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How to find the ideal co-op job

Read on to find out what experienced students have to say

Nicola Rose Reporter

Rinding a good co-op job requires three things: figuring out the kind of job you want, crafting a flawless resume, and nailing the interview.

To determine the kind of job you want, think about the type of work you like doing. What are some of the projects you've enjoyed in your classes? How do those assignments reflect the kind of jobs available in the world?

Computer engineering student Devon Miller-Junk knew he wanted a variety of jobs over the course of his six co-op terms – from working in web development, to working with robots. He applied for a range of jobs each term and used his interviews to help narrow down his options to find the right fit. You might also want to ask yourself some questions about how your ideal day is structured: are you a fan of sitting at a desk for eight hours or do you prefer mov-

ing around more? Do you want to work on group projects or would you rather be alone?

Especially when it comes to your first co-op term, a good work environment can transform your experience and ensure you feel comfortable and confident throughout the term. Do you want to work in a huge company with a lot of resources and multiple ongoing projects or would you rather be a part of a small team where everyone knows each other well and works together on the same thing? What about the location? Do you want to stay in Waterloo, return to your hometown or visit somewhere entirely new?

Victoria Lumax, a rhetoric and peace and conflict studies double major, notes that interviewers themselves can tell you a lot about the place you'll be working.

"What drew me to the job [I chose] was one of those who interviewed me. They seemed so passionate about the work they do. The comfortability made me feel like the job was a good fit for me,"

Lumax said.

You can even ask your interviewers about the workplace with questions regarding the size of the office, the number of co-op students they hire each term, how flexible the work hours are, and even whether or not people tend to spend lunches together doing something social. While the actual work you'll be doing is the most important thing to consider, a good work environment is a fundamental part of a great work term.

For advice on what to include on your resume, talking to upper year students is most helpful. Reach out to your friends or student leaders to see what they recommend. Beyond any spelling or grammar mistakes – and make sure there are none – avoid any irrelevant information in your application.

Miller-Junk, whose first work term was with a start-up in Toronto, and second was as a full-stack developer for the LCBO, says that it's better to have less information that's "focused on what you want people to see about you," rather than more information that's less relevant to the job you want.

Make sure to avoid mentioning anything about your high school – unless you have important skills from something clearly connected to the position you're applying for, it's best to highlight more recent activities and successes.

For your first co-op term, some high school information is expected. Even still, make sure to remove your high school from your education section and emphasize the most recent information when you can.

For your interview, make sure you're well-prepared – look through the company's website and job description, and brainstorm a couple questions to ask your interviewer. You can always come up with more questions during the interview, but it's a good idea to have at least one question going in.

Lumax, who's working at the Kindred Credit Union Centre for Peace Advancement, says that she likes to end the interview on a high note.

"As I'm leaving the interview, or right after the formal conversation ends, I try to make a light-hearted comment to humanize myself and make a relational connection. For example, you can compliment them [or] ask if they have any plans for the evening," Lumax said.

If you're nervous about how to answer questions on the spot, Miller-Junk recommends practicing as much as you can. Find a friend, preferably one who has some interview experience, and get them to ask you the kind of questions you can expect from a real interviewer.

"You want to know what questions to expect, you want to have a somewhat prepared answer, and you want to know how to approach answering questions [in general]," Miller-Junk said.

Make sure your answer isn't too prepared though, or you risk sounding robotic or getting thrown off if you forget your practiced response.

UW professors stand with the Wet'suwet'en Nation

Vidyut Ghuwalewala Assistant News Editor

Eighty professors and students from UW have signed a statement of solidarity with the Wet'suwet'en Nation of British Columbia, along with 5908 individuals from around the world.

The statement was originally written and signed in Feb. 2019, but recently re-circulated in light of support for the Wet'suwet'en Nation as the construction of the Coastal GasLink pipeline develops.

"The Statement denounces the acts of the government and asks for the work on the Unist'ot'en territory to be immediately stopped," Derek Armitage, a professor at the School of Environment, Resources, and Sustainability, who also

signed the statement, said.

Dr. Angela Carter, Associate Professor at the UW Department of Political Science, and a signatory of the statement said that the TransCanada's Coastal GasLink pipeline has been approved at the wrong time for all the wrong reasons.

"We are in the midst of a global climate crisis that requires us to wind down and phase out fossil fuels — not build pipelines intended to boost production.

This project runs directly contrary to Canada's commitments to reduce emissions dramatically and quickly," Dr. Carter said.

Dr. Carter said that the project disregards Indigenous land rights.

"The traditional government of the Wet'suwet'en Nation rejected the project, yet the federal and provincial governments continue to press for the pipeline. Once again, fine words spoken by government officials about reconciliation and respecting the rights of Indigenous peoples ring hollow when fossil fuel extraction is at stake."

The solidarity statement also urges Canadians to support the Wet'suwet'en people, and asks the federal and provincial government to respect the rights of Indigenous people as outlined in the constitution and the United Nations Declaration of Rights of Indigenous people (UNDRIP).

Professor Armitage emphasized how there is a crucial need to improve the understanding of governance issues highlighted by the Wet'suwet'en people in Canada.

He also mentioned that there are broader discussions that are required about the relationship among First Nations peoples and the federal government about sovereignty and development decisions, and that this particular statement is a small input into that larger discussion.

"The response by the general public and many in the media to the blockades highlighted a lack of clarity about First Nations governance and authority between band councils and hereditary governance, as well as the varied perspectives among First Nation communities," Armitage said.

Professor Armitage added that ultimately greater awareness and understanding of the historical and present day conditions that have led to this latest conflict are needed to shift public perception.

Dr. Shannon Dea, a professor at the Department of Philosophy, signed the statement as a way to show her support in their fight to defend their rights and land.

"I am not willing to support the ongoing theft of Indigenous land in the name of my country. Canadian settlers and arrivants need to stand in solidarity with First Nations, Métis, and Inuit people in defence of their rights under Indigenous, Canadian and international law, and of natural justice," Dr. Dea said.

Dr. Carter urges students to do more by actively supporting Indigenous communities as they assert their rights right here at home.

The Waterloo Indigenous Student Centre, FAUW's Indigenization Working Group and the Indigenous Students Association all advocate for Indigenous rights on campus.



Campus Question

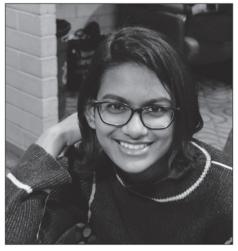


How do you keep yourself motivated to finish the term strong?



Manpreet Sainj, 4B **Honours Sociology and Legal Studies**

"I only have one month left before I graduate, so I am way in it, and I might as well finish strong. That is my mindset from this point on, and keeping the timeline in mind keeps me motivated."



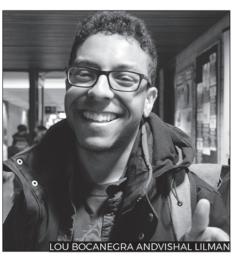
Arts and Business

"I survived the entire year, what's a few more weeks? One thing I keep in mind is how much fun I'll have during summer and how relaxed I'll be and I don't have to worry about anything for the next couple of



Sarah Yan, 3B **Biology**

"Professionally, I want to be in school so I honestly really enjoy it, and I am always motivated. I also keep in mind that I worked really hard to get into Waterloo and I signed up for this, so I am getting exactly what I asked for."



Arin Kimmel, 1B

"Just finishing. Period. I stay motivated by keeping in mind and knowing that it's soon going to be over, and it will be Summer! I get to enjoy the nice weather, not do too much work, and just stress less."



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Correction

In the Feb. 26 edition of Imprint, an incorrect passage appeared in the story "WU-SA's first ever all-female executive team," saying,

"Abouelnaga reflects on identifying as a racialized Muslim woman growing up in

Nada did not, in fact grow up in Canada, but "grew up very differently than the environment she now lives in, in Canada." We regret the error.

UW residences ask students to leave amid COVID-19 pandemic

Alejandro Matiz & Megan Hamm Intern Reporters

ays after all in-person classes were cancelled at UW, the athletic and recreational facilities on campus have completely closed, and UW students were asked to leave their residences by Friday March 20 at noon. All food services on campus have been closed and non-essential UW staff are being asked to stay home.

Canada closed the border to all non-Canadian or non-permanent residents.

The university has announced that it is suspending all events that are non-vital for the academic goals of the students.

The athletics and recreation buildings were closed effective Mar. 15, 2020.

This includes both the Physical Activities Complex (PAC) as well as Columbia Icefield (CIF) and this closure will be in effect until further notice.

All registered programs, varsity practices and workouts, facility rentals, and March Break/Specialty camps to do with these facilities are cancelled effective immediately until the end of the term.

All appropriate refunds will be issued.

Throughout the period of class closure, the university will allow instructors to find alternative ways of delivering learning, such as how exams can be delivered.

Even after the end of suspen-

ity until Mar. 23. We're also cancelling in-person course activity until the end of the term, including exams," Matthew Grant, Director of Communications of UW, said. "During that suspension, we are developing alternative means of education delivery should they

Canadians who are abroad are currently unable to return if they are showing symptoms. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau is urging all Canadians from around the world travelling to "come home".

In the Region of Waterloo (ROW), congregations of over 50

All alumni events booked before May I have been cancelled or postponed.

Any registration fees already paid will be refunded.

Furthermore, an email will be sent informing attendants if their event has been cancelled or postponed. The Verification of Illness (VIF) form is now a self-declaration, meaning there is no need for a doctor's note.

"We have made the verification of illness form for students a self-declaration, which means students do not need a doctor's note for accommodation should they become ill," Grant said. "We have enhanced cleaning protocols on campus, including more regular decontamination of lecture halls and extended use of disinfectant of high-touch surfaces."

Travel outside the country that is not necessary for academic purposes has been suspended.

Some of these suspended activities include meetings with academic partners, participating in academic conferences and professional or personal development.

All travellers who returned to Canada are urged to self-isolate for 14 days upon their arrival, in order to halt the possible spread of the virus.



All in-person course activity has been cancelled until the end of this term, i. e., Apr. 25.

sion of classes, the university has cancelled all in-person course activities until Apr. 25.

To know how assessments will happen, instructors will give information to students in the next few days.

"Effective Mar. 14, we are suspending classes and course activbecome necessary. We are currently reviewing how upcoming exams can be delivered."

The Government of Canada announced that all non-Canadian and all non-permanent residents are unable to visit Canada. Although, this excludes American citizens. It is also mentioned that people are being discouraged by ROW Public Health and Emergency Services.

The Ezra Ave. street party was specifically condemned during the public health press conference.

March Break Open House scheduled for Mar. 21 has also been cancelled.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT,

IMPRINT ACKNOWLEDGES THAT THE UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO IS SITUATED ON THE TRADITIONAL TERRITORIES OF THE ATTAWANDARON (NEUTRAL), ANISHNAABEG, AND HAUDENOSAUNEE PEOPLES. THE UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO IS SITUATED ON THE HALDIMAND TRACT, LAND PROMISED TO SIX NATIONS, WHICH INCLUDES SIX MILES ON EACH SIDE OF THE GRAND RIVER. THEREFORE. IMPRINT RECOGNIZES AND RESPECTS THIS LAND THAT IT IS SITUATED UPON.





Julie Daugavietis Reporter

new university is set to open in Ontario for its first cohort of students this September, with one key difference separating it from Ontario's other 21 universities: The Université de l'Ontario français (UOF) will be entirely french-spoken, the first French-language university governed by and for Ontario Francophones.

The university will be the product of a long effort from francophones and Franco-Ontarians to have a french-language university in Ontario. The UOF's original proposal by the Liberals in 2017 was cancelled by the Conservatives, following a trail of three other approved and discarded french-language campuses that would have been additions to already-existing Ontario universities.

The go-ahead for the UOF was finally confirmed in Sept. 2019, when the Ontario Conservative government changed their decision and agreed to pay half the funding for the university, signing the Memorandum of Understanding formally committing to

work together with the federal government to establish the UOF.

"With this funding agreement with the Government of Canada in place, the implementation of Ontario's first French-language university governed by and for Francophones is proceeding," said Tanya Blazina, Media Contact for the Ontario Ministry of Colleges and Universities.

The UOF will be supported by an investment of \$126 million over eight years. This funding will be split with the Government of Canada supporting half of the cost, totalling \$63 million for the first four years, and the Government of Ontario committed to matching this cost for the next four years.

"By signing the bilateral funding agreement regarding the UOF, the federal and provincial governments have affirmed their commitment to address the needs of the more than 620,000 Francophones in Ontario with regard to postsecondary education," Blazina said.

After this 8-year period, the UOF will be funded just like all other Ontario universities. Some believe the UOF is long overdue. While Quebec's 800 000 anglophones have three universities, Manitoba's 40 000

francophones have one university, and Nova Scotia's 30 000 francophones have one university, Ontario's over 600,000 French-speakers will have had no university until the UOF is built.

"Please know that the Ontario government has always been committed to Université de l'Ontario français," Blazina said.

"Ontario has established a globally recognized brand of being a leader in post-secondary education and welcomes UOF as the newest member of Ontario's Colleges and Universities family."

Before the UOF, students who wanted to study in French in Ontario at the university level had to go to only a few universities where programming can be limited, and where they study alongside much more numerous English-speaking students who often have a much broader choice of programs.

The UOF will offer degree programs in urban studies, human plurality, digital culture, global economy and pedagogy in higher education, and it will partner with other universities and colleges to offer other programming, such as a degree in management

The UOF will encourage and allow french-speaking Ontarians to continue their education in a familiar setting without sacrificing quality of education.

Some Ontarians have expressed concern over the chosen location for the UOF. The university will be located in Daniels, Toronto, a mixed use community where OCAD and George Brown College also reside. The high living costs of the area, as well as a skipped opportunity for an economic boost to a smaller community, make the location a questionable choice.

Dyane Adam, Chair of the Board of Governors for UOF, stated in a press conference the reason for this is that 30 per cent of francophones lived in the GTA, with only 3 per cent of post-secondary courses offered in french

In addition, the number of French schools and French-immersion programs in the region are "booming."

Blazina highlighted the primary goal of providing widespread access to french education: "[Our priority] is providing students with the education and training necessary to meet labour market needs of today and in the future."

KW francophones find a lack of community

Omar Karimi Reporter

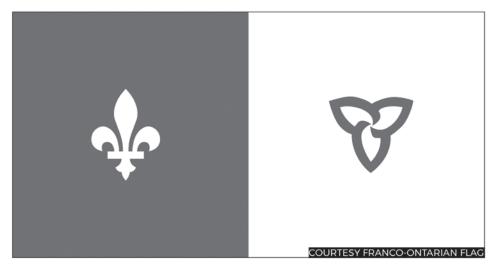
Many English Canadians might think that French is only kept alive in Quebec and on the backside of government documents.

However, according to Statistics Canada, 1,126,535 Canadians outside of Quebec report speaking at French home and 1,074,985 Canadians considered French as a mother tongue outside of Quebec in 2016.

In the same year, 550,600 people in the province of Ontario alone (around 4.1 per cent of the province) considered French their first language. To discover more about the francophone experience outside of Quebec, Imprint interviewed some people about their experiences.

Marie-Claude Duffernense moved to Ontario from Quebec when she was eight-years-old. Currently, she works as a translator and lives in the Kitchener-Waterloo region. She noted that when Marie-Claude and her family first moved to Ontario, there was not much of a cultural shock, but the real difficulty was the language barrier.

Marie-Claude and her family came to Ontario without knowing any English, and then moving into an area in where only En-



glish was spoken proved to be challenging on her and her siblings as well as her mother. When asked about French services in the province of Ontario she said, "I think it is inadequate". Now however, she says that she doesn't speak French with her family other than with her father.

Marie-Claude mentions that she's not particularly invested in preserving the French language, although she does think it's important, it is simply not much of a concern for her. Marie-Claude studied French translation at the University of Ottawa, and said that the reason she studied that field is because she already spoke the language, and because she believed that working in French is always going to be in demand. However, when asked about the French language ability of some politicians, she said that "It is disappointing", and she later went on to mention that "French is a bit of an afterthought" when it comes to Canada.

Suzanne Dansereau, who was born in Montreal, lived in the Kitchener-Waterloo region for more than 30 years. But despite being well established in Ontario, she's still attached to Quebec along with the French language.

Currently, Suzanne is the president of Association des francophones de Kitchener-Waterloo, and she also founded the first French toast masters club of Kitchener-Waterloo. Suzanne says that she finds a lack of community amongst people from Quebec who move to Ontario, which encouraged her to take part in these initiatives. Preserving the French language is of great importance to her, and Suzanne made sure to enroll her son in a French speaking school. For Suzanne, the French language creates a strong sense of unity, and she mentioned how she would feel a stronger connection with a French speaker from Africa, than a fellow Montreal-born English speaker.

Despite living in Ontario for so many years, Suzanne says that she knows what is going on in Quebec a lot better than she does in Ontario. When speaking about her political allegiance, she said that when she lived in Quebec, she voted for the seperatist Bloc Quebecois.

Although now, as someone who has travelled to other parts of Canada, and noted the beauty of the country, she is no longer in favour of separation and though "Why should we separate from this beautiful country?"

Université de l'Ontario Français

Julie Daugavietis Reporter

Traduction par: Adriana L. Reyes Menaca

Amilee Nielsen-Mueller Laura Menaca Maryana Menaca Sydney Davis

'ne nouvelle université ouvrira en Ontario pour sa première cohorte d'étudiants en septembre de cette année, avec une différence essentielle qui la distingue des 21 autres universités de l'Ontario: L'Université de l'Ontario français (UOF) sera entièrement francophone, la première université de langue française dirigée par et pour les francophones de l'On-

L'université sera le résultat d'un grand effort de la part des francophones et des Franco-Ontariens pour avoir une université de langue française en Ontario. La proposition initiale de l'UOF, présentée par le Parti Libéral en 2017, a été annulée par les conservateurs, suivant dans les traces des projets pour trois autres campus francophones approuvés et rejetés qui auraient été des ajouts aux universités ontariennes déjà existantes.

Le feu vert pour l'UOF a finalement été donné en septembre 2019, lorsque le gouvernement conservateur de l'Ontario a révisé sa décision et a accepté de couvrir la moitié du financement de l'université, signant le protocole d'accord par lequel il s'engageait formellement à collaborer avec le gouvernement fédéral pour créer l'UOF.

« Avec la mise en place de cette entente de financement avec le gouvernement du Canada, la mise en œuvre de la première université de langue française de l'Ontario dirigée par et pour les francophones se poursuit », a déclaré Tanya Blazina, personne-ressource pour les médias du Ministère des Collèges et Universités de l'Ontario.

Le projet de L'UOF sera soutenu par un investissement de 126 millions de dollars sur huit ans. Ce financement sera partagé entre le gouvernement du Canada, qui prendra en charge la moitié des coûts, pour un total de 63 millions de dollars pour les quatre premières années, et le gouvernement de l'Ontario, qui s'est engagé à contribuer la même somme pour les quatre années suivantes. « En signant l'accord de financement bilatéral concernant l'UOF, les gouvernements fédéral et provincial ont affirmé leur engagement à répondre aux besoins des plus de 620 000 francophones de l'Ontario en matière d'éducation post-secondaire », a déclaré Mme Blazina. Après cette période de 8 ans, l'UOF sera financée comme toutes les autres universités de l'Ontario.

Certains pensent que l'UOF s'est fait at-

tendre trop longtemps. Alors que les 800 000 anglophones du Québec ont 3 universités, les 40 000 francophones du Manitoba ont une université, et les 30 000 francophones de la Nouvelle-Écosse ont une université, les plus de 600 000 francophones de l'Ontario n'auront pas d'université tant que l'UOF ne sera pas construite.

« Sachez que le gouvernement de l'Ontario a été toujours en faveur de cette université », a déclaré Mme Blazina. « L'Ontario s'est fait une réputation mondiale de leader dans l'éducation post-secondaire et accueille l'UOF comme le plus récent membre de la famille des collèges et universités de l'Ontario ». Avant cette initiative, les étudiants qui voulaient étudier en français en Ontario au niveau universitaire avaient le choix se rendre dans quelques universités seulement où la programmation peut être limitée, et où ils étudiaient aux côtés d'étudiants anglophones beaucoup plus nombreux ayant souvent un choix de programmes beaucoup plus large. L'UOF proposera des programmes de diplôme en études urbaines, en pluralité humaine, en culture numérique, en économie mondiale et en pédagogie de l'enseignement supérieur, et elle s'associera à d'autres universités et collèges pour offrir d'autres programmes, comme un diplôme en gestion. L'UOF encouragera et permettra aux Ontariens francophones de poursuivre leurs études dans un cadre familier sans pour autant sacrifier la qualité de leur enseignement. Certains Ontariens ont exprimé leur inquiétude quant au choix de l'emplacement de l'UOF. L'université sera située à Daniels, à Toronto, quartier avec une communauté polyvalente, où résident également l'OCAD et George Brown College. Le coût élevé de la vie dans la région, ainsi qu'une occasion manquée de stimuler l'économie d'une petite communauté, font de ce choix un choix discutable. Dyane Adam, présidente du Conseil des Gouverneurs de l'UOF, a déclaré lors d'une conférence de presse que la raison du choix est que 30 % des francophones vivent dans la région du Grand Toronto/ métropolitaine de Toronto, et que seulement 3 % des cours post-secondaires sont offerts en français. De plus, le nombre d'écoles françaises et de programmes d'immersion en français dans la région est « en plein essor ». Mme Blazina a souligné l'objectif initial derrière le désir de fournir un accès étendu à l'éducation française : « [Notre priorité] est d'offrir aux étudiants l'éducation et la formation nécessaires pour répondre aux besoins du marché du travail d'aujourd'hui et de demain ».

L'UOF accueillera sa première cohorte à l'automne, avec un plan visant à faire croître l'école de 1000 à 2000 élèves au cours de la première décennie/ d'ici 2030.

Les francophones de la région Kitchener-Waterloo attestent d'un manque de communauté

Omar Karimi Reporter

Traduction par: Genevieve Sammon

Danielle Louzado Lexie Coakley Josh Spaley Rifa Khan

e nombreux Canadiens anglophones pourraient penser que le français est seulement préservé au Québec et sur les documents gouvernementaux.

Cependant, selon Statistique Canada, I, 126, 535 de Canadiens à l'extérieur du Ouébec indiquent qu'ils parlent le français chez eux et 1, 074, 985 de Canadiens en dehors du Québec le considéraient comme leur langue maternelle en 2016.

La même année, 550, 600 personnes dans la province d'Ontario (environ 4,1 pour cent de la province) considéraient la langue française comme leur première langue.

Pour en savoir plus sur l'expérience francophone en dehors du Québec, Imprint a interviewé des gens à propos de leurs expériences.

Marie-Claude Duffernense a déménagé en Ontario du Québec quand elle avait huit

Elle travaille actuellement comme traductrice et vit dans la région de Kitchener-Waterloo.

Elle a remarqué que lorsqu'elle et sa famille sont arrivés en Ontario, il n'y avait pas vraiment un choc culturel, mais le véritable problème qu'ils affrontaient était la barrière linguistique.

Marie-Claude et sa famille ont déménagé en Ontario sans parler l'anglais, puis ils ont emménagé dans une région où on parlait uniquement l'anglais. C'était un très grand défi pour elle, ses frères et sœurs ainsi que

Lorsqu'on lui a posé des questions à propos des services en français en Ontario, elle a répondu:

« Je pense que c'est insuffisant ».

Toutefois, elle reconnaît que maintenant elle ne parle plus le français avec sa famille, sauf avec son père.

Marie-Claude mentionne qu'elle n'est pas particulièrement investie dans la préservation de la langue française. Bien qu'elle croie cette initiative importante, ce n'est pas une question majeure pour elle.

Marie-Claude a étudié la traduction en français à l'université d'Ottawa et elle a dit qu'elle a choisi de travailler dans ce domaine parce qu'elle parlait déjà la langue et parce qu'elle croyait que le travail en français serait toujours sollicité.

Cependant, concernant la question de la compétence en français de certains hommes politiques, elle a répondu : « C'est décevant », ensuite elle a ajouté que « le français est une réflexion après coup » pour la plupart

Suzanne Dansereau, qui est née à Montréal, vit dans la région de Kitchener-Waterloo depuis plus de 30 ans. Malgré qu'elle soit bien implantée en Ontario, elle est très attachée encore au Québec, de même qu'à la langue française.

Actuellement, Suzanne est la directrice de l'Association des francophones de Kitchener-Waterloo et elle a établi le premier club de Toastmasters français de Kitchener-Wa-

Suzanne dit qu'elle constate un manque de communauté parmi les gens du Québec qui déménagent en Ontario, ce qui l'a encouragée à participer à ces initiatives.

La préservation de la langue française est d'une grande importance pour Suzanne et elle s'est assurée que son fils soit inscrit dans une école francophone.

Pour Suzanne, la langue française ajoute un sentiment fort d'unité et elle a mentionné qu'elle aurait plus d'affinité avec un francophone africain qu'avec un anglophone montréalais. Malgré le fait qu'elle habite en Ontario depuis plusieurs années, Suzanne dit qu'elle sait ce qui se passe au Québec mieux qu'en Ontario. En parlant de son appartenance politique elle a avoué avoir soutenu le parti séparatiste, le Bloc Québécois, au moment où elle vivait encore au Québec.

Cependant, puisqu'elle a maintenant voyagé dans d'autres régions du Canada et a vu la beauté du pays, elle n'appuie plus la séparation et elle pense : « Pourquoi devrions-nous séparer de ce beau pays? »

Lorsqu'on lui a demandé si elle pensait que les autres provinces devraient parler plus de français, elle a répondu affirmativement et a ajouté avec enthousiasme : « Pourquoi ne pas parler dix langues? »

Get to know the Region's only Francophone Association

Megan Hamm Intern Reporter

The Association of Francophones in KW (AFKW) is the primary source for French interaction within the Waterloo Region.

It gives fluent French speakers and francophones the opportunity to interact with one another through various group activities and events. In Kitchener-Waterloo alone, there are approximately 10,000 francophones. "It's good to have a sense of community," said Marie-Claude Dufresne, vice president of AFKW. There are events for people of all levels of French fluency with AFKW.

The organization hosts French 101 classes for those just beginning to learn, and conversation circles for those who are more advanced. There is no shortage of opportunities to get involved with this organization.

The association holds multiple monthly events such as a walking group, pub night, conversation circles, toastmasters, and much more.

Some upcoming special events hosted by AFKW are the film festival at the end of March, an Easter Saturday event in April and a big summer festival Franco-Fete which celebrates French Culture in June.

March is an important month for AFKW. On March 27-29 there will be a French Film Festival at the Princess Cinemas in Uptown

"This is something we do every year, it's always been a real success. We have Canadian French films as well as films from France," said Dufresne

All films that play throughout the weekend are subtitled in English so everyone can

The film festival is so successful that lots of people have been eager for more. "People have been asking for a second film festival, maybe in the Fall," said Dufresne.

The AFKW gives all people, fluent or not, access to rich French culture from around the world.

"It's interesting because I get to also learn from other cultures because there's a strong African-French culture here so it's not just Quebec," said Dufresne.

"Language brings us together but we have different cultures.

Unfortunately, being the only francophone association in KW comes with some

"Our biggest challenges are getting ourselves known and out there. And, getting funding from the government along with other resources," said Dufresne.

Despite these challenges, the AFKW is always looking for new ways to grow and

'We're always looking for people to join us, we're always looking for new ideas," said Dufresne. "We're looking for young, old, anybody who is interested or passionate about French. Come and join us, there's always room for more people."

Apprenez à connaître l'unique Association Francophone de la région

Megan Hamm Intern Reporter

> Traduction par: Maxime Bérubé Jessica Vidal Sabrina Furlong Pedro Trujillo Calderon Nicole Angers Barber

'Association des francophones de Kitch-∡ener-Waterloo (AFKW) est la source principale d'interaction en français dans la région de Waterloo. Elle donne aux personnes qui parlent couramment le français et aux francophones la possibilité d'interagir les uns avec les autres à travers divers événements et activités de groupe.

La région de Kitchener-Waterloo compte déjà à elle seule environ 10,000 franco-

« C'est bon d'avoir un sentiment de communauté », dit Marie-Claude Dufresne, qui est la vice-présidente de l'AFKW.

Il v a des événements pour tous les niveaux de maîtrise du français dans l'AFKW. Ils organisent des classes de français 101 pour les débutants et des cercles de conversation pour les plus avancés. Les occasions ne manquent de s's'impliquer dans cette association ne manquent sûrement pas.

L'association met sur pied de nombreuses rencontres mensuelles comme des groupes de marche, des soirées dans des bars locaux, des cercles de conversation, des événements Toastmasters et bien d'autre. Quelques événements spéciaux à venir sont le festival

du film à la fin du mois de mars, un événement le samedi de Pâques en avril et un grand festival d'été, Franco-Fête, qui célèbre la culture française en juin, tous organisés par l'AFKW.

Le mois de mars est important pour l'AFKW. Du 27 jusqu'au 29 mars, il y aura un festival du film français au Cinéma Princesse dans le centre-ville de Waterloo. « Cet événement est une tradition annuelle, c'est toujours un grand succès. Nous avons des films canadiens-français ainsi que des films provenant de la France », explique Dufres-

Tous les films qui jouent pendant la fin de semaine sont sous-titrés en anglais pour que tout le monde puisse en profiter. Le festival du film connaît un tel succès que beaucoup de gens ont exprimé leur souhait d'avoir en autre.

« Les gens ont demandé un deuxième festival du film, peut-être à l'automne », déclare Dufresne.

L'AFKW donne à tous les gens, parlant le français couramment ou pas, l'accès à la richesse de la culture française de partout dans le monde. « Cet accès me permet d'apprendre des autres cultures parce qu'il y a une forte présence de la culture africaine française ici, pas seulement québécoise », dit Dufresne.

« La langue nous rassemble, mais nous avons des cultures différentes ».

Malheureusement, être la seule association francophone de Kitchener-Waterloo comporte certains défis.

« Nos plus grands défis sont de se faire connaître par la communauté, obtenir du financement du gouvernement ainsi que l'accès à d'autres ressources," explique Dufresne. Malgré ces défis, l'AFKW est toujours à la recherche de nouvelles façons de croître et de se développer.

« Nous sommes toujours à la recherche de personnes pour



rejoindre, et de nouvelles initiatives », ajoute Dufresne. « Nous recherchons toute personne intéressée ou passionnée par le français, jeune ou plus âgée. Rejoignez-nous, il y a de la place pour tout le monde ».

arts & life

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Preview: UpStart20 performance

Vishal Lilman Reporter

hite banners in black font across posters for the one-act shows that would have constituted the UW UpStart20 Festival all read the same thing — 'CANCELLED'. Nevertheless, the Theatre and Performance program displayed that fiery Warrior spirt, and although the production was cancelled for public viewing, the show must go on.

I was invited to watch All Art is Quite Useless, one of the featured one-act plays that would have been in the festival.

The synopsis reads "Based on the original 1890 edition of Oscar Wilde's The Picture of Dorian Gray, this new musical explores the first published version of a text that was later significantly edited to remove passages deemed 'indecent' in nature. The story

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focuses on the relationships between Basil Hallward, a society painter, and a young aristocrat named Dorian Gray. When Basil presents Dorian with a painting he has created of him, Dorian despairs that the portrait will stay the same as he ages, and enters into a Faustian bargain to preserve his youth. Basil's struggle parallels Wilde's own personal struggle that ended in his arrest, after a series of trials where the first edition of The Picture of Dorian Gray was used against him in court."

Personally, I am a fan of comedic performances and shows, so I entered into this careful of my expectations of whether or not I would enjoy myself. UW students never disappoint.

The actresses are remarkably talented and professional. They have the increadible versatility of being able to act, sing, and go right back into acting without missing a beat or messing up a line. As someone who messes up words during in-class presentations and stumbles randomly when talking, I applaud such a perfect display of skill.

The emotion and weight that these actresses carried when singing were extremely heavy and added a great deal of authenticity and dimension to their characters. Their use of pauses, and enunciation for certain words and lyrics added personification to what was being communicated. Their words were helped by their expressiveness and body-language.

It was really interesting to watch and especially to experience this type of acting live, because it seems like you can only see this quality of acting in Oscar-worthy and Indie style films.

It is truly a misfortune that no one can witness the performance I saw. I had never heard of the UpStart festival until I was given this assignment, and to not only witness a show, but to see all of the work that went

into it, between the costume designers, stage managers, lighting, and sound crew. it is heartbreaking that this talent cannot be showcased for the general public.

However, if you do get a chance in the coming years, be sure to check it out. The UW Upstart festival usually runs for five days and it is all orchestrated by UW students, faculty, and alumni.

May Nemat Allah, the festival's publicist, spoke with *Imprint* about UpStart and what would have been the festival's 20 th run: What makes this year different from previous years?

"This year we are exploring different themes like loss, forgiveness, self-discovery, and interpersonal relationships. All of these things make the UpStart festival really unique. We also have a lot of alumni returning to work on this festival. Two of our three stage managers were alumni of the program and they came back to work on it."

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Artist Spotlight: Matt Holubowski

Jansher Saeed
Editorial Assistant

anadian singer and songwriter Matt Holubowski from Hudson, is popular with French Canadian audiences in Québec as an emergent voice in Indie-folk music.

Holubowski spoke with *Imprint* on a busy day from Los Angeles where he is currently on tour, fresh off his release, *Wild Ones*.

But to get as far as he is now, Holubowski highly credits his 2014 release *Old Man* for really kick starting his career.

"Old Man was basically like a collection of songs that I'd written since forever and new ones that I wrote when I came back," Holubowski said.

Holubowski finished university in 2012. At the time, he did not feel ready to commit himself to a "real job" and instead travelled the world with money he had saved up working as a server, collecting the memories and experiences that would eventually contribute to the creation of his album *Old Man*.

One of these memorable experiences, Holubowski recounts, is that of his trip to Uganda.

"Just before [my trip to Asia], I went out to Uganda for a couple months and I was helping film this documentary in the north of Uganda, and a couple of the songs came from there," Holubowski said.

"Mango Tree" is one of the songs from Old Man that came from this trip.

Holubowski wrote it while sitting under a mango tree in northern Uganda.

Soon after the release of *Old Man*, Holubowski got to work on his second record, Solitudes.

"I had started to play a lot more music so I began taking it a bit more seriously and started to sort of live off of music. I had more time to practice and to hone my songwriting," Holubowski said.

Solitudes marked a change in Holubowski's music career.

As he puts it, it allowed him to put together a band, turning songs into more than just raw acoustic tunes.

"I'd just signed with this label in Montréal and I got them to help me out and I just went like 'Oh here at bands that I really like, local bands that I really appreciate in Montréal,' and I was wondering if they might be interested, so my label helped me reach out and it kinda started out that way," Holubowski said.

He found the vibe between the band and himself so strong, personally and musically, that it evolved into them recording music and touring together.

"Twenty days turned into 50 turned into 75 into 200 until we performed a lot. We spent a lot of time on the road together and "Old Man was basically like a collection of songs that I'd written since forever and new ones that I wrote when I came back," - Matt



Canadian singer and song writer, Matt Holubowski recounts his musical journey and recent endeavors in the genre of alternative indie.

we became like a great little family and the music really evolved," Holubowski said.

"When we recorded the record we didn't know each other. As we got to know each other better we kinda took [up] space in the band a little more comfortably and the sound really evolved kinda into where this new one is," he added.

Solitudes opened up Holubowski's mu-

sic to a wider audience and earned him two nominations at the 39th ADISQ Gala for Album of the Year and Concert of the Year, Anglophone categories.

From there, Holubowski found himself crisscrossing Canada, the United States, and Europe, performing nearly 200 concerts.

Holubowski describes his musical sound

as a cross genre one, saying that fans characterize his music as alternative folk.

"In my case, I think people are just describing it as alternative folk maybe because it's still kind of folksy cause it has the roosty elements, piano guitars and such but a lot more modern sounding stuff as well," Holubowski said.

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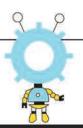


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Sexism called out in UW's School of Computer Science

Megan Hamm Intern Reporter

ale students and faculty members at UW's school of computer science often engage in misogynistic comments and microaggressions towards female colleagues and classmates according to the Women in Computer Science (WiCS) committee.

There were times where Falah Shazib, former chair of the WiCS Undergraduate Committee, experienced implicit discrimination during her co-op terms for the computer science program.

"I was the only girl on my team at co-op, and we were developing a hardware device involving eye tracking. It wasn't working properly on me, it was really messing up my work and I wasn't sure why," Shazib said. "It turns out it wasn't properly working on me because I have longer eyelashes than the rest of the team."

"I don't think they purposefully said 'Oh we won't change anything for your longer eyelashes'," Shazib said.

"It's not like they were inherently sexist with their thinking, it's that since the team were all men, they had a bias towards it."

Caroline Chen, the chair of the WiCS Undergraduate Committee for this term, said that most of the sexist comments are not right in your face.

"There's a lot of passive moments that happen," Chen said.

"There's a lot of attitude thinking like 'Oh she only got in because she's a girl.' This kind of misogyny still exists even in the classroom here. Especially towards jobs and stuff when interviews come around."

"Women and non-binary students may experience implicit biases and 'microaggressions', more often than not, in the form of unintentional offensive comments," Grossman said.

Only 22 per cent of the students admitted into the computer science program at UW in 2019 were women according to Maura Grossman, the faculty director of WiCS,.

"Just because your team is all men and a similar demographic, you lose a lot of valuable insight, and that later affects other people entering the field," Shazib said.

"This is an active barrier to getting other women in because this really impacted my work and my performance."

Shazib and Chen mentioned that inter-

sectionality is important to stay mindful of in order to combat inequality overall.

Intersectionality is when multiple social categorizations like class, race, and gender apply to a certain individual or group.

"There's a lot to consider, like each culture has their own barriers, stereotypes, and discrimination," Shazib said.

"Yes, there will be challenges, but we shouldn't catagorize all of the marginalized people into the same group. Bringing awareness to it is important," Chen said.

Shazib further explained how fighting for equality is much more than just fighting for women overall.

"Asian women's challenges will be different than brown women, which would be different than black women which would be different from native women. You [have to] understand all of them if you actually want to combat this," Shazib said.

Shazib explained some of the struggles that happen to some people, not just women.

"There's one product where this camera will automatically detect when your eyes are closed but that wouldn't work with Asian people because their eyes are smaller than other demographics. Or products that detect when you're standing in a shadow which didn't work with people of colour because their skin is darker," Shazib said.

"They weren't trying to be racist, but by excluding people in the development team who were of a different demographic, it created this environment."

"In a lot of group environments in the workplace as well, if you're a minority, your opinions tend to get swept under the rug until you actually make a big commotion, and then you get retaliation for that," Chen said.

"So it's difficult when you are the minority because you have to have a strong voice, but at the same time you get pushed back."

The university does have a number of initiatives directed specifically towards women which encourage them to engage with the programs, although it remains unclear whether or not men feel as though they are left out.

"There's Women in Math, Women in Tech, Women in STEM, there's a lot of 'Women in X' initiatives which I think highlights underrepresented groups more," Chen said.

"We get a lot of backlash in our women only initiatives. I think that something important to recognize here is that these opportunities are here for men as well. They're just not with the WiCS demographic, but they have a lot within their scope of reach."

In a male dominated program like computer science, equality for women may seem out of reach.

"Currently the way the system is set up, men have more power than women. If we want to have the power of equality, they have to give some power up which is where all the backlash comes from," Shazib said.

Although WiCS is a group that is solely marketed towards women, their events are typically open to both genders unless advertised otherwise.

"Most of our events are open to both genders, especially stuff that talked about the environment here and everything related to that," Shazib said.

When it comes to working towards equality, one thing that is often overlooked in the discussion is intersectionality. Even if the sexist and misogynistic microaggressions and passive comments weren't an issue, the Imposter Syndrome still plays a part in how women in computer science feel.

"When women and non-binary students look around their classes and see relatively few peers or professors that look like them, they experience the same feelings as any minority group member," Grossman said.

If you were to be the victim of a sexist or misogynistic attitude of act, you would need to find a suitable way to handle that situation.

"Call it out, don't just sit there and let them have that moment. It's moments like these which are teaching moments and they might not realize it's misogynistic," Chen said

"So calling them out and pointing to tell them 'This isn't right,' 'I don't feel comfortable with how you expressed this,' and 'This is what I think you should do next time,' that could be a way to address it."

WiCS hosts numerous events that help women in computer science learn how to handle being confronted with sexism, misogyny, or any type of discrimination from their male peers or colleagues.

"We try to equip our female and non-binary participants with a variety of strategies to use, from humor, to mild questioning, to more confrontational responses, so they can find the approach that is most comfortable for them." Grossman said.

Standing up for yourself in confrontational situations can be nerve-wracking for many people. "To women especially, stepping up can be really scary at first. If you have people to help you, then you will make it through." Shazib said.

It's important to note that if the situation is a recurring issue, then the best thing to do to handle the situation after speaking up, is reporting it. Talk to WiCS, or the committee you fit in best with, about the issue at hand. They would then be able to send it up the chain of command.

Grossman stated that she has never witnessed any mistreatment herself, but "on the rare occasions that it has been reported, complaints have been taken seriously and have been handled in a prompt and appropriate manner, consistent with university policies."

While speaking up for yourself and reporting the toxic behaviour are very viable options, stopping by the WiCS office to chat and get things off your chest is also a great option. "We have office hours listed on our website and also on our door, anyone can come in any time," Shazib said.

Working towards equality in the tech field is an ongoing journey. Until the awareness is spread about the issue, and people become more open minded to the situation, women need to learn how to properly handle these situations and how to combat this themselves. "Understand that your view of the world is definitely biased. Getting more viewpoints there will help you understand people a little more," Shazib said.

There is one thing to always remember as a woman no matter where you are in life. "It's the golden rule, treat others the way you want to be treated," Chen said.

This stands true for men and women, no matter the program or field. If people stayed true to this principal, equality would be around the corner, and the world would run a whole lot smoother.



Music and math is a balanced combination

Katrina Steckle Conrad Grebel University College

usic and mathematics have been connected disciplines in the minds of psychologists and neuroscientists for years.

An increasing number of studies have been carried out to link the effects of music on mathematical skills and vice versa.

Many of these studies have found correlations between above-average musical abilities and above-average math performance.

A study published in the Journal of Mathematics Education found that math and music activate some of the same areas of the brain, suggesting that music and math overlap academically.

Anita Chen, a mathematics/financial analysis and risk management student minoring in music, interacts with both disciplines on a regular basis.

She has often noticed that math and mu-

sic complement each other in ways that have led to her personal growth.

"Math and music is a marriage of practicality and spirituality that nourishes my development as a whole person."

'There are real connections between math and music, so it seems natural that math students would be interested in studying music," remarked Mark Vuorinen, chair of the music department at Conrad Grebel University College and the University of Waterloo.

"In music theory, we use math to understand music," Mark explained.

"Time and duration are divided into units of varying sizes, musical intervals are related in terms of the distance from one to another using numbers. Mathematical patterns abound in music throughout history."

Mark noted that composers such as Bach, Pärt, Du Fay, and many others have integrated mathematical concepts in their piec-

A study published in The Neurosciences and Music III - Disorders and Plasticity suggested that musical training heightens skills in executive functioning, including planning, focusing attention, and juggling

These skills are transferable to many modern work environments.

"Daily practice is a skill that I've picked up during my piano studio course that is tremendously important in both math and music," Anita explained.

"Another skill that I've gained in music is to be confident. I use this skill a lot whenever I have to perform piano.

This skill has helped me in other scenarios, such as interviews, presentations, or conversations with important people."

Anita noted that she'll have more career opportunities after she graduates because she has gained skills from both music and

Nicholas Wong, a statistics and music joint honours student, commented on another benefit of studying math and music

"I think both programs are very different.

One focuses on the realistic side, while the other focuses on the artistic side. The combination balances everything."

Nicholas also mentioned that math and music require different approaches to education, which have kept his studies inter-

Evidence that music and math are a complementary pair can be found in scientific studies and real-life experiences, the music of historic composers and the lives of current students.

It's no wonder that math students represent the largest group of students outside of the Faculty of Arts who are involved in the music department at Grebel and Waterloo—approximately 20 per cent of music course and ensemble enrolments come from math students.

But music can complement any program at the University of Waterloo! With eight musical ensembles to join and various music courses to take, Waterloo students have many ways to integrate music into their degrees to diversify and balance their studies.





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COVID-19 infects the sports world

Dashawn Stephens Sports Columnist

This past week, sports in North America was turned upside down by COVID-19.

In the weeks prior, we watched sports leagues discuss ways of doing their part to combat the spread of the virus. Some suggestions included limiting player-fan interaction, and even having leagues play games in neutral cities that had not been affected by the virus. A popular trend discussed was the idea of playing games in empty arenas without fans to avoid large social gatherings all together. This was an idea floated by leagues such as the NBA and already put into effect by entities such as the English Premier League.

However, the threat of sports leagues shutting down completely always seemed to be a possibility that was too distant to reach. That all changed rather suddenly on Mar. II.

As the Utah Jazz were gearing up to face off in Oklahoma City against the Thunder, Jazz center Rudy Gobert was listed as 'out' for the game due to an illness.

Just two days prior, Gobert had expressed his lack of concern for the spread of the COVID-19 virus during his routine media interviews. He even mockingly touched all the microphones after the interview to prove a point, before reportedly acting similarly in the Utah locker room.

The game would go on to be postponed just before top-off. Minutes later, it was revealed that Gobert had tested positive for the COVID-19 virus, and players from both teams were being quarantined immediately, with the entire Jazz team being tested for the virus.

The initial concern was the risk of having the virus spread amongst fans within the large crowds, but now the virus had hit an actual athlete, and his contact with other players could be traced back to all 30 teams in the NBA within the previous seven days.

Within ten minutes of the Gobert announcement, the NBA announced that, effective immediately, the 2019-2020 NBA season was suspended.

On Mar. 12, Gobert's teammate Donovan Mitchell also tested positive for the COVID-19 virus. Soon after, many sports leagues would follow in the NBA's footsteps.

The NHL, MLB, MLS, and XFL all suspended their seasons. The NCAA cancelled their March Madness tournaments, the CFL cancelled all 3 remaining combines scheduled for this month, the Boston Marathon was pushed back to September, and the UFC resorted to empty arena fights. Even the status of the 2020 Summer Olympics is unknown at this time.

With no sports happening for the foreseeable future, the casual sports fan now sits in an unimaginable space, where they have no new content to enjoy or consume. Sports networks such as ESPN, TSN, and Sportsnet now mainly resort to throwback content to feed the needs of their viewers.

However, the absence of sports truly speaks volumes about how important it is that society takes the proper precautions to slow down the spread of this virus. Making the world a safer place again is truly a team effort, and having all sports leagues on board helps greatly

The important domino

Before Gobert, Juventus' Daniele Rugani was the highest-profile athlete to test positive for the virus. However, there is no doubt



Rudy Gobert mockingly touches microphones just days prior to contracting COVID-19.

that Gobert's diagnosis was the first domino to fall in this unpredictable series of events.

If Gobert doesn't test positive for the virus, the NBA doesn't suspend it's season. That means none of the other seven North American sports entities follow in the NBA's footsteps, and suspend their seasons and events. Most importantly, if Gobert doesn't test positive for the COVID-19 virus, sports leagues would most likely still be operating at this very moment, and maybe even still contemplating whether or not they should play in empty arenas.

Lasting impacts

The impact of the sports standstill will be evident for years. When leagues such as the NBA and NHL resume, they will most likely finish their seasons in August should they pick up where they left off. If not, they may have to get creative and create alternate ways of crowning a champion. This would result in shortened 2020-2021 seasons by both leagues to give their players a full length off-season.

The MLB will most likely have a short-

ened season as well, with their season likely ending in October as the last thing fans and players would want is to play the World Series during freezing November nights. The NCAA has given back a year of eligibility to all spring athletes, which could slow down the recruiting process. Lastly, there will be financial losses. Leagues, teams, and athletes will lose out on hundreds of millions of dollars as they have ceased operations.

When sports resume in empty arenas, teams will lose millions in ticket and concession sales. And when they do return to full arenas, depending on how bad the COVID-19 pandemic is at its peak, expect it to take a while before fans become comfortable with filling 20,000 seat arenas again.

The list of impacts will be endless, but not all of them will be negative. As the saying goes, "you don't know what you have until it's gone."

We may be sports-less for now, but if we take the right precautions and do our part, sports will be back before we know it. And when sports do return, it will truly be special



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.

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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 the term.** Those include:

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STEP 3 Serum



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STEP 4 Moisturize

Moisturizer should be applied after serum or



STEP 5 Sunscreen

Sunscreen should be applied daily and only

STEP 6 **Hydrate**

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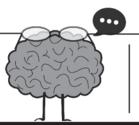
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Next scheduled post-mortem meeting Wednesday, March 18 at 4:00 p.m. Cooridnate remotely on Slack Next scheduled board meeting:

opinions



HAVE YOUR SAY

Submit your letter to the editor or your community editorial to opinion@uwimprint.ca.

Find more opinions at uwimprint.ca

Coping with corona on co-op: Thoughts from an intern quarantined in Seattle



eattle is beautiful right now. There's an ornamental plum tree down the street that's been snowing pink petals, and daffodils are lining the trail around Green Lake.

On a clear day, you can see the snow-capped Cascades to the East and the slightly less snow-capped Olympics to the West. It's a balmy 10 degrees Celsius and the sun is shining.

But please don't come here.

The death toll as of writing is 22 in Washington State, at least 20 of which are in King County alone.

Unsurprisingly, Seattle sits within King County. I am at ground zero for COVID-19 in the United States.

There are over 938 CDC-confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the state right now, accounting for over a quarter of total cases in the US, and the city's starting to feel it.

Company after company, mostly large tech firms have announced widespread policies of working from home and avoiding travel.

Coughing on the bus earns nervous glares from fellow riders, and signs are showing up everywhere with instructions on how to properly wash your hands.

I started my work term here in September. My office is small — including myself there are only 13 people in the entire firm. When I'm at work, I have a good ten-foot radius of space around me, as do most of my coworkers. As a young office, we aren't exactly high-risk for the virus.

That didn't stop this week's operations meeting from starting with a discussion on

whether or not we should close the office.

The agreement was that most people work best when they're not at home, but if anyone gets sick, their first priority should be isolation. Almost half of the company was already working remotely that day. A couple hours later the vice-president sent out an email with tips on how to best work from home.

A day later, there were only three people in the office, myself included.

I'm lucky to work where I do. Everyone is more focused on staying healthy than staying in the office, and the work we're doing can be done remotely. Unfortunately, a lot of people don't have that option.

I'm also in the situation of living in a house with five other people, and there are still three empty rooms that could be filled at any moment, which would bring our total up to nine.

As a result, self-quarantining wouldn't exactly be an isolated experience. Working from home would almost be worse than going into the office for me. Thankfully, I'm not sick.

The effects of the virus can be seen in day-to-day life. I commute early, getting into work at about 7:00a.m. and leaving at around 3:30p.m., so I largely miss rush hour. Even so, my usual bus rides to and from the office would require rubbing shoulders with a stranger or standing in the aisle until a seat opened up. Today, the bus was practically empty both ways. The places where we normally pick up crowds were deserted. A voice over the intercom told us to wash our hands regularly and avoid touching our

faces. It was the first time I'd heard the announcement and I doubt it will be the last.

The window of our office overlooks Pioneer Square, a section of downtown laden with tourist destinations, offices, and often crowds of people. I can usually look out and see groups of men, women, school children, families. Tat's, the sandwich shop across the street, often has a line out the door around lunchtime most days. But not right now. Not these days.

We're in the middle of a pandemic. We all know it, but we also know there's not much we can do. Testing isn't widely available — you still need to be referred by a doctor if you're worried — and no restrictions have been put in place. What was a casual joke about cheap beer and coughing at work has become serious. While no one in the office is at high risk of being a casualty, we all know people who are. We've all considered what we would do if we had to quarantine, how we would put our families at risk. Chances are we've been exposed to it, but until we start developing symptoms we won't know.

So Seattle is beautiful right now. The flowers are blooming, but then again the flowers have been blooming since mid-January. I see the sunrise over the Cascades in the morning and the sunset over Green Lake in the evening. I joke with the coworkers who still come into the office, but we all feel the empty chairs around us. It's not that something is coming.

It's that it's already here.

Ghosts of our past, dreams of the future: The regression of social justice movements

hen we entered the lecture hall, it looked like any other Laurier public lecture — a panel of speakers sat at the front near the lectern, faced by rows of curious individuals awaiting a critique of the many social justice movements vying for attention nowadays. We came in very stoked to this three-hour lecture.

It is difficult to believe that people can have such hatred for others. This hatred was different. It was more sinister and far more malignant. These people were more bigoted in the sense that they were erasing people whose voices have already historically been unheard or ignored.

The speakers began by questioning the nature of social justice in what appeared to be a meaningful way — they focused on who is left behind in these movements and how they rob people of their identities, confining them to rigid

And then, the speakers took a sharp right towards the concept of Cultural Marxism. This antisemitic conspiracy describes multiculturalism, progressive politics, and political correctness as tools of evil liberals to undermine Western civilization, nuke the nuclear family, and doom capitalism to oblivion. Their words oozed out, gluttonously sugar-coated in white privilege and selfishly ramming entire demographics into the periphery, women, criminals, and minorities labelled enemies of the West.

Then, logic prevailed, albeit briefly. The speakers started by stating the value of individualism in their eyes with quotes such as "we are all our snowflakes," and "social movements eradicate individual identity." A logical critique of social justice is that it clumps together the identities of individuals in social movements, creating a generalized and often stereotyped voice of change, leaving the thirst for individual needs unquenched.

We are one people, for sure, but that is not the way that people saw the world in the past. Those ideas are not right, but they are also not dead. The experiences of the people that were oppressed based on these imaginary differences are very real, as are their consequenc-

es. This can be seen in all areas of current society, from the lack of prescription of pain management drugs for people of colour to the classification of every non-white person as a person of colour.

When we say we don't think racism is real, we mean that we don't think race is a natural division among people. We don't think race is real, but we know enough people created and followed this theoretical concept that it became a funpeople out of your town to be a racist. Racism is also the erasure of people's experiences.

We have not stopped aiming for a better future, but it is vital that we try to understand what happened to us, why it happened, and why it is still happening. We have poured our hearts into understanding why our grandparents could not return to their homelands following the Partition of India. As children, we wanted nothing more than to we are still hurting, and we don't yet know why.

The speakers were not convinced of this. They asked-why do we need to talk about colonialism? Why are we always blaming the system or the patriarchy or the Church? Why are we just talking about the white Christian Europeans and their Slave Trade and not the Arab Slave Trade? Also, women have it so well here-look at India and Pakistan, where women

the Arab rulers that also went throughout the "Old World" and ravaged many kingdoms, nations, and peoples. But we are having these conversations and recognizing the effects that these events have had on our communities. Those are our conversations to have. You are a guest in those spaces. You are there to learn, not tell us about our own history. We do not trust you; we do not need you; we do not care whether you are grovelling for your ancestors' crimes. Your guilt (rarely present) is irrelevant, your gaze is an invasion, your presence a form of voyeurism that we no longer care to entertain.

One of the speakers was concerned that we, the far-left, Marxist, critical theorists, are ultimately aiming to usurp Western society. And they're not wrong. Western society, as it stands right now, is broken. It is oppressive, racist, unequal, arrogant, and stubborn. We cannot live as ourselves in this society-we check too many boxes that, by the speakers' definition, place using the extreme unexplored borderlands of the periphery, just short of complete absurdity.

We do not belong here.

We are, by their definition, threats to their civilization—their good, virtuous, Christian societies based on the natural order of the patriarchy (a structure that Indigenous people also followed, apparently)-simply by existing. If my breath threatens to topple your houses, if my every step shakes your person to the core, if my voice blasts your eardrums, then we will continue breathing, travelling, and speaking until there is nothing but rubble where your paper cathedrals once stood, and we will undermine your society a little bit every day until the day we die.

Colonialism pervaded over every aspect of our history, our lives, our beings, and our identities. Moving on would mean leaving ourselves behind.

damental belief of many societies. When the speaker stood at the front of the room and made this claim, he seemed to say that he did not believe that the concept of race is real or that it affected and continues to affect people's lives to this day.

Yes, race is a valid basis for any sort of conclusion. However, there is no question that people became "race scientists" and portrayed their biased opinions in an academically acceptable format that led to their own perpetuation. But the fact is, racism does not need to be at the level of the Holocaust to be racism. You don't need to be lynching Sikhs while calling them Muslims and chasing all the Black

know why they were sad and unable to go back. Their history is not just the past, it is their life, the lives of our ancestors, intertwined closely with our own experiences.

The past never relinquished its hold on us and it is not something we always notice — it is always present, like a ghost of a person that lived so long ago no one remembers it as a person. But even when they are forgotten, ghosts do not disappear.

Colonialism, for example, is such a ghost. Colonialism pervaded over every aspect of our history, our lives, our beings, and our identities. Moving on would mean leaving ourselves behind.

Why can't we move on? Because

are forced to abort or kill their female children; Isn't it just terrible everywhere else?

But the truth is, the West used us and then left us behind. Suffrage had no room for Black Women, the Sexual Revolution left queer people behind, Civil Rights achieved freedom but equality is a while away - progress so often is that of those visible. We are told, by the dominant groups, that because they see us now, we have progressed. We are told that things were worse before or are worse elsewhere and we should talk about that instead.

We are talking about them. These conversations are happening. And we will not defend Jansher Saeed & Harleen Kaur

Editorial Assistant & reporter

campus bulletin

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND TOWN

Submit your 30-word announcement or upcoming event to ads@uwimprint.ca for free.

upcoming events

March 2020

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

Savour in Stratford — Saturday morning Market from 7 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Rotary Complex, and more, www.visitstratford.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.

Wednesday, March 18

KW Chamber Music Society, 57 Young Street, W., Waterloo (walkable from campus), is cancelling all shows until further notice. For info contact jnarveso@uwaterloo.ca.

Tuesday, March 31

Warm cookies and free hugs wishing you all the best on your exams! Come for a warm cookie and a free hug at CMH at 5 p.m., or, Wednesday, April 1 at 5 p.m. or Thursday, April 2 at 5 p.m.

Saturday, April 4

Weekend Meditation Course -"Awakening The Third Eye" (ATE) - A dynamic experiential workshop from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information and registration visit www.clairvisiontoronto.com.

volunteering

Bereaved Families of Ontario - Midwestern Region, The Family Centre, 65 Hanson Ave., Suite 1042, Kitchener. We currently have a number of exciting volunteer opportunities. For more info, jaime@bfomidwest.org or 519-603-0196.

Become a Meals On Wheels volunteer! Call 519-772-8787 or www.communitysupportconnections.org/volunteer/apply.

Build your portfolio by volunteering at Imprint. No experience necessary.

help needed

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

extra curricular

As a society, we need to move our bodies more in healthy, fun ways to help deal with the challenges of our sedentary lifestyles and ultimately create happier and healthier bodies and minds. The Groove helps us do this in spades -- it's easy and fun with dance styles such as African, Bollywood, Swing, Disco, Hip Hop, House, Jazz and good ol' rock'n'roll! Contact cindy@uwaterloo.ca for more information.

Travel difficulties? Virus difficulties? News from overseas? Email your articles to managing editor@uw-imprint.ca

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Head Designer; Graphics Editor Copy Editor; Video Editor Satellite Campus Editor Distractions Editor

Contact editor@uwimprint.ca for more info



im print will be posted in March 25 newspaper!

A page entirely devoted to art for the sake of art.

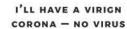


This page is created by UW students and serves as a speaker's corner for the school's creators.



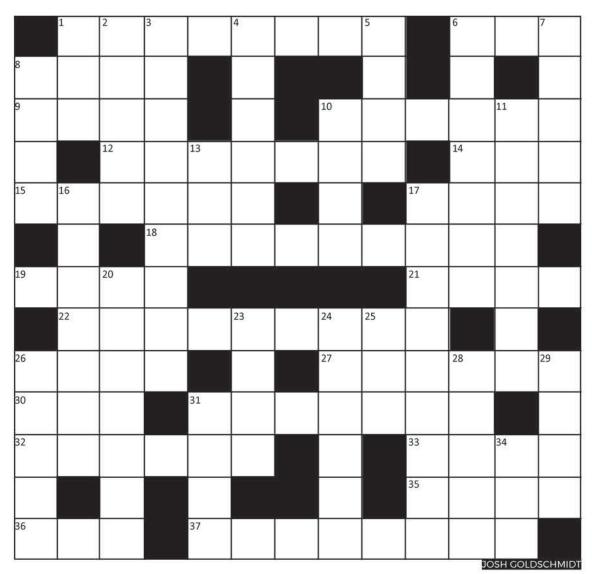
distractions







End times at the New York Times



- I. Author of Son of a Trickster, a Canada Reads finalist
- 6. Prince Charles position, abbreviated
- 8. To treat or cure
- 9. An arched vault, also called an
- 10. Automotive capital of Cana-
- 12. Noteworthy or prominent
- 14. European rival to Pantone and HEX Color Code
- 15. Emotion of longing or craving 17. To have one's cover or secret
- identity revealed (slang) 18. African ecosystem known for its mammal migrations
- 19. To carve or cut into
- 21. Cell that produces gametes
- 22. Internal bleeding (British spelling)
- 25. Won the 2016 World Series breaking a 108-year drought 27. She received the head of John the Baptist
- 30. Cyrus, "Party in the ___" (2009)
- 31. Vitamin A1
- 32. Electrical circuit following a single conductive path
- 33. One who experienced death
- 35. Liquid fats
- 36. "You should be woman and ___your beards forbid me to interpret that you are so" Macbeth

37. A supernatural influence felt

Below

- I. A complete motion of an exercise
- 2. Fertile areas in deserts or wastelands (plural)
- 3. Small flaws and imperfections
- 4. Sex at lunchtime
- 5. Where animals deposit their
- 6. Adult bug still in its pupa
- 7. Gigantic ocean-dwelling
- 8. Difficult or tough
- 10. Biblical figure killed for mas-
- II. Jordanian valley of the moon,
- 13. Anger
- 16. To speak with great excite-
- 17. Extinct species of shark whose name meant "big tooth" 20. Musical set in the Kit Kat
- 24. Egyptian god of fertility

- 28. Relating to 35-across
- 29. Some say they justify the
- 31. To harvest with a scythe or

WORSE WAYS TO START A LECTURE







by those nearby

- mammals
- turbating
- known for its red vistas

- Klub in 1931 Berlin
- 23. Greek god of war
- 25. "Shall not live on bread
- alone" Mattew 4:4
- 26. Opposite of 8-down
- means
- sickle
- 34. Ginger ___