TOUTH a sm

Saint Mary's University's Independent Student Newspaper

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Huskies top X-Men for AUS championship banner and berth at CIS Final 8

The No. 2-seeded Saint Mary's Huskies are the 2014 Subway AUS men's basketball champions having defeated the fourth-seeded StFX X-Men 81-72 in Sunday's final in front of 3,668 fans at the Halifax Metro Centre.

First-year StFX forward Cameron Walker scored 12 of the X-Men's 15 first quarter points with hard-nosed play in the paint, making six of his seven field goal attempts.

Saint Mary's was getting production from all over in the first quarter. Championship MVP Harry Ezenibe continued his strong play on the glass for the Huskies, battling down low with StFX's big men, earning crucial extra possessions which ended up being the difference down the stretch.

Walker kept the X-Men in the game early on, providing a much-needed post presence with 14 points at the break on 7-of-9 shooting. The rest of the team struggled from the floor shooting a combined 5-of-26 for a 19.2 field goal percentage

All 10 Huskies that played in the first half put up points, paced by Theon Reefer with six and Marquis Clayton and Boyd Vassell with five each, to help Saint Mary's to a four-point lead at the break.

StFX continued their trend of strong starts to the second half with a scoring run that gave them the lead midway through the third quarter but Saint Mary's rallied back with a run of their own which started and ended with three pointers from Jeremy McAvoy.

Saint Mary's held onto their fourpoint lead heading into the fourth quarter, 56-52.

Both teams went blow-for-blow in the fourth quarter with Saint Mary's trying to push their lead and StFX trying to pull off yet another come-frontbehind victory.

Jordan Clarke, Kevin Bercy and Will Donkoh took it hard to the paint in the final minutes, forcing their way to the free throw line, trying to keep StFX's title

Saint Mary's put it away in the last

two minutes with big defensive stops leading to fast break opportunities for Marquis Clayton and a Theon Reefer slam dunk, giving the Huskies a 12-point advantage with just 1:44 remaining.

Saint Mary's Theon Reefer was named the Subway Player of the Game while Harry Ezenibe took home championship MVP honours. Both players were named to the championship all-star team along with StFX's Donkoh and Bercy and AUS MVP Owen Klassen from Acadia.

Reefer and Ezenibe led the Huskies in the win with 14 points apiece while Ezenibe also collected 10 rebounds and one block in 33 minutes of action.

Walker had a game-high 16 points for the X-Men in the loss. Donkoh contributed 15 points, 11 rebounds, six assists, a steal and a block in 39 minutes.

Saint Mary's now moves on to represent the Atlantic conference at the CIS Final 8 men's basketball championship being hosted by Carleton University March 7-9 in Ottawa, Ont.

Saint Mary's University mourns Loretta Saunders

SARA LANGILLE News Editor

By now almost all SMUdents have heard the story of one of our own, Loretta Saunders. A 26-yearold woman in the prime of her life, starting a family with her long-time boyfriend and completing her honours in Sociology and Criminology at Saint Mary's University. Saunders, being an Aboriginal herself, showed an aptitude for studying the plight of Aboriginal women. Recently she had been working on her honours thesis about missing Aboriginal women and the circumstances surrounding their disappearances. On February 13th 2014, Saunders became one of those missing women and Halifax came together to get the word out as fast as possible.

Saint Mary's University students and faculty united to help spread the word on both social media and within the HRM. Her face was on posters throughout campus and across the city, on all major news broadcasts, locally and even nationally. Saunders's story saw her draw a following committed to searching for her, some of whom had never had the opportunity to know her. Her story touched so many that everyone wanted to bring her home safe and sound. Many had hoped someone would have seen her blue

2000 Celica with Newfoundland plates, both uncommon in this province.

Delilah Terriak, Saunders's sister, made a public plea for anybody with information to please come forward. "I want to see if anybody has seen her or her car. Somebody has had to seen it, it's a very distinguished car and it is loud. Somebody has to have seen her or somebody else driving this car," she said. Terriak was reluctant to answer questions, but somebody asked her to describe her sister and she responded. "[Loretta] is the strongest person I know and that's what's keeping me going through all of this. Because I know she wouldn't want us wasting time crying. She is definitely the strongest, most beautiful soul."

Many tips flooded in to HRM police but none led to Saunders. Then a tip came in from a place nobody would have suspected; three provinces over in Harrow, Ontario. Police in Ontario had found the car but she was not with it. The people who had Saunders's car also had a lot of her personal belongings, including credit and debit cards. The devastating news quickly spread that Saunders was not with her car.

Blake Leggette and Victoria Henneberry were the two people discovered with Saunders's car and belongings. Later the public was

Continued on Page 4



Election Special: Meet the Candidates





Memorial service scheduled

Saint Mary's University sends its deepest condolences to the family of Loretta Saunders on their tragic loss. No words can express the depth of sorrow felt in the loss of Loretta from our community. She will be greatly missed.

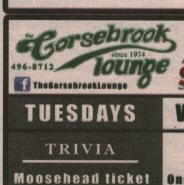
We will continue to support Loretta's family through this very difficult time. A memorial service will be held from 11am to 12pm on Friday, March 7 in the Lovola Conference Hall.



Saint Mary's University Students' Association

www.smusa.ca





THURSDAYS

OPEN MIC

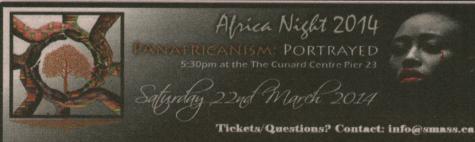
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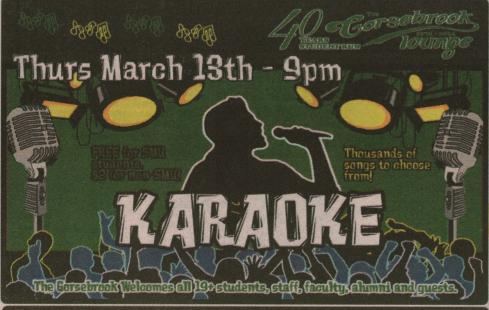
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Writing and artwork submissions: Wednesday 5pm (One week prior to publication)

SMUSA ELECTIONS

Campaigning for the 2014 SMUSA elections is in full swing. I'm sure you have noticed the candidates' posters splashed all over campus and their presence on social media. You may have even already been approached by a student running in this year's election looking for your support.

This year we have 9 candidates running for 4 available seats on the Board of Directors and 4 candidates running for President. We strongly encourage you to communicate with candidates about your needs as a SMUdent and please do not hesitate to ask questions to help you make an informed decision on March 10th and 11th. The Board of Directors Forum and the Presidential Debate are events that allow you to find out what each candidate represents and pose questions about matters that mean the most to you. The Board of Directors Forum will take place on Tuesday, March 4th in the McNally Main Auditorium and the Presidential Debate will be on Wednesday, March 5th in the Scotia Bank Theatre (Sobey Building) - both events will begin at 6pm. Voting will be open on Monday,

March 10th and Tuesday, March 11th from 9am-6pm. During that time, students will be able to vote at polling stations in the Atrium, Student Centre and Loyola Academic (by Tim Horton's and connector to McNally) or online at https://activate.smu.ca/smusavote. All students currently registered at SMU are eligible to vote.

Election results will be announced in the Gorsebrook on Tuesday, March 11th at 6:30pm and will be posted online shortly afterwards. We invite you to show your support for the candidates and congratulate the newly elected members by joining us for this announcement.

The elections provide an opportunity to enact the change we'd each like to see in our school. That is why, right here, I'm calling on everyone reading this article to help make this election as noteworthy as it can be. Come out to our events, be social, cast your vote — but more importantly, have your voice heard.

EMILY GORMAN
Interim Chief Returning Officer

Graduate
Studies
Research

One University, One World, Yours

Research EXPO 1-4 pm, March 21 Loyola Conference Hall

Dr. Vessey, Associate Vice President Research, extends to students, staff, faculty and the general public a warm invitation to this year's Research EXPO, an exceptional event to highlight and promote the innovative research of faculty and students at Saint Mary's.

Come and experience what Saint Mary's has to offer with 40+ displays to visit with topics ranging from green chemistry and nanotechnology, to how we can discipline without punishment, combining economic & environmental sustainability, and the impact of human activities on air quality and climate.

In addition, the Industry Liaison Office will be hosting a Partnership Connections meeting area, designed to provide you with a unique opportunity to meet and share ideas with our researchers. Participant profiles and the agenda for Speakers' Corner can be found in the Program Booklet at: http://www.smu.ca/ilo under Research EXPO. Register at http://smuexpo2014.eventbrite.ca/ or just drop by; no ticket is required.

For further information or to schedule a meeting with one or our researchers, please contact Gina Funicelli, ILO Director, at (902) 491-6297 or e-mail gina.funicelli@smu.ca. We look forward to seeing you there!

Interested in the issues facing students at Saint Mary's University? Work for The Journal and have your say!

The SMU Journal is looking for motivated and capable Saint Mary's students to run the newspaper during the 2014/15 academic year.

Applicants should have excellent writing skills are required to have a basic understanding of Microsoft Office. Additionally, the ability to use Photoshop will be considered an asset. Editors are expected to contribute to each edition of The Journal as well as organize and edit the material submitted by approved sources. A new issue of The Journal is printed every two weeks, and editors are paid \$100 for each edition.

Resumés should be submitted to the SMUSA front desk in the Student Centre.



Comment and an advantage of the first of the

SMU mourns...

Continued from Page 1

notified that these were in fact Saunders's roommates. Connections about February 13th began to come together. The last time anybody talked to Saunders she had been on her way to her apartment on Cowie Hill Drive to collect overdue rent from her roommates. Saunders had been missing for almost six days before her car was found – but without any further clues about Saunders's disappearance. At that point, Leggette and Henneberry were only charged with possession of stolen items.

In an interview with CBC, Saunders's boyfriend Yalcin Surkultay said he was very suspicious about a text message he received on Valentine's Day, the day after she went missing. It said she'd been trying to access her online banking, reading "I'm so stressed that I can't even remember my

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mother's maiden name." Surkultay found the message out of character and this was one of the first things he mentioned to police. Surkultay said he had always had a bad feeling about the two roommates which Saunders had found on Kijiji.

During the time Saunders was missing, her family from Newfoundland and Labrador came out to help in the search for the three-month-pregnant woman. This was thanks to the help of Saunders's sister and classmates who came together to

fundraise money, as well as financial contributions made by the university. There was a vigil held for Saunders 12 days after she went missing, which took place at Halifax Grand Parade and many were hopeful for her return.

Then, on February 26 at approximately 4:30pm, police found a body was in the median of Route 2 on the Trans-Canada Highway just west of Moncton, New Brunswick. It was soon confirmed that these were Saunders's remains.

Saint Mary's University fell into a quiet mourning. Many were very upset by the news. Not only was it the worst-case-scenario, but now there were many sad questions to be answered. Halifax seemed very still that evening and into the next day. Everything was very silent and even people who did not know Loretta felt they had lost someone very special.

To many, Loretta Saunders really was a special person; she was a daughter, a sister, a girlfriend and a soon-to-be mother. Many in the school have described her as wise, passionate and an overall very happy woman. Many showed they cared about Loretta and even her professors tried their best to help find her. Professor of Sociology, Gene Barrett, sent out a mass e-mail to all of his students that contained the information about

Saunders looking to find answers.

One professor who was very close to Saunders was her thesis supervisor Darryl Leroux. Before she went missing, Leroux was the professor advising her on project focusing missing aboriginal women. He told CBC about the first time he ever met her. "I was guest lecturing for another professor and showing some of my own work. Loretta was a student sitting in the front, well actually the only student sitting in the front row. She was asking very challenging questions. She moved me and always worked the hardest on challenging subjects." After he had heard of her disappearance he put every effort that he could into finding her. "About a month after that Loretta came to me and asked me if I would work with her [on her thesis] and I was very pleased because she was very driven and had that passion, you

know she had that burning fire."

Leggette and Henneberry were finally charged with first-degree murder less than 24 hours after Loretta had been found. It has been confirmed that Saunders was killed in her Cowie Hill Drive apartment and her body was later left in New Brunswick. There are no reports on how she was killed, but at press time an autopsy was scheduled in New Brunswick. The pair will appear in court on March 19. Although finding out what happened

and seeking justice for Saunders will not bring her back, it does bring some closure to family and friends.

This death is a huge loss to not only Saint Mary's, but to Halifax as a whole. It will be especially hard when her classmates graduate without her in May of this year. On February 28, Loretta's family went public to CBC for the first time since her body was found. "Loretta made a grand point. She hasn't died in vain," said her sister, Delilah. "She captured the hearts of the country," added cousin Lisa White. Saunders's aunt Barb Coffey also made the point that "not very often are aboriginal people returned and she's being returned home. She's going home."

On Monday February 24, Saint Mary's University, with help from the Aboriginal Student Advisor and the SMU Aboriginal society, flew the Mi'kmaq Grand Council flag on campus at half-mast in Loretta's memory.

Loretta will be remembered as the vibrant and intelligent woman that she was. Her passion for studying missing and murdered Aboriginal women has not gone unnoticed. For this reason, along with too many others to list, she will never be forgotten.

The Counselling Centre is open to all Saint Mary's University students and is located in the 4th floor Student



Bryan McLaughlin, winner of the 2014 Frank H. Sobey Award for Excellence in Business Studies

Hard work and market smarts net Sobey student prestigious Frank H. Sobey Business Award

Ask Bryan McLaughlin how he came to be one of six business students studying at Atlantic Canadian universities to receive a prestigious Frank H. Sobey Award for Excellence in Business Studies, and the 4th year Sobey School of Business student is certain to mention hard work.

"I come from a family of hard workers," he says. "Once I heard about this award, I knew that I wanted it, so I put my head down and pushed hard."

For the 23-year old Finance major from Ottawa, pushing hard means maintaining a cumulative GPA of 4.24, providing leadership as a member of the Commerce Society, competing in six case competitions, and participating as a researcher with the IMPACT fund---the Sobey School's student-run investment fund.

McLaughlin's extracurricular activities also include keeping a sharp watch on the market.

"Not the stock market," he laughs, "the Halifax Seaport Farmers' Market."

As the Director of Organizational
Development for Saint Mary's
ENACTUS team, McLaughlin helped a
local, small business increase sales and
move from a cramped corner in the

back of the Halifax Seaport Farmers' Market to one of the large storefront spaces.

"Bryan has been an invaluable consultant for us," says Seth Graham, Fruition co-founder. "We had a passion for nutritious food and community building, but lacked some of the business knowledge needed to take our company to the next level. Bryan helped make this possible."

Sobey School of Business
Dean, Pat Bradshaw, commends
McLaughlin for his keen sense of
social responsibility and exemplary
work ethic. "At the Sobey School of
Business, we believe in being involved
and giving back," says Dr. Bradshaw.
"Through active participation in
campus life, and a willingness to take
his learning to the community, Bryan
exemplifies the Sobey School spirit."

"I am so grateful to Dean Bradshaw and the faculty members in the Sobey School of Business for nominating me for this award," says McLaughlin. "It's amazing to receive a \$15,000 award, but it means even more to me because of the connection to the Sobey family. Their support for Atlantic Canada, the business community, and education, is unequalled."

Saint Mary's University would like to congratulate the five other recipients of the 2014 Frank H. Sobey Awards for Excellence in Business Studies:

Ryan Cassidy, University of Prince Edward Island

Stéphanie Doiron, Université de Moncton

Keith MacDonald, Mount Allison University

Andrew Quinlan, Dalhousie University

Jake Wildman-Sisk, University of New Brunswick.

"These winners are exceptional young leaders and outstanding academic achievers. They exemplify compassion for their communities and demonstrate a healthy balance with everything else in their lives, all while excelling in the study of Business," says Paul D. Sobey, Chair of the Board of Directors for the Frank H. Sobey Awards for Excellence in Business Studies. "They are all leaders of the next generation and we are proud to celebrate their achievements through Frank H. Sobey's vision for fostering young business potential from Atlantic Canada"

Former ambassador asks if Canada is prepared for an ascendant Asia

David Mulroney, Canada's former Ambassador to the People's Republic of China and Distinguished Fellow at the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada, will address the challenging question, "Are We Ready for the Ascent of Asia?".

Mulroney, who was the Co-Chair of the Foundation's Task Force on Asia Competence, will present the issue to the Saint Mary's community March 6, 2014 at the Unilever Lounge, Sobey

Building.

The Task Force released its final report, "Canada's Asia Challenge: Creating Competence for the Next Generation of Canadians" in November 2013.

The report argues that as Asia continues to rise in global prominence, Canadians will require greater Asia experience, Asia expertise and Asia education. It provides recommendations

for how Canadian government, education and private sector can work to improve the 'Asia competence' of Canada's citizens and assesses what is being done to grow Asia competence in Canada, where it is falling short, and how it can improve its Asia competence initiatives.

If you are interested in attending the event, please RSVP to avpexaff@smu.ca or 420-5516.

Student athlete Andrew Russell awarded **Future Fund Scholarship**

SARA LANGILLE **News Editor**

Saint Mary's University student Andrew Russell is once again in the spotlight and Saint Mary's could not be happier to have such an accomplished student. Andrew is an Olympic paddler for team Canada and has won Nova Scotia Male Athlete of the year three times - but that is not the reason for him to celebrate lately. Andrew is celebrating because he has received the prestigious Future Fund Scholarship for Outstanding Leadership.

This award is presented to ten students across Canada who study business in university. Although Russell is currently taking an MBA at Saint Mary's, it was his involvement in extracurricular activities and is a leader at Saint Mary's which earned him the award.

Andrew received his award at The Ritz-Carlton in Toronto, dressed in a suit and bowtie for the occasion. His message is that hard work pays off and he is very thankful for this award. He thanked the MBA Society for helping him achieve his goals, stating that "the amazing team at Sobey MBA Society have made it possible for me to grow as a leader."

Russell does not have much free

time on his hands. Not only is he a full time student at the Sobey School of Business, he also volunteers for many groups within the HRM on top of his full time position as Director of Business Development with Halifax's Zed Group. The Zed Group, or ZedEvents, is a company that specializes in managing events such as concerts, fundraisers, galas and any type of event that involves major planning.

Andrew will use the scholarship money to further his education in the MBA program at Saint Mary's University and I am sure we will hear more about him in the upcoming years.



Andrew Russell, right, receives the Futures Fund Scholarship for Outstanding Leadership.

Coffee drinkers partake in growing "pay it forward" trend

DAVID MAHER

The Muse (Memorial University of Newfoundland)

ST. JOHN'S (CUP) — Coffee may be bitter, but some students have turned it into something very sweet.

A recent trend has emerged in various Aramark Cafés, Tim Hortons and other coffee selling establishments whereby patrons, including students,

are choosing to "pay it forward" to brighten up the days of coffee-drinking strangers. People buy themselves a coffee, but also buy a second one to put on 'reserve' for someone behind them, who then gets to enjoy a free coffee. While the trend is very new, it seems to be picking up steam as time goes by. Current events sketch comedy show This Hour Has 22 Minutes did a skit about the subject.

"It doesn't happen as often as it could," said Stella Coish, an employee of the Education Building café at Memorial University of Newfoundland. "But it's nice to see warm hearted students looking out for each other."

Wanda Froude, who works at Treats in St. John's, Newfoundland, commented that it is less frequent at the university establishment, but she has noticed the trend happening more so of late.

"It tends to happen more around Christmas and Kindness Day, but you see it every now and then at other

times," said Froude.

The establishments said they welcome students who have a few dollars to spare to buy an extra coffee and brighten up someone's day.

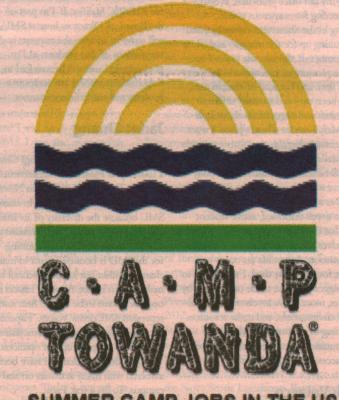
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SUMMER CAMP JOBS IN THE US

CAMP TOWANDA, a coed residential summer camp in Pennsylvania has openings for counselors, coaches and instructors 6/21-8/16. Applicants 19+ earn excellent salary, room, board, travel allowance and J-1 visa reimbursement. Interviewing on SMU campus at Summer Job Fair February 4th. Visit www.camptowanda.com. Take the Virtual Tour: Check the Media Room:

www.camptowanda.com/mediaroom Apply online at:

www.camptowanda.com/staff/apply

now.php or by email: staff@camptowanda.com.



Mitchel duTrizac

My name is Mitchell duTrizac. I have been involved in a lot of things during my last three years here at SMU, volunteering for numerous events, assisting in the Shinerama campaign, and even suiting up for the maroon and white as a member of the lacrosse team. I have had the pleasure of meeting a lot of you in that time and because of that, in turn, I have been exposed to many different viewpoints and suggestions about how Saint Mary's can be a better place. I want to continue being able to collaborate with other students and help make decisions that will benefit the entire student body and have a positive impact on Saint Mary's as a whole! I think it is important to have a well-informed, active student body that has all the opportunities to put themselves ahead of the rest not just in the classroom, but in life (as corny as it may be for me to say that). I would like to see a bigger presence made on campus by societies, more active involvement in the school environment, and make resources pertaining to post-undergraduate opportunities in your respected degree more accessible and publicized.

Erick Velasco

My name is Erick Velasco and I'm a third year SMUdent. I'm very looking forward to representing the voices of our students as a member of the Board of Directors. I'm an optimistic peopleoriented person who is open-minded to different viewpoints and incredibly motivated to make positive changes in our University. I'm originally from Coatzacoalcos, Veracruz in Mexico. At sixteen years old, I decided to live the Canadian experience as an International student. I immediately loved this country so I also decided to complete my undergraduate education here at Saint Mary's University, taking a Bachelor of Commerce majoring in human resources

Being involved with my father's business, SETEIN LLC, has helped me grow as a professional because I know firsthand what it's like to work under pressure and have tasks completed by

certain deadlines. I've worked in many fields in the family business, such as an assistant accountant and translator at business conferences held in the USA and Mexico. I also made marketing calls for AIESEC Halifax. If I'm part of the Board of Directors here at SMU, I will strive to address the requests and suggestions of our students as I'm goal-oriented and will be satisfied to help students resolve any issues in a professional and efficient manner.

Janet Chiang

My name is Janet (Hsi Ting) Chianga fourth year Finance/Entrepreneurship student. This is my fifth year in Nova Scotia and I love it! I decided to attend SMU because the diversity of its students and the uniqueness of its community.

.....

The major reason I am running for the BoD is because I want to make changes within our amazing school to make it even better. Another reason is because I want to be able to hear and represent SMUdents' voices. Especially for international students, sometimes it is hard for us to speak up our opinions.

Outside of academic, I have been involved with many activities on and off campus. To list a few. I am...

A member of the SMU Dance Team. We represented Canada at Dance Worlds in Disney World, Florida last year.

A member of Enactus. We run projects to make our community a better place.

The Vice President of SMU
Photography Society. We do workshops
for people who love photography.

The host of the Chinese Spring Festival Gala in 2013 and 2014.

I believe I will be an excellent asset to the BoD team. If you ever have any ideas or questions, I am more than happy to hear what you have to say. Let's make SMU a better place!

Shawn Nicholson

My name is Shawn Nicholson, I'm a second year commerce student and I'm running in the upcoming election to become a member of your SMUSA Board of Directors. The reason I'm running is simple: I believe that I am a highly qualified candidate, who if elected will ensure that your concerns are appropriately addressed.

I am a focused, devoted and determined individual. I actively volunteer in the Halifax community, and presently serve on the volunteer board of directors of Junior Achievement of Nova Scotia, and the Northern Lights Lantern Festival Society, a non-profit in North End Halifax that organizes a free summer festival, attracting 5000+ people annually.

At SMU, I am a dedicated member of Enactus Saint Mary's, where I am a Project Manager for Ryan's Project, where I coordinate a green team at a local elementary school.

I am ready to serve your interests, and hope I'll be your #1 vote. During the campaign, I look forward to hearing your concerns and learning about the issues that matter to you. Learn more about me and how I plan to serve your interests, at: http://www. VoteShawnNicholson.com

On March 10-11, Vote Shawn Nicholson for SMUSA Board of Directors

Vishwa Bhayani

I am Vishwa Bhayani, a second year Finance major. I am just your everyday girl who loves to eat, dance, have fun with friends and live life to the fullest, with ambitions that drive me and keep me going every day. I was born in India and spent my childhood there and my teen years in Oman, but I can confidently say Canada feels like home now. I came to SMU to start a good career with a solid educational foundation. SMU is giving me that, and much more. SMU gave me the opportunities I needed to start following my dreams - in fact, it is slowly giving my dreams a direction. I have been able to volunteer, work and study all at the same time while still having fun with all the amazing friends I made here. As an international student, I couldn't have chosen a better university. And this is what inspired me to run for the Board this year. I would love to work towards bringing positive change

on campus and do everything within my power to make sure that SMU continues to grow and be that awe-inspiring place that all SMUdents proudly call their own.

Ali Algermozi

My name is Ali Nabil, people may know me as Bruno!

I am a 3rd year business student majoring in Entrepreneurship, Marketing, and Human Resource Management and Industrial Relations. I love student life, and what the university has to offer for students

Becoming involved is what I do best. Being part of Enactus, Commerce society, and the Business Development Center gave me the skills and confidence to reach for the stars and follow my dreams in life. It is my pleasure to be representing Saint Mary's University Enactus team in what we (the students) have done to help develop our community. I am a social easy going individual who loves meeting new people and creating relationships that will last for as long as fait allows it to be!

I don't want to stand here and tell you that I am going to do this and that. But I promise you that I will do everything I can to fairly benefit each and every student in the university. If you would like to know more about me, stop me whenever you see me and let's chat! Or contact me through my cell (902) 8777555 or email alialgermozi@gmail.

Kidist Kebede

My name is Kidist Kebede. I am an international student in my 3rd year of study in the Sobeys school of business and I am running to become a member of the SMUSA Board of directors.

If elected I would like to look at establishing policy to achieve the following goals -

- Awareness: Create awareness amongst the whole student body to assure everyone is well informed, therefore everyone gets an equal chance to discover and explore their interests with knowledge of all the on campus opportunities available to them.

- Transparency: Ensure all students know what voting for a President or the Board of Directors means; what responsibilities and role they are entitling their fellow student as to guarantee progress is made and goals are met. Assure students know how their payments are allocated, financial reports to be posted online as well as all new policy decisions or changes stated by the BOD to be summarized and posted.

If elected, I would be well informed and resourceful to put in motion new policy and changes by listening to you SMUdents. I hope to share my belief that situations may not always be ideal but the only dream you give up is the one you don't even attempt to achieve. I will use an educated voice and be a guide to make sure all SMUdents have a coequal opportunity.

Samantha Bland

My name is Samantha Bland and I am originally from Ottawa, Ontario. I am in my third year at Saint Mary's studying a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and French. I am running for Board of Directors because I want to be as involved as possible what happens to us as students. I currently hold a few positions on our SMU campus. I recently joined AIESEC Halifax that is new to SMU because I have a strong love for travelling, I work as a Student Ambassador in our Admissions and Recruitment department giving tours and talking to prospective students, and I am currently the Spirit Coordinator for SMUSA where I assist with events and planning revolving around athletics. I feel with my different areas of experience I will be able to have this position and make the most out of it.

William MacDonald

Hello my name is William
MacDonald I am a first year student at
Saint Mary's. I am currently undeclared
but next year am declaring in physics, I
think I would be a good choice for the
board of directors because I have good
ideas that I think will improve SMUSA.

Morgan Matthews

My name is Morgan Matthews. I am a third year psychology student, doing a minor in criminology. I have spent a lot of time in the last few years volunteering and trying to help people in any way I can. I want to spend my life being happy and healthy and instilling those thoughts in others. Aside from volunteering, I have worked too many jobs to count on both hands, but I have learned so many different skills and met so many people throughout the different positions that I have held. All of the jobs I have worked have been customer/people-oriented jobs. I have done ice cream scooping, to sales, to working in-home care. A big part of the reason why I have jumped around to so many different jobs is because I have yet to find one that I feel suits my goals and me

To be completely honest, the idea of running for president was something I did on a whim; a friend suggested it to me. I hadn't thought of running, but when it was suggested to me, I spent the weekend thinking about it, and after some deliberation I decided to run. Even after my application was submitted, I contemplated running until I sat down and thought about my life in the past and present and where I want to see myself in a year's time. I want to be finishing up my first year as student president and getting ready to run for another year. I want to make changes for the school that I have learned to love, despite my complete and utter fear of walking through the science building doors on the first day, 3 years ago. I used to be an exceedingly shy person, and starting university was fearfully paralyzing for me.

In first year, I got involved in the Movember committee and from there, became more and more involved in SMUSA. I started running trivia on campus and got involved in volunteering and other committees. Since then I have been a huge advocate for events and committees and opportunities on campus. I am not in this for power, or politics, or a resume builder. I am running for SMUSA student president because I bleed maroon and white and I don't want to make promises, I want to make changes.

.....

Keith Parker

For those of you who don't know me, my name is Keith Parker. I am currently a fourth year Commerce student majoring in Marketing, working towards a May, 2015 graduation. It would be my pleasure to represent you as the new student president in the upcoming academic year. As your president I will be taking office in May and actively working throughout the summer to ensure that the upcoming school year is as exciting and rewarding as I can make it for both new and returning students.

Keith Parker

As SMUSA President one of my responsibilities will be to accurately represent the student body and speak on their behalf about all issues related to their university experience. To ensure this is achieved, I will actively seek out the opinions of our students. By implementing an open door environment and personally speaking to a wide range of students. I will ensure all students feel comfortable expressing their thoughts and concerns. My other main goal is to help students have the best possible experience they can at SMU. I will achieve this by putting together the best possible executive team who strive for the same goals and take as much pride in this university as I do.

So why vote for me? Over my three years at SMU, I have been involved with the residence department, the athletics department and also SMUSA. Communication between these three departments is a major part of being a successful president and if elected I believe my pre-existing networks will be a valuable asset to SMUSA. I am a very effective listener, allowing for me to understand and properly articulate any concerns or opinions that you may have, ensuring that your message is heard and understood.

Going forward, I want to focus on Husky Pride. I have been very involved throughout my years here at Saint Mary's and that level of involvement is a big part of why I am running for this position. I plan to provide students with exciting and easy opportunities to become more involved with the University, so that same level of pride can be passed on to a new

generation of students. Together with my executive team, our fresh approach toward on-campus events and overall aim to improve student life we will make SMU the place to be, not just the place you go to class. SMUSA should continue do what it was created to do, represent the students' best interests. By furthering the networks with students and the various departments around SMU my executive team and I will work hard to get'er done!

Amali Armony

Thanks for reading! Remember on March 10th and 11th, vote Parker!

Amali Armony

I have always been a lover of people. Born 28th April 1989 in Montreal, Canada, I moved to St. Kitts & Nevis in the Caribbean (my mother's native land) at a very young age. I went through the school system as an active student, always participating in social groups and projects. Being a leader was always a strength of mine. As the spokesperson for my high school's Young Leaders (YL) group, which is a Caribbean wide youth programme, my team and I led the team to receive the first place trophy in not only the local YL competition, but number one in the Eastern Caribbean. Our project was to raise funds and provide employment for a Haitian woman to allow her to settle in St. Kitts and eventually fly her daughter there to be with her. I then went on to community college where I received an associate's degree in economics and business. I began working at a marketing, photography and advertising firm where I was a sales rep, photographer and graphic designer.

I resigned from this company after being accepted into the Saint Mary's University political science program in 2011. I travelled to Halifax where I was warmly welcomed by the beautiful people at SMU. Adjusting to this new life was difficult for the first year, but the familial environment that I experienced in residence quickly reversed this. In my second year at SMU, I saw an opportunity to breathe new life into the Caribbean Society, so myself and a few other students who

shared a vision put together a team to contest the next society election. It was a landslide victory for our group and 2012-13 was a year where our society experienced the most successful showing we'd seen in over a decade. Our team won the next election for the following school year unopposed. After experiencing so much success with the Caribbean Society, I thought to expand my reach and apply for a job at SMUSA as marketing coordinator. The SMUSA staff was impressed by my positive energy and I was hired for the position in May 2013. I was also assigned to work on a second project designing the 2013/14 student handbook, which was a difficult task, but with the help of the communications coordinator it was a huge success.

You can find me on campus socializing with students from all walks of life and at any function whether its student, SMU or SMUSA run, having a blast. I enjoy music from all over the world, good food and graphic design, but most importantly, bringing people together. I intend to graduate SMU and found my own NGO which will work to eradicate poverty in the Caribbean through pooling private sector resources. Today I embark on a journey to further unite our campus through the SMUSA presidency, under my "Do the Right Thing" themed campaign that is focused on re-building and strengthening the SMU community through inclusiveness, transparency, approachability and promoting a multicultural, comfortable and safe environment for all students.

Yannick Manga

My name is Yannick Manga. I am running to be your SMUSA president. As part of the SMUSA membership, I strongly believe that we can improve a number of key areas that have to do with us being SMUdents. In the process of realizing the areas that need improvement, I noticed, through discussion and brief conversation with many SMUdents, that we wanted the same areas to be improved. It is my goal to make a reality of the improvements

that we both want to see. These areas include increased engagement across and between different student demographics and to better the school spirit.

I am in the 4th year of a Bachelor of Arts degree It is my passion and will to work with you and my immense pride in being a Huskie that push me to want to be your president. In addition, I possess the right combination of experience and understanding about how to introduce the improvements you and I want to see due to my involvement in various campus initiatives, which have afforded me the opportunity to cultivate and maintain good relationships with key people, both within the university and SMUSA. I was Local President of AIESEC Halifax in my first year. I am currently at Residence Security Officer. I am part of committees such as the Student Disciplinary Board, on which I ensure that the perspective of the student is a deciding factor. I am part of the board of directors of Journal Publishing Society. I was SMUSA's Vice President of Communication from 2012 - 2013 during which I created the Student Leadership Recognition Award and a SMUSA Focus group. I am the President of the Saint Mary's Africa Student Society, and I serve as a page at the Nova Scotia Legislature. Being very involved on campus has given me the will to be your president, and the confidence to know I have the skills necessary to do the job.

I was born in Maryland and raised in Ethiopia and Ontario. My mother is from Somalia and my father is from Cameroon. As a child, I was quickly exposed to many cultures because I attended schools with a high degree of cultural diversity, something that made me friendly and sociable. I came to SMU in 2010 because it offered the prospect of a tight-knit community, which was something very important to me.

I deserve your vote as your president because I will work hard to improve the same areas both you and I want to see improved; I possess a unique combination of experience and professionalism coupled with an engaging personality and an easy, open manner, and I can assure you that you will see me a lot around campus.

news



Dr. Judy Haiven and Dr. Larry Haiven

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Profs launch initiative to fight intolerance

SARA LANGILLE
News Editor

Two professors at Saint Mary's University have taken it upon themselves to teach others awareness about the culture of sexism and intolerance. Dr. Judy Haiven and her husband Dr. Larry Haiven, also a professor at Saint Mary's, have started a campaign that involves buttons they have made and designed themselves. This came about after a number SMU football players were suspended because of tweets they had made involving sexiest, homophobic and racist remarks.

Dr. Haiven knows what positive change can do for a place. Before becoming a professor she was a journalist, an award-winning documentary filmmaker and a writer. She understands that taking time to get the word out about something important will create change in the environment.

Judy and Larry created the buttons for students, faculty and everyone that is a part of Saint Mary's to wear proudly and to help encourage people to stand up and raise awareness. They say Saint Mary's has been in the spotlight for bad reasons but Dr. Haiven is giving the school a new outlook and to create a positive atmosphere that others can follow. "We started the button campaign

because of things that have been going on at SMU. First the rape chant happened and then subsided but then we had our football players put into media attention because of intolerant tweets," she said as she gave away buttons in the Loyola Colonnade. "Someone had to respond publicly."

When tweets from a few Saint Mary's football players went public, many became outraged that SMUdents would say these things – especially after the famed "rape chant" that rocked campus during orientation week. Some of the tweets included "Tantallon is homo" and "Questioning what my. brother has between his legs due to the fact that he won't play sports games or cod with me." Reaction to the offensive tweets has ranged from outrage and anger to concern for the students, some saying they are young and simply didn't think before posting.

Judy and Larry made 200 buttons at their kitchen table. "There was so much demand for the buttons and we could only make 200. It takes a lot of hours. Eventually we just sent the task to a manufacturer and changed the design of the buttons," said Dr. Haiven. There were originally three types of buttons: they yellow and black and said "I'm at SMU and I'm against..." either "SEXISM", "RACISM" or "HOMOPHOBIA". Now the buttons have a uniform message "I'm at SMU and I'm against

Racism, Sexism & Homophobia." They are also now in maroon and white, the school colours.

As Dr. Haiven stood recently in the colonnade with her slogan "If you're against these things take a button and wear it!" some students took the buttons and others just walked away. Dr. Haiven hopes that after the word gets out that the people who did not want buttons will come back for one. She hopes to distribute buttons in Loyola in the coming weeks, but also invites anyone who wants one to stop by her office (Sobey 218) or email her at judy.haiven@smu.ca.

Although her campaign is going smoothly, Dr. Haiven is upset by the lack of funding from the school (SMUSA and Faculty Union). She can continue producing the buttons because of the funding from two outside sources: The Nova Scotia Union of Public and Private Employees and The Nova Scotia Public Interest Research Group. "We did not get funding from some sources because they believe they can do better to deal with these problems in the background but I completely disagree. You need to be heard to make change."

It's the small gestures that will make a big change, explained Dr. Haiven. She believes if everyone just made one small gesture that attitudes about intolerance would begin to change.



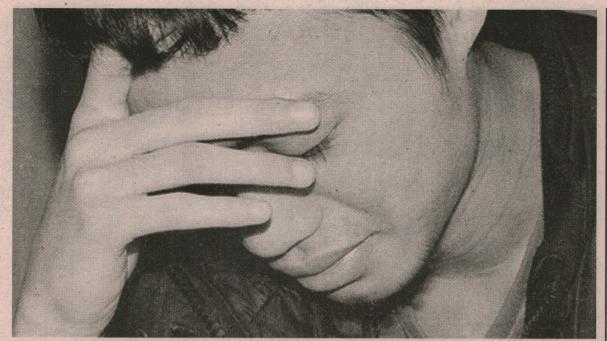


Photo: Manarianz5/Flickr Creative Commons ((CC BY-NC-SA 2.0))

Mental health is half the fight Trying to stay focused and happy is the way to conquer mental health issues

KELSEY PYE

The Aquinian (St. Thomas University)

FREDERICTON (CUP) — Somehow we have to survive.

For me lately, it's been a mixture of denial and brownie bark. It's thin, crispy brownies with chocolate chips in it.
Seriously, that stuff is good.

The new semester is starting to becoming old news. Everyone has settled into classes and no doubt professors are already piling on assignments. Fourth years are trying to soak up everything they need to — or just trying to pass — so they can graduate and move on. You just want some sunshine but Old Man Winter hates when people are happy.

And that's when your mind hits the panic button.

Some of you may have seen former Canadian senator Michael Kirby speaking in Fredericton a few weeks back about the importance of treating mental illness. He talked about how 75 per cent of

youth under the age of 24 don't receive the help they needed when it comes to their mental health. That number is too high.

I've had issues. I'm having issues right now. As a fourth year I have the usual litany of class assignments and deadlines. But, and most of my brethren can vouch for this, thinking about living in the real world is scary shit. I haven't been able to think more than a week ahead before the dread, insecurities and hopelessness sets in. I should start charging rent.

Mental health has been a big issue in our society as of late. Things like suicide are becoming more common, and the ages of those committing the act are heartbreakingly young. The problem is only now starting to be addressed, but action is needed. Action has been needed for years.

I'm used to giving out fitness tips and fun ways to stay healthy in my articles. But given the time of year, I think people just need some support. The biggest thing is to talk to people who care. If you're having problems or notice your friend is, don't be afraid to open up. You'd be surprised how often a kind word can change everything.

Lots of little things can make a huge difference, even if it doesn't solve the whole issue. Meditation can be super helpful if you're stressed and falling into a funk. Grabbing a pal and having a Netflix night (which is probably every night, but whatever) might take the edge off. Exercise your body and your mind. Don't be afraid of asking for help.

I'm not an expert. I can't diagnose people and I can't tell you what will work. Mental illnesses like depression and anxiety are common at university and can happen for any reason, and unfortunately there's no set formula for getting back on track.

But if you realize that people do care and things will get better, it can make a difference.

De-boinking contraception myths and

CHARLIE SALTER

The Muse (Memorial University of Newfoundland)

sexual health truths

ST. JOHN'S (CUP) — As with everything else, sexual health has its fair number of myths and legends. The consequences of not doing your homework on this subject can be detrimental to both your health, and that of your partner. On that note, time to debunk some sexual health junk.

Myth: You can't get pregnant on your first time having sex. First time is a freebie!

Fact: Wrong. You sure can.
Whether it's your first or your 1000th time, always use contraceptives.

Myth: All STIs are curable. Let's get it on.

Fact: Nopel STIs, like herpes and genital warts, are not curable with a dose of antibiotics. Additionally, these types of STIs can be spread by skin to skin contact with the affected area. Think about how the rest of your sex life will be affected by one bad decision. Always know the sexual health status of a new partner, and if you're not sure of your

own, get tested

Myth: Condoms don't expire — the one in my wallet since the Grade 9 will be just fine.

Fact: Think again! Condoms do expire. Always check the back of the package for the expiration date. Generally they last a couple years, depending on materials used, the manufacturer and if they have spermicidal lubricant. If the milk went sour, would you drink it? No? Same with condoms. Condoms should also be stored in a cool, dry place away from anything that can damage/distort them. Keeping them in wallets and drawers with pointy objects may not be the best idea.

Myth: As long as I'm on birth control, I won't get pregnant or get any STIs. How awesome!

Fact: Uhh ... no. The pill works effectively against pregnancy if taken every day — at the same time, depending on the pill. However, it does nothing to protect against STIs. If you are in a relationship where the sexual health status of yourself or your partner

is unknown, use protection.

Myth: I'm taking this cool new herbal supplement — it obviously has no effect on my birth control pill.

Fact: Womp womp. Certain herbal supplements and antibiotics can reduce the effectiveness of birth control. In addition, drugs may interact with each other internally in unexpected ways. Make sure your doctor knows all prescribed and unprescribed medication you may be own when considering birth control.

Myth: You can only get pregnant when you are ovulating. We are in the clear!

Fact: Stop! Even though ovulation is the most fertile time, you can still get pregnant at any point during the cycle. Sperm can live in the female reproductive tract for up to five days. If the egg is released early or late during a cycle, it could meet up with a sperm and, well ... pregnancy.

If you have any sex health questions—embarrassing as they may be—it's always the best idea to ask your healthcare provider. You'll thank yourself later!

SMUdoku

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Mens's Hockey Update

MARK MOFFAT
Sports Contributor

The Saint Mary's Huskies men's hockey team gave the UNB Varsity Reds a run for their money in their semi-final best of 5 series in the

Atlantic University playoffs.

After defeating the UPEI Panthers in the Quarter finals, the fifth seeded Huskies pulled out a 3-1 series win in their best of 5 against the first seeded Varsity Reds, who received a bye directly into the semi-finals. This is the result of a Saint Mary's 2-1 double overtime win in game 1 in Fredericton on February 26th, UNB responded with a 5-2 win in game 2, the Huskies had another 2-1 double OT win in game 3 and in game 4 the Huskies shut down the Varsity Reds to complete the upset.

Game 1 saw the Saint Mary's goals go to Stephen MacAulay and Mitchell Maynard who potted the double OT winner to end the marathon game. Huskies goalie Anthony Peters stood on his head making an incredible 50 saves. Game 2 was a different story as UNB scored 3 in the first period and never looked back. The series then shifted to Halifax where in game 3, Saint Mary's Captain Lucas Bloodoff was the hero 3 minutes into 2OT when he drove hard to the net and received a nice pass from MacCauley to end the game. With UNB facing elimination game 4 saw a tight defensive battle that was only broken 4 minutes into the 3rd when Stephen Gillard's shot from the point found its way through to put the Huskies up 1-0.

With Anthony Peters in net, that was all they would need to upset the top ranked Varsity Reds who had entered the playoffs on a 13 game win streak. Peters stopped 144 of the 151 shots that came his way in the series and will be heavily relied upon again in the finals if the Huskies have any hope of finishing off this miracle run against Acadia

Visit the AUS website for championship series game times.



Goaltender Anthony Peters made 30 saves for the shutout as the Huskies upset the top ranked Varsity Reds. Photo: Wes Wilcox

Why sports are so good for your health

"Feeling fatigued

and heavy all day

is hard on your

body and mind,

and can also lead

to fatigue and

feeling sick-like

symptoms more

often during the

day, according

to the Canadian

Health Agency."

KYLE MERRITT

The Brunswickan (University of New Brunswick)

FREDERICTON (CUP) — As many people would agree, sports are fun to participate in, as well as to watch. But what a lot of you may not realize is just how beneficial that game of hockey or that soccer match actually is for your health.

Sports of all kinds are an easy and enjoyable way to get in a solid cardio and/or strength-training workout.

In fact, you will rarely find activities to keep you motivated enough to meet at least the weekly minimum of 150 minutes of moderate intensity or higher aerobic physical activity for people ages 18-65, according to the Canadian Physical Activity Guidelines.

What does this mean for you?
Well, it means 2.5 hours of more or less any activity that involves moving your legs, arms and feet.

This equates to moderate sports such as golfing, badminton or softball or other vigorous activities such as tennis, soccer or swimming.

In terms of physical health, this can easily improve cardiovascular capacity and feelings of fatigue, just to name a couple.

Participating in these types of sports and exercise can play both a therapeutic and a preventative role in the lives of Canadians.

Playing higher intensity sports increases the good stress levels on the body and teaches the athletes how to overcome obstacles, as well as how to make decisions when you are drained, which is a key aspect keeping your mind sharp.

According to the Harvard School of Public Health website, meeting these requirements can significantly help preventing issues like heart disease and its precursors, insomnia and arthritis.

Sport and exercise is even used to treat type 2 diabetes, some forms of cancers and even mental health

> problems such as depression and anxiety, as they improve mood and alleviate stress.

These improved bodily and mental health standards lead to a much longer, happier, and healthy life – which means a more fulfilling life.

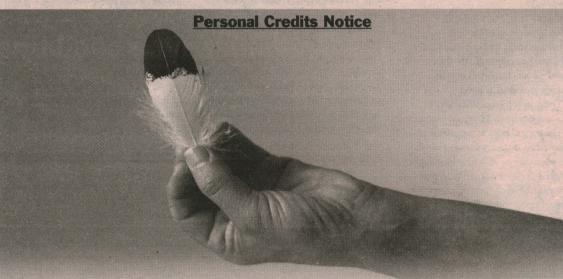
Participating in physical activity contributes significantly to weight loss, appearance and image. Improving all of these things allows people struggling with

these types of issues and confidencehindering anxieties the chance to have greater self-esteem. All of this creates an ongoing cycle – the more you exercise the better you feel physically and mentally and the more likely you are to keep it up.

Choosing not to participate in sporting exercise can lead to weight gain, muscle loss and even bone decay, not to mention missing out on some great memories with people sharing a common goal.

Feeling fatigued and heavy all day is hard on your body and mind, and can also lead to fatigue and feeling sick-like symptoms more often during the day, according to the Canadian Health

So how about next time you reach for the remote, try reaching for your gear and head out for some rewarding and intense workout instead.



If you received a Common Experience Payment, you could get \$3,000 in Personal Credits for educational programs and services.

The Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement.
The healing continues.

sharing their Personal Credits with

certain family members, such as:

• Children

Grandchildren

Since 2007, almost 80,000 former students have received a Common Experience Payment ("CEP") as part of the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement. CEP recipients are now eligible to receive non-cash Personal Credits of up to \$3,000, for either themselves or certain family members, for educational programs and services.

What are Personal Credits? Personal Credits may be used for a wide range of educational programs and services, including those provided by universities, colleges, trade or training schools, Indigenous Institutions of Higher Learning, or which relate to literacy or trades, as well as programs and services related to Aboriginal identities, histories, cultures or languages.

CEP recipients have the option of

How much are Personal Credits? Adequate funds are available for each CEP recipient to receive up to \$3,000 in Personal Credits, depending on your approved educational expenses.

Which educational entities and groups are included? A list of approved educational entities and groups has been jointly developed by Canada, the Assembly of First Nations and Inuit representatives. If an educational entity or group is not on the list, please consult the website for more information.

Will I receive a cheque? No. Cheques will be issued directly to the educational entity or group providing the service.

Who can use Personal Credits? CEP recipients can use the full amount themselves or give part or all of their Personal Credits to certain family members such as a spouse, child, grandchild or sibling, as defined in the terms and conditions.

Personal Credits of multiple CEP recipients can be combined to support a group learning activity.

How can I get Personal Credits? Each CEP recipient will be mailed an Acknowledgement Form. If you do not receive an Acknowledgement Form by the end of January 2014, please call 1-866-343-1858. Completed Acknowledgement Forms should be returned as soon as possible and must be postmarked no later than October 31, 2014.

How do I redeem my Personal Credits? Once approved, you will be sent a personalized Redemption Form for each individual using Personal Credits at each educational entity

or group. Once the Form is received, provide it to the educational entity or group listed. The educational entity or group must then complete and mail back the Redemption Form postmarked no later than **December 1, 2014.**

What happens to unused Personal Credits? The value of unused Personal Credits will be transferred to the National Indian Brotherhood Trust Fund and Inuvialuit Education Foundation for educational programs.

For more information, including how Personal Credits can be redeemed by certain family members of CEP recipients that are deceased, visit www.residentialschoolsettlement.ca or call 1-866-343-1858.

The IRS Crisis Line (1-866-925-4419) provides immediate and culturally appropriate counselling support to former students who are experiencing distress.

1-866-343-1858 • www.residentialschoolsettlement.ca

You are no Banksy

The implications of street art and graffiti and the culture surrounding it

SIMON FUH

The Carillon (University of Regina)

REGINA (CUP) — The Internet sure does love street art nowadays. There are stencils, paintings, clever and creative uses of surroundings; boy, what a beautiful urban landscape these anonymous artists are creating. It's so great that they are able to make a political statement by doing something illegal and creating something that the public can also enjoy. Except that it's not even close to a statement anymore.

For the last decade street art has grown from a little known pocket of miscreants to a worldwide sensation. Just take a moment to Google 'Street Art' and you will find pages of everything from beautiful murals to subway vent sculpture - most of which include some sort of cute message about how us humans, scourge of the Earth, are destroying our own homeland. What a load of shit. I mean, I care about the environment just as much as the next guy, but your street art blog full of cheap Bansky-esque stencils are not doing anything to change society.

Let me take a moment to say that street art is not the same thing as graffiti. I could go on for while describing the differences, but the main one is that street art strives to achieve what real art does a better job of; creating something entirely different and making a statement about some facet of life.

Yes, there was a time that street art was successful in this aspect, but that has long since passed. What Banksy and other European artists did to bridge graffiti, art and politics was innovative, but the moment I started seeing street art blogs with pictures of trees wrapped in yarn I almost vomited. Is that the message of street art? Some cliché statement about how we should protect the trees? The answer is emphatically yes. Pretty much every single street art piece has the exact same message told in a more and more boring way; we're flushing our planet down the drain, we the 99 per cent must take back the streets by making it our canvas; you get

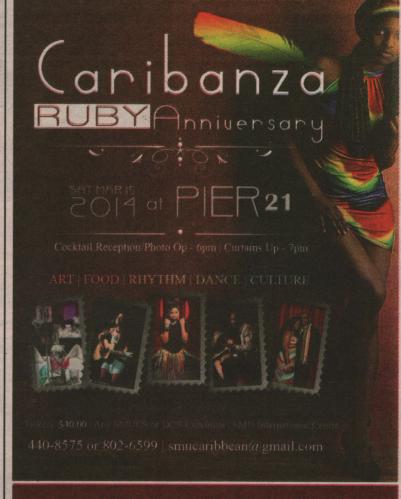
To make matters worse, so many street art blogs don't know how to differentiate good and bad graffiti. Just because somebody sprayed letters on a wall doesn't mean they're an artist exercising their democratic rights. Graffiti writers are supposed to do their work and hone their craft before getting any attention — now all they need is some hipster to see their name on a dumpster and post it to Instagram with fifty hashtags and suddenly their 'saying something.'

What's unfortunate is that a lot of street art today is actually pretty nice aesthetically speaking, but since the artist has chosen a medium that is

completely played-out their work will never be taken seriously. I mean, would a serious artist really want their work to be on the same plane as the fifty thousand V for Vendetta stencils out there? Consider also the completely over saturated subject matter of environmentalism in street art; making another clever and pretty mural isn't going to help the cause.

What made street art great in the beginning was its illegal nature. But ever since mainstream culture decided to embrace it instead of cover it, street art has become a kitschy-Pinterest-hipster paradise. If this is the world that you as an artist would like to work in, be my guest.

I guess I shouldn't be all that surprised; this sort of cultural phenomenon happens all the time. Remember what happened to Grunge in the early '90s? And hip hop in the '00s? Wherever there is something on the edge of society that suddenly becomes popular there are people ready to hop on the bandwagon. This doesn't mean that the art form is completely dead, but it does make it a lot more difficult to work within its sphere. Although, the street art bandwagon is so far gone that being able to stand out is nearly impossible. If you want to make a splash as a street artist. I'd suggest bringing back the destruction. If the world is going to accept your painting on the wall, destroy the wall instead.



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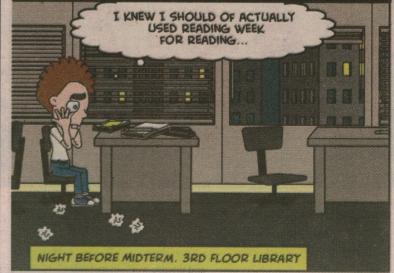
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SAFU GRAD CLASS 2014

Procrastination

By Brendon Lisi







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