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Divested

**THE CSU MOVED \$5.3 MILLION.
THEIR PORTFOLIO IS CHANGING
FOR A FEW REASONS, LIKE BDS.
BUT YOU SHOULD STILL KNOW:**

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NIKOLAS LITZENBERGER, KELSEY LITWIN, MORAG RAHN-CAMPBELL, CHRIS FORSYTH

What's the Deal With BDS?

A Look at What Has Been Done Two Years Since the CSU Voted in Favour of BDS Against Israel

KELSEY LITWIN and ÉTIENNE LAJOIE
@KELSEYLITWIN and @GIMMEDATRUTH

In the fall of 2014, the Concordia Student Union endorsed the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions against Israel after undergraduate students passed a referendum.

Two years later, the CSU has followed through on its promise to divest from companies that are associated with Israel. On the eve of the second annual BDS week at Concordia, the CSU has confirmed to *The Link* that they have divested a total \$5.3 million, in accordance with all of their student-supported positions.

The divestments “are consistent with the CSU’s Positions Book, which includes [BDS], but is also reflective on our positions against natural resource extractive industries,” according to Adrian Longinotti, the student union’s Finance Coordinator.

BDS is a movement in support of the Palestinian people and against the human rights violations conducted by the state of Israel. It calls for boycotting Israel, and all companies involved in its violations, divesting from them and sanctioning the nation to hold them accountable. Sanctions, as the movement describes, includes “putting pressure on governments [...] by ending military trade, free-trade agreements, and expelling Israel from international forums.”

BDS is about critically looking at the relationship that Concordia has with Israel, according to Rami Yahia, the CSU’s Internal Affairs Coordinator. He is the former General Coordinator of Solidarity for Palestinian Human Rights Concordia.

“Normalizing ties would be accepting the status quo,” Yahia said. “This is about stopping

the violence in Palestine.”

Pro-Israel groups criticized the 2014 referendum for not being representative of the undergraduate student body—of the 2,500 students who voted, 1,276 voted in favour of BDS.

Yahia emphasized the fact that the vote reached more than five times the quorum. “View this as an achievement,” he said.

Lucinda Marshall-Kiparissis, this year’s CSU general coordinator, explained that their duty as a student union is to follow through on positions put forward and supported by the student body.

“Regardless, the CSU is beholden to the mandates given to us by undergraduate students and not the Concordia administration,” she said.

The \$5.3 million had been transferred from existing GICs—Guaranteed Investment Certificates—into sustainable investments, Longinotti said.

GICs are the “cheapest possible investment,” according to Stylianos Perrakis, a finance professor at the John Molson School of Business. Consequently, GICs are also the investments with some of the lowest returns, he said.

Despite low returns, GICs are known as some of the safest investments, and the CSU has invested in cashable-GICs so that they can access the fund at any time, Longinotti said.

“What I see as a benefit to cashable GICs is that if the money is needed from these accounts, we’re not locked into a longer term [investment],” he added.

He offered the example of renovation projects as motivation for investing in cashable GICs, such as Reggie’s and the Hive Café. If there is an initiative the CSU knows will require a larger sum of money, a cashable GIC will ensure they would have access to

the necessary funds, Longinotti said, which also means it can be moved around without much repercussion.

In the process of divesting, the CSU changed its purchasing policies, meaning it stopped purchasing products from specific companies. Specifically, Longinotti cited Home Depot and Canadian Tire as two companies the CSU stopped purchasing from.

Home Depot’s co-founder and ex-chairman, Bernard Marcus, is a supporter of EMET: An Educational Initiative, Inc.—a think tank that disseminates pro-Israel information on college campuses, and hosts a yearly gala in the U.S. where participants strategize on how to destroy Palestine solidarity efforts in universities.

To decide which companies to divest from, candidates are put through a positive and negative screening process.

“The negative screenings would be to eliminate the funds that have companies, or eliminate the companies themselves,” Longinotti said. Home Depot and Canadian Tire, for example, came up negative during this process.

“The final decision is always passed through the board,” he said, “because that reflects our transparency and that we respect also not only the opinions of the executive team, but the opinions representatives of all the student body.”

When it comes to the other factors of BDS, Marshall-Kiparissis wrote in an email that, “the only real way we can actively implement the ‘boycott’ aspect of the position we have been given is through our ethical purchasing policy.”

This is, on a smaller scale, similar to the way the CSU dictates their investments. They verify all purchases are made in line with their Positions Book, which is dictated both by

Council and the union’s entire membership through referendum questions.

Sanctions, on the other hand, aren’t necessarily within the reach of the student union.

“Because we’re a university-based union we can’t actively ‘sanction,’” wrote Marshall-Kiparissis. “But the referendum-based position allows us to support diplomatic or economic actions which do, should those occasions arise.”

The \$5.3 million in divestment makes up a large part of the CSU’s portfolio that was presented at the last CSU Annual General Meeting for the 2015-2016 year. Longinotti estimates this portfolio lands at somewhere around \$6 million—but reaching no more than \$7 million—for 2016. If these numbers are accurate, the divestment accounts for 75 to 88 per cent of their portfolio.

This amount, he said, excludes the Student Space, Accessible Education and Legal Contingency fund, which collects \$1 per credit from all undergraduate students. Although Longinotti explained that while the CSU wants to be very transparent, the audit is currently not viewable for Concordia students on their website.

“[The CSU] website needs to be updated,” Longinotti said. “Right now I’m working with the team to update these documents because they should be updated constantly.”

The latest CSU financial documents that can be found on csu.qc.ca are from the 2013-2014 school year—for which the cash flow audited ended on May 31, 2014. It was posted online 338 days later on May 4, 2015.

Longinotti acknowledged that the website not being up to date is a real issue he is trying to correct.

REVEALED: Bonuses for Last Year's CSU Executive Team

VINCE MORELLO
@VINNYMORELLZ

The Concordia Student Union executive team for the 2015-2016 mandate has each received a 9.6 per cent bonus based on their salary.

"The consensus in the room was that the execs all worked hard, in different ways, and had all accomplished or tried very hard to accomplish things," said former councillor Charles Gonsalves. "The bonus should reflect that."

The councillors discussed the awarding of these bonuses during a closed session meeting on May 11, in which the executive team had left the room. Eleven out of 19 councillors attended the session, according to the official minutes from the meeting. Before council discussed the bonuses, the executive asked that every executive be awarded the same amount.

"In past years the board would try and figure out what percentage to give to each executive and that type of picking winners and losers didn't fit with the way we try to operate," said last year's CSU General Coordinator, Terry Wilkings.

Both Wilkings and former External and Campaigns Coordinator Gabriel Velasco received a lesser amount because it was their second year on the executive team. This meant their work in the previous May was not counted, Wilkings said.

Councillors judged last year's team on their ability to continue working on projects that mainly began before their mandate.

Reggie's, the on-campus bar opened last year through the work of Lori Di Maria, the Internal and Clubs Coordinator. The team also prioritized the Safer Space Policy for Reggie's, after public allegations that women's drinks were drugged.

"You can never guarantee a safe space, but the point of the policy is just to ensure that there is a foundation from which all the actors involved can reference whenever these kinds of situations occur," said Marcus Peters, current Loyola Coordinator, who was a councillor for both the CSU and ASFA at the time. The Hive Café also underwent renovations last year.

The student housing project started to see progress under last year's executive team. The legal framework was created, and the Popular University Student Housing fund began. Then during the March 2015 CSU general elections, students approved moving \$1.85 million to the PUSH fund for the housing project.

The team was also judged on their ability to start their own projects instead of being satisfied with what they were given.

"In the second year, Terry's year, these

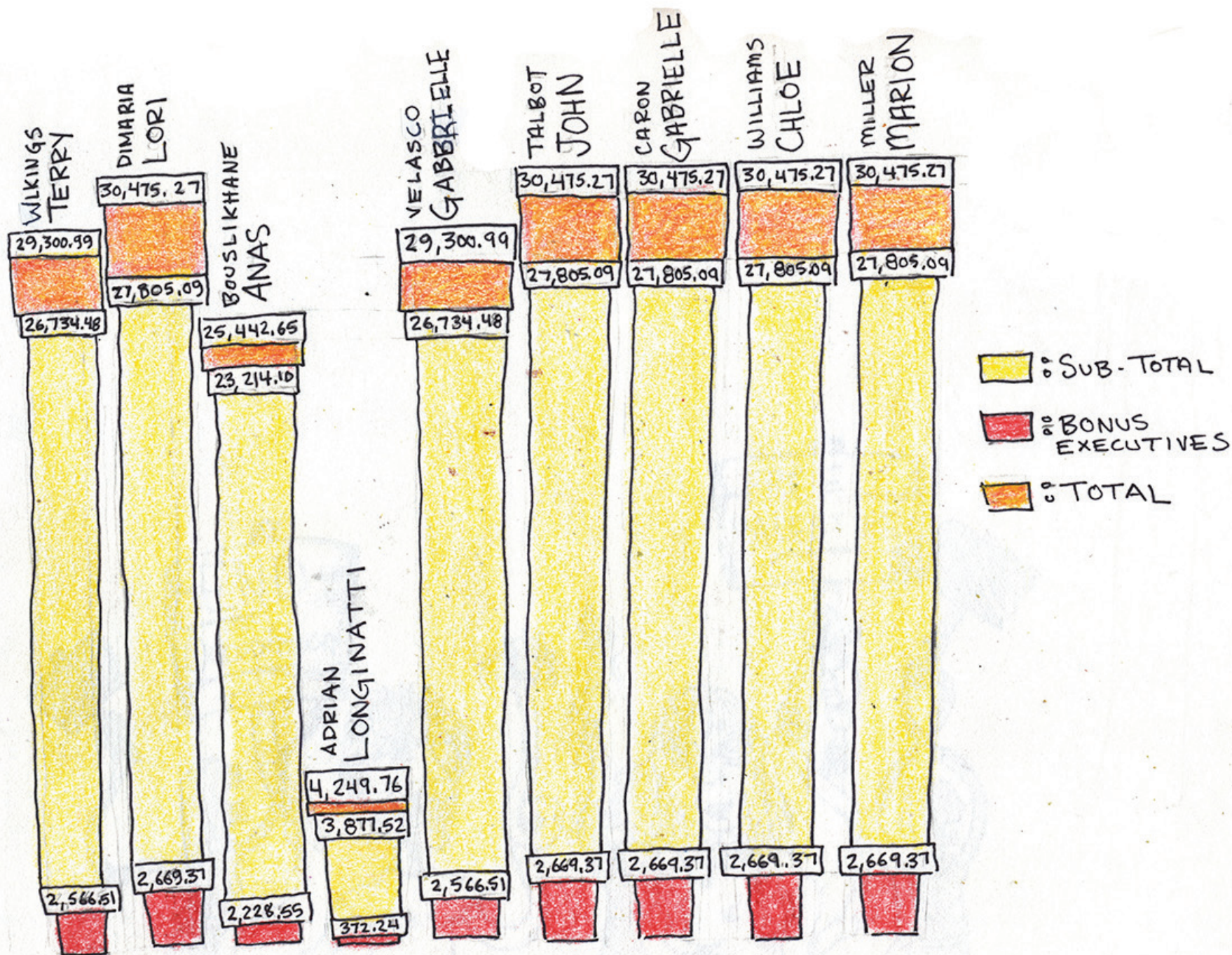
projects were manifesting, they were coming to surface so we were judging them more on how they handled it," said councillor Jason Poirier Lavoie.

Lavoie was also impressed with how the team consistently went to referendum to consult the students before dealing with some issues.

"The amount of extra effort they put into limiting themselves, and working within the structure of Concordia, thinking long term, it needs to be rewarded," he added.

Anas Bouslikhane, the finance coordinator who resigned in late March received a bonus for the time he served. Current finance coordinator, Adrian Longinotti, who took over the position, also received a bonus for his time served in April and May.

The bonus matches the amount awarded to the previous executive team, which served from June 2014 until May 2015.



Teaching Justice

Teach-In Highlights Injustices Facing Canada's Indigenous Women

EMILEE GUEVARA
@EMILEEGUEVARA

Originally intended to be an information session regarding Indigenous women in Canada, last Tuesday night, the Centre for Gender Advocacy became a space for teaching, sharing and healing.

Jonel Beauvais is a Mohawk woman from Akwesasne Nation. She just recently returned from Standing Rock, where she joined hundreds of First Nations opposing pipelines and devastation in North Dakota.

Beauvais was one speaker who participated in a teach-in about Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women in Canada. Missing Justice, a grassroots organization at Concordia that focuses on seeking justice for Indigenous women, organized the teach-in at the centre located on Concordia's downtown campus.

Community First

Beauvais stood up and asked the room what words came to mind when they thought of community. Their answers ranged from family, food, home, safety, and ceremony. The group wrote the words on a piece of paper and placed them in the middle of the room.

Beauvais asked for volunteers.

The first four participants represented Indigenous children. They sat on the floor, around the paper.

Row by row, groups were added to represent a whole and healthy Indigenous community, with mothers surrounding the children, followed by aunts and grandmothers, and finally the men. The volunteers placed their hands on one another's shoulders as a symbol of connection and kinship.

Beauvais was leading a traditional circle teaching, an exercise taught by many Indigenous mentors across the country. It is a way for participants to feel a breath of the immensity of what Indigenous communities have had to experience for generations. The exercise is used to explain how organized colonization and institutionalized oppression has infected the well being of many nations.

"Through colonization, we lost our sense of identity, culture and community," Beauvais said. She picked up the paper and ripped it to shreds. Words like place, love, and support fell in pieces to the ground.

"The residential school system [...] took our children," Beauvais explained. She asked the volunteers in the middle of the circle to leave.

"How do you feel without your children?" she asked the others. Nervous eyes started to fill with tears.

"Without their children, we lost the strength of our women." The women left the circle.

The room, now filled with crying participants, began to understand the story that was



Participants take part in a traditional circle teaching at a Centre for Gender Advocacy teach-in on Tuesday, Sept. 27. EMILEE GUEVARA

being told. The next row was asked to leave—the men were the only ones left standing.

"Our men were supposed to protect their communities; their women, their land. They once felt proud and now many of them are lost," she explained.

Facing the Facts

Chantel Henderson and Chelsea Obodoechina, representatives from Missing Justice, facilitated the teach-in. They used the discussion to shed light on how perpetuating stereotypes in the media, and lack of appropriate action from the police contribute to the violence that Indigenous women face.

"I went missing when I was a child, I went missing when I was 16, I went missing when I was 20," Henderson disclosed. "It got to a point where I thought: enough's enough."

She used her own experiences as an Indigenous woman who has gone missing and grew up in the child-welfare system to explain the unjust obstacles that many Indigenous people face.

"More than 80 per cent of children in the child-welfare system in Manitoba are native," she said. A report from the Canadian Child

Welfare Research portal elaborated that in Manitoba, 87 per cent of the children in care are Indigenous—the highest proportion of all Canadian provinces.

She spoke about how the loss of land and culture, implementation of residential schools and the removal of Indigenous children from families have played a role in disempowering women.

"Did you know that native women didn't get the right to vote until 1960?" she asked.

She also highlighted the heightened risk that Indigenous women face when it comes to violence. Statistics Canada found in 2004 that Indigenous women above the age of 15 are 3.5 times more likely to experience violence than non-Indigenous women.

Henderson explained how for Indigenous communities, police have been a source of danger, rather than a place of security. When women are murdered or missing, communities often receive little follow-up from the police.

"The police don't take missing persons reports of native women seriously," Henderson explained. "Especially with sex workers."

This is highlighted by a high-profile investigation conducted by Radio-Canada's Enquête

in 2015, which found numerous reports of abuse by Sûreté du Québec officers toward Indigenous women in Val-d'Or.

In January, the federal government said they would expand the inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women to include more than the slated 1,200 existing cases of abuse from the past 30 years.

Obodoechina furthered Tuesday's discussion to include mainstream media's role in perpetuating stereotypes against Indigenous people.

"We live in a mediated society," she said. "It can be a great source of information and of misinformation." She used examples like old dime novels and Wild West shows, to explain how many non-Indigenous people came to think about Indigenous culture.

On Tuesday, Oct. 4, there will be a march for Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women at 6:00 p.m. at Place Émilie-Game-lin. This is the 11th annual memorial march and vigil to raise awareness and honour the approximate 1,200 who have gone missing or been murdered between 1980 and 2012—although the Native Women's Association of Canada estimates the number is as high as 4,000.

This Week in News Online

Look out, coffee-drinkers: Hive Café prices are set to increase.

Making Food Accessible

Bite ME! Week and Fair Trade Campus Week's Workshops Give Students a Hand in Changing How We Eat

JOSHUA DE COSTA
@JOSHUADECOSTA21

If you think about it, Concordia University is a city within a city.

With more than 46,000 students, Concordia has almost the same number of students as Shawinigan, Quebec, has residents. Every year, the university adds quantifiable benefits to Quebec's economy worth approximately \$1.3 billion—the same amount that the province's pork industry generates in revenue each year.

Like a city, Concordia has the power to change Quebec by virtue of its size and consumption. Different groups at the university now face the question: how can we reach the students?

Enter Bite ME! 2016 Food Week and Fair Trade Campus Week.

Organized by two different Concordia organizations, both week-long events were planned to run on the same week from Sept. 26 to 30—purely out of coincidence—yet both have the same aim: to make students smarter with their food.

Taking the bite out of finding good food

In the run-up to Bite ME! Week, Sebastián Di Poi, Concordia Food Coalition's Internal Coordinator, had his plate full of planning as he organized workshops to show students how they could better fill their plates.

Di Poi first became involved with the CFC after he moved out on his own in 2009 and learned firsthand how difficult it was for students to find good food, affordably.

"A lot of the times, the crap we eat is what's most economically accessible," said the 27-year-old Concordia alumnus. "And that's the problem."

Di Poi pointed to a sign pinned to the wall across from him that read "Concordia's Multi-faith & Spirituality Centre: Mo'Hubbs vegan dinner for \$2."

"Concordia's full of things like that," he said. "That's how you make people food secure—you make healthy, cheap, food accessible to them."

Food secure people know where their next meal is coming from, explained Di Poi, and Bite ME! Week could help students achieve that by teaching them, for example, how to grow their own produce.

On Monday evening, Di Poi had organized a hydroponics workshop in Concordia's Greenhouse to show students that they could grow fruit or vegetables in their apartments without using a lot of space or soil.

As the workshop began, Dominique Smith, a volunteer hydroponic coordinator, brought out a plastic tray overflowing with luscious mustard greens he had prepared earlier. Smith planted the mustard seeds three weeks ago among lava rocks—an alternative to soil—and watered it with a simple nutrient and water solution.

After that, the mustard greens flourished themselves.

"I put stuff in there and it grows. It's very rugged," said Smith, as attendees plucked and ate the mustard greens from his tray. "Urban agriculture is the future—it brings the food to the people."

Canada could one day reduce the massive carbon footprint it creates importing bananas from Costa Rica by growing them locally instead with hydroponics, according to Smith. But today, hydroponics could help students become more food secure, growing their greens away from the requirements of soil.



Look at them luscious mustard greens!
thelinknewspaper.ca • October 4, 2016

PHOTOS JOSHUA DE COSTA



A DIY lip balm workshop on Wednesday, Sept. 28 was one of the events held for Fair Trade Campus Week.



Sebastián Di Poi is Concordia Food Coalition's internal coordinator.

Reworking food systems with Fair Trade Week

A dozen people sat in a circle under Concordia Greenhouse's fluorescent lights Wednesday night, passing around and smelling jars of oils and blocks of butter. They had come to the workshop, organised as part of Fair Trade Campus Week, ready to make their own lip-balm.

The recipe was simple.

Melt shea butter, cocoa butter and coconut oil together; add an oil of your choice—tonight, olive oil; and then finish with your favourite flavour: chocolate, mint or orange.

The stories behind the ingredients, however, were more complex.

Shea butter, called “women's gold” for centuries because of its golden colour and the employment opportunities harvesting it traditionally provides for women, was shipped to Montreal by a business employing more than 5,000 women in Burkina Faso, West Africa. The Zaytoun fair trade olive oil was made from fruit harvested off olive trees in Palestine, owned by Palestinian farmers.

And the cocoa butter smelled delicious.

But what each ingredient shared in common was that they found their way to the workshop that night through fair trade, which meant that at every step of production, workers earned decent wages in safe working conditions.

Today, shoppers are more aware than ever of how their choices can affect workers miles away who might be mothers or fathers with their own children and families.

“I don't think it's a trend. I think what we're seeing is a real movement towards changing our food system,” said Isabelle Mialhot-Leduc, Concordia's Sustainable Food System Coordinator and organizer of the Fair Trade Week.

She explained the move toward fair trade today is being driven largely by young people who are entering farming and seeing how their food is produced.

Mialhot-Leduc, who earned her Master's in sociology from UQAM while studying urban agriculture, lived on an organic farm for almost a year before starting at Concordia. There she saw how traditional industrial food systems could change to benefit all the consumers and producers up and down the supply chain.

“Since a majority of the products we eat come from far away, it's really easy to completely disconnect,” she said. The reality is that workers on rural farms are affected by urban food choices—something that Concordia has recently recognized.

On Aug. 30, Concordia became Canada's 17th Fair Trade Campus, and the fourth in Quebec. That means all non-franchises, student-run cafes and residence halls on campus have pledged to use only fair trade coffee, sell at least three fair trade teas and at least one fair trade chocolate wherever they're served.

Fair Trade Week took place from Sept. 26 to 30 by more than 40 campuses across Canada, but still, more can be done. Following the week, Mialhot-Leduc said she would keep pushing to make fair trade products more available and visible on campus. But for that to happen, students need to want it.

“Fair trade is something that grows with demand,” she said. “It can't grow without it.”



Fueling Space Interest at Concordia

Space Concordia Shifts Focus From Competition to Expansion and Creation

SALIM VALJI
@SALIMVALJI

Space Concordia wants to launch a satellite. The countdown: T minus two years.

Currently, the student group has two satellites—ConSat-1 and Alexandr. The society rebuilt ConSat-1 after their first Canadian Satellite Design Challenge in 2012.

“Most university satellites that get launched never actually end up communicating with the ground station,” Space Concordia president Nicholas Moore said, stressing the challenge of being able to launch a satellite with a defined purpose. “Probably 20 per cent are successful.”

One of the goals of Space Concordia’s next satellite will be testing materials designed by Dr. Suong Van Hoa on whether they can self-heal when hit by micrometeorites—tiny space particles that, when traveling at high speeds, can inflict significant damage. Dr. Hoa is a Concordia engineering professor and has worked on composite structures since 1979.

Prior to takeoff, the satellite has to meet several protocols and structural specifications, which are all outlined in a document that’s hundreds of pages long. According to Moore, it’s a long-term process that can take several years.

“We’re training our new members to be able to look at the satellite and judge whether the design and creation decisions made sense,” Moore said. “[That way] they can make the appropriate adjustments to make the satellite launch-ready.”

In a perfect world, Moore said, the satellite would be launch-ready by 2018, after the next CSDC.

The 2018 competition would mark another opportunity for Space Concordia to shine. Since its creation six years ago, Space Concordia has achieved a trophy-shelf of awards, including first place at the recent CSDC in Ottawa this past June. The society has medalled at every competition it’s competed in, winning against student groups from around the world.

“We’re a bit of a dynasty in that sense,” Moore said, smiling.

Moore attributed the winning formula to the society’s willingness to challenge its members.

“It comes down to throwing students at something they can’t really grasp,” he said. “And watching them just do what they can to get it done.”

He also emphasized the community and collaboration as reasons that Space Concordia has thrived since its inception six years ago.

“It’s a little bit of a mystery,” he conceded. “Everyone in this group has a lot to share, which is good. If you have an electrical problem, you can ask the electrical engineer sitting in the room, and no one has a problem helping out.”

They hope to continue attracting a wider range of students as they move forward with events geared towards those not in the sciences. Space Concordia’s celebration of World Space Week, which commenced on Oct. 4, includes a speaker series, movie night, and planetarium visit. Canadian Space Agency

president Sylvain Laporte will be participating in a wine and cheese event on Oct. 7.

Being a niche interest-specific group, part of Space Concordia hopes to reach students from non-science and engineering backgrounds. While a strong knowledge and understanding of astronomy and physics is required for many positions, there are ways for other students to become involved.

“We [at Space Concordia] are pretty open,” said Moore, a physics student. “We have friends in the arts or business and ask them if they want to work on certain graphics projects or design a marketing poster.”

Moore referenced Space Concordia’s videos showcasing its rocket and balloon launches, saying that the opportunity was there for students to assist in the creation of those videos.

“You’ve got to be interested enough in space, I think, to engage in these projects,” he said. “There’s only so many people that are like that, but anyone is welcome to come in and try.”

Initially founded in 2010 as a way for students to compete in the CSDC, Space Concordia has evolved into a space fan club of sorts. In their Hall building offices downtown, there are 11 autographed pictures from astronauts, including Canadian Chris Hadfield, former International Space Station Commander.

“Hosting World Space Week is another way we’ve expanded from being an engineering society to a club as well,” Moore said. “We do both.”



Space Concordia is every kid’s dream.
KELSEY LITWIN

Small Solar, Big Power

Environmental Entrepreneur Gregory Lynch Shows How Solar Power Can Be a Person’s Powerful Ally

JOSHUA DE COSTA
@JOSHUADECOSTA21

What do you call a homemade system with a solar panel the size of a wall poster that can catch the sun’s rays and charge your laptop?

How about “Solar Energy on a Small Scale?”

That was the title of Gregory Lynch’s workshop on Thursday night at the Concordia Greenhouse in the Hall building downtown, where he showed attendees how they could build their own small systems and power their own devices.

Today, with Canadian pipelines risking rupture, Hillary Clinton promising half a billion solar panels by the end of her first term, and China and the United States ratifying the Paris Agreement, interest in alternative energy has never been higher.

Canada has yet to ratify the agreement but many Canadians are still eager to use renewable energy and save the environment—more than 20 of them had gathered in Concordia’s Greenhouse to learn from Lynch that night.

Lynch had brought with him all the parts of a miniature working solar-power system, and in the palm of his hand, he held up a 5V solar panel, showing attendees how small and light it was.

“It’s perfect for charging a cell-phone via USB cable,” he said.

“Solar can work on a very small scale,” Lynch

explained, referring at once to the name of the workshop, the potency of his handheld solar panel and the fact that solar power can thrive at the community level. “With hydro and wind, you really need to scale up to be effective.”

After working in the field for the past four years, the 32-year-old understands renewable energy, and in 2014 he started an organization, Mantis Environmental, to share his knowledge about sustainability and the environment with students of all ages.

Lynch said he had once lived with three other people in a cabin completely powered by solar, and that today he still lives with solar energy, albeit on a smaller scale. He rigged up a system at home, for example, to water the plants on his third-floor balcony whenever the sun is shining.

And many of the workshop attendees had come that night with ideas of their own. Some wanted to learn, others dreamed of building solar-powered greenhouses, and one woman said she was going to convert her RV van to run completely on solar.

One attendee, Caroline Baab, 29, was looking to buy a little house in New Brunswick that is completely “off the grid,” she said. She wanted to build a solar power system to continue powering it.

With the market for residential solar products growing, people can now buy pieces online to build their own passively-powered systems, Lynch said, that can heat water, move air or water plants without any electricity whatsoever.



Gregory Lynch hosted the workshop, showing off the ALEKO 30W solar panel on Thursday, Sept. 29.
JOSHUA DE COSTA

“In the past five years, solar panels have gotten stronger, cheaper and more ‘friendly,’” he said.

Today, Canada is the world’s third largest producer of hydroelectricity, but the country falls out of the top five when it comes to producing solar power, according to a 2016 report by the Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century, a non-profit global policy network.

But widespread production continues to make more efficient solar panels more affordable. “We’re living in a time when solar panel companies are coming and going like flocks of birds,” said Lynch.

Midway through his workshop, Lynch passed around a monocrystalline solar panel with the model name, “ALEKO”. Weighing

about three kilograms and roughly the same size as a flat 27-inch LCD screen, the ALEKO panel could be found online for just over \$80 including shipping, and according to Lynch, it was powerful enough to charge your laptop.

At just after 6 p.m., with the help of the attendees, Lynch connected the ALEKO panel with cables to a charge controller and a digital multimeter. But with the sun setting in the background, the solar panel failed to generate power and the multimeter registered no charge.

Nightfall had exposed the obvious shortcomings of a system powered purely by solar, proving that while the future of solar power may be bright, it’s much better when it’s bright outside as well.



Manuel Shink's dance as part of Tangente's "New Wave" series wowed audiences this weekend.

COURTESY TANGENTE

Dancing Out of the Incubator

Two Concordia Dancers Popping Up on the Local Scene

MICHAEL MARTINI

A dancer with fire-red hair is swimming her way through misty light. It's the dance of the selkie, the mythical water creature.

Only minutes later, a lanky bearded man moseys around the stage in leather heels, teasing the audience as he strikes glamorous, dramatic poses with seven-metre cuts of satin and tulle. Eryn Tempest and Manuel Shink, the two dancers, wowed audiences this weekend at Monument National as part of Tangente's "New Waves" series. They were special performances, as their pieces weren't seen so long ago at Concordia University.

Founded in 1980, Tangente Dance is a platform for showcasing new artists' work. This year, they had hopes to reach Montreal students more directly, and have set up ambassadors at each university in the city, including Concordia and McGill, in order to do so.

The collective meets after every opening night to discuss ideas, partnerships, and projects with student organizations, according to Roxane Halary, Tangente's contact at Concordia. "The goal is to make Tangente's resources available to emerging artists," she said.

Tempest and Shink both took advantage of Tangente's ample resources when applying to "New Waves," the collective's annual

series that presents five to six emerging dance artists to an industry audience.

"They've done a wonderful job of making me feel valued as a producer of work and a contributor to the dance scene in Montreal," said Tempest.

On the series, Shink added, "It's like the main entrance for an artist at Tangente."

The lights rise slowly to hypnotic music. Lying next to his cut of red satin, with a simple flip of the hair, Shink had the audience giggling.

The subtlety was extreme, and it was no surprise the performance has seen many layers come and go. In fact, the ten-minute piece took shape three times already—during a glittery art party at underground venue Poisson Noir, at the interdepartmental showcase Tactile Museum, and at Studio 7.

Studio 7 is a monthly cabaret held by students of Concordia's dance department for all artistic disciplines, in which audience members provide feedback for each piece. The incubator structure certainly resembles what Tangente is doing itself.

Indeed, Tempest credited the dance department with keeping students informed about platforms like Tangente. In the same weekend, she has alternated her solo piece at Tangente with another fascinating piece uptown at Théâtre

aux Écuries as part of La Serre's "Vous êtes ici."

This time, it was a one-week mentorship whose end result situates the proposed pieces of eight emerging artists and collectives in a navigational theatre show.

Two Concordia dance pieces joined theatre and dance from UQAM, NTS, and even Cégep Lionel-Groulx. The audience explored the multi-leveled theatre to catch different short works by recent graduates in intervals. Tempest's piece, in collaboration with Concordia dancer Camille Lacelle-Wilsey and electro-acoustics grad Thomas V. Christie, uses light, dance, and photo in combination with a tech-heavy choreography.

"La Serre is a wonderful program to support artist research," Tempest said. "They provided us with everything from extension cords to dramaturgical feedback." Performing back-to-back with La Serre and Tangente, Edmonton-raised Tempest tosses aside the taboo of Anglo and Franco arts scenes intermingling. Just as Tangente puts it, there's a clear desire for students of all backgrounds to find their way into these institutions.

While both Tangente and La Serre's programs have closed up shop until next year, Studio 7's October edition will be coming around the bend shortly, and students from all artistic backgrounds are welcome to show work.

Film Matters

A Look Into Next Week's Launch of the Festival Du Nouveau Cinéma

NINON SCOTTI DI UCCIO
@NINONSCOTTO

Feel like being transported in a world where giants walk the streets, one where hopeless romantics can't find love because of their animal tails? Ever wanted to choose the ending of a movie? Or dreamt of exploring Mars?

The Festival du nouveau cinéma de Montréal is the venue to explore these fantasies. The organization strays from the norm, typically featuring films that break traditional narratives, and focuses on the newest developments relating to image and sound. "We want to show a vision of the future not to stay static in tradition," said Nicolas Girard Deltruc, the FNC Executive Director.

From October 5 to 16, 340 screenings will be offered in theatres across Montreal for the 45th edition of the international festival.

Creative works from 62 countries will be represented in the form of short and feature films sorted into different competitions.

For the first time this year, new categories have been created for the festival. One of these new classifications, for example, is called "The New Alchemists"—aiming to bring poetic fiction to the screen. It will supplement the existing categories like International Competition, Focus on Quebec/Canada, and others.

Also exclusive to this year are the augmented reality exhibitions that transport the viewer right into the experience. Swap bodies with someone else in "Be Boy Be Girl," a piece from the Netherlands, or go for a stroll on Mars with "Mars 2030," a virtual reality project from the United States.

Concordia will be featured as well. Etienne Lacelle, a student-director from

the university, will be competing in the "Canadian Student Films" category with his short film, "Les Beiges." His mini-doc is focused on the crewmembers that work behind the scenes in the Maple Leaf Bash, a grassroots auto-drift competition in Quebec. A free screening of the film, in addition to a ceremony event introducing the short films will take place on Oct. 11 at the Agora Hydro-Quebec of UQAM.

The sheer diversity in films this year means that "there's something for everyone," Girard Deltruc said.

The goal with the festival, he continued, is to create a place to stimulate creation and to follow the revolution of moving images, and their producers. His goal for the audience experience-based festival is to create an environment that people will

want to share together. With this in mind, the 11-day event will incorporate immersive films, with interactive experiences, live music and dance, visual art, as well as workshops and keynotes.

An announcement last week at the FNC opening press conference revealed that the festival received \$20,000 from the Government of Canada through the Canada Arts Presentation Fund to ensure the growth of the festival.

Mélanie Joly, the Minister of Canadian Heritage, said she is "proud to support a cultural event that showcases Quebec and Canadian films in addition to promoting innovation and bringing together industry professionals."

Despite the effects of austerity policies in Quebec, the festival "succeeded in surviving" the financial cuts, Girard Deltruc said.



Prank, directed by Vincent Biron.



La tortue rouge, directed by Michael Dudok De Wit.



Radio Dreams, directed by Babak Jalali.

PHOTOS COURTESY FNC

What to Catch

Radio Dreams // Oct. 7 // 7 p.m. // Cineplex Odeon in the Quartier Latin

A film that garnered international praise—and won a prize—at the International Film Festival of Rotterdam this year, *Radio Dreams* follows an Iranian rock radio station settled in downtown San Francisco as they wait in anticipation for Metallica to play a live session for them. The low-budget, yet high-quality US-Iranian film is a must-see.

Wolf and Sheep // Oct. 7 // 9 p.m. // Cineplex Odeon in the Quartier Latin

This Danish-Afghan drama explores traditional beliefs about gender through a group of shepherd children in rural Afghanistan. It follows the narrative of a young girl on the edge of her community, as she dreams of doing the work of men. The film won a prize at the Festival de Cannes.

Prank // Oct. 14 // 9:30 p.m. // Cinema Imperial

On a lighter tone, *Prank* is an action and comedy film about teenagers getting into trouble—engaging in mischievous acts in their community to revolt and fight boredom. This endlessly creative and wacky film should be a riot.

La Tortue Rouge // Oct. 9 // 7 p.m. // Cineplex Odeon in the Quartier Latin

For all animation enthusiasts out there, *La Tortue Rouge* is a French animation ten years in the making about a man on a deserted island trying to survive. This collaboration with Studio Ghibli and a Dutch animator shouldn't be missed.

Below Her Mouth // Oct. 7 // 9:15 p.m. // Cinema du Parc

If you're looking for a something passionate, *Below her Mouth*, lends itself if a unique way to the all-too-common scenario between a woman in a hetero relationship, and her treacherous attraction to another woman. This film is unique, as it is the first Canadian fictional film to be entirely made by women.

This Week in Fringe Online

POP Montreal Recap: Still buzzin' from that sick week of music? So are we! We also wrote all about it.



Paul Sayer contemplating his life, as he plucks the strings of his existence.



Phil Campbell singing his soul out.

From Scotland to Café Campus

Rock Band The Temperance Movement Humbled on Canadian Tour

MICHAEL EIDELSON
@MOOKELLL

On an early Thursday Afternoon, five dudes haul their gear up the stairs of Café Campus. They unload each piece of equipment from their van into a deserted room where they'll perform later that evening.

"It's great in here—what a lovely stage!" shouted Phil Campbell, the lead singer of The Temperance Movement. He wore a mix of dark colours that exerted vibrant and warm gestures to everyone in the room, including the manager and lighting technician.

He quickly glanced back at the stage as he took his seat, seemingly fixated. "I'm pleased to be here in Montréal. That is a lovely stage. I can't wait to play on it tonight," he said smoothly grinning, with a strong Scottish accent.

The Temperance Movement is currently on tour in support for their second studio record *White Bear*, which Fantasy Records released at the beginning of this year. The album is full of groovy guitar riffs that

encapsulate the raw emotion of fun. Only three weeks into the tour, they said it's already been one of their best runs yet.

"Since October of last year, [the band] took on a new guitar player [Matt White]—and the band dynamic shifted," Campbell said. "The last Canadian tour was great. We're beginning to feel confident playing together, and so far this tour has been great."

His eyes continued to dart around the room. Meanwhile, the rest of the band busily unpacked and made coffee runs for what would be a long day of rehearsing and sound testing.

It was a sight to watch Campbell feel out the room. Located in the lower part of Montreal's Plateau neighbourhood, Café Campus was not the most famous the Scottish group played at. The Temperance Movement has performed in much grander venues, and on more unique stages, around the world, especially in the U.S.

"The 9:30 Club in Washington D.C. was a great gig," said bassist, Nick Fyffe. "It was

a weekend show, which always makes a difference. If you play on a Monday or Tuesday night, people have to go to work the next day—people don't let themselves get loose as much."

A show at the Brooklyn Bowl was another highlight, namely because their set got people to stop doing what the club's name suggests.

"The Brooklyn Bowl is quite a cool venue—you're standing on stage but to the left of you are bowling lanes," Fyffe explained, laughing. "When we got on stage people stopped bowling—that's a good sign."

Campbell went on to say that they've enjoyed all of the venues that they've played at so far. The 9:30 Club stood out for them because of how notorious the club is for jump-starting the careers of acts such as Minor Threat and Fugazi. Some stand out acts that had early performances there include the Ramones, Bad Brains and Violent Femmes.

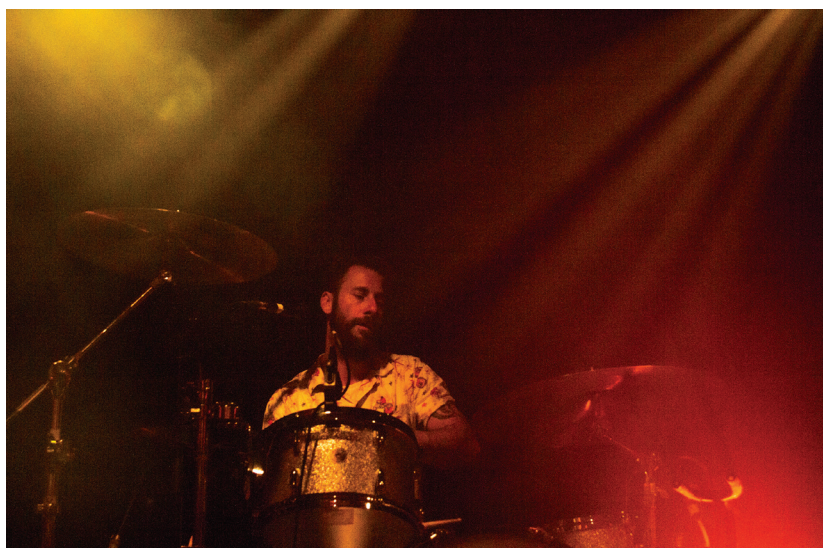
As members of the band attached fresh new strings to their guitars, Campbell said despite Montreal having a prominent music scene, their set brings something familiar yet differ-

ent. They evoke those 60's and 70's vibes.

"We're sending out an energy during our live shows for those who still believe in the magic and wonder of Tina Turner, Creedence Clearwater Revival and Jimi Hendrix," he said. "We do it through this medium of growly guitar amps and these different styles, but we're a rock and roll band and we've built our name on the playing of rock and roll."

Throughout their warm-up, Campbell and the rest of the band glowed with a genuine energy. The manager and other associate all laughed in the background as they conversed over coffee and tuned their instruments. They're influenced by the legends like AC/DC or Queen, but that whole classic rock and roll façade didn't show in person. The group revealed a gentle, real quality.

"What I would want people to take away is: to show up, appreciate the boys did a good show, and that they would want to come and see us again," Fyffe said. For a lot of our fans, we reignite their love for live music that they maybe haven't felt for quite sometime."



PHOTOS NIKOLAS LITZENBERGER



THE

LINK CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Oct. 4 - Oct. 11

TU 4 11th Memorial March for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Missing Justice and the Centre for Gender Advocacy are inviting people to show support for Indigenous women as the inquiry into their disappearances and murders continues. Place Émilie-Gamelin • 1500 Berri St. • 6:00 p.m. // FREE	WE 5 Tintamare and Orkestar Kriminal Celebrate the launch of Tintamare's new album with them in concert. Club Soda • 1225 St. Laurent Blvd. • 8 p.m. to midnight // \$14.25	TH 6 Red Bull Music Academy Go see Black Coffee, a DJ from Durban, at Stereo Bar, where he will play his own style of house music. StereoBar • 858 Ste. Catherine St. E. • 9 p.m. // \$15	FR 7 Free Axe Throwing Event Have you ever wanted to learn how to throw axes? Here's your chance. For those 18 and up, you can learn the proper techniques from trained instructors. Rage: Axe Throwing Montreal • 1436 Amherst St. • 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. // FREE
SA 8 Film Screening: <i>In the Mood for Love</i> Set in 1960's Hong Kong, the film by Wong Kar-wai, explores the love of two neighbors who discover their spouses are having an affair. English subtitles included. Montreal Museum of Fine Arts • 1380 Sherbrooke St. W. • 7:30 p.m. // \$11.75	SU 9 Black & Blue Festival: Stardust Benefit Ball in support of the fight against HIV/AIDS! <i>The Link</i> is giving away two tickets! Woo! Centre Pierre-Charbonneau • 3000 Vau St. • 10 p.m. // \$105	MO 10 Queer Conversations: Suicidality, Conflict, and Repair After a recent suicide by a prominent trans activist, writers Sarah Schulman and Morgan M Page are gathering to think critically about individual and collective responsibility in suicide prevention and conflict resolution. Le Cagibi • 5490 St. Laurent Blvd. • 7 p.m. // FREE	TU 11 Crystal Castles If it doesn't bother you that Ethan replaced Alice Glass with another singer, then you can go see the legendary punky-electro-screaming-sad-raver band on their weird new tour. Fairmount Theatre • 5240 Parc Ave. • 8 p.m. // prices vary

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

Poems

MODERN HEALTH IS PROBL - - - - -

by Charles Gonsalves

godliness, outside of sense,
looking in
on the fallen
countenance of the millennium
in the bedroom
balancing
on the precipice of relevance
like a worm on the lip of a fine crystal glass

is it themthemthemthemthem
themthemthemthem
themthemthem
themthem
them
or is it
me
or is it the
n o t h i n g
inbetween,
they ask the waters
(ab)ov(e)—
—er and ove—
r and o—
ver and over. then
the other
waters
bel(l)ow:

loves!
stop wasting time on shape and colour
it is no secret what you look like
when you come

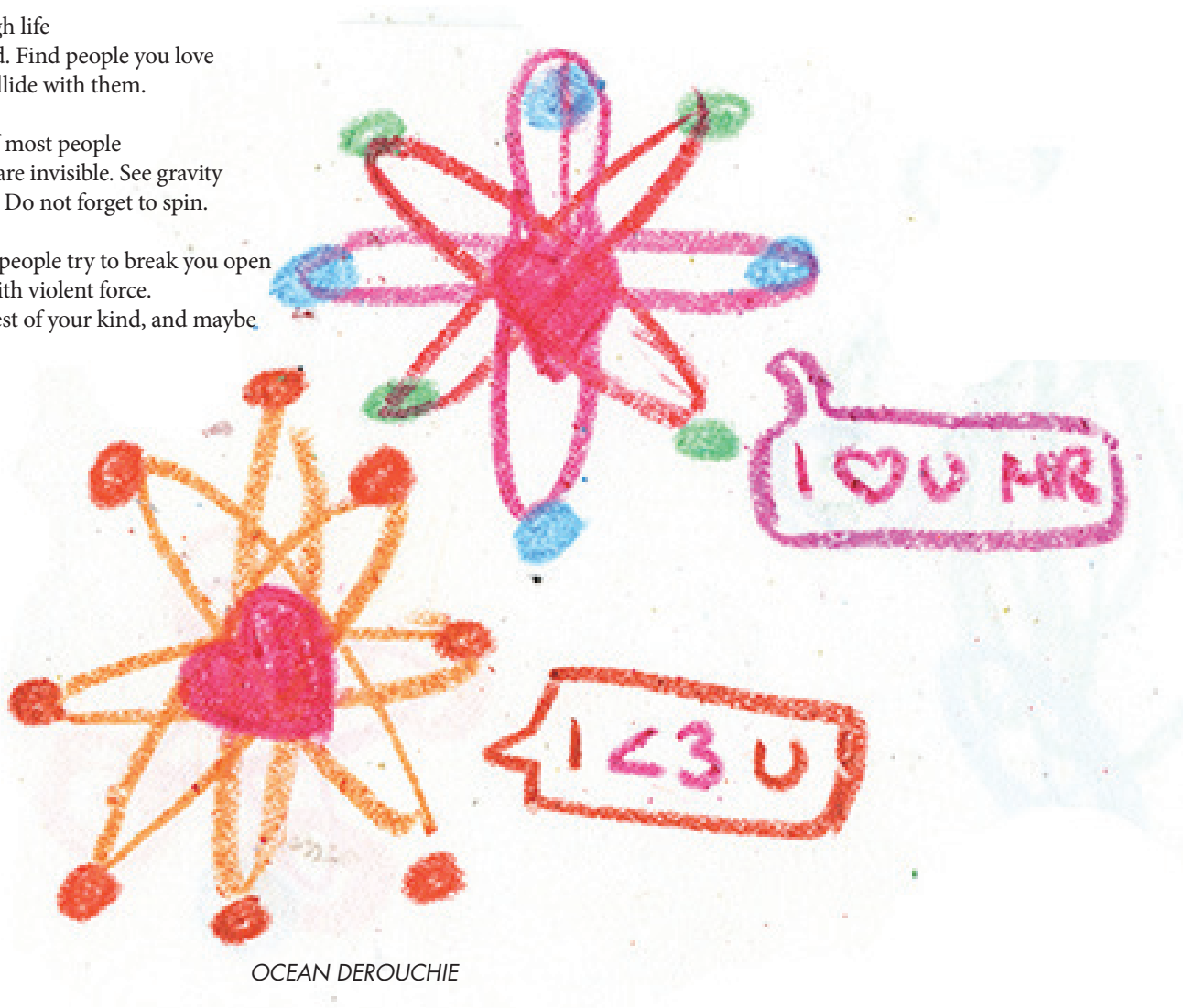
Good Advice from an Undiscovered Atom

by Sadie Avery

Whirl through life
at great speed. Find people you love
and try to collide with them.

Shout even if most people
are sure you are invisible. See gravity
for what it is. Do not forget to spin.

Make sure if people try to break you open
to explode with violent force.
Be the smallest of your kind, and maybe
the strongest



OCEAN DEROUCHIE



Former Montreal Alouettes quarterback Tanner Marsh stayed in the city to coach high school quarterbacks.

JULIA MIELE

First and Home

Former Montreal Alouettes Quarterback Tanner Marsh settles in Quebec to train QBs

ÉTIENNE LAJOIE
@GIMMEDATRUTH

He may be the most recognizable high school coach in Quebec, but former Montreal Alouettes quarterback Tanner Marsh doesn't want to be described that way—he's here to develop quarterbacks.

Not so long ago, Marsh threw the pigskin for the Montreal Alouettes at Percival Molson Memorial Stadium. The team released him in 2015 after two seasons but he has not moved on from Montreal completely. This city is where he met his girlfriend and they just moved into an apartment together last week.

Marsh calls Montreal home now too because he trains quarterbacks for the Dorval-Jean XXIII Faucons, a volunteer gig he started three weeks ago when the team was looking for coaches.

Despite being situated in Montreal's mostly English-speaking West Island, Dorval-Jean XXIII, is a French high school. "He's a guy that's not afraid of a challenge, not afraid of new things," said Dean Norsworthy, one of his former coaches.

After a game between the Faucons and the Loyola High School Warriors at Concordia stadium on the university's Loyola campus, Marsh insisted that becoming a coach is not what led a Texas-born quarterback to be on the sideline of a high school football game in Quebec.

His main goal, the 26-year-old said, is "to build the quarterback position." Only one quarterback from Quebec has ever played for a Canadian Football League team,

according to sonahrsports.com, but that was 34 years ago. Marsh believes quarterbacks in the province have a lot of potential but there is no one to help them out.

When Marsh goes back to Russellville, Arkansas where he studied, he too has someone to help him out.

Norsworthy, Marsh's former quarterback coach and offensive coordinator at Arkansas Tech University, still has a big influence on him. At least once a week, Norsworthy and Marsh talk football and life on the phone. When Marsh trains his quarterbacks, he thinks about how Norsworthy would do it.

Norsworthy has known Marsh since his high school days. At the time, he had scouted the young Marsh and offered him to join a university in Oklahoma where he was coaching. Marsh decided to study in his home state instead, but after three years, countless injuries and no more than backup prospects, he felt he needed to move on.

Looking for somewhere where he could compete for the starting quarterback job in 2012, Marsh called Norsworthy at Arkansas Tech University, who was friends with his high school coaches.

Norsworthy remembered the call vividly. "[All] I want is a chance to compete and I'll accept the consequences of whatever happens," Norsworthy recalled Marsh saying over the phone. Without a starting quarterback, Norsworthy didn't hesitate.

As soon as he was part of his new team, Marsh spent a lot of hours training in the weight room and studying in the film room.

His new coach was impressed by his leadership, his pure talent—Marsh broke school records in his only season—but more importantly, his personality outside the field.

"I've been very blessed to coach a lot of great athletes but not all great athletes are great people, and he is most certainly a great athlete and a great person," Norsworthy said.

Perhaps it's the reason why Norsworthy called Marsh "as close a thing as to having a son." When Norsworthy's mother died at the end of the football season, Marsh was one of three players to attend the funeral.

Following his college football career, Marsh went to an NFL camp with the Indianapolis Colts and the Dallas Cowboys.

His path to Montreal was no less eventful, starting with a camp in Dallas that the team organized, then another one in North Carolina, followed by another in Montreal. "I tried for Montreal a lot, through about four different tryouts before I made the team," said Marsh.

As a player for the Alouettes, Marsh had many highs and lows, and no game could better represent his career than the one played at Percival Molson on Aug. 22, 2013. That night, with all-star quarterback Anthony Calvillo injured, Marsh threw four interceptions after taking over for Josh Neiswander, before launching a ball 57 yards with one second remaining, which led to an unlikely Alouettes win.

It was "Marsh Madness" in Montreal, as some media labeled it.

And unsurprisingly, Norsworthy was watching that day. "I would watch his games, I'd call him and we'd go through his plays and

he'd explain to me what his progressions were, what he was thinking in certain situations," explained Norsworthy.

Marsh's former teammate and close friend Chris Gonzales from his college days wasn't surprised by his friend's success. "He had been training very hard and had all the potential to go pro and there was nothing that was going to stop him," explained Gonzales. "All he needed was a shot."

Usually, after his football seasons, Marsh would go back to Russellville, stay with his former coach and help out kids at the high school where Norsworthy also worked. In this vein, Marsh would like to open a camp to train quarterbacks in the province. He had already told Gonzales about wanting to open a facility or performance centre in the past.

If Gonzales is not surprised by his friend's success, then neither is Norsworthy. "He absolutely loves it there, so when he was told [he was] going back up there to coach high school football it didn't shock me one bit," said Norsworthy. "I really think he's found a home."

Marsh has moved around quite a bit in recent years, training and "throwing balls" in many states, but now is his chance to settle down.

"Being in Montreal has really helped Tanner grow as a person, not just professionally, but also emotionally and mentally," Norsworthy said.

Norsworthy, who played or coached in "every [southern] state just about," knows a little bit about change.

"Change is scary until you embrace it, and then when once you embrace it, change creates growth," the coach said.

This Week in Sports Online

Press Box Hat-Trick Podcast: Former *Link* sports editor Julian McKenzie returns for World Cup of Hockey talk.

Same Field, Different Sport

Former Stingers Soccer Player Takes On a New Challenge: Rugby

SAFIA AHMAD

@SAFS_ONTHEGO

Julien Cantin remembers his first ever rugby game for the Concordia Stingers like it was yesterday—which makes sense, since he only started playing the sport for the first time this past August.

Cantin got his first taste of action in an exhibition game in Beaconsfield.

“The word to describe that game was confusion,” he said. “I barely touched the ball. I think I was just thinking way too much, just thinking ‘ok where should I be right now? OK wait, why is he in front of me? Should I go back?’”

These were the kinds of questions that Cantin never had to ask himself as a soccer player, a sport he has been playing since the age of five. The 22-year-old exercise science student came to Concordia last year, thinking he was going to play for the soccer team.

He did, starting in the winter of 2015. The following season, Cantin broke his foot after missing a step going down the stairs at home. He couldn’t play in the fall and even when he returned in the winter, he was still visibly affected by the injury and only played two games.

“To have that freak injury was devastating to him,” said the men’s soccer head coach Greg Sutton. “It was tough for him so you know I think that played into his mind on how he’s going to take on this season as well.”

During that difficult season, the Saguenay-native was already thinking about rugby. Then

rugby head coach Clive Gibson first approached him and asked if he would be interested in making the jump. Former Stingers soccer players Vincent Jalbert-Murray and Alexander Elali had already done it in 2015. Cantin said, “if they could do it, why can’t I?”

If that wasn’t enough to convince him, his courses this year conflicted with the soccer team’s practice schedule—no practice, no playing time. Cantin took it as a sign that it was time to take on a new challenge, and so far, he is enjoying every minute of his experience with the rugby team.

“I really love rugby,” said the rookie, smiling. “It’s amazing. I just showed up to training camp and said ‘let’s go, let’s try it.’”

Cantin didn’t know what to expect at the start of season, especially in terms of technique. If there was one thing he thought he would excel at, it was naturally kicking. Oddly enough this turned out to be a challenge.

“The approach when you kick the rugby ball is so different than in soccer,” he explained. “I thought ‘well soccer ball, I kicked that my whole life, I’m gonna kick that rugby ball easily!’”

Passing the ball backwards was also unusual for Cantin, who was trained to always move the soccer ball forward as a defenseman. But with four regular season games under his belt, head coach Craig Beemer can say with certainty that Cantin is a fast learner.

“He picks up on things really quickly,” he explained. “He’s very attentive. You can tell he’s always listening—he’s the kid you never

have to tell twice.”

Cantin has shown signs of improvement since the beginning of the season. While the first regular season game loss against McGill felt a lot like the first pre-season match against Beaconsfield, Cantin found himself adapting more and more with each game. This improvement translated into two tries, which are equivalent to two touchdowns in football, in his third game against École de Technologie Supérieure. It was also the team’s first win of the season.

Beemer was pleasantly surprised by Cantin’s quick adjustment to the game.

“I [initially] figured, maybe by the end of the season he would be able to get to where he is already,” said the head coach. “He’s already done better than I thought he would be.”

Part of his early success can be credited to his background in judo. He picked up the martial art when he was five-years-old, right at the time he began playing soccer. He would alternate between soccer in the summer and judo in the winter. It was the perfect combination.

The former judoka moved to Montreal to practice at the national centre alongside the Olympic team. After 15 years, he decided to put an end to that chapter of his life and focus on playing soccer—but that physical aspect was missing. Rugby provided the perfect outlet for him.

“Maybe that’s why I really enjoy tackling people but also I don’t mind getting tackled,” said Cantin.

The techniques he learned in judo can be easily applied to rugby. The martial art also

taught him how to handle his emotions—which is crucial in a contact sport.

“It really taught me to stay in control of my emotions and using them, more than letting them use you,” he explained. “I learned that it’s good to be angry in a judo match but you have to use it and make sure you keep it in your control.”

This kind of mentality taps into the type of rugby player Cantin aspires to be: smart. While technique on the field is important to grasp, he feels that anyone can acquire those skills with practice. Understanding the game strategically and being one step ahead mentally is a huge advantage.

“If I can be a smart player, read the play, find the gaps [...] that’s something that has to be a bit natural,” said Cantin. “I would love it if I can have that gift.”

For now, Cantin doesn’t have many expectations for this season. He wants to live day-by-day and see where life takes him next. He’s not the type of person who commits to an idea forever. “You never know, maybe next year I’ll change degree,” he said.

Beemer, on the other hand, foresees more surprises from his rookie and already thinks his quick improvement has made some of his injured teammates a bit nervous as they slowly re-enter the lineup.

“As I get some players back from injury, they wouldn’t admit to it, but they’re probably a bit nervous that Julian is already moved up significantly in the depth chart,” he said.

A little competition never hurts.



Julien Cantin made the swap kicking forwards to throwing backwards.

KACIM STEETS

Man's Best Friend?

Montreal's New Ban Is a Load of (Pit) Bull

REBECCA MELOCHE

Dog owners and dog lovers unite.

Montreal's city council voted 37-23 in favour of a bylaw banning new pit bulls and other dangerous breeds from living within city limits.

As of Monday, Oct. 3, Staffordshire bull terriers, American pit bull terriers, American Staffordshire terriers, mix of the mentioned breeds and any dog that shows characteristics of these breeds will be banned from finding a new home.

How is that going to work? Who judges whether a dog shows certain characteristics—the police? Shouldn't they be solving murders and dealing with more important things?

The breed specific legislation is discriminatory, targets bad dogs when they are not always at fault, it is unenforceable by the law and should be overturned. The dogs do not know what is happening to them. They don't keep up with the news like us. How can you tell your furry son or daughter that their breed is being euthanized out of Montreal?

In June, a pit bull-type dog attacked and killed Christiane Vadnais, who was 55. The owner of the dog said he was aggressive in other instances. The dog has since been euthanized, understandably. Not that I agree with euthanizing a dog, but there is no doggy prison. The dog killed someone, the only way to ensure that it doesn't do happen again is by killing it.

That said, it's unfair to discriminate against all dogs

because a few aren't well trained. But since the legislation is going forward, dog owners and advocates refuse to sit—or lie down.

Organizations, such as Freedom Drivers: Animal Rescue Transports, are asking for our help to transport these so-called dangerous dogs and move them out of province before it is too late. We were taught at a young age to help those that are in trouble. Is it right for us to stand back and do nothing as any dog that fits a vague description is left in shelters to be euthanized?

Mayor Denis Coderre said he wants to keep the citizens safe as he believes this bylaw will help. Since the start of the year, 37.8 per cent of the 137 serious dog related injuries and deaths were caused by a dog that fits the description of a pit bull. I agree we should do something about this, but can we go about it a different way?

Tackling dog fighting is a root problem we should stop.

Dog fighting happens. It is present in Canada and dogs are forced to train every day and fight against other dogs. And the dog that is used the most is the pit bull. No wonder they have such a bad rap.

Instead of jumping to conclusions and banning all dangerous dogs and pit bull-like breeds, the Mayor and the boroughs should be looking into dog fighting rings. They should also investigate puppy mills, dog breeders (to ensure that they have a proper permit), and focus on the people that are buying these dogs.

The difficulties of the new law don't only apply to dogs. Current owners affected by the breed specific legislation will have to follow certain regulations. They must apply for a special permit that costs \$150, the dog must be muzzled when outdoors (because who wouldn't be more scared of a banned dog with a Hannibal Lecter mask), the leash must be no longer than 1.25 metres unless they are in a dog park (where they can't play fetch because of the muzzle), they must be watched at all times by someone 18 and over (because we're so mature), and the dog must be wearing the medallion issued by the city proving the dog is registered.

The city is basically saying: leave your dangerous dogs inside where they can become more aggressive.

Alanna Devine from the Montreal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals said this bylaw will do nothing other than instill fear in others. People will see the dogs and judge them without even knowing that they can be the sweetest dogs ever. What's that cliché that tells us not to judge something without knowing the whole story? Oh right—don't judge a book by its cover, Mr. Coderre.

The SPCA has since filed a lawsuit against the city for the newly adopted bylaw.

I will be the first to say that dogs can be dangerous. All dogs and all breeds can be dangerous if they are raised wrong. Why not ban bad owners? But hey, we love Montreal, don't we?

You can read the full bylaw on the City of Montreal's website.



ZOË GELFANT

Nahm'sayin?

So What If I Want Pineapple on my Pizza?

KELSEY LITWIN
@KELSEYLITWIN

We thrive off balance.

Between work and play, light and dark, vibrant and dull. How can we appreciate one without the other? The absence of one end of the spectrum would lessen the impact of the other.

So why does my request for pineapple on my pizza always inspire a communal groan and a series of raised eyebrows? It's not just a topping preference—it's a matter of finding balance.

Sweet and salty is without a doubt a popular flavour profile, from chocolate-covered pretzels to ice cream and french fries to mango salsa. SALTED CARAMEL. Pineapple pizza is no different.

The sweet—and definitely not fresh—pineapple chunks provide

the perfect difference in texture and flavour to the salty, stringy cheese and savoury sauce. You're really just getting the best of both worlds. The contrast makes complete sense, so why is everyone so hesitant to try it?

I know it's not traditional and I'm not arguing that pineapple pizza is the holy grail of pizza pies. But why should that stop us from expanding our taste horizons? Why do we draw the line at making donuts with bacon? Hawaiian pizza has been around since the 1960's! If adding the prickly tropical fruit is such a bad idea, then don't you think it would have died out over the last 50 years?

It doesn't have to be your favourite thing, just as I'm apathetic about the addition of green peppers. But don't be so quick to dismiss it.

Trust me, it makes sense.



JENNIFER AEDY

THE LINK

Still Wants Your Letters

Dear Reader:

We at *The Link* have opinions and biases. This means that our reporting isn't always straight—it's angular. And sometimes, you may not agree with these angles—and most of the time, that's OKAY. What's more, we actually want your thoughts contributed to the paper—through letters.

Letters are 400 words or less in length, and must be sent in by Friday @ 4 p.m. to be printed in that week's issue, space permitting. *The Link* reserves the right to edit letters for clarity and length and to refuse those deemed racist, sexist, homophobic, xenophobic, libelous, or otherwise contrary to our statement of principles.

Yours,
The Link

Shoot your letter to letters@thelinknewspaper.ca
Any further questions—email editor@thelinknewspaper.ca

Canada's Petition Against Islamophobia: What Will It Really Do?

A Concordia Student Explains

SANIA MALIK

When I was six years old, a boy came up to me and asked me if I was a terrorist. I remember feeling unsure and confused about what he meant so I shook my head nervously and walked away.

At home, I asked my father what it meant and his expression told me everything I needed to know.

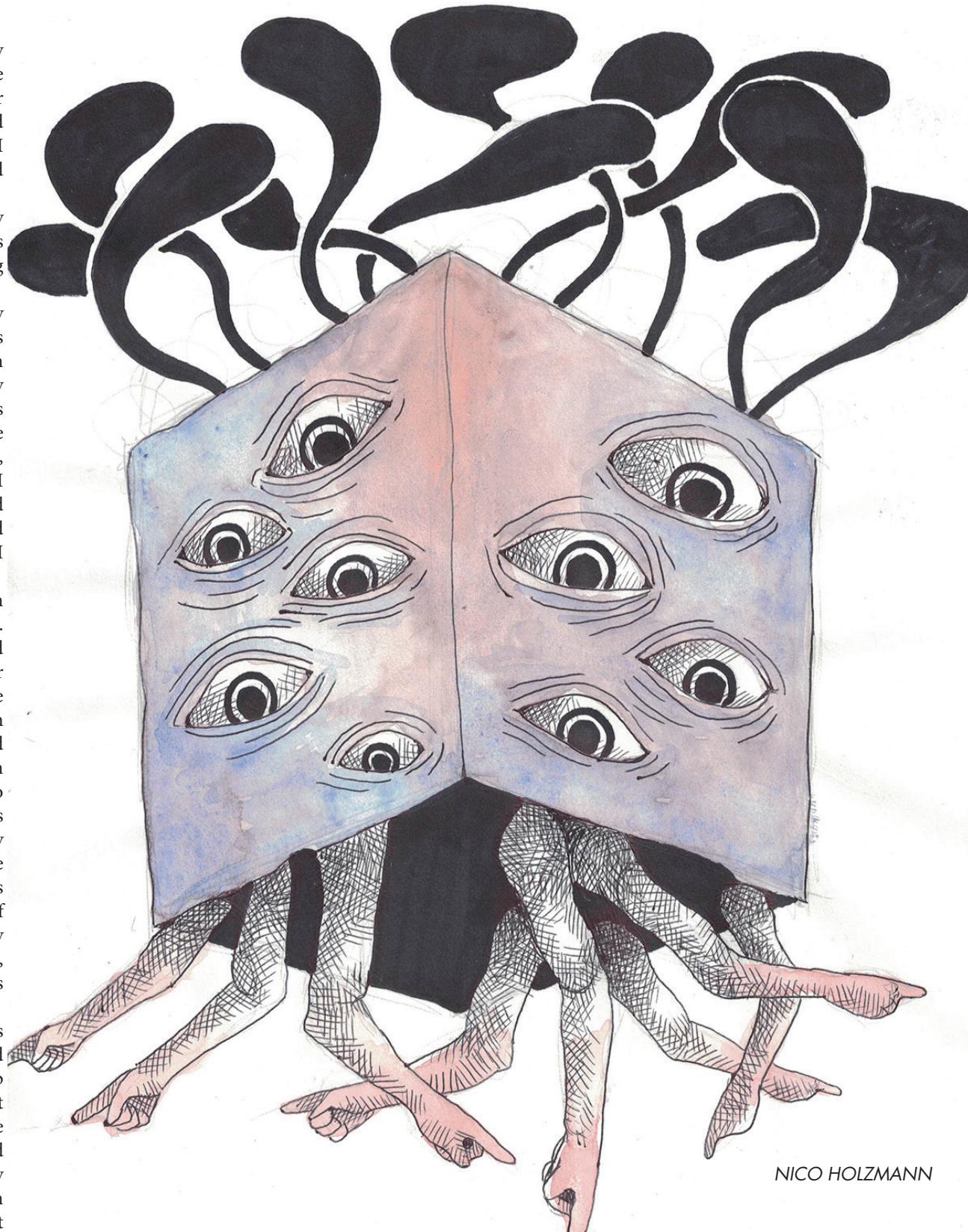
When I was eight, my teacher gave me various books about Christianity and when I asked other students if they were reading them too, I was shocked to learn that I was the only one. When I was fifteen, a boy in my class asked me if I was oppressed then proceeded to sit down next to me and draw crosses on my arm as I slept.

Islamophobia has been a constant in my short life. When I was younger, I wished I had been born Christian or white—anything to stop me from being another victim of incessant bullying. I asked myself if maybe my religion was wrong—why would so many people hate it if it was right? I thought, maybe my religion does promote violence and hatred. I was confused as I grew up and I found myself wishing I could trade in my entire identity for a small, gold cross that would perhaps protect me from the hate.

It was only when I was 17-years-old when I realized that the faith I was brought up in wasn't what others thought it was. In fact, I learned more about my religion and realized that Islam is truly about unity and fairness, rather than hatred and violence. I felt angry at the fact that I had spent most of my life being a victim of Islamophobia, and I was even angrier with myself for not fighting against it.

I felt slighted as I realized that people's misconceptions about Islam were overshadowing the reality. How could I let people who hadn't even opened the Quran tell me what my religion preached? How did I listen to people's ignorance for years, and mistake it for knowledge?

Islamophobia is based on people's misconceptions and misunderstandings, and it intensifies to the point that they genuinely hate a religion they know nothing about. There are billions of Muslims on Earth; if all of them were bad, wouldn't the world be more chaotic? Most argue that ISIS exemplifies how Muslims are bad. It can be argued though, that ISIS aren't even Muslims—they actually kill more Muslims than any other group. They don't follow the most basic, fundamental rule of all—be good. That's simply what Islam is about. If you don't believe me, feel free to study it for a while—not through the Internet, but through a religious scholar.



NICO HOLZMANN

After all of the Islamophobia I've encountered, I can still say that I haven't had it that bad. Mosques are burned down, women's hijabs are ripped off, and people are killed for looking visibly Muslim in New York. I've had mean comments thrown at me, and my self-confidence has been shaken up, but I feel safer living in Canada than I would in the United States. But in 2013, an Angus Reid poll showed that 69 per cent of Québécois people held a negative opinion of Muslims. That stuck to my mind and wondered if I'm really living in an inclusive society.

I wonder if it'll ever stop. If one day, I'll be able to say, "I'm Muslim," without being prepared for defending myself against hate. I wonder if I'll be able to choose to wear the hijab without being harassed, and I wonder if I'll still flinch when I hear that a person of Muslim faith has committed an attack.

A petition has been circulating at Concordia against Islamophobia. A Canadian citizen named Samer Majzoub created the petition, which is sponsored by Frank Baylis, a Liberal MP in the West Island. The petition started in June

and will be presented to the House of Commons on Oct. 6. The petition isn't simply a Montreal based initiative—in fact, it's nationwide. It's gotten over 55,000 signatures and needs 100,000. I felt curious after reading about the petition online.

Hamaad Nami, President of Concordia's Muslim Student Association—the group which has been circulating the petition on campus—explained that the two goals are to spread awareness about Islamophobia and to unite Canadians against it.

I've spoken to many Muslims about this petition, and most of them scoffed and asked, "Well, what's it really going to do for us?" I realized that I felt this way too. The pessimist in me just couldn't believe a petition could really end Islamophobia.

Nami understands that negative attitude and answers with ease.

"I think the most important thing about this petition is the impact that even 55,000 signatures have," he said. "Just the fact that Canadians are standing up and taking a stance about Islamophobia, about hate and discrimination in general, just that awareness by itself is the biggest impact that we can have."

Nami also pointed out that this is the first anti-Islamophobia initiative started by Muslims.

His ideas about Islamophobia show optimism. "Muslims just need to be Muslims. Be who we are without hiding anything, because we know what our beliefs are based on, the values that we have and what we have to offer to society," he said. "We are Canadians and we're bringing a different perspective and diversity to the greater culture here."

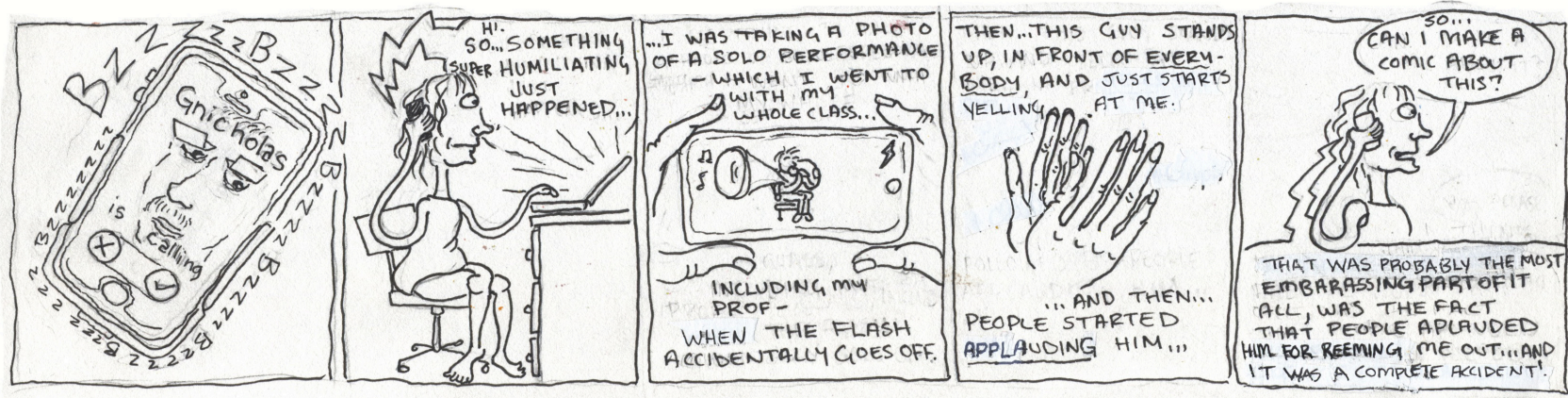
After listening to Nami's perspective on the petition, I found myself easily signing it. I want to be able to sit down with a person who might have misconceptions about Islam, and I want to help them understand. The petition is about unity and togetherness.

The petition is truly just the epitome of Canada—it's a stance against discrimination and although it might not end Islamophobia, it certainly will shine a light on it.

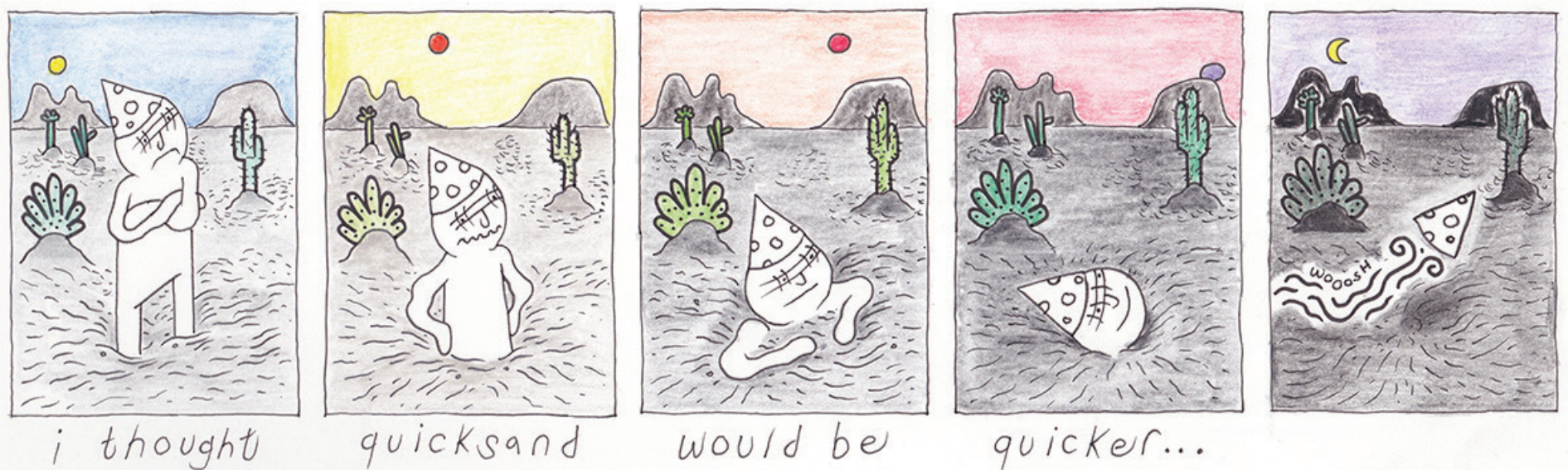
Isn't that what we all want at the end of the day? Criminalizing might seem like the immediate thing to do, but then there's the argument of freedom of speech. Shouldn't people have a right to their own opinion? I believe that people are entitled to their own opinion, as long as it is informed.

That's what this petition will do. It plans on informing people and bringing awareness to a form of discrimination that I, along with millions of other Muslims, have faced for the longest time.

Crap Comics by Morag Rahn-Campbell @madd.egg



Misconceptions by Bronson Smillie @bronsosaurus

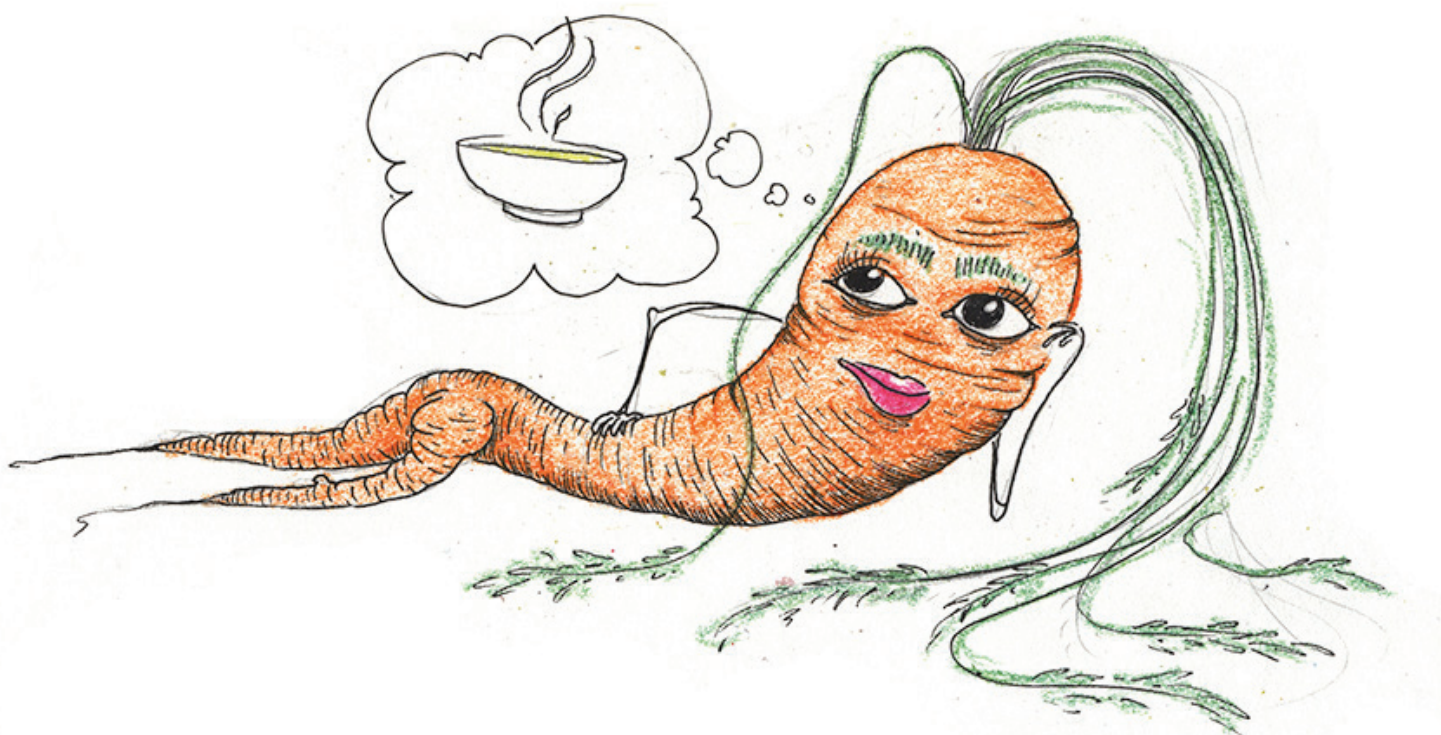


Caity Comics by Caity Hall @caityhallart



Hastily Put Together by Theo Radomski @flannelogue





MORAG RAHN-CAMPBELL

EDITORIAL

Is Concordia Truly a Fair Trade Campus?

On Aug. 30, Concordia officially became a fair trade campus.

This means that every dining hall, non-franchised campus cafe and student-run cafe at Concordia now offers exclusively fair trade coffee, chocolate, and at least three fair trade teas. Having said this, the university continues to use food service company Aramark as its main food provider, despite worldwide criticism of the company's ethics.

Fair trade means food producers, especially in developing countries, are paid fair wages for the service they provide. A committee formed of l'Association québécoise du commerce équitable, Fairtrade Canada and the Canadian Fair Trade Network decides whether a university can be considered a fair trade campus, wrote Concordia spokesperson Chris Mota in an email.

To celebrate this recent achievement, the university organized a Fair Trade Campus Week from Sept. 26 to 30, featuring free chai lattes, bananas, and information booths. Apart from some workshops like one that explained how to make lip balm out of shea butter, the week was essentially a series of

giveaways and information on Concordia's involvement in fair trade food sales.

While *The Link* supports Concordia's goal to handle its food sale in a more ethical manner, we believe it may be too early for the university to be tooting its own horn just yet.

Concordia chose Aramark to provide its food services in June of 2015, and the university has a five-year contract with the Philadelphia-based food service company. The decision was made after Concordia chose to stop using Aramark's competitor Chartwells as its main food service provider. Both companies have been criticized for fraud and poor food quality—often resulting in food poisoning.

For Aramark, this problem has arisen in prisons. New Jersey corrections officer Crystal Jordan spoke to author Chris Hedges for *Truthdig*, explaining that once Aramark food was implemented in prisons, officers stopped eating the same food as the prisoners.

"But the prisoners had no choice. Diarrhea and vomiting is common among the prisoners," Jordan said.

Aramark has tainted its reputation at other universities in Canada, too. According to

the *Toronto Star*, Ryerson University spent millions of dollars in 2015 to cover losses incurred by Aramark. Students at Memorial University of Newfoundland complained that Aramark's food was "inedible," as reported by the CBC. Students living in residence at Memorial were also subject to mandatory meal plans for more than \$2,000 a semester.

In 2014, a cafeteria worker employed by Aramark in Nova Scotia complained of racial discrimination to the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission. Aramark never admitted responsibility, and complainant Charmaine Wynn was paid a \$7,500 cash settlement by the company, CBC reported.

While *The Link* supports fair trade initiatives from Concordia, we think promoting our fair trade campus status, and hosting a Fair Trade Campus Week this early, is misleading. These titles imply all food being sold at Concordia is fair trade, when this is simply not the case.

When Aramark took its place as Concordia's main food service provider, the university expected the company to prioritize sustainability—offering more vegan, vegetarian,

ethically raised and fair trade options. This has happened. But there is still much work to be done before Aramark's services can be described as fair trade in our university.

Beyond that, even if every single product Aramark provided to Concordia was fair trade, the company would still engage in highly problematic practices in its dealings outside of our university. Is it possible to consider our food service fair trade when it contributes to the profits of an ethically questionable company?

It's great that Concordia is working towards becoming more ethical in its food service. The university has even implemented a Sustainable Food Service Advisory Committee to discuss topics including fair trade, local procurement, and waste reduction goals, according to Mota.

The Link supports all initiatives towards the goal of having a fair trade campus. But advertising the school as such when only three products are guaranteed to be fair trade is not transparent. We will continue to advocate for Concordia's use of alternative food systems instead of choosing multinational companies.

THE LINK

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THE LINK

The Workshop Series

Oct. 7 @ 4 p.m.

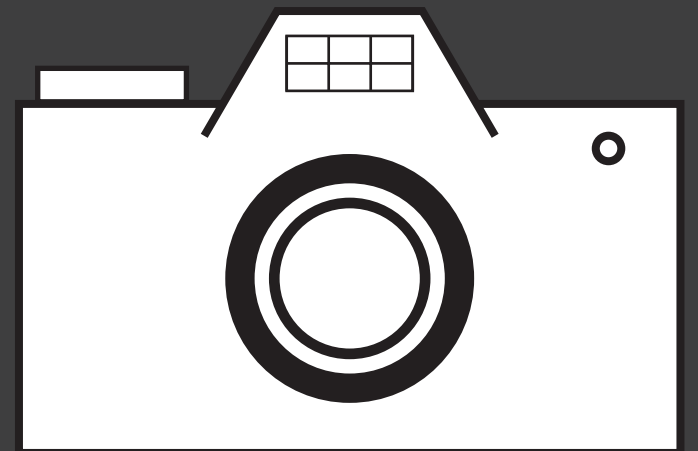
Hey, you know what's hard? Taking good pictures. You know what's also hard? Editing pictures so they look good anyway.

Luckily, someone good at taking and editing pictures is coming to *The Link* office this Friday. Join us and learn from his brain.

This person who's coming: Brandon Johnston. If that name is familiar: he was our photo editor and editor-in-chief, historically, excellently, handsomely.

Meet us at our office at 4 p.m., on Friday, Oct. 7.

Bring your questions, and a laptop with Photoshop if you can.



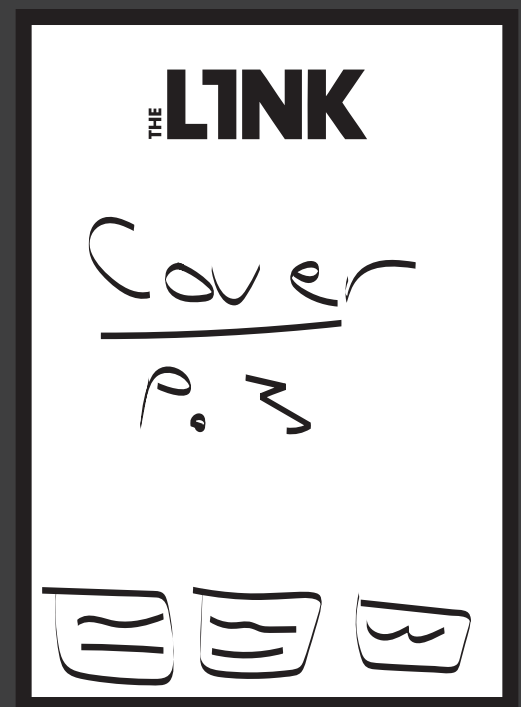
Oct. 14 @ 4 p.m.

Does this ever happen to you? You're walking through the halls of Concordia and a *Link* cover jumps off the newsstand and attacks your eyes with its undeniable beauty?

Us too. But here's the secret: that beauty comes from somewhere. It comes from the teachings of Laura Lalonde. She's the one who taught us to think about design the way she does, after all. She was our Creative Director.

Frankly, you're lucky that you can learn from her too. Trust. Don't pass up this chance.

Come with your laptop, notebook and any design/adobe/life questions. Come where? Our office, of course.



Any questions?

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