any financial statements for the 2016-2017 period. No financial statements were presented at the last General Assembly despite a bylaw requiring it. The last assembly was held on Nov. 7, the same day Concordia's fall 2016

convocation ceremonies took place.

Recent bylaw changes mandated that the GSA have compulsory audits. It is unclear if an auditor has been appointed for the 2016-2017 year because no auditor was presented to members at the last Assembly.

A petition of members aiming to prevent directors from holding GSA staff positions was not presented at this assembly. It might not be possible for directors to objectively hold executives accountable if executives who they oversee, and who approve their monthly bursary payments, are offering them temporary jobs.

The removal of the Canadian Federation of Students and the CFS-Quebec component from

the GSA member fees were not included in the agenda of the last assembly. An amount of \$14.04 (\$6.84 for the CFS plus \$7.20 for the CFS-Q) was maintained as part of the GSA fee meant to pay legal expenses to defend CFS and CFS-Q lawsuits. These cases have both been concluded.

There was previously an attempt to convert the GSA advocacy fee levy to part of the GSA fees without a referendum. GSA has been collecting an advocacy fee levy from Graduate Students for the GSA advocacy center, which has not been functional. The CSU advocacy centre now provides advocacy services to Graduate Students.

The GSA plans to introduce bylaw changes in the next general assembly. The proposed

changes are unclear, because members have not been informed of the bylaw committee meetings, and their minutes have not been made available to members. An attempt was previously made to introduce bylaw changes to make it possible for non-GSA members to hold permanent staff positions.

GSA directors should do more to enforce the bylaws of the GSA and advocate for GSA members. GSA's problems would not be solved by deleting articles, which help ensure accountability, or adding articles, which may not be necessary.

—Alex Ocheoha, former GSA President and Link contributor

When Good People Do Bad Things

Understanding the Anti-Gentrification Attacks in Hochelaga

NICOLE PROANO

Anti-gentrification activists took credit for the vandalism of five Hochelaga businesses this week, “three furniture design boutiques, a real estate office, and a yuppie hair salon,” according to an anonymous online communiqué.

We should sympathize with the business owners. The sense of violation and sadness they’re probably feeling is relatable. Negative assumptions and prejudices about the vandals have certainly already been made in the minds of many. Vandalism is wrong, after all.

But the vandals did more than just damage property. They sent a message: stop gentrification. They said the crime was an outcry against the displacement of Hochelaga’s residents by gentrifying businesses and condos. Can they be blamed for the measures that had to be taken just so they could be heard?

In the past few years, Hochelaga has been attracting the attention of potential residents, business owners and developers. This new-

found popularity is changing the neighbourhood in ways that are detrimental to Hochelaga natives. Rent prices are rising; shiny, unaffordable businesses are popping up; and the new crowd is ushering in a divergent culture.

Hochelaga has been a modest, working-class neighbourhood for a long time, but Hochelaga residents are being pushed out of their homes as rents rise to unaffordable levels. Réal Ménard, mayor of the Mercier-Hochelaga-Maisonneuve borough, acknowledged recently that Hochelaga needs affordable housing. But the government remains idle rather than acting on the neighbourhood’s housing issues. The acknowledgment means nothing; the victims of the rising housing prices are in no way being compensated by the mayor’s empathetic words. They need action.

Gentrifying businesses gear their products and services towards an affluent clientele. To the low-income folks who make up Hochelaga’s traditional residents, these businesses serve as a reminder of the increasing

wealth that is making their neighbourhood unaffordable to live in.

Many old buildings that added character, history and culture to Montreal are being turned into condo blocks. While they are beautiful and have a character of their own, the historic buildings cannot be replaced.

These trends all culminate with affluent individuals taking up residence in what they may view as an up-and-coming, trendy and affordable neighbourhood which, naturally, has led to tensions and conflicts.

The same tension occurs when roles are reversed, despite much less outrage. Why is the Town of Mont-Royal, a rich neighborhood, allowed to construct a border fence to keep out its poor Parc-Extension neighbors? If the rich are allowed to frown on the poor for encroaching on their neighbourhoods, then why can’t the argument be reversed? Those who can afford a more expensive rent may feel entitled to access and transform poor neighborhoods, but that doesn’t mean that they won’t face resistance.

Capitalism shapes and guides every aspect of life today all over the world. Advertisement telling consumers what they want—and that they want more of it—permeates deeply in our culture. As the wealth moves in to Hochelaga, the capitalist culture that it necessarily entails does too.

Though perhaps unintentionally, many of these changes are reforming a neighbourhood home to a distinctly working-class culture. Evidently, the vandals within the community connect with the culture that gentrification is altering and are speaking out against the change.

Gentrification is a result of the greed of capitalism and human desires to dominate. These issues don’t have simple solutions and are more deeply rooted than in a neighbourhood in Montreal.

For now, what the public and those within the Hochelaga community can do is to give the victims a helping hand in rebuilding and putting together what was taken apart. But it’s also important to



LEE MCCLURE

understand the vandals’ message and empathize with those struggles. Those who have the ability can take non-violent measures to solve gentrification problems. In these ways, everyone can work together to rectify our past mistakes.

Where Are Our Priorities?

We Need to Increase Funding to the Public Daycare System

NATALIA FEDOSIEIEVA

Quebec is the only province in Canada to offer government-subsidized daycare. The program, called Centre de la petite enfance, has existed since 1997. It costs parents \$7.30 per child per day—a bargain compared to private-sector alternatives.

However, due to budget cuts and institutional neglect, the public system has not kept up with demand. In order to support the public system, the government should provide more funding to the CPE, instead of cutbacks.

The childcare system has changed a lot over the years. When it was formed, the CPE was a generous idea all the citizens could benefit from.

Still, they provide daycare services with a fully trained educator in each group, all year round. Parents were originally required to contribute only \$5 a day, regardless of income.

The provincial government cut \$120 million from subsidized daycares across the province in 2015—now the cost can go up to \$13 from the base \$7.30 based on family income. The additional cost is only calculated when parents do their yearly taxes.

It was wrong for the Liberals to have adjusted the price of childcare by income. Higher-income families already pay more income tax. This change effectively makes them pay twice. Some families will undoubtedly have to cut down on other expenses once they calculate what they owe the government due to increased daycare fees at tax time. The issue of financing has to be revised, and we should turn back to a universal form with a single cost for parents.

Taken individually, the cuts might not appear to be a big deal, but taken altogether, they reduce the quality of services offered in the childcare centres.

Budget cuts affect education and services provided to young children in Quebec’s public system. As the impact of these cuts

begins to be felt, many daycares will have to slash science and music programs, close earlier and reduce staff hours.

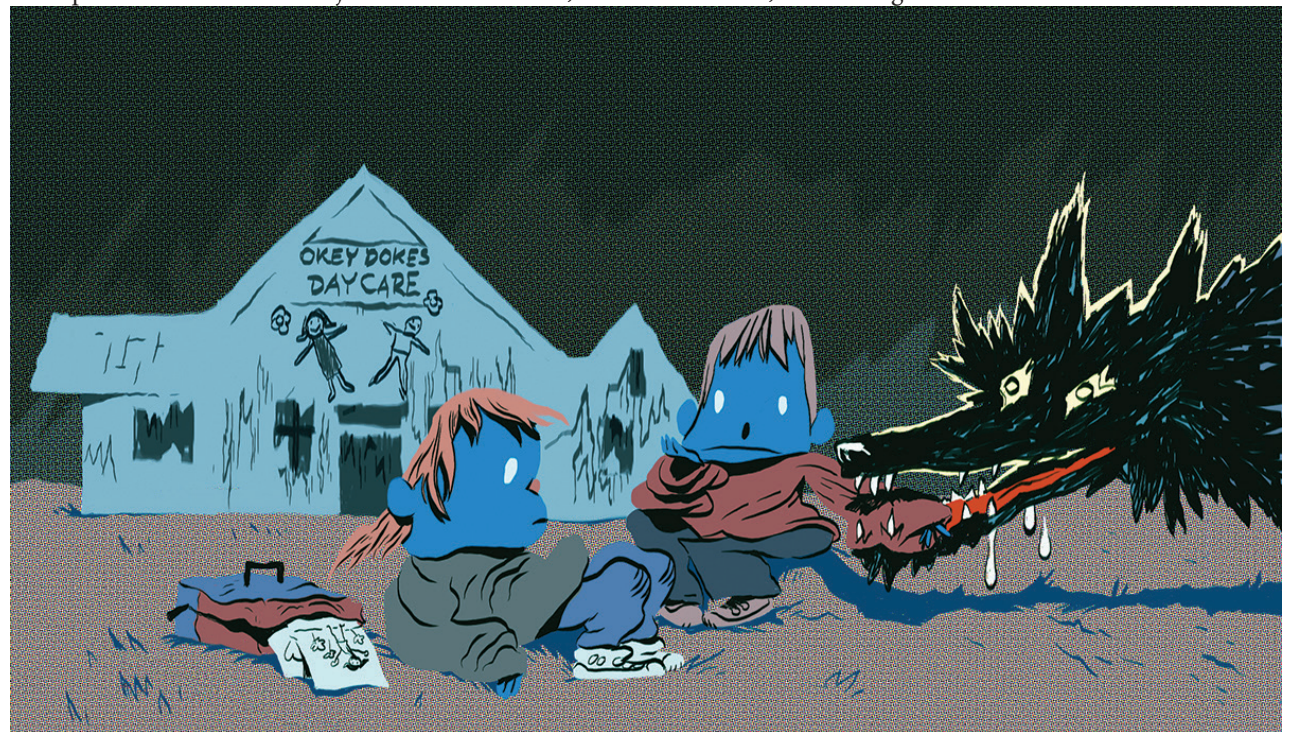
That’s led to turning away from young children who need extra care or supervision. In order to save money, some daycares have had to merge with other ones. The daycare operators have also had to revise food expenses. For example, they have to reduce the amount of meat and fresh fish. And it is unfair towards children, because it is all about nutrition and their health.

I think that Quebec’s original public program was a great success in the province. It was more than just affordable childcare; it was

an ambitious experiment in Canadian society. This service is as important as the public education and universal free health care.

The decision to cut daycares’ funding is an example of a fundamental restructuring of Quebec’s priorities. The government should care and improve this program—providing more funding to the CPE, not less.

The province should invest in young children to give them a better start. Money invested in educational daycares would help develop the most important thing in our society—young Canadians, our future generation.

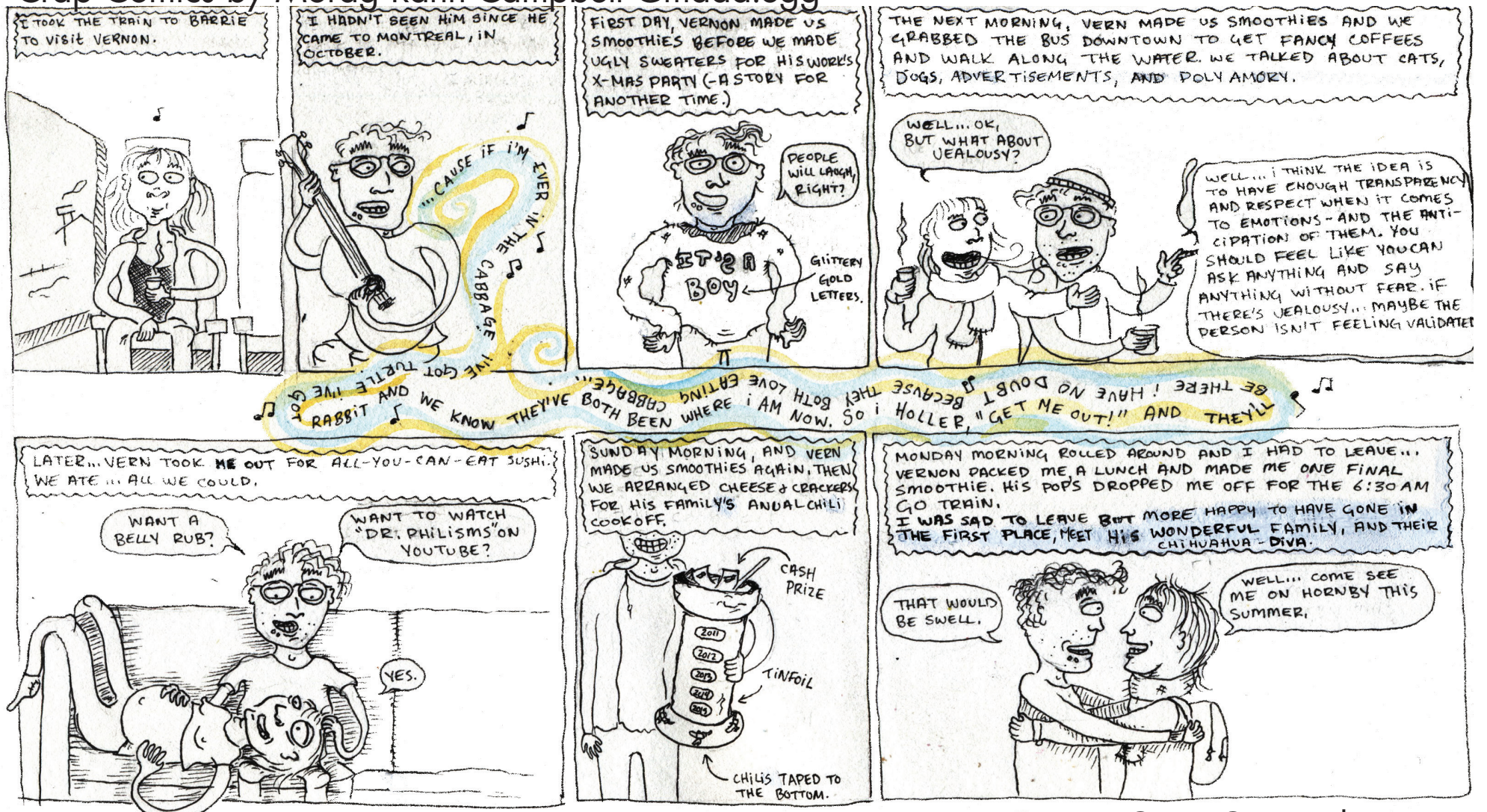


GABOR BATA

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Well, write a letter, make sure it meets our guidelines (found on the last page), and we’ll publish it online or in print next issue.

Crap Comics by Morag Rahn-Campbell @madd.egg

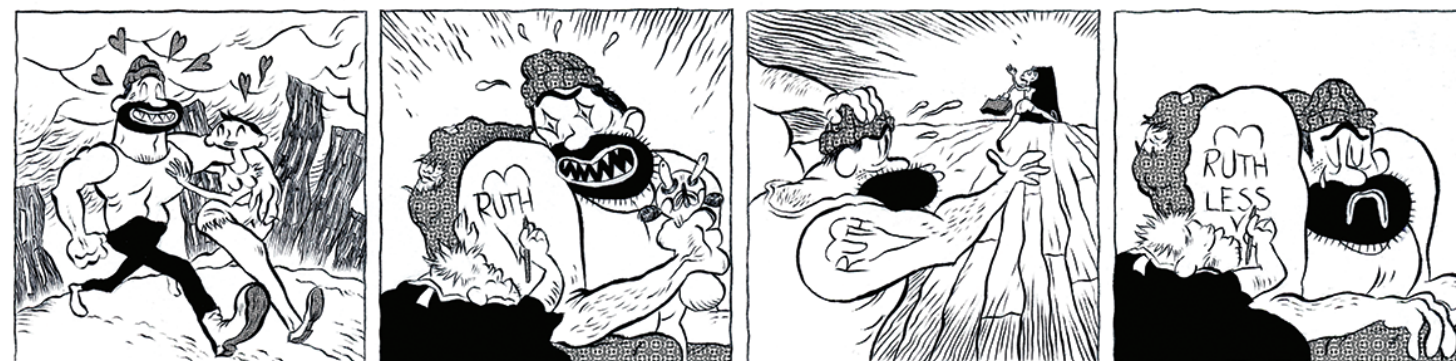


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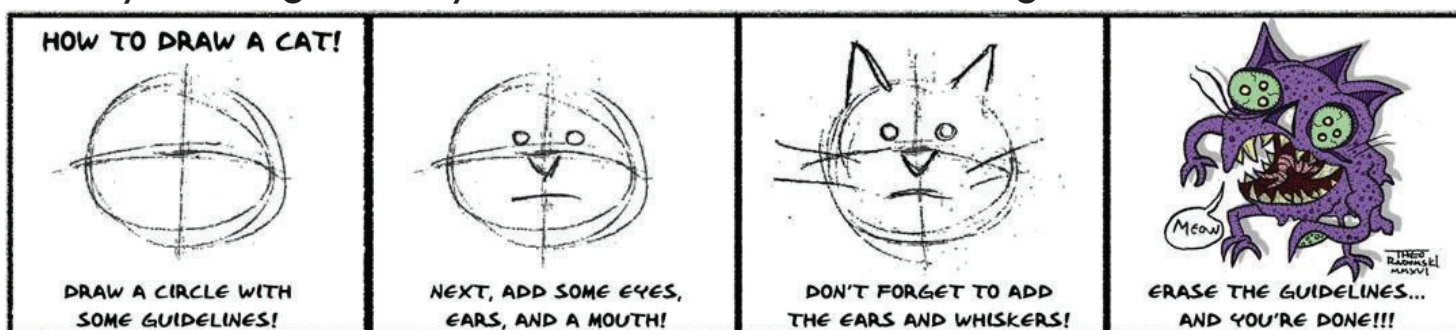
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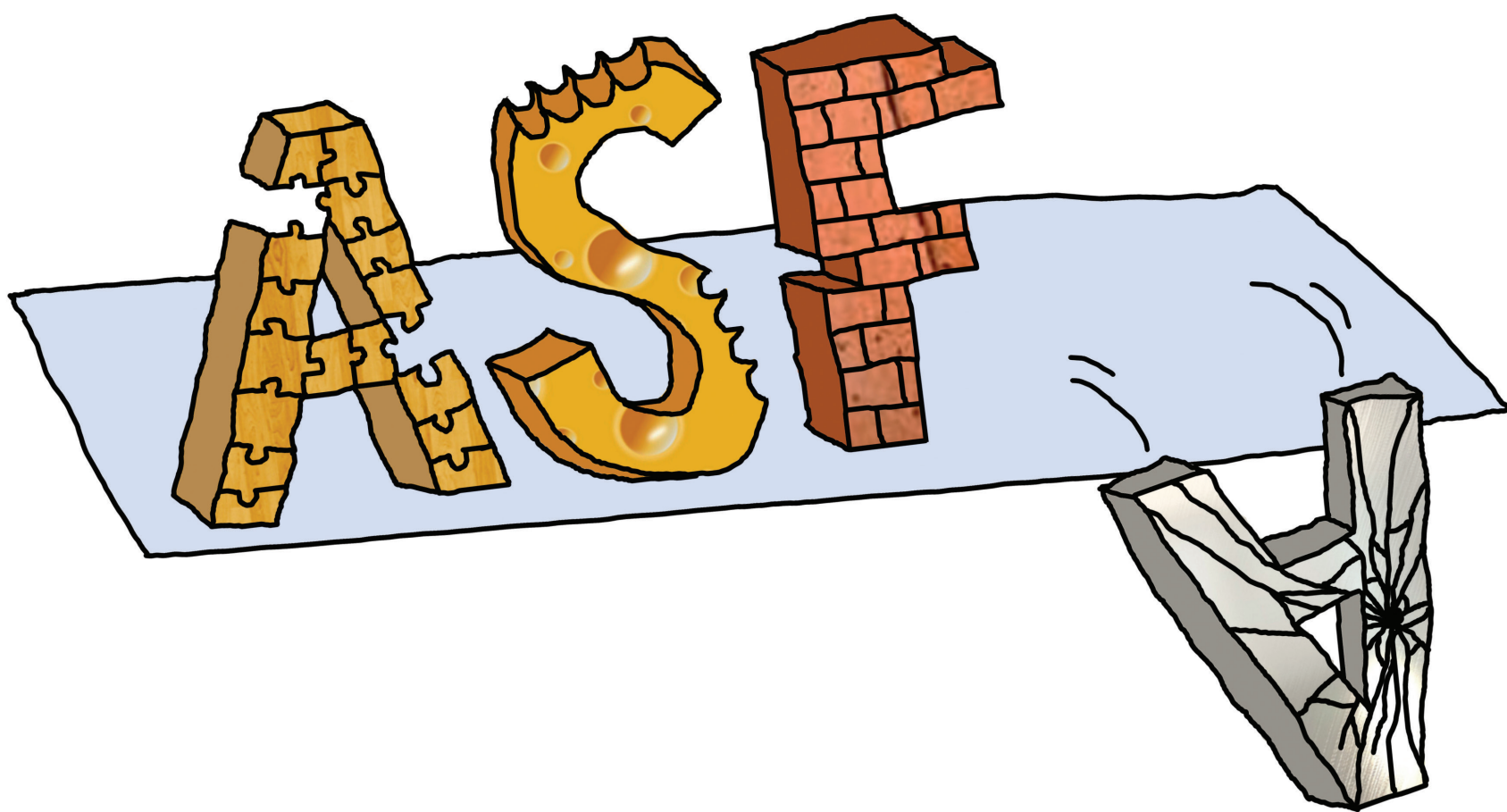


Shwee Shwee Comix by Gabor Bata @thegreatgabinski



Hastily Put Together by Theo Radomski @flannelogue





JENN AEDY

EDITORIAL

What Is the Point of ASFA?

“ASFA in principle is a good thing, but it needs to be changed dramatically.”

You might assume this was a quote from our article this week on why the Arts and Science Federation of Associations—which represents all Concordia undergraduate arts and science students—again failed to meet quorum in a by-election.

But it’s not. This is from a *Link* story in 2010, when leaders from the Mathematics and Statistics Students Association expressed their discontent with how the federation distributed funds to its then 27 member associations. MASSA execs wanted more autonomy from ASFA and thought the federation mismanaged its funds.

Fast-forward six years and a discontent still exists with how ASFA operates. Current executives called this recent by-election to fill a vacant spot on their team and to request a higher fee-levy from its membership. With approximately 20,000 students in the federation, they needed 505 members to vote to reach quorum. They had a turnout of around 200.

This is the second time in two years that an ASFA election hasn’t met quorum. The last time was in March 2015 just after the story about Mei-Ling made local headlines.

Mei-Ling was a former executive whose two white male colleagues sexually and racially harassed her. This time around, though, there hasn’t been public scandal or dysfunction. ASFA has been quiet.

But this doesn’t mean that ASFA should hide in its failures and maintain the low bar it has set. If anything, the lack of interest in this by-election should be a wake up call that the biggest student association at this university, barring the Concordia Student Union, needs to restructure.

Last year, ASFA membership had the chance to pass a formal reform proposal, but it failed. After being reviewed by a lawyer and put to ballot by council, the proposal would have reduced the number of executives to three. As well, ASFA would have essentially turned into a body that collects and distributes funds and implements consent and anti-oppression training to its member associations.

“Essentially we’re cutting out anything that ASFA does, and we’re just giving all the autonomy to the member associations,” said former ASFA General Coordinator Jenna Cocullo about the failed proposal. “ASFA will really just be there for the simplicity of allocating budgets.”

We believe this was and still is the best

option for the federation moving forward. Since most of ASFA’s member associations aren’t accredited and recognized by the Quebec government, it’s important to have a body that can collect student fees to be put towards different community building initiatives.

Cocullo and her *Support Change* slate last year, which *The Link* formally endorsed, couldn’t fulfill the promise her team campaigned on. There are simply too many member associations within ASFA for it to form a unified, clear vision year-to-year. Attend a council session and see for yourself—it’s tense and usually unproductive. Once, council spent an agenda point discussing why the office couch was swapped without permission, before discussing whether the council chair assaulted someone at the previous meeting. Many have used the term “toxic” before to describe the federation’s environment.

Since the Mei-Ling story revealed how unsafe ASFA was internally, a contingent of apologists have fought desperately to protect the tense frat-boy party atmosphere the federation is known for. Its high-profile event each year is Frosh, a week of events meant to be an orientation of sorts to new students. In real-

ity, it’s an excuse for ASFA leaders to spend thousands of dollars on a party that affirms their status as the cool kids.

We too ask why ASFA even needed an increased fee-levy in the first place. There was no real campaign to explain. Getting documentation or even notice of council meetings has become increasingly difficult. The finance committee, which makes final decisions on all budgets, has been accused of lacking transparency and operating unprofessionally in the past. ASFA suffers from an issue of having too much money and not knowing what to do with it. Last year, despite all its grand intentions, the executive team spent \$16,000 to have controversial YouTuber Laci Green come speak at Concordia. The cost to run this by-election, which again didn’t meet quorum, was \$4,500.

Since the revelation that the Frosh culture permeating its operations is dangerous and needs to be addressed, ASFA has lacked a clear vision for how to move forward. This has led to mismanagement of funds and more internal drama. After years and years of coverage, *The Link* continually asks, what is the point of ASFA? The silence of its members in the recent by-election may be a sign that they’re wondering too.

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Caffe in Ginba 5263 Ave. du Parc
New Navarino Café 5563 Ave. du Parc
Melina's Phyllo Bar 5733 Ave. du Parc
De La Cream Barbershop 162 Bernard
Resto Venice 163 Bernard
Dépanneur Café 206 Bernard
Phonopolis 207 Bernard
Sonorama 260 Bernard
Kafein 1429 Bishop
Irish Embassy 1234 Bishop
Grumpys 1242 Bishop
Madhatter's Pub 1208 Crescent
Brutopia 1219 Crescent
Boustan 2020 Crescent
Fou D'ici 360 de Maisonneuve O.
Eggspectation 1313 de Maisonneuve O.
Foonzo 1245 Drummond.
Galerie Fokus 68 Duluth E.
Maison du Tibet 129 Duluth E.
Utopia 159 Duluth E.
Chat Café 172 Duluth E.
Buanderie Net Net 310 Duluth E.
Au Coin Duluth 418 Duluth E.
Chez Bobette 850 Duluth E.
Café Grazie 58 Fairmount O.
Arts Café 201 Fairmount O.
Maison de la Torréfaction 412 Gilford
Andrew Bar 1241 Guy

Java U 1455 Guy
Comptoir du Chef 2153 Guy
Hinnawi Bros 2002 Mackay
Panthère Verte 2153 Mackay
Café Tuyo 370 Marie-Anne E.
La Traite 350 Mayor
Paragraphe 2220 McGill College
Second Cup 5550 Monkland
George's Souvlaki 6995 Monkland
Trip de Bouffe 277 Mont-Royal E.
L'échange 713 Mont-Royal E.
Café Expression 957 Mont-Royal E.
Mets chinois Mtl 961 Mont-Royal E.
Mt-Royal Hot Dog 1001 Mont-Royal E.
Panthère Verte 145 Mont-Royal E.
Maison Thai 1351 Mont-Royal E.
Aux 33 Tours 1373 Mont-Royal E.
Freeson Rock 1477 Mont-Royal E.
Café Henri 3632 Notre-Dame O.
Rustique 4615 Notre-Dame O.
Café Pamplemousse 1251 Ontario E.
Le Snack Express 1571 Ontario E.
Frites Alors! 433 Rachel E.
Presse Café 625 René-Levesque O.
L'Oblique 4333 Rivard
Juliette et Chocolat 1615 Saint-Denis
Frites Alors! 1710 Saint-Denis
Panthère Verte 1735 Saint-Denis
L'Artiste Affamé 3692 Saint-Denis
Beatnick 3770 Saint-Denis
L'Insouciant Café 4282 Saint-Denis
Eva B 2015 Saint-Laurent
Bocadillo 3677 Saint-Laurent
Cul de Sac 3794 Saint-Laurent

Libreria Espagnola 3811 Saint-Laurent
Frappe St-Laurent 3900 Saint-Laurent
Copacabanna Bar 3910 Saint-Laurent
Coupe Bizarde 4051 Saint-Laurent
Le Divan Orange 4234 Saint-Laurent
Om Restaurant 4382 Saint-Laurent
Le Melbourne 4615 Saint-Laurent
Gab 4815 Saint-Laurent
Casa del Popolo 4873 Saint-Laurent
Citizen Vintage 5330 Saint-Laurent
Smile Café 5486 Saint-Laurent
Le Cagibi 5490 Saint-Laurent
Saj Mahal 1448 Saint-Mathieu
Café Santropol 3990 Saint-Urbain
Barros Lucos 5201 Saint-Urbain
Brooklyn 71 Saint-Viateur E.
Pizza St. Viateur 15 Saint-Viateur O.
Batory Euro Deli 115 Saint-Viateur O.
La panthère Verte 160 Saint-Viateur O.
Club social 180 Saint-Viateur O.
Faubourg 1616 Sainte-Catherine O.
Nilufar 1923 Sainte-Catherine O.
Hinnawi Bros 372 Sherbrooke E.
Shaika Café 5526 Sherbrooke O.
Encore! 5670 Sherbrooke O.
La Maison Verte 5785 Sherbrooke O.
Café Zephyr 5791 Sherbrooke O.
Mate Latte 5837 Sherbrooke O.
Head and Hands 5833 Sherbrooke O.
Café 92° 6703 Sherbrooke O.
Second Cup 7335 Sherbrooke O.
Bistro Van Houtte 2020 Stanley
Memé Tartine 4601 Verdun

GOOD LUCK WITH YOUR EXAMS!

I wish you all the best on your upcoming exams and final projects.
After the term ends – enjoy the break!

Alan Shepard
President
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