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It's the History of HALLOWEEN



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Screenshot from Seinfeld

What's good?

People can be dirtbags. We've all had the jerk who cuts in line, takes up several seats on the bus, or thinks the entire sidewalk belongs to no one else. It's annoying, disheartening, and a bummer to see. Our consolation is generally little more than a c'est-la-vie-sort of smile shared with the decent strangers about us. But, at the risk of being redundant in two languages, such is life.

It's really not all bad. In the worst-case scenario, we have a few more minutes added on to our wait, a slightly more uncomfortable ride (or, a fun chat), or an elbow into someone's side. While the manners vagrant hasn't exactly made our day through self-centred actions, nothing has really been affected either. In the grand scheme of things, the short-term unpleasantness means nothing. No animals were harmed in the making of these decidedly un-Kodak moments.

These times are typically the worst we ever see of people.

Your average acquaintance hasn't gone to prison for a vicious crime, clubbed a baby seal, or been publicly racist. People aren't that bad. In fact, most are quite far from being the worst. Last time an elderly person needed a place to sit, did they get it? Last time someone in a wheelchair needed help to get through a door, did someone help? Heck, how many times will a car wait for the pedestrian to cross at a quiet intersection? People are inherently good, and it's important to remember that.

Case in point, Halloween. It's the sort of thing that you marvel at. In a world where even playground equipment regularly gets the "make sure it's safe" shakedown and future generations are increasingly made aware of the dangers of the Internet, we allow a prime opportunity for less-than-savoury characters to seize the moment. Millions upon millions of children, some with no supervision, wandering up and down every street and knocking

on every single door that offers even the slightest hope of a sweet morsel. And all done after nightfall. Given neither context nor the incredibly safe history of the occasion, I'm fairly certain I'd be against trick-or-treating.

But nothing happens. Ever. The popular myth of poisoned candy and razor blades being inserted into chocolate bars is just that: a myth. Every year, a few sensationalized stories come out about children falling victim to such malicious deeds... only to be quietly debunked shortly after—after the expected panicked uproar has already taken place.

Various sources have confirmed the utter ridiculousness of Halloween poisonings, such as snopes.com, which even cited an interview from Joel Best, a professor of sociology at California State University. Part of Best's research involved checking major newspapers from across the country over a 30-year period. His work revealed that

there were 78 cases, 2 deaths, and no actual incidents. The deaths were attempts to use Halloween as the scapegoat (one case involved a father trying to cash in on his son's life insurance policy), while the majority of the other cases were either teenagers trying to stir up trouble, or misrepresentations of what actually occurred.

Of course, none of this is to say people *can't* be bad. There are awful souls out there who do intend to do harm to others. Crime is a real thing. Jails exist for a reason. Don't be an all-trusting sucker. As with anything, use your judgement. Find the proper balance. But there's no need to go about stealing side-glances at the fast food worker who accidentally stiffed you a nickel.

People can be annoying and tiresome. But for the most part, we're all just trying to get by.

Danke danke,

Eric Wilkins

Editor-in-Chief

i Get to know us!

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- ☉ The Other Press is published weekly during the fall and winter semesters, and monthly during the summer. We receive our funding from a student levy collected through tuition fees every semester at registration, and from local and national advertising revenue. The Other Press is a member of the Canadian University Press (CUP), a syndicate of student newspapers that includes papers from all across Canada.
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NEWS

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 - ✔ Fighting for citizenship
 - ✔ United Way investing in Coquitlam and Surrey families
- And more!

City of New Westminster unveils new community plan

» Housing a top priority for growing population



Mercedes Deutscher
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The City of New Westminster is working on revealing a new community plan called OUR CITY 2041, which will outline a set of goals slated to be achieved by 2041.

The plan is being developed through the use of staff and public input, research, and the Integrated Community Sustainability Planning document, which acts to guide the city towards sustainable plans, policies, and projects.

OUR CITY 2041 will affect many aspects of life in New Westminster, including housing, as the city is plotting how land within the city will be developed as the population of the city grows to an estimated population of 104,000. Although these land use plans involve commercial and industrial development, a majority of the focus will go towards developing residential areas.

According to the *New Westminster Record*, the growing

population will require 16,500 new houses to be built by 2041, as well as 700,000 square feet of commercial property. Much of the expected development will be in close proximity to major transit stations.

The new developments in residences will see the creation of more townhouses and duplexes, which currently only house five per cent of the New Westminster population. The rest of the population currently reside either in apartments, which account for 67 per cent of residents, or single family homes, which account for 28 per cent of residents.

New Westminster is aiming to create more affordable housing to encourage younger people to stay in the city by creating a wide range of residences that will fit with different demographics and incomes.

The city will release its list of neighbourhood land-use scenarios during a public workshop on November 7, which will be taking place at the Anvil Centre from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

New Westminster City

Counsellor Patrick Johnstone expressed excitement for the next step in the developing plan when he told the *New Westminster Record*: "This is not the end of the conversation. This is the beginning of the conversation."

The community plan started being developed in the summer of 2014, and is currently in step four of its five planning steps. Previous steps involved launching the planning process, background research, and deciding what goals needed to be achieved. Step four involves drafting new policies and land-use scenarios. This step is expected to continue over until winter 2016.

Aside from housing, OUR CITY 2041 is also going to explore further development with public parks, transportation infrastructure, public utilities, employment, environmental initiatives, food, health, and energy. In addition, the city is planning on increasing investment in more social sectors, such as the arts, culture, community, and heritage.



Photo by Charles Chen

Uber in Vancouver?

» Proposed taxi reforms might open the gates to the popular transportation company

Aaron Guillen
Staff Reporter

When you have a late night out and don't have your car, how do you plan on getting home? Most people would hop on transit, turn to a friend, or catch a taxi cab.

In the hustling and bustling city of Vancouver, there is a demand for taxis. As a global destination, it can be surprisingly hard to find one too early in the morning or late at night if a person doesn't live in the densely populated, urban areas. A proposed taxi reform might make it easier for transportation services, like Uber, a booming company in many metropolitan areas.

"I think the outcome is that we are close. We want to move

forward on what the industry could do," said Andrea Toma, chief licence inspector for the City of Vancouver, to CBC.

There's no denying that Uber would "energize the local economy, help make streets safer from drunk and distracted driving, and foster a more connected, less congested environment," but is it worth the risk?

Recently, Uber has been breaking taxi bylaws in Toronto, and city officials aren't content. Having voted on new terms in the taxi and limousine laws, Toronto has closed the loophole, thus attempting to bring Uber services to a halt.

"Until regulation is amended and/or enacted by council to permit other than the currently licenced taxicabs and



Image via gazetterevue.com

limousines, the UberX service will continue to be in non-compliance with city bylaws," said Tracey Cook, a Toronto executive director of municipal licencing and standards, to the

Toronto Sun.

Looking back to Vancouver, the main concerns include public safety and the fate of the taxi industry. The monopoly on Vancouver customers could

be placed in jeopardy should services like Uber merge into the streets. Among the likes of Yellow Cab, North Shore Taxi, MacLure's Cabs Vancouver, and Black Top & Checker Cabs, the introduction of a new service could slow down competitors' success. It is evident that more discussion needs to take place before any agreements are made.

"There needs to be better alignment between the city and provincial regulators on what we see from ride-share. We have been working with the [Transportation] Ministry themselves, that's why we are proposing to council to allow for that continuation of dialogue," said Toma.

Expect to hear more about these regulations in two to three months.

What to expect from Canada's next Parliament

» Red wave results in a Liberal majority government and a new prime minister



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The election results on October 19 resulted in several surprising changes on both a local and federal level.

The Liberals won every riding in Atlantic Canada, which resulted in the ousting of two Conservative Cabinet ministers; Bernard Valcourt, the minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development from New Brunswick, and Gail Shea, the Fisheries and Oceans minister from PEI. Overall, 14 Conservative ministers lost their seats.

Another dramatic loss was that of Bloc Québécois leader

Gilles Duceppe. Duceppe didn't have a seat, yet was hoping to take the riding of Laurier-Sainte-Marie, a riding in which he held the seat prior to 2011.

With the exception of the Liberal Party and the Bloc Québécois, all parties lost seats from the previous Parliament. The Conservatives dropped down to 99 seats overall, the NDP fell to 44 seats, and Elizabeth May was the only Green Party member to be re-elected.

Meanwhile, the Liberal Party increased their seat count by five times the number they held prior to the election, leading to a total of 184 seats.

This election saw the highest voter turnout in 22 years, with 68.5 per cent of

eligible voters casting a ballot.

Parties aside, the demographics of the elected MPs has seen some change. According to data compiled by CBC, 10 of the elected members are indigenous, 6 are LGBTQ, and 88 are women.

While most opposition party leaders will remain in their positions for at least the near future, outgoing prime minister Stephen Harper resigned as the leader of the Conservative Party immediately after the election.

What is in store for Canadians under a new Liberal majority government?

Despite the fact that Parliament is not yet back in session, Prime Minister-designate Justin Trudeau has

already been preparing for his term. Trudeau made the announcement on October 20 that he will be releasing a statement on who will be his cabinet ministers on November 4, and has pledged that 50 per cent of his cabinet will be female as an effort to improve gender equality in Parliament. Trudeau and his cabinet will take oaths of office on or shortly after November 4, when Trudeau will officially assume the title of prime minister.

Trudeau told the *Globe and Mail* that his party's first act of legislation will be based on how he ran his campaign: reducing taxes for the middle class by increasing taxes for the wealthy.

Since election, Trudeau has already been speaking to

President Barack Obama about Canada-US relations. He also took time on the morning after the election to thank people in his riding of Papineau, Quebec, during their commutes to work.

Trudeau and Harper attended a memorial service on October 24 dedicated to Cpl. Nathan Cirillo, who was killed during the attack on Parliament Hill on that day last year. Both men laid a wreath down in Cirillo's honour.

In his victory speech on October 19, Trudeau said: "We beat fear with hope. We beat cynicism with hard work. We beat negative, divisive politics with a positive vision that brings Canadians together."

Heart Institute research on coronary artery disease recognized

» U of O research makes major breakthrough in fight against heart disease



Veronika Cencen
The Fulcrum (University of Ottawa)

The Ottawa Heart Research Institute (OHRI) received recognition for its ground-breaking research on genetic predisposition to coronary artery disease published in *Nature Genetics* on September 7.

Coronary artery disease occurs when the arteries supplying blood and oxygen to the heart become blocked, and is one of the main causes of death and disability in developed countries, according to Centres for Disease Control and Prevention.

The paper uses data from the 1000-genomes project, and examines how to identify a genetic predisposition to coronary artery disease.

One of the impressive results of this research is the identification of 10 new risk markers, two of which are recessive genes identified through a novel statistical method

of analysis by post-doctoral fellow Dr. Majid Nikpay.

With the new method, the team was able to find 202 genetic variants in 129 gene regions that together explain 23 per cent of the heritability of coronary artery disease. This may still fall short of solving the entire mystery, but it's a big step forward from the previously reported 11 per cent.

Perhaps more importantly, the researchers were able to demonstrate the importance of small and more common factors in an individual's susceptibility to the disease, whereas most groups have been focusing on large, but rare variants.

By identifying these subtler but more common risk groups, the outcomes of the study could provide valuable tools for developing personalized diagnostics and treatment for coronary artery disease.

In other words, doctors would be able to suggest what

action a specific patient should take to lower their risk of developing or worsening the disease, based on genetic testing.

"Many of these genetic variants are likely to exert their effects on the walls of arteries, making them more susceptible to the common heart disease risk factors such as cigarette smoking, diabetes and cholesterol," said Dr. Ruth McPherson, Director of the Ruddy Canadian Cardiovascular Genetics Centre at the OHRI.

Of course, a lot of work is still to be done before studies like these could significantly alter the course of modern healthcare development.

Dr. Calum Redpath, clinician-scientist and staff cardiologist in the department of electrophysiology at the OHRI and assistant professor in the division of cardiology, acknowledges that studies like this are a "fabulous foundation" for future endeavours, but that we are "miles



away" from using the acquired knowledge in clinical practice. "Going from zero knowledge, we certainly know an enormous amount compared to,

say, 20 years ago," he said. "But for now, it's still a bit like an enormous fishing experiment."

Homeless in Abbotsford win case against city

» BC Supreme Court rules that homeless may set up temporary shelter in parks



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Wednesday marked a landmark victory for the homeless, particularly those fighting for a place to set up temporary shelter.

The BC/Yukon Association of Drug War Survivors sued the City of Abbotsford after city workers used chicken manure to disperse a homeless camp. Another Abbotsford homeless camp was dispersed after police pepper-sprayed residents and destroyed their tents.

"We are deeply apologetic for any hurt this may have caused. I personally feel incredibly bad," said then-Abbotsford mayor Bruce Banman to CBC regarding the manure incident.

After being heard before the BC Supreme Court, Chief Justice Christopher Hinkson decided that Abbotsford's bylaw—which prohibits homeless people from camping in parks overnight—violated Section 7 of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

The court wrote an 81-page judgment. Although the ruling will allow for the homeless to set up tents in parks, some limits were put into place.

"A minimally impairing response to balancing that

need with the interests of other users of developed parks would be to allow overnight shelters to be erected in public spaces between 7:00 p.m. and 9:00 a.m. the following day," read the judgment. The language in the ruling will prohibit long-term camps from being assembled.

Hinkson criticized the actions taken by the City of Abbotsford, calling them "disgraceful and worthy of the court's disapproval."

It remains yet to be seen if the city will agree with the BC Supreme Court ruling, or if they will decide to take the decision to the BC Court of Appeal.

Henry Braun, Mayor of Abbotsford, believes that the homeless in the city are camping in the parks despite having other shelter options.

"Some of them, they just want to be left alone: 'Leave me alone, I want to camp.' And they use that term: 'camping.'" said Braun to the *Globe and Mail*. "I'm not sure what to do with that."

The lawsuit parallels another case that took place in Victoria in 2009. The BC Court of Appeal made the decision then that homeless would be allowed to use tents as shelter to sleep in public parks overnight.

Although some hope that the Abbotsford decision will influence other municipalities



Image via pivotlegal.org

to change their bylaws to accommodate overnight tent shelters in parks, others are skeptical. Margot Young, a law professor at UBC, is surprised that more municipalities didn't learn from the 2009 Victoria case. While the decision helped in some ways, it continued to create problems

for the homeless community, who are still constantly subject to police raids.

Meanwhile, members of the Drug War Survivors say the ruling is only a quick fix to a larger problem, as having a space for a tent city would allow for more provisions, such as garbage cans and

washrooms, to create a better environment for the homeless.

"Being alone is the worst thing in the world," said Harvey Clause, a homeless resident in Abbotsford, to the *Vancouver Sun*. "Sometimes, that's why it's important to have a tent city, to be a community again."

Fighting for citizenship

» 99-year-old woman a Canadian at last

Aaron Guillen
Staff Reporter

Even though she has spent the majority of her life in Canada since 1933, Joan Stirling, 99, was denied a Canadian Citizenship, because she couldn't provide her birth certificate. Having worked, paid taxes, and voted in multiple elections, but never having married, gotten a driver's licence, passport, or surprisingly a health card, her situation was only brought to light recently. Stirling's friend, Diana Watson, had tried her best to get the fellow senior citizenship so she could access reasonable health care, but was met with a struggle.

Seeking a solution, Watson sent over 20 documents to Citizenship and Immigrations Canada (CIC) that pinpointed Stirling's trek from the UK to a long settlement in Toronto.

"It does seem ridiculous. It's just total bureaucracy. I sent this huge file off ... and I simply got a one-page letter back saying we

need a birth certificate and that was it and everything came to standstill," Watson told CBC.

Having arrived in Canada in 1933, crossing the border presented a different situation then. "Nobody ever asked me at the border why we were crossing or how long we were going to stay or anything," Stirling explained to CBC.

In a new era where ID is the currency of life, Stirling was looking for a miracle. Within the last couple of years, Watson has additionally helped her friend out by applying for multiple health cards under Ontario's Ministry of Health, even going as far as reaching out to a program for the homeless (although Stirling has never been homeless). The only thing that was keeping Stirling afloat was her finances.

After her most recent health card expired at the end of September, Watson reached out to CBC News's investigative news segment Go Public. Go Public conversed with Don Chapman,

the founder of Lost Canadians, an organization to assist those who have never received Canadian citizenship, and asked for help. Chapman is convicted that a new Citizenship Act is necessary.

"CIC is clueless when it comes to their own rules. The only consistency with CIC is they're inconsistent. I can catch them [making] different statements on different days with different people. They just don't know their own laws," Chapman told CBC.

Eventually, Chapman's convictions were proven true when he revealed that Stirling had been a Canadian citizen all along, due to a law that guaranteed automatic citizenship for British immigrants living in Canada before 1947. All is well, as Stirling will soon receive a citizen certificate and permanent health card.

"I feel like every other Canadian," Stirling said.



Screenshot via CBC

'Love lock' sculpture to be installed in Queen Elizabeth Park

» Vancouver Parks Board officially designates a spot for the romantic tourist trap

Alex Stanton
Staff Writer

Following extensive public surveys over the course of the late summer and early fall months, the Vancouver Parks Board has officially settled on a location in Queen Elizabeth Park to erect its own love locks sculpture.

Love locks, an idea that originated in Paris and became extremely popular in Europe, are simple padlocks that are bought by romantic partners that are then adorned with the initials of each half of the relationship, locked to a public fixture—such as a gate or bridge—and then left there. The key is then disposed of, which symbolizes the commitment of love that the couple has for one another.

In 2013, Vancouverites took it upon themselves to fashion their own version of the famed romantic concept, attaching initialled locks to the fenced barrier of the Burrard Bridge before throwing away the key into the river below. Due to fears of structural damage following

an incident in Paris, in which a chunk of the fencing on the Pont des Arts Bridge collapsed under the weight of dozens of love locks, the City of Vancouver removed all the locks off the Burrard Bridge. Locks that were attached to the seawall of False Creek were also removed.

The Vancouver Parks Board concluded that the most environmentally sound way to allow the locks to exist in the city would be to hire a local artist to create a piece of art to which all the locks can be safely attached and viewed. They completed over 2,000 surveys over the course of the August 19 to September 16 consultation period, asking the public to decide between 13 different locations. According to the polls, 57 per cent of people surveyed would like to see the sculpture happen.

The three locations that were most voted for by residents was English Bay Beach Park with 33 per cent. Queen Elizabeth Park with 24 per cent, as well as Kitsilano Beach Park, with 23 per cent. However, due to environmental concerns



Image via Disdero on Wikimedia

and the fact that two of the three most desired locations were First Nations land, the board's recommendation stated that Queen Elizabeth Park would be the only suitable choice on the list.

John Coupar, commissioner

of the Vancouver Parks Board, has confirmed that the sculpture is slated to be completed in 9–12 months, just in time for the summer of 2016. The board is looking for structure proposals for the project, and is aiming to have chosen a

design by the end of the year. "We'll put out the proposal to the arts community—hopefully we will get a Vancouver artist. We'd like to support the local arts community," Coupar told the *Province*.

United Way investing in Coquitlam and Surrey families

» Organization pledges \$1.2 million towards vulnerable children

Mercedes Deutscher
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Concerned residents in Coquitlam and Surrey have developed a social services plan that can benefit families and children in need, and United Way is aiding the cause with a \$1.2-million investment.

Forty-three per cent of children under the age of five who live in the Guildford West neighbourhood of Surrey and the Coquitlam River region are considered vulnerable, that is, at risk of struggling in school due to having difficulties in reading, writing, counting, or concentration. Without extra help, these children may have increased difficulty with future studies.

"The question was, 'What can we collectively do to change that projector for kids in that neighbourhood?'" said United Way employee Jeff Calbick to the *Surrey Now*.

Families in these neighbourhoods tend to have lower incomes. While families in BC bring home a median

annual income of \$75,797, the income for a Guildford family household has a median of \$56,484, placing one-third of children in these families below the poverty line, all according to the 2011 Statistics Canada Household Survey.

The United Way investment will spend \$400,000 annually in the neighbourhoods of Guildford West and Coquitlam River. This investment will mainly be utilized by three local social service centres: DIVERSEcity and Options in Surrey, and Westcoast Family Centre in Port Coquitlam.

The plans developed for helping these vulnerable children vary according to neighbourhood.

In Surrey, the plan is expected to start later this fall. Children under the age of two will be screened to see if they are meeting developmental milestones normal for their age. From there, volunteers will help with teaching families of vulnerable children about healthy lifestyles and the development of literacy, and provide assistance to families



Image via comcast.com

affected by mental health issues.

The plan in Coquitlam involves furthering development of existing services in the area, as well as helping cultivate the neighbourhood to be more child-friendly by and increasing the number of accessible childcare spaces.

Besides United Way, several other organizations

have pledged to help the plan. The Human Early Learning Partnership, the Social Planning and Research Council of BC, and the Children's partnership of Surrey-White Rock have all committed to aid in the success of this initiative through volunteer and community work.

If the plan proves to show a change in child development, it

may be implemented in more areas in the future, according to Calbick.

"We thought we could try to figure out what key solutions and interventions could improve that level of vulnerability for children, and then we could extend this to other areas in Surrey and the region."

Have an idea for a story? Let us know!

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ARTS

Ghosts of the living

» 'Crimson Peak' movie review



Adam Tatelman
Staff Writer



Pastiche and homage can be great fun, but let's be honest: everything Guillermo Del Toro's ever done is an adaptation or a throwback. *Pacific Rim* is basically *Neon Genesis Evangelion* with a side of *Godzilla*. *Pan's Labyrinth* is, well, *Labyrinth*, and David Bowie wants his movie back. Even the venerable *Hellboy* is adapted from the comic series, though it's to the film's credit. Enter *Crimson Peak*, Del Toro's latest return to form. I'll tentatively say this old-fashioned ghost story has enough personality to stand apart from the typical Halloween fare.

Between the detailed and lifelike set design, old-school wipe transitions, visceral practical effects, and magnificently atmospheric cinematography, *Crimson Peak* is easily the most visually exciting horror film I've seen in ages. However, in cribbing

all of its story and visual cues from gothic horror and suspense greats like Vincent Price and Alfred Hitchcock, the film struggles to stay one step ahead of the audience.

The first act is very Jane Austen, which is English for slow. American author and heiress Edith Cushing (Mia Wasikowska) conspires to marry Thomas Sharp (Tom Hiddleston), a broke-yet-charming English baron who's been begging for funding from her wealthy father (Jim Beaver). There's some baroque family melodrama and a little murder, which could all have been accomplished in half the time. However, these scenes do serve to create an effective visual and thematic parallel with the rest of the film and Sharp's home, Allerdale Hall.

Allerdale Hall is very much alive. It's not an entity, though it is home to many. It is a character, and its dialogue is the creaks and groans of the foundations. As the mansion sinks into the red clay deposits that Sharpe mines, the floorboards ooze red while leaves, snow, and black moths

flit through the rotten walls. It's a real triumph of set design and makes for an entirely unreal yet believable setting.

Sharp's twisted sister, Lucille (Jessica Chastain), is easily the best-played role in the film, and the scariest thing on screen for the duration. The ghosts I can take or leave, but her baleful glances and stilted monologues feel like something out of Bram Stoker's *Dracula*. As the reasons for her behavior become clear, the depth of her depravity is revealed, and Chastain plays the role with fervor. The film would be much less entertaining without her.

Unfortunately, these uber-gothic sets and performances are not enough to make the film. If you've ever seen *Notorious* or *Gaslight*, you'll guess most of the twists. Modern horror fans will likely have trouble thinking of *Crimson Peak* as anything other than the more colourful art-house twin to *The Woman in Black*, which I must admit is the more frightening and suspenseful film.

I'm only critical of Del Toro because I love his films. The power of his imagery carries his

This issue:

- ✓ Comic Corner: Not as good as the movie
- ✓ Relive Malala Yousafzai's story in new documentary
- ✓ Terrifying books to check out this Halloween

And more!



Still of Mia Wasikowska in *Crimson Peak*

borrowed ideas further than they could otherwise get by themselves, but *Crimson Peak* is the most structurally flawed of his most recent works.

Still, there is enough

macabre romance and spooky atmosphere to make for a good Halloween date movie. Now show Del Toro some love so we can get a *Hellboy 3*.

Meditating with the mandala

» A look at the universal symbol of the divine

Benjamin Howard
Columnist

The circle is a primordial shape and is the basis of the mandala, a form of art that has aided in meditation and relaxation since antiquity. Mandalas come in many forms: they can be found in paintings, architecture, and nature. It is an archetypal form found across cultures. However, the mandala is found primarily in the art of the Indian religions, Hinduism and Buddhism.

It's not surprising then that the word "mandala" (circle) is derived from Sanskrit: from *manda*, meaning "essence," and *la*, meaning "container." Certainly the mandala is held sacred by many, because it is said to be a manifestation, or microcosm, of the universe.

The mandala is simple, yet complex—perhaps that's why it's so pervasive throughout nature and culture. Besides the many paintings of mandalas

made by Buddhists and Hindus, mandalas can also be found in Native American, Celtic, and Christian art. Some Native American mandalas are the medicine wheel, the dreamcatcher, and the famous "Man in the Maze." The Celts made complex mandalas that imitated knot-work, most notably the Celtic cross. Mandalas can also be found in the stained-glass windows of Gothic cathedrals such as Notre Dame, and in the oculus of the Roman Pantheon. They can be found just about anywhere: the spider's web; the rippling, concentric circles of a pond; or the spiral shape of the Milky Way galaxy.

I myself own a mandala in the less common, three-dimensional form of a wire frame: a collapsible sphere, linked together by various wires that form overlapping circles. The wire frame can be easily manipulated into over 30 different shapes. The first time

I used it, only vaguely aware of its purpose, it mesmerized me. I had planned on going to bed, but nonetheless for nearly an hour I was in a trance-like state, fascinated by the many interconnected, symmetrical shapes that could be made. It was much better than a stress ball, I can tell you that.

But playing with a wire-frame mandala is not the only means to relaxation. Drawing a mandala or contemplating one, such as gazing at a painting of it, is a form of meditation as well. In fact, the psychologist Carl Jung used mandalas with his patients to help open up the subconscious and work out psychological issues. Jung has credited much of his personal healing to his use of mandalas.

It's a shame that the mandala's ancient form has been nearly forgotten by the West. A little more meditation in the world might do some good.

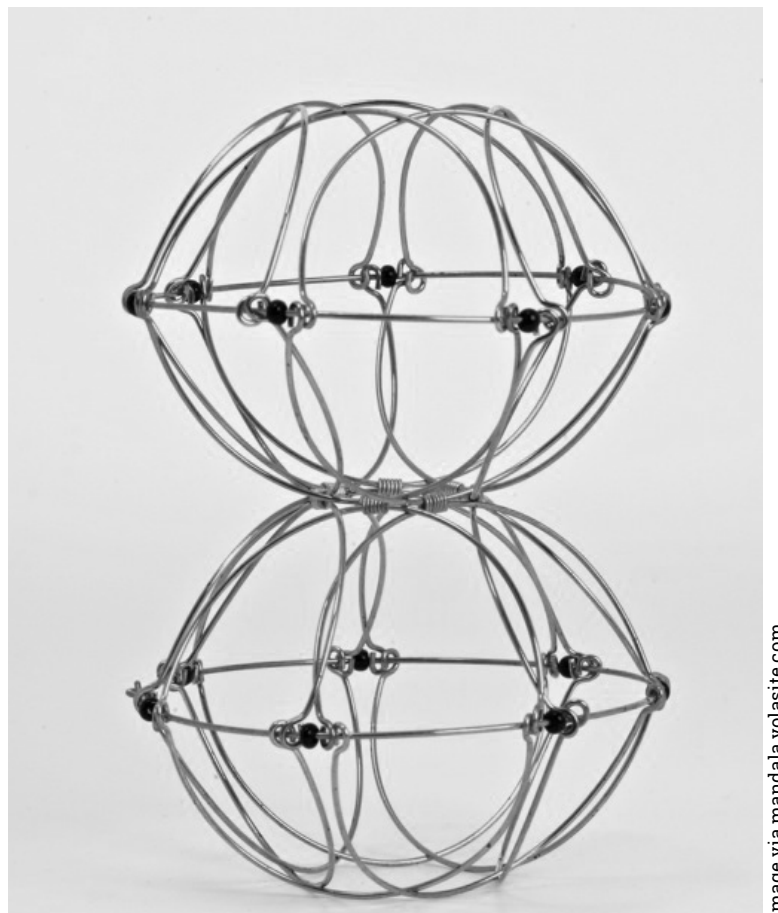


Image via mandala.yolasite.com

Artwork and other interests at 'Avocations'

» Amelia Douglas Gallery presents art from Douglas College community



Cheryl Minns
Arts Editor
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Avocations celebrates the artistic works of 20 Douglas College students and staff, showcasing their ceramics, jewellery, paintings, and photographs in the Amelia Douglas Gallery. The exhibit runs from October 29 to December 11.

"I would encourage all Douglas College students to come to the *Avocations* exhibit and see how others express themselves through their art," said Rose Gindl, a student in the Music Diploma program whose artwork is in the exhibit. "It just may spark an idea and cause you to step out onto your own path to creativity."

For the exhibit, Gindl submitted three 16" x 20" canvas prints of photographs she had taken in Molson, Washington. The ghost town photographs include "a rundown homestead amongst a green meadow; an old, broken down, and rusted wooden wagon wheel; and the remains of an office that once housed the town lawyer."

"I chose these pictures as they each focused on one specific thing in the ghost town," she explained. "Many of my other photos were busier and had more detail, so I felt these ones would be easier to view and simply enjoy."

The theme of *Avocations* is to show the art that Douglas College students and employees create outside of their

field of study or occupation. Although Gindl is in the music program, she finds that her photography relates in some ways to her music.

"Music and photography are both creative pursuits. One can receive immense joy and pleasure from performing or listening to music and also from capturing the perfect photograph," she said. "Being creative in these ways can feed your soul, and I believe we all need to let our inner selves shine through our art."

Kathleen Katon Tonnesen, a psychology student who studied Early Childhood Education as well as Performing and Fine Arts at Douglas College, submitted three of her paintings to *Avocations*: "Gypsy Jazz King Nirvana," "Jeffrey-Sweet Time," and "Wildfire!"

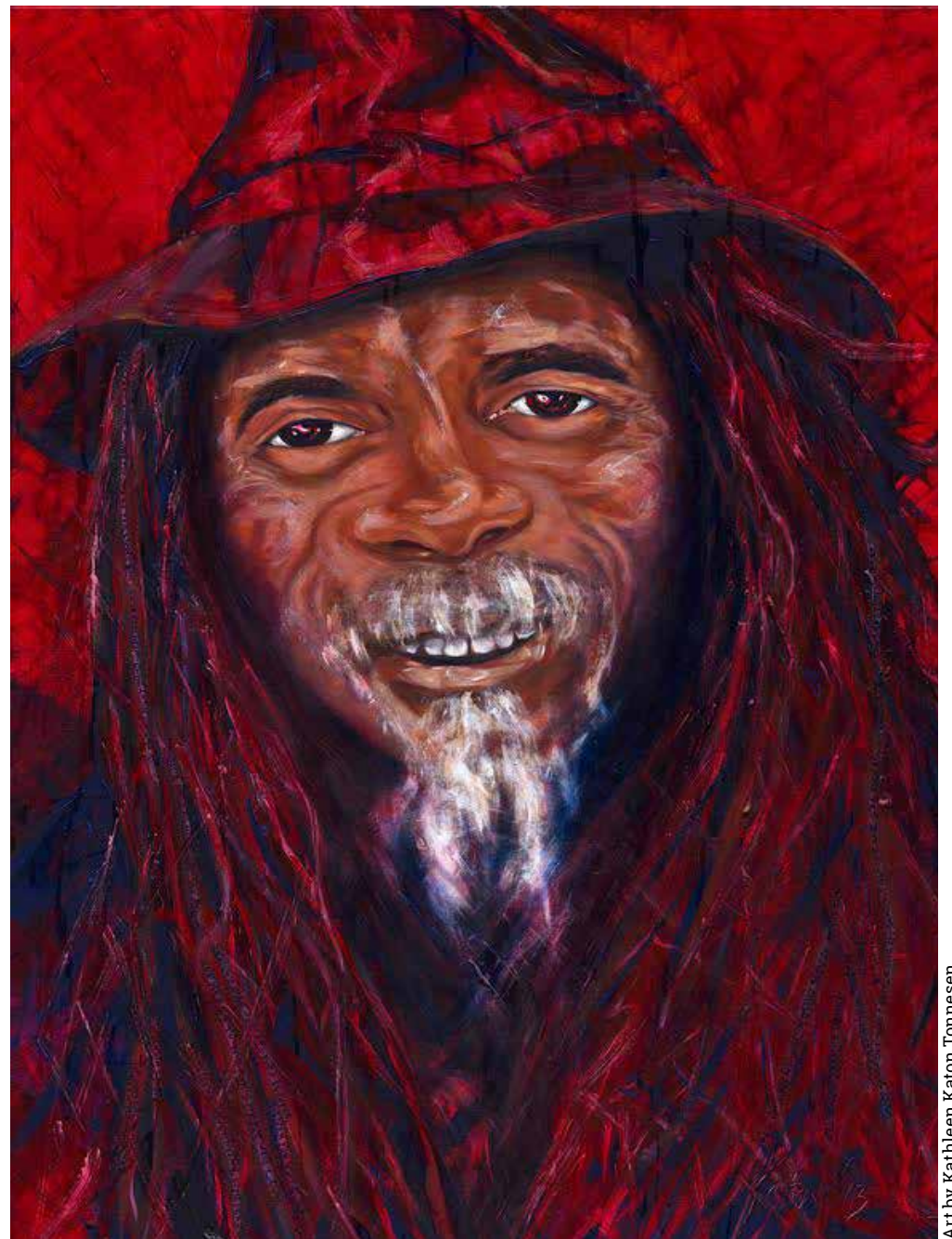
"They are all aspects of raw human potential honed by fire," she said.

When asked why students should visit the exhibit, she said, "To be inspired to express themselves, and to be motivated to attain their own authentic potential."

To see more of Tonnesen's artwork, check out her online portfolio at Katon.MyArtChannel.com

An opening reception for *Avocations* will take place at 4:30 p.m. on October 29 in the Amelia Douglas Gallery, located on the fourth floor of the Douglas College New Westminster campus.

Avocations will be on display until December 11.



Art by Kathleen Katon Tonnesen

Comic Corner: Not as good as the movie

» 'Trick 'r Treat: Days of the Dead' review



Brittney MacDonald
Life & Style Editor
lifeandstyle@theotherpress.ca



October is the perfect time to break out the popcorn and your favourite horror flicks. For me, a late night showing of *Trick 'r Treat* with Anna Paquin and Dylan Baker is always a must. Unfortunately, the graphic novel, meant to be set in the same world and featuring the menacingly adorable movie icon, Sam, is a little bit of a miss.

Days of the Dead is a collection of four short stories that span various time periods. "Seed" is set in the 17th Century and concerns a witch and her lover. "Echoes" is set in the '50s, making an attempt to be some sort of supernatural crime noir. "Corn Maiden" takes place in the Old West, adding some cowboy flare to the book. And lastly, there's "Monster Mash," the

contemporary addition, and the one that feels the most akin to the movie.

Written by Michael Dougherty, the original writer and director of the film, the graphic novel lacks cohesion. A vain attempt is made to link the four stories with the use of Sam, a toddler-sized scarecrow creature that fans will recognize as the homicidal trick-or-treater from the movie. But even Sam couldn't save this mess. The stories seem rushed, and don't seem Halloween-y enough to warrant such a specifically themed title. Overall, they're pretty generic.

Each story features a different artist, and, while I can't say I'm displeased with any of the art, the artists are so varied in style that the aesthetics of the novel mimic the literary incoherency. Having different artists merely makes the problems with the novel worse.

In my professional opinion, as someone who's read a lot of horror comics, as well as a great lover of all things spooky—I'd say pass on this.



Image via legendary.com

'Goosebumps' movie delivers hilarity, creepiness, and nostalgia

» Movie about book series excellent for any fan

Cazzy Lewchuk
Staff Writer



The *Goosebumps* books—horror novels for children that were extremely popular in the '90s—have sold over 350 million copies worldwide, making them one of the greatest selling series of all time. Almost everyone in North America under 30 read at least one of them as a kid: tales of living dummies, monster blood, and haunted masks. Over 20 years after the first book was published, the franchise has returned with a feature-length movie, which does not disappoint in any way for fans or casual viewers.

The movie is appropriate for any reasonably mature child. Its themes may be too scary for a six-year-old, but anyone over 10 will enjoy it on its own terms or because of nostalgia, no matter how old they are. The plot follows teenager Zach Cooper (Dylan Minnette) moving to a new small town, bored and cynical with the area. He quickly meets his cute neighbour Hannah (Odeya Rush) and her creepy, shut-in father R. L. Stine, the real life and in-universe author of the *Goosebumps* books. Stine is played by Jack Black—yes, *that* Jack Black—who delivers a surprisingly fine performance. In a departure from his usual style, Black is almost unrecognizable in his role, playing Stine powerfully and creepily, but still with



Still of Jack Black, Dylan Minnette, Ryan Lee and Odeya Rush in *Goosebumps* (2016)

a large helping of comedy. He also provides the voice of unofficial *Goosebumps* mascot Slappy the Living Dummy, the main antagonist in the movie who's exceptionally spooky.

As it turns out, all the monsters in the *Goosebumps* books are actually real, locked away in the manuscripts to stop them from wreaking havoc. Of course, they do get loose and proceed to destroy the small town. Stine has to write one final book to

send the monsters away.

Practically every single monster from the series makes an appearance in this movie, if only in wide-angle shots that only a huge fan would be able to decipher. However, those less familiar with the series will still love the movie because it's genuinely clever, charming, and hilarious. The characters are well-acted, quirky, and entertaining to watch, and the plot is a lot of fun to see escalate, if slightly

predictable at times—it is, of course, a family-friendly movie.

Ultimately, this movie takes the audience on an adventure—one where we'll do a lot of laughing, crying, and reminiscing on what it was like to be younger and be terrified by Stine's creations. The jokes themselves are actually quite well-done for a family film, the CGI creatures are believable and beautiful, and the script is mostly straightforward and entertaining. I can't wait

for the already-announced sequel, in which the characters will take on the monstrous theme park Horrorland.

My one fanboy complaint: they never mention monster blood in this movie, one of the most iconic and memorable creations of the *Goosebumps* books. Who could forget the giant class hamster?

Viewers beware: you're in for a scare.

Relive Malala Yousafzai's story in new documentary

» 'He Named Me Malala' movie review

Jerrison Oracion
Senior Columnist



In 2013, Malala Yousafzai was shot by the Taliban in her school in Pakistan because she made a comment that every girl should have a chance to go to school. She survived that situation and went on to receive the Nobel Peace Prize and cause a global movement encouraging every girl in the world to go to school. We learn more about her in the new documentary *He Named Me Malala*, directed by Davis Guggenheim, who also directed the Academy Award-winning



Photo via www.theedgesusu.co.uk

global warming documentary *An Inconvenient Truth*.

He Named Me Malala gives all access to Malala's road to recovery, her private life, her early life, and the most important person in

her life, her father Ziauddin Yousafzai. It also has animations that illustrate what they are talking about.

The documentary begins with Malala being shot. As you learn about her early years,

you will realize that it will lead up to the events of the beginning. The documentary does a great job showing how close Malala and Ziauddin are and how he is involved in her movement. There are a lot of interesting stories from Malala and Ziauddin. For example, Malala was named after a girl who was involved in a movement and was shot, except that particular Malala passed away. Another example is that Malala wrote a blog for BBC News under a secret identity that talked about what was happening in her hometown of Swat Valley and the Taliban not allowing free speech.

We learn that Ziauddin inspired her to do the things that she does because he is a

motivational speaker. We also learn that Malala likes to go back to Swat Valley because she likes her life there, but she cannot go back right now because the Taliban are in Pakistan and she will be shot. On the lighter side, we find out that one of her favorite games is *Despicable Me: Minion Rush*.

The documentary's message is that if every girl in the world goes to school, they could impact our world, and if we take action, it will happen. If you would like to learn more about Malala and the movement, you can read her autobiography, *I Am Malala*.

As Malala says, "One girl, one teacher, one book, and one pen can change the world."

Terrifying books to check out this Halloween

» Scary stories for seasonal selection

Cazzy Lewchuk
Staff Writer

While horror has become increasingly popular in movies, TV shows, and even video games, it often remains underground in book form. While many novels exist in the genre, they often remain undetected by the mainstream since horror has elements that may not appeal to casual readers. Nevertheless, with Halloween upon us, there's a new reason to get scared by what we read. Here are my suggestions for fiction to get you in the spirit.

Stephen King: An exception to the lack of mainstream horror success, King's prolific career has made him one of the most successful writers of all time. His books come in many forms and, while virtually all feature a creepy tone, many of his works contain no supernatural or shock value elements. For those looking for less straight horror, his works

The Bachman Books, The Stand, The Dark Tower, Different Seasons, and *11/22/63* feature a focus on drama, fantasy, and even some comedy over his typical association. For those wanting the books that give him his association, *The Shining, It, Pet Sematary,* and *Skeleton Crew* are amongst his scariest works.

Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark: Alvin Schwartz's trilogy, which is allegedly for children, was the source of nightmares for millions of kids. The books are collections of very short, one- to two-page, stories inspired by folklore and urban legends. Perhaps the scariest part of this series was not the stories themselves, but the disturbing illustrations by Stephen Gammell. A recent re-release of the series eliminated the terrifying artwork, and the creepiness factor just isn't the same. Be sure to read the original editions for maximum fright.

R. L. Stine: Often known as "Stephen King for children," Stine's books have frights for all ages. While his children's series *Goosebumps* and its spin-offs are the most popular and perhaps his best works, Stine's books extend far beyond. His *Fear Street* books for teenagers went into much more mature territory and were often reminiscent of a horror movie. He even wrote a couple novels for adults, like *Superstition* and *Red Rain*. Why not relive childhood this October by revisiting one of his hundreds of books, especially after checking out the recent *Goosebumps* movie?

Edgar Allen Poe: One of the original horror writers, Poe's works from the 1800s can still be frightening as well as entertaining to modern audiences. Although his stories can be difficult to understand language-wise, anyone with an interest in classical literature or the horror genre should read a bit of the literary master. His



Image via www.joshuaunruh.com

scariest short stories include "The Black Cat," "The Fall of the House of Usher," and "The Premature Burial."

Creepypasta: While not usually available in print form, Creepypasta is a form of scary story written by amateurs on the Internet that is still very

effective. Many of the stories have been extended to serial form or even mainstream pop culture, such as the "Slender Man" figure, who originally appeared in Creepypasta lore. These stories can be viewed on websites such as Reddit.com/r/creepypasta, or Creepypasta.com

Everyone loves in 'Almost, Maine'

» Latest Douglas College play shows different types of love

Cheryl Minns
Arts Editor
arts@theotherpress.ca

As evening falls on the fictional town of Almost, Maine, characters of various ages discover different kinds of love in very literal ways. Taking place on a versatile, changeable set in Douglas College's Studio Theatre, *Almost, Maine* will feature six second-year theatre students playing multiple roles in six scenes that deal with love and tangible metaphors.

"All the way through the play, and indeed in each scene, there's something tangible about love, about a metaphor of love that we actually get to take apart and put back together. It's written as if it's completely ordinary," director Deborah Neville said.

Some examples of these metaphors include hearts that can literally break and be put back together, as well

as the act of falling in love causing actual clumsiness.

"I think it's really relatable because it shows all different phases of love and different kinds of love: love that you don't want, love that you're fighting really hard for, love that you can't get and you can't receive back," said Rachel Fournier, who plays several characters, including Ginette, Sandrine, and Gayle.

They can be found just about anywhere: the spider's web; the rippling, concentric circles of a pond; or the spiral shape of the Milky Way galaxy.

"You go through one or many of those in your life, and it's something that I think everyone can relate to."

In the play's prologue, teenagers Ginette and Pete declare their love to one

another, only to realise that such a declaration can have repercussions on such young love.

"It's so young and innocent, and it's different than all the other kinds of love in the play, which are a little bit more experienced, and the characters are in relationships and stuff like that," Fournier said.

"It's one of those plays that makes you think and makes you reflect upon your own life," said Sean Brown, who plays several characters including Jimmy and Randy.

The "almost" in *Almost, Maine* refers to a possibility or a chance that something might happen, according to Neville.

"We never get to see the full journey of love. We arrive at a moment where something alters," she said.

During the play, the Northern Lights light up the stage, adding a colourful visual to the characters' emotions.

"The Northern Lights are almost like a character that stays with us and plays through the piece and highlights these kind of moments that we're touching on," Neville said. "Like the Northern Lights, each moment has its own colour and its own specific beauty. Then it's gone again and we don't know what will come next."

Almost, Maine will be playing November 5-13 at the Studio Theatre at the Douglas College New Westminster campus. On November 9 and 10, the show will include a talkback session.

Tickets are available online at TicketsNW.com for \$20 each for general admission, or \$10 each for students and matinee shows.

THE DEPARTMENTS OF THEATRE AND STAGECRAFT & EVENT TECHNOLOGY PRESENT

ALMOST, MAINE

BY JOHN CARIANI

"A WHIMSICAL APPROACH TO THE JOYS AND PERILS OF LOVE. MAGICAL HAPPENINGS BLOOM BENEATH THE SNOWDRIFTS."
- THE NEW YORK TIMES

Director: Deborah Neville
Set & Lighting Design: Bryan Kenney
Costume Design: Ines Ortner

November 5-13, 2015
7:30pm
No shows November 8 & 11
Matinees:
Saturday, November 7, 2pm
Monday, November 9, 12pm TALKBACK

Studio Theatre
Room 4140 - Fourth Floor North
700 Royal Ave., New Westminster
One block from New Westminster SkyTrain Station

tickets NW ICA
Advance tickets available from Tickets New West
Purchase online or call 604.521.5050
All performances are held at Douglas College
For more information: douglascollege.ca/artsevents or 604-527-5723

SPORTS

Have an idea for a story? Let us know!

Contact: Eric Wilkins, Editor-in-Chief
 ✉ editor@theotherpress.ca

Humble home of the horse lords

» Learn horsemanship at Epona Stable



Adam Tatelman
Staff Writer

Since the first civilizations rose, humans have respected and relied upon the strength of the horse. A cavalry charge was the go-to military assault tactic until the invention of the mounted machinegun in WWI. For even longer, the horse has served as a farmhand and a transporter of goods. To ride a horse is to take part in an ancient tradition of domestication and companionship, and there's no better place to learn horsemanship locally than Epona Stable.

The stable itself is unassuming, not much more than a small barn with a riding circle, some jumping hurdles and about a dozen horses. One could easily pass right by it, but don't let the facade dissuade you. Athletes and film actors of all stripes have trained here, and you can too.

Epona Stable offers a number of different options for the equestrian-in-training,

but there is a lot to learn about the nature of horses before one ever sits atop a saddle. To establish yourself as the leader, to know where to stand, and to understand the horse's body language are all essential elements of horsemanship. Every class covers all of these things and more, and you'll be paired with the same horse each time so that you grow to work as a unit.

Aside from the basic horseback riding lessons, there are also safe trail riding lessons which prepare the rider to deal with pedestrians or pets on the trail. You can learn show jumping once you've got some experience, and there's a horse care program that teaches actors how to clean and saddle horses for scene work in addition to basic riding skills.

Some of Epona's classes are a little off the beaten track. The Giddy Fit program incorporates horse care with obstacle courses as physical preparation for horseback riding (trust me, you need those core muscles for stability). The Equine Assisted Natural Healing program—a meditative

practice using the calming bond between horse and rider as a focus—is meant to help people cope with PTSD or ADHD.

The instructor, Felicia Allen, learned European riding, dressage and show jumping at the Royal Danish Riding academy at Christiansborg Palace. Over her 40-year career, she's studied with Olympic horse riders like Margaret Dodson. For as long as she's owned and operated Epona, there have been zero accidents. She also has a program designed to rehabilitate horses who have been abused; her love for horses is clear, and she is a great role model to learn from.

In Gallo-Roman religion, Epona is a symbol of grace, goddess of fertility and a protector to horses. Given Felicia's technical expertise and philanthropic efforts, I can think of no better title for this stable. Anyone with the time, money, and passion could make horsemanship a lifetime pursuit at Epona Stables. Private introductory lesson packages are \$325. Epona is located east of Coquitlam Centre at 3323 Devon Road, Port Coquitlam.

Player Profile: Kelsey Acaster

» Alternate captain for the women's soccer team

Davie Wong
Sports Reporter

Kelsey Acaster is a fourth-year player and the alternate captain for the women's soccer team. She is finishing her Bachelor of Arts in psychology majoring in counselling and is looking to pursue a career in teaching. On the field, she plays centre back and has played an essential role to the team as a leader and a solid defensive player.

Having played soccer since she was two-and-a-half, Acaster is entering her 19th year of play. She credits her immense success to the love and dedication of her father, who coached her for eight years, and her sister.

Her years of experience give her the ability to read the game extremely well and although she can play any position on the

field, she finds that her skills are best suited as a defensive backbone to the team. As a leader she plays the role of a motivator, encouraging her teammates to play at their best while also leading by example.

Unfortunately, Acaster is entering her final year of her soccer career. Her years of playing have taken a toll on her body and multiple injuries have convinced her to call it quits after this season.

That being said, she is hoping to make her last year her best. She is looking to make it to Nationals and claim a championship with the team.

After Douglas, Acaster is looking forward to teaching in BC. Although her playing career may be over after this year, she is still planning to be involved with soccer as a coach.



Photo via Douglas College Student Services on flickr

This issue:

- ✓ Royals claim best regular season soccer records
- ✓ Douglas volleyball off to good start

And more!



WOMEN'S SOCCER

INSTRUCTION	CONF	PTS
DOUGLAS	10-3-2	32
VIU	9-4-2	29
QUEST	7-6-2	23
KPU	4-6-5	17
LANGARA	4-7-4	16
CAPILANO	2-10-3	9

MEN'S SOCCER

INSTRUCTION	CONF	PTS
DOUGLAS	7-3-5	26
VIU	7-3-5	26
CAPILANO	7-6-2	23
KPU	6-5-4	22
QUEST	4-9-2	14
LANGARA	3-8-4	13

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

INSTRUCTION	CONF	PTS
CAPILANO	3-1	6
DOUGLAS	3-1	6
CAMOSUN	2-0	4
UFV	2-2	4
VIU	0-2	0
CBC	0-0	0
COTR	0-0	0

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

INSTRUCTION	CONF	PTS
DOUGLAS	4-0	8
CAMOSUN	2-0	4
UFV	2-2	4
CAPILANO	2-2	4
VIU	0-2	0
CBC	0-4	0
COTR	0-0	0

A comprehensive guide to Halloween history

The origins of our spooky festivities
By Cazy Lewchuk, Staff Writer

Halloween is one of the largest and most celebrated holidays in North America. In fact, Halloween is the second-largest holiday (right after Christmas) in terms of celebrations and money with an estimated \$1 billion spent in Canada and another \$8 billion in the US. As early as August, retailers fill their shelves with all sorts of chocolates, candies, pumpkins, costumes, and decorations to bring the night of October 31 to life. Children usually go door-to-door dressed in costumes seeking goodies, while their older counterparts dress up and spend the night drinking and having fun with their friends and families. Most everyone uses Halloween as an excuse to celebrate horror and scare others for fun. But what does this holiday really mean? What is the origin of celebrating horror, of lighting up hollow pumpkins, of dressing in costumes?

Although Halloween is a combination of Christian and pagan influences and the origins and combinations of festivals are widely debated, it is generally agreed that this holiday originally comes primarily from Christianity. From October 31 to November 2 is a period of time during which Western Christians remember the faithful departed souls—particularly their recognized martyrs and saints. In the beginning it was known as “All Hallows’ Eve,” before being contracted

to “Hallowe’en.” Celebrations to remember the dead are common across many cultures, with the specific time of year often moved to coincide with this Christian ritual. The night of October 31 was traditionally thought to be the time when the afterlife came close to the actual world. This recognition of the supernatural became the horror-themed celebration we know today. An unrelated pagan ritual known as “Samhain” is also traditionally celebrated on the night of October 31, which marks the end of harvest. Eventually the holidays merged in the 19th and 20th century.

Trick-or-treating is perhaps the most recognizable part of the holiday. The concept emerged from several cultural practices that involve seeking treats going door-to-door. In the Middle Ages, those in need would go to residences on November 1 and ask for food offerings in exchange for prayers for departed souls. This practice was known as “guising” or “souling.” During All Hallows’ Eve, some people would dress in costumes or use masks so as not to be recognized by a departed soul. Modern trick-or-treating performed by children originated in North America in the early 20th century. It was not mainstream until the 1930s or 1940s, but became popular after World War II ended and sugar and candy was plentiful again. In some

areas—particularly in Scotland and Ireland—the “trick” part is taken seriously; children are often expected to perform some sort of act or talent in exchange for their reward. Nowadays, the “trick” may be seen as more of a threat as far too many unwitting house owners have fallen prey to smashed pumpkins or egged walls after refusing to give out candy to rowdy youngsters.

The jack-o’-lantern, another ubiquitous Halloween symbol, has multiple origin stories and connections. Some folklore tells of how “Jack” was trapped by the devil, who was tricked by Jack from claiming his soul. After dying, Jack was denied entrance to heaven due to his sinful lifestyle, and he continues to wander the world with his lantern, searching for a place to rest.

The carving of vegetables for lantern usage has been in place for centuries and coincides with early All Hallows’ Eve celebrations. In Europe, turnips or squash were used as light sources to guide those who were souling. The pumpkin variation originated in North America, simply due to the climate conditions, which made them easier to grow in this part of the world. Using pumpkins for carving and nutrition was part of the culture before being associated with Halloween, and is also a traditional part of Thanksgiving decoration.

Halloween is celebrated differently all over the world, but it is by far, biggest in Canada and the US. Many cultures—even English-speaking ones—would find our style almost unrecognizable. In Australia and New Zealand, Halloween is not widely practiced. Many parts of Europe have also only adopted Halloween celebrations in the last couple of decades due to Western pop culture. In Asia, Halloween’s influence is generally even less than in Europe. However, certain cultures have celebrations for the dead and the supernatural that may be combined with Western Halloween activities around the same time.

The darker side of Halloween—i.e., the unsafe practices and vandalism—go back as far as the



celebration itself. In 1912, the Boy Scouts of America put out a declaration encouraging safe practices and discouraging vandalism for all on Halloween night. Today, smashing pumpkins, toilet papering, and destroying decorations are just some of the “tricks” that often occur on the holiday. Some places even celebrate “Mischief Night” on October 30 (also known as “Gate Night” in BC) during which pranks are common and encouraged. The practice of tricking the night before the treating is very regional, being common in some areas and almost unheard of in others. Communities often encourage controlled and harm-reducing Halloween activities for increased safety, and generally, it is adults and teenagers who are more likely to be injured than children. In addition, the concept of poisoned or razor-blade Halloween candy is widely regarded to be a myth.

The Halloween season is also the time of year when the horror genre becomes not just mainstream, but celebrated. October is a time for scary movies to be widely shown and remembered. Horror figures like Freddy Krueger, Dracula, and Halloween killer Michael Myers contribute to the pop culture importance of Halloween today.

The huge holiday of Halloween is a wide amalgamation of cultural, religious, and traditional practices combined with pop culture and capitalism. While many of its more traditional aspects have been forgotten or warped, its popularity remains high. It seems likely that Western influence and the promise of money in the industry will lead Halloween to become only bigger in the years ahead, after all, it seems like the Halloween decorations show up in stores just a little bit earlier every year.



Royals claim best regular soccer season records

» Women's and men's teams both clinch first seed

Davie Wong
Sports Reporter

It has been quite the dramatic season for both Royals soccer teams this year. Coming into this season, almost no one could say with confidence that both squads would take first place in the regular season, yet as the season comes to a close, that is exactly where both teams stand.

For both teams, having the best regular season record is but a step towards the goal of winning provincials. Nonetheless, both teams should be proud of the effort and skill that they have displayed so far.

The women's team clinched first seed on Saturday after a thrilling 3-0 win over Vancouver Island University (VIU). Both Danae Harding and Marni McMillan chipped in to cap off their stellar seasons. They co-lead the league with 9 goals in 15 games, sweeping away the rest of the competition. Much of the team's success has come at the hands of these two's finishing prowess.

But no one can talk about

the women's success without talking about the spectacular play of goalkeeper Rebecca Mainardi and the defensive unit in front of her. Mainardi has been amazing for the Royals, tallying 7 shutouts in 13 games. Likewise, the defensive core of the Royals has been outstanding. The team has been able to keep the number of goals allowed to 10 goals in 15 games.

The women end their season with a record of 10-3-2, with three points separating them from VIU. They play the Kwantlen Eagles next week in the playoffs.

Much like the women, the men's team has also had much success in their season. They also clinched their spot at the top of the table this weekend. They played a hard game against VIU on Saturday and drew a tie. A loss by VIU on Sunday secured the Royals the first seed going into playoffs.

Isaac Kyei led the team in goals with 6 in 15 games, which kept him among the league leaders. The Royals also had two other players amongst the



Photo via Douglas College Student Services on flickr

top 13 scorers in the conference; Yassin Essa had four goals in the season and Nicholas Pineda Graham had three.

Like the women, the men also had a strong defensive unit. Both goaltenders had remarkable seasons for the

Royals, with Mark Mincieli being one of the best in the conference. They allowed 15 goals in 15 games, keeping an average of 1 goal a game in a conference where offence reigned supreme.

The men end their season

with a record of 7-3-5 and 26 points. They are tied in points with VIU but due to an earlier win during the season between the both teams, the Royals take the first seed. They look to play KPU next week during the playoffs.

Douglas volleyball off to good start

» Men and women looking confident two weeks in

Davie Wong
Sports Reporter

As the soccer season begins to wind down, the volleyball season begins to start up. The first two weeks have been extraordinary for the Royals. On Saturday, October 24, the men capped off their second 2-0 week with a 3-0 win against the University of the Fraser Valley (UFV) at home. The women also had a 2-0 week, beating UFV 3-1 earlier in the evening, leaving both the men's and women's squads undefeated at home.

That record came into jeopardy for the men on Friday night as UFV came out swinging and took them to five sets. The team bounced back after dropping the fourth set 25-23 to win in the fifth 15-8. It was a hard challenge for the Royals team that has looked dominant to date.

The beast that was UFV looked much tamer the next day as the Royals executed beautifully, taking the game 3-0. Coach Brad Hudson viewed his team's victory on Saturday more as a return to form than anything else. "Yesterday, I

think we just weren't invested emotionally in what we were doing. We kind of just showed up to show up. Today I thought you saw a much more intent from a group that wasn't pleased with how they played yesterday and wanted to show themselves a little better".

Meanwhile, the women's team also had a very successful weekend. They bounced back from their loss in week one to Capilano, where they played hard and looked equal to their opponent. Playing against the mid-ranked Cascades, the Royals came together well, handing UFV a 3-0 loss on Friday, followed by a 3-1 loss on Saturday. The team seemed much more improved from last week and only seemed to get better as the sets went on.

Coach Kyra Iannone had this to say about her team's effort: "Our goal was to stay undefeated at home and we accomplished that. After our loss we talked about being mentally tough and being able to push through it. I think it was really good for the girls to go out there after a loss and bounce back and make some key plays".



Photo by Davie Wong

She believes the girls can use the momentum from this week and push through the competition in the coming weeks.

Catch the teams next week as they play the College of the Rockies Avalanche in back-to-back home games on Saturday and Sunday. The women's games

start at 6 p.m. on Saturday and 11 a.m. on Sunday, while the men's are at 8 p.m. and 1 p.m. respectively.

Have an idea for a story? Let us know!

Contact: Brittney MacDonald, Life & Style Editor
lifelandstyle@theotherpress.ca

LIFE & STYLE

This issue:

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The ECO-nomist and being Hallogreen!

» Finding cheap, environmentally friendly ways to celebrate



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Halloween is probably only second to Christmas as being the most disposable holiday. If you think about it, all those candy wrappers, the costumes you'll wear one time and then forget about, the paper decorations that will be going straight into the trash after the Vancouver weather does a number on them—it all leads up to one big, wasteful evening of fun and fancy. As a conservationist, I should despise Halloween, but I don't. It's actually my favourite holiday! The trick is to know how to make your Halloween as Hallogreen as possible.

It all starts with decorations. I mean, you want to entice those adorable trick-or-treaters to come to your house (which is really creepy if you think about it), so you have to have

some decorations, right? A jack-'o-lantern, some fake cobwebs, maybe a ghost or two? Now I'm not saying get rid of the pumpkin, that would just be blasphemy (plus, it's biodegradable), but it is a good idea to plan your decorations to either be reusable, or not made of paper and plastics. By reusable, I mean don't fall for the gimmicky paper and cardboard cut-outs at the dollar store. Sure, paper is biodegradable, but it still ends up in a landfill on November 1.

Instead, go for decorations that will be able to stand up to the changing Vancouver weather. Rather than tissue paper, use white garbage bags for your ghosts. They'll be water-proof, and you can reuse them as actual garbage bags once Halloween is over. My next suggestion is to invest in some festive lights—like Christmas but better, because ghosts and pumpkins beat Santas and candy canes any day. Having festive lights automatically makes your house

look Halloween-y, so you can ditch those fake cobwebs, which are a pain to put up and you throw out every year. Plus, lights have the added bonus of making your house look more inviting to children (again, this is creepy). They'll be more willing to brave your doorstep if they know for sure there will be a candy reward.

Of course nothing beats a good old fashioned DIY. Your decorations will be extra Hallogreen and impressive if they don't look like everyone else's on the block. So hit up Pinterest and see how you can turn your garbage into something masterful and spooky. Last year I turned milk jugs into light-up day of the dead skulls. This year I've been collecting toilet paper rolls so I can turn them into evil eyes that will peek out from the six-foot hedge that surrounds my house.

My last tip, and probably the simplest to follow, is about costumes. Vancouver is an amazing city for finding discount

thrift costumes. I mean, come on, we have pop-up stores specifically devoted to it. If you're in need of a costume, maybe try something thrifted—chances are it will be cheaper than buying something new, and far better quality. With this comes my annual dreading of the release of fad costumes. You know the kind, the ones that are funny and/or topical. I hate fad costumes; I think they're ridiculous and a huge waste. Not only are they oftentimes insulting to a portion of the population, but they're also completely useless after that year (I'm looking at you, Caitlyn Jenner costume). I get it, you don't want to be known as the person that wears the same Halloween costume every year, but that doesn't mean that

you can't donate your costume when you're done with it—or pass it on to a family member or friend when they're in need of something fast next year. Fad costumes eliminate that option. Halloween is a fantastic and fun holiday that is pretty unique in the pantheon of festivities. So enjoy all the candy and costumes, without your environmental conscience nagging you.



Photo via lastresistance.com

The graveyard shift

» Surviving the horrors of Fright Nights



Adam Tatelman
Staff Writer

While I wouldn't call myself a professional, I have been known to do a little acting from time to time. On the whole, it's a fun way to make money, even if you do have to constantly go looking for a new job every time you finish a show. That's why the idea of scaring patrons at Fright Nights was attractive to the amateur actor in me—it's rare to find an acting gig that pays by the hour for an entire month to the tune of about \$1,200. At first, I was enticed at the thought of getting paid to scare the crap out of people. But by the end of the first day I wanted to quit.

So what could turn a broke actor off of such a sweet deal? The working conditions are safe, the supervisors are fair-minded, and the rules are simple. You get your 15- and 30-minute breaks just like any other wage worker. No, the problem lies with the difference between what you're told you'll be doing and what you actually get to do. That's the real reason the first day was

so disappointing to me. I am a house scarer. I wear a pig suit, hide in a tiny room, and jump out from behind a curtain about 300 times a night. That's the extent of my job. As far as acting gigs go I've had worse—playing an extra is really just a bunch of standing around, and you don't even get a pig suit—but I discarded everything the training pamphlet told me about my “exciting job” pretty quickly. What the recruiters call “improv” amounts to changing the pitch and tone of my pig squeals—riveting stuff.

Having to wear a monster mask is a real pain. If you're going to work as a scarer, you better hope you get makeup instead of a mask, because those things are the worst combination of latex and rubber you're likely to find. Aside from the six straight hours of sweat and itch (with no way to relieve it due to my pig-suit hooves), some actors wind up with a bad rash from wearing the masks.

The customers usually come through the house at two speeds: “are we open yet” and “bend over and insert roaring crowd.” Basically, you're either sitting in the dark waiting or

desperately trying to explain the meaning of “single file” to a wall-busting, drunken horde of rowdy teenagers. It's pretty hard to get scares on a big crowd—strength in numbers, you know—and it's even harder if there's no one there to scare. Happy mediums are rare.

Some customers' reactions break the monotony and supply the satisfaction I need to continue. Drunk teenage girls are the best targets because they either freak out and scare each other when I pounce, or laugh and hit on me despite the pig suit. Some people burst into tears or fall down and hurt themselves, in which case I lead them to the emergency exit. Others roar back in my face or grope my costume. That's grounds for expulsion, but they make me laugh, so I let it slide. Besides, there's nothing more satisfying than pulling a perfect scare on someone who's been manhandling the props.

After the first week or so, I hit on a method. I stood just-so to avoid being seen while scouting for incoming patrons. I determined those patrons' positions by listening for their voices. I perfected my posture to



Photo via vancouverextendedstay.com

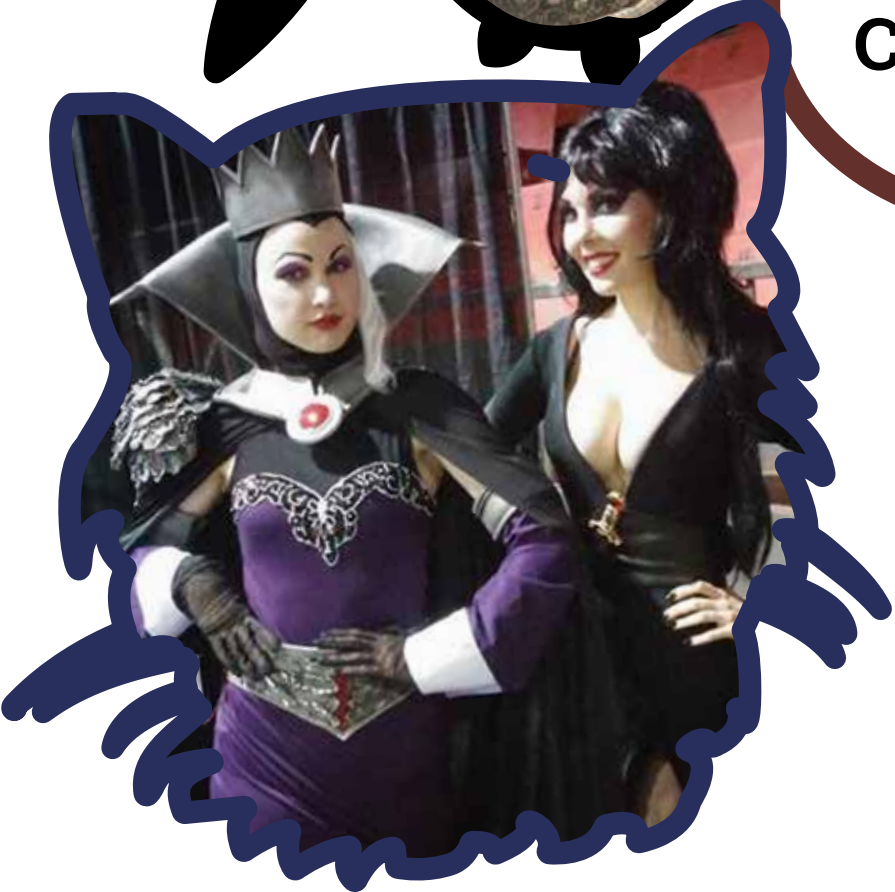
prevent morning soreness. I got the costume change down to a science to avoid spending half my break getting into and out of the pig suit. The job became a Zen experience. I learned to focus on the moment of the scare instead of the sweaty suit and the constant noise.

So, is Fright Nights an awful job? No. It's just monotonous in the extreme. Every employee,

through experience, has to learn to cope with being a human prop in an elaborate infinitely looping play. There's a steep learning curve, and I wouldn't recommend this job to the easily bored—ironically, most actors. But as long as you've got some throat lozenges at the end of the day, surviving Fright Nights is a lot like working in customer service: mind-numbing, but doable.



**Fan Expo
Costumes**



The philosophical 'Monster'

» Energy drinks and why they're so popular



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A couple weeks ago I drank my first Monster Energy drink in about two years. Usually I stick to black coffee and a lot of ginseng and green tea when I'm feeling a bit burnt out, but I was in a rush. As I sipped what can only be described as the most toxic tasting thing I have ever put in my mouth, I contemplated what brought me to this point. Why would something that tastes so vile be so successful, and why did I even think of buying one and then proceed to drink the entire thing? In essence, what I'm asking is: what changed in our society to make energy drinks a thing?

A few years ago I worked as a clerk at a gas station that doubled as a sandwich and pizza shop. I know it sounds weird, but it was literally in the middle of nowhere and the only things around were wood mills. The mill workers, most of them young men, would come in at around 4:30 a.m. to get cigarettes, breakfast sandwiches, and pretty much whatever else they would need before their shift—and I would be remiss if I didn't point out that probably about 8 out of 10 of them bought energy drinks. Not that surprising, considering the hours they worked. What shocked me is that the high

school students that used the seating area to wait for their bus would do the exact same thing, to the point where, in 2010, I had to call an ambulance because a kid had a heart attack caused by drinking back-to-back 5-hour energy shots his mother had bought for him.

Now I waited a while before I attended post-secondary, so I don't really know if the pressure placed on high school kids warrants an energy drink addiction—or if it's merely one of those fads caused by clever advertising and kids wanting to stay up late. I do know what it's like to be a college/university student, though.

At around my third year, I began to understand the phrase: "You can sleep when you're dead." School is extremely demanding—weekdays filled with hours upon hours of lectures you need to be awake and alert for, followed by study sessions that go late into the night, homework, and essays that have to be researched and then written in several drafts before the due date. It can be overwhelming. Good thing you have your weekends right? No—weekends are spent either one of three ways: you use them to complete the practically endless amount of work you've accumulated during the week, you allow your friends to drag you out because they've been complaining they never see you



Illustration by Ed Appleby

anymore—and you need time with them so as not to turn into a hysterical mess of stress—or you work, because tuition and bills don't suddenly disappear because you need a nap.

Being a student is not easy; in fact, it's probably one of the most difficult things you will ever do in your life—and depending on your life goals you could be stuck doing it for a long time.

So considering all that pressure, pressure that only seems to be growing as time goes on and the job market becomes more competitive, it's easy to understand how

energy drinks wormed their way into our lives. We have been taught that if you're sleeping, you're not being productive.

Now, as I stated before, I don't drink energy drinks often. I am, however, guilty of succumbing to their back water cousin, "jet fuel." Now, "jet fuel" might be a term unique to SFU and Kwantlen, but it's when you mix strong black coffee with Pepsi or Coke. Essentially what it does is give you a sugar rush that lasts a lot longer, because there's more caffeine involved. It's extremely bad for you, and causes some pretty nasty stomach cramps if you drink

too much of it—hence why I can't judge anyone who drinks Monster and other beverages like it on a regular basis.

So who do I blame for energy drinks being such a major part of our society? I think it should be obvious, but I blame the expectations that we have created for ourselves. The growing popularity of energy drinks is just a symptom of a much larger problem—the denial that we need to maintain our own physical and mental health in favour of becoming perfect, productive members of society.

Boomerang

» The expanding influence of Instagram



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Social media giant Instagram is expanding their brand by creating a completely new app called Boomerang. Despite their popularity, Instagram is constantly trying to improve and keep themselves fresh, sometimes to their detriment—have you seen their new layout? It's awful. However, Boomerang is shaping up to be a cute little side project that could have the people over at Instagram patting themselves on the back.

It's not a complicated process: take what people love about your original idea, and just tweak it a bit so that it seems new, but not too new. In the case of Boomerang, they took Instagram's latest video function, as well as their original photo functions, and combined them. The result is a new app devoted to one second videos made up of five photos taken in succession.

What you get is a silent gif that's aesthetically disjointed. It's cute and fun, and slightly nostalgic—the mini-movies look like silent films from the '20s.

You might be asking yourself, why make this an entirely new app when you could just add it to the original Instagram? That's a good question, and unfortunately it's one I do not have an answer to. My only explanation is that Instagram wanted to have the app require a third party for publication. Boomerang itself doesn't have a feed, probably because doing so would put the app in direct competition with its predecessor. Instead, the mini-movies are saved to your phone and you can share them through Instagram, Twitter, or Facebook.

Now, if your social media prowess pre-dates Instagram, this idea might sound familiar. It's very similar to the iOS (and as of this week, Android) app Phhphoto, a startup that was expected to be a direct competitor of Instagram. Eventually, Phhphoto

was overtaken by Instagram in popularity—for good reason. It has this nasty stalker function that allowed you to GPS people. Now, apparently Instagram believes enough time has passed for the public to forget that they're totally ripping off someone else. But what's the problem? Google does it all the time! Speaking of Google, ever heard of the animation feature in Google Photos? Yeah, Boomerang is completely ripping them off too.

To be fair, this process of successful social media companies absorbing or appropriating the ideas of failed ones is done all of the time—and unless the failed company has a patent on their technology, there's pretty much nothing anyone can do about it.

For me, I'll probably download Boomerang, play with it for a week, and then get bored and delete it. Cute little side projects only get you so far when they're a bit gimmicky.



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Sallad
@SalladT



People that go to #douglascollege need to check that truck out. Tuesday's @_cheeses crust is outside of David lam.

2015-10-20, 12:28 PM

↩️ ↻ ⭐ ⋮

This week's tweet is by @JeanetteAshe

Have an idea for a story? Let us know!

Contact: Elliot Chan, Opinions Editor
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OPINIONS

You have the privilege

» Is your costume racist, offensive... or just sexy?



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I want to talk about cultural appropriation involving Halloween costumes. I know, I know, it's a long-discussed topic between party-poopers and ignorant eye rollers.

Let me come at this subject from where I stand as a Halloween party participant. Each year I attend a party wearing a costume where I feel like it's not me. Not because I'm uncomfortable or the fact that it's supposed to be a costume, it's just because I have a hard time convincing people that I'm a white guy. My previous costumes included: Donnie Darko (I looked like a hoodlum), Richie Tenenbaum (I looked like Kim Jong-il), and Steve Jobs (I looked like my uncle Stephen). One year, I said, "Fuck it," and went as Glenn from *The Walking Dead*. I wore a baseball hat; that was my whole costume.

Even I knew that was a lame costume. I looked like a tourist.

Yes, you might say, white is the default race and therefore white people cannot be offended if I should dress up as a cowboy. Then how come when a white guy dresses up as a Chinaman it's a big deal?

Oh, he's perpetuating a stereotype, you say.

He should check his privilege.

I hate that phrase, "check your privilege," this line for governing white people. Thanks, I don't need the protection, other white people. I have thick skin. Your little costume doesn't offend me.

I'll never know what it's like to be a white person, but I do know what racism is.

Racism is when you tell me I can't drive because I'm Chinese. Racism is when a black guy gets arrested, only because the white police officer is scared. Racism is trying to get your foot in the door for a job

and having less-experienced white people leapfrog you. A Halloween costume is not a big, oppressive statement. It's a costume. It's not the problem, and those that believe it is are those same people who try to be healthy by avoiding sugar in coffee, and then eating a cake as a reward. It's a molehill problem, not a mountain.

Here's a popular response: Would you dress up like a black guy around a group of black guys? I'm not saying that if Robert Downey Jr. did it, it's okay. I'm saying no, I would not dress up like a black guy in Ferguson, St. Louis during the riot. But if I had a Bob Marley costume, I'd wear it on Halloween around friends who understand "*One Love*."

There's a time and place to learn about other people's culture, and Halloween can be one of them. You can wear a straw-farming hat the same way I can wear overalls and call myself a farmer. The headwear

This issue:

- ✓ I'm talking 'bout your generation
 - ✓ We don't elect governments; we elect scapegoats
 - ✓ No glory for gory
- And more!

is actually used for farming! It's real. Wear it because you are interested and you want to learn more about the culture. And do. Mock it because it's goofy. It is.

Is blackface offensive? Are buckteeth and squinty eyes offensive? Is dressing up as Caitlyn Jenner offensive? Is cross-dressing offensive? Are you able to even out the offence? You know, dress up as Hitler one year and Anne Frank the next? We are so god damn politically correct these days we don't even know who we are or aren't offending. We don't need to walk on eggshells every Halloween. There are more heinous acts of hate in the world. Don't make hate out of nothing.



Image via everydayfeminism.com

Subjectivity in the arts

» What, if anything at all, qualifies one piece over another as 'art'?

Alex Stanton
Staff Writer

Here's how Oxford defines art: "The expression or application of human creative skill or imagination, typically in a visual form such as a painting or sculpture, producing works to be appreciated for their beauty or emotional power."

I know it's the frickin' Oxford Dictionary, but I can see a million reasons why that definition is problematic—perhaps even downright wrong—to a solid chunk of art-consuming individuals out there. That isn't to say you'd be hard-pressed to find art that is universally loved. The one that comes to mind is inarguably the most famous classical sculpture of all time, *David* by Michelangelo. *David*, aside from being unfortunately endowed, is sculpted to perfection: the glare in his eyes, generally facing towards Rome, symbolizes the 1500s Republic of Florence and its unwavering defence of its freedoms despite it being surrounded by more powerful states. There's so much

work and so much thought put into *David* that it's difficult to dispute that you're looking at a worthwhile work of art.

Hard as I find it to believe, there are people out there who don't think *David* is all that and a bag of chips, which is cool to me because of the objectivity of nearly all modern art forms. Take the motion picture for example; Stanley Kubrick, director of films such as *Dr. Strangelove* and *The Shining* is widely considered as one of the premier artists of the 20th century for his unhealthy perfection and attention to detail. John Waters, who filmed *Pink Flamingos*, made an entire career out of low-brow pictures with scenes such as—among many other things—a drag queen picking real live dog shit up off the ground and eating it. One of my favourite directors, Quentin Tarantino, is in between those two.

Despite its transgressive, exploitative, and objectively disgusting subject matter, *Pink Flamingos* is a serious cult hit, the kind of midnight movie



shown after *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*. I don't doubt for a second that everyone who watched *Pink Flamingos* and *Divine* eat dog shit considers it art, and you know what? I agree.

To me, all it takes for a piece of art to be worthwhile is for it to have an impact on someone, no matter how small or large it may be, it affected them.

Therefore, by my definition, even something like *Pink Flamingos* is a worthwhile piece of art. What I enjoy is what I enjoy, and that sort of art affects me the most, but other people feel the same way about the likes of *Porkys* that I do about *Reservoir Dogs*, despite the fact that I personally would never be caught dead watching *Porkys*. I firmly believe

art is entirely subjective, and just about anything can qualify...

...within reason, of course.

I don't want to meet the tortured, likely inhuman soul who lobbies for Adam Sandler's filmography to be added to the Library of Congress. We have to draw the line somewhere.

I'm talking 'bout your generation

» How baby boomers failed us and then blamed us

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It's wrong of me to criticize a whole generation of people just because I've been noticing some abysmal trends from a few. But if a group of self-righteous baby boomers want to pick a fight, I'll drop the gloves. Let's open with this, any problems millennials, or Generation Y, (people born between the 1980s–2000s) have, it's because of their parents, the baby boomers.

Baby boomers grew up with every advantage in the Western world. A blooming economy, an emerging middle class, jobs with stable income, and enough financial security to buy a house, raise a family, own a couple of vehicles, and set their sights on retirement. How did they get all these things? Were they the most talented generation? Were they the smartest? Or were they simply just the benefactors of their time?

Flip to their children, those like me, the millennials. We were brought up in a pampered sort of way. We were given luxury and opportunities. All of us were raised to believe that we could do anything we dreamed of. If we wanted to be actors, we could pursue that. If we wanted



Image via Thinkstock

to be doctors, we could do that as well. Then we grew older and reality struck us. Now, we turn to our parents for help and what do they do? They call us lazy. They call us entitled. They call us narcissistic, apathetic, and disrespectful.

It's harder than ever for a graduate to enter the workforce and even when they do get work,

it's harder than ever to make the type of money our parents made when they were in their 20s. They tell us to pursue school, and then leave us hanging with the debt. It's our problem, right? Then there is this line that baby boomers often use: "When I was your age, I was already married and a homeowner." Well, suck it! It's almost impossible to put

down a down payment for a house in Vancouver, let alone consider buying one. Why? Because the baby boomers have closed the door on us, locking us out of what they believed belongs to them. Baby boomers are the most selfish generation currently alive.

I don't want baby boomers to empathize with us, because

that won't solve anything. What I do want the baby boomers to know is that they are wasting the final ounce of their lives being bitter to people who are striving for their dreams and pursuing what they love in life. Baby boomers are always going to shame millennials for not having this or that, but we have one thing they don't have: the time to reach our goals. They *should* resent us. They *should* fear that we are going to take what is theirs, because we are.

Baby boomers have created a barrier of wealth, hoarding it for themselves. Then, while keeping us at arm's length they say: "Oh, you should work harder. You shouldn't have wasted all your time with games and dreams. Oh well, maybe it's time to go back to college... again." Our parents set us up for success, but when we failed on our first swing, they wrote us off as weak. Bouncing back gets harder every time without support. But they don't know that.

It's the baby boomer's world, but we don't have to obey them anymore. The lay of the land is different. We don't need to listen to their smug comments. We don't need to make baby boomers proud of us by matching their accomplishments.

We don't elect governments; we elect scapegoats

» How we love to blame one entity for everything

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Isn't it great when we can point a finger at someone and say it's all his or her fault? It's his fault our economy is in the sink. It's her fault the ecosystem is dying. It's his fault I can't find love, a job, or a place to live. Yes, it's always easier to blame someone rather than a group of people.

For the past few months, I've watched everyone on my predominantly left-wing Facebook news feed blame Stephen Harper for everything wrong with our country. What's wrong with our country, or what's wrong with them? So often, the government becomes the scapegoat for all our problems: our failing business, our disobedient child, and our inability to find work, romance, and better health. Instead of taking onus for our problems, we blame the government.

Guess what? The

government is not looking out for you, regardless of what you think. The politician doesn't give a hoot about all the crap you have going on in your life. If you think Justin Trudeau is going to solve all your problems—or even one of your problems—you need to face reality. If you are not taxed for this, you'll be taxed for that. Nobody can fix what's wrong with your life but you.

Blaming one sole entity, whether it's your employer for holding you back, or your instructor for giving you poor grades is a self-destructive way of thinking. Pretty much what you are saying is: "I'm perfect, I don't need to change, it's the world around me needs to change. It's that one person over there who needs to change." You'll grow old a bitter, resentful person if this is your way of thinking.

Pointing fingers and placing blame is a defensive mechanism designed to make someone else look worse than

you. This is especially effective if the person is of higher rank or prestige. Remember how much Canucks fans enjoyed blaming Roberto Luongo for every hockey game lost? Whoever is at the top, we expect perfection from them, or else give them the noose. But ask yourself: can you stop more shots and win more games? Nope, but you'd like to think you can though.

Don't think. Do. Stop identifying problems as something manifested by other people. Stop investing your emotional energy on things you cannot control. Can you be a better worker? Yes. Can you force your boss to increase your wage? No. Can you vote for the candidate you like? Yes. Are you able to force others to do the same? No. People will vote or not vote for whomever they want. They'll cheer for whatever they want. They'll fail, succeed, and live their life without a care for you. You can blame them, but why do they care? They don't even know you.



Image via Thinkstock

Justin Trudeau's new government represents hopeful change and improvement

» Election decision should be one of optimism

Cazzy Lewchuk
Staff Writer

On October 19, Canadians elected a majority Liberal federal government, making Justin Trudeau prime minister. This gives Trudeau and the party freedom to pass bills without blockage from opposing parties. While this leads to progress within the Liberal agenda, it causes concern for those who do not agree with this platform or Trudeau's leadership.

I'm not one of those people. The election's outcome was one of the best we could have hoped for. However, concerns over a majority government's power are certainly valid: equal opposition happened under Harper's majority, several of Trudeau's policies are controversial, and his experience and qualifications have been questioned. These concerns will continue to be debated thoroughly throughout the Trudeau administration's reign.

However, such concerns sidestep the main issue: Trudeau was simply the best leader to win this election. The NDP had strong ideals, but divided left-

leaning voters into questioning their policies and effectiveness. In addition, the NDP and Liberals frequently agree on policies, which contrasts them with the Conservatives. Bills that oppose and reverse Conservative platforms would have gone through under an NDP government, and should go through with a Liberal. This would also be the case with a Liberal minority and NDP opposition. However, that scenario was and is unlikely to be the case in a country that currently votes between 30-40 per cent Conservative. A Liberal minority with a Conservative opposition would cause a lot of deadlock in Parliament, ultimately hindering progress. This is a scenario that was quite likely to happen in the current election with left-wing vote splitting, but the resulting Liberal majority aids progress.

As with any politician, particularly a new and powerful one, Trudeau should be carefully observed and held to his promises. One major issue is his promise to introduce an alternative voting system to the current first-past-the-post

system. Cynics argue that this will derail seats in the Liberal government, and is therefore unlikely to be introduced. I believe Trudeau is not a power-hungry dictator, nor is he foolish enough to make mistakes that will lower his popularity and make people question his abilities—particularly at such an early stage.

An effective government works with the people to ensure change, and the Liberal platform has been consistent in that regard. In a political climate that has been filled largely with disappointment and distrust over the last nine years, I'm looking forward to feeling optimistic about my country's future. Trudeau may not turn out to be the greatest leader Canada has ever had, and his success will largely depend on the effectiveness of his newfound majority, but until both the Conservatives and NDP rediscover themselves and elect trustworthy, popular leaders, he's the best we've got. It's almost a guarantee that the Liberal government will undo ineffective policies set by Harper, and introduce new



Image via ca.news.yahoo.com

ones that will benefit Canada.

Trudeau's lack of experience is made up for by the guidance and platform of the party he leads, both at a Cabinet and MP level. His majority makes positive (or "real") change across Canada much easier to implement. It stops the nitpicking and endless debate in the House of Commons. It gives him the tools to create a successful and popular administration.

Until the NDP and Conservatives can come up with a way to provide policies that work for us all, the Trudeau government is the way to ensure a better Canada. He will learn on the job, make mistakes, and experience high and low career moments. That's true of all politicians, but right now, he's the person I trust most to make those mistakes.

No glory for gory

» Horrifying decorations is what Halloween is all about

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If you think jack-o'-lanterns, skeleton cutouts, and fake cobwebs are scary, then you're probably not known around the neighbourhood as being brave. While it's understood that we all celebrate Halloween in our own unique way, we can all agree that fright should be the theme of the day—not dressing sluddy and eating candy.

A community in Parma, Ohio, was left feeling disturbed and disappointed earlier this month when a local resident decorated their yard with scenes of gruesome torture and murder. Human-like and horrifying, the decorations caused neighbours to complain. Generally speaking, people don't like being scared, unsettled, and disgusted, but hell, this is what Halloween is about.

The argument can be that children should not be exposed to such horrific sight. They might become traumatized by the decoration. It might cause

them to grow up and become psychotic killers. Yes, while all that may be true—after all, kids don't know better—it's your job as an adult to explain to your children that those are decorations, and they are meant to look real, just like how special effects in a movie are meant to look real. Listen, mom and dad, you cannot shield your children's eyes forever. You cannot protect them from every scary sight in the world.

I get it; only bad parents would let their children be frightened by some decorations. And it wouldn't be fair for them to have to deal with a crying child. If they could stop it, they should do anything to stop it. You know what else scares children? Literally anything they want to be afraid of: dogs, weather, insects, nightmares, strangers, anything. If you can teach them rational from irrational fear, you'd be a better parent than one who protects them from every scary thing. You'll also teach them to be brave, which is useful should they ever need to go down to

the basement and fix the burnt-out lightbulb, or respond to an emergency involving blood.

Life is full of scary incidents. A near car accident is scary. Choking on your food while you are alone is scary. Losing your job is scary. Being scared is good. It's a natural human reaction. Like all things in normal life, the more accustomed you are to that feeling, the better you can cope with it. Halloween should be a time for you to test your limits and face your fears.

It sucks that we live in a world where people who want to share their enthusiasm of fright are shunned and pressured into dismantling their well-made decorations. It's a shame that people cannot see the beauty in horror, and instead choose the blandness of comfort. Christmas is a great time for comfort. Thanksgiving is a great time for comfort. Halloween should be about disturbance. After all, if loud-ass firecrackers and rambunctious trespassing children are allowed then why not some fake blood?



Image via fox13now.com

Have an idea for a story? Let us know!

Contact: Chandler Walter, Humour Editor
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HUMOUR

Local principal on blast after recent dress code scandal

» Controversial issue stirred up yet again

David Manky
Columnist

Britney Rogers, 16, was sent home from Terry Fox Secondary Friday morning because her outfit was “too fashionable,” and was “distracting the other girls,” said Principal Patty Helm.

“She’s been warned before,” Helm stated in an interview Monday. “Her outfits have just been getting nicer and nicer. I’m not saying she has to show up in rags, but the other girls are having trouble concentrating on their work. Their eyes are glued to Britney!”

With equality issues a growing concern in today’s culture, this recent occurrence has surely sparked more controversy than has been seen in years past. Acceptance, self-love, and freedom of expression are pivotal topics in our society, and in the eyes of some, this school has crossed the line.

It seems everyone has an opinion on the subject,

including Britney’s mother, Becky Rogers, who released this strongly worded statement:

“Frankly, it’s an outrage. Britney is old enough to dress herself and if the other girls can’t help from ogling her, I hardly see how she is to blame.”

Dress codes in public schools have been around as long as public schooling itself, and dealing with this issue has always been difficult.

With students often claiming dress codes to be a blatant infringement on their freedom of expression, and with teachers asking only for a distraction-free learning environment, the quarrels surely are not soon to be resolved.

We spoke to Britney about the issue and the idea of Terry Fox adopting a dress code.

“This is ridiculous! I express my feelings and emotions through clothing; to tell me I have to change is, like, against my human rights or whatever! I’m not going to let this social injustice slide without putting

up a fight!” Britney said.

The idea of school uniforms has been tossed around, and if no better options surface, that just may be the way the school system is moving. Although it may not be the first choice for many students in the system, dress codes may be, as Helms puts it, “the only way to keep students from constantly one-upping each other and breeding such distraction and envy within the delicate learning environment.”

Superintendent of the district John McKinley stated Monday that he is in favour of school uniforms, and was quoted as saying:

“We have a little saying in the public education system: ‘if you can’t please everyone, don’t please anyone.’ Hell, I wear the same outfit every day anyways, shirts, socks, underwear, I don’t see what the big deal is.”

McKinley’s statement has received mixed reactions.

This issue:

- ☑ Conservatives down and out
- ☑ The most popular costumes this Halloween
- ☑ BREAKING: Canada post election

And more!



Image via thinkstock

Voter turnout drops to an all-time low

» Blame solely on Elections Canada

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Canadian voters this federal election decided democracy was not for them, as barely any flocked to the polls October 19.

With the average voter turnout for federal elections 63 per cent, and an estimated 61.1 per cent turning out in 2011, 2015 was an all-time low with only 25.43 per cent of Canadians casting a ballot.

We asked registered Canadian voter Rick Morty why this was the year he decided not to show up.

“I have voted in every election since my 18th birthday and I believe full well in our Canadian democracy,” Morty said. “I am an avid follower of Canadian politics. I just couldn’t bring myself to go out and vote this year.”

The reason behind this was simple, small,

and sticky on one side.

“I learned that they weren’t giving out stickers this year,” Morty said. “My neighbour pulled into his driveway right when I was about to go out and vote, and I noticed he didn’t have his sticker. I asked him if he had voted yet, he said he had. Apparently they weren’t giving them out.”

Morty wasn’t the only one turned away by this humongous error by Elections Canada.

“Why would I vote if I don’t get to rub it in everyone else’s face that I voted?” said Brittany Cross. “Hell, last time I got a free donut from Tim Hortons and a free coffee from Starbucks, just for wearing that sticker. Now what do I get? The heart-warming feeling that I took part in a democratic process that countries across the world are fighting and dying for? What is that even worth to me? So I stayed in and watched Netflix.”

We talked to Elections

Canada about what they felt led to the low voter turnout.

Apart from the fact that literally no youth or students ever go out to vote, according to Elections Canada Officer Jean Chacant, it seems that the low turnout had more to do with the rain on Monday than anything else.

“People are so easily swayed away from voting,” Chacant said. “We put up all these signs and arrows so that they knew where to go. We made registering easier than ever, and sent everyone information and reminders for weeks. But hey, if it’s raining, people don’t want to go outside, that’s just how things are.”

When asked if he thought the lack of stickers had anything to do with the low voter turnout, Chacant scoffed, “That’s the stupidest idea I’ve ever heard. Who would come up with a premise as dumb that? An idiot?”



Image via mccotta.waoffice.wordpress.com

Conservatives down and out

» Tories took a beating during last night's match

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It was an exciting one last night, as millions of viewers across the country tuned in to see who would emerge victorious.

It's not often you find a match with three contenders, but that's what we were in for as The Tory (blue trunks), The Lib (red trunks), and That Other Guy (a stylish orange full piece wrestling singlet?) took to the ring to determine who would run our country for the years to come.

This contest was truly a bout for the record books.

The Lib came out swinging

hard at the opening of round one, as the clock struck 8:30 p.m. in the Maritime provinces.

There was no surprise here, as he has been known to dominate in the early stages. A spry young buck, that Lib is: full of energy, and great hair too.

Round two saw more of a battle, with The Tory landing a few punches of his own. What turned out to be the most surprising development of the night was That Other Guy huddled in the corner.

He really took a beating off the start, and things didn't look too good for him from there on out.

Our contest became a battle of two, with The Tory—being the reigning champ—defending his title. He was

ultimately the one to either reign supreme or be defeated.

Going into round three The Lib just kept putting it on, floating like a flying V and stinging like a beaver.

Halfway through the match it was clear who the winner would be, but it was still to be determined whether The Lib would land a knockout blow, or if it would have to go to the officials.

The Other Guy, long out of the running for victor, managed to jump back in and land 20 or so jabs before returning to his corner.

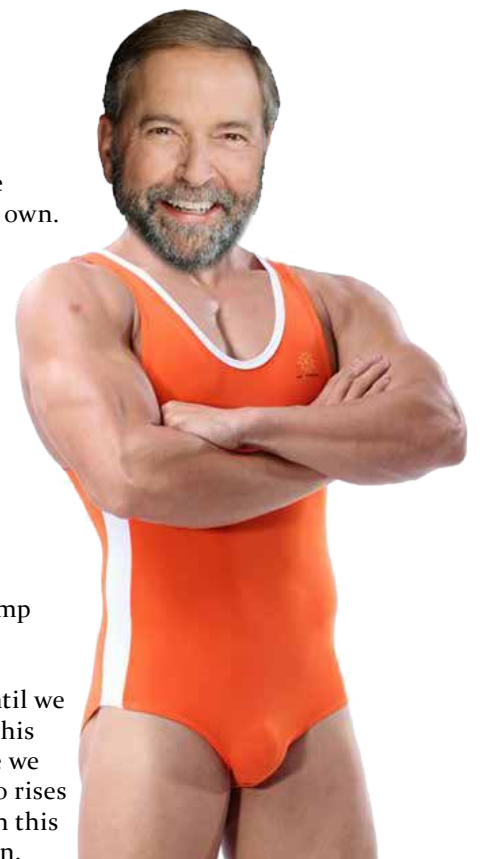
Later in the bout, as betting polls were closing in the prairie provinces, The Lib landed his finishing punches, knocking The Tory to the

ground and taking the golden PM belt for his own.

Interestingly enough, betting polls in BC remained open even after the match was decided, allowing those West Coast gamblers to place their bets on the clear victor.

Fans of The Lib are elated with his victory, casting down the long standing champ and bringing in a new era for the sport.

It may be years until we get another match of this intensity, though once we do we will see just who rises up to throw down with this new national champion.



Photoillustration

Trudeau wins federal election

» Opponents finally realize what he did to win

Alex Stanton
Staff Writer

In May of this year, the Conservative Party released what appeared to be fly-on-the-wall footage of a panel of baby boomers looking to hire the next great prime minister of Canada.

Although they didn't realize that they alone didn't actually get to pick the head honcho of the Canadian government, the footage itself proved to be extremely popular.

After about a minute of mistakenly discussing whom they'll hire as prime minister, they dismissed Trudeau 2.0 for his inexperience, reminding all watching that leading the country is, in fact, not an entry-level job.

But that was all changed by a single, quiet, Indian man of advanced age, and his offhand quip about the picture of Trudeau that was included in the résumé that—as it seems at this point—will define how future leaders carry themselves, and their country: "Nice hair, though."

It was the aesthetic compliment heard round the country, from the clear rivers of British Columbia to the polluted rivers of Ontario, countrymen nodding their heads in agreement as the words echoed in their thoughts.

But Trudeau went further than anyone expected, and shocked the country by winning the seat of prime minister.

Unknowingly, by winning this election, Trudeau sent a message to other aspiring



Image via Adrian Wylid / The Canadian Press

politicians: even if you have no experience and can only acquire entry-level work, you can still become a leader of the free world if the average middle-aged woman finds your hair sexy.

We managed to get a word with Stephen Harper—leader of the Conservative government and Canada's former prime

minister for, like, a decade—and the soft-spoken, intelligent, religiously-tolerant former leader knew without a doubt where he went wrong.

"It's this stupid fucking hair," lamented Harper, mistakenly believing we were off the record, as he ran his hands through his grey,

thinning locks. "I'm always a humble dude, so I'll say this for sure: I made a bad call, and it cost me the election. Straight up. I get that I'm not even close to what can be called 'traditionally' good looking, but maybe if the top of my head didn't look like a retirement castle for aging,

limbless rodents, I could've come back and ruled the country for another 10 years."

Trudeau's father, Pierre Elliot Trudeau, could not be reached for comment at this time. Reliable sources of ours in Parliament tell us he's been dead for around 15 years, but as of yet we can confirm nothing.



Image via thinkstock

BREAKING: Canada post election

» Many scared, confused

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These past months of Canadian electoral campaigning have seen their fair share of promises, pledges, and calls for change. The cry for change was so loud, in fact, that Canadians nationwide elected out the old Conservative government and ushered in a new Liberal majority, defeating ex-prime minister and Conservative Party leader Stephen Harper by quite the margin. With a majority government, newly-elected Prime Minister Justin Trudeau should have no problem passing laws through government to give Canadians the change they were promised. Yet, many Canadians are finding a Liberally-run Canada much the same as the old one. "I didn't vote to get Harper

out just to see Canada stay the way it was," said concerned student, John Mulner. "Yet that's what we have today. I look out my window; it's the same view. The names of the streets are still the same. Hell, even the mountains on the horizon look unchanged. What gives, Justin?" The situation is especially dire for Vancouverite Thom Moffat, who was banking on Trudeau holding to his promise of legalizing marijuana once elected. "I'm freaking out, man," Moffat said. "I told my dealer I didn't need him any more. It was heartbreaking. I mean, yeah, I miss him, I miss him more than I thought possible, but it's just not something you can go back to, you know? There's just some sparks you can't reignite, no matter how brightly they once burned..." Unfortunately for Moffat, Trudeau's Liberal government has yet to make good on any

of their election promises. "It's been like, a whole week," Moffat said. "You would think he would have done something big by now. Maybe we should have voted in that beardy guy. I liked his smile—it was just like my old weed dealer's." Moffat has enough of his stash left to last him the next few weeks if he rations it, but if Trudeau doesn't act quickly, Moffat worries he may be left sober and helpless, betrayed by the very government he voted into power. The country remains restless, and it appears the higher-ups may have left the common folk out to dry. One can only hope that the politicians will be able to evaluate, write, discuss, vote on, and pass through some legislation over the next few weeks, or Canada may very well decide it is time for some change once again.



Image via gg.com

The most popular costumes this Halloween

» Impress your friends with these creative costumes

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Sexy Politician

Whether you're in Canada or America, everyone can appreciate a good throw to political intrigue. With all the elections going on, political figures are practically celebrities this October! An easy do-it-yourself Sexy Justin Trudeau costume includes beautiful dark hair, coloured contact lenses (colour: soul soothing-grey) and a bodysuit of bulging muscles. Go as boxer Trudeau, long hair Trudeau, Prime Minister Trudeau, or any fun Trudeau you can imagine! Alternatively, you can dress as Sexy Donald Trump. Costume includes a bundle of damp straw to glue onto your head, unapologetic charisma, and a boombox blasting Aerosmith's "Dream On" everywhere you go. An easy way to pull off the Trump costume this Halloween is to get waaaay too drunk, off of both alcohol and self-entitlement.

Netflix and Chill

What better way to convince the hip young children that you're still with the times than to dress as their favourite phrase? This costume is easy to pull off, as all you need is a red shirt with "NETFLIX" sharpied onto it, and a bag of ice. Get it? Because the ice is the "Chill" part of the costume?

Because it's cold? (LOL) And then to top it off, be sure to act sexually aggressive to all the women at the party. I mean, it's what they should have known would happen showing up to a party that featured Netflix and Chill!

A Pedestrian

You can literally dress how you normally would! No effort necessary! You could also say that you're a nudist on strike, or a very undercover police officer. All your friends will laugh and think you are literally the cleverest person at the party. You'll probably even get laid with such a smart costume. Take that, people who actually put effort and time into crafting creative costumes to impress their friends and partygoers. Be sure to make a big fuss if you aren't let into a "costumes only" event, it adds to the charm.

Facebook

So you have a face, right? You're already halfway there! This Halloween, you could dress as the popular social media website. All you need is your face (check!) and a sharpie. Take the sharpie and write "Asshole" across your face, and then literally knock yourself out with a large book. You might not wake up in time to make it to the Halloween party, but in that case you're doing everyone a favour by not showing up with that shitty Facebook "costume."



By David Manky, Columnist

DAVID MANKY



DSU
DOUGLAS STUDENTS' UNION
Local 18 - Canadian Federation of Students

Status
NIGHT CLUB

HALLOWEEN PARTY!

OCT. 29TH

9PM - 2AM

STATUS NIGHT CLUB
27 CHURCH STREET NEW WEST

MUST BE 19+ & HAVE
2 PIECES OF GOV'T ID

BRING STUDENT ID!

FREE COVER FOR DOUGLAS STUDENTS



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PLAY land

At the PNE
Vancouver

FRIGHT NIGHT OCT 28TH 6PM

Ticket Prices - Student \$15, Guests \$20
(limit 1 guest per student)

P/U at the DSU both campuses (CASH ONLY)
Bus will leave both campuses 6:30pm SHARP
to Playland (there will be NO Return busses)



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