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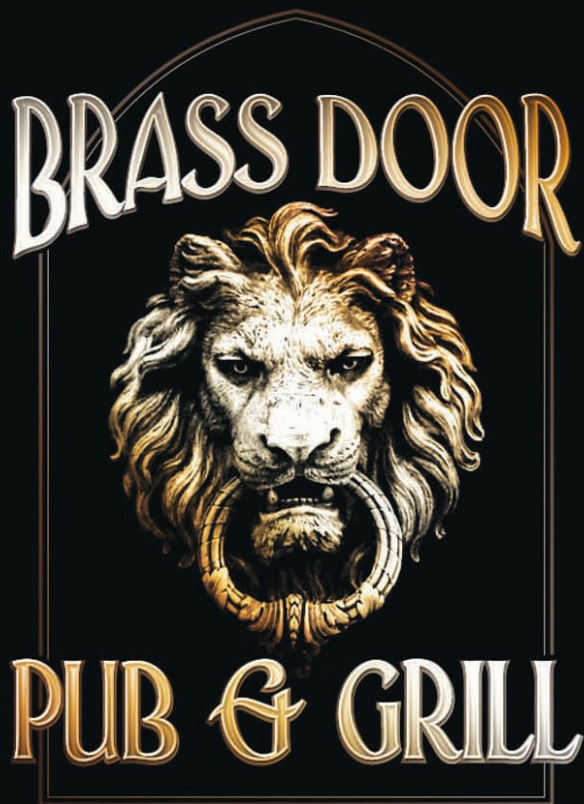


P. 4

EDITORIAL: STOP THE ENERGY EAST PIPELINE P. 23

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Edward Lovelace



November 14 at 7:30 PM
FISH & CAT
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with Abed Abest
and Mona Ahmadi



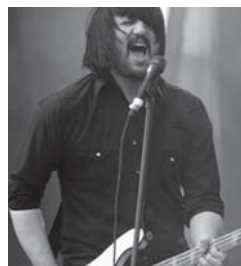
November 19 at 7:30 PM
PRIDE
By Matthew Warchus
with Bill Nighy
and Imelda Staunton



November 27 at 7:30 PM
**ELLE QUÉBEC fait son
cinéma: THE MISFITS**
By John Huston
Free



November 28 at 7:30 PM
THE BETTER ANGELS
By A.J. Edwards
with Jason Clarke
and Diane Kruger



December 3 at 8 PM
**LIFE AFTER DEATH
FROM ABOVE 1979**
A documentary
by Eva Michon



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CONCERTS

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FOR ART IN ALL ITS FORMS

current affairs

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Headliner Norman Finkelstein and four other speakers form a consensus that media coverage of protests in the countries is corrupt.

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CONSTRUCTION OF MEZZ ADVOCACY CENTRE TO BEGIN PROMPTLY

CSU VP Academic and Advocacy Terry Wilkings issued a statement saying that the centre will switch locations "as early as next week."

fringe arts

- 10** **SNAPSHOTS OF THE SUBCONSCIOUS**
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- 11** **A HIGHLIGHT OF DOCUMENTARY FILMS TO EXPECT AT RIDM 2014**
Check out our selection of films to look out for at this year's RIDM.

AN UNDERGROUND READING RAINBOW
Expozine 2014 highlights the best of Canada's print culture.

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EXCLUSIVE REVIEW OF THE LATEST PINK FLOYD ALBUM: THE ENDLESS RIVER

Fragmented Pink Floyd releases collection of instrumental tracks reminiscent of their past to conclude nearly 50 years of psychedelic rock supremacy.

sports

- 12** **DREAM WEEKEND**
The Concordia Stingers women's hockey team recorded back-to-back shutout wins this past weekend, including a win over the McGill Martlets, snapping a 57-game losing streak against their cross-town rivals.
- BERGEVIN COMES TO CONCORDIA**
The 19th annual John Molson Sports Marketing conference went down this past week, featuring an all-star lineup of special guests, including Montreal Canadiens general manager Marc Bergevin.
- 14** **COMING FOR THAT NUMBER ONE SPOT**
Concordia's men's rugby team recorded a win in their season finale against the UdeM Carabins, clinching first place in the RSEQ.
- 15** **OPENING NIGHT**
Concordia's basketball teams opened their seasons with home games against the Laval Rouge et Or this past Thursday.



Catch up on the Concordia Stingers' past week through our online recaps.

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weekly calendar

CURRENT

Protest Against Fossil Fuel Projects and the Plan Nord
Saturday, Nov. 15, 1 p.m.
Guy St. and de Maisonneuve Blvd. (Guy-Concordia Metro)

Manifesting the widespread disapproval of oil pipelines and the Plan Nord, a gathering of students from across Quebec will march in the streets of Montreal. Pipeline expansion projects will allow for rapid expansion of the controversial tar sands and other resource extraction projects.

Concordia Farmers' Market Cooking Workshop
Wednesday, Nov. 12, 12 p.m.
Concordia University, H-224
Free

Concordia's farmers' market and Le Frigo Vert are hosting a workshop on how to cook healthy, tasty and sustainable meals. Special guest Arrien Weeks from Cooking at Concordia will be demonstrating delicious organic recipes and goods from Ferme des Arpents roses, Les Jardins du petit tremble and O Chadô Tea will be on sale at the event.

ART

Ephemera—A Fridge Door Gallery Exhibition
Friday, Nov. 14, 6 p.m.
RSVP at fringedoorgallery@gmail.com

The Fridge Door Gallery presents the exhibition *Ephemera* featuring, on the occasion of its vernissage, the sale of artworks as well as a beginners' portrait workshop. Spots are limited so an RSVP to the event is necessary.

Imprimés révolutionnaires d'un Québec insurgé
Thursday, Nov. 13, 6:30 p.m.
La Passe (1214 de la Montagne St.)

Composed of archive issues of *La Presse* by Pierre Vallières, Gérard Godin, Gaston Miron and more, this photo exhibit retraces and documents Quebec's emancipatory movements, from secularization to the October Crisis. Focusing largely on the emancipatory ideologies that emerged in the 1960s, the exhibition will last until June 2015.

MUSIC

RIDM—Opening Ceremony
Wednesday, Nov. 12, 10 p.m.
Agora Hydro-Québec Coeur des sciences (175 President-Kennedy Ave.)
Free

The bands SUUNS and Pif Paf Hangover will be performing free concerts, officially launching the Rencontres internationales du documentaire à Montréal festival's 17th edition. The show will also include DJ sets by Commando and Tinsoldierman.

CINEMA

Moug (Waves)
Monday, Nov. 17, 7 p.m.
Concordia University, H-110
Free

Cinema Politica screens Moug (Waves), a semi-autobiographical documentary mixed with animation in which filmmaker Ahmed Nour tells the story of his and his family's life under Hosni Mubarak's rule in Suez circa the '80s. The film looks back on this recent history in a touching and unique personal testimony.

OTHER

Alveole 2nd Anniversary
Friday, Nov. 14, 6 p.m.
4532 Laval St.

Montreal honey producers Alvéole celebrate their second anniversary with a unique event displaying over sixty beekeeping projects across the city. The event will include a photo exhibition on urban beekeeping, aiming to clear up any misconceptions about bees and urban honey production.

Sew and Tell / Ateliers de Couture
Tuesday, Nov. 11, 6:30 p.m.
Le Milieu (1251 Robin St.)
\$5 suggested donation

Sew and Tell is hosting a sewing workshop open for sharing both skills and experiments. Sewing machines, thread, fabric and tools will be available for guests. The workshop is open to everyone, from beginners to confirmed sewing enthusiasts.



Students Join Forces Against Pipelines

New Student Coalition Created to Protest Fossil Fuel Pipelines

by Jonathan Cook

TransCanada has a new, younger generation of formal opposition. The Concordia Student Union, alongside three other student unions, have formed the Coalition ÉCO, or Étudiants et étudiantes contre les oléoducs, to demand an end to fossil fuel pipelines.

"It started with discussions between different student associations—part of these discussions [were] about creating a student voice around climate change," CSU VP External and Mobilization Anthony Garoufalidis-Augier told *The Link* of the coalition's origins.

The Fédération étudiante de l'Université de Sherbrooke, the Dawson Student Union and the International Federation of Medical Student's Associations-Québec have joined the CSU as founding members of the coalition.

Climate change is an expansive, global subject, so the original discussions between the four member groups became a search for a specific ecological issue in Canada to target, he continued.

"One of the most imminent [issues] is the pipeline—specifically Line 9B and the TransCanada Energy [East] pipeline," he said.

The Energy East pipeline would connect Hardisty, Alberta to Saint John, New Brunswick across 4600 kilometers over six provinces. Extracting and transporting oil from tar sands in Alberta to the east coast refineries is TransCanada's goal. The current timeline for the project expects final approval next year and to be commissioned and in service to Quebec by

2018, according to its website.

In an interview with *The Guardian*, James Hansen, former head of the NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies, explained that separating oil from the tar sand rock produces three to four times more carbon emissions per barrel than conventional oil. The full exploitation of tar sands would be "game over" for the climate, Hansen said.

Garoufalidis-Augier argues that TransCanada doesn't want to acknowledge this theory because their entire business model is centered on fossil fuel extraction.

"It's convenient for them to ignore the issue of climate change," Garoufalidis-Augier said. "They've done a pretty good job in their public relation campaigns to not address the issue whatsoever."

Part of the coalition's mandate is to bring this issue to the forefront of discussions involving the pipeline. TransCanada can't argue with the scientific evidence for climate change, Garoufalidis-Augier added.

"On the issue of climate change, they don't win. They can't win. It's just pretty stark in the scientific consensus."

Dr. Satoshi Ikeda, a professor of political sociology, political economy and organizations at Concordia University, told *The Link* that destruction of the livelihood of First Nations people and inevitable ecological disturbance were excluded from TransCanada's cost calculation to keep Canadian oil exports cheap. No pipeline is fail-safe, and when it fails, the corporations cannot restore it to its original state, he added.

Canada is currently on track to miss its

greenhouse emission targets and is one of the "world's leaders in not respecting the emission levels," said Garoufalidis-Augier. He added that the original target was "already a joke."

"There is a point in climate change when the temperature rises too high, we're going to reach tipping points which are irreversible," Garoufalidis-Augier continued. "It's not something far in the future."

"We're talking about somewhere in this century."

In response to an inquiry about ÉCO, a spokesperson from TransCanada told *The Link* that that people tend to gain a better opinion of the pipeline as they learn more about how "important oil is in their lives."

TransCanada "accepts" the transition into "green technology" by investing "over five billion dollars" into its research, but oil is still necessary and pipelines remain the safest method of transport, the spokesperson continued.

The Municipalité régionale de comté Vaudreuil-Soulanges recently announced that they're against the Energy East Pipeline, citing a lack of substantial evidence that the company has a foolproof emergency plan in case of a spill.

Garoufalidis-Augier said it's important Quebec municipalities like the one in Vaudreuil-Soulanges oppose projects that have negative environmental effects, especially ones overseen by companies who aren't consulting communities their projects affect.

"[The municipalities] see it not only as an insult to the environment but to their democratic right to control what comes

through the communities," Garoufalidis-Augier added.

Combined, the four student associations represent over 66,000 students. Other schools in Montreal and Quebec are showing interest in joining the foursome, according to Garoufalidis-Augier. Undergraduate students at McGill University are having a referendum to join ÉCO this week.

"Students have a lot to lose not trying to fight these pipelines," Garoufalidis-Augier said. "We're in a generation that's currently going to be most impacted by climate change."

Some demands ÉCO have made include beginning the transition to a fossil fuel-free society by 2050 now and transforming the university system into the engine of this transition.

In order to implement this change, universities like Concordia need to have more courses focused on sustainability, which ultimately will produce the type of professionals that are capable of creating solutions to mitigate climate change and fossil fuel usage, Garoufalidis-Augier added.

The group's first organized effort will be a protest against fossil fuel projects and the provincial government's Plan Nord, an economic development project focused on mining in northern Quebec, on Nov. 15.

Garoufalidis-Augier said that "over 1000 people" are expected to participate in the event. Plans for ÉCO's future action against the Energy East Pipeline will be announced that day. The protest begins at the corner of Guy St. and de Maisonneuve Blvd. at 1 p.m.

graphic Laura Lalonde

Divestment's On You

Divestment Conference Aims to "Build a Stronger National Movement"



Crystal Lameman, Alyssa Symons-Bélanger, Heather Milton-Lightening and Denise Jourdain related their experiences with activism and the effects of fossil-fuel exploitation on their surroundings.

by Verity Stevenson @vestevie

Divestment from fossil fuel ventures is not symbolic, educator Crystal Lameman says. She cited a quote from Canadian environmental website Alternatives Journal: "It's often suggested that divestment is an important symbolic gesture. But at this point climate change is an emergency—one that demands more than just gestures."

Lameman—of the Alberta Beaver Lake Cree Nation, where a large portion of land was leased for tar sands exploration—was one of four keynote speakers in H-110 to kick off the first conference on fossil fuel divestment in Canada, called Fossil Free Canada Convergence, which brought hundreds of students from across the country together last weekend to network and strengthen their university divestment campaigns.

She said the journal's statement made her scratch her head.

"It's not a symbolic gesture because as universities realize that the very economy that is perpetuating climate change and further assisting in the destruction of the place my children call home, they're also getting to understand that [...] we will always be able to go to the land to sustain ourselves," she said. That land is being threatened and "over-industrialized" by energy companies, she added.

Divestment is the first step in pulling the economy away from "dirty" energy investments, co-founder of Aboriginal Youth with Initiative Clayton Thomas-Muller told *The Link*.

"If we can get university endowments out

of fossil fuel investments, then maybe we can get the Canadian Pension Plan out of dirty fossil fuel investments, maybe we can get faith-based organizations out of dirty fossil fuel investments," he said. "Change always comes from young people."

One of the conference's organizers, Kelsey Mech of the Canadian Youth Climate Coalition, says one of the event's goals is to "build a stronger national divestment movement."

Each of the four speakers—Lameman, Heather Milton-Lightening, Denise Jourdain and Alyssa Symons-Bélanger—detailed in French or English their different experiences with activism and how fossil fuel exploitation had affected their lives and the lives of those around them.

Milton-Lightening's speech revolved around the theme of youth's power to effect change. She told a story of how she fled her adoptive home at 16 to Winnipeg, where she attended Children of the Earth High School and became an activist. She and a group of teenagers walked across the country in the name of Indigenous rights.

"I want to remind you that there is a responsibility [for] young people [...] to experience new things, to learn as much as we possibly can, but also to go out there and be active, to take action, to stand up and speak out," Milton-Lightening, who was also a part of the Indigenous Tar Sands Campaign, said.

She referenced systemic issues that stem from an economy dependant on large corporations.

"Transnational companies have more power than the countries and we've given it to them. How do we fundamentally challenge that?"

A Canadian University Ahead On the Trail to Divestment?

Canada has a ways to go before catching up with the 13 American universities that have pulled out of their fossil fuel investments, but several Canadian universities are heading in the right direction, said Mech.

She pointed to a small number of universities that have struck investment committees to consider divesting, "and it's looking pretty positive that one of those may be reaching a positive decision in the next couple of months."

Dalhousie student and member of Divest Dalhousie Scott Thomas walked by as Mech was speaking with *The Link*.

The university's board of governors is meeting Nov. 25 and "that's when we're calling for their decision to be made [on divestment]," he said, explaining that the students' campaign was a year-and-a-half old.

The Importance of Networking

Symons-Bélanger spoke of the importance of networking with activists across the country to join forces and better organize themselves. She referenced a recent blockade against the proposed pipeline at Montreal's Enbridge refinery east of the city, where she and another activist locked themselves to a fence to protest the proposed the company's 9B pipeline. She attributed the protest's success to the support of activists she had met throughout the province.

"We couldn't have performed that action if we didn't have the Marche des Peuples pour

la Terre Mère and the profound links we've made with other activists," Symons-Bélanger said.

Jourdain, the first to speak, talked about the injustices brought onto her community by the provincial government's plans to exploit energy resources in northern Quebec. She said the residents of Sept-Îles, the municipality a block away from her Innu community Uashat mak Mani-Utenam, had received more detailed explanations of the Plan Nord than the Innu village.

Bridging The Language Gap

Concordia and McGill may have been the first to step up when the conference was pitched to universities across the province, "but we're so glad it's taking place here," Mech said.

"We think there's definitely a missed opportunity in Canada—in organizing right now—to connect anglophone and franco-phone organizers.

"There is so much amazing stuff going on in both of those organizing worlds and they're so often not shared with one another and not held up and amplified and elevated," Mech added.

For that reason, the conference's workshops were held in both languages and headphones with simultaneous translation were available for audience members at the keynote speeches.

photos Verity Stevenson



Whose Space Is It Anyway?

Geography Student Society May Seek Accreditation to Be Guaranteed an Office

by Michelle Pucci @michellempucci

An ongoing tug of war between the university and the geography student association may lead the student group to campaign for accreditation next semester.

An empty 11-square-metre office in the geography department will become the new space for the associations representing geography and urban planning students if the university has its way.

At the beginning of the semester, the Geography Undergraduate Student Society asked the university for permission to use the empty space for a student-run café. The idea was turned down for logistical reasons—there's no running water in the room—and GUSS was told it would have to move to that room, along with the Urban Planning Association.

Together, the two associations have 14 executive members, more than an office of that size can hold at once. Within a few months, GUSS's aspirations for the new social spot turned into a battle to keep their old one, a more spacious room above the TD Bank on Guy St.

"We would like the GUSS executive office to be more welcoming to students and give you the opportunity to hang out there and use the resources that we have," said Pete Johnson, GUSS's vice-president of social affairs, speaking to geography students at a general meeting.

GUSS meant to discuss these issues at its general assembly last week but failed to gather enough people to meet quorum. The students that were present unofficially voted to keep their association's current office space in the TD building in addition to the smaller office the university is trying to move them to.

But if pressed to choose between the two, there was a preference for keeping the smaller office on the same floor as the rest of their department. The room in the Hall building was GUSS's office back when the executive team was smaller. Then they were moved to TD, which is a bigger office but is far removed from the students they represent.

"The initial reason we got displaced to the TD Bank [building] is that there was no space for a prof that was coming in," said Johnson. Now the association is concerned that another incoming professor will keep moving their office around the campus or that they'll lose their space entirely.

GUSS executives want to keep the office above the TD bank, which they already share with the UPA, because they say it's more inviting to students who want to study there. The association even planned to purchase a new computer and software for students to use.

According to GUSS executives, the university has implied they will rent out the TD office when the student groups are gone. This is a financially logical decision considering student associations don't pay rent, but the university has no official plans as of yet.

The story of asking to use empty rooms and losing them in the process is all too familiar to Iman Hassanein.

"Space has been a problem since my mom went to Concordia," the chemistry student said.

Hassanein, president of the biochemistry and chemistry student association, hasn't had an office since she brought the group back to life last year. The defunct physics association offered to share their unused space, but when Hassanein checked in officially with Concordia, the department decided to give the office to their Teaching Assistant coordinator instead.

"There's just no space. We just don't have a lot of space in the chemistry department," she said. "It's just a fact."

Hassanein and four other executives from the Association of Biochemistry and Chemistry Undergraduate Students (ABACUS) represent 500 students and are currently based out of a student locker.

"We have a banner, a bunch of documents we have to keep; some companies try to call us and we have to keep it all in a locker," she said.

Having been absent in recent years, the association needs to work on building trust and interest among their membership. Right now Hassanein says any attempt at getting feedback through email has been unsuccessful and not having a stable meeting place doesn't help.

"We still run as normal, but whenever someone has a question, we tell them we have to meet in a café," said Hassanein. Most of her call-outs, like ideas to put forward at the upcoming Student Congress, for example, go unanswered.

Now ABACUS is working on merging with the dissolved physics association and getting a space back in the physics department, where space seems to be more attainable, according to Hassanein. This means writing new bylaws, a new constitution and electing new members to have physics undergrads represented.

But the ABACUS president isn't completely discouraged. She says there is still a possibility of working with the Arts and Science Federation of Associations (ASFA), the umbrella organization of groups in the Faculty of Arts and Science, to use their office on the Loyola campus. But first they need to wait for by-elections.

Since ASFA's Loyola representative resigned, with upcoming by-elections to elect a new one, ABACUS hasn't been able to coordinate anything with the Loyola office. She hopes that will change after elections.

Hassanein also points to the case of Concordia's engineering and computer science student societies. When the university decided to give them a space that made more sense for students, they were given a whole annex on Bishop St. For years, engineering and computer science groups and students have had access to a lounge complete with a foosball table, conference room and numerous offices.

"They won the space lottery," said Hassanein.

There are also recent successes by the Journalism Student Association, which got their own office last year, and the School of Community and Public Affairs Student Association (SCPASA), which was accredited recently, guaranteeing them an office space.

Although accreditation guarantees a space for SCPASA, there is always the possibility that the university moves them to another office. And the same goes for GUSS.

"It's not that if we get accredited we get to keep the space," said Pete Johnson from the geography student association. "It's if we get accredited we get owed a space."

But accreditation can only begin in January, and the university has made it known that GUSS will have to move during the winter exam period, leaving them very few alternatives.

A university spokesperson could not be reached by press time for comment.

photo Michelle Pucci



Opinions editor Mattha Busby speaks with Federal Green Party leader Elizabeth May before her speech at McGill University.

Staying Optimistic, Come What May

Elizabeth May Launches Memoir/Manifesto Hybrid at McGill

by Mattha Busby @itsmattha

Despite being the sole Member of Parliament elected from the Green Party in Canada—Bruce Hyer crossed the floor from the NDP last year—Elizabeth May hopes her party will be able to hold the balance of power after the October general election if no one party wins an outright majority.

The party leader read from and spoke about her new book, *Who Are We: Reflections of My Life & Canada*, last Saturday at McGill.

“I really wanted to write a policy book where my last book [...] left off,” she told *The Link*. “It ended up becoming a hybrid of both my own experiences and policy.”

The book is both a memoir and a manifesto. It differs from other political books as it was never read by anyone in the Green Party—besides herself, she hastened to add—until its publication, thus avoiding the usual party screening process.

“Canada seems to have lost its sense of self,” read the book’s opening lines. “In the last number of years, the sense of who we thought we were has been shaken. We need to take stock and commit to being the best we are capable of being.”

May said the book covers “how you can make economics work for a healthy society.”

The book poses two fundamental questions: how to “rescue our democracy from Harper’s greater centralization,” and how to “use the tools of a healthy democracy to avoid catastrophic climate impacts.”

The 2015 general election will be fought over 338 seats—changed from 308—for the first time, which would require any one party to hold 170 seats in the House of Commons for a majority. Therefore, if the Liberal Party were to win 160 seats and the Greens were to win 10 seats, they would be able to form a majority government together.

If the Greens hold the balance of power after the next election then it is these issues—the reform of the voting system and a far greater commitment to sustainable energies—that would have to be in any coalition agreement the Green Party would support.

She implored the audience to “write to your Liberal and NDP leaders and suggest cooperating with Greens,” and that they write their MP to lobby for her inclusion in the federal debates next week.

“Greens are in coalition governments

around the world,” she told *The Link*. “Åsa Romson, in her role as Vice Prime Minister of Sweden, is pushing hard for the European Union to put greater emphasis on green issues.”

“This would be extremely doable in Canada too.”

Although she stressed that *Who We Are* is an “optimistic book,” her analysis of Harper’s concentration of power since his election raised issues that inspire pessimism.

“Climate is a recurring theme,” she told the audience at McGill. “We have flirted with the creativity of our creator. I love us, and I will not accept that we, homo-sapiens, are pathologically committed to stupidity.”

Her book reads, “In some ways, Stephen Harper may have done us a favour. We have been knocked out of complacency as he held up a mirror to our collective face, and taunted us with ‘this is what you really look like.’”

May was damning in her critique of first-past-the-post—the majoritarian voting scheme that encourages the two-party system characteristic of Westminster-style parliaments.

The first-past-the-post system is a “key

reason Canadians vote less than in other countries,” May told *The Link*. “It encourages parties close to each other on the ideological spectrum to viciously attack each other.”

She added that “getting rid of first-past-the-post is essential to getting our democracy back.”

“The beginning of the erosion of Westminster democracy goes back to Trudeau’s conception of the Prime Minister’s office,” she said. “The Prime Minister’s office now screens all ministerial speeches; MPs follow orders and hope their constituents forgive them.”

The Westminster system is an “easy pop-sicle stand to kick over if you’re ruthless,” she noted, alluding to Lord Hailsham’s notion of elective dictatorship which first-past-the-post can facilitate through the landslide effect.

“Change is possible even under a dysfunctional voting system,” she added.

A question period followed May’s speech at McGill. The first audience member to speak stressed that “Harper and his fascist government prance around the world like pimps serving the interests of corporations.”

photo Mattha Busby

Feasting and Fighting Resource Extraction

Annual Fall Feast Features Indigenous Activists



by Michelle Pucci @MichelleMPucci

Roughly 200 people met last Thursday evening to share food, stories of resistance and activist documentaries for the annual gathering at the Native Friendship Centre of Montreal.

"Oftentimes, when colonialism is talked about, people are like, 'Oh you know, that happened and now it's over,'" said James Goddard from the Frigo Vert, one of the feast's main organizers.

"But obviously there are ongoing struggles and there are issues that arose from the past that can still be called colonialism."

The island of Montreal, traditionally known as Tiotia:ke in the language of the Kanien'kehá:ka, has historically been a meeting place for other indigenous nations. Those living on the territory of Kanien'kehá:ka were known as the keepers of the Eastern Door and were responsible for maintaining peace in the east.

To celebrate this idea, the Native Friendship Centre invited activists from across the country and anyone who was interested in listening to their stories of peaceful resistance.

"I will support these struggles," said Huguette Lucas, one of the attendees and a

former communications officer at the Université du Québec à Montréal. "I also supported Idle No More."

Lucas, who has been supportive of indigenous clashes with government and organized events as a member of the Cercle des Premières Nations at UQAM, said she wasn't completely sure what the conference was about and came after getting a pamphlet in the mail.

As people lined up for servings of homemade soup, stuffing and mashed sweet potato, speakers from as far away as British Columbia shared stories of local movements against mining, oil development and pipelines.

Kanien'kehá:ka activist Clifton Nicholas screened his film *Karistatsi Onienre: The Iron Snake*, which is about tar sands development featuring indigenous leaders that are fighting for the protection of their water and land.

Innu elder Denise Jourdain, from the community of Uashat mak Mani-Utenam on the north shore of the St. Lawrence River, discussed her community's struggle against Hydro Quebec's expansion along the north shore and the province's Plan Nord, an economic development plan focused on mining. In 2012, Jourdain was arrested during a

blockade on the road leading to Hydro-Quebec's new Romaine complex.

A main force against Imperial Metals, the mining company responsible for one of Canada's biggest environmental disasters, Kanahus Manuel from the Secwepemc Nation in British Columbia has continued working to block new mining operations in the province.

The Mount Polley mining breach in August unleashed 10 billion litres of mining waste into B.C. waterways, turning Hazelton creek into a field of sludge and contaminating Quesnel Lake, which used to be one of the cleanest and deepest lakes in Canada and home to wild salmon.

"It's important for us as indigenous people to unite with other indigenous and other peoples of resistance to make our fight stronger and more powerful to fight this big beast that is industry and resource extraction," said Manuel.

The event used to be called the Anti-Colonial Thanksgiving, but this year organizers opted for Fall Feast, in line with the night's anti-imperialist ideas.

"Because Thanksgiving itself is inherently tied up in the myths of colonialism, we wanted to make it a dinner and fall celebration," said Goddard.

The Frigo Vert, in collaboration with

the Concordia Student Union, Kanata, Midnight Kitchen, People's Potato, GRIP UQAM, QPIRG Concordia and QPIRG McGill organized this year's feast to raise awareness and create a space where people can discuss native issues.

"Part of it is to create linkages to the community that does stuff here at the Native Friendship Centre and the Concordia student community," said Goddard. "And part of it is about trying to break bread with as many people as possible."

People's Potato and Midnight Kitchen prepared the meal from ingredients provided by the Frigo Vert. The CSU helped cover the travel costs of the speakers.

"It's a very concrete way to show solidarity, by providing food for an event like this," said Kota Harbron from the People's Potato. "And so that the organizers aren't stuck coordinating everything or paying for catering."

"When you offer people free food, you get all sorts of different people to come," said Goddard.

photo Michelle Pucci

SPORTS WRITING 101



Do you have an itch for sports reporting? Want to learn how to forge a juicier lead? Having trouble making sports statistics interesting and accessible to your readers?

Well then, come check out former *Link* news editor and current *Montreal Gazette* sports reporter Christopher Curtis's workshop on how to capture your audience with gripping sports coverage.

All are welcome!

Friday, Nov. 14 at 5 p.m. in The Link's office (H-649)

L'Organe Resuscitated?

Students Look to Relaunch Defunct French-Language Magazine

by Michael Wrobel @michael_wrobel

A group of current and former Concordia students is working to resurrect French-language magazine *L'Organe* before the former student publication's fee levy is permanently removed.

Last December, Concordia's Board of Governors suspended the six-cent-per-credit fee charged to Concordia undergraduates to pay for the magazine's publication. *L'Organe* had been inactive for over two years after a mass exodus of its editorial staff in April 2011.

The latest effort to revive the magazine is being led by Concordia students Charlotte Parent and Flora Hammond, aided by former student Pierre Chauvin. The aim, Parent said, is to give francophone students a place to express themselves in their native tongue.

"Some people are not as much at ease in English as they are in French," she said. "If they want to contribute to magazines and journals, maybe they need this kind of opportunity that they don't have at the moment."

"We're also in Quebec," added Chauvin, "so there's a lot of francophones from all around the world, and it's kind of the only place [at Concordia] where all those francophones can meet, work and exchange ideas."

But the magazine will also be a learning space for anglophones looking to improve their French, according to Parent.

"We don't want to make it an isolated magazine in the midst of a big university," she said. "It's more a place where people can read and write in French, whoever they are. I've gotten some emails from people who are anglophones and who want to contribute, saying it would help them with French."

It's the third time since 2011 that students have tried to start publishing the magazine again.

As president of the fee-levy group in 2012-2013, Julien Poirier-Malo recruited contributors and nearly finished an issue before learning that the organization's file with the provincial company registry was out of date. He subsequently struggled to gain

access to *L'Organe*'s bank account.

Chauvin said there wouldn't be a repeat performance because the paperwork issues have been resolved. But student volunteers still need to provide the university's Board of Governors with a plan of action for relaunching the magazine and meeting its administrative and legal responsibilities before the fee levy can be reinstated.

"The main goal [now] is to have a team work on the [group's] bylaws and have an annual general meeting, and then we'll have a better idea of when the first issue will hit the stands," he said.

"Until Concordia gives us access to [the magazine's] bank accounts, we really can't do much. Flora, Charlotte and I paid expenses on our own for [a new] website, posters and the email. They're students, I'm a freelancer, so we can't really spend a lot on it [ourselves]."

Still, if all goes to plan, a new issue could be published as early as January, Chauvin said.

The magazine's primary focus will be arts and culture, but Parent said her team doesn't want to "exclude any subject or discipline from the magazine because it's the only fully francophone magazine [on campus]."

"We want people to be able to write about whatever they want to write about," she said.

Parent said the magazine, once relaunched, would be published twice a semester. She's currently looking for people who would like to be part of the magazine's executive team.

"I want to [reach out to new contributors] and then meet these people, talk about the journal, about what they want from it, how they want to get involved in it," she said.

Given the fact that the magazine's last issue was published three years ago, volunteers will have a blank slate to work with.

"It's nice because it's kind of a new magazine, so we can really make what we want of it," she said. "I hope people will see an opportunity here."

photo courtesy of L'Organe



Parallel Distortions in Egypt and Gaza

Speakers Denounce Media Coverage of Egyptian and Palestinian Protesters

by Erica Pishdadian @ericapish

The media's portrayal of Palestinians in Gaza as armed and violent mirrors the corrupt view many of the same outlets used to portray massacred Egyptian protesters in 2013, according to four speakers at a human rights conference on Nov. 5.

The conference, titled "Egypt & Gaza Intertwined," focused on rights violations occurring in both Egypt and Gaza and how they parallel one another. The hosts for the event included the Egyptian Canadian Coalition for Democracy, the Egyptian Canadian Home Organization and the Concordia Egyptian Student Association.

Headliner Norman Finkelstein, an American professor and political scientist, spoke about Gaza and the justifications Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu uses to defend operations against the Palestinian people. He was openly critical of US President Barack Obama's response to the conflict, referring to Obama's frequent affirmations that Israel has a right to defend itself from attack as unnecessarily repetitive.

"Only important people have the right to defend themselves, and the rest of us just

have to live with it," he said sarcastically.

Finkelstein also discussed the impact that media attention has on military action in Gaza. He pointed to Operation Protective Edge, an Israeli airstrike offensive that began on July 8 of this year, as an example. He discussed the rapid change of focus in the media, noting that once international news shifted to the Malaysian Airlines flight that crashed in Ukraine on July 17, Israeli troops immediately expanded the operation to include a ground invasion.

"A good politician knows how to exploit those moments, and Netanyahu is a good politician," said Finkelstein. "The cameras were now off Gaza."

Other scheduled speakers included Egyptian journalist Ayat Oraby and Mohamed Sherif Kamel, an activist and co-founder of the ECCD. Nahla Nasser, a French-Egyptian activist sitting in the audience, who was an eyewitness to the Rabaa al-Adawiya massacre in Aug. 2013, gave an impromptu fourth presentation.

For Oraby, the parallels between Egypt and Gaza are clear.

"What's happening in Egypt [...] is not far from Gaza," she said.

Oraby expanded on the Rabaa massacre,

which Human Rights Watch has referred to as "the most serious incident of mass unlawful killings in modern Egyptian history."

She denounced harsh conditions faced by detainees and the use of snipers to gun down peaceful protesters. She was most critical, however, of the media's early attempts to portray the protesters as armed and violent.

"In Egypt [the media] twist the facts completely; they make up stories," said Nasser, agreeing with Oraby's statement. "[The massacre was committed] by thugs, the army and the police. And at the same time, they're saying on the media that these people are armed and terrorists."

"The problem is that people believe them."

According to Sherif Kamel, the media should not be allowed to continue distorting repression and military action in both Egypt and Gaza. He cautioned the audience that protesters in these areas have almost no channel through which they can express their side of the story.

"We should do our best to offset media lies," he said. "Freedom of expression should be for everyone."

photo Shaun Michaud





Snapshots of the Subconscious

Lecture at Concordia to Discuss the Surrealist Movement's Influence on Photography

by Athina Lugez @AthinaLugez

Rising out of the ashes of the First World War, surrealism is a cultural movement that tapped into Freudian psychoanalysis and sought to revolt against the rational mind's constraints.

Independent scholar Ian Walker will explore photography's role in surrealism at the upcoming "Speaking of Photography" lecture series organized by Concordia's department of art history.

Founded by French author and poet André Breton, the surrealist movement was defined in a 1924 manifesto as a "pure psychic automatism," a way to express thought processes in the absence of exercised reason and aesthetic and moral concerns.

Surrealism solidified the reputation of notable photographers such as Man Ray, Lee Miller and Henri Cartier-Bresson, but this historical narrative was barely mentioned in books until the 1980s.

"Surrealism is a successor of Dadaism. It was created as a response to the atrocities of the First World War," said Walker. "There was an awful situation brought about by a civilized and bourgeois society, filled with excessive rationality.

"Surrealists believed that they could tap into the unconscious [as devised by Freud],

to enter into more poetical feelings. They [...] became interested by the discoveries of how the unconscious works."

Surrealist photographers managed to overcome the realistic limitations of photography, using it to create images that are symbolic depictions of the unconscious mind's psychosis, the representations of dreams, taboo sexual fantasies and intoxicated hallucinations. Photography became a medium for surrealism to break down reality.

"Photography was a very realistic tool that wanted to show the surface of things. Surrealism made photography go beyond that surface and showcase what lay beneath," explained Walker.

"Images became more powerful because they had an underlying meaning. Documentary photographs that caught accidents or coincidences were taken to manipulate and break down the sense of complete reality."

The movement allowed for implicated artists to experiment in search of new artistic techniques. Photomontage became a popular processing technique that consisted of coupling images together. Multiple exposure, another technique of surrealism, superimposed two or more images to make one. The Sabbatier solarization effect, discovered by Lee Miller, became a remarkable lighting style

that flushed light on a photograph, creating a dramatic effect. These techniques became surrealist photography's prime focus.

"Man Ray became the pioneer of the surrealist photographic movement," Walker explained. "He was an American who went to Paris during the 1920s, the heart of surrealism, and picked it up there. [...] He experimented and found different and new ways to work with images."

Though he's widely remembered as a humanist photographer, the works of Henri Cartier-Bresson were also highly influenced by the principles of surrealist imagery. Cartier-Bresson captured life's innate absurdity through meticulous geometric compositions and high-contrast monochromes.

"The defining characteristic of surrealist imagery is that there is more than what the eye can see," Walker said. "There is something there you can't explain rationally that can mean very different things. The image makes you want to explore further and connect with and play with your imagination."

Surrealism laid the groundwork for much of today's photography, as photo manipulation created during the movement influenced future techniques such as the manipulations of Adobe Photoshop. However, the narrative of surrealism in photography was barely men-

tioned for over 50 years, allowing history to forget about this connection.

"For a long time, surrealism went out of fashion. People forgot about it during the Second World War," explained Walker.

But changing attitudes during the 1980s resulted in the immediate mass publication of books and exhibitions focusing on the relationship between surrealism and photography.

"People started to focus on it again during the 1980s. I think it's connected to the fact that people then were interested in abstraction, working with very particular concepts close to surrealism, and people came back to working with their imagination," said Walker.

"Surrealism is not just about making art, it's about the whole philosophy of art. It is still a relevant philosophy on how we live and on reality."

"Speaking of Photography" Series // Ian Walker: The Short, Sharp History of Surrealist Photography // Nov. 14 // 6:30 p.m. // Concordia University, EV-1605 // Free

graphic Madeleine Gendreau

An Underground Reading Rainbow



Expozine 2014 Showcases the Best of Canada's Print Culture

by Dori Julian

The 13th edition of Expozine, taking place this weekend, is sure to satisfy the thirst of Montreal's creative and literary minds as it brings over 300 international exhibitors together to offer up the best of print culture.

Founded in 2002 as a project of Archive Montreal, Expozine is Canada's largest small press fair, offering a tremendous array of printed work including zines, graphic novels, alternative comics, artists' books and even the "uncategorizable," according to their website.

In addition to the fair, this year's Expozine also features three one-hour roundtable discussions.

"The roundtable I'm most excited about is the one that includes the founders of the *Véhicule Press*—they were one of the first cooperatives or small presses in the early '70s," said Louis Rastelli, one of the original founders of Archive Montreal.

"Having some of the people who were among the first to do that kind of self-publishing in the early '70s, it will be a lot of fun to be able to get to see [the] then-and-now," Rastelli continued. "They never stopped publishing too, so they'll be able to say when the changes happened and how we got to where we are now."

Expozine offers visitors the experience of

directly interacting with the creators of the products sold at the event, unlike most corporate fairs.

"For the most part the people who wrote the books or drew them are at Expozine," said Rastelli.

The two-day affair is a great place to discover and explore unique and often exclusive international cultural products.

"Everyone's like, 'isn't everything on the Internet now?'" Rastelli said. "Well, no, pretty much none of these books and zines are available online." Many of the artists and writers even create products specifically for Expozine.

"There's no sign of print culture dying anytime soon, Rastelli said. "Far from subsiding, it seems like every year we turn away more and more publishers."

"We actually have way more people that want tables than we can accommodate."

Luckily for those unable to have a table at the fair, Archive Montreal's Distroboto machines project provides a platform for all sorts of miniature publications, short films, music and arts and crafts projects via repurposed cigarette machines. These machines, which no longer sell cigarettes, sell art for only \$2.00 per article (\$1.75 of which goes directly to the artist). One such Distroboto machine will be on site at Expozine.

Expozine exhibitors push the boundaries of what are considered books, with works often taking on the quality of art objects.

"I've seen some of what will be at Expozine in advance and there's some pretty wild stuff," said Rastelli.

He went on to give *The Link* some hints of the innovative works at this year's fair by mentioning 3D books, a trend he noticed popping up a couple years ago.

"The vast majority of what is offered [at Expozine] isn't offered anywhere else," he said.

With such a huge talent pool at this year's event, it's worth checking out the list of exhibitors ahead of time to get a feel for what you want to see when attending the event. Chances are good that you'll be overwhelmed by the amount of exhibitors and works up for sale.

"It's almost impossible to visit them all at the fair...but at the same time that's what makes it great," Rastelli said. "It's not often there are so many people in the same room with so many books."

Expozine // Nov. 15 and Nov. 16 // 5035 St. Dominique St. // 12-6 p.m. // Free

graphic courtesy of Expozine



Get Into the Rhythm of RIDM

A Highlight of Documentary
Films to Expect at RIDM 2014

by Mattha Busby @itsmattha

Running from Nov. 12 to Nov. 23, this year's Montreal International Documentary Festival (RIDM) will present 142 films from 44 nations.

"There needed to be a greater space for exchange and discussion between filmmakers and audiences," said Charlotte Selb, the RIDM's programming director. "This festival offers just that."

The 17th edition of the annual festival will also include global, North American, Canadian and Quebec premieres, as well as both established and emerging directors from Canada and around the world.

Le nez (The Empire of Scents), *Marmato* and *We Come as Friends* are expected to create shockwaves this year. *Le nez*, a documentary exploring and questioning our relationship with smell, will open to the world in Montreal for its global premiere.

Marmato is a "David and Goliath story, a story of the oppressed," according to Selb. Director Mark Grieco embedded himself in

the Colombian village the film is named after, shedding light on wealth inequalities.

After a Canadian mining company arrived, wealth disparities were only exacerbated as the Colombian military pacified opposition to the multinational's plans for an open pit mine. It illustrates how traditional, sustainable methods of mining are replaced by "modern" techniques that seek to extract gold deposits as soon as possible.

We Come as Friends—a film by Hubert Sauper being released 10 years after his last film, *Darwin's Nightmare*—explores themes of exploitation, religious and sectarian divisions and land appropriation in war-torn Sudan.

The director, who filmed portions of the documentary in a homemade plane, will be holding a conference on land appropriation at Concordia after the screening on Nov. 16. The film is similar to *Marmato* in that it seeks to illustrate how "the spoils of natural resources are coveted by foreign interests," according to a RIDM press release.

Italian/Argentinian production *Belva nera*,

co-directed by lifelong friends but first-time collaborators Alessio Rigo de Righi and Matteo Zoppis, has been described as a "mockumentary Western."

Filed just north of Rome, the film charts a community's encounter with a legendary black panther. Whether it's a documentary or a mockumentary depends on whether you believe the panther is real or not.

The directors sought to "tell the story of our city and our culture," Matteo said.

"This is the story of our generation. There had been many accounts of the panther going around just outside the capital," he added.

In the documentary, a local cowboy, Hercules, spots the cat and Tony Scarf, an actor and panther expert, proceeds to catch one. The directors filmed their interviews of "people who came and went from the local tavern," Matteo said.

"Many things are hidden behind the film, and we look forward to perhaps discussing these with the audience in Montreal," said Righi.

A sequel of sorts is now being filmed about a hermit from the same region. It will be released next year.

Belva nera's North American premiere will be on Nov. 15 at 6:30 p.m. at Cinémathèque Québécoise Salle Claude-Jutra.

"RIDM is as internationally-oriented as it is locally," said Selb. "We have various competitions for emerging young student filmmakers and one of these initiatives, the Talent Lab, will award a sundry of mentorships with established directors."

Most young directors begin with a short and RIDM's competitions provide an opportunity for emerging filmmakers to have their work showcased.

All RIDM screenings during the week before 5 p.m. are free for students. At Concordia screenings, Concordia students get a discounted price of \$8. RIDM, in conjunction with the STM, is also offering a two-for-one deal for anyone who presents an OPUS card.

photo courtesy of Emily Gan

A True Definition of Perfection

Stingers Shut Out McGill and Carleton for Huge Road Weekend

by David S. Landsman @dslands

In recent years, the Concordia Stingers women's hockey team, led by head coach Les Lawton, has had trouble playing a full 60-minute, mistake-free hockey game.

This weekend they showed no signs of weakness, shutting out both their cross-town rivals the McGill Martlets and the lowly Carleton Ravens on the road.

The Stingers recorded their first win over McGill in 57 games, a streak that dates back to February 2006. Following their win over Carleton the team recorded back-to-back shutout wins, a feat that hadn't been duplicated since Oct. 20-21, 2001.

"We know we aren't going to win games 6- or 7-nothing so we have to rely on good defense," said Lawton. "We got it this weekend. Goaltending was good and the team effort was really good. I'm really proud of our team's performance this weekend and moving forward."

Saturday's win over the Ravens may have been great, as the Stingers extended their winning streak to three, but the big story was Friday morning's victory over McGill, who are ranked number one in the Canadian Interuniversity Sport standings.

"[McGill's] got some of the best players in the country," said Lawton. "So to shut them out and work really well defensively and disciplined, it's looking great moving forward."

At McGill's McConnell Arena, the Stingers took to the ice for the first time this young season against the team that eliminated them in the playoffs the year prior.

The Stingers were able to only score a single goal, but that was all they needed to end a streak almost nine years in the making. The last time the Stingers beat McGill as the visiting team goes back to Nov. 21, 2004—a span of nearly a decade.

With an early power play just over five minutes into the game, the faceoff was cleanly won by fifth-year Alyssa Sherrard, who passed it to her wing instead of the back end. Fourth-year Audrey Morand then made no mistake sending it top shelf past Taylor Hough. Morand had a great weekend, notching three of her team's four goals and assisting on a fourth.

"We've always been narrowing the gap against the other teams, and winning was great Friday," said Morand. "Coming into Saturday we wanted to keep the momentum and after a quiet first we kept our game plan the rest of the way."

For Sherrard, in her last year with the Maroon and Gold, Friday's match was her first taste of beating McGill.

"It felt amazing. I definitely cried after the game," said Sherrard. "It felt better than winning a championship. I've been wanting this ever since I joined Concordia and I really wanted to beat them. Best feeling."

Goaltender Briar Bache made 27 saves for her first career shutout at the CIS level, and the occasion couldn't have been any bigger.

"Not even the fact that we had ended the 57-game streak and shut them out, it just felt really great," said Bache, who was named the first star of the game. "All the

girls afterwards, we were saying it honestly felt like we had just won Nationals. It wasn't just another win."

Another standout that afternoon was third-year forward Marie-Pier Cloutier, who had five of her team's 15 shots and was named the game's second star.

"I feel so proud of everyone on my team," said Cloutier. "It's my third year and we really never were able to show on paper the amount of work we put into our practices and every game. We were finally able to do that this weekend."

Saturday afternoon the team traveled to Carleton, a team in a transitional stage, and took care of them with ease. All it took was an explosive second period, a collaborative team effort and solid goaltending.

Just over a minute into the second, the Stingers rushed into the Carleton zone

when sophomore defender Carroll-Ann Gagné found an open Audrey Morand, who put the puck past Ravens goaltender Tamber Tisdale.

Five minutes later Keriann Schofield redirected a point shot by sophomore defender Marie-Joëlle Allard for her first of the season, giving the Stingers a 2-0 lead.

With less than six minutes to play Morand scored her second of the game, giving the Stingers the goals they needed to secure the victory.

The Stingers dominated the entire game, not allowing Carleton many chances and outshooting the Ravens 31-19.

Rookie goaltender Katherine Purchase didn't seem too phased on her end of the ice, turning aside each of those 19 shots for her first career CIS win and shutout.

"It felt pretty good despite not having

to do too much because the team played so well defensively," said Purchase following the Carleton game. "I'm handling this adjustment to the CIS quite well."

Lawton was very pleased with his team following the weekend and brought up the numbers to prove it.

"We've got seven out of 10 points early in the season with only one home game under our belt," he said. "We're looking forward to the next few at home where we can separate ourselves from the Ontario teams and [stay] positive moving forward."

Next up for the Stingers is a matchup against the visiting Ottawa Gee-Gees on Saturday afternoon at home, where they hope to avenge their shootout loss from Oct. 24.

photo David S. Landsman



Rookie goalie Katherine Purchase turned aside 19 shots to record her first victory and shutout in a 3-0 win over the Carleton Ravens this past Saturday.



Montreal Canadiens general manager Marc Bergevin (middle) took part in "The Decision Makers" panel at JMSM14, alongside TSN insider Darren Dreger (left) and Tampa Bay Lightning assistant general manager Julien Brisebois (right).

Canadiens General Manager Highlights All-Star Lineup at JMSM14

Habs GM Marc Bergevin Among Highlights of Sports Marketing Conference at Concordia

by Yacine Bouhali @MyBouhali

Montreal Canadiens general manager Marc Bergevin is an extremely busy man who has little time to spare during his team's 82-game regular season schedule. You may catch him on television for the occasional interview, but otherwise he's working tirelessly at building a winning hockey club and continuing to restore its image.

However, the GM was able to find time to attend the 19th edition of the John Molson Sports Marketing Business Conference at Concordia and give advice to business students, share a coffee with participants and take photos with fans.

"There are so many ambitious young people here who would like to be seated at my place one day," Bergevin told *The Link*. "So if I can help them by sharing my personal experiences, then it's a pleasure for me to do so."

Bergevin was among the many guests who took part in this year's event, joining Tampa Bay Lightning assistant general manager Julien Brisebois and TSN hockey insider

Darren Dreger for a panel discussion titled *The Decision Makers* on Friday afternoon at the D.B. Clarke Theatre.

JMSM14 also hosted such high-profile sports executives as former Los Angeles Dodgers GM Ned Colletti, sports agent Don Meehan and Kerry Bubolz, the president of business operations for the NBA's Cleveland Cavaliers. Journalists Elliotte Friedman of the CBC and John Lu of TSN were also present, but the Habs GM was clearly the main attraction for many at the event.

"[Having] Bergevin is huge for us," said JMSM executive vice president Paul Santache. "[It will be] so big for our committee in the future, because when you reach out to speakers in the following years and they look back and see that [Bergevin] has been here, [Colletti] has been here, it really legitimizes us as a committee and it's going to help us for years to come."

"Every year we try to up the content and the number of people that get involved in the conference. Hopefully next year we'll get a bigger room than this and we can fill that out as well," he continued. "Obviously there

are a lot of problems that come with that because we are a student-run committee and we don't necessarily have all the funds that you might expect."

Funding is something that the JMSM committee already does pretty well, since they're able to offer participants full access to the three-day event, transportation to venues and three nights at a hotel for only \$350 (or \$250 for a hotel-free option).

"This is the first year that we've introduced the single-day tickets passes [ranging from \$25 to \$60]," Santache added, explaining that the new measure was introduced for students who might not want to attend all the events.

This year JMSM14 also welcomed students from the United States, a first for the conference, as the organizers wish to get more exposure for the event.

"This is the first year that we've had any success in [getting delegates from the USA]," said JMSM director of recruitment Mike Clement. "I think we're really close to having a lot more. There were a few schools that were on the edge of sending buses full of students."

"There are so many ambitious young people here who would like to be seated at my place one day, so if I can help them by sharing my personal experiences, then it's a pleasure for me to do so." - Montreal Canadiens general manager Marc Bergevin

JMSM also offered, for the first time, a discussion on the business dealings of the National Collegiate Athletic Association—the United States's equivalent to Canadian Inter-university Sport—featuring athletic directors from the University of Pittsburgh and Miami and a professor from Rutgers University.

"It's nice to hear from the people who are behind the scenes. You see everything on TV but there's a lot more that goes into it," said Jeremy Vautour, an economics student from St. Lawrence University in Canton, N.Y.

With the ever-growing list of panels and invited guests, there's no reason to believe that the conference won't continue to grow and improve for its 20th anniversary next year.

"Before coming to Montreal I was reading the names of the people that were going to be here to my friends and they were regretting not coming," said Vautour. "I think that a lot of them will regret [not coming] even more after I tell them about the experience I had here this weekend."

photo MANNY

Top of the Heap

Stingers Clinch First Place in RSEQ with Win over UdeM Carabins



The Stingers men's rugby team clinched first place in the RSEQ with a 26-15 win over the UdeM Carabins this past Friday night.

by Tristan D'Amours

It was a cold Friday night for Stingers fans at the men's rugby team's final regular season game. While the weather may not have been ideal, those who braved the cold with gloves, blankets and tuques were rewarded in the end.

The Stingers knocked off the Université de Montréal Carabins on Friday evening 26-15 at Concordia Stadium. Combined with McGill's 15-13 loss at Bishop's that night, the Stingers win secured them first place overall in the Réseau du sport étudiant du Québec.

"It was really cold, especially for me out in the wing, but you don't really think about it out in the game," said winger Fred Kacou, who scored a try in the game.

The Maroon and Gold held strong for a good part of the first half. Even when tested deep inside their own zone, they gave up few opportunities for the Carabins to score. Offensively, the Stingers scored 19 points in the first half, with tries

from Kacou and forwards Lucas Hotton and Erik Samuel.

However, the end of the first half saw a small crack in the Stingers defence. Montreal gained ground with a penalty conversion and a try in the last three minutes. At halftime, the scoreboard read 19-10 for Concordia.

"I thought we had probably the best first half we've had all year," said fullback Joey Fulginiti. "We had a bye week last week so it's been almost two weeks since we had a game, so we were definitely excited to come out."

Concordia followed through with a strong second half, with an early try from veteran back Caleb Jordan giving the Stingers a 16-point gap. The Carabins trimmed down the score to 26-15 with a try, but it was too late for them to come back in the game.

Stingers head coach Clive Gibson was content with his team's efforts, but noted there's always room for improvement.

"I'm proud of them but there are two or three problems we need remedy before next

week's game," said Gibson.

"The points we gave [the Carabins] were points we shouldn't have given them."

Having fought hard for first seed in their division, the Stingers can enter the postseason on a positive note.

"We started slow, we've picked it up and we started building up on every game," said Kacou. "Every practice we'd push harder and harder to get the job done and that's what we've done."

The top-seeded Stingers will once again host the Carabins, who are the fourth-seeded team, in the provincial semifinals at Concordia Stadium. While there was celebration following the win on Friday night, the Stingers are already focused on their semifinal matchup.

"I'm fairly confident but the league has been really up and down," said backs coach Craig Reemer. "Everybody's lost, everybody's beaten everybody and we've got to remember that. At least we won against [Montreal] twice."

On the players' side, confidence is present. They're keeping their eyes on the overall objective, the championship.

"As long as we play our game, I'm very confident," said Kacou. "I know we have a great group of guys that have been working all year and our goal is the championship."

"We've played [Montreal] twice already so we're going to study film to see what we missed and I'm sure we're going to be ready for next week," added Fulginiti.

A Concordia win would mean that the RSEQ men's rugby finals would be hosted at Concordia Stadium. When asked if this year's edition of the Stingers would break the curse of four straight final appearances without a championship win, Gibson cautioned: "I'm only focusing on next week's game."

The Stingers' semifinal game against UdeM will be on Sunday, Nov. 16 at 1 p.m. at Concordia Stadium.

photo Tristan D'Amours

BOX SCORES

WEEK OF NOV. 3 TO NOV. 10

THURSDAY	Women's Basketball—Concordia 65, Laval 72 Men's Basketball—Concordia 80, Laval 70
6	
FRIDAY	Women's Hockey—Concordia 1, McGill 0 Men's Rugby—Concordia 26, Montreal 15 Men's Hockey—Concordia 4, Nipissing 3
7	
SATURDAY	Football—Concordia 18, Laval 74 Men's Hockey—Concordia 4, Nipissing 6 Women's Hockey—Concordia 3, Carleton 0
8	

UPCOMING GAMES

THIS WEEK IN CONCORDIA SPORTS

THURSDAY	6:00 p.m. Women's Basketball vs. Bishop's Gaiters (Concordia Gymnasium) 8:00 p.m. Men's Basketball vs. Bishop's Gaiters (Concordia Gymnasium)
13	
FRIDAY	7:30 p.m. Men's Hockey at Waterloo Warriors
14	
SATURDAY	2:00 p.m. Women's Hockey vs. Ottawa Gee-Gees (Ed Meagher Arena)
15	
SUNDAY	1:00 p.m. Men's Rugby vs. UdeM Carabins (Concordia Stadium)
16	

Jumping Out the Gym

Stingers Get First League Win of the Season Against Laval



"He's probably going to be the most exciting player in our conference. Everybody saw the dunk; he can jump to the moon." - Stingers head coach John Dore on Stingers rookie Ken Beaulieu

Stingers guard Mukiya Post handles the ball during his team's 80-70 win over the Laval Rouge et Or this past Thursday night.

by Julian McKenzie @JulianTheIntern

When Stingers rookie Ken Beaulieu earned a breakaway late in the fourth quarter, it was as if he was given a blank canvas on which to express his art. The newcomer stole the ball from an opposing player and was already off to the races from mid court.

While the end result was a classic dunk—no windmills or other theatrics—the crowd got loud all the same. The play could still serve as a *pièce de résistance* to the team's comeback win over the Laval Rouge et Or this past Thursday night.

"Everyone in the gym knew he was going to dunk the minute he got the steal," said first-year point guard Ricardo Monge. "There's no surprise there, and it was still exciting."

The Stingers men's basketball team captured their first league win of the season in an enthralling 80-70 win over the Rouge et Or.

Despite being behind Laval for most of the game, the Stingers were never down by more than 10 points and managed to stay close to their opponent before overtaking the lead in the fourth quarter.

"It's really exciting to win the first home game," said Monge. "We started out slow, but in the end, it's the fourth quarter that counts. So we took care of business there."

"I think our guys stayed fairly focused," said Stingers head coach John Dore. "We executed well offensively and dominated defensively in the fourth quarter."

Stingers forward Ken Beaulieu led his team with 18 points, including his late fourth quarter dunk that placed an exclamation point on the victory. The rookie stole the ball from Laval's Antoine Beaumier and raced up to the net to dunk the ball.

"I just ran [down] the court, jumped as

high as I can, and threw down the dunk," said Beaulieu.

"He's probably going to be the most exciting player in our conference," said Dore, regarding Beaulieu. "Everybody saw the dunk; he can jump to the moon."

"Who says white men can't jump?"

Despite lead changes within the opening four minutes of the first quarter, the Laval Rouge et Or started building a lead when they held a score of 26-20 after the first 10 minutes of play. Concordia maintained a close score in the second and third quarter yet trailed the Rouge et Or for most of the game.

The Stingers finally regained the lead at the nine-minute mark of the fourth quarter, following a free throw from veteran Mukiya Post. The Stingers held onto the lead until the end of the game.

"Defensively [at first], we were not in sync,"

said forward Michael Fosu, who achieved a double-double, recording 14 points and a game-high 13 rebounds. "But as soon as we picked it up defensively, there was nothing they could do."

Although the first win of the season is one to savour, the Stingers must now focus on their next opponent, the Bishop's Gaiters. The game is at home on Thursday, Nov. 13. The Gaiters squad finished second in the RSEQ standings and made the provincial title game last year.

"I believe that we can match up with any team," said Fosu. "There's no reason why we can't match up with any team. Obviously, it's going to be a big test for us, but I feel strong enough that our team can pull a win from [Bishop's]."

photo Matt Garies

Rough and Tumble Crumble

Women's Basketball Team Gets No Favours from Referees in Season Opening Loss

by Julian McKenzie @JulianTheIntern

Following a particularly physical game against the UQAM Citadins last season, Stingers women's basketball head coach Keith Pruden quipped that his opponent had the makings of a rugby team.

Fast forward to their season-opening loss against the Laval Rouge et Or this past Thursday night and Pruden's team found themselves in another physical—and foreign—sport.

"The game is way too physical," said Pruden. "It's not basketball in Quebec, it's hockey, and I'm not a hockey coach."

Even if his team isn't in midseason form quite yet, Pruden's post-game interviews are quite close.

The Stingers women's basketball team dropped their season opener against the Rouge et Or, 72-65, in the Concordia Gymnasium this past Thursday evening, but the story from the game was the Stingers shooting 18 per cent from the floor in the first half. Coach Pruden believes that had a lot to do with the referees not giving out many fouls to the Rouge et Or in the opening twenty minutes of play.

Pruden pointed out that the Stingers only had two free throw attempts in the first half, despite finishing the game with 23.

"How does the referee change so much between the first half and the second half,

where a team takes two free throws in the first half, and 21 in the second half?" said Pruden.

"All-Canadians don't shoot 18 per cent from the floor. Not without being banged around," he continued. "We started banging around Laval in the second half and the [referees] let us. It's not supposed to be that way."

Despite the frustrating lack of calls from the referees, Pruden wouldn't go as far as to blame them for the Stingers' loss.

"We didn't lose because of the officiating," he said. "But I'm not happy with the officiating, because there's no way it should be that physical."

"We didn't do ourselves any favours," he added. "We missed a lot of easy shots, we missed a lot of free throws. So losing by seven like that is irritating. Laval executed their offence very well and I don't think that was our best defensive effort."

Stingers forward Marilyse Roy-Viau, who scored a game-high 23 points in the loss, agreed that the referees weren't up to standard but refused to use that as an excuse.

"We hoped that the ref would've been a little more on our side, but that doesn't mean anything," said Roy-Viau, who also had four rebounds and three steals in the contest.

The Stingers were only down 11-9 in the first quarter before allowing 22 points in the second. Concordia players weren't able to

capitalize on many of their shots in their first half, notably All-Canadian Kaylah Barrett, who ended the first half with only five points.

"I know my role on the team," said Barrett, who eventually ended the game with 20 points, 13 of them scored in the fourth quarter. "I know I have to contribute more than others. I knew if I didn't have a good half, there wasn't any worse I could do."

Concordia found themselves down by 17 points in the third quarter, their largest deficit of the game. They attempted to claw their way back in, but only got as close as four points.

With a little over a minute left in the game the Stingers tried to keep momentum going, but Barrett unfortunately mishandled and turned the ball over to Laval, all but giving the game to the Rouge et Or.

"I'm sure she's beating herself up about that turnover," said Pruden. "But I couldn't ask her to do anything more than what she did. It would've been nice if she knocked down a couple more shots, but it would've been nice if everybody knocked down a couple of shots, and a couple more free throws."

The Stingers will host their next game against the Bishop's Gaiters on Thursday, Nov. 13.

photo Matt Garies



Stingers forward Marilyse Roy-Viau scored 23 points in her team's loss to the Laval Rouge et Or this past Thursday night.



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More questions? Come to our Information Night on Thursday, November 20th, from 16:00 to 18:00 to hear more about the program.

Light refreshments will be served.

thelinknewspaper.ca

The Doug Leslie Bursary

THE LINK

CONCORDIA'S INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1980

The labour of love at a student newspaper provides a wealth of training and connections gained only through countless hours of volunteering, and is a necessary entry in the resumes of budding industry hopefuls.

However, the sacrifice of long unpaid hours serves as a deterrent for many looking to break into their field. To help young contributors in financial need, The Link Publication Society has decided to create a bursary in the memory of Doug Leslie, the first editor-in-chief to lead *The Link*.

Leslie was an English literature student who overcame financial difficulty to champion the newspaper through its teething stage as the two campus papers merged. He was coaxed into becoming the first editor; his first words in print as EIC were "Frankly, I never thought I'd be doing this."

According to his colleagues, Leslie left behind his reservations and began a column that became "the heart and soul" of the new paper, which was beset with short staff and other organizational issues in its inaugural year. Leslie also fought to keep the paper independent of the student council.

He died in August 2012, leaving *The Link* as his legacy.

The award will be available to a registered, returning student who is in financial need and is a staff member (reporter, designer, photographer, artist, etc.) of The Link. Staff members are defined as those who have made four (4) contributions to the newspaper in a semester. Contributions may be rolled-over from the prior semester before the applications are due.

The deadline for submission is Friday November 21, 2014 at 4 p.m.

Applicants must include a letter explaining their level of financial need, merit and motivation for the bursary, along with three (3) clippings from *The Link*.

Send application to:
business@thelinknewspaper.ca.

The bursary recipient(s) will be announced the third week of January.

The following contributors and masthead members are eligible to apply:

Justin Blanchard, Mattha Busby, Alex Callard, Alex Carrière, Jonhatan Cook, Noëlle Didierjean, Matt Garies, Madeleine Gendreau, Caity Hall, Daniele Iannarone, Brandon Johnston, Laura Lalonde, June Loper, Athina Lugez, Julian McKenzie, Shaun Michaud, Vince Morello, Erica Pishdadia, Michelle Pucci, Graeme Shorten Adams, Ester Staussova, Verity Stevenson, Leigha Vegh, Mariana Voronoska, Shane Wright, Michael Wrobel.

The following contributors need 1 more submission to be eligible:

Robert Arzenshek, Bianca Gazinschi, Colin Harris.

Austerity: Not an Obligation, Not a Necessity



Gus Minter and Aloyse Muller

Since the announcement of cuts to Quebec's education budget, the necessity of austerity has become a matter of public debate. We were prompted to write this piece after being repeatedly asked, "What is austerity?"

Austerity, or to use the provincial government's rhetoric, "financial consolidation," is an economic process that aims to reduce national debt by decreasing government expenditures. In practice it usually means reducing the number of civil servants and cutting funds allocated to "superfluous" or "non-vital" sectors like healthcare and education, as we have seen this year in Quebec.

Interestingly, on a federal level, military spending often goes untouched—the destruction of one ISIS vehicle, say a pickup truck, is estimated at \$500,000.

By implementing austerity measures, Premier Philippe Couillard is attempting to curb Quebec's deficit spending. His administration anticipates Quebec will accumulate \$2.35 billion in debt through 2014-15, primarily due to the province's aging population. The Liberal Party of Quebec will defund public services to counter slowed economic growth.

Couillard's administration has decided,

rather inflexibly, that the deficit must be eliminated by 2015-2016. In the words of current finance minister Carlos Leitão, "[a balanced budget] is not an obsession. It is an obligation."

Austerity's theoretical basis rests on two recent academic works. The first—Carmen Reinhart and Kenneth Rogoff's *Growth in a Time of Debt*—attempted to prove that when a government's debt exceeds 90 per cent of its GDP the economy collapses. The second—Alberto F. Alesina and Silvia Ardagna's *Large Changes in Fiscal Policy: Taxes Versus Spending*—argued that when the government of an advanced country (like Canada) slashes expenditures, the economy will expand rather than contract due to increased confidence in the private sector.

These two theories have since been disproven, the first due to mathematical errors and the second because, according to the International Monetary Fund, its data did not establish a link between economic growth and austerity measures.

Paul Krugman, a professor of Economics and International Affairs at Princeton University and recipient of the Nobel Prize in Economics in 2008 argues that "slashing government spending reduces overall demand,

which leads in turn to reduced output and employment." Consequently, "all the austerity we've seen is very premature [...] it should wait until the economy is stronger."

Even the IMF, once the main proponent of austerity policies, changed its position in 2012 as the economic growth of Greece, Spain, Portugal and Ireland plummeted in proportion to the degree of austerity implemented.

Quebec currently enjoys the lowest rate of social inequality in North America, mainly thanks to its social programs. Philippe Couillard, however, has declared that Quebecers "don't need to have in Quebec the most luxurious programs in Canada," and Finance Minister Carlos Leitão insists "[we] need to question the relevance of all our social programs."

Concerning this year's financial cuts, Leitão has stated "the budget of 2014-2015 is firmly focused on spurring Quebec's economic recovery and restoring sound public finances [...] Every necessary effort will be made to create wealth and jobs and ensure Quebecers reap the benefits of an enviable social model." But, as we have seen, austerity measures are both detrimental to economic growth and not conducive to the maintenance of any sort of "enviable social model."

Trying to reduce the provincial debt is a

laudable and responsible enterprise; however, attempting to balance the budget within the year is as reckless as it is unnecessary. It's a fallacy that universities will be able to maintain the same quality of service with diminished funding. It's a fallacy that Quebecers will enjoy the same standard of living under diminished public services. And, finally, it's a fallacy that the only alternative to austerity is a burdensome increase in taxes. When the welfare state was first created, most of the government's income came from the business sector, a load that has shifted to private citizens since the 1980s.

Although there is copious evidence to the contrary, accumulation of public debt is often misattributed to public services alone. An attack on public services is an attack on the welfare of the population, and despite his assurances to the contrary, Couillard's economic policies are well within this destructive framework. Austerity is not a simple polemical political issue; it is not a matter of left versus right. It doesn't have a compelling theoretical or historical basis.

Austerity is not a necessity; it is a choice—a choice that is not in our interest.

graphic Mariana Voronovska



Letter: Concerns about the GSA Accreditation Process

I was troubled by the flawed process used in the accreditation referendum for the Concordia Graduate Students' Association. I believe if a process is wrong, the result is also wrong. If you come from a country where elections and referendums are accompanied by various irregularities, you will find this very disturbing.

The whole process was undertaken with so much desperation and a lack of attention to detail. The campaign, which left some students feeling harassed, was designed to create a bias. The referendum question was not approved by the GSA's Council of Directors and the polls were not announced. The university was flooded with posters from the GSA's "Yes" campaign shortly before the voting period, tactically shutting out any "No" campaign.

The "Yes" campaign did not educate members on the benefits of accreditation. Their slogan "Vote YES for GSA's independence" was misleading. The referendum was for accreditation under Quebec's Act respecting the accreditation and financing of students' associations, not independence. The GSA has already been operating independently without any oversight.

Other reasons given to students, such as the ability to demonstrate against the university or the government without being shut down, were also extremely misleading. The GSA actively participated in the 2012 student protests without being shut down.

The act permits accredited student associations to fix their dues. Students were misled in

a referendum conducted in April 2014 to keep an increase in membership dues disguised as a fee levy for advocacy services.

About 2,300 votes were cast, with about 900 cast on the first day. This can be attributed to performance-related payments, which were offered to mobile polling clerks based on total votes cast. There were a total of 700 votes in the last GSA elections. Classes were disrupted and students, who didn't understand what accreditation meant, were told to vote yes for GSA's independence. They were denied the basic right of freedom to make a choice.

There is a lack of interest if executives cannot mobilize 25 per cent of GSA members without spending 10 per cent of their budget without members' approval. The voting period was strategically set before the GSA's budget for 2014-2015 could be presented at the Oct. 23 general assembly.

The accreditation contract, which was not in the best interests of the association, was signed by former president Mohit Kumar during his last days. This was suspiciously higher than the amount approved by the previous Council of Directors. This makes the motive for the accreditation look mysterious.

—Alex Ocheoha

Psychedelic Trip Sitting

A How-to on Facilitating a Friend's Psychedelic Experience

by Gonzo Nieto @gonzebo

"Trip sitting" entails a sober person being present while one or more people take a psychedelic drug such as magic mushrooms or LSD. Let's take a brief look at some things you should be thinking about if you're going to be someone's trip sitter.

The presence of a caring sitter provides safety and comfort, ensuring the trip goes smoothly and allowing those tripping to immerse themselves in their experience more freely and without some of the worries or concerns they might otherwise have.

For starters, you must be well-informed about the substance in question. Do some research until you are comfortable answering questions about duration, dosage, effects and possible side effects.

Having personal experience with the substance is useful, but not necessary. Read reports of people's experiences, both positive and negative, to get an idea of what an experience on this substance looks like. A great place to find such trip reports is on Erowid (erowid.org).

Having a conversation prior to the trip is important. Ask what they expect from you as a sitter. One person might want you to be quietly present unless something is needed, whereas someone else might want you to play a more active role in the experience, perhaps by talking or guiding a meditation. Additionally, ask how they would like you to respond if they feel anxious or panicked.

You can also use this opportunity to set some ground rules, such as establishing that it's okay for the tripper to express sexual or aggressive feelings, should they arise, but that they cannot act on them.

Another ground rule could be that sexual contact can only take place between people who have a pre-existing relationship. Setting such boundaries helps ensure that the trip goes smoothly and without confusion as to what is and isn't appropriate.

During the trip, your role is to create a safe and comfortable setting in which they can have their experience. The setting includes things like lighting, music, room temperature and, more generally, location. A good place for a trip is in the comfort of someone's home, where the sitter can easily regulate the environment. Being outside or at a party are less ideal places for tripping, as the setting is more unpredictable and difficult to control.

Above all, remember that you are there to facilitate someone else's experience, and not to have your own. Don't treat their trip as your novelty by asking them how they're feeling, what they're seeing or trying to show them things that you think might be "trippy" to see how they'll react. It's not that you shouldn't talk at all, but the idea is that you're not there to take up space.

Instead, try to keep an open and receptive mindset. If you meditate regularly, those skills will come in handy here. Rather than actively searching for whether you should intervene, try to remain uninvolved unless you're needed. Make it clear that you are there to help and that they shouldn't hesitate to ask if they want snacks or water, to talk or have a change of setting, or if they feel anxious or uncomfortable.

If the tripper finds themselves in a state of panic or anxiety, the presence of a caring sitter is itself very comforting. A gentle touch on the arm or shoulder can be reas-



suring, and a change in setting can also help, but be sure to ask and get their consent prior to either of these.

Unless agreed upon before the trip, it's best not to probe them about what they're going through, as having to explain in the moment can be an added stress. Instead, remind them that they're safe, that you're there with them, and that it's okay for them to let themselves experience whatever they are experiencing.

In the days following the experience, make yourself available to discuss it. Psychedelic experiences can be profound and rich in content, and you can help them understand and integrate this experience by providing a space for them to process it. Talking it through can also ensure that important aspects of the trip are not forgotten.

Sitting for someone's trip is a privilege. Being asked to be someone's sitter is an

expression of their trust and of their willingness to have you be part of a highly personal and intimate experience, so approach it with care and respect. Done right, it can be an insightful experience for both parties. And who knows, they might be willing to return the favour.

Safe and happy travels!

graphic Sam Jones

UberX: Innovation or Anarchy?

A Look at the Pros and Cons of Montreal's New Ridesharing App



by Mattha Busby @itsmattha

The Uber tide has swept through London, Paris and New York after its conception in San Francisco and is now making headlines here in Montreal. The ridesharing service has evaded permanent bans in Frankfurt and elsewhere as it courts tax-related controversies.

"Uber doesn't pay their taxes; they're circumventing regulations," said Martha Karounis, a daytime dispatcher at Atlas Taxi for 25 years. "It's like Jack and Jill or you and I starting a milk company and keeping all the money for ourselves. It's anarchy."

Montreal is on the verge of stepping up its fight against Uber, as groups in Toronto and Vancouver have done.

The UberX platform essentially circumvents the middleman so crucial to traditional taxi services, at an expense of 20 per cent of the taxi fare (which goes towards their Uber insurance coverage). Uber claims to connect a user with "a driver in minutes."

As the UberX program, which connects users with rideshares not affiliated with taxi companies, becomes ever more popular, the question begs to be asked: do we prefer our safety to several extra bucks in our pocket?

How safe are journeys with registered "black cab" drivers anyway, whose back seats we sprawl across in our hazy states as we clutch the best part of our Saturday night: the polystyrene-enveloped poutine?

"Why should we pay provincial taxes for rideshares just because taxi drivers have always had to?" asked Adel, an UberX driver. "The state just wants their piece of the pie."

To become a registered taxi driver in Montreal, applicants must go through a procedure of certification which lasts approximately a month and costs around \$64.80, according to the Montreal Taxi Bureau spokesperson we spoke to. The procedure consists of several computer tests to obtain licenses from both the Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec and the Montreal Taxi Bureau.

"You tell me if that's too much red tape," said Michael Monfared, nighttime dispatcher at Atlas Taxi.

"The notion that anyone can become a taxi driver is unfair. Being a taxi driver is an investment and the fact that UberX drivers receive no training has created a situation where a disaster is waiting to happen," Monfared said.

"It will take something dreadful to occur for people to realise how dangerous UberX is. Hopefully it will just be someone getting a nosebleed."

In order to get a better sense of UberX, I accompanied my flatmate on a journey with a driver who is usually a full-time engineer but does UberX at night for kicks.

The experience was far from the "anarchy" described by those in the established taxi business. The driver told us to take our time and waited five minutes for us to come out before helping us deliver our vegetables. The service we received went above and beyond the average taxi ride, for perhaps half the price.

Nevertheless, as we continued to use UberX we found that the drivers, although all fairly nice, were not especially competent.

When *The Link's* masthead cashed in a free courtesy journey, our driver caused a minor traffic congestion by stopping in the middle of a busy road to pick us up. This occurred despite his previous five years' experience as a taxi driver.

It's generally quite obvious that UberX drivers are not professionals. They get us from A to B better than I could—but then again I did fail my driving theory exam thrice.

The prevailing thought was summed up by Adel, who took us from the village bar L'escalier to another trendy venue. "The taxi industry has become stagnant and in need of development and innovation; UberX's innovating zeal will oblige the taxi driver to innovate too," he said.

However, one Uber driver named Hasan implored us not to use UberX. "It's unfair competition," he said. "Taxi drivers are being undermined by other drivers who do not deliver the same security that we provide."

The Montreal Taxi Bureau declined to comment on the issue, but said they endorsed the recent comments of Montreal mayor Denis Coderre on the issue.

"Right now if they don't respect the rules, yes it's illegal, of course it's illegal," Coderre said this week.

"If you are to engage in commercial activities then you must respect the law, such as the minimum provincial fare, something Uber is not doing currently," the Bureau's representative paraphrased Coderre as saying.

UberX drivers pay little attention to Coderre's rhetoric.

Parfait, who has been driving for UberX for

the past week, told us that Coderre declared it illegal because "it's something that's new. Many young people have downloaded the application and authorized taxi companies have [new] competition."

Is opposition to UberX a symptom of conservatism and the state's compulsive desire to tax and regulate? Or is it just about protecting jobs from unruly competitors?

Either way, Uber is a byproduct of our get-it-now consumer society that seeks to provide us with convenience at every juncture. One does not want to scrabble for change or mentally calculate the tip needed for a traditional driver.

Uber is not going away anytime soon. It's doubling its revenue every six months, and may diversify its business too.

Just as taxi drivers are motivated by economic factors, so too are we, impoverished students tiptoeing our way through the advent of austerity. Why wouldn't we use Uber if it's cheaper and more convenient?

Unfortunately Uber was "unable to accommodate" *The Link's* request for an interview, though they did express thanks for "reaching out." Perhaps they themselves could "reach out" and diversify their business to include those of us without an iPhone 3G package.

If it'll take a trip in an Uber vehicle for you to make up your mind about the company, you can always oblige their attempt to win student's favour by using the promo code SOH2014 to receive a free journey of up to \$30. Just remember to buckle up.

graphic Madeleine Gendreau

Montreal Urban Agglomeration: A Plan Worth Delivering?



by Ashley Zver-Volel

The Montreal Urban Agglomeration Land Use and Development Plan was recently released for public consultation. It's the first time the plan will be updated since the original version was introduced in 1986, so it's unsurprising that it has received a lot of attention from those who want to remodel Montreal.

The document presented to the public is not finalized, which explains why it has been criticized as "incomplete" and "too general." After watching the first public consultation online, it would seem that concerned citizens and special interest groups mostly question loose ends and generalities they feel weaken the plan.

The plan does have a complimentary document, though, which outlines norms and

criteria intended to embellish general content. It is also guided by the 2012-2017 Plan métropolitain d'aménagement et de développement and the Act Respecting Land Use Planning and Urban Development.

The agglomeration's plan comes off as repetitive because it reformulates in maps and in words much of the information contained in the PMAD. It is also extremely conceptual in its delivery of information, observations and intentions, which perhaps leaves too much room for interpretation. How useful can it be to address urban issues when there are no solid strategies and more suggestive information?

I took a moment to reflect on the plan and compare it to Amsterdam's Structural Vision: Amsterdam 2040. I'm a fan of the Dutch—they validate everything urban and surely

were born to do so. Adopting the Dutch mentality could defend the agglomeration's plan and suggest that vague generalities are a good thing.

Here in Montreal, the agglomeration's biggest concerns are transit corridors, road networks, heritage sites, ecoterritories, blue networks, residential uses and employment/economic centres.

In Amsterdam's regional plan, they include public spaces, green networks and public transit. Both are concerned with building inwards in order to increase forms of density and maximize existing built-up space.

The gist of the plans focus on envisioning land-use patterns that maintain and enhance what exists already. What's awesome about both plans is that they are more attentive to land-use tendencies and how people use and

understand them than they are to policy and regulation guidelines. The equation of each plan is more user-friendly and less boxed in by regulative logic.

So maybe Amsterdam does a better job at deconstructing land-use patterns into more detailed information than Montreal (their maps are generally more full and insightful on their own).

However, I can understand how Montreal's land-use and development plan is headed towards a future where Montrealers might read the city differently, foreseeing an urban core where density is the goal and green and blue networks are priority.

Ashley Zver-Volel is pursuing a B.A. in urban planning at Concordia.

graphic Brandon Johnston



members are invited to a

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to vote on the

Ratification of the new Collective Agreement

Concordia Part-Time Faculty Association: www.cupfa.org



Come Prepared

by Melissa Fuller @mel_full

Many of the sexual health questions I respond to involve helping people navigate emergency situations. It's easy for people to panic if something goes wrong and they don't know what their options are.

A condom breaking during sex, a forgotten birth control dose or an unwanted pregnancy can be stressful situations and having to find information or make a decision when you're already in them can be overwhelming.

This week I wanted to share a practical tool that I always recommend to help navigate these kinds of situations: sexual health strategies.

Many of us already have vague ideas of what we would do if something went wrong, but a sexual health strategy is a specific step-by-step action plan for these situations. It should be personal, well thought out, revised and even practiced so that it's of actual use to you. Kind of like a fire drill.

I started using sexual health strategies when I first became sexually active because while I was really fascinated by sex, I was also

terrified of the risks.

I would learn everything I could about a specific STI and then become really paranoid that I had it. While being informed is awesome, the paranoia wasn't compatible with fully embracing and exploring my sexuality. This led me to start carefully thinking out the worst-case scenarios of my fears in order to create strategies to help me deal with them and reduce my anxiety.

I've found this to be really helpful in my personal life, but also in helping others manage undesirable situations with more ease.

A sexual strategy means identifying your options and having answers to your questions before you need them. It's going through the motions without the stress and time constraints of being in the actual situation.

For example, let's say a condom breaks during vaginal penetration. What options do you have when a condom breaks? Maybe you'll want to get emergency contraception (EC, "the morning-after pill"), in which case you'll need to figure out where and how you would get it. Maybe

you'll want to get tested for STIs, in which case you'll need to figure out where you would go, how long it would take to make an appointment and how long you'd need to wait for your results.

From here, find out what you need to know to build your strategy. For example, if you wanted to get emergency contraception, you might talk to your doctor or pharmacist about how it works, how and where you would get it, the timeframe during which you can take it, what questions you will be asked during a consultation, whether it can be covered by insurance, and any other questions you might have.

Now you have the information with which to create your final strategy for emergency contraception. It might look something like this:

- (1) Go to the pharmacy within 120 hours of the encounter—the earlier, the better.
- (2) Ask to speak to the pharmacist.
- (3) Answer questions on the method of protection you use, the date of your last period, reactions to other medications, history with emergency contraception, etc.

(4) Obtain and take emergency contraception.

(5) Stay aware of the expected date of your next period in case you want to take a pregnancy test.

This is just one example of a sexual health strategy; yours for the same situation might be a little different. The key is to really make them your own and with enough detail so that they're relevant and easy to follow.

Sexual strategies can be applied to any aspect of sex that could require preparation, such as an unwanted pregnancy, a STI diagnosis, communicating boundaries with a partner, discussing consent, or anything else you can think of.

Sexual strategies make you think about these situations ahead of time, so you can act confidently in the moment instead of panicking or feeling unsure.

Share your sexual health strategies on the "Sex & Pancakes" Facebook page and submit your sex and relationship questions anonymously at sex-pancakes.com.

Nah'msayin?

Plea to the MyConcordia Numina

O, thou great and mighty bureaucrats responsible for these things in the mysterious offices that I have yet to locate or invade.

Please make it possible for us to take advantage of the few good things you have benevolently made possible for us to obtain.

Perhaps you could make the school website less complex and more navigable without the use of Google. Or maybe make applying for financial aid less time consuming. Or make it possible to register for courses without having to get multiple approvals from disinterested, haggard administrators who couldn't care less.

And please, just make the overall business of applying for a specific program less complex for those of us who might have some energy left to study and not have our grades suffer because

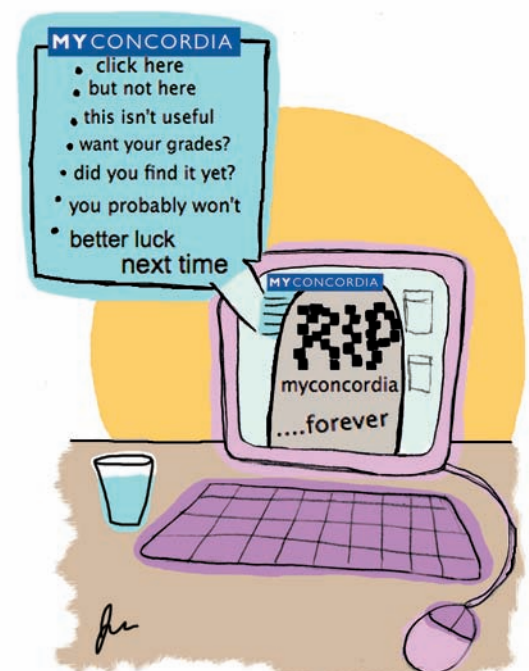
they were trying to GET INTO A SCHOOL THEY WERE ALREADY REGISTERED FOR.

But if you won't do any of that, because it would make some of you redundant, then I beg of you, O great-and-mysterious-pullers-of-strings-and-makers-of-complex-procedures-which-require-us-to-scale-entire-bureaucracies:

I urge you to make sure that we, the students you are supposed to serve, are informed of and can take advantage of the few good things that you have made it possible for us to get amid the advent of austerity.

-Mottel Zirkind @mottelz

graphic Jenniffer Aedy



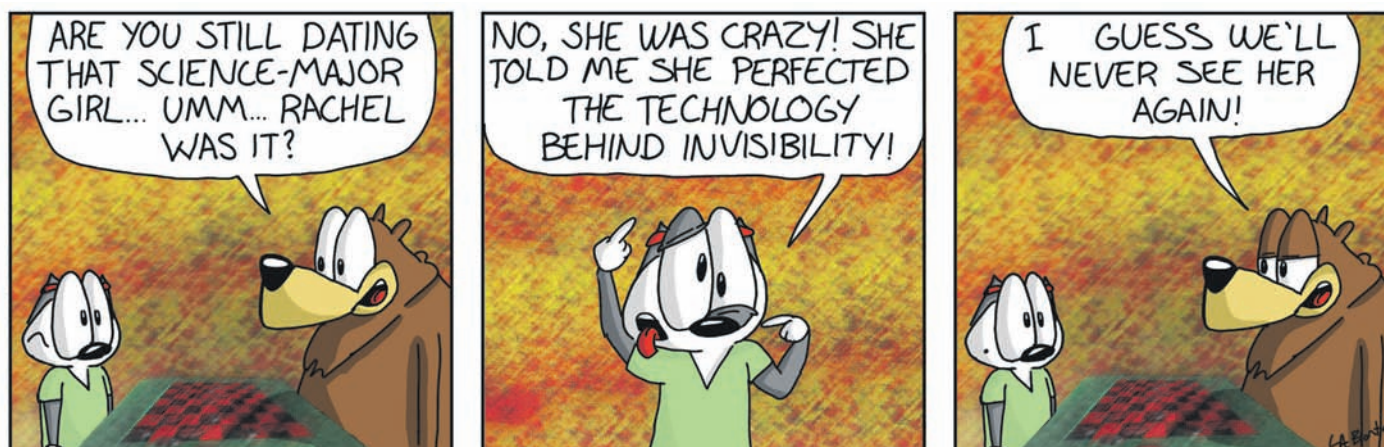
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Editorial

Let's Come Together to Stop the Energy East Pipeline

If approved, the proposed Energy East pipeline will be the longest pipeline ever built in North America, spanning almost as far as the Trans-Canada highway. The pipeline will carry more than a million barrels of crude oil a day, running from Alberta's oil sands to oil refineries in New Brunswick and eventually shipping to other nations.

The potential for environmental damage is serious and efforts to promote the pipeline's production is proof of our current federal government's disregard for the well-being of the environment. Rather than focusing on clean energy innovation, such as solar and wind power, our government is focused only on crude oil extraction from the west. Canada is beginning to display the grotesque characteristics of a rentier state—economically reliant on money generated from natural resources, placing little emphasis upon the importance of innovation in other economic sectors.

The planned path of the pipeline runs

through or near major towns and cities in six provinces, as well as through numerous autonomous First Nations territories—many of which are opposed to the project in its entirety. Only 60 out of 155 First Nations have signed a letter of agreement with Energy East, yet TransCanada ploughs ahead with their plans.

Many waterways are also at risk if the planned route of the pipeline is completed and the energy required to separate the oil from the tar sands creates far greater carbon emissions than more conventional oil extraction methods.

The risks of the pipeline are real. In the last year, five major spills occurred. TransCanada claims that the pipeline is the safest means of exporting oil, but that's hard to believe considering that the majority of the pipeline is already over 40 years old, built to different standards than it would be today. Canada is vast; there's a good chance that accidents that occur in the pipeline's more remote loca-

tions may not be noticed for a long time after the event. Once oil has been spilled, the land cannot be restored to its original condition. The environmental damage is irrevocable.

And yet, opposition to the pipeline has been scattered. That may be due to the pipeline's trajectory: it runs primarily through Canada's rural landscape, where activism is less coordinated and tangibly present than in, say, Montreal. Those opposed have trouble finding support as TransCanada's ad campaign has largely targeted the working class and, in many cases, is winning it over. As Elizabeth May told *The Link* this week, "it's a false notion that the pipelines are for jobs."

There needs to be more support for the indigenous communities standing up against the Energy East pipeline. The regional county municipality of Vaudreuil-Soulanges has taken that stance, which is a good step forward. But there needs to be a movement. Businesses, local governments, students and

citizens alike need to voice their concerns as loudly as possible for opposition to have any modifying effect.

In opposition to the pipeline, four student unions including the Concordia Student Union have formed *Étudiants et étudiantes contre les oléoducs*, a group committed to preventing the pipeline from being completed in Quebec, with the eventual aim to stop the tar sands projects in their entirety. The coalition serves as an example of youth in Canada coming together to address the defining issue of our generation. Without vocal coalitions such as ÉCO, it's inevitable that the Energy East pipeline will get built. It's vital that groups come together in solidarity and oppose it.

We can no longer afford to sit idly by and watch our environment be destroyed merely for the profits of the few.

graphic Madeleine Gendreau

THE LINK³⁵

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