COVID-19 CAMPUS UPDATES
From shifts in course drop dates to an all-online Spring 2020 term, here is a look at recent UW updates regarding the COVID-19 Pandemic since Mar. 14.

WAGES LOST FROM COVID-19
Business in the KW region hit hard in wake of the COVID-19 Pandemic as revenues plummet with some businesses forced to close for the foreseeable future.

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COVID-19 threatens local businesses

Nicola Rose
Reporter

In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, businesses across the KW region are facing huge reductions in revenue, with many closing down for the foreseeable future.

As Canadian officials urge Ontarians to practice social isolation and employees throughout the region transition to working from home, cab companies are facing drastic changes. J. T. Pearson, office manager at City Cabs Kitchener, said that the company is seeing “about a 50 per cent reduction in their current volume of business.”

Similarly, Waterloo Taxi has seen “a decline of anywhere from 30 to 40 per cent in business. It’s been like nothing we’ve ever experienced,” said Tony Rodrigues, Director of Marketing at Waterloo Taxi.

Cab companies are not the only ones affected by government recommendations to stay home. Bojana Dabac, who works at a Williams Cafe in Waterloo, says that the reduction in revenue has led to the owner’s decision to close the cafe from Mar. 20 until further notice.

Paula White Diamond, owner of the Paula White Diamond Art Gallery and Design Studio, talked about the difficulty of trying to get a game-plan in order amidst the rapidly changing situation and acknowledged how stressful the past few weeks have been for her.

“I am pretty much the same as everyone else in the world right now. I was actually one of the first businesses to close in the city. You know, I have to take responsibility for my staff and the artists that I represent. I was worried about everybody so I just decided it was the best thing to do, unfortunately,” Diamond said.

Businesses that remain open are taking extra measures to ensure the safety of their employees and customers. At Princess Cafe, that means closing to the public.

“Starting Monday, we switched to a take-out only service, so we are just serving directly onto the street. We have a sliding window,” Marc Lecompte at Princess Cafe said.

As places of business that once helped accommodate the sanitary needs of City Cabs’ drivers close, the taxi company has increased its concern for the sanitary needs of its employees and customers.

“All of our drivers are using gloves right now. In terms of vehicle care, yes, we are advising regular sanitization of all high-touch services. Most of our drivers are doing that either on a ride-by-ride or every-second-ride basis.”

“As more restaurants and coffee shops like Tim Hortons close, a lot of our drivers rely on those facilities for going to the bathroom and keeping [their] hands washed, so actually we’re seeing an increase — drivers are coming into our office where they have facilities to do that,” Pearson said.

For cab drivers, the region-wide shortage of hand sanitizers poses more concerns. As Pearson points out, hand sanitizers act as a sanitary substitute for taxi drivers since they do not have access to a sink regularly.

However, Rodrigues notes that those supplies are essentially nonexistent. Rodrigues has even distributed his personal supply of sanitization supplies to the company’s drivers and says he plans to reach out to grocery stores soon to see whether they can set aside some supplies for the drivers, or at least notify cab companies when they have supplies back on the shelves.

The never-ending series of changes is concerning for many businesses. David Worsley, co-owner of Words Worth, said his store’s actions are guided by government recommendations, which they follow closely.

“We are, like most small businesses, just kind of dealing hour to hour,” Worsley said.

At City Cabs, all employees are encouraged to “stay current, and follow up on all the federal and provincial health recommendations,” Pearson said.

As the city’s future remains unclear, small business owners are hoping for the community to come together and support local businesses.

“It kind of helps to have a positive view of humanity generally. When you’re a small business, you develop relationships face-to-face, you develop relationships that I think are genuine, and the proof of that is getting through a crisis like this,” Worsley said.

Ezra Ave. emptied after COVID-19

Jansher Saeed
Editorial Assistant

Last year, Ezra Street’s Patrick’s day party hosted over 35,000 people on Mar. 17 — this year, Waterloo Regional Police Officers were the only ones at the scene.

“It was very quiet, basically no one attended that day. The city and its partners extend a huge thank you to everyone that took the advice of medical experts and stayed away,” Tony Lavarone, director of communications at the City of Waterloo said.

The Waterloo Regional Police Service planned to have a large presence on scene and were prepared to clear out anyone who came to the unsanctioned street gathering. Fencing and billboards were installed by the city, warning party-goers from gathering on the street and the dangers of doing so.

One such sign read, “PUBLIC NOTICE FOR TODAY: Use of roadway for gathering is not sanctioned by the city of Waterloo, and may present a safety hazard.”

The day went “amazingly well,” according to Waterloo Region Police Chief Bryan Larkin. The statement was made during a live-streamed press conference held alongside acting medical officer of health Dr. Hsiu-Li Wang on Tuesday morning at 10 a.m.

“Thank you for rising to the occasion. Thank you for putting the health of our community, the care of our citizens, as our top priority and your top priority. We have been working very hard over the last number of days, weeks, and in fact months to ensure safe festivities,” Bryan said “But in the last 7 days much has changed. We are in uncharted territory, unprecedented times and what we saw [on Mar. 17] was an unprecedented community response.”

The city applauds students for making the decision not to attend the annual street party in light of a state of emergency issued by the Provincial Government of Ontario concerning the COVID-19 pandemic.

“There was a strong, concerted effort on communication from everyone — from the city, to all of the post-secondary schools, to the students themselves to stay away, and I think people also used their own good judgement and did not attend. Our local students are among the smartest anywhere, and they did the right thing,” Lavarone said.

Along with these precautions, the city had also planned on setting up pods — devices which they tested during homecoming gatherings — to help control and monitor the flow of crowds.

“The pods are set up with some scaffolding and allow officers to look over the crowd. It also disrupts the flow of having everyone congregated in one area, and helps to split up the crowd,” Andre Johnson, Constable with the Waterloo Regional Police Service said.

“In the case that students did show up to Ezra on St. Patrick’s day, the city had prepped by installing hand sanitizing stations across the street; although the best way to stop the spread of COVID-19 was to avoid attending the street gathering altogether which is exactly what happened,” Lavarone said.
COVID-19 on co-op: Student safety faces off against profits in a pandemic

Varun Venkataramanan
Sports Editor

Compared to most other post-secondary institutions, UW had an extra wrench thrown into their decision making during the COVID-19 pandemic co-op.

While it’s easy for UW to cancel its on-campus classes, the decisions surrounding co-op students have, for this term, been largely up to employers.

Employers have reacted to the COVID-19 pandemic on various timelines and with various degrees of effectiveness. Jane Street Capital, a financial trading firm based in New York City, responded to the outbreak of COVID-19 in North America by terminating all of their internships early. Interns were allowed to return home and paid the full amount they would have earned had they been able to work through to the end of the term.

Imprint spoke to five UW students and agreed not to disclose their names, as the students feared repercussions for their future careers.

A UW student who is currently employed at an e-commerce company in Boston was asked to remain in the United States for the rest of his work term. The company said they would be unable to pay their interns if they decided to return to Canada to work remotely, and thus their options were to either stay in Boston and work from home or terminate their internship early and return to Canada without pay. The intern said that most of his peers at the company also decided to remain in the United States.

Other companies, such as Facebook, have taken a middle-of-the-road approach. An intern at the company, who wished to remain anonymous, told Imprint that Facebook established an early, frequent dialogue with its interns about the situation.

Due to the size of the company’s tech campus in Silicon Valley, Facebook established a mandatory work from home initiative across the company very early into COVID-19’s spread in North America. Later that same week, interns at the company were told they would be given the option to either return home with full pay or, if comfortable, remain in California and continue to work from home. Interns who decided to return home would also have their airfare covered by the company.

For others employed in the United States, the experience has not been as pleasant. One intern at a large technology company in the Seattle area spoke about the lack of a company-wide policy as the outbreak began.

The intern said they began feeling anxious towards the middle of February, since Seattle was one of the first cities in North America to be affected by the disease. However, her employer provided little guidance as to the direction they would take or if interns would even be allowed to work remotely.

The intern was told by human resources that the decision to work from home was up to upper management, who was not very understanding of the situation. As a result, the intern continued to commute to the office every day despite feeling uncomfortable and unsafe.

Later, as the Washington State Government took more drastic measures to curb the outbreak, the company followed suit and directed all its employees to work from home. This company, although of comparable size to Facebook, did not provide the same working options to its interns as the social media giant did.

Imprint was unable to receive comment from the university by press time under the current circumstances.

As employers reacted to the pandemic, so did UW’s department for Co-operative Education and Career Action (CECA). In early March, UW interns working internationally started receiving COVID-19 related emails from Anvil Group, the university’s third-party international travel safety and security provider. These emails informed students on the symptoms of the virus and described methods for prevention.

On Mar. 15, CECA followed up with an email to all UW students on co-op asking them to speak with their co-op advisor if they felt concerned about the COVID-19 pandemic. This email did not provide any recommendations as to whether students should speak to their employers about working from home or discuss returning to Canada for those working internationally.

Just two days later on Mar. 17, CECA sent all students working internationally an email saying, “We urge you to return to Canada or, if you are from a different country, to return to your home country if you feel more comfortable there... We want you to know that you do not have to remain at your employer if you don’t want to.”

Students were also told that returning home would not affect their co-op credit.

Students received this email through the morning on Mar. 15, and were asked to make a decision about if they would return home by 11 p.m. the following night. As Mar. 15 was a Sunday, this provided students with little time to consult with employers or CECA advisors.

Some students expressed frustration towards CECA’s short timeline, while others were understanding of the situation.

“Retrospectively, it feels like CECA could have reached out earlier, but I also understand that almost everyone didn’t see the outbreak getting this bad this fast,” one student working in San Francisco said.

For many, especially non-Canadian nationals working internationally, their decision to return home was made by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau’s announcement on Mar. 15 that he would close the Canada-United States border to all non-essential travel, permitting entry to only Canadian nationals.

Others, including another UW student working at a courier business in San Francisco, decided to return home due to uncertainty over healthcare. The intern, who wished to remain anonymous, expressed concern about finding healthcare under his insurance plan in the United States and jumped at the opportunity to work remotely from his home in Toronto.

There were significant financial variables to consider as well. Students returning home to Canada would still be paying rent abroad, and others, namely international students, would also have to find accommodations in Canada for the remainder of the term.

Many students chose UW for their post-secondary education since employment through the co-op program would allow them to afford the cost of university, and some are now facing an uncertain economic future.

This was the case for one student working as a Product Development Engineering intern in Oakville, Ontario. The student, who wished to remain anonymous, was forced to terminate her employment early as she feared for her well-being and was not allowed to work from home.

She reached out to CECA and UW with her concern over being able to afford her tuition and housing for the approaching Spring term and was told to apply to UW’s bursaries. However, there is no guarantee she will receive the money she needs.

"If I cannot get any funding at all, I will probably have to defer the term and find a supplemental job to make up for the lost income," the student said.

Two other interns at an automotive plant in Kitchener were laid off after their plant was shut down indefinitely due to concerns over the virus. The pandemic has also affected students who are applying for co-op opportunities over the summer. The food review platform Yelp announced the cancellation of all their internships last week, and many smaller companies have followed suit. UW responded to these developments on Mar. 20 by reducing the number of co-op credits needed for graduation across all faculties and tweaking requirements in specific programs. In their email, UW also said no international co-op opportunities would be authorized for the Spring 2020 term unless students are allowed to work remotely from Canada. UW and CECA have said their policies will evolve over the coming weeks as the COVID-19 pandemic continues, but the full extent of the undoubtedly significant repercussions to UW’s thousands of co-op students remain to be seen.
UW invests $61 million in fossil fuel

Issues concerning UW’s lack of divestment continue to be a significant source of criticism for the university, but some headway has been made.

After a freedom of information request was issued by mathNEWS, UW released a series of financial statements dated from Sept. 2019 to Dec. 2019, featuring a $61 million investment portfolio into 200 of the world’s leading fossil fuel producers. This investment ratio is down from the previous year’s $68 million.

This information comes after a five-month-long investigation by mathNEWS, featuring 150 email transactions, to receive an updated status on divestment initiatives at UW.

“Quarterly reports on UW’s investment in the energy sector include far more than just the companies that were invested in fossil fuels as of 2016. It includes new fossil fuel investments, and investments in other fossil fuel industry companies which don’t own any fossil fuel reserves themselves such as pipeline companies, or companies that own only small amounts of fossil fuel reserves,” said Vincent Marci of MathWS.

The investigation also found that as of Dec. 31, 2019, UW still holds investments in these fossil fuel companies from 2016—roughly equal to $32.78 million.

Yet it appears this divestment comes with increased investment in more dangerous and controversial energy extraction processes. UW is investing in Coastal GasLink, a company heavily featured on the news for its development of the Trans Canada pipeline.

“Coastal GasLink is the pipeline meant to cut through the unceded land of the Wet'suwet'en Nation. It is eye-opening to learn how deep these investments and connections go,” said Lesley Johnston, director of Fossil Free UW, said.

UW has also heavily invested in companies with tar sand reserves—one of the most dangerous methods of energy production for the environment.

UW’s journey towards divestment began in 2015 when the Waterloo Environment Students Endowment Fund (WESEF) voted to divest their endowment from fossil fuel producers.

After some time, UW formed the Responsible Investment Working Group (RIWG). Upon this group’s recommendations and various consultations, UW implemented the ESG (environmental, social, governance) policy which recommends that the university prepare to become a signatory in good standing of the United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment, as well as explore and evaluate the potential social impact of investments.

The policy recommends the launch of a pilot investment in this space in one year, along with annual reviews of progress on the implementation of these recommendations, amongst other actions aimed at encouraging fossil fuel divestment.

The university affirmed it is committed to making itself carbon-neutral by 2050.

“The University of Waterloo has been actively working on initiatives that have been laid out in our Environmental Sustainability Strategy, and there has never been a stronger need to do more. This is why we have developed Shift: Neutral, our plan to make the university carbon-neutral by 2050,” said Ferrudin Hamidullahpur, President of UW, in the forward statement for the Shift: Neutral plan.

UW looks to reduce its carbon footprint by 27.5 per cent by 2025 and 35 per cent by 2035.

Although the plan calls for a reduction in the direct and indirect production of carbon, the plan does not mention anything on fossil fuels and divestment.

What COVID-19 closed at UW

Growing concerns amidst the COVID-19 pandemic have sparked initiatives from organizations all over the globe to help combat the spread of the infection.

On Mar. 14, UW announced one of its own initiatives, announcing its decision to close all on-campus course activity for a week, shifting course content distribution completely online, and discussing further action to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Here is a look at some of the updates announced by UW in response to the pandemic since the closing of on-campus activity.

Classes Starting Again

Classes started again, this time entirely online, on Mar. 23. Instructors have been communicating end of term plans to students through student emails.

UW encourages students to reach out to their instructors directly if they have not heard from them yet.

Course Drop Dates

The Registrar’s Office has updated its dates for course withdrawals due to concerns surrounding COVID-19. Mar. 30 is the last day to withdraw from a course this winter term and receive a WD. WF begins Mar. 31 and ends Apr. 7.

Most Campus Buildings Closing

On Mar. 24 at 4:30 p.m., most campus buildings will be locked. The following buildings will be open Monday-Friday from 9 AM to 5 p.m.: Applied Health Sciences (AHS); B.C. Matthews Hall (BMH) Addition; Engineering 5 (E5); Engineering 7 (E7); Quantum-Nano Centre (QNC); and Mathematics 3 (M3).

The Student Life Centre (SLC), along with other services such as Health Services and Residence, will operate during their regular hours of operation.

Spring 2020 Classes Online Only

Spring term classes will only be administered online with no in-person delivery. All courses and exams, including graduate research milestones, will all take place online.

Suspension of Non-Critical Lab Operations

UW researchers must safely suspend all non-critical lab operations. Critical research includes lab activities that would result in a serious loss of research data, material or equipment if disrupted.

Mental Health Supports Through WUSA/GSA Student Assistance Program: EmpowerMe

Despite the impact on in-person sessions, WUSA encourages students to use video and telephone sessions provided through EmpowerMe.

Students can call the helpline number 1-844-741-6589 from anywhere in North America at any time to be connected directly to a trained counsellor.

Students can also use the online counselling service or the phone app.

For news regarding the pandemic from the university, UW urges students to visit the website dedicated to COVID-19 (https://uwwaterloo.ca/coronavirus/news).
Another successful year for the Kumvana Fellowship Program

Mandy Coleman
EWB

Each year, Engineers Without Borders (EWB) provides ten to fifteen leaders from Sub-Saharan Africa the opportunity to participate in the Kumvana Fellowship Program. Fellows participate in training sessions through an online course before partaking in leadership workshops at EWB’s National Office in Toronto. Following these training sessions, fellows connect with university or professional chapters across Canada.

The word Kumvana – meaning “unite so we may discuss and understand” – comes from the Chichewa dialect from Malawi. The Kumvana Fellowship Program gives fellows an opportunity to unite with professionals across Canada to discuss future pathways for their business enterprises. The program also provides students an opportunity to connect with African leaders to better understand the vast amount of opportunities for innovation that exist in Africa.

This year, the UW Chapter was honoured to host two fellows in the first two weeks of March – Kabwela Malapande and Prince Agbata. Kabwela is a Zambian entrepreneur who is passionate about creating inclusive development through business in economically marginalized communities in rural Africa. He co-founded a cleaning company called Spotless Africa, which works to address sanitation issues while providing employment to women in underprivileged communities.

In the past year, Kabwela has shifted his focus to a new start-up called Food We Love. This business works to eliminate existing barriers between smallholder farmers and markets in Zambia. Additionally, the business works to promote the growth of indigenous crops and strengthen the relationships between these communities and their cultural heritage.

During his stay, Kabwela was impressed by the vast amount of resources available to students who wish to launch their own start-up. He enjoyed meeting with faculty at UW and social entrepreneurs in the greater Waterloo Region, who helped him expand his knowledge in the agricultural sector.

One of the highlights of his stay was visiting the Waterloo Indigenous Student Center, where he learned about the history of Aboriginal Canadians and their connections to the spiritual world.

Agbata is a Ghanaian software developer who founded Coliba Recycling. Coliba Recycling uses a mobile application to manage the growing problem of plastic waste in Western Africa. Waste management in Accra, the Ghanaian capital, is largely done by individual waste-pickers who carry the waste from one’s doorstep to the landfill. These waste-pickers then sort through the landfills for recyclable materials, which are sold for a very small profit.

Agbata recognized an opportunity to improve this waste management system while providing better working conditions for the waste-pickers. Coliba allows residents to request a waste-pickup for a standardized fee, similar to requesting a ride through Uber. The system matches the resident with a nearby waste-picker who then transports the waste to a sorting facility, encouraging better wages and working conditions for the workers.

Coliba is currently operating in Ghana and Côte D’Ivoire with plans to expand to other countries in Western Africa. Agbata enjoyed his experience meeting with professionals in the Waterloo Region, and expressed an interest in returning to Waterloo in the upcoming years to pursue his master’s degree.

Society is often hindered by the media’s representation of Africa as a nation. They tend to emphasize its problems, instead of bringing light to those working on solutions. While there may be many innovations sprouting from Silicon Valley, there are many impactful technologies that have come from Africa in fintech, healthtech, agritech, and more. By providing African leaders with equal opportunities in leadership and networking, EWB is fostering the leaders of tomorrow. As the businessman Nido Qubein once said, “Your present circumstances don’t determine where you can go; they merely determine where you start.”

Zainab Tanveer
Reporter

Are you tired of having to skim through entire articles to find relevant information?

A group of four UW Software Engineering students – Essa Saeed, Jerry Liu, Nicholas Huang, and Tony Liang – are developing a Google Chrome extension to help students instantly find relevant information in online articles. The extension is currently available in the Chrome Web Store for free use.

The Jent.ly Summarizer aims to assist students and others who read online articles to quickly find the information they are looking for without having to read through the whole article.

The summarizer highlights parts of the articles it considers relevant to the topic of the item and the Jent.ly Summarizer analyzes the text to identify the important information.

“Our summarization technology combines the syntax and semantics of the article to deliver a summary that is approximately 20 per cent of the original article length. Syntax refers to analyzing the structure of the article, for example, giving precedence to the first sentence of every paragraph. Semantics refers to analyzing the meaning of the words and sentences,” Saeed explained.

The extension provides an accurate summary by ranking sentences in order of relevance. The developers plan on adding a feature for the summarizer to capture user intent when using the summarizer. This way, users can declare their intent and the summarizer will respond accordingly by ranking sentences that best match that intent. A couple of students commented on their experience with Jent.ly.

“It’s awesome! I can easily gloss over a glob of text and see the important parts,” Amour Karir commented. “It would be great if it worked on PDFs.”

John Tiamzon, another student, shared his experience, saying, “Jent.ly has helped me significantly in terms of finding out the summary of articles and reports in one click. A lot of improvements can be added, but it’s heading in the right direction. I love it!”

The developers plan on allowing for the summary of a particular area in the text. They have already received positive feedback so far from their early user experiences, and hope to use the feedback to improve their summarizer. The extension is still under development, and users are able to send feedback directly to the creators. Users can look at the code and see the important parts through GitHub Repositories for Jent.ly.

The developers welcome anyone technically inclined to contribute to the summarizer. They plan on improving the extension even after their graduation.
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6 locations in Kitchener/Waterloo to serve you better.
Dashawn Stephens  
Sports Columnist

The sports world as a whole may be on hold, but the NFL seems to stop for nothing. With the 2020 league year underway, fans have already been treated to a number of eye-opening trades and free agency signings that have shaken the core of the National Football League. Let’s dive into the top-three off-season headlines since the Mar. 16 frenzy began.

Cam Newton being shopped
Cam Newton has had a few rough years, with three surgeries in the last two seasons. The 2015 MVP’s struggles to stay healthy have led to his demise in Carolina, and it has now spiralled into the Panthers seeking to trade him. It will be interesting to see who the suitors are for the Auburn alumus.

The truth is, a healthy Newton is a top-ten quarterback in the NFL. He is a dangerous dual-threat quarterback who can still run the option to perfection, make linebackers miss, and squeeze the ball through tight windows. Newton’s only issue has been staying healthy. Wherever Newton goes, they will be getting a competitor, and if he can stay healthy, do not be surprised if he has a career resurgence.

Hopkins Traded to Arizona
Deandre Hopkins has been one of the top receivers in the NFL over the last five years. He has some of the most trustworthy hands of all-time and has proven to be lethal after the catch. Hopkins will always give an offence the chance to light up the scoreboard. Many never pictured Hopkins leaving Houston, as he and quarterback Deshaun Watson were ever so close to leading Houston to their first AFC Championship game since the days of the Oilers. However, a rumoured locker room power struggle led Bill O’Brien to shop the four-time Pro Bowler in his prime.

For the eventual buyer, the Arizona Cardinals, all they had to give up was David Johnson, a 2020 second-round pick, and a 2021 fourth-round pick to pair Hopkins with future Hall of Famer Larry Fitzgerald and reigning NFL offensive rookie of the year, Kyler Murray. Hopkins will surely make the Cardinals more competitive in the tough NFC West Division.

Brady signs with the Bucs
Regardless of what else happens between today and the start of the NFL season in September, this will be the biggest move of the off-season. Tom Brady played 20 seasons for the New England Patriots. In that time he played 242 games, threw for 74,541 yards, 541 touchdowns, and led the Patriots to nine Super Bowls, winning six of them.

There was a time where fans believed Brady and the Patriots were inseparable. However in 2017, when Bill Belichick tried to trade Brady to the San Francisco 49ers so that the Patriots could move forward with Jimmy Garoppolo as their starter, it planted the seeds for this departure.

Now, at age 42, Brady has escaped the AFC. His path to the Super Bowl no longer has to go through young superstars Patrick Mahomes and Lamar Jackson. He now plays in the easier, but still competitive, NFC. He specifically plays in an NFC South Division that has the potential to be either the least or most-competitive division in football, as three out of four teams in the division have played in at least one NFC Championship Game over the last five years.

What is most exciting about the Brady signing is that he has placed himself in a position to make history one more time. At Super Bowl LV, Brady told people he would “not be at Super Bowl LV in a blazer,” alluding to the fact that he wanted to play in the big game. Super Bowl LV will be held at Raymond James Stadium in Tampa Bay, home of the Buccaneers. No team in NFL history has ever played the Super Bowl in their own stadium. Brady has his eyes set on being the first.

COVID-19 UPDATE

COVID-19 continues to change rapidly across the world, and we want to take steps to limit the spread and risks of the disease in our community. With this goal in mind and following the University of Waterloo’s lead, the following actions are being taken by the Department of Athletics and Recreation:

Facilities remain open while managing a threshold of less than 50 people using a space within the facility. If necessary, spaces will be limited or closed by facility staff.

Spaces and equipment are cleaned regularly. We provide peroxide-based sprays for equipment and hand sanitization stations within our spaces. We encourage people to wash hands regularly.

Open recreation remains as scheduled in our spaces. Please check our Warrior Recreation App for scheduling.

All registered programs are cancelled effective immediately until the end of term. These include: Shoe Tag Games, Intramurals, Aquatics and First Aid Courses/Instructor Programs.

For more information, please visit gowarriorsgo.ca/covid19

This week in athletics

Waterloo Warriors #GoBlackGoGold
Health Infographics

While practicing social distancing, it can be hard to maintain your mental and physical health. Here is a workout circuit you can do at home to reach your ideal summer bod.

**AT HOME WORKOUT**

**Set 1**
- 30 Jumping Jacks
- 15 Push Ups
- 15 Squats
- 30 Bicycle Crunches

**Set 2**
- 15 Burpees
- 15 Tricep Dips
- 30 Bridges
- 30 Sec Plank

**Cooldown**
- Shoulder Stretch
- Hamstring Stretch
- Cobra Stretch

Repeat each set twice with 1 min. rest in between. Make sure to do every exercise at your own pace!
Review: Winning Friends with Kinkaku Izakaya

7 out of 10 spoons

Cyrus Flori
Reporter

Howdy food fans.

Amidst a week fraught with perilous deadlines, menacing milestones, and ominous world events, my partner in crime Queen G instigated our food-filled adventure.

“Have you time to review a restaurant with me this Tuesday, right?” she demanded, fixing me with a steely gaze.

To this question, there was clearly a right and a wrong answer. I mentally crunched as a lion does before springing a gazelle. I was prepared to navigate the treacherous waters of communication. Taking aim with my classic ‘shooting from the hip’ conversational style, I intended to reconcile emotional, logical, and gastronomic influences to concoct the perfect response.

My answer would be the answer to end all answers. It would unequivocally establish my place within this world and the next. However, to answer a question, you must first listen to it.

“What’s that?” I asked, straining to hear her over the sound of my pompous internal monologue.

“It’s a place where people go to eat food, but that’s not important right now,” she responded.

She then whispered my gastronomical kryptonite, gently dissecting each syllabic morsel and plating it with the elite precision and care of Masaharu Morimoto.

“Sushi,” she breathed.

“Sue her,” I corrected. “Is she in some kind of legal trouble?”

And so, my exasperated Queen and I journeyed to Kinkaku Izakaya in downtown Kitchener.

While adopting a loose adaptation of the traditional Japanese izakaya – an izakaya is a casual after-work watering hole in Japan similar to an Irish pub – Kinkaku’s ambience provided a friendly, yet sophisticated welcome. Red and black accents, white LEDs, and dark wooden tables bedecked the venue. Chairs with low backs scorned our long winter coats, forcing me to adopt them as lumbar support on the opposite booth seat. Washrooms were positioned to help customers achieve their daily 10,000 step fitness goals, with only one room for each binary gender at the end of a beautifully muralled hallway.

Behind the sushi counter, chefs bustled hurriedly in their preparations.

Kinkaku’s main attraction was its all-you-can-eat sushi banzai, where for a reasonable price you can get an unreasonably large amount of food. It’s like if Costco shopping were a meal, and you didn’t need to use your best friend’s sister’s roommate’s membership to take a bite. While taking in the vistas of my all-you-can-eat sushi oasis, the hostess promptly grabbed ahold of my ankles and brought me crashing back to earth. I was informed that a strict time limit of one hour and 45 minutes was imposed on our dining experience, and that the clock would start immediately upon our seating.

In the event of a time delay, this can be easily remembered with the saying, “better to wait if your date is late.”

Upon being seated, Queen G and I were presented with laminated menus, which we nearly confused for lottery winnings cheques. After taking in the stellar lamination, I found myself bewildered at the stunning myriad of dishes and the unfortunately finite capacity of my stomach. We learned that the all-you-can-eat dinner we were having cost $31.99 per person – a shade more expensive than the lunch price ($22.99). While the dinner menu offered expanded selections, the classic hits were present on both sides of the record.

Our ordering was rapid-fire. A bit of this and a bit of that led to the auspicious number of 13 items. Dishes, chopsticks, soya sauce, wasabi, and potentially the entire collection of Natsume Soseki’s written works whirled around our table, spiriting us away in a tempting typhoon of palate pleasers.

We started with miso soup and green tea. Sadly, the soup was neither steamy nor dreamy, and the tea came in a precariously cracked mug. With our appetites whetted, our dishes began to arrive at a furious pace. Edamame landed, salted on-point and cooked to a supple texture. Shrimp and yam tempura threw down creative crunch without creating an oil slick. Unfortunately, the tempura could have been warmer and came with barely enough dipping sauce. It left the same disappointing feeling in my heart as all those childhood summers spent sitting in a hose-filled backyard pool purchased at Canadian Tire.

Finally, the guests of honour began to arrive. The sushi paraded in as confident as a poised Botchan, set to take charge of the situation. “Fear not, treasured guest,” it said to me. “Your party starts now.” Indeed, the dance of dominoes had begun.

The Crunchy Dragon Roll entered, bombastic and crispy. It sought to overwhelm my palate with a crunchy texture. Although accomplishing its delicious mission, this dragon’s technique was sloppy, and the crunchy element settled like sawdust about the table, floor, and surrounding downtown core in a three-kilometre radius.

The Big Hand Roll took its place. After explaining that I could still enjoy it despite having two perfectly good big hands of my own, the roll wowed me with wonderful savoury flavours and creamy texture. Perhaps a little too creamy. The sheer amount of avocado present left me with a slightly Avenoo-esque taste in my mouth. While just as moisturizing, unfortunately this taste-tacular handshake was not shareable.

A classic favourite in every sushi restaurant, the Avocado Salmon Roll took centre stage. Failing to derive any metaphorical meaning, this roll stood staunchly literal, composed of 30 per cent salmon and 30 per cent avocado. Luckily the math checked out, and this made for 100 per cent good times.

Seeking to bring the heat, the Spicy Salmon Roll sauntered onto my palate. Another classic sushi restaurant staple, the spiciness was at an accessible level. However, perhaps my roll had been wearing a toque to protect it from the Canadian chill, as its rice was devitalized and solidly anti-fluffy.

In between sushi rolls, we were treated to the most adorable, tiny pieces of Salmon Sashimi I have ever witnessed. Queen G and I were taken by their cuteness, remarking that they had their father’s eyes and their mother’s nose. While adorable in size and geometry, adorable in value they were not. These pieces of sashimi appeared somewhat sad and pitiful next to the comparatively towering slice of parsley accompanying them. The taste and texture were spot on, but the portion was definitely dismal.

Offering a fish-free alternative, the Golden Dragon Roll pranced into full view. It produced a delicate pirouette, weaving supple mango sweetness and avocado umami together in an elegant duet. Then it got crunk, throwing down hard-hitting crunchy beats so powerful the rice and seaweed sheath split clean in two. This dragon kept it fresh, although the mango sauce on top was a bit much.

At last, the Izakaya Dragon Roll came into play. With the no-nonsense attitude of a legendary Pokémon, it rolled out the red carpet and packed a punch. Ruggedly handsome and sporting a black roe goatee, this dragon employed a one-two combo of eel and white tuna to seal the deal. Much like Aqueaman in Jason Momoa’s clothing, this signature roll will assert its dominance on your dinner table and show you the bounty of the sea – an absolute must-try.

After our marathon of mains, Queen G and I turned our attention towards dessert. Our stomachs reminded us that they were operating with limited resources and would have to make significant budget cuts if we proceeded to go overcapacity. Settling down for a quiet dessert, we ordered the Mango Ice Cream and the Black Sesame Pudding.

Our dessert arrived a little underdressed, with plastic spoons and disposable pie tins. The pudding made an immediate splash, although it was more of a belly flop. It presented a consistency somewhere between wet cement and boiled elephants, and sported the colour to match.

Although appearing quite unappetizing, I chose long ago to sacrifice my taste buds for the good of the people, and so I dived in. An intense, almost peanut-like taste erupted in my sinuses, turning my entire world the same cloudy grey. From far off, I heard Queen G’s voice ask if I was alright. My tongue angrily told my brain to sleep on the couch.

As I lay on the pavement of my own subconscious, a shining halo descended upon me, blessing my palate with a rich summer-like sweetness. My savour, the mango ice cream, had come back for me.

All things considered, Kinkaku Izakaya was a wonderful place to have dinner in the company of treasured royalty. The food and ambience were elegant and satisfying, melding well with the succinct service. Although the dinner price was a little high and some of the dishes were more of a miss than a hit, I would definitely recommend journeying to this staple in the Kitchener-Waterloo area.

Until next time, stay hungry Food Fans!
‘Covid-ella’: Artists Doing Livestream Concerts

Vishal Lilman
Reporter

COVID-19 has taken over the entertainment world by storm. Big Hollywood blockbusters have been postponed until next year, all sporting events are cancelled, and talk show hosts are in self-isolation and doing shows from their webcam. What is there to do during these times of quarantine? Head on over to social media, of course!

Although concerts and venues are postponed due to fear of the disease spreading, artists have taken to social media to spread good vibes, harmony, and bring us all together again, while still complying with social distancing, through the universal language itself: MUSIC!

Last week John Legend, as well other artists such as Coldplay, Charlie Puth, Hozier, Shawn Mendes, and Camila Cabello, to name a few, took to Instagram Live to perform virtual concerts for their respective followers. We here at Imprint have compiled some of the online concerts you can view live in the upcoming days, as well as some you can re-watch and relive.

COMING UP:

• Death Cab for Cutie’s Ben Gibbard will be performing from his in-home studio everyday a 7 p.m. on his YouTube and Facebook. He also teased about having "a guest or two stop by digitally".

• Katharine McPhee and her husband David Foster will join together in performing songs everyday on Instagram (@katharinefoster) live at 8:30. They encourage fans to comment with song suggestions.

• L Devine announced a "URL Tour" that she will be doing over the next few weeks. Five shows on five different platforms (Instagram, Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, and TikTok)

• Jazz artist Fred Hersch is taking advantage of Facebook Live by performing a set everyday at 1 p.m.

• Third Man Public Access is a YouTube channel that brings out

READY TO WATCH:

• Diplo’s “Corona Sabbath” DJ set on YouTube

• Hunter Hayes’ performance from a Nashville warehouse on YouTube

• Keith Urban ft. wife Nicole Kidman performed a ‘corona concert’ that can be viewed on his Instagram (@keithurban)

• P!nk did a mini set as well as a piano lesson for her followers on Instagram (@pink)

• Ex One Direction-er Niall Horan performed some old, new and cover songs with his acoustic guitar for his Instagram (@niallhoran)

• Charlie Puth took to Instagram with his piano and vocals and encouraged fans to, “stay home and wash your hands.” (@charlieputh)

• John Legend blessed your IG feed with his piano and Chrissy Teigen for a very intimate and spontaneous performance (@johnlegend)

Death Cab for Cutie will be streaming everyday at 7 p.m. for fans to enjoy.

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Strong and Resilient

As Women’s History Month continues through the month of March, I find myself noticing the lack of Indigenous representation in the media (outside of Indigenous-run media). So I have taken it upon myself to write an extremely small list of historic Indigenous women and Two-Spirit people who have done/have been doing incredibly amazing work and deserve to be recognized.

It is important to note that the use of the term “Indian” is used as it is the direct language used by the Canadian government in their legislation. Non-Indigenous should not refer to Indigenous people as “Indians” as it is offensive and racist. It is correct to either use Indigenous, Native, First Nations, Métis, Inuit, or you know...just calling someone by their name.

Ozaawindib (Ojibwe, Two-Spirit: Makandewwininwag [the Pillager band of Ojibwe])

Ozaawindib is a Two-Spirit Ojibwe woman who lived on Gaa-Miskwaawakokag near Leech Lake in 1800.

Much of Ozaawindib’s life was written and recorded through the lens of white colonizers who engaged with her community. As colonization and forced assimilation grew with the occupation of settlers, gender roles and identities that the colonizers brought with them were forced into Indigenous communities. By the late 1800s and into the early 1800s, life for Two-Spirit and Trans Native people became harder, especially with the occupying government’s creation and implementation of its Indian Policy in the late 19th century.

Ozaawindib was seen as a heroic guide to settlers who wrote about her, but many of her stories leave out her gender identity. Many non-Indigenous writers have also taken it upon themselves to write and publish a false narrative about Ozaawindib, claiming she was “just a male who cross-dressed,” and was more concerning being homosexual than Two-Spirit” as a way to delegitimize Two-Spirit identities and queerness being openly accepted and normalized in Indigenous communities. Another non-Native writer even went as far as to claim Ozaawindib wasn’t Native, saying she was a Swedish man. These false publications are just one example of Indigenous stories being distorted to fit non-Native agendas.

Ozaawindib and her life are important to many Ojibwe people — she was a fighter, hunter, designated Chief, and a proud Ojibwe woman. Two-Spirit, Trans, and Queer Indigenous stories are often erased from the mainstream, so the work being done by Indigenous scholars to fit the pieces of her life back together is a beautiful example of Indigenous resistance.

Mary Two-Axe Early (Mohawk: Kahnawake Quebec)

Mary Two-Axe Early was a Mohawk woman from the Kahnawake reserve in Quebec who was at the forefront on Indigenous women’s rights. Colonization was going strong and hasn’t stopped since, with colonizers bringing their ideas of gendered roles and rights, and forcing them onto Indigenous communities.

These colonial aspects and patriarchal views were not left out when colonizers created the Indian Act in 1876. Section 12 (i)(b) stated that “an Indian woman who married a non-Indian man (whether Aboriginal or non-status) would lose her status.” Mary Two-Axe Early pursued this colonial law for the women who had lost their status due to marrying non-status or non-Native men.

She established “Equal Rights for Indian Women” which eventually changed to “Indian Rights for Indian Women.”

Mary Two-Axe Early worked and fought for all Indigenous women from the 1960s until 1985 when Bill C-31 was created. Mary Two-Axe Early was the first of many Indigenous women who regained her status in the eyes of the Canadian government. She was awarded the Governor General’s Award, a Honourary Doctorate of Law from York University, and a National Aboriginal Achievement Award for her work towards Bill C-31 and her work for the rights of all Indigenous women.

Christine Welsh (Métis: Red River, Manitoba)

Christine Welsh is a Métis filmmaker born in Regina, Saskatchewan. Her father’s ancestors were Buffalo hunters traveling West with the Red River Métis Resistance, and her mother’s ancestors were Eastern European immigrants who settled in the prairies around the early 1900s.

Welsh graduated from the University of Regina with a B.A. She has been writing and producing films since 1991, with her first job as an assistant editor in 1977 for the film “Who Has Seen the Wind”.

One of her most well-known titles is “Finding Dawn” (2006), which looked further into the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW) epidemic. It won a Gold Audience Award at the Amnesty International Film Festival in 2006.

In part with film making, Christine is also a public speaker and a published academic. Welsh was also an associate professor at the University of Victoria, where she taught Indigenous Studies and Indigenous Cinema until she retired in 2017.

Irene Avaalaaqiq Tiktaalik (Inuit: Qamanirjuaq [Baker Lake], Nunavut)

Irene Avaalaaqiq Tiktaalik is a celebrated Inuit artist born near Baker Lake on the North Shore of Teaebjuk Lake. She was raised by her grandparents and grew up living off the land, learning traditional Inuit teachings, and keeping her culture strong. In the 1960s Irene began creating small soapstone sculptures and illustrations, helping to eventually lead her work in printmaking at a local printmaking studio, working on anaplique and embroidery. Her work is inspired from traditional oral stories and legends that her grandmother told her growing up.

Avaalaaqiq Tiktaalik’s work has multiple solo exhibits in Toronto, Baltimore, and Guelph. She received an honorary Doctorate of Laws from the University of Guelph, and has been a huge role model to young artists from her community. Avaalaaqiq Tiktaalik created art that has helped preserve her culture and inspired countless future Inuit artists.

Angela Sidney (Tagish: Carcross/Tagish First Nation)

Angela Sidney is a Tagish author and storyteller from Carcross, Yukon born in 1902. Her mother was Tlingit and her father was Tagish. She spent her childhood listening to her mother’s stories. She married young at the age of 14, and as an adult she worked to keep her culture alive for the next generations.

Sidney worked to record the language, stories, dances, and traditions of her people. She spent time teaching her customs to the youth, and also worked with anthropologists so that the Tagish language could be correctly recorded to ensure its survival.

Sidney worked her whole life to keep her people strong and proudly connected to their culture. She helped co-founded the Yukon International Storytelling Festival, helped co-write traditional Tagish stories, and helped document Tagish Place Names for locations in southern Yukon.

Angela Sidney passed away in 1991, but to this day she is remembered for her work in preserving the Tagish culture and traditions.
We are students, not machines

Every time I ask someone, “Have you been getting enough sleep?” I get a giggle, a sigh, and a response saying “of course not.” They are dead serious, and the bags under their eyes are packed and ready for a long vacation that is never going to come.

This is often the reality that we face. For some reason, we have to be gladiators that constantly swing away at work without ample rest or nourishment. Who was it that said things have to be this way? Who instilled this burdensome fear of failure inside us? We are stuck in a cage against a lion that just will not die. We are slaves to a system that is not working for us.

We are students, not machines.

We cannot be taught like a machine learning model that is fed a metric ton of information non-stop around the clock. Our brains need to try, fail, and rest before repeating the process over again until we succeed. Whereas a computer constantly moves forward and halts when it comes across a problem, human beings tend to mess up constantly before making leaps and bounds.

Instead, the difference between 90 and 82.75 matters more than the value of truly understanding and comprehending. I was optimistic once — I used to think that times were changing in favour of those who love to fail in order to learn. When I first stepped into university, I looked for the heroes who loved to put up a good fight. I fantasized about hearing the grueling trials, the constant failure, and eventually the victorious summit. But instead, I see fragile zombies who survive from exam to exam. All the stories from students I hear now sound like, “good riddance, I am not sure if I am going to miss it.”

It is not your fault. Most students are still treated like machines.

At the end of the day, real learning is supposed to make you feel like you solved a long and hard puzzle. You are supposed to feel like you got out of a maze by the skin of your teeth. So why does it make you feel like you were beaten up? Why are we constantly pulverized and tortured only to be stepped on a couple of hours later? University was sold to me as a unique bag of experiences, not torture.

Is it the frequency of classes? Is it the load of trying to juggle a social life with an assignment, two labs, and three midterms that are somehow all due tomorrow? And if so, are these things working for you or are they working against you?

I understand the value of grades, I really do. They are a necessary part of education. But they are not necessarily part of your self-esteem and self-worth.

I understand the value of schoolwork, I really do. It is a necessary tool for practice. But it does not guarantee that you will learn something and be able to apply it in real life.

Ultimately, I want you to understand the value of your input. You are the unsung hero that is just at the beginning of their story. Heroes do not win right off the bat — things suck constantly along the way. The difference is that their difficulties work for their betterment in the end.

Failure and triumph are very human concepts. School does not feel that way sometimes — it feels like it is effort just for the sake of effort. The difficulties along the way have nothing to do with the goal that we have set out for ourselves.

There are things that you can do about this flawed system. Education often does not equate to learning. It is merely the process of facilitating learning and the means by which we achieve it. All our problems with learning fall under two guiding principles — With the ability and desire to know, how and what should I learn? And, now, having learned such, how and for what should I use what I know?

Both of these questions are not things that your school, nor your professor, parents, or peers can answer for you. You have the ability and the desire to know what you want to know. And ultimately you will have to decide for yourself how and for what you should use what you know. If you were a machine, school would be perfect. However you are not — you are a flawed hero attempting to take on the world. You have to take the system by the horns and steer it in the direction that you want it to go.

You are not a machine, you are a student.
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Riddle

Synonymous with trickery,
The finest form of flattery,
I do what you do,
Then I am royalty

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