HUMBER ET CETERA

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Humber's Student Newspaper

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Protesters staged a demonstration against demovictions and listened to speeches given by various organizers at Toronto City Hall on Oct. 2.

MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE FOR ONTARIANS P.5



LATIN FALL FIESTA COMES TO TORONTO P.9



Tenants fight against surge in demovictions amid housing crisis



JEFERSON QUIROS-VARGAS

Marcella Thompson gives a motivated speech to a crowd during the demoviction protest on Oct. 2 at City Hall in Toronto.

Jeferson Quiros-Vargas Social Justice Reporter

Tenants united at City Hall on Monday raising their concerns

regarding Toronto's growing rate of demovictions. A demoviction occurs when

a landlord evicts tenants to demolish a building for new construction.

Megan Kee, an organizer with No Demovictions, a tenant collective that advocates against profit-driven demolitions, created an interactive map showing buildings undergoing demovictions.

The latest updated dataset shows there are 76 occupied buildings throughout Toronto set to be demolished in the coming years.

Rebecca Gimmi, one of the founders of No Demovictions and works alongside Kee, said she is concerned over the rising number of demovictions taking place within the city.

They established the group with her neighbours last year after her own building was met with the

"We started on April Fool's Day because housing is no joke," she said.

Gimmi said there were 200 people in her building being demovicted, and as they began

organizing they realized that for the 76 buildings, it would affect around 10,000 people.

"That's only this year," Gimmi

Gimmi moved into her apartment after years of living at housing rentals and having to leave because the landlords would choose to house flip.

"We are not rich, we're not poor, we are hard workers," said Marcella Thompson, a No Demovictions advocate.

Thompson said she never thought of herself as an activist until she realized what was happening to her home.

"We are going to lose our homes if we don't speak up," she said.

"When I look around and I'm

thinking, 'Oh God, I'm going to have to pack this up, but where are we going to go?" Thompson said.

She said in the worst-case scenario, she would have to move in with her children but it was her

"I am independent, and this is where my independence lies, in my home," she said.

Compensation packages are offered to tenants who are demovicted but Thompson said the money doesn't compensate for being moved from their homes.

"I've been there for 17 years," she said. "I like my place. I like my neighbours. It's my home."

Patricia Johnston is a senior resident of 145 St.George St., another building facing demovictions. She has lived there for 17 years, but said she has been treated as a "second-class citizen" recently.

"It's all about profit," she said.

She said she could move in with a friend in Mallorytown, near Brockville, Ont., if she is demovicted, but this would mean moving to a home about three hours away.

Johnston suffers from macular degeneration which requires her to take anti-VEGF shots from her doctor every month.

"I have macular and go once a month to have shots. That means that I have to come in all the way from Mallorytown, and take a train to have it done," she said

She said if she were to move locations she is unsure of how her medical treatment would resume.

ETC•

Humber Et Cetera is the Humber College journalism program laboratory newspaper. It is created journalism students in the Advanced Diploma and Post Graduate Certificate programs. Et Cetera serves to inform the Humber community and give its readers well rounded coverage on the things that matter to them.

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The tenants standing together in the protest against the rise of demovictions at the City Hall in Toronto.



Climate activists marched in downtown Toronto in one of the 400 protests held globally in end fossil fuels protests on Sept. 16, 2023. It's expected the city won't reach its targets.

Toronto isn't hitting its net zero targets

Carlo Cantisani

Environment Reporter

Toronto is falling short of its climate targets despite the goal of cutting greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2040, according to experts.

City Council adopted the Net Zero Strategy in December 2021, which outlines the steps Toronto needs to take to reach zero emissions 17 years from now. The plan is one of the most ambitious in North America, according to Toronto's website.

"The negative portion is that the city is not anywhere close at this point to meeting those climate targets," said How-Seng Chong, climate campaigner at the Toronto Environmental Alliance.

There is not enough funding to reduce greenhouse gas emissions production at the moment, he said. The city is also reversing its commitment to transit, a service that needs to be reliable, more frequent and eventually free, Chong said.

The 2021 TransformTo Net Zero Strategy reported Toronto needs to implement some short-term targets before cutting off its emissions completely. These steps include cutting greenhouse gas emissions by 45 per cent by 2025, and 65 per cent by 2030.

While greenhouse gas emissions fell worldwide to their largest decline on record by around 2.4 billion tones in 2020 due to the pandemic, Toronto saw a 13 per cent reduction in the same year from 2019, according to the 2020 Sector-Based Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory by the City of

Chong said the COVID-19 pandemic affected how Toronto should adapt and respond to climate change.

"The main challenge that has come out of the pandemic is that it actually slowed down a lot of the changes that we actually need," Chong said. "We've lost a couple of years and so we're a little behind in reaching our 2025 greenhouse gas emission reduction goal."

The city's inventory reports the most significant decrease in emissions in 2020 was driven by the transportation sector. Transportation contributed by about one-fifth to cut emissions.

The pandemic also seems to have changed how people move around the city, Chong said.

"It had a serious impact on how the TTC works and how it is funded," Chong said. "People aren't going to downtown five days a week to go to work anymore, and that's having an impact on transit funding."

The latest TransformTo Net Zero Strategy report indicates transportation is the second-highest source of emissions in Toronto, accounting for 36 per cent of total emissions, while 57 per cent comes from homes and buildings, and only seven per cent from waste.

Fossil fuels are still largely used to heat space and water, but for Toronto to cut its emissions, the city wants to build near net-zero houses by 2030 and bring down the 2008 emissions levels from already-existing buildings.

Experts and scientists have long since confirmed the link between air pollution and diseases, not only respiratory health problems, but also cardiovascular diseases, birth outcomes, brain development and function, cancer, and diabetes.

Air pollution is one of the primary effects of climate change on health in Canada, said Alison Williams, a researcher at McMaster University's Centre for Climate Change.

This past summer, Torontonians experienced the effects of climate change first-hand with major heat waves.

"The heat is particularly problematic for the youngest and the oldest because oftentimes they don't feel the heat as much as the people in middle life," Williams said. "As a consequence of that insensitivity, they can very easily experience heat exhaustion."

There are also increasing problems with respiratory conditions, Williams said.

Air pollution from all sources in Toronto is responsible every year for 1,300 premature deaths and 3,550 hospitalizations, according to Toronto Public Health.

Williams said air pollution increasingly problematic in large metropolitan areas because of the higher number of vehicles on the roads and the slow transition to clean energy within the industrial sector.

"Steelworks and the manufacturing of steel, for example, are very much negatively impacting the air quality within Hamilton and, more broadly, the GTA," Williams said. "If you put together a higher rate of air pollution and

particulate matter with heat, you have the smog effect."

Williams said air quality in Toronto and Hamilton is not good, especially during the

"Air quality changes every day in every single city, but across Canada, Toronto and Hamilton are usually the top poorest cities with respect to air quality," Williams said.

For Chong, Toronto can still reach its climate goals by 2040 by just focusing on the Net Zero Strategy.

"Make sure that the plan is done," Chong said. "We can get there because the plan is great. We do have to work for it. We do have to push forward, we have to push our politics for it, and we do have to campaign for it."



FRED LUM/ THE GLOBE AND MAIL

Rush hour traffic on Warden Avenue near Highway 401 in Scarborough.

Bill C-18's fallout on student journalists

Skedline Reporter

The Instagram page of Humber News, a platform managed by journalism students at Humber College, has been banned for viewers in Canada. This abrupt ban has erased the hard work of students.

Bill C-18, formally known as the Online News Act, is a piece of legislation that aims to regulate digital platforms serving as intermediaries in Canada's news media landscape.

The Online News Act requires digital companies to pay news organizations when users access news articles through links on their platforms. The government argues this revenue-sharing is necessary to support Canadian journalism, which has suffered as advertising revenue moved to online platforms.

Tech giants like Google and Meta, Facebook's parent company, view this law as a tax on links and believe it doesn't consider the value they provide to news outlets.

Meta will now identify news publishers and broadcasters based



People in Canada can't see this content

In response to Canadian government legislation, news content can't be viewed in Canada. Learn more

TANZII A PATFI

A message indicating that news content can no longer be shared on Facebook or Instagram in Canada.

on certain criteria outlined in the law and limit viewers from watching it. The outlines are producing news of public interest, employing journalists in Canada, and operating in Canada.

While it states this change would only affect Canadian media outlets as of Sept. 22, people can't access any news accounts including The New York Times and Arab News, neither of which are based in Canada.

Student-run news sites operate on a volunteer basis. The Eyeopener, a Toronto Metropolitan University student-run news site, and Humber News do not come under the outlines but are blocked.

Charlene Hatcher, a second-year journalism student at Toronto Metropolitan University, said much of the student's work is not paid.

"We are trained in media journalism," she said. " So how would we navigate it? How do we demonstrate our skills to employers?"

As news disappears on platforms like Instagram, it becomes evident that the digital age presents opportunities and challenges for aspiring journalists. In an era where information is readily accessible online, the ban raises questions about the

role of social media in disseminating news and the responsibilities of online platforms.

Priya Verma, a fourth-year student journalist at the University of Guelph-Humber, said that the platforms' decisions "sucks because, as student journalists, we don't get much exposure, and when we post it online, it's our way to show our work, especially in a competitive industry such as journalism. It's harder for you to convince people to take an extra step to read your

Humber Journalism Professor Mike Wise said although Instagram was not the best platform due to its inability to embed links, students still used it to post content. However, it's not something that will be taught as social media platforms cannot be trusted.

"We are teaching students that when you're developing an economic model on a private platform, you always run the risk of losing distribution," he said.

Wise said media outlets should instead seek their audience through channels they can control.

Metroland downfall threatens future of local reporting

Claudia Ovejero Pham

Skedline Reporter

There is growing concern about the future of local reporting and accessible free news after Metroland Media Group filed for bankruptcy protection.

Journalists believe this will be difficult for reporters, readers, and their neighbourhoods.

Metroland owned many community papers across Ontario, including the Etobicoke Guardian, North York Mirror and Scarborough Mirror. The group announced it would cease printing most of the 70 community newspapers it owned, moving towards a digital-only future.

Metroland was born in February 1981 when TorStar's Metrospan Community Newspapers bought Inland Publishing Company. And 42 years later, it is laying off more than 600 staff, including journal-

This means hyper-local stories about communities that give a



THE CANADIAN PRESS/MEGAN LEACH

Metroland Media announced the layoffs of 600 people, including journalists. It's a threat to local reporting.

voice to people will go untold. So will the ability for readers to be informed about things involving their neighbourhoods and local

Mike Adler, a journalist who spent the last 28 years working for Metroland covering primarily Scarborough, believes it's a drastically different world than it was decades ago.

He said changes at Metroland started years before the pandemic, with internal structural changes

concentrating power and centralization of content. Throughout recent years, papers slowly closed and staff walked away.

"It's been very frustrating because all of us in local media can tell that we have meant a great deal to a lot of people in the community," Alder said.

To him, the local papers gave everyone, from older folks to newcomers, timely information about things from hospitals and food banks to developments in their

neighbourhoods for free, straight to their doorstep.

Ceasing the publication of local papers would mean readers would now have to depend on outlets like the Toronto Star to tell their local stories.

"I don't think the Toronto Star is going to be capable of bringing community news to people," Adler said. "And, so this really hurts, we are essentially being sacrificed."

The Star, along with other news media around the world,

are moving towards pushing forward a subscription-based model, something that is representative of the shift happening in the

'My whole career, I've just seen the warnings about local media," Adler said. "I've seen local media in decline, but that doesn't mean that local media isn't important or that isn't it doesn't have the ability to change people's lives because it

Joanna Lavoie, a digital journalist at CP24 who spent 17 years working for Metroland, said she isn't surprised at all.

"The industry has been hurting for several years now with the changing landscape of advertising sales in the flyer businesses is decimated now," she said. "Everything is evolving, and digital."

Lavoie saw these changes coming and thinks it will still be a massive loss for communities and for journalists, like Adler, who dedicated their lives to "hyperlocal journalism."

Moving forward, reporting from most Metroland papers will be available only online at toronto. com.

However, daily papers, including the Hamilton Spectator, St. Catharines Standard and Peterborough Examiner, will be available online and in print.

96⁺⁹ | radio.humber.ca

Students still affected by COVID-19 pandemic

Krishna Bhagnathsingh News Reporter

Humber College has not gathered substantial data to prove an inconsistency in academic achievement related to the pandemic, but students and staff say they have seen significant side effects related to academic achievement during the 2023 school year.

Michaël McCorrkell, a Humber College mechatronics student, remembers how tough it was to be a student during the pandemic and learn properly.

"We needed people being actual people and not robots, you're just at home at all times, there's no interest," McCorrkell said.

He said the lack of human connection between students and teachers caused by online learning's inherent anonymity made him feel as if he was just a number to his professors.

"I was probably just a number to them and they didn't mind dropping me out of the course very quickly," he said.

A study from the Royal Society of Canada's working group on



KRISHNA BHAGNATHSINGH

A student walks through the doors of the Humber Learning Resource Commons at the North campus.

children and schools showed the impact of COVID-19 on the learning and achievement of Canadian children and youth shows that "higher teacher-assigned grades, increased secondary failure rates, and lower than expected scores on report cards and standardized literacy tests" are all part of the aftermath of COVID-19.

Moses Newman, a second-year

mechatronics student, said he had difficulties receiving academic help due to the online barrier.

"It was hard to communicate with certain people, such as friends, teachers, and family members especially since COVID happened," Newman said.

Anne Zbitnew, a photography professor at Humber College, said it was a mystery if her students

were engaged or present when teaching a class throughout the pandemic.

"When students were online, no one turned their camera on, you didn't know if anyone was there. I felt like I was talking to my computer all the time," Zbitnew said.

Since school resumed in-person learning, Zbitnew said students are experiencing what she called

a "COVID hangover," an after-effect of the pandemic resulting in students being disengaged and disinterested.

"I've had to tell more people to put their phones away while they're working because it's a distraction for me, for them and other people," she said.

A report from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey (OSDUHS) said 59 per cent of students say the pandemic has made them depressed about their futures, and 39 per cent said it has negatively affected their mental health.

Nicola Winstanley, program coordinator in the Media Foundations program, said they use a course called Success Foundation to address pandemic learning gaps.

It teaches students skills in digital media and communications to be successful in post-secondary education, she said.

"It's something we've always been addressing. There are some gaps in learning, but we try to fill them," Winstanley said.

Minimum wage increase will not help workers, experts say

Zainab Raza

News Reporter

The provincial minimum wage has officially increased by \$1.05 to \$16.55, the Ontario government announced on Sunday.

The increase is part of a planned adjustment as outlined in Bill 148, the Fair Workplaces, Better Jobs Act.

While the bump may be a positive, activists and minimum wage workers say it is not enough.

Craig Pickthorn, who works with the Ontario Living Wage Network, said just because the minimum wage went up, it does not mean things are going to be different.

"Things become more expensive, and the minimum wage goes up by a tiny bit, so really, how far your weekly earning goes is much less than last year; no, it's not gonna be different," he said.

The Financial Accountability Office of Ontario said the increase in the minimum wage would readjust income from business owners to workers.

Workers receiving higher wages would increase household spending and other economic activity.

Jessica Cockerline, who

works at a Metro grocery store, said she was happy with the new increase, but it does not help her enough.

"It doesn't help with other stuff like buying more stuff for school," Cokerline said. "Inflation is going up more, but the minimum wage increase just went up a dollar."

Statistics Canada reported the Consumer Price Index (CPI) rose four per cent year over year in August, following a 3.3 per cent increase in July.

With that said, the minimum wage increases one dollar every year, and inflation goes up year over year.

Amid rising inflation, workers are trying to afford houses and rent while being paid \$16.55 per hour.

Many workers have said the wage should go up to \$20 to help with the living cost.

Deena Ladd, an executive director of the Workers Action Centre in Toronto, said the minimum wage should be higher.

"Increase is welcome. Minimum wage should already be higher than it is," Ladd said.

The Ontario Living Wage Network suggests the living wage for the Greater Toronto Area is \$23.15 an hour.



PEXELS/NICOLA BART

Workers living on minimum wage are struggling to make ends meet depsite the increase to \$16.55 from \$15.50.

Humber's film students welcome WGA agreement

Gabriel Noda

Entertainment Reporter

Humber film students are rejoicing over the tentative agreement between the Writers Guild of America and the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers following a 150-day strike that brought Hollywood to

The announcement came in a Sept. 24 email sent to WGA members. The agreement guarantees a minimum number of writers be hired on every show and guarantees comedy-variety writers are paid the same on streaming and TV.

There was also protection for writers from being replaced by artificial intelligence, and writers will be paid additional residuals for increased viewership alongside provisions for higher pay, improved pension and health benefits and script fees.

Noah Landry, a writer, director and actor at Humber College, said the idea of having AI to substitute in the original work of a writer is "stupid."

"I want to be able to be in something and make money off of that thing, not just have my face plastered in the background," he said.

"I understand where they're coming from in terms of wanting



SAG-AFTRA actors on strike outside Netflix studios on Tuesday, Sept. 26, 2023, in Los Angeles. A tentative agreement is being voted on.

to cut production costs because it takes a lot to hire extras, but I still think it's kind of scummy," Landry

Like Landry, cinematographer Sarah Lemmings agrees artificial intelligence needs to be used sparingly, especially in the film industry.

"I think the use of AI and filmmaking kind of takes away from the humanization of feelings and themes written in the movie," she said.

"It's going to inspire other filmmakers to kind of step out of their comfort zone," Lemmings said.

AI in the filmmaking mix may seem achievable, but Humber College writer and film student Alex Morrison said he believes the industry is a long way from AI replacing screenwriters.

"I write with emotion and I know that studies have been done with AI and it can't get the same emotion that a human possibly could," Morrison said. "I think it's a good thing, we need to be able to have that room for people that are encouraged, to be pushed into film and not to be afraid of AI."

Gail Haupert, with the Actors Union of Canada, said the recent agreement affects Canadian film students wanting to enter the busi-

"The tentative deal that they have is an exceptional one for writers. The most important thing to remember, though, is that Canadian performers in the film and television industry are not on strike," Haupert said.

Even though SAG-AFTRA and ACTRA are two different acting unions, they have a working relationship in place.

"If they are dual card members, SAG-AFTRA and ACTRA members, the productions shooting here that were tied to SAG-AFTRA contracts are still on pause," Haupert said, confirming that ACTRA has been able to sit in on the current SAG-AFTRA and AMPTP bargaining since July 13.

Sarah Di Paolo, a writer in Humber's film program, told Humber News she thinks that her ideas would be considered more and be appreciated should the union agree to remove AI as a suggestion for film writing.

"I'll get more money for better ideas, which is great," Di Paolo

SAG has also authorized a strike against video game companies, and as of Oct. 4, they will resume talks with the AMPTP about their conditions in hopes of an agreement soon.

Corus cans ET Canada after 18 seasons of production

Leshae Barrett

Entertainment Reporter

Entertainment Tonight Canada (ET), a household name in entertainment television since 2005, has been cancelled after 18 seasons.

"The cost of producing a daily entertainment news-magazine show in a challenging advertising environment has led to this decision," Corus Entertainment said in an official post made to ET's Instagram handle.

ET released the statement on Sept. 27 which explained the reasoning behind the cancellation of the entertainment series.

This shutdown follows the March layoff of about 70 journalists working at Global TV, including the only sports news team in Edmonton. The company said it was also restructuring.

There had been no public hint of ET's demise even though Corus Entertainment has outwardly expressed its gratitude to ET's team since the statement.

Alyssa Croezen, a former online

producer at ET, took to her social media and shared her sadness after learning about the announcement.

"I will cherish the people, the memories, the experiences and so much more from my five-plus years as an online producer," she said in the Instagram post.

this team are invaluable. They're not just coworkers, they're family," Croezan said.

Cheryl Hickey, a host on ET since 2005, said this news got "real" when it was time to announce it live on the final episode of the

Hickey was joined by her co-host, Sangita Patel. Both women can be seen with their arms linked together, tears rolling down their cheeks as they share their words of gratitude towards the network.

"We wanna thank our viewers," Patel said and shared appreciation to the people who have watched the ET episodes. "You are like family to us."

Hickey stated on her Instagram she has never taken the viewers at



"The things I've learned from

ET for granted and even went to share her greatest memories while working on the show.

"Your care and dedication was felt. You are family and you have watched our families personally and professionally grow and change," reads Hickey's Instagram caption.

Jed Tavernier, who has been a host since 2022, wrote about how ET took a chance on him being one of their new television reporters despite not having any experience on TV or a journalism degree.

"Thank you to my producers,

editors, writers, stylists, make-up artists, directors, cameramen, publicists, media librarians, and unit managers," he said in an Instagram post. "The work you put in daily is astounding."

Eight of Entertainment Canada's hosts on the set of the show. Corus cut the show on Sept. 27.

Tavernier even posted small thank-you notes to each host at ET, thanking them for various reasons during their time spent together.

Carlos Bustamante, who has been a host on ET since 2017 and has worked with Corus Entertainment for 21 years, noted his surprise yet gratefulness for the amount of time he has spent with the company.

"The phrase 'best in the biz' is used a lot and though I truly believe that about our ET Canada team," Bustamante said.

"For me, this biz has been the

ET Canada continues to put out their episodes until their last official day on air which Hickey announced in the social media

"So, we will say our final goodbye on October 6th," she said. "But until then, we have to get on with bringing you the top stories."



ENTERTAINMENT TONIGHT CANADA

Latin Fall Fiesta opens Hispanic Heritage Month in Toronto

Pedro Briceno-Oros

Entertainment Reporter

Thousands of people gathered in Yonge Dundas Square over the weekend to celebrate the diverse Hispanic cultures found throughout the city.

The two-day event took place from Sept. 30 and Oct. 1, which coincides with the start of Latin American Heritage Month in Canada.

The parade kicked off the festival at 10 a.m. from Bloor Street West near St. George TTC station and made its way down Yonge Street before ending at Dundas Square.

The festival honours and celebrates Hispanic and Latino peoples and their heritage while sharing food, traditions and culture with patrons.

"Our objective really is upholding our roots, upholding our culture and for Canadians with Latin American backgrounds to be proud of their roots," said Oscar Vigil, event organizer and executive director of the Hispanic Canadian Heritage Council (HCHC).

Vigil has been active in the Hispanic community in Toronto for more than 22 years. The desire to have more support for Hispanic and Latin peoples in Canada is what led to the founding of HCHC in 2014 and events like this one.

"There's support from the

Latin American Consulates for this cause because for them it's important to maintain and uphold the culture and traditions of their people," Vigil said.

The event had support from consulates of many Latin American countries, including Argentina, Chile, Cuba, Ecuador and Mexico, and support from the Canadian



Rami Torres y su grupo (dance group) at Yonge-Dundas Square.

government, Ontario and Toronto.

Dozens of food and souvenir vendors filled the square as live performers from different Latin American countries shared their cultures' music and dance on stage.

"The number of people from different cultures and ethnicities enjoying the festival was very exciting to see," said Lucía Gonzalez, the festival's program and OndasFM radio host.

"Toronto is a very multicultural city, so we were expecting people from different countries and different parts of the world were going to join and be able to experience these Latin cultures. We want to share that with the world and for sure here in Toronto," Gonzalez

Gonzalez, who's from Toronto, said it is important for a city as diverse as Toronto to have events showcasing the various cultures it

"It's important for our Latin culture," she said. "Not only for us

to be able to celebrate, but also to show the world our culture and our traditions."

Graciela Lopez, an Argentine vendor at the festival, said events like these encourage immigrants to be proud of their culture and heritage while living

"This is very important for us to show our culture, our heritage like this out in public so that new immigrants can know they can be proud of their background and their origins," Lopez

Lopez started her charity, Gaucha Argentina - Love For Humanity, to help provide food, clothing, medical supplies and other necessities to Latin American children and communities in need, with all proceeds from her going to the charity.

"For me, it's an important moment," Lopez said. "I am very thankful for everything Canada did for me as an immigrant and for helping me fulfill my dream to create a charity to help children

First-ever Wu-Tang, Nas arena show left Toronto fans teary

Delroy Davidson

Entertainment Reporter

Some fans were in tears following the first-ever arena tour for legendary rap group Wu-Tang Clan alongside hip-hop legend Nas at the Scotiabank Arena on Sunday.

Freddy Yazdani, who was in tears after seeing his favourite group perform, said the show brought back his most cherished memories as a child.

"It brought me back to my childhood. It brought me back to days that were very humbling, and it was one of the best experiences I've ever had," Yazdani said.

The performers did not disappoint as they brought back old-school hip-hop for their first Toronto stadium performance, with fans calling the show a "game changer."

Long-time fan Mishka Todd says she grew up listening to classic hits from the group and is excited since this was her first time seeing them perform live.

"I am very blessed and thankful that I got to see them in my time because I am an '87 baby, and to be able to see them now is a game changer," Todd said.

The show drew on nostalgia as fans could see the iconic Wu-Tang Clan symbol, a stylized W mimicking bird wings, plastered on the concourse.

The stage transported the audience back to '90s New York, where the group got its start, with visuals of some of the city's iconic spots and locations.

The warmth among fans was visible too, as fans hugged each other, reunited by their childhood legends, throwing W-signs in the air, and shouted for peace.

Cousins Robert Diggs (RZA), Gary Grice (GZA) and Russell Jones (Ol' Dirty Bastard) first formed Wu-Tang Clan in the 1980s, adopting different monikers and labels before their breakout hit "Protect Ya Neck."

This year marks the 50th anniversary of hip-hop that started at a house party in the Bronx on Aug. 11, 1973, thrown by DJ Kool Herc.

It is also the 30th anniversary of Wu-Tang Clan's debut album, released in 1993, Enter The Wu-Tang (36 Chambers), celebrated as one of the greatest hip-hop albums of all time by aficionados.

The group also honoured Russell C (Ol' Dirty Bastard), who died from an accidental drug overdose on Nov. 13, 2004. The tribute included bringing Jones' youngest son Barson (Young Dirty Bastard), on stage to perform his dad's

Natoya Meeko said she is glad Nas and Wu-Tang Clan are still getting their roses after all these

"There are not a lot of groups I remember because I grew up in the church back in my days, but with Nas and Wu-Tang they are no joke," Meeko said. "My favourite song is Oochie Wally from Nas.

"Hearing it again tonight, live, it feels like I am no longer in a dream," she said.

Much of the music created by the Wu-Tang related to how they grew up in the streets, selling drugs to survive.

Mehdi Zargar can relate to the music because the streets raised him, and some of his strength came from listening to Wu-Tang

"These artists were like the soundtrack to my life when I was young, and I was wild, and I was like on the streets," Zargar said. "I grew up in Montreal, I had a crew, we were kids causing havoc every-

"Seeing them in concert, brought back some memories," Zargar said.

The New York State of Mind Tour 2023 left its imprint at Scotiabank Arena, with fans hoping it is not a farewell tour.

"I would love to see them again," said Kayla Thompson. "I'm hoping that they don't hang up their boots and run into the sunset."



VANESSA CLIFTON / HULU / COURTESY EVERETT COLLECTION

Wu-Tang's U-God (left), Ason, Gary, and Bobby, appearing at WU-TANG: AN AMERICAN SAGA Saturday Nite show in 2021.

8 - OPINION OCT 6, 2023

EDITORIAL

Public safety can't be achieved with just underground service

t took the federal government to push a telecom to ensure all of the major wireless carriers in Canada cellular access on the TTC subway system starting in October, ending years of no mobile coverage underground.

This plan came into effect on Oct. 3 and passengers should have access to cellular connectivity, according to Francois-Philippe Champagne, the federal minister of Innovation, Science, and Industry.

Initially underground service was going to be limited to Rogers and Quebecor customers.

This was oligopoly in action.

Wireless communication companies provide its users with access to cell phone service, SMS messages, Wireless Application Protocol (WAP) and many other services.

But all provide the 911 emergency service which should be available to every rider using the subway.

But since early October, all of the major telecom providers like The Big Three — Rogers, Telus and Bell —now provide Torontonians the much-needed service in the subway, a long overdue service.

And that only happened after Champagne had to flex federal government muscle to force Rogers and Quebecor's Freedom Mobile to include other telecoms.



TOURBY TRANSIT TORONTO

Cellular service will now be available at underground TTC stations across Rogers, Bell and Telus networks.

Still, allowing cellular data on subway platforms does not guarantee safety on tracks or in subway cars.

Offering underground service to telecom users is not a step towards promoting pleasant riding, just better ability to call for police or an ambulance in case of trouble.

What remains troubling is that it took until now, 2023, after decades of cell service, to install the proper equipment in the TTC subway system.

The Montreal Metro service adopted its plan to provide a cellular network for its subway line in 2020.

Its subway line currently supports 3G, 4G, and 4G Long Term Evolution (LTE) wireless Internet and mobile service as it passes through the heart of Montreal's downtown between Guy-Concordia and Saint-Laurent stations.

Rogers has reportedly been recommending that 5G services be

made available to all transit users as quickly as possible, according to Sarah Schmidt, a spokesman for Rogers.

"Bell and Telus have been dragging their heels and the federal government is now forcing them to work with us in earnest to make connectivity possible for all riders," Schmidt said in a statement.

The statement concluded Rogers will continue to work to build out the TTC network to expand access

and that it has shared engineering and technical information with Bell and Telus.

In addition to building 5G capability for the whole network of stations and tunnels, Rogers announced plans to update the current infrastructure, which already has cellular capability at the majority of downtown subway stations—a process that is expected to be completed in the next two years.

While subway users can now access phone service, there will still be daily violence and attacks on subway carts.

Since the pandemic, public transit appears to have fallen to its lowest point ever. According to a report from TTC CEO Rick Leary, there was a 46 per cent increase in violence on Toronto's public transport networks in 2022.

That was up 60 per cent from 2019 when 30 per cent more people were using transit.

A 37-year-old man was brutally stabbed while riding the subway just three months ago. The victim, Derek Dychkhoff, was shown in a viral video running for his life in fear just before he was attacked.

The purpose of offering cellular connectivity to transit riders to make them feel safer. It's disturbing, but not surprising, it took the federal government to push the cellular companies to work this out.

OPINION

Students can't survive on only an extra dollar of minimum wage



Drew Chambers
News Editor

ntario increased its minimum wage to \$16.55 per hour from \$15.50 effective Oct. 1. It's a commendable step forward, sure.

The new minimum wage brings in \$2,648 a month, or \$31,776 a year, before tax deductions. But does the province understand there are still many financial obstacles both domestic and inter-

national students must overcome? Especially in light of the housing crisis and the ever-rising cost of living.

The situation as it stands is stark. In Ontario, housing costs have soared and are now significantly higher than the wage growth. The Canada Housing and Mortgage Corporation reported the average 2022 rent for a Toronto apartment was \$1,779 a month, \$2,692 for a condo.

"Rental prices increased by an average of 7.5 per cent in 2023," said in a report from the Toronto Housing Secretariat. Many students, both domestic and international, are now faced with the difficult decision of choosing between accommodations and food.

The severity of the situation is illustrated by a report from the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, finding despite this wage increase, people working full-time at the new minimum wage will still

find it difficult to pay the average rent for a one-bedroom apartment in most of the nation's largest cities, particularly Toronto.

"The living wage in the Greater Toronto Area is \$23 an hour, far above Ontario's new \$16.55 minimum wage," The Ontario Living Wage Network said.

Higher tuition costs and fewer options for financial help make this problem worse for international students.

They are also particularly vulnerable to unfair practices since they lack familiarity with local housing markets, further impeding their ability to succeed academically and integrate into Canadian society

Let's not forget the additional costs associated with being a student, such as textbooks, transportation, lunch, and other related costs that can quickly erode even the modest gains from a wage increase.

I am currently a full-time student and I'm fortunate enough to have financial support from my mother, but what about the students who only have themselves to rely on?

This financial burden of costly rents is only piling onto the stress and anxiety many students already experience. Education should be a pathway to upward mobility, not be a financial anchor.

Students like myself should be able to afford a dignified lifestyle while pursuing an education. Ontario's commitment to our wellbeing seems to be lacking.

While a step in the right direction, Ontario's recent hike in the

minimum wage falls short of solving the financial difficulties that both domestic and international students experience.

The student experience, living expenses, and the housing crisis prove to be significant problems that require more thorough answers.

The government must move more proactively to ensure students can concentrate on their studies rather than merely trying to make ends meet to truly make Ontario an affordable and accessible place for students to thrive.

The \$16.55 an hour wage is a small step, but it is not enough. Ontario students deserve better.



PEXELS

OPINION

Legacy Awards an empowering moment for Black community and me

THE



Leshae Barrett
Lifestyle Reporter

watched Black Entertainment Television (BET) as a kid and that was the biggest exposure to the entertainment world for me.

I used to be engrossed in the series that would always play music videos and did a countdown rating the songs.

There was also the BET Awards, and this was my most vivid memory of watching a Black-organized group establishing a moment for Black entertainers.

The Legacy Awards is a Canadian ceremony run by The Black Academy, an organization focusing on Black culture.

The award show highlights Black Canadian artists and their stories as a select few receive a trophy for various recognition.

With the few Black artists represented in entertainment, I find it amazing to see an award show run by the Black community.

Each artist who received an award during the ceremony made key remarks on furthering the Black people and future generations.

They incorporated the arts but the awards also included sports with one of the first awards, the Athlete Award, being awarded to Kia Nurse.

Nurse is a Canadian basketball guard playing for the Seattle Storm in the WNBA.

I felt that what Nurse said about kids and the importance of them going out outside to play was a very needed statement in this day and age.

"Go to the soccer field because you never know what you'll learn from it," she said. "But I know for a fact you will learn something.

"The life skills that sports can teach you are like no other."

I learned many things from playing soccer when I was younger, and though I do not play currently, I still think back to those lessons.

Confidence is a characteristic that many have and for some, it comes naturally while others may not be so lucky.

The Black community still faces discrimination in certain places and falls under the stereotypical Black person umbrella.

It takes someone with a strong resolve as well as confidence to overcome adversity to reach the peak that many Black people may never be able to achieve.

When Julien Christian Lutz, otherwise known as Director X, accepted the Trailblazer Award, he raised an important point as he addressed the audience.

"Sometimes we forget how far we've come because we're too in the moment," Lutz said. "Because it wasn't that long ago, we were fighting for our rights as human beings.

"And it wasn't that long ago we were fighting for our freedom as human beings. And it wasn't that long ago we were fighting to be considered human beings."

Despite how succinctly those words came out, it was eyeopening how true they are.

It is a fact that I do not often

Instagram Reels is the most widely

used platform used by Indians to

One of the most anticipated

Bollywood movies, Brahmastra

released a song teaser named Kes-

ariya on April 13, 2022. Sung by

Arijit Singh it soon became one

of the most trending song teasers

create short-form video content.

look back on and I certainly cannot imagine the younger generation understanding what Black people went through to come as far as we have and continuing to go further.

Throughout the years, I have lacked confidence in myself on a day-to-day basis, it could range from just speaking out to performing in front of an audience.

It took a while to gain self-confidence, and I still struggle with it often, but it is something that I have grown with.

As a Black woman, there have been instances where I have felt like the odd one out, but I have never let that deter me from what I want to do.

"So, stand up Black Canada,"

Lutz said as he concluded his acceptance speech.

THE BLACK ACADEMY

AWARDS

"Hold your head high. Speak with your powerful voice. And say, 'This is our history. This is our legacy. This our country."

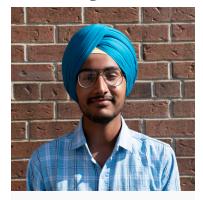
The Legacy Awards is a step in the right direction for the Black community, and the path will most likely remain a long one. But no one said it would be impossible

I believe Keisha Chanté ended the awards show in the best way, a night of acknowledgement and of being seen.

"Look. No matter where you are in your life, your career, or your legacy. You deserve recognition, you deserve your flowers," Chanté

OPINION

Bollywood music industry has gone downhill



Upkar Singh *Politics Editor*

grew up listening to Bollywood music filled with different classical instruments and soulful lyrics.

Hindi songs have always played a great role in Bollywood movies. It always connected the Indian audience to the story, depicting the characters' emotions.

But the last few years have

completely changed the Bollywood music industry. With the increasing social media influence, music is no longer an art but just a business.

The increasing consumption of short-form video content has definitely decreased theattention span of people.

Bollywood is now creating songs that could go 'viral' on Instagram reels because it will get more streams.

Known as Tiktokfication, this phenomenon means focusing on making hooks for songs that could last between 15 and 20 seconds.

These hooks are made because if the hook gets viral, it is evident that people will listen to the whole song. This helps in driving sales and benefits the labels financially.

Instagram can be considered one of the major platforms contributing to this phenomenon.



UNSPLASH/MARCELA LASKOSKI

Since TikTok and other Chinese with 530,000 reels. platforms are banned in India, The 30-second s

The 30-second song teaser was loved so much that everyone, including me, was excited about the song's release.

I wondered if 30 seconds were so good, then the full song would be melodious.

That 30-second teaser turned out to be the catchiest part of the song, working as a successful

hook. The hook was so good that listeners had high expectations that the whole song would be just as good.

The song, released on July 17, was met with mixed reviews as it did not meet fans' expectations.

Gone are the days when Bollywood used to make original songs with different talented singers. But since Arijit Singh's voice got 'viral' on social media, we don't see any other Bollywood singers singing songs

The songs that are made now are for reels and not for the sake of art.

Most of the songs that are made now are remakes of old successful songs or Punjabi songs.

Creativity in the Bollywood music industry is dying.

People used to remember songs. But now only the viral snippet of the track is remembered, which is also short lived, just like the reels.

Men's soccer team look for OCAA top spot

Rory Arthur Sports Reporter

The Humber Hawks men's soccer team is looking to continue its strong form heading into the end of the regular season.

The back-to-back Canadian Collegiate Athletic Association (CCAA) national champion Hawks have now won five straight games after a somewhat slow start that saw the team draw two of its first three matches.

Fourth-year forward Damion Kaye said keeping to the game plan and working hard are the keys to returning to the national stage.

"Keep fighting for each other, keep doing what the coaches do," Kaye said after Humber's 5-0 win over Sheridan Bruins on Oct. 4.

"As long as we keep on track and keep following, we'll be good," he said.

The forward said taking more of a leadership role and wearing the captain's armband at points this season isn't impacting how he

"Honestly it doesn't change much," Kaye said. "There's expectations and roles that come with being a senior player, and you just adjust and adapt to it."

Humber head coach Michael Aguino said the team is finding its stride despite significant roster turnover following the 2022 season, including OCAA Athlete of the Year Luca Uccello.

The coach, in his 10th season with the Hawks, said the team has the ingredients to continue its



Forward Damion Kaye has been apart of two OCAA championships with Humber and hopes to add to that.

"It's a good group of guys playing at a good level," Aquino

"So I mean I think we have the ingredients for a very good team with a very good chance to make

However, he said the team is taking things one game at a time.

"It's a long season with a lot of work ahead of them," Aquino said. "It's one game at a time, really, especially with the early hiccups that we had, we're just focused on the next game."

Being able to get new faces adjusted and familiar with the team and coaching staff has helped the team during its recent

"I think we've been able to do that in the last couple of weeks a little better for sure," Aquino said.

"I think just putting the pieces together a little differently has been very helpful, and I think the boys are starting to connect with one another," the six-time CCAA national champion said.

One of the pieces playing in a newer role this season is Kaye, who said he's enjoyed his new role dropping deeper from his usual centre-forward position.

"I really enjoy creating, honestly, and it creates space up top for most of the other strikers and forwards," he said. "It's a fun role to play, and I enjoy passing now."

Aguino said ensuring the moti-

vation and desire of the players is high, will help the team achieve its goal of making it back to the national stage.

"It's not easy to do that, for sure, but ensuring that the boys stay hungry and have a desire and a passion to put in the work that's required on their part," he said.

"And to see that continue right through to the middle of November," Aquino said.

"Just being on the boys and ensuring that they're giving 110 per cent to the goal."

The Hawks have two games left in the regular season and are next in action in a home game against the Niagara Knights on Oct. 11 at the Ontario Soccer Centre.



Hawks veteran Damion Kaye has taken a leadership role for the team.

Hawks women's soccer team undefeated but falls out top 15

Nicholas Prencipe

Sports Reporter

The Humber women's soccer team has gotten off to a flying start to begin the 2023 campaign. The team has a record of 5-0-3 and currently sits second in the OCAA West division standings.

Last season the team finished 7-0-2, first in West, and was named the OCAA Champions, this year they hope to reclaim their title.

But the women's team slipped from the Canadian Collegiate Athletics Association top 15 ranking, from fourth in Week 1.

Head coach Jose Caro said they are prepared for anything this

"It's been a tougher season than last year, but our girls are ready to play every game like it's a final," Caro said.

The team engaged in an intense weekend of competition playing away games on back-to-back days against Lambton on Sept. 30 and St. Clair on Oct. 1.

The girls were untouchable against Lambton scoring five goals in the first half and four in the second in a 9-0 victory against the Lions. Kassandra Genova, Emma Genova and Kaitlynn Russell potted two goals each.

The game against St. Clair Saints was not as eventful. The girls played their hearts out hours away from home and managed to keep another clean sheet in a nil-nil draw.

"It was hard to play our style of game against them because of how physical and organized they played," Caro said.

So far this season, the team has kept a clean sheet against five of their eight opposition teams with four of those coming with Isabella Bernardi guarding the woodwork.

Last season she started eight of the 10 games and managed six clean sheets.

"It feels really good," she said. "We're undefeated so obviously clean sheets are good but it's not always about me. A win is a win so I will walk away with anything."

From goalkeeping to goalscoring, the squad is filled with talent. The girls have managed to

score 24 goals in eight games so far this season while only conceding

The women played their last game Oct. 4 against the Sheridan Bruins and came away with a commanding two-nil victory.

"The changes we made from the St. Clair game was we told our team that they have to come out to play and not wait until they try to get you off your game," Caro said.

The Humber women's soccer team is looking to repeat last season's glory, and with only two remaining games in the season, they don't look too far off from doing so.



Goalie Isabella Bernardi has had six clean sheets, she has helped the team remain undefeated this season.

Softball star already in Humber history books

Tanzila Patel

Skedline Reporter

At just 18 years old, Shade Hansen, softball team pitcher for the Humber Hawks is setting her sights on breaking the all-time strikeout record in the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association (OCAA).

Hansen has already made a name for herself in a historic way in just her first season at the college.

Like many athletes, the Etobicoke native began her journey at a young age and although it wasn't a straight path to softball stardom, Hansen stuck with it.

"I started playing baseball when I was six, but by the time I was eight, I was done. I didn't want to do it anymore," Hansen said.

"That's when my sister introduced me to softball, and it clicked. I was good at it. That's how it all started."

Today, Hansen has not only found her passion, but has excelled at it.

She broke Presly Buchanan's 2019 record of 54 strikeouts in a single season, a milestone she achieved without realizing it, on Sept. 21

against the Sheridan Bruins.

"I didn't even know I broke it until someone told me. I was like, 'Oh," Hansen said.

"I was super shocked, but it motivated me even more," she said. "Now, I'm really trying to break the most number of strikeouts in the OCAA."

It's a feat that doesn't seem impossible

With five games left to play in the regular season, Hansen currently sits at 117 strikeouts, which is only 22 less than the current record held by Morgan Lowry from Fanshawe College at 139.

Even though this year has been a historic first one for Hasen, every great athlete has a strong support system to credit.

For Hansen, the people who got her into the sport are the same people who keep her going through the ups and downs of a season.

"Definitely my family, especially my mom," she said. "My parents are coming to BC for nationals, and their support means everything to me."

In addition to her family, Hansen



HUMBER HAWKS/DIEGO GUILLEN

Shade Hansen celebrates after she broke Humber's single-season strikeout record versus Sheridan Bruins.

acknowledges the role Humber College's athletic department has played in her development as a student-athlete.

"Humber is great at giving you outlets and resources and having people you can talk to, especially for athletes. They are great," she says.

Coming into their first collegiate season many rookies feel the pressure to make an impression but Hansen's ability to maintain a calm and collected approach has helped her be successful.

"My training days are chill," Hansen said.

"I try to get all the work done and go train," she said.

"On a game day, I try not to stress and get in a good headspace. I try to remember that playing is fun."

Blue Jays lose disappointing wildcard series against Twins

Nicholas Rego

Sports Reporter

The Toronto Blue Jays are out of the playoffs, for the third time in four years.

It's been seven seasons without a playoff win. And this after the pundits predicted that the Blue Jays would at least make the World Series.

What a frustrating two games against the Minnesota Twins on Tuesday and Wednesday. It was an encapsulation of the Jays' roller coaster season. During the two-game playoff, the Jays were at the bottom of the ride, with decent pitching, but no offense.

The Twins outscored the Jays 5-1 while leaving 17 base runners on and had only one extra-base hit between the two games. Let's not talk about the Jays' base running.

Manager John Schneider said the loss is disappointing.

"As much as we talk about it, we've talked about it since February 14th." he said.

"I think that we can all look each other in the face and say collectively we fell short of executing what we wanted to do. It's not for lack of information or prep, in that moment that can't happen," Schneider said.

Game 2 ended with many Blue jays fans questioning the skipper after his decision on pulling hot



AP PHOTO/BRUCE KLUCKHOHN

Twins shortstop Carlos Correa picked off Vladimir Guerrero Jr. at second base in Game 2 of the wildcard.

pitcher Jose Berrios after 47 pitches.

Berrios pitched three innings of shutout bal, striking out five and only allowing three hits. He started the fourth inning, however, with a walk to rookie sensation Royce Lewis, and was yanked and replaced by Yusei Kikuchi.

Kikuchi came into the game and allowed the next three hitters to reach base — one via walk and two by ground ball singles — before forcing a double play and groundout to end the inning. However, the damage had been done with two runs crossing the plate.

The story was similar in Game 1. That guy, Lewis, did most if not all of the damage, with two home runs and three runs.

Schneider in the post-game press conference said Lewis was the entire Twins' offence in the first game and Toronto pitcher Kevin Gausman performed better after the homeruns he gave up.

"One guy hit all their RBIs. Yeah they made (Gausman) work but I think he got better as he went on," Schneider said.

Gausman's fastball zigged inwards on Lewis when the pitcher admits he should have zagged to the outside edge of the plate.

"I missed my spot by three-anda-half feet, so good hitters are going to make you pay for that," he said. "He's hitting three-hole for a reason, so he's a good player."

The Jays' base running tilted that first game to the Twins when in the top of the fourth Bo Bichette took a risk and ran around third while the ball was still in the infield.

Twins' shortstop Carlos Correa had to run a bit to retrieve the ball and fired a perfect strike to home plate and getting Bichette out.

Bichette said after the game that he believed he could have been safe, and it was worth taking the risk, defying third base coach Luis Rivera who was telling the runner to stop at third.

"I mean I went because I thought I was going to be safe," Bichette said. Schneider said Correa made a great play and his players are trying to spark their offense. "It's playoffs, guys are trying to

make plays," he said. "I haven't looked at it closely, but I think Correa made a hell of a play."

Rivera retired after the game. Read into that whatever should be read into that.

The Jays' base running also tilted the second game to the Twins. It all sounds like Groundhog Day.

Vladimir Guerrero Jr. got caught napping while on second base in the fifth inning.

It was almost like Casey At Bat. It was top of the fifth and the score was 2-0 for the Twins. There were two out with Guerrero on second and George Springer on third. Bichette was at bat with a full count.

Guerrero became the first Jay to be picked off at second during a playoff game. It also became symbolic of the team's 2023 season.

"We had a few different plans in place," Schneider said. "You can sit here and second-guess me, second guess anybody, I get that. It's tough and it didn't work out for us today or yesterday."

He said the Jays losing wasn't because of a lack of information or preparation.

"We have all the confidence in the world in the young group that has come up with us to be in those spots and to make those plays," Schneider said.

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