Accommod8u data leak shows awful conditions P3
Financing university tuition has always been difficult. After repeatedly asking Nicole Schuphof, Undergraduate Awards Officer at Student Awards & Financial Aid about the subject, Imprint, only got the vaguest of answers.

Scholarships and awards provide a helping hand in covering tuition fees. Over 600 scholarships, awards, and bursaries are available from UW services, including Athletic Awards, Entrepreneurial Awards, Financial needs awards/bursaries, and International Experience Awards. For some of these awards, students are automatically selected while others require applications and nominations. Some of them require specific qualifications, while others do not. Some awards are specific to faculties, while others are open to all. The scholarships are listed on the University of Waterloo web site under Scholarship and bursaries section with information on every scholarship that UW offers. There are no late applications and students must stay ahead of the deadlines.

These awards range from as low as $50 to as high as $10,000. The faculties of Math and Engineering have the most scholarships as they are the biggest faculties have the most funding, too. There are also some International scholarships specifically for International students which are of great help.

There is a balance of the scholarships requiring academic standing and extracurricular involvement, catering for a wide range of students’ abilities.

If the scholarships do not receive enough qualified candidates for a specific scholarship/award, the students who the organizations believe meet the minimum criteria of the award are contacted and given a second opportunity to apply. There are tough races to win and to claim the cash prize, your application needs to be impressive because ‘poorly’ written statements will be rejected. The highest number of applications received are for the Full-time bursary and International Experience Awards. The competition is fair. More applicants means more competition.

Paramedic services, UW in the dark

In May, Doug Ford faced public and political push back when he revealed retroactive cuts to public health. He proposed reducing funding for public health, daycare, and ambulance services.

In the announcement, he stated his plan to reduce the current 59 public health centers to ten. However, due to the public uproar following his proposal, Ford decided to cancel these cuts and requested Paramedic Services to revise their budgets.

Following Ford’s announcement, Stephen Van Valkenburg, the Chief of Paramedic Services, region of Waterloo, stated that Paramedic Services is in a limbo state with the budget.

“What the plan is for the future] would be a really good question, and I wish I could answer that question, but I really can’t, to be honest with you,” he said.

Van Valkenburg stated Paramedic Services needs more resources due to the increased number of code reds in the municipality. A “code red” happens when there are too few ambulances for the amount of 911 calls that come through.

The addition of two ambulance vehicles in the last two years has made a difference, but hasn’t been enough to combat the issue. Van Valkenburg stated Waterloo’s ambulance services face a $1.2 million shortfall.

Paramedic services annual budget was frozen, leaving them in the dark about what was happening and preventing them from having enough information to develop a contingency plan.

UW Health Services did not respond to Imprint as to how they would handle the province’s cuts to public health and previously planned reduced funding for paramedic services.

On Aug. 19, the Ford government released an updated proposal which moves forward with cuts to public health and childcare. However, unlike his earlier announcement, the budget for Paramedic Services is expected to increase by 4 per cent this year, and increase more by 2021. The public health cuts will be introduced in Jan. 2020.

“We are increasing funding for land ambulance services by nearly 4 per cent this year and it will continue to increase into 2020,” Ford said.

Ford stated he listened to the public when he reduced provincial funding, but municipalities are left responsible for a greater portion of the cost of public health and daycare services.

“We recognize our government moved quickly when we came into office to address our inherited challenges, but we’ve listened to you,” Ford said.

“As our government tackles the big challenges ahead, the lines of communication will stay open. We’ll keep talking … and listening,” he said.

Public Health Waterloo says there are no plans to cut public health services. Even though the cuts will take effect in less than five months, no decisions have been made by Public Health Waterloo at this time.
Does 6,000 unresolved maintenance requests make you a slum lord?

On Sept. 8, 2019, Reddit user u/Accommod8u posted a report titled Fuccommod8u which outlines a security vulnerability in the website of rental agency Accommod8u. That vulnerability exposes 6,000 maintenance requests made to the rental agency since December 2017. The report was written by an anonymous author who refers to themselves as the Team.

The report classifies the requests into four main categories: mold, fire alarm/carbon monoxide alarm and vermin, and heating. For each category, examples of requests and relevant provincial rental regulations were described.

According to the report, the average time taken to update a case was 13 days and roughly 30 per cent of requests took over two weeks to fix.

The report also provides recommendations for tenants on how they can deal with unresolved maintenance issues and some tools for students to be legally and practically armed against the poor conditions.

The report says the findings show “the frustration of tenants and the indifference of Accommod8u,” claiming that “the actions of Accommod8u are in many cases illegal.” The Team concludes the report by saying they hope the data leak would “act as a catalyst for improving tenants’ living conditions” and that “something has to be done.”

WUSA Vice President of Operations and Finance, Seneca Velling, addressed the post under the name u/GreenBurette on Reddit. “This is a travesty and totally unacceptable for students to be experiencing. I fear the data leak was fruit of the poisonous tree, but I intend to inquire about organizing a class action lawsuit or at least [make] students aware of their new legal protection to get representatives at the Landlord & [Tenant] Board,” he wrote.

Velling said he will explore ways in which WUSA can help students with the situation. He also said he will reach out to other local universities and colleges to see how they can “jointly support all KW students experiencing this bullshit.” Velling invited students to attend the upcoming Students’ Council meeting on Sept. 15 to discuss how to support impacted UW students.

Of the maintenance requests uncovered by the Team, a large percentage include the names of tenants, phone numbers, and emails—all of which were redacted in the report. Issues in the buildings, including mold, pests such as cockroaches and mice, plumbing and electrical defects, heating and cooling issues as well as problems with fire, smoke, and carbon monoxide alarms. Of the 6,000 maintenance requests, over 140 had a status of In Progress, New, or Re-open, indicating they had not yet been resolved by the landlords. The earliest unresolved request was filed almost 18 months ago.

Accommod8u is one of the largest rental agencies in Waterloo, with a large number of their tenants being students at UW and WLU. Accommod8u is owned by the parent company Prica Global Enterprises Incorporated, who also owns KW4Rent, another large rental agency in Waterloo. The following Accommod8u buildings were mentioned in the report: The Hub on 326 Albert Street and 130 Columbia Street; 228 and 246 Albert Street; 250 Lester Street; 255 and 258 Sunview Street; and 222 Albert Street, which was owned by Accommod8u until 2018.
Meet the Waterloo federal candidates

Candidates battle for student votes — promises of changes to OSAP structure

Mubassir Ahmed
Editorial Assistant

Lori Campbell, NDP
Director, UW Indigenous Student Centre

Kirsten Wright, Green Party Systems Design Engineer, PhD Candidate

Jerry Zhang, Conservative Party Entrepreneur

Bardish Chagger, Liberal Party Member of Parliament, Waterloo

Lori Campbell is the first two-spirit, Cree-Métis, woman to seek a seat in the House of Commons. Having worked all her life for the community and indigenous people, Campbell said she first realised that she wanted to get involved in politics when her grandmother reminded her that their ancestors always fought for justice and the rights of their people.

Campbell said she feels privileged to be in a place where she can do a lot more for her community. She said she believes this is her true calling and found that her beliefs coincide with the NDP’s vision.

Kirsten Wright moved to Waterloo when she started at UW School of Engineering. As a student, she built Canada’s first student think tank, The Forum for Independent Thought (FIT), to engage students in finding solutions to complex challenges.

Wright’s work in robotics and embedded systems has been well recognized and her passion for building a strong sustainable future led to her growing interest in politics.

Wright said she is focused on defining systemic weaknesses and creating a better future for her children and for the next generation of Waterloo residents.

Jerry Zhang and his family have contributed to the Waterloo community in numerous ways for 15 years.

Zhang said he is family-oriented and credits his parents for teaching him to work hard. He said he feels responsible for giving his children and future generations of Waterloo residents the same opportunities or better than he had.

“I want to do whatever I can do to preserve my little pieces of heaven,” Zhang said.

“I want to give back to Canada for all the help she has given my family. I want to do whatever I can do to preserve my little pieces of heaven,” said Zhang.

Wright’s work in robotics and embedded systems has been well recognized and her passion for building a strong sustainable future led to her growing interest in politics.

Wright said she is focused on defining systemic weaknesses and creating a better future for her children and for the next generation of Waterloo residents.

Why should students vote for you?

Lori Campbell: “Being a student myself, I understand what problems most students face and my party’s platform addresses these issues.”

OSAP: Every student who qualifies for OSAP will get a non-repayable grant instead of a loan.

Co-op: More paid co-op and internship opportunities will be created that will allow students to graduate with real-world experience.

Academia: Allow more contract educators to become full-time professors and instructors, and invest in more tenure-track faculty positions, so that students are less discouraged from pursuing a path in academics.

Kirsten Wright: “I came to the green party because I am sick and tired of parties and politics and want to focus on constructive solutions. Students invest in education in the hopes of finding employment when they graduate, and a strong economy is the key to creating more jobs. Building good jobs is the key to supporting the economy of the future, and new solutions for green energy will be an important high-tech field in this economy.”

OSAP: Abolish tuition fees for post-secondary education and skills training for students without adequate financial means, guaranteeing that income is never a barrier for qualified students.

Give graduates a hand-up by implementing a debt-forgiveness program. This would eliminate any existing or future student federal debt above $10,000.

Jerry Zhang: “I believe in a balanced budget. The national debt we’re accumulating today is almost $700 billion dollars. If divided by the population of Canadian families that’s $50,000 per household. According to StatsCanada, our demographic is changing and we are stepping into an ageing society. Also, a working age Canadian supports roughly 2.5 seniors and in less than 20 years this number will be doubled. And the reality is that there will be a lot of pressure on the younger generation. This demographic change will require the younger generation to work much harder and I think the government needs to prepare for that if it truly thinks in the best interest of the younger Canadians.”

OSAP: Supports the elimination of the inclusion of parental income and assets in the assessment of loan applications while supporting a loan availability model based on personal resources.

Bardish Chagger: “To President Justin Trudeau, students are not just the leaders of tomorrow, they are the leaders of today and we need to make sure that we are working with students and for students.”

OSAP: Increase the maximum Canada Student Grant for low-income students.

Ensure that no graduate with student loans will be required to make any repayment until they are earning an income of at least $25,000 per year.

The federal government will continue to pay the interest on student loans until graduates begin to earn sufficient incomes to take over their own payments and repay their own loans.

Co-op: Increase the number co-op and summer jobs for students.
Campus Question

What is the most challenging thing about going back to school?

Nicolle Wong, 2A
ARBUS

"I think the hardest thing about coming back to school, especially for me, is that you have to move in and you have to get back into things. Also, even though you made friends in first year, sometimes you don’t have them in your classes so you have to make new friends and try to talk to new people."

Hareet Dhesi, 4A
Math

"For me the most challenging things about coming back to school is just readjusting to the whole student life, getting your mindset in the right place and the sleep schedule."

Avery Larsh, 3A
Kinesiology

“Switching your mindset back from being on vacation to being back to school and actually doing the work. Getting out a calendar and making sure all my dates are in order makes things a little bit easier.”

Maimuna Kandaker, 2A
ARBUS

“I think the most challenging part is getting back into the pace of studying and everything. All of a sudden you hear of all these things you have to do and it’s overwhelming.”

Oritsetuyiri Ugborogho, 2A
Honors Arts

“Basically, waking up and thinking about going to school and also thinking about future papers to be submitted.”

Ezra Ave fire

Mubassir Ahmed
Editorial Assistant

A 17-year-old male was charged with arson, property damage and mischief under $5,000 after being arrested Monday September 10.

Exactly one week earlier, Ezra Avenue was flooded with hundreds of students for what was initially meant to be another unsanctioned Fresh Week street party.

At around 10 p.m., Waterloo Regional Police, Waterloo Fire Department, Region of Waterloo Paramedics, and Wilfrid Laurier University Special Constables rushed to the site after receiving reports of a furniture being set on fire on the street.

An online video of the incident has gone viral, showing a large crowd had gathered around the fire while some took turns running through the enormous blaze.

David McMurray, vice-president of student affairs at WLU, stated the University can’t be certain if all the people at the party were students, but Ezra’s history as a party spot and its proximity to WLU means most of them likely were.

On Tuesday, officials with WLU released a statement condemning the gathering.

The statement said the events damage WLU’s reputation and are dangerous.

It also warns students that it will review the behaviour of anyone accused of breaking the law and will apply sanctions under the Non-Academic Student Code of Conduct.

WLU will continue to work with a task force on combating street parties and is presenting its report and recommendations to the Waterloo City council next week.

The teen who was arrested Monday is due to appear in court on October 21. Police allege furniture was used to set the fire.

Meet Your Waterloo.

Listen to the new Beyond the Bulletin podcast for a review of campus news and a look ahead to what’s happening around Ring Road (and beyond). New episodes every Friday.

Go Beyond the Bulletin at
uwaterloo.ca/daily-bulletin/podcast
and subscribe to Beyond the Bulletin Podcast on your favourite podcast app.
On June 21st, Grand River Transit's (GRT) ION light rail transit began operations, carrying passengers along a dedicated track between Fairview Station in Kitchener and Conestoga Station in Waterloo. Other notable stops along the route are Downtown Kitchener, Grand River Hospital, Uptown Waterloo, and of course, UW.

With a train scheduled to arrive every 10 minutes on weekdays between 7am and 7pm — and every 15 minutes on weekends, this higher-order transit service provides an unprecedented opportunity for students to explore all their new community has to offer.

University of Waterloo Station: University of Waterloo Station is nestled between Davis Centre and Engineering 5. The highlight of the area is the University Plaza shops.

The University plaza is a sprawling commercial lot with quick-eat options, as well as bars, bubble tea shops, convenience stores, and a pharmacy — anything a student might need in the fleeting breaks between classes. A recent addition to check out is Sweet Jesus, the Instagrammable ice cream chain that will benefit from Toronto with a variety of intriguing flavours, now located next to Mongolian Grill.

Also steps from this station is a hidden gem — the UW Art Gallery — located at 1239, East Campus Hall, directly east of the station, past the parking lot. This gallery features artwork from Fine Arts students of UW, as well as other Canadian and International artists. Open 12 p.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. All are welcome at the gallery.

Research & Technology Park Station: A business park built by a partnership between UW, Federal, Provincial, and Local governments, Research & Technology Park is home to leading Information technology companies. Many of these companies stem from UW’s entrepreneurial culture and the Accelerator Centre which is also located inside the park.

Next to the station is Evolvi, Canada’s first zero carbon building. It is home to Borealis AI and TextNow, as well as Sustainable Waterloo Region and even has some space for UW’s Faculty of Environment and the Interdisciplinary Centre on Climate Change, making this a building worthy of checking out.

Matter of Taste coffee bar is steps from this station, on the opposite side of the tracks from Evolvi. Located in one of the old Blackberry buildings, this coffee shop has a high-end, but cozy and relaxing atmosphere, away from the crowds at the university coffee shops.

Following the sidewalks past Evolvi leads to a charming network of trails and bridges between there and Columbia Lake. Laurel Creek and the collection of storm-water management ponds in this area create a surprisingly peaceful and a natural oasis away from the chaos and crowds of campus.

Laurier-Waterloo Park Station: The closest station to the UW Park residence complex, this stop is located south of campus, north of Waterloo Park and west of WLU.

The Eby Farmstead Animal Farm is closer to the station as well. Here, common farm animals like pigs and goats, and also some exotic animals like peacocks and llamas live in close proximity.

The Eby Farmstead Animal Farm leads to a charming network of trails and bridges between there and Columbia Lake. Laurel Creek and the collection of storm-water management ponds in this area create a surprisingly peaceful and a natural oasis away from the chaos and crowds of campus.

The closest station to the WU Park residence complex, this stop is located south of campus, north of Waterloo Park and west of WLU.

For a pleasant stroll, walk along the boardwalk and enjoy the serenity of Silver Lake. Just on the other side of the tracks are some winding forested trails, passing over Laurel Creek on the way to the Waterloo Skate Park, an attractive and modern recreation area and playground.

Just like GRT’s buses, full time UW students ride for free with the student card, WatCard. To validate your trip, tap your card at the readers at each station before boarding the train, just like the readers on the buses. It may seem pointless since students ride free anyway but doing so allows GRT to collect valuable ridership data and may save you trouble with fare enforcers.

There is lots more in Kitchener-Waterloo than what’s on campus. ION is undoubtedly an easy, convenient, and free way to see what this community has to offer.
Stratford group bags $25k for clean water

The 2019 World Vision Social Innovation Challenge became a global stage for five Stratford School students as they presented their innovative solution on the Philippines water crisis.

The team comprising of founder Amirah Mahomed, Sylvia Bogdanowicz, Cindy Le, Kristen Fajardo and Laura Kraehling surpassed 46 competitors from across Canada, and earned $25,000, directed towards developing their clean water initiative over a 12-month incubation period.

The students’ goal was to reduce plastic waste in the Philippines using an environmentally-friendly alternative to disposable pollutant, the seaweed.

The project began as a school assignment in January. The team selected the Philippines water crisis being the perfect fit.

A 2015 study conducted by the Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) in the Philippines found that lack of clean water kills nearly 55 people daily.

Many of the issues arising from the Philippines water crisis are directly linked to the large presence of low-quality plastics in water systems.

These plastics contaminate ocean water, close rivers, spread diseases and pollute drinking water.

Ocean Conservancy, a non-profit organisation based out of Washington, singled out the Philippines as one of the world’s top five plastic polluters. The team realised the need for immediate attention and designed Virtuous Waste.

The group learned that seaweed is water-soluble, environmentally friendly and contains certain nutrients that help purify water systems and encourage healthy biodiversity.

Seaweed is available in abundance in the Philippines, making it an easy-access resource and also a source of jobs.

The team received the opportunity to compete at the 2019 Social Innovation Challenge, a challenge that aims to support young Canadian entrepreneurs to take steps towards creating marked based solutions for current world issues.

The Virtuous Waste project won $25,000 from the challenge on a 12-month incubation period, defeating some of Canada’s brightest young minds. Their current motto is geared towards throwing away plastics permanently and helping to change the cycle.

Through this venture, Virtuous Waste looks to implement a scalable solution not only for the Philippines, but globally, thereby putting an end to the reign of plastics over everyday lives.

Many people around the world lack adequate access to clean water.
Men’s rugby comes up short on Black and Gold Day

Varun Venkatramanan
Sports Editor

For Black and Gold Day 2019, the Warriors’ Men’s Rugby Team hosted the Guelph Gryphons at CIF. The Gryphons took the match by a score of 36-14, controlling the game from the beginning as the Warriors struggled to find their offense. The match was the OUA season opener for both teams.

Black and Gold Day is a tradition at UW during Welcome Week each Sept. Usually, the Warriors’ Men’s Football Team plays their first home game of the season for the occasion, but this year the rugby team had the honours.

As part of Welcome Week for incoming students, the match was beyond the usual home game spectacle. First years received faculty t-shirts, had the opportunity to compete in some small games organized by RBC, and enjoyed a free BBQ lunch.

The team took the field running through a giant inflatable Warrior helmet and was greeted by a large crowd which filled both the bleachers and the opposite sideline. Cheerleaders and Welcome Week leaders led crowd chants throughout the match.

While the crowd was impressive, the Warriors’ performance on the field couldn’t keep up. The Gryphons—who finished last season second in the OUA—were bigger and stronger than the UW team. They used this advantage to force turnovers and advance quickly downfield. UW showed grit in the second half, fighting back and even pulling within a single try. Guelph eventually pulled away and took a commanding 36-7 lead before the Warriors added another try late for a final score of 36-14.

UW Fullback Paul Schroeder had a strong game, making long bomb kicks and leading the team defensively on the backline.

The UW Rugby Team is looking forward to facing the University of Toronto on Sept. 14.
Scottish band makes its way to Waterloo

Vyas Anirudh Akundy
Reporter

On Oct. 17, Atlas: Empire, the progressive alternative rock band based in Glasgow, UK, will be holding an event in Waterloo. The Scottish band is returning to Canada with eight performances across Ontario and Québec.

Robert Hasebe, the band's bassist, is ecstatic to return to his homeland once again. “Touring Canada is by far one of the most enjoyable things for Atlas: Empire. The unique challenges and rewards of touring this part of the world are what make Canadian artists and performers truly great,” he said.

“We are so fortunate and so grateful to be able to tour here regularly. Also, poutine,” Hasebe said.

The band tries to deliver a message about and explores this idea of overreliance on technology.

Hasebe said The Stratosphere Beneath Our Feet is a concept album that explores humanity’s reliance on technology.

The band is motivated by the question: What would happen if you take away a modern society’s toy, “technology”? What would happen if the system fails?

Atlas: Empire has released a video for the track Our Hands Part The Waves which is a continuation of the storyline from their track, It’s All In The Reflexes.

The band also released their debut album, The Stratosphere Beneath Our Feet, tin Dec. 2018, and it will be re-released later this year through WormHoleDeath Records.

To date the band has released three extended plays — To The Astronaut… (2012), Somnus (2013), and For The Satellites (2015).

For more information and tour dates for other cities, visit https://www.atlasempire.co.uk/.

UW’s best int. clubs

Anicka Bakos
Reporter

For UW’s international students, there’s no better way to adjust to living in a new country than to join a club. Becoming a club member, meeting people with a common purpose or interest and taking part in shared activities is one of the best ways to connect with other students on campus.

International students may get homesick while studying in Canada. And what better way to overcome homesickness than to meet others from your home country?

At UW, there are many cultural clubs to choose from. There are Chinese clubs, Indian clubs, Korean clubs, an African Students Association and the Association of Caribbean Students, among others.

Cultural clubs promote their cultures through fun activities and socials, and by celebrating the festivals and holidays of their particular country.

Many organize cultural events and dance performances as well.

Many cultural clubs also participate in the Culture Caravan held every Fall and Winter semester, where they can showcase their traditional outfits and dances.

Other than the cultural clubs, five clubs in particular may be relevant to international students.

Breaking Barriers aims to provide students with mental health support and to enhance their personal growth at UW.

Reboot is a club to unite students from all faculties and programs. It is the only UW club that helps students from different faculties collaborate and create things together.

This unique club provides its members with the opportunity to learn new skills as well as share any knowledge they already might have with other UW students.

The UW Shopping Club takes students on shopping trips to explore nearby malls in and around Waterloo.

Members also have the opportunity to attend meetings, lectures and social outings as well as discuss budgeting and ways to save money. What a great way to explore your new surroundings!

The Coffee Lovers Club makes it easy to meet new people and share thoughts and experiences as well as take part in interesting activities while, of course, having some fun and at the same time, enjoying some great coffee!

Don’t drink coffee? Not a problem — the Tea and Culture Club provides students with a place to meet, drink tea, play games and have fun with others. Also a great way to make new friends at UW!

For a complete list of and more information on WUSA clubs, visit https://wusa.ca/.
Impression noun

A feeling, thought or opinion about someone/thing, or that someone/thing leaves you with [1]


Impression

The effect of an object left upon a surface [2]

2. Author. The Dictionary of the Author’s Half-Remembered Definition of Words pp. still unknown

‘Rose’s father left a bad first impression on his future son-in-law.’

Impressions

A page entirely devoted to art for the sake of art. This page is created by UW students and serves as a speaker’s corner for the school’s creators.*

* provided of course, that the students agree to act for art’s sake

*The author will also like to acknowledge that the use of dictionary definition to lend an air of academic respectability is an overrated trait

But most of all the author really, really hate this work, forgive created

TIMI
Opinion

Can someone tell me why I still love The Bachelor?

Arabella Hareem Abid

Opinions Editor

The Bachelor Franchise, and all of its respective spin-offs (The Bachelorette, Bachelor in Paradise, and once long ago, The Bachelor Pad) are selling you a delicious disillusion that you are greedily eating up.

Nor are they genuine. The Bachelor Pad is produced with maniacal obsession. The Bachelor is not real. It’s completely alright though! Because the lead also comes with “flaws,” the likes of which include being “too normal,” fears of being unlovable, and typically bearing the scars of recent heartbreak.

Over the course of three months, 30 potential life partners dwindle down to a single fiancé and the promise of eternal commitment at all-expenses-paid wedding.

Of course, on paper it reads as a totally undesirable cliché that no realistic human being could ever fantasize about. But trust me it works — I’ve been invested since I was 12.

The Bachelor Pad is heavily scripted, lacking in diversity, and completely illogical. Still, I am addicted.

The Bachelor has many faults, one of which is a noticeable diversity problem. In one episode, they reveal that the show carefully curates their contestants to add spoonfuls of just enough diversity to resonate with their growing audience, even if it’s simply “close enough.”

The complicated intricacies of representation in the franchise run so deep that it could account for a totally separate article. There’s just no way to summarize it into a couple sentences.

Also, if you didn’t know by now, all the cheesy romance that feels attainable, and yet so far away, is produced with maniacal levels of evil genius.

Similar to the show Big Brother, the contestants are being filmed 24/7 and have signed ridiculously lengthy contracts filled with legal jargon (I’ve read them!) that essentially lay their reputations and autonomy in the hands of the editors, resulting in the “villain edit” that some unlucky contestants get every season.

I know what you’re thinking. What about the genuinely horrible people that go on the show and act in ways that are definitely not produced?

Let’s not forget that contestants are subjected to pretty lengthy background checks and an intense vetting process. A lot of the front runners that win the hearts of North America are just as much producer plants as the villains are. That’s showbiz baby!

And if you thought it couldn’t get worse – contestants are totally devoid of all outside contact, isolated from technology, and not allowed books aside from religious texts.

Essentially, the isolation coupled with being around 29 people that are projecting their entirety on the same person, is like to create cause a pseudo-Stockholm syndrome which contestants view as “love.”

Contestants are also prodded to use rhetoric that eliminates any sense of being on TV.

None of the participants refer to their time on the show as exactly that. A show. Instead, they are instructed to refer to their experience as a “journey” or a “process.”

This resonates as especially creepy when taking into account the formulaic structure of the process. One episode can show you that contestants are supposed to dramatically reveal their tragic backstories when they get personal time with the lead.

However, if it’s too soon or feels dishonest then said participant will immediately be deemed unfit and, “here for the wrong reasons,” among several other reality television clichés.

Also, following the trend of weird rhetoric only used in the context of this show, it’s conventional for showrunners to confess to the lead that they have “begun to fall in love,” “are in the process of falling in love,” or “see themselves falling in love soon.”

Who is ever that self-aware of the exact location of their feelings?

The few that are unable to buy into the expected script, and cling to the remaining shreds of dating in the real world, are sent home with the label of “not ready for marriage” hanging over them as a parting gift.

So why do we continue to watch the show? I’m definitely not the only viewer who possesses the behind the scenes knowledge of what really goes on... one scroll through Twitter on a Monday night can tell you that.

Yet, somehow week after week, season after season, the viewers of the show return, if not multiply to tune into the pinnacle of reality television romance.

To be truthful, I haven’t figured that out yet myself. I think that probably half the genius of why the show continues to forge ahead with full steam and no plans of stopping anytime soon is the American singer, songwriter, rapper and actress, said it best, perhaps its just “the human in me” that keeps me on the edge of my seat, eagerly waiting for another week to pass. Maybe that’s the case for you.

Or maybe we both believe that human beings are inherently romantic creatures that can find love anywhere, and that’s the real
The Amazon is the world’s largest tropical rainforest and is home to the Indigenous Brazilian people(s). I decided to write this piece to reflect on the devastating wildfires that are currently wounding our Mother Earth in South America. This has been the most damaging wildfire year since 2010 for the Amazon rainforest. A few weeks ago on my social media, there was an uproar about the Amazon rainforest being on fire. There were go-fund me pages, retweets for donations, and celebrities were urged to raise awareness. However, all of this hype lasted for about three days. Not many people are writing about it anymore, it is out of sight and out of mind, I suppose. However, the Amazon rainforest is still on fire and it is still negatively affecting the Indigenous communities. Ninety-eight percent of Indigenous reserves are in the Amazon. According to The Guardian, fires broke out in 131 Indigenous reserves from August 15-20. Of those, 15 were home to Indigenous groups who are isolated or in stages of initial contact. These groups rely on the rainforest to survive, and it is crucial that there is international support to uphold the rights and livelihood of these people.

Wildfires in the Amazon are not uncommon, but the way in which they are spreading is reason for concern. They are mostly man-made and deliberate. In mainstream media coverage, there is evidence that shows that the increase in wildfires is politically driven.

Bolsonaro is now the president of Brazil and the spike in fires is directly related to his plans to clear out the Amazon to facilitate resource extraction, farming, and ranching.

In Quartz, it was reported that farmers and supporters of Bolsonaro helped start these fires to put forth his agenda to benefit Brazil’s economy. It was in January that he rolled into office, and according to Global News, one of his promises was to restore the country’s economy by finding other uses for the Amazon rainforest. Not only that, but Bolsonaro also vowed that if he were elected, he would not set aside a single centimeter more for Indigenous reserves.

Many refer to the Amazon as, “the lungs of the planet” and it is extremely important for not just Indigenous people, but for all people. It would only make sense for all of us to be on the front line. We need to do everything that we can to support the Indigenous peoples of the Amazon.

We need to be international supporters of combatting the fire crisis in the Amazon rainforest. I came across some suggestions that seem easy to put into play such as reduce wood, paper and beef consumption. However, it was stated that the most important actions you can take are political and collective—join a group that makes the Amazon a priority. Donate to Rainforest Action Network, Rainforest Trust, Amazon Watch, Amazon conservation team, or sign petitions. At this time, we need to stand together to support our Indigenous brothers and sisters of the Amazon in Brazil.
upcoming events

September 2019

For all of UpTown Waterloo Fall activities visit www.uptownwaterloobia.com.

Savour in Stratford - Saturday morning Market from 7 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Rotary Complex; and more! www.visits stratford.com.

Unplug from screens. Connect with friends. Sing your faith. Chapel Choir meets Mondays and Wednesdays at 4 p.m. Sign up for an audition at uwaterloo.ca/music/ensembles. No prep required. For more details ksteiner@uwaterloo.ca or 519-885-0220, ext 24226.

Gamelan - join the world music ensembles. No experience required. For more info www.uwaterloo.ca/music/ensembles. For more details uwaterloo.ca/music/ensembles or 519-885-0220, ext 24226.

Choral and Ensemble auditions begin. Can be taken for credit (.25) or extra-curricular activity. For more info www.uwaterloo.ca/music/ensemblesmusic@uwaterloo.ca.

Thurday, September 12
Orchestra Open Rehearsal and Auditions at 7 p.m. in REV Great Hall. For more info and audition times visit www.uwaterloo.ca/music/ensembles or 519-885-0220, ext 24226.

Wednesday, September 18
Music Noon Hour Concert at 12:30 p.m. at Conrad Grebel Chapel starring “A Veiled Symphony - Heidi Wall, piano.” For more info www.uwaterloo.ca/music.

Wednesday, October 2
Music Noon Hour Concert at 12:30 p.m. at Conrad Grebel Chapel starring “Touring Europe - Joseph Lanza, violin and Borys Medicky, harpsichord.” Free admission. For info see www.uwaterloo.ca/music/ensemblesmusic.

Thursday, October 3
You are invited to Student Night No.7 @ The Power Plant, 231 Queens Quay West, Toronto, ON. Student Night is ideal for post-secondary students and emerging professionals who are seeking to make new connections and learn more about working in Toronto’s vibrant arts and culture sector. www.thepowerplant.org.

Friday, October 25
Concerto and Aria Competition deadline today. For full competition details and application forms, visit uwaterloo.ca/music/competition.

volunteering

Bereaved Families of Ontario - Midwestern Region, The Family Centre, 65 Hanson Ave., Suite 1042, Kitchener. We currently have a number of exciting volunteer opportunities. For more info, jaime@bfomidwest.org or 519-507-0196.

NOT JUST TOURISTS — We are a humanitarian organization that pack medical supplies and bring them to developing countries. We are in need of volunteers, donors and travelers. For more information, please visit www.notjusttourists.com.

PARK PHARMACY

* 15% discount on all over-the-counter medications and supplies
* email us your Rx, we deliver FREE
* Accept all insurance plans
535 Park Street, Kitchener 519-208-4448 sparkpharmacy@gmail.com

WE’RE HERE WHERE YOU ARE!

The HealthyOwl
Bakery Cafe
620 Davenport Rd (at Northfield)
Waterloo
facebook.com/thehealthyowl.ca
519-888-8265

Spark Pharmacy
* 15% discount on all over-the-counter medications and supplies
* email us your Rx, we deliver FREE
* Accept all insurance plans
535 Park Street, Kitchener 519-208-4448 sparkpharmacy@gmail.com
WHAT’S HAPPENING AROUND TOWN
Submit your 30-word announcement or upcoming event to ads@uwimprint.ca for free.

LAST WEEK’S CROSSWORD

```
  1  K  N  I  T  T  E  R
  2   O   M   E   W   Y
  3  S  K  I  P  P  E  R
  4   A   R   N   O   N   E
  5   R   O   R   A   A   D   R   E
  6  R   A   T   L   E   T   R   A   P
  7   A   T   T   E   S   T   E   D
  8   L   E   N   G   T   H
  9   I   C   E   I   E
 10   C   E   I   E
 11   A   U   X
 12   E   N   R   I   C   H
 13   E   M   U   S
 14   K   I   D   E
 15   N   O
 16   Q   H   Z
 17   C   H   D   O   D   Q   G
 18   L   V   O   D   Q   G
 19   V   Z   L   W   C   H   U   O   D   Q   G
 20   A   P   E
 21   I   L   Q   O   D   Q   G
 22   V   Z   L   W   C   H   U   O   D   Q   G
 23   L   F   H   O   D   Q   G
 24   B   O   R   O   D   Q
 25   W   K   D   L   O   D   Q   G
 26   L   F   H   O   D   Q   G
 27   W   K   D   L   O   D   Q   G
```

THE SOLUTION

In a Caesar cipher, the alphabet shifts by a certain number of letters. For example, with a shift of nine, A is replaced by J, B by K, C by L, and so on. Can you solve these ciphers?

1. QHZ CHDODQG
2. VRORPRQ LVODQGV
3. ILQODQG
4. VZLWCHUODQG
5. LFHODQG
6. LUHODQG
7. QHWKHUODQGV
8. SRODQG
9. WKDLQOG
10. VZDCLODQG

Salute the Caesar Code: Countries

By Zhenzhen Gu, Jiayin Huang, Mingmei Huang

In a Caesar cipher, the alphabet shifts by a certain number of letters. For example, with a shift of nine, A is replaced by J, B by K, C by L, and so on. Can you solve these ciphers?

YOU COULD BE HERE

Interested in contributing your comics, puzzles, or quizzes to the newspaper? Distractions is looking for contributors for the fall term!
Email us at distractions@uwimprint.ca

$35 parking ticket VS delicious pizza

Save your money for pizza. In Waterloo you need to register if you park on the street overnight.

waterloo.ca/parking
coffee

pizza

beer

literally everything you need.

137 GLASGOW ST. • INSIDE CATALYST137
10 MINUTES FROM UW CAMPUS

GRAFFITIMARKET.CA • @GRAFFITI_MARKET
La Vie Bohème

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**Across**
1. Bent head with both arms pointing upward to a side
2. Stratford veteran, Feore
3. Small unit
4. Organization for standardization
5. Famous cookie maker
6. New Yorl art museum
7. Australian singer, "Cheap Thrills"
8. Pay in lieu of notice
9. Compact music format
10. Largest continent by area
11. Meleager hunts and kills this animal
12. Heroic article of clothing
13. Pay in lieu of notice
14. Stratford veteran, Feore
15. Famous cookie maker
16. New Yorl art museum
17. Australian singer, "Cheap Thrills"
18. Pay in lieu of notice
19. Compact music format
20. Largest continent by area
21. Meleager hunts and kills this animal
22. Heroic article of clothing
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24. Stratford veteran, Feore
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26. New Yorl art museum
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38. Pay in lieu of notice
39. Compact music format
40. Largest continent by area
41. Meleager hunts and kills this animal
42. Heroic article of clothing
43. Pay in lieu of notice
44. Stratford veteran, Feore
45. Famous cookie maker
46. New Yorl art museum
47. Australian singer, "Cheap Thrills"
48. Pay in lieu of notice
49. Compact music format
50. Largest continent by area
51. Meleager hunts and kills this animal
52. Heroic article of clothing
53. Pay in lieu of notice
54. Stratford veteran, Feore
55. Famous cookie maker
56. New Yorl art museum
57. Australian singer, "Cheap Thrills"
58. Pay in lieu of notice
59. Compact music format

**Down**
1. Michelle and Thompson
2. Business success metric
3. Piece of a necklace
4. Wife, online?
5. Née
6. Michelle and Thompson
7. Business success metric
8. Piece of a necklace
9. Wife, online?
10. Née

**Solutions to last week’s crossword and puzzle are available on page 14 and on our website at www.uwimprint.ca**