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Students fight KW4Rent, landlords

Varun Venkataramanan
Sports Editor & Reporter

Sylvia Skoruch is a fourth-year student at UW who is leading the charge for acceptable and affordable housing for students in Waterloo. Her motivation stems from her own experience this past summer when she felt she was mistreated by KW4Rent, a rental company that owns hundreds of units in the neighbourhood surrounding UW.

Skoruch says she signed a lease for a penthouse suite early in the summer. But KW4Rent called her to cancel the lease at the end of August and told her the room would no longer be available for rent, citing a need for repairs. As a result, she cancelled her lease. KW4Rent offered her other units for the same price, all of which she claims were not up to the standards of the original suite.

This left Skoruch scrambling without housing only a few days before the school term began. She claims that KW4Rent later rented her original penthouse suite to another person, and when she called to inquire, a KW4Rent representative told her that they “discovered the place wasn’t as bad as they thought so they did a quick renovation and rented it out.”

To warn others about KW4Rent’s practices, Skoruch posted about her experience on Facebook, under the group “Student Housing in Waterloo,” a group with over 45,000 members that is used for buying, selling, and renting student properties in the Kitchener-Waterloo area. The post went viral and led to many others sharing similar experiences on the page as well.

A student who wished to remain anonymous gave the Imprint an account of students living in KW4Rent units lacking stoves, hydro, beds, or working locks on doors, even though they were paying for fully furnished units. Another student described a friend’s unit with bed bugs, which the rental agency was aware of but did not take action to rectify after weeks of notices.

“They were actually notified by KW4Rent about the bed bugs and that told them the issue would be dealt with before move-in day. They moved in and it still had bed bugs so they had to stay at a hotel,” the student said.

Imprint was unable to independently verify these accounts Skoruch went on to create her own Facebook group, “Student Housing Crisis in Waterloo,” allowing students to post about their rental experiences and provide support for others going through similar situations. The group has amassed over 1,000 members in less than 3 days since its creation.

Skoruch also told Imprint that she has been in contact with the office of Waterloo MPP Catherine Fife discussing possible courses of action. Together they are in the process of compiling student testimonies to send to the Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing and are also exploring the presentation of a petition to Queen’s Park in regards to the unaffordable and inadequate student housing.

The state of student housing in Waterloo has become a hot topic this month thanks to Skoruch and a data breach at Accommod8a, another large rental agency in Waterloo. That leak revealed over 6,000 maintenance requests.

WUSA has also stepped up to take action, discussing the issue at their Students’ Council meeting on Sep. 14. Among the topics discussed at the meeting was the formation of a committee on student housing in early October which would include affected students and other parties. WUSA also plans to publish a report on student housing sometime in November, which will advise on any legal actions students or the association can take in response to the scandal.

Speaking to Imprint, WUSA Vice-President of Education Matthew Gerrits said that despite the wishes of many students, there would be no avenue for a class-action lawsuit through the Landlord and Tenant Board (LTB).

“We have been in touch with our lawyers to see whether students can pursue a class-action lawsuit outside of the [LTB] and what their options are within it...as well as whether WUSA can pursue a lawsuit on their behalf,” Gerrits added.

Gerrits also urged students to be aware of their tenant rights and seek legal counsel if they felt they were being mistreated. As the council meeting, Skoruch proposed the idea of a reserve fund for rent payments or a shelter for students in need of emergency housing, saying that many students have been sleeping in the SLC or friends’ couches due to a lack of suitable, available units. WUSA was receptive to this suggestion and said they will explore the option in their report. WUSA has taken steps to help students, they have not been immune from criticism either. During the welcome week carnival, the WUSA Instagram account posted an advertisement for a KW4Rent booth at the event, sparking an outcry on social media. The post was brought up at the council meeting, to which a WUSA executive apologized but defended the team’s actions, saying that the advertising money—all of which has already been spent—was received prior to the scandal. The executive also noted that WUSA set up a booth right next to KW4Rent’s to advise students about tenant rights.

The Kitchener-Waterloo Resident Student Movement has also planned a rally at Waterloo City Hall on Sep. 25 to protest the practices of rental agencies and urge the city to take action. More than 300 students have indicated their interest in the event on Facebook. Skoruch is unsure whether she will speak at the rally as she is concentrating on her work with MPP Fife’s office, but urged students to take action. "Making a fuss and speaking up is what will cause these landlords to clean up their act," she said. "I'm sick of this housing situation."
Campus Question

What would be your ideal off-campus living situation?

"It would be to live in a four-bedroom house, two bathrooms. I ideally want my own ensuite so I wouldn’t have to share a bathroom but knowing by price range, it wouldn’t be realistic. My price range is ideally $500 per month, utilities included, but I am willing to go max $650 a month, utilities included. I’d like to have on-site laundry and that be included in the $650 or the $600. Also, I’d like separate entrances and being close to bus stops for easy commute. I’d prefer living with other students as well, preferably in an all-female unit rather than co-ed."

Lily Yesufu, 2A
Biomedical Science

"I feel that my ideal renting situation would pretty much be like, I can have a place that I would have my own washroom, laundry is within the unit so I don’t have to pay for it, hydro is within the fees, and anything under $650. Internet’s included, lights are included, and if I don’t get my own washroom, I’d like to have a four-bedroom with two washrooms. A three bedroom and one washroom is okay as well."

Faith Osagie, 2A
Biomedical Science

"I don’t mind renting my own place, but it’s just that there’s a lot of restrictions on it. It’s just finding the right place, finding the right price for me because I am a student and OSAP is hurting all of us right now. It’s more ideal to own my own place but I don’t have the funds for that so right now, I have to rent. So renting isn’t bad, it’s just that it has its drawbacks."

Ray Budiwarman, 2A
Planning

"The first thing I would be looking for is accessibility—where it’s located, how far it is from university, how close it is to grocery stores and restaurants. The second thing would probably be the house or apartment itself. Is it clean? Is it spacious? And again, it goes back to, Can I feel myself living here? Every person has a different view of where they want to live and how they want to live, and that just connects back to—do I see myself studying here? Do I see myself living here for the next six to seven months?"

Omar Dari, 1A
ARBUS

"I am not necessarily looking for a house right now, but if I were I would prefer downtown Kitchener because it’s close to the Kitchener Market and also I believe it’s cheaper to get an apartment over there."

Nikhil Kotibhaskar, PhD cnd
Physics

Corrections

In Imprint’s Volume 42, Issue 8 on Sep. 11, Imprint wrongly quoted Liberal candidate and incumbent, Bardish Chagger, as referring to Justin Trudeau as President Justin Trudeau instead of Prime Minister.

In the story ‘Accommodation data leak shows awful conditions’, on page 3 of Imprint Volume 42 Issue 8, Imprint wrongly stated that the company had 6,000 unresolved maintenance requests, where many of those requests had been resolved.

Fire drills or real fire?

Rissailie Mouanjou
Report

On Friday, Sep. 6, fire alarms sounded through the network of UW Residences. In the morning around 8:00 a.m., students evacuated the residences.

"I was sleeping, so waking up for the drill was quite a hassle, but I had to do it," said Melodie Kwag, a student resident.

She wasn’t the only one having difficulties with evacuating the perimeter.

Four students also said that they simply didn’t leave, preferring instead to continue their morning routines rather than following procedures for the fire drill.

Many students reported being unaware of the drill beforehand, saying that they were told by friends as they were leaving the building.

"All I took with me was my phone. I should have probably grabbed important documents because I wasn’t sure whether it was a drill or not," Tony Song, another student resident said.

Kate Windsor, the Director of Safety on UW Campus said, "Dons are supposed to instruct their students on what to do during a fire drill before the actual drill."

Windsor emphasized that students who skipped the drill will not be in trouble.

"Students will not be fined for failing to evacuate residence, however we expect them to respect the annual drill procedures as it is meant to prepare them in case of an actual fire," she said.

One residence Don incorrectly told Imprint there was a $12,000 fine for skipping a fire drill.

Six UW first-year students also mentioned that their drill was made more difficult because they stayed up late partying the night before.

After the Frosh Ball, an event hosted by the University Socials Club of UW, the group of six first years proceeded to invite friends over to one of their dorms.

They finished their night with loud music, games, and bed displacements to allow yet more students into the dorm.

The next morning, they either failed to evacuate the building, or did so with discomfort.
UN begins gender equity tour at UW

Bessma Momani, a professor of Political Science at UW shares her thoughts at the HeForShe rally.

Harleen Kaur Dhillon
Managing Editor

Over a hundred students gathered in the SLC/PAC parking lot on Sep. 16 to join delegates from UW and UN Women in launching the UN HeForShe GetFree Canadian tour. The initial rally included an opportunity for attendees to network.

The rally was followed by speeches in Federation Hall. President Feridun Hamdullahpur offered opening remarks alongside representatives from UN Women.

“I am so pleased and proud that they chose University of Waterloo as the first stop of this great GetFree Canada tour,” Hamdullahpur said.

Elizabeth Nyamayaro, Senior Advisor to the Under Secretary-General and Executive Director of UN Women, offered her remarks as well. She emphasized the need for a global movement, one where people of all genders unite to achieve equity for all genders.

“It’s about creating a world where men, boys, and everyone of all genders can be true allies for gender equality,” Nyamayaro said. “It’s about building a truly global solidarity movement for gender equality that is welcoming to all of us.”

Edgar Ramirez, Hollywood actor and UN representative, followed Nyamayaro’s remarks with a thorough discussion on how men advocating for gender equality is beneficial for men, women, and all genders. He elaborated on how toxic masculinity negatively affects men and all the people around them.

“This paradigm sets many men for failure... When men lack a healthy way to express despair or grief or rage, it is often times expressed in the form of depression, or even suicide,” he said. “When men’s unchanneled emotion, particularly anger, turns outwards, it is often deadly.”

Four panelists took the stage after Ramirez to discuss how men can become allies for gender equality. The panel was moderated by Corey Johnson, a professor in Applied Health Sciences, and included Bessma Momani, a professor of Political Science at UW, Jermal Alleyne, cofounder and board member of Next Gen Men, Sara Casselman, executive director at the Sexual Assault Support Center of Waterloo Region and Pamela Cook Elmers, technical services manager at De Beers Canada Inc.

Panelists touched on the systemic issues that continue to undermine gender equality. In addition to having more male allies, Momani mentioned that the top- and mid-level executives of most corporations and organizations are likely to be named John, David, or Robert. She expressed the need to bridge the gap between top and bottom levels of organization.

Most importantly, participants recognized the need for a united, global movement that addresses both oppression and privilege.

“Gender equity cannot just look at the oppressed, but we must also look at the ways in which we are privileged and may, in fact, perpetuate oppression and othering,” Johnson said. “HeForShe is an invitation for men and people of all genders to stand in solidarity with women to create a bold, visible, and united force for gender equality.”

Nyamayaro voiced her hopes for a unified and representative movement in the future.

“I want a movement that belongs to everyone single one of us, so that one day,” she said, “maybe we can all look back and be able to say: there was a movement, and we were part of it; there was a movement and we created it; there was a dream, and we saw it come true.”
Polling stations at UW: Special arrangements for students

Vaani Rajpal
Reporter

Anyone can vote on the UW campus from October 5 to October 9. One polling booth will be in SLC 2135 and the other in MC 2057A.

Special polls like these are designed specifically for students, permitting them to vote for candidates in their electoral district from school. In other words, if they normally reside in a different Canadian province, they can vote for a candidate in that riding.

Three voting locations will be serving the UW campus for students living on residence. On-campus polling on election day will be hosted in SLC, Vi, and Beck Hall (UWP).

Satellite campuses like Cambridge and Stratford would be served by electoral districts in which they exist.

There will also be a special poll that will serve the students at WLU. Students at the Conestoga College will be served from the WLU's voting location.

The Returning Office has been working with WUSA and the Graduate Students Association (GSA) since last spring. There will be campaigns across campus to promote the opportunity to vote with specific information on voting dates, locations, and times.

There will be a special booth with two Returning Office staff at the Campus Life Fair on Wednesday, September 18, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the SLC Great Hall.

WUSA will also be using their social channels to share information to discuss student priorities.

They have also joined students across the country in the writing of a national letter to federal party leaders, highlighting topics most important to students.

This letter represents the interests of over 900,000 post-secondary students across Canada and can be found on www.studentsvote.ca.

In 2015, the UW student voting at special polling locations accounted for four percent of the vote across Canada at similar special voting locations designed for students to be able to vote for local or national candidates. In 2015, an 18 per cent increase was also observed in voters aged 18-24 when compared to the 2011 voter turnout.

Recent studies show that Canadians aged 18-35 make up the biggest group of eligible voters, with youth more politically engaged than any other generation.

“We saw some challenges with the provincial election and are ensuring that as we move forward, information is provided in advance. We will continue to effectively advocate that voting be as accessible as possible. Our generation needs something to get excited about. We’re hoping party leaders give us something to vote for. As the student voice, WUSA can encourage students to get out and vote, but students still need a reason to vote that goes far beyond what any poster (no matter how informative) can convey.

Turnout is dependent on candidates who ensure students are taken into account in their campaign; they need to engage with student voters by connecting with us in the places where we’re discussing politics, which typically means through non-traditional forums” Fayza Ibrahim, Provincial & Federal Affairs Commissioner of WUSA, said.

The special polls will be held during the following hours: October 5, between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m., Oct. 6, between 12 p.m. and 4 p.m. and Oct. 7 to 9 between 10 a.m. and 10:30 p.m.

Federal election candidates’ take on climate change and environment

Mubassir Ahmed
Editorial Assistant

Waterloo’s federal candidates proposed starkly different approaches to the environment when they spoke with Imprint.

“The parties on the left will say that it’s all about the environment, while the parties on the right will say it’s all about the economy” Bardish Chagger, Liberal candidate and incumbent MP for Waterloo Region.

Jerry Zhang, Conservative candidate for Waterloo, criticized the Liberals, saying that if Canada continues using resources at its current pace, there won’t be enough left for the future generations to come. Zhang said Canada should focus on building a greener economy first.

“By 2030, Canada’s target is to reach a 30 per cent reduction from 2005’s greenhouse gas emission level of 750 mega tonnes. However, as of today, we are producing about 700 mega tonnes,” Zhang said.

Meanwhile, the NDP’s Waterloo candidate Lori Campbell said her party promises to power Canada with net carbon-free electricity and move to 100 per cent non-emitting electricity by 2050. She also said her party would ban single-use plastics.

Furthermore, the NDP promised to make big changes by scaling up on low-carbon transit projects, like zero emissions buses and electric trains, with the goal of electrifying transit by 2035.

Further down the road, Campbell said her party plans on setting a target for retrofitting all buildings with renewable technologies by 2050 through low-interest loans for renewable home upgrades.

Although the Green Party is taking a similar approach to climate change as the NDP, they plan to take it one step further. Green candidate Kirsten Wright said her party would reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 60 per cent by 2050 and to zero per cent by 2090. The Green Party, like the NDP, plans to retrofit all buildings with renewable technologies at an earlier deadline of 2030.

Wright also said her party would halt all new fossil fuel development projects.

Reiterating a promise made by Justin Trudeau, Chagger said that her party plans to ban single-use plastics by 2021 and phase out coal-fired electricity.

"Pollution should not be free and so we have put a price on pollution," Chagger said. "People would be taxed on how much they contribute to pollution in the hopes that they will change their lifestyle and become greener, according to the Liberal platform.

Chagger said, because going green is also costly, everyone who pays this ‘carbon tax’ will be offered a rebate.

Zhang, criticized the carbon tax policy and pointed out that expecting people to change their lifestyle is not practical. So the Conservatives say their plan to tackle climate change would focus on building a greener economy by funding research on green technology.

“A ‘green rebate’ would be given to businesses or houses if they meet certain green standards,” Zhang said. "...The Conservatives would also introduce a green patent credit for entrepreneurs.

With elections around the corner, Federal candidates open up about climate change and the environment.
SkipTheDishes launches campaign with UW Students

Mubassir Ahmed
Editorial Assistant

Jordan Olivera, a student at UW, spearheaded a student-driven Back to School 50% discount campaign from SkipTheDishes. The half-off promo is available in 22 markets in Canada, spearheaded by UW student Jordan Olivera. The economics major told Imprint that, although he is a non-co-op student, he was able to make the most out of his degree through the support of his contacts.

“I started working [at SkipTheDishes] as a summer intern two years ago, back when I was in second year. As I was able to stay on top of my work and make a good impression during those four months, my supervisor gave me a return offer for the next summer,” Olivera said. Once he was back at school, he started taking courses to minor in marketing and international business, hoping it would increase his opportunities once in the work force.

“During my second internship with SkipTheDishes, a marketing position opened up and I asked to be transferred to the marketing team. Looking back, had I not been upfront, I would not have been able to launch the Back to School 50% discount offer with my team,” he said.

“A lot of my friends are in co-op programs and back then I regretted not enrolling into the co-op option, but I realised over time that your degree is really what you make of it.”

He added that the SkipTheDishes offer is just for students, as he worked with the company’s restaurants to ensure that all the items in the offer are near university campuses.

The deal lasts until September 30, but if successful, SkipTheDishes may relaunch the campaign.

SLC delays continue

Vidyut Ghuwalewala
Assistant News Editor

The SLC/PAC expansion, a 65,000 square foot addition to the current Student Life Centre has been delayed again. Over the past two years, the timeline has changed multiple times since the construction phase of the SLC/PAC expansion project began on June 19, 2017.

“The expectation is for winter 2020, that’s the projected timeline but we do have a website where you can have running updates on that,” Seneca Velling, Vice President of Operations and Finance at WUSA, formerly Feds, said.

“Regular construction status update reports are given to the building and property committee of the board of governors and available at the secretariat’s website if you just look at the agendas.”

The earlier date for completion was set to fall 2019 but has been pushed to Winter 2020.

Velling said changes to the actual scope of the project, unforeseen weather conditions, and suspending work while the university used the grounds for convocation all contributed to the delay.

“Things slow down a little bit because we need to use the building,” Velling said. “One of the prerequisites to the current construction project was that it has to work around the students and they need the SLC to come in for all sorts of things. That’s definitely contributed to the delays but generally for contracts of this scale, these kind of delays are fairly common and things have moved along well.”

Since construction began, there have been many closures of spaces on campus, including Brubakers Kitchen, which recently reopened.

“Nobody likes being in and around a construction site — believe me, my office is right next to it — but when I look at the long run, I see great benefits to the students from the space,” Velling said.

“I feel pretty comfortable that it’s worth it as the costs aren’t being paid by the current students.”

The Expansion will result in 14 more bookable multipurpose rooms, 345 additional dining seats, 4,500 square feet of social space, 11,000 square feet of fitness space, multi-faith prayer space for 100 people with lockers and cleansing amenities, 5,000 square feet of recreational studio space, and a link between the third floor of SLC and MC.

“There is a public consultation for a new physics building and there’s going to be an astrophysics centre built there and that’s going to be great for research for Waterloo,” Velling said.

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BEYOND THE BULLETIN

UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO
Review: Luxury Eco-Communism

Heena Elize Sen
Reporter

Trigger Warning: Torture scenes including hanging, shooting, and guillotine. Severe child labour depicted.

The movie Luxury Eco-Communism: A Wonderful World is Possible, caters to the idealistic vision that we once held before cynicism became the fashion. While acknowledging the difficulties and impracticalities of a socialist world, Garry Potter tries to communicate how a socialist future could be possible and what that would entail.

In a time when political affairs and the state of our environment seems distressing and any attempts to fix the current situation feel discouraging, this film tries to offer the viewer glimpse what it might look like if we tried to pursue utopia.

The movie gives quick overviews of the problems created by our current capitalist economy such as the pay gap, lack of adequate public transportation, the deplorable state of our health care, and child labour. It then tries to show how taking a socialist approach to our society might help alleviate these problems.

What Potter gets right in this film is his honest acceptance of the fact that while it may be easy to talk about embracing a socialist society, the actual implementation of it is much harder than one can imagine.

Potter exposes countries that claim to be socialist and have the reputation of being 'the good guys' that run in and save the day in third world countries. He reveals their ulterior motives and admits that no country has ever achieved true socialism. He tries to show how the life of the average middle-class individual will be different if we adopt a socialist democracy.

The film feels like a watered down version of Hasan Minhas's perfected art of social commentary and manner of communicating complex social ideas in a humorous and accessible manner.

While Minhas's use of exemplary graphics and references to popular culture help convey his ideas effectively to teenagers and young adults, Potter's movie tends to feel like that after-school special from the nineties that your middle school refused to update over a decade later. Then again, it possesses that endearing quality of a dad trying too hard to relate to his kids, so this reviewer quite enjoyed the movie.

I would recommend this movie to individuals looking for a quick and fun way to learn more about the history of socialism, issues caused by our capitalist society, and how socialism might look in the future.

The realistic picture painted by the movie provides a more clarifying vision for wide-eyed young adults who believe in a better future.

There was a free showing of the film on September 14 at at WLU. The screening of the film was be followed by a Q&A session with the filmmaker.

Find out what’s behind closed doors

Andrew Rutland
Reporter

This Saturday, citizens of the Waterloo Region will get another exciting opportunity to see what lies behind usually locked doors. For Doors Open Waterloo Region, interesting locations that are usually closed to the public will invite visitors to see what lies beyond closed doors.

“It’s a way to get people into interesting places that they wouldn’t be allowed to go on normal days... or even know that are there,” Karl Kessler, a coordinator at Doors Open Waterloo Region said.

Doors Open Waterloo Region is usually centred around a theme. The 2019 theme is water and the day will begin with an Anishinaabe Water Ceremony for the Grand River at 7:30 AM. This subject will be a common thread uniting the exhibits at 16 of the 43 participating locations.

Sites are selected in order to show off the best of the Region with particular focus on the adaptive reuse of historic buildings and newly constructed buildings. For example, this year’s list of sites includes the recently opened Evolvi, but also the Community Hub and Kaufmann Lofts buildings in Downtown Kitchener.

Other notable sites include municipal facilities like the Ayr Wastewater Treatment Plant and Greenbrook Water Treatment Plant. Free virtual reality sessions are available at Ctrl V, Canada’s first virtual reality arcade. For history lovers, the Waterloo County Gaol and Governor’s House in Kitchener, or the Fashion History Museum in Hespeler, offers glimpses into the past.

“It’s a really big region” Kessler said. “Sometimes it’s nice to get a tip from somebody saying you should really check out [a] place.”

Though the water ceremony officially kicks off the day at 7:30am, most sites will not open their doors until 10:00 am and will leave them open until 5:00 pm. Each location will also plan their own activities for the day. Some may give visitors free reign to explore the site, where others might have strictly guided tours.

Kessler said his favourite part about Doors Open is seeing dedicated staff sharing their workplace with the public.

“Watching the people that are staffing the sites on the day of the event really enjoy telling people about their building,” he said. “It’s a real exercise in hospitality.”

Kessler also hopes that students take the opportunity to explore and consider Waterlo Region’s fascinating past and promising future.

For more information on Doors Open, visit: www.doorsopenontario.on.ca.

Some of the Open Door locations in Waterloo. clockwise from top: Walking the 100 year floodline; Mennonite Economic Development Association; Evolvi courtyard.
Men’s football suffers season’s first loss

Varun Venkataraman
Sports Editor

On Sep. 25, the Waterloo Men’s Football Team faced the Guelph Gryphons at CIF Field in what has become one of the most entertaining rivalries in the OUA. The game was a tight defensive battle through three quarters before the Gryphons pulled away in the fourth for a 39-35 victory.

The teams traded field goals to begin the game but struggled to create offence for the next 20 minutes.

However, with two minutes to go until halftime, Guelph running back Kaine Stevenson ran the ball in to complete an impressive 75-yard drive into the wind and gave his team a 10-3 lead.

After halftime, the team’s traded touchdowns before Warriors’ quarterback Tre Ford and wide receiver Tyler Ternowski connected for a 48-yard completion to wake up the crowd. Ternowski would finish the game with 141 receiving yards to become Waterloo’s all-time leader in the statistic.

Unfortunately, the Warriors were forced to settle for a field goal on the drive after falling to convert in the red zone.

With one quarter left in the game, it looked like the Warriors’ were in prime position for a victory. The team was down by four points, but had all the momentum thanks to Ternowski and some strong defensive play. It began well, as UW forced a turnover on Guelph’s first drive of the quarter to take possession a mere 25 yards away from the end zone.

Ford ran the ball in for a touchdown, but the excitement was short lived as the Warriors faced a 10-yard penalty on the play for interference. The Warriors were unable to recover, as sloppy defence allowed the Gryphons to take control and score 22 unanswered points to take the victory.

Stevenson led the way for Guelph with his 194 rushing yards and 3 touchdowns. Their QB Ford finished the game with 18 completions for 301 yards in a strong outing.

The loss was the first of the team’s season, dropping them to fourth overall in the OUA. They will look to get back in the win column on Sep. 21 when they take on the Carleton Ravens in Ottawa.

The premier league transfer window: winners and losers

Advait Trivedi
Sports Reporter

The Premier League (PL) Transfer window shut on Aug. 8, a day before the awaited English top flight season kicked off at Anfield. Newly promoted Norwich started things off by playing last season’s runners up, Liverpool. Premier League clubs spent a total of £1.4 billion on 99 players this season, which is £158 million more than they spent in the summer of 2018. So how did the top clubs fair during the recent transfer window?

Arsenal: The outcome of the summer transfer window was nothing less than a dream for Arsenal supporters. The most talked about transfer of their window—and perhaps the PL summer—was Nicolas Pepe, who was bought for a princely sum of £72 million from French club Lille. Besides Pepe, they also bought central defender David Luiz from Chelsea for £8 million to replace departing captain Laurent Koscielny, left back Kieran Tierney from Celtic for £25 million to replace the departing Nacho Monreal, central defender William Saliba from St. Etienne for £38 million, and loaned in Dani Ceballos from Real Madrid for one season.

If the intent shown by Arsenal in the transfer window is anything to go by, they are in for an exciting season under manager Unai Emery.

Manchester City: Pep Guardiola had perhaps the best team in the world on paper before the summer, but that didn’t stop him from strengthening further. Signing CDM Rodri from Atlético Madrid for £70 million to replace the aging Fernandinho. They also brought in Portuguese right back Joao Cancelo from Juventus in exchange for Danilo and £26 million in order to give Kyle Walker competition for his starting birth. These necessary reinforcements are only going to make it more difficult for opposing teams to stop Pep’s men from enjoying another successful season.

Chelsea: In a window where there was an array of talent available, serving a transfer ban severely hurt Chelsea’s chances for the 2019-20 season. However, things only got worse for them when they lost their captain David Luiz to arch rivals Arsenal on deadline day only made the window even worse for Chelsea fans. A long and challenging season awaits Lampard and Chelsea’s army of youth who he has decided to show faith in.

Liverpool: Jurgen Klopp decided against making any signings this window, despite Alberto Moreno and Daniel Sturridge leaving the club. He insists Joe Gomez, Adam Lallana and Oxlade Chamberlain recovering from serious injuries before the beginning of the campagne are as good as three new signings. With nearest rivals, Manchester City, strengthening in the necessary departments, Klopp’s decision to not purchase reinforcements could hurt Liverpool as the season progresses.

Manchester United: Despite spending the most among the Top 6, Manchester United fans are not content with the transfer window—and rightfully so. Having signed the most expensive defender in the world in Harry Maguire for £85 million and highly rated right back Aaron Wan Bissaka for £50 million, their defense does not look to be an area of concern. However, not signing replacements for Ander Herrera, Marouane Fellaini, Alexis Sanchez, and Romela Lukaku means Manchester United have very limited options at both midfield and forward. It could be a long season ahead for United and Manager Ole Gunnar Solskaer who like Chelsea, have decided to trust the youth.
Juul’s gold: Smoking alternative causes deaths

Currently, Dr. Levy’s teen addiction program has three to four times the number of patients it had a year ago.

Popularity in smoking regular cigarettes has steadily decreased over the past 20 years due to diligent spreading of awareness about the serious health issues that come with it. With fewer youth smoking cigarettes, many current smokers were also persuaded to attempt to quit. This began the explosion of the vaping market. While having evolved to attract an entirely new audience, vaping was originally presented as a less harmful alternative to cigarettes for current smokers to ease out of the habit. Today, millions of youth are now storming the market, attracted by flashy new looks and fun flavours, such as crème brûlée, or Sour Patch Kids.

The modern marketing dissuading cigarettes doesn’t cover electronic smoking. Instead, vaping is regarded as a cool, healthier, safer alternative with little to no harm or danger attached, making it much more appealing to young people.

Adam Hergenreder, a high school student from Illinois who sustained permanent lung damage from vaping, stated why he started vaping: “It didn’t taste like a cigarette. It tasted good and gave me a little head high.”

The different flavours were appealing and he believed they were safe.

The FDA is beginning to take action against the companies that produce electronic smoking products, particularly Juul, the company responsible for selling 70% of vaping products. The FDA criticized Juul for falsely advertising their products as “modified risk tobacco products” and further targeting youth with flavours that appeal to kids. The FDA shared in a statement, “The law is clear that before marketing tobacco products for reduced risk, companies must demonstrate [that this is true].” Juul has ignored the law, and very concerning, has made some of these statements in schools to our nation’s youth.”

In addition, the original intent to help cigarette smokers quit may have backfired entirely. Studies show limited evidence that vaping is helping smokers to quit, but many youth and adults who have never tried regular cigarettes are experimenting with e-cigarettes. Vaping may also lead non-smokers to traditional cigarettes which they may not otherwise try. The European Union Tobacco Products Directive states that e-cigarettes can develop into a gateway to nicotine addiction and ultimately traditional tobacco consumption as, “they mimic and normalise the action of smoking.”

Due to the sudden e-cigarette popularity boom, regulators are scrambling to keep up and make an effective plan of action. The FDA delayed the compliance deadline for the regulation of e-cigarette products to 2022, meaning companies like Juul will have until then to show their products are safer than regular cigarettes and they aren’t unduly targeting minors. Some professionals believe a more stringent plan is needed to combat the crisis. Dr. Andrew Pipe, chief of the Division of Prevention and Rehabilitation at the University of Ottawa Heart Institute, believes the issues with cigarette smoking that finally subsided over the past few decades are resurfacing in the form of a flashy new alternative, putting youth most at risk in the same way cigarettes once did. In a video series about e-cigarettes, Dr. Pipe said, “Those of us who’ve been involved in tobacco control issues for decades are astonished that we now seem to have lost sight of the lessons of the past.”
Hack the North offers students opportunities to create and present innovative projects

Team Infinity Gauntlet worked on a robotic arm. The members are, from left to right: Michael, Harrison, Catherine and Nicole.

Harleen Kaur Dhillon
Managing Editor

UW hosted the annual Hack the North event from Sep. 13 to Sep. 15, where hundreds of students from around the world worked in teams to realize innovative ideas in 48 hours. The students were also offered workshops on foundational skills, opportunities to network with others in their field, and, this year, an opportunity to showcase their creations.

Corporate partners offered guidance for students through workshops centered around their unique Application Programming Interfaces (APIs).

Big name firms such as Microsoft, Loblaw Digital, Deloitte, TD, and Google, among others, awarded prizes to the teams that best used their APIs in a one-hour period.

Tech talks and workshops hosted by Hack the North and delivered by several guest speakers.

Among the speakers were many CEOs and founders such as Danielle Strachman, co-founder of 1517 Fund; Dhananja Jayasuriya, co-founder and CPO of Athos; and Henry Shi, co-founder and CTO of Snaptravel.

The talks were headlined by Jack Dorsey, co-founder and CEO of Twitter and Square. Among the companies were other organizations that presented their opportunities for careers and advancement.

These included the counter-terrorism unit from the Canadian Armed Forces, which was recruiting members of all ages for their technological defense program.

Some organizations had their Hack the North debut this year. Freshbooks, a cloud accounting company founded in 2002, held a workshop where students could use their API to create applications that integrated with Freshbooks.

The companies also provided feedback for students’ projects on Saturday evening, when Deloitte hosted a pitch session for students.

Team Infinity Gauntlet, consisting of four UW students, created a robotic arm controlled by two joysticks and powered by four batteries.

They also used Arduino in addition to equipment borrowed from the Deloitte and Loblaw Digital Hardware Hacking Hub.

Students showcased their projects to judges and peers on Sunday, where they submitted their codes and demonstrated their creations.

Teams were judged on four criteria: the first is the wow factor — does the project stand out?

They also judge technical difficulty, that is, the complexity of the project. The third criterion is originality, where judges consider how new and unique the project is.

Finally, teams are evaluated on the design of their project, including its usability and presentation.

Students aren’t allowed to work on their projects before the event begins.

Hack the North is a convention for students from around the world to engage with like-minded people in their fields.

It offers students learning and practicing opportunities.

Students of all ages and levels of knowledge can gather together to explore their ideas and career options.

The event takes place annually at UW, and occupies the engineering buildings for three days. For more information on Hack the North, visit https://hackthenorth.com/.
Waterloo researchers named RSC fellows and members

Euan Simms
Reporter

The University of Waterloo is undoubtedly an academic powerhouse. On Sep 10, 2019, nine researchers at UW were elected to the Royal Society of Canada (RSC). Seven were named fellows of the RSC while two were named to the RSC’s College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists. This marks 83 current members at the university, chosen due to the excellence they achieved in the academies of science, social sciences, arts, and humanities.

The seven fellows elected for life were as follows: Donna Strickland (Physics and Astronomy), Winfried Siemerling (English Language and Literature), Phelim Boyle, Srinivasan Keshav (Cheriton School of Computer Science), Michel Gingras (Physics and Astronomy), Zhongwei Chen (Chemical Engineering), and Raouf Boutaba (Cheriton School of Computer Science). Fellows are recognized for remarkable contributions to their fields of study and society, typically amassed after an extensive career. The RSC invites the fellows to draw from their body of knowledge to discuss, debate and inform the Canadian public about issues that they may face.

In the words of the new fellow, Professor Keshav: “for me, the appointment means several things. At one level, this helps the School of Computer Science attract the next generation of great students and faculty, which is important for our long-term success. At a more personal level, besides the recognition of my past work, which is of course quite nice, I hope it will allow me a soapbox from which to advocate for my current passion, which is to use tools and ideas from computer science to fight climate change, especially by encouraging the adoption of renewable energy, making buildings more energy-efficient, and encouraging the use of alternatives to gas-guzzling cars.”

Two UW researchers, Juewen Liu (Chemistry) and Nandita Basu (Civil and Environmental Engineering), were elected to the RSC’s College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists, for a term of seven years.

The strength of the society is found in the diversity of its members, be it in their background, their area of expertise, age, or experiences. What unites them - their excellence and commitment to bettering Canada’s understanding of the world and the issues it faces.

When asked about his reaction to his election, Professor Siemerling said: “election to the Royal Society of Canada is an honour and recognition of my work that makes me proud, but it also speaks to the relevance of the fields that have made this work possible, such as English, Canadian, North American, and hemispheric literature, comparative literary, cultural, and decolonial studies, critical race theory, and so on. And I feel that this recognition further shines a bright light on the context and support for research here at the University of Waterloo that has facilitated this work, which is of course always strengthened by strong and motivated students in the classroom and in our research teams.”


Call for an appointment today: 519-888-4062
Please have your health card ready when you call.
Women unite, take back the night!

The Take Back the Night March and rally is an annual event that takes place internationally.

The idea behind the rally is to raise awareness about violence against women, girls, and LGBTQ2S+ individuals.

The event took place starting in the 1970s in the U.S., but Canada also took leadership in BC in 1978. Since then the Canadian Association of Sexual Assault Centres declared the third Friday of September to be the evening for Take Back the Night rallies nationwide.

This rally is the first worldwide effort to combat sexual violence and violence against women.

The Take Back the Night foundation came together under the leadership of Katie Koestner, who was the first woman in the U.S. to come forward nationally and publicly as the victim of campus date rape in 2001.

As an Indigenous woman, I believe it is important to put an emphasis on and bring awareness to Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women, Girls, and Two-Spirit people (MMIWG2S). Indigenous women have an elevated risk for violent victimization relative to non-Indigenous women, and are four times more likely to experience violence compared to non-Indigenous women.

Despite Canada having a national plan to address gender-based violence, it is still prevalent. The more people that participate in the march, the more awareness we will bring.

I am marching for my daughters, my mother, my sisters, my grandmother, for all women everywhere, and for my Indigenous family and for every person who is impacted negatively by gender-based violence.

The Sexual Assault Support Centre (SASC) in Waterloo region will hold the event.

It will be taking place at Kitchener City Hall this Thursday September 18, 2019 from 6 to 9 p.m.

I will be with my singing group “the blue sky singers,” to open up the event with song.

Hope to see you there.

Jaydum Hunt
Indigenous Student Association

Easy way to (not) save $10k on tuition

Now that I have your attention, this is the case for many international co-op students, who can pay thousands more in tuition than UW's own standards permit. It's all about the way co-op students move through university more slowly than regular students, because of work terms.

UW's predictable tuition framework, which WUSA helped lobby to create, outlines that international student tuition should not be raised more than 15 per cent for an entry year, and not more than 5 per cent for upper years. So if your 2019 first year tuition is $1,000, the next year it shouldn't increase by more than $50 ($1,000 x 5 per cent), and incoming first years after you shouldn't pay more than an additional $50 ($1,000 x 15 per cent). UW does this by classifying students into categories in which each student in a certain year and program pays the same fee. However, this framework seems to casually skim over the fact that over 60 per cent of students here don't graduate within four years of admission.

Let's say you're one of those unfortunate co-op students who does not graduate in four years. Fast-forward and you're in 4B, about to graduate, and sharing classes with the regular-stream students who came into university a year after you. Since you're both in 4B, you're both paying the same tuition.

Remember that 15 per cent increase from earlier that you were never supposed to see? Yeah, you're paying that now. Somehow along the line, your tuition didn't go up by 5 per cent, but by 15 per cent. Often that hits in term 2B.

In their 2B, 3B, 4A, and 4B terms, many co-op students are actually paying the tuition of their counterparts who entered a year after them, as shown in the graph.

Now, is UW doing anything to fix this? The answer is a murky “Maybe.” Here's what the Dean of Math, (James Rush), and Provost (Stephen Watt) had to say: “...[this is] offset by increasing earnings in later work terms, due to advanced qualifications and increased wages due to annual inflation.” They also stated that additional annual increases are experienced by all students whose studies are longer for whatever reason.

Through Student Council, WUSA has stated its opposition to the notion that co-op students paying higher tuition should be offset by increasing earnings in later work terms, and has also expressed its desire for a comprehensive, predictable tuition framework.

If the University fails to provide this, WUSA will seek to inform current and potential future students of the full cost of choosing a co-op degree at UWWaterloo. If you're concerned that you've already paid thousands too much in tuition, here are the email addresses of Waterloo's President (hamdull@uwaterloo.ca) and Provost (jwvision@uwaterloo.ca).

You can read more details at bit.ly/UW-Tuition.

John Hunte
WUSA Student Councillor for Math
Climate change: UW disappoints

On Sept. 27, students and supporters all over the world will strike from their schools and workplaces to protest inaction on the climate catastrophe— including here in the Waterloo Region.

After mobilizing 1.6 million people worldwide, this movement will be taken to the streets to fight for a future that is rapidly slipping from our fingers. And not a moment too soon, the climate disaster that has so long been thought of as a problem of the distant future is already here.

Featuring the hottest summer in recorded history, this year has brought record-breaking heat waves across Europe, wildly devastating floods and droughts around the world, unprecedented fires from the Arctic to the Amazon, and an ice-melting rate in Greenland not previously predicted until the year 2070. The burning of fossil fuels also reached an all-time high this year.

The youth’s initiative is inspiring, but it also serves as an indictment of our failed leadership. In the words of Greta Thunberg, the 16-year-old Swedish climate activist leading the school strike movement, “Since our leaders are behaving like children, we will have to take the responsibility they should have taken long ago.” Unfortunately, it is no different here in Canada or at UW.

Just a day after declaring a climate emergency, the Canadian federal government pushed forward the controversial Transmountain Pipeline that companies like Suncor admit is needed to expand their oil production—despite the fact that oil use must decline rapidly to keep our planet from falling into chaos.

Here at UW, President Hamdullahpur sent out a statement last Friday that is supportive of the strike and has committed to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050. A recent IPCC report reveals that the world must halve its emissions by 2050 to avoid the devastation of global warming beyond 1.5°C, and when UW announces its interim emissions goals for 2025 and 2030, it needs to commit to slash emissions by then.

Unfortunately, that isn’t likely if these goals reflect what the UW President, Hamdullahpur, told Fossil Free UW in a meeting earlier this year.

“Change needs to be incremental and needs to wait for supposedly unrenewable technologies,” he said.

The University also refuses to end its efforts to profit from its $68 million of investments in oil companies like Suncor, even as the sector’s financial prospects decline.

After 30 years of delay, if our leaders are calling climate change an emergency but not treating it like one, it means they either don’t understand what “climate emergency” means or they lack the courage to confront the powerful fossil fuel interests perpetuating it.

So, if you want climate change to be treated like the emergency that it is— if our leaders are going to turn their words into action—then join this fight and help us turn up the pressure. We meet to defend our future at 10 a.m., Sept. 27, in the Arts Quad en route to Waterloo Town Square. For more details, head to https://bit.ly/2bny9C4.

Petra Duff and Yonatan Strauch
Fossil Free UW
upcoming events

September 2019

For all of UpTown Waterloo Fall activities visit wwwuptownwaterloobia.com.

Savour in Stratford - Saturday morning Market from 7 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Rotary Complex; and more! wwwvisitsstratford.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 ensemble or community gamelan. No experience required. For more info www.uwaterloo.ca/music/ensembles.

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

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

Wednesday, September 25
PaE Career Fair - make connections now! Meet 260+ employers at the largest fair of its kind in the country from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Manulife Sportsplex, RIM Park (FREE busses from Ring Road in front of Humanities Theatre) www.partners4employment.ca.

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

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 - Mid-western 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 519-603-0196.

Become a Meals On Wheels volunteer! Call 519-772-8878 or www.communitiesupportconnections.org/volunteer/apply.

service directory

WORSHIP

FIRST Mennonite Church
131 Erb Street, W, Waterloo
519-886-3570
info@erbcchurch.ca

Holy Cross Lutheran Church
322 East Ave.
Kitchener
519-742-6812
www.holycrosskitchener.org

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8:30 and 11 a.m. services
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## Vegan Facts*
### Les réalités végane*

Per 1 average Canadian (80.3 kg) / pour 1 canadien (80.3 kg)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>% Known Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teneur</td>
<td>%valuer connue</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Vegan Diet / régime végane

- Saturation into Society / augmenter dans la société: 2.3% / 60%

### Increase in Ego Size / augmentation de l’ego

- Increased elf righteousness / augmentation de la justice de soi: 0%
- Increased moral absolutism / augmentation de l’absolutisme moral: 50%

### Vitamin A / Vitamine A

- %

### Vitamin C / Vitamine C

- %

### Calcium / Calcium

- 0%

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*The Author would like to clarify that not all stated values are facts and may indeed just be satire, but you know, that’s up to you.
The Book is Always Better than the Movie

Across
1 Marvel's Jessica
6 Lewd woman circa. Shakespeare
11 Marriage
12 West African epidemic
13 CGY and EDM are located...
14 Sudden
16 Regional Internet Registry
17 Visa terminal loc.
19 Bit-density of magnetic tape
20 Debt
21 Immigrant class
22 Stratum of rock
23 Young's partner
25 40 across producer
29 Soul producer
31 Affirmative slang
32 Vibrantium-rich country
36 Vampire Slayer
40 Alien regulation agency
41 A group of illnesses in the lower stomach
43 Brit Marling support group?

44 Caption file type
45 Rally spirit
46 British vessel prefix
47 Starchy root
50 Saphira's Dragon Rider
53 "__ ___ a fox"
54 Cast assignment
55 Tasting, smelling, or touching
56 Slogan

Down
1 Third year
2 Record breaking session
3 Zilch
4 Apr, Aug, Dec
5 47 across antagonist
6 Ginger family
7 Lessen
8 Partner of neither
9 Cliquee
10 Occur
13 "All good, Rasta"
15 Non-lethal force
18 TV menu
24 Reggae precursor
25 Foil
27 Gamora's sis
28 Greek 300
30 University receipt?
32 Thin streak
33 The Passion of the Christ fixture
34 Chip type
35 Intl. leader in farm infrastructure
37 "Obliviate!"
38 Neapolitan pizza chain
39 Txt complaint about more FB-like apps
42 High off dubstep?
48 Rand, author
49 Sun-kissed colour
51 Pooh pal
52 Anti-HIV drug (aka La Vie Boheme break)

Salute the Caesar Code: More 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?

1. GLMNGTOYZGT; 4. VQOVOYZGT;
2. QGFGQNYZGT; 5. ZGPOQOYZGT;
3. QXMEFYZGT; 6. ZAXQSKTOYZGT;

Last Week's Caesar Code

The alphabets was shifted by three letters.

1. NEW ZEALAND;
2. SOLOMON ISLANDS;
3. FINLAND;
4. SWITZERLAND;
5. ICELAND;
6. IRELAND;
7. NETHERLANDS;
8. POLAND;
9. THAILAND;
10. SWAZILAND.

Solutions to last week's crossword and puzzle are available online!

By Timi Beek

Welcome dear reader, tonight I shall regale you with a tale of the despicable depths I have plunged...

It began at my higher institution...

The last of my mistakes ever!

On that very night...

I had become a PEDANT!