

**HUMBER**

# Et Cetera

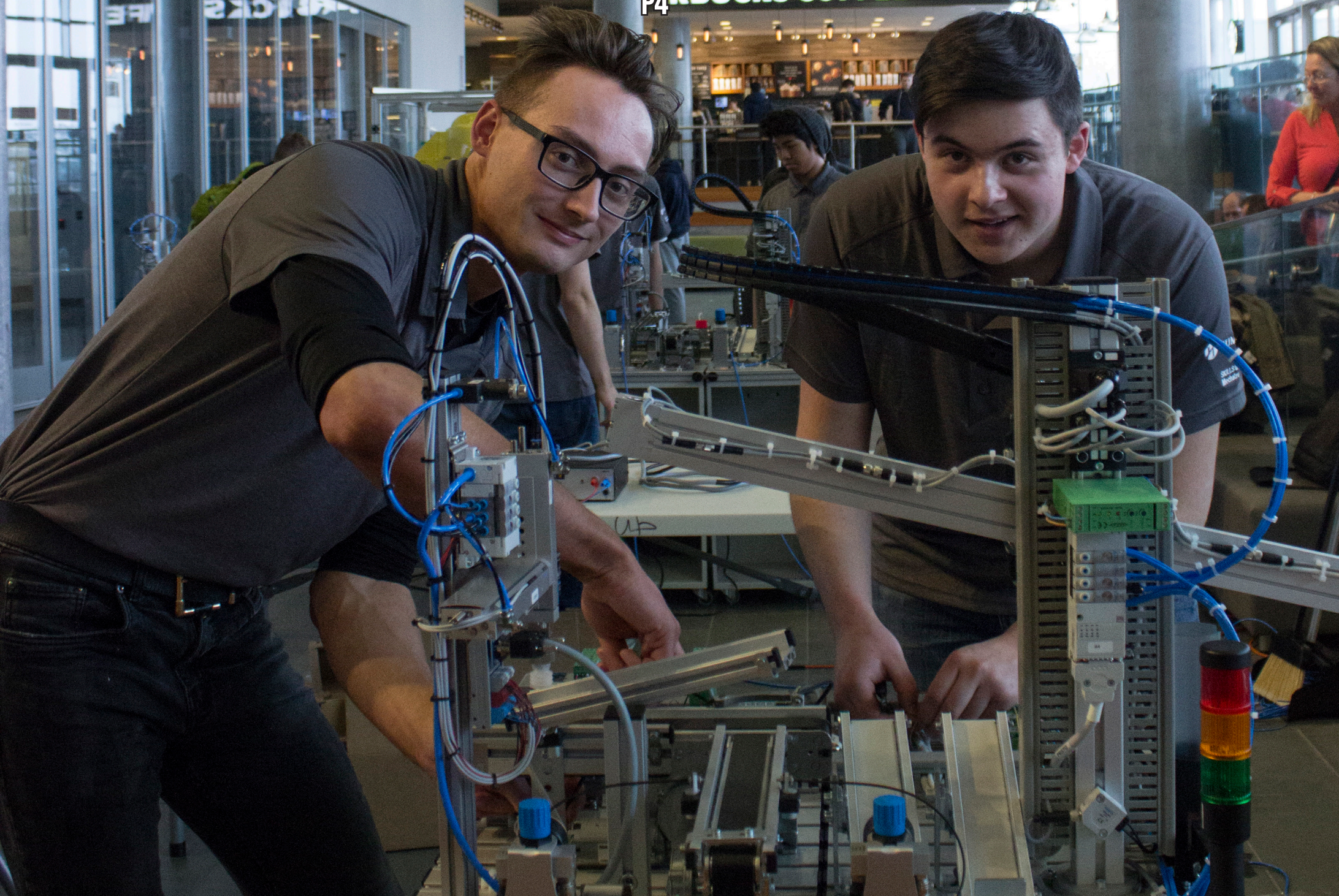
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# WIRING FOR WORLDS

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# Student support fund 'a slap in the face'

Students who have lost wages are unable to apply for \$500 reimbursement

Elle Côté

NEWS REPORTER

Larissa Alszegi is a busy wife, mother, and part-time worker currently earning her degree in Social Science in Criminal Justice at Humber College. The 30-year-old Toronto woman says school gave her life structure.

That is, until this year.

Her routine along with that of 500,000 other students were disrupted when about 12,000 full-time and partial load faculty from Ontario's 24 public colleges went on strike on Oct. 15.

Classes resumed five weeks later following back-to-work legislation passed by the province's legislature.

As Humber students such as Alszegi returned to school, they were informed a fund would be available to assist with "unanticipated expenses" attributed to the strike.

While eligible students can claim up to \$500, those losing income due to strike-related schedule changes are ineligible to apply.

"The Student Support Fund's el-

igible expenses are those that are incremental due to strike related reasons," says the Ontario Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development.

"These financial supports for students were determined through consultations with student leaders and their provincial associations and colleges," the ministry announced. "Lost wages were not identified as an eligible category for reimbursement."

Humber College's student union president said she was involved in the preliminary stages of the fund, but not in finalizing its criteria.

"Most student union presidents across Ontario [were] in conversation with the Advanced Education Minister [Deb Matthews] when she mentioned [the ministry was] planning to do this. I was included in that conversation," IGNITE President Maja Jocson said.

"I was not involved in the final decision making of guidelines and what eligible expenses will be for this fund. The minister's office was the one who set out these guidelines," she said.

Alszegi says being ineligible for the fund will have a significant effect on her finances.

She said the limitations imposed on the funds feels like "a slap in the face." The ministry, she said, doesn't



LARISSA ALSZEGI

Larissa Alszegi with her daughter. While the strike led Alszegi to lose wages, she is not eligible for compensation.

seem to understand the impact the strike had on people like her.

"Every day I am in school I am putting my family deeper into debt," she said. "For [the ministry] to say that loss of wages is not an incremental cost is extremely ignorant and disrespectful."

John Iacolucci, a partial-load fac-

ulty member at Georgian College, says it's "common sense" every student has access to the fund.

"I think all students should have been granted the \$500," Iacolucci said.

"It's only common sense that prolonging a semester, as the result of a strike, would have economic effects on all students," the English

instructor said.

The ministry says students who are ineligible for the fund but need "further financial assistance" should contact their financial aid office to discuss alternatives such as bursaries or scholarships. Eligible students have until the end of the Winter 2018 semester to apply for the fund.

## Investigation continues for missing student

Charles Barry

NEWS REPORTER

The search continues for missing Humber College graphic design student Emmanuel Boachie who disappeared early December.

His foster mother Sherry Crawley recently told Et Cetera in an email "nothing has changed. He is still missing. It's still an ongoing investigation," she said. "We are praying that it's a positive outcome."

She also created a Facebook page called "Bring Emmanuel Boachie Home." On Valentine's Day, Crawley posted "as you celebrate with your love ones today. Please pray for the loved ones that are missing."

Crawley has been appealing on the Facebook page directly to Bouchie, who vanished Dec. 7, to "please come home today."

Peel Police Const. Iryna Yashnik



FACEBOOK/ EMMANUEL BOACHIE

said there is nothing new in the case, but police continue to investigate.

Boachie, 20, was last seen in the area of Chrysler Drive and Queen Street East of Brampton.

He is described as black, six feet tall and 190 pounds with an athletic build. He has short, black hair with a thin moustache and a goatee. He was last seen wearing black Adidas

pants with white stripes, a dark coloured jacket and a black toque.

"Peel Police did reach out to us and we have cooperated with them, but are not privy to the status of their investigation," said Rob Kilfoyle, the director of Public Safety and Emergency Management at Humber College.

"We hope that he is safe and will be found soon," he said.

## Power restored to North campus residences after day-long outage

Aleema Ali

HUMBER NEWS

A majority of Humber students at North campus were without power, hot water, and food in their refrigerators since about 11:45 a.m. Friday.

Students were notified by a mass email which also outlined what is being done and alternatives for food and power. The email said power should be back on by Friday night in Buildings R and T. Building S got its power back around 6:30 p.m. Thursday, according to students.

Cameron Gonsalves, a first-year film and television student living on res, said he was in the shower when the power went out in S building. Although the power was only out for a short time, he still suffered a loss.

"I had to dump my whole fridge out," Gonsalves said. "I missed a deadline for an assignment because my laptop died. I was on a phone call last night and couldn't finish it

because my phone died."

Andrew Leopold, director of communications at Humber, said the cause of the outage is still being investigated. However, he said it's possible electrical lines running to the residences from the transformer were damaged.

Leopold said students are encouraged to talk to their professors to let them know about the situation.

"If the students reached out to us, because their faculty weren't able to make any accommodations because of this, we would definitely confirm it was due to the power outage," said Nora Esperanza, manager of residence for Humber North.

"It's been rather inconvenient," said John Kennedy, a second-year radio broadcast student. "I missed a test because I couldn't do the online stuff. I tried to run to the school and my laptop died as I started it."

He said elevators were shut down for a while as well, with people stuck in them.



# Road rage victim remembered as ‘so easy to love’

Charles Barry  
NEWS REPORTER

Brandy Sommer Wood wants the world to know her cousin Nicole Turcotte.

The 22-year-old Humber College creative photography student died Jan. 27 in a suspected road rage incident on the QEW in Mississauga was described as warm, gentle and shy by Sommer Wood.

And that collision allegedly caused by an alleged fail-to-remain driver ended the brief romance of Turcotte and her boyfriend, who had publicly declared their love for each other just days before the collision, she said.

“I just want people to know what kind of person Nicole was,” Sommer Wood said.

“I manage my days and then go home to cry,” she said. Turcotte’s mom Heather has just returned to work Valentine’s Day, Sommer Wood said.

“It kills me to see [my aunt] going through this loss of her little girl,” she said. Sommer Wood said she’s left with the image seared into her mind of Nicole’s mother sitting in her room, clutching a sweater and crying herself to sleep.

The pain of mourning the loss of her daughter is piled on to Sommer Wood’s aunt who also lost her brother only months ago.

Turcotte died in hospital following a five-vehicle crash near Cawthra Road where a motorist apparently made a senseless “break check,” said Sgt. Kerry Schmidt of the Port Credit OPP.

Police said the suspect car

suddenly switched into the passing lane from the middle lane and slowed down, causing the vehicles behind it to also slow down. Four vehicles behind the car were then involved in a chain-reaction crash that also injured four other people, including Turcotte’s boyfriend’s sister, who was also a passenger. The 19-year-old was taken to hospital in serious condition.

A man surrendered to police on Feb. 7 following a lengthy investigation and pleas to the public for leads.

Yasir Baig, 32, of Mississauga, was released on \$52,000 bail after being charged with dangerous driving causing death, failing to remain at the scene of a collision causing death, dangerous driving causing bodily harm and failing to remain at the scene of a collision causing bodily harm.

Turcotte’s boyfriend was driving at the time and Sommer Wood thinks he’s living with survivor’s guilt.

“I told him you have nothing to feel sorry about, ‘you were a victim,’” she said.

David Scott, the creative photography program coordinator, said the class wants to honour Turcotte’s memory with a photography exhibit in March that will showcase her work.

“We are going to celebrate her life and creativity with a show of prints at the school as well as install something in the media studies department,” such as a plaque in her honour, Scott said.

The showing would also emphasize raising awareness about road rage, something Sommer Wood hopes “will become obsolete.”

“It’s a real tragedy,” she said. “Out of this tragedy I want people to know the consequences that happened to Nicole so it doesn’t happen again.”

Sommer Wood said the way the family learned of the accident that night left them wondering “is this real?”

There was a period of disbelief after Turcotte’s 13-year-old brother received a message from her boyfriend’s brother through X-Box to alert his mother that there had been an accident.

Sommer Wood said Turcotte’s mom isn’t ready to speak publicly about what happened to her daughter. But she said her way of grieving is to be proactive and reach out to the public to share her message.

“Nicole’s friends loved her so much, she was so easy to love,” Sommer Wood said.

Rachael Bradbury, a friend and classmate of the victim, recalls Turcotte being the very first person to speak to her on the first day of their photography program. They sat in the front row of class on the first day.

She described Turcotte as a “lovely girl” who had a warm presence and made class enjoyable.

Her teacher Hasnain Dattu fondly recalled his last interaction with Turcotte.

“She felt she deserved a better mark and told me off,” he said with a smile. Dattu said that despite being a timid and friendly young woman, she confronted him with confidence in her abilities, questioning a mark she felt she deserved.

She was coming into her own as a photographer, Dattu said.



GOFUNDME.COM

Nicole Turcotte, a creative photography student, poses for a photo. Turcotte was killed in a suspected road rage incident on the QEW.



INSTAGRAM/NICOL3TURCOTT3

A photo taken by Nicole Turcotte. Turcotte’s creative photography class will honour her memory with an exhibit of her work in March.

## OPSEU members’ rights were violated during strike, president says

Celeste Decaire  
NEWS REPORTER

The union representing Ontario’s college faculty launched a Charter challenge against provincial back-to-work legislation that ended the five-week college strike in November.

Warren “Smokey” Thomas, the president of the Ontario Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU), claims that members of the union were forced back to work and as a result, their rights were violated.

“Our position is that there was undue interference in the collective bargaining rights of the workers,” he said. “What will remain to be seen in the Charter challenge is whether or not the government was justified in forcing people back to work.”

Bargaining between OPSEU and the College Employers Council stalled and the government chose to intervene. Arbitrator William Kaplan established a contract that gives teachers academic freedom without reprisal, job security for full and part-time employees, as well as a 7.75 per cent raise over four years.

A task force studying precarious employment and staffing levels at the colleges is expected to release an

interim report in May.

However, the issue is not with resulting contract but how it was imposed. OPSEU believes the government’s legislation to close the deal was an improper act against the workers that had the right to strike.

“We are hoping the court will tell the government that they acted improperly,” Thomas said. “This might be the leverage we need to get a system that’s more productive and more conducive to getting a collective agreement without a strike in the future.”

Thomas says that the efforts behind the union’s Charter challenge under Section 2(d), which protects the freedom of association, is to improve labour relations and aim to fix what may be wrong with it. However, challenges such as these are time-consuming and require a great deal of legal work.

Alison Braley-Rattai, assistant professor of labour studies at Brock University, said there is little case law on the issue of a right to strike so it is hard to predict its outcome.

“Charter rights can be violated under certain circumstances, but the government must be capable of justifying the violation by, for example, demonstrating that it has a ‘pressing



BRETT MCGARRY

College faculty members gather to protest at a Queen’s Park during the five-week faculty strike on Nov. 2, 2017.

and substantial’ reason for the legislation and that the legislation does not overly restrict Charter rights all things considered,” Braley-Rattai.

“In this case, the reason for the legislation was to save the students’ year,” she said.

More than 500,000 students were affected by the strike in the fall. Of the 250,000 full-time students, a sig-

nificant amount chose to withdraw from their semester and receive a refund rather than continue on with their condensed semester.

The OPSEU argument is that the Liberals could have intervened but didn’t to direct the College Employer Council in a way that would likely have averted a strike. Braley-Rattai said that it is unlikely the courts will

view back-to-work legislation as unconstitutional because teachers are not a strictly essential service and it may not mirror what international labour law has to say about it.

“In the end, I do think that there is scope for this to go either way, but if I had to choose, I would say that the union will have a tough time making its case,” Braley-Rattai said.



# Mechatronics skills competition takes over Humber

Michelle Neha  
BIZ/TECH REPORTER

Humber's Mechatronics varsity teams went neck-to-neck — or more like screwdriver-to-laptop — in a heated competition for gold and glory.

Six teams competed Thursday in mechanical building, electrical wiring, maintenance and problem-solving, speed execution, programmable logic controller (PLC) programming and professional practice as they raced against the clock.

Former mechatronic champion Theodor Willert works for Humber and is currently coaching, organizing and judging for the event.

He said the teams that qualify will go on to the Skills Ontario Mechatronics competition in May. The winners then go onto the skills nationals, where they will be competing against the best in Canada.

They will also be fighting for a spot at the worlds skills competition being held Kazan, Russia, in 2019. The students of the electromechanical engineering technology program prepared for this competition from the moment they were an interviewed to join the course.

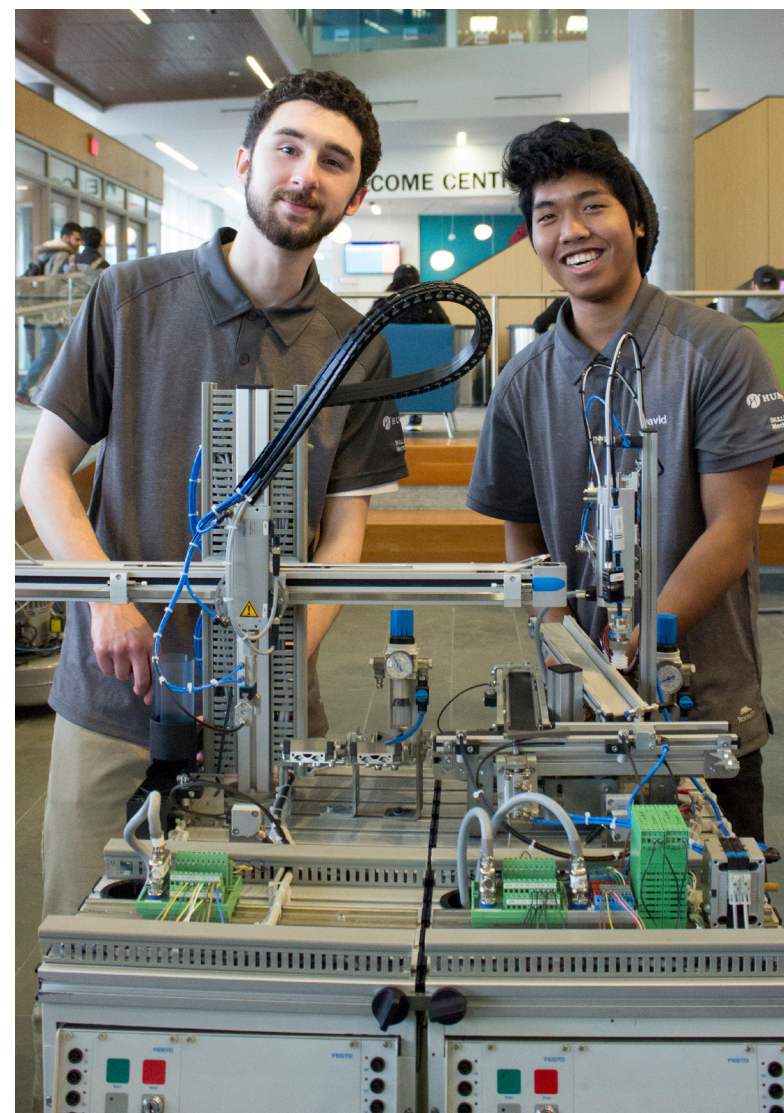
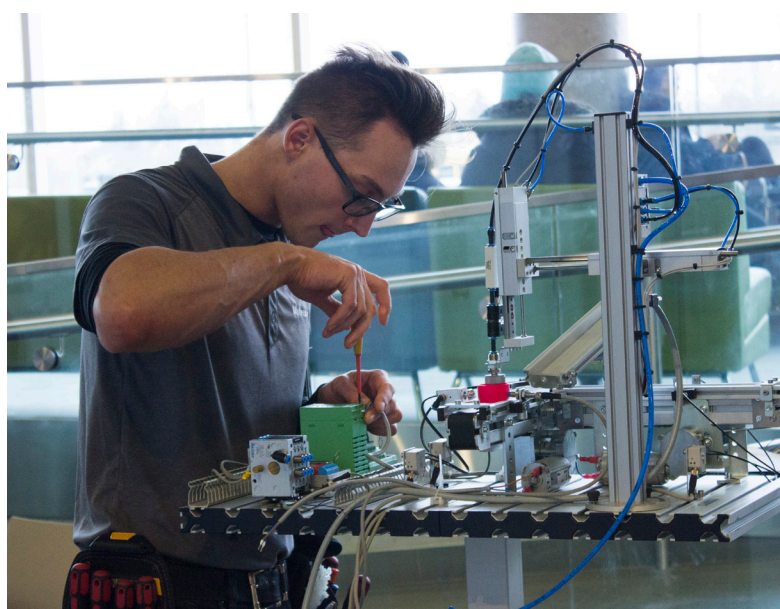
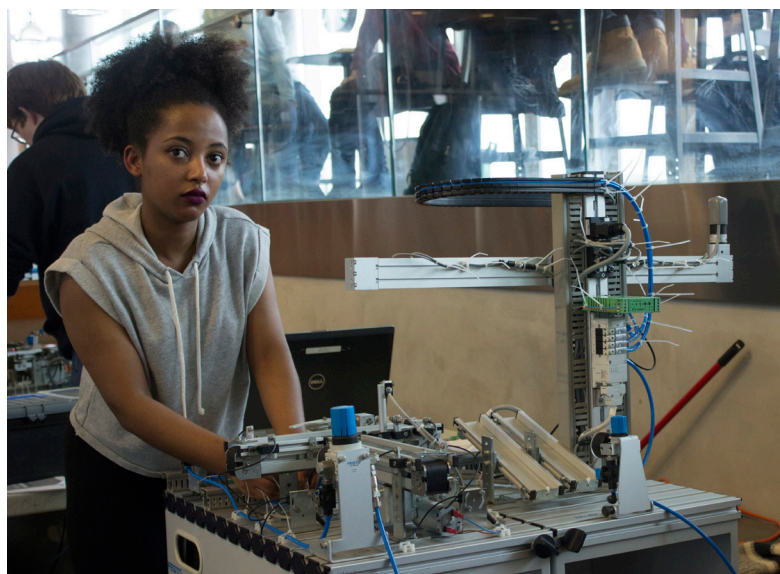
"We begin with a group of students from the first year of the program and we train two to three times a week," Willert said. "We teach them how to disassemble and assemble the (training stations) and how to program them."

Third-year electromechanical engineering student Mateus Cwalinski was competing in the skills competition for the third time while at Humber.

"It's an amazing experience to compete in this skill set, it's nerve racking also but it's very fun," he said.

Teams raced to complete a part-handling and part-sorting system in less than six hours with the least amount of errors. They were judged on professional practice.

The competition also caught the eye of future employers. The participants were scouted by industry professionals merely minutes during



Maramawit Demisse (top left) with her creation, Zachary Goodman and David Anselmo (above) with a part handling and sorting machine, and Mateus Cwalinski (left) gingerly fixing his bot.

the competition as students.

Willert recalls being offered jobs as he earned bronze in the 2016 world championships in Abu Dhabi.

"I've been interviewed at competitions, I've been handed job offers just off the stage," Willert said. "When I got a job out of school I did not hand out a resume. What I've done and what I've built and what I've achieved has shown for itself."

David Anselmo was the second place winner in last year's competition and he said that he did not let the scouts distract him.

"Impressing some company big-

wigs is always a nice bonus," he said. "We were too focused to notice, but from what our mentors told us, we caught some attention."

The speed, precision and skill are cultivated in students over five months starting in September and many students come back to compete.

"I started in my first year, I went to provincials and got second," Cwalinski said. "Our plan is to train hard, to do our best and be precise and win." The competition challenges mental and physical stamina, training up to 10 hours a day preparing for the nationals, said

Bogdan Malynovskyy, one of the Humber contestants. Willert said one team member might choose to specialize in more advanced programming, while the other one will be better as a mechanical tech as it's difficult to have two people doing the same thing at the same time.

These competitions take students all over Canada and are funded by federal and corporate sponsors.

"We find funding, Humber has been very generous in supporting it cause of the advantage," said Darren Lawless, Dean of Applied Research and Innovation. "We have some

corporate sponsorship as well, if it's important to the students then we find a way we to make sure they have the opportunity." Director of the Centre for Technological Innovation Neal Mohammed is proud of how well Humber teams have done in the competitions in the past.

"Almost every year we've advanced to the nationals since 2004. We have 22 gold medals," he said.

The results of the Mechatronics competition will be announced next week.

ALL PHOTOS BY MICHELLE NEHA

## Ontario colleges benefit from \$13 million in research funding

Norma Zminkowska  
QUEENS PARK REPORTER

Ontario colleges will receive more than \$13 million for research and development projects, the minister for research, innovation and science said at a public announcement.

Minister Reza Moridi, who spoke at Sheridan College on Feb. 6, said the province will support 61 projects for students at 22 colleges. The projects will give students the opportunity to work with businesses in solving development challenges and creating innovative products and services, he said.

"Investing in applied research and development is a step towards a brighter and more prosperous fu-

ture for our province," Moridi said. "By bringing together colleges and the research and development sector, we're creating opportunities for our students and ensuring they are ready for the jobs of tomorrow."

The Colleges Applied Research and Development Fund, managed by the Ontario Centres of Excellence, will fund the projects, Moridi said.

"This fund is one of the many ways the Ontario government and Ontario Centres of Excellence are preparing our communities for the jobs of the future," President and CEO of Ontario Centres of Excellence (OCE) Tom Corr said at the announcement.

Sheridan College will receive over \$1.2 million for three projects, Mo-

ridi said. It's yet unclear how much and what kind of projects Humber College will receive. The Ontario Centres of Excellence couldn't be reached for further comment.

The Ontario Centres of Excellence published a report last September stating Humber will get just under \$330,000 for the 2017-2018 year. Humber received more than \$1.96 million from the OCE in 2016-2017.

That doesn't include the recently announced funding through the Colleges Applied Research and Development Fund.

The fund, announced in January 2017, is a \$20 million investment and offers programs in the automotive and technology industries, among others.



Reza Moridi, minister for research, announced the new Colleges Applied Research and Development Fund at Sheridan College on Feb. 6.

TWITTER/@OCEINNOVATION





## International students experience first snowfall

**Tillana Desai**  
ARTS REPORTER

The average Canadian is so used to the snow that more often than not, it is associated with inconvenience, discomfort and struggle.

For Humber's international students getting their first look at snow, wind chill, frostbite and freezing temperatures means life without a heater doesn't exist.

When the entire city, province and country cover themselves in layers, a bunch of first-year international students refused to be cowed down by the snow. "It seems like someone has waved a magic wand over the city" said Vishwa Pujara, a Humber fitness and health promotion student from India. "It's my first month here and I am totally loving it." The temperatures most students from India are accustomed to often reach 50 C. However, they still tend to prefer Canada for higher studies despite the climatic difference.

"Canada is the first choice for most Indian students because of the snow," Saloni Zaveri, Manager, GEPSI Immigration firm based in Mississauga. "The cold is a welcoming change for those who have never seen anything below 10 degrees." Sachin Dudhara, an IT student, was thrilled that the myths associated with snow were proved wrong.

"People were expecting me to have

issues wading through snow like it was some kind of flood water with poisonous snakes," Dudhara said.

During Christmas week, the temperatures dropped to a point where they broke a 26-year-old record. Parts of Canada were almost as cold as the South Pole and Mars, according to the Weather Network.

Phorum Vashi, a Humber fitness and health promotion student, had to wait a couple of weeks before she could actually experience snow first hand.

"It may sound silly but I have never seen snow before in my life," Vashi said. "I have been mostly indoors during the holidays. First, I had the flu, then I was at work. I was waiting for a chance to experience first-hand snow."

Sohil Diwan, her classmate, was luckier dodging the wind chills and said he somehow managed to remain flu-free for these months. He is now looking forward to making a snow man, with "an orange for a nose."

Nidhi Raval, who was left with a numbness that refused to leave her palms after touching snow with her bare hands, said she braved the cold without a jacket, acting on a dare.

Humber's picturesque arboretum was filled with delighted squeals

of these enthusiastic students playing around in the snow, falling, waddling and throwing snowballs as they celebrated Christmas with families.

While shivering through one of the coldest winters Canada has seen in the last few years, a handful of Humber first years showed happiness can be found anywhere, even in the frigid days of the year.

ALL PHOTOS BY TILLANA DESAI



Vishwa Pujara (left) and Sohil Diwan (above) are both international students from countries that don't get snow.

## Launch Me contest lets student entrepreneurs pitch for startup funding

**Harmajeet Gurm**  
BIZ/TECH REPORTER

Humber College organized an innovative "Launch Me" workshop and competition for the business students and alumni.

The Lakeshore campus is currently undertaking the workshops and competition for its business students and graduates who need the skills and training to create and establish their business ideas.

According to the official "Launch

Me" site, the workshops and competition are centered on giving business students an opportunity to create and pitch their business ideas and get funding and assets to help their business objectives.

"A series of workshops known as Lean Canvas, business plans and pitching, provide students with the training and skill development in the early stages of starting a business," said Marisa Tomassi, event coordinator for the Centre for Entrepreneurship.

"The workshops prepare the students for the competition, which is an application and business plan submission with the final stage being pitching to a panel of investors to potentially win startup funding," she said.

Tomassi said participants must submit the application and business plan, which should be well thought out with the feasible idea and the means to carry out the business.

Participants must attend all the business plan development and pitching workshops before entering

the competition or it can affect their chance to reach the finals, according to Launch Me website. "It's for the first time that we will have this workshop series and we are excited to know that there are many Humber students who are looking to become entrepreneurs," said Raeshelle Morris, manager of the centre.

"We thought it is best to conduct the workshops throughout the academic school year rather than just having a final competition and therefore, the participant must

attend the workshops to have a good chance to advance to the final round," she said.

Referring to the previous year's winner and finalists, Morris said that she is hopeful that the finalists will be able to stabilize their startup operations in the coming future as sometimes it is difficult to carry out the business idea until the end.

"Be focused, don't be intimidated, you have what it takes to succeed at anything you put your mind to and energy on," she said.



# Orangeville lease renewed for three more years

Olivia Levesque  
NEWS REPORTER

Humber College announced this month it is staying in Orangeville with the renewal of its campus lease.

The campus located on the second floor of the Alder Recreation Complex will see Humber students walk the halls for at least three more years and Campus Director Joe Andrews says some changes can be expected.

“The (2016-2017) research synopsis and academic plan for Humber Orangeville addressed the need for areas that Humber has not been committed to in the past,” he said. “These areas include agribusiness, further expansion in police and law enforcement programs, and a form of Indigenous studies.”

Currently the Police Foundations program is one of six programs offered at Orangeville. Andrews said there is a need for expansion in the program at the Lakeshore campus, and Orangeville is willing to accommodate. Its current offerings include design foundation, social work, early childhood education,



COURTESY HUMBER.CA

Humber College has renewed the lease for its Orangeville Campus at 275 Alder St. It offers six programs.

and some transfer programs for general arts and science.

Andrews said moving forward the commitment is not only to fulfill Humber's academic pillar of being

involved in the community, but it also serves to expand Humber within reason.

However, the Orangeville campus is not just a spillover campus for

Humber, but rather offers students an alternative learning location, apart from the large North and Lakeshore campuses.

“We are defined more as an access

campus, meaning that it is somewhat of a starting point for people from the community to pursue further academic education,” Andrews said.

“Some people feel a smaller community ends up presenting some hurdles of inaccessibility.”

The Orangeville campus is described to be an easier starting place for students who don't feel comfortable in the larger campuses.

Sam Sharkey, a first-year early childhood education student at the campus, said the location works for her because of its size.

“With an anxiety disorder, it has allowed me to go to college with confidence that I know I wouldn't have at a large campus,” Sharkey said.

“For my program we have all our classes together which makes it easy to ask each other questions and work together.”

She said with the renewal of the Orangeville campus location, she would like to see more full-time faculty at the school. She said many staff members are stretched between the Humber campuses, making their presence at the Orangeville campus sparse.

## Ontario ministers unveil college and university sustainability plan

Humber saved nearly a million dollars by reducing energy usage

Christina Mulherin  
HUMBER NEWS

Universities and colleges in need of a retrofit to become more energy-efficient may be in for a boost thanks to a new action plan by the Ontario government.

Two Ontario cabinet ministers spoke in front of the University of Guelph-Humber's living wall Monday morning to announce a plan to improve sustainability of the province's post-secondary institutions.

Minister of Advanced Education and Skills Development, Mitzie Hunter and Chris Ballard, Minister of Environment and Climate Change spoke about a new plan to help reduce greenhouse gas pollution.

Minister Hunter announced the new greenhouse gas campus retrofit program in which the Ontario government will invest up to 415 million dollars in grants and interest-free loans for college and university repairs and renovations.

The plan includes grants and interest-free loans to install energy-efficient windows and high-efficiency boilers. Retrofits to older schools will be set in place to significantly reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emission, improving their sustainability.

“So in other words,” said Hunter, “our government's plan to fight climate change is paying for newer and greener campuses for our students to learn in the best environment pos-

sible. It is paying for dozens of pollution-reducing initiatives, so while critics of our climate change action plan are busy arguing over what to do about pollution of anything, we're focused on fighting climate change by investing in students, in families and in communities.”

Ontario is required by law to invest proceeds from the carbon market into programs that help households, businesses and public institutions reduce greenhouse gas pollution. “As Minister Hunter alluded, Ontario's approach can be summed up very simply, we're capping greenhouse gas pollution and investing the proceeds from our carbon markets into projects to further reduce pollution and help make life easier for all Ontarians,” said Ballard.

Humber has already taken on a number of projects to improve sustainability.

“As we look back, the living wall was a symbol of strong sustainability culture within Humber. Since then, the college has reached significant achievements. For the last two years, Humber has been named one of Canada's greenest employers, a significant achievement,” said Rani K. Dhaliwal, senior vice president planning, corporate services and CFO. “Sustainability is one of our core values and we as a leader within the college system value that.”

“So you can see around the campus now, we're re-cladding buildings,” said Dr. Chris Whitaker, President and CEO of Humber College. “A lot of our old buildings are not energy-efficient. When you look at a lot of our buildings who were built in the 60s and 70s they're coming to an end of life almost and so by simply



CHRISTINA MULHERIN

From left, John Walsh, Vice-Provost of University of Guelph-Humber; Chris Whitaker, President of Humber College; Maja Jocson, IGNITE President; Mitzie Hunter, Minister of Advanced Education and Skills Development; Chris Ballard, Minister of the Environment and Climate Change; Rani K. Dhaliwal, Humber Senior Vice President, Planning and Corporate Services, and Franco Vaccarino, President and Vice-Chancellor, University of Guelph.

re-cladding, re-insulating, putting in new windows in addition to enhancements to our water system, heating systems, electrical systems, those are going to bring a lot of the results in terms of energy savings,”

According to Dhaliwal, Humber is already on the right track and the college should see water and energy use reduced by 50 per cent and greenhouse gas emission by 30 per cent by 2034.

Since the launch of an aggressive

master plan set in 2015 to reduce its carbon footprint, Humber has reduced energy consumption by ten per cent and water consumption by 40 per cent, saving approximately one million dollars. Those dollars get reinvested in creating a cleaner learning experience for students.

There are currently no details on how much funding Humber will receive from this new action plan, but Whitaker says those numbers will be confirmed soon.

“Humber is already engaged in a long-term energy master plan,” Whitaker said. “We're reducing water consumption, replacing our lighting system, so we're doing a lot on that. As we build new buildings we make them more energy efficient as well so that's built in to our long term master-plan for the campus and we're just awaiting the results of applications for Humber grants specifically.”



# Charlamagne Tha God inaugurates Black History Month at Humber

**Kasie DaSilva**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

IGNITE had an impressive launch to Black history month by hosting one of most controversial and out-spoken personalities in the entertainment business, Charlamagne Tha God.

The radio host of 20 years is most well-known for his New York City-based talk show “The Breakfast Club,” where he is being his most honest self to his listeners, led the first IGNITE Real Talk of the semester.

Charlamagne is proud to be a black man, and wants people to know how important and informative Black history month is.

“I think history is important, period, but especially for black people. Most of the time when they teach Black history it starts with slavery, so you’re kind of thinking you started from the bottom. But our history started in Africa, with us being royalty,” he said.

“They took all that from us and now they’re trying to teach us that our history started with slavery.”

Charlamagne has inspired many, as he came from a small town in South Carolina, and is now one of the biggest names in the radio industry.

“There was nothing there,” he said of Charleston, S.C. “There was no reason for me to be thinking the way I was thinking. If it wasn’t for hip hop and books, I probably would have never transcended my circumstances.”

Charlamagne’s love for books paid off as he released his first book *Black Privilege* last spring.

The book urges people to embrace their heritage and heroism

in order to reach success and happiness in both life and their careers, said IGNITE writer Dayna Elsayed.

“It’s a privilege to be black,” Elsayed said. “I don’t think that my skin is a burden or a liability. Being black in America is dangerous, but it’s also fun.”

First-year paralegal student Candace Asmah has been a fan of Charlamagne, whose real name is Lenard McKelvey, for the past two years, and is a loyal listener to his radio show.

Amash waited hours in line prior to the event to make sure she got the chance to meet her idol.

“We were here three hours before the event started,” she said. “We wanted to make sure we got to meet Charlamagne.”

With his book *Black Privilege*, and his support for the Black community on his radio talk show, Amash believes Charlamagne has made an impact on the younger generation.

“We have this guy here who is really into hip hop, and speaks about the black community on his show, you don’t find that often, and it’s really influential,” she said.

This is the first of many Black history month events that will take place at Humber during February. Amash said Humber should hold more events like this throughout the school year.

“We have a lot of black students here, so what is a better way to then to bring Charlamagne in? He inspires so many of the black youth,” she said. “It should be an ongoing thing where more people like him are coming to speak to us.”

IGNITE President Maja Jocson was pleased with the big crowd



Pop culture critic Dalton Higgins interviewed Charlamagne Tha God at North campus.

Charlamagne brought to the student centre and said it is important for the whole Humber community to be involved when big events are being held on campus.

“Not only was this event to inspire the black community, but it was to inspire all of the students,” Jocson said. “He [Charlamagne] started from nothing, and now he’s a huge radio talk show host.”

“It’s really inspiring and it’s important for everyone to be included when we hold these events,” she said.

ALL PHOTOS BY KASIE DASILVA



Candace Asmah waited for three hours before the event at North campus to get her book signed by her idol, Charlamagne Tha God.

# Lakeshore’s Bridge reaches out to connect with North Campus

**Maheen Mansoor**  
ARTS REPORTER

After much hard work, The Bridge hosted a soft opening for their newly appointed office at Humber College North campus on Jan. 31.

Initially formed at Humber Lakeshore campus, The Bridge is a support system for students who identify themselves as African, Black or Caribbean. After seven years at Lakeshore campus, the program migrated to North campus last year.

“Basically, it’s a support,” said Martina Douglas, a representative from the program.

The Bridge works to create a safe space for all students focusing through an Afro-centric lens. There are many workshops conducted for students, especially for international students who may require support throughout school-life.

“We know that anti-black racism still exists in Canada and it’s important to have an outlet,” Douglas said.

The soft opening event featured activities and food with a free cotton candy stand. The music, balloons



Kenny Dawkins and Janviere Ingabire spreading joy at the event with some cotton candy.

and treats definitely attracted a large crowd of at least 50 students to the new office.

“It’s open to all students whether it’s to socialize or study,” she said.

“We’re here to support all students but specifically targeted towards African, Black, and Caribbean.”

Douglas referred to The Bridge as a second family for its students.



Bridge representative Martina Douglas poses at the soft opening for the new office. E103 will be used as The Bridge for North campus.

International students who have left home to study in Canada can rely on workshops and support to help ease their transition, she said.

The Bridge is now open and ready

to support, inspire, and create safe spaces in the Humber environment. Students can access The Bridge at E103 at North and A168 at Lakeshore.

ALL PHOTOS BY MAHEEN MANSOOR



# Documentary provides insight into Toronto's criminal justice system

**Damian Ali**  
ARTS REPORTER

Humber police foundations professor Arun Dhanota wants the next generation of police to look at Regent Park in a different way.

The high-risk neighbourhood in east Toronto and two of its residents were the focus of a new documentary, *Regent Park*, Dhanota's brainchild, which premiered Feb. 8 at Humber's Lakeshore campus.

The story follows the journey of the young men through the criminal justice system in Toronto.

The film is a collaborative project between Humber's Police Foundations program and Centre for Teaching and Learning. Notable community agencies such as Springboard Services and Pathways to Education also assisted in the documentary's creation.

The tale of two young men, youth Martin's story begins with hope as he tries to turn his life around working with social workers, and is told

It apparently doesn't end well for him.

The second young man is residential support worker Hamid Mjasiri. He too was caught in the justice system but he turned his life

around and now works in troubled communities acting as a mentor, public speaker and as a support worker.

Dhanota says the documentary stresses success and compassion, and is based on building relationships between communities and the police.

Building partnerships in the community and throughout the system was integral to the documentary's structure, she said.

With the film, students in the Police Foundations program will receive a very different learning experience than others engaged in a traditional case-based learning approach, Darren Richards, manager of Creative Productions at Humber's Centre for Teaching and Learning.

"Using a case-based teaching and learning method, we are able to transform a traditional case that a teacher would typically use in their class into a digital one, providing greater insight and intensity to the problems being presented," he said.

Creating the documentary was part of a grander objective to not only provide the tools for career success but to inspire students and society at large, said Michael Shaikh, Police Foundation's 2015 alumni and research assistant.



DAMIAN ALI

The individuals who brought the video to life include, from left, federal Crown Attorney Scott Graham, youth worker Julia Lyubomsky, residential support worker Hamid Mjasiri, Youth Court Action Planning Program supervisor Irene Marynowicz and Brampton Superior Court Judge Kofi N. Barnes following a screening last week.

"We do hope that this film will be used to bring change," Shaikh said. "Change to the criminal justice field, change to the social service field, and change to the challenges that many youths find themselves in

on a daily basis."

Mjasiri said the documentary provides insight into his experiences with the criminal justice system and offers inspiration to strive for a path up to anyone in similar situations.

"We together are success stories that not a lot can escape or have the capabilities to free themselves," Mjasiri said. "Be proud of your story, be confident that the future is bright even in dark moments."

# NBA 2K18 tournament a slam dunk for returning challenger

**Brandon Maron**  
ARTS REPORTER

After losing in the finals of a video game basketball tournament last year, Liam Fredericks returned to try once again. He ended up winning it all.

Fredericks won the IGNITE's NBA 2K18 tournament on Feb. 13 in the IGNITE game room at Humber's North campus, and he walked away with top prize, tickets to a Toronto Raptors game. There were other prizes available for students.

The person Fredericks lost to in the finals last year was much better than him and he said he stood no chance if he competed again.

"I was honestly worried that he'd be back this year. His defense in the game was great. He held me to like 30 points," Fredericks said.

Playing as the Philadelphia 76ers, Fredericks won his first game after hitting a game-winning shot in the final seconds. In the semi-final match, he held an impressive 15-point lead before his opponent began to catch up.

The comeback was short-lived, however, securing Fredericks' spot in the final for the second year in a row.

The final game was tight until the very end, when Fredericks made a few key defensive stops and capitalized. Fredericks ended up winning the game and the Raptors tickets, redeeming himself after his crushing loss last year.

"I think I have to bring my girlfriend. But if she can't or doesn't



Participants above playing their first round games at IGNITE's NBA 2K18 tournament at Humber North campus. IGNITE Vice-President Stokely Lindo (far right) handing winner Liam Fredericks Toronto Raptors tickets.

want to go then I'd probably bring the guy I beat in the finals" said Fredericks.

Despite playing as the 76ers, he's a Raptors fan first and foremost and is excited to see them play live against the Detroit Pistons on Feb. 26.

Nikki Sandhu, the IGNITE staff member in charge of running the annual semester gaming tournament, explained that NBA 2K18 isn't the only game students can compete in.

"We try to do at least one tour-

nament per semester. Last semester we had a FIFA one scheduled but due to the strike it didn't end up happening, so this is actually our first of the year," said Sandhu.

IGNITE's game room can be found in the food emporium in KX2101 and has nine televisions with eight Xbox Ones and one Wii U. For the non-gamers, there are four pool tables. All that's needed is a student card to sign in and play.



ALL PHOTOS BY BRANDON MARON



# Seven faculty, grads up for Juno awards

A. Vannesia Crayton

ARTS REPORTER

Four members of Humber's music faculty and three alumni are nominated for Juno awards, Canada's most coveted annual music award.

The nominees, six from Humber's coveted music programs and one from the comedy program, were announced Feb. 6 and winners will be announced at its gala event in Vancouver on March 25.

Brad Cheeseman, who earned his Bachelor's Degree in Music from Humber College, is now living his musical dreams. His latest album *The Tide Turns* earned him his first Juno Award nomination in the Jazz Album of the Year: Solo category.

Joining Cheeseman in the Jazz Album of the Year category is current Humber faculty member Mike Downes for his brilliant work on his latest album *Root Structure*.

"Humber was a very important time for me," Cheeseman told Et Cetera. "It gave me the tools to navigate the music industry better and to better hone my craft."

"Humber also gave me the opportunity to connect with musicians like pianist Sam Kogen and guitarist Robert Chapman, who have both been playing with me since at least 2012 and are both featured on *The Tide Turns*," he said.

Although this year's nomination, or even a win, isn't the first for Downes, head of Bass Music at Humber, the feeling of being recognized is still exciting for him.

"It is very satisfying to know that



BRANDON CHOGRHI

**Bassist and Juno nominee Mike Downes at the release of his record *Root Structure* in 2017.**

one's music is touching people, and I was thrilled to get news of the nomination," Downes said. "I was nominated and won a Juno award in 2014 for my album *Ripple Effect*, so this time I'm not thinking about how great it would be to win."

"I'm just very honoured that I was nominated again," he said.

Downes, one of the most sought-after Canadian musicians, is



COURTESY JUNO AWARD/BRAD CHEESEMAN

**Humber alumni Brad Cheeseman, who graduated from the Bachelor of Music program, has been nominated for the Jazz Album of the Year: Solo category award at this year's Juno Awards for his album *The Tide Turns*.**

a bassist, a teacher, a composer and an author.

"I am so happy that so many fellow Humber faculty members are being nominated and winning awards," he said. "Out of five Juno nominees in the category that I'm in, two of us are Humber faculty members and one is a former Hum-

ber bass student."

"It speaks to the incredible community at Humber and how fortunate we are to be part of it," Downes said.

Other nominees include faculty Hilario Duran for Jazz Album of the Year: Solo for his work *Contumbao*; faculty members William Cam and

Tara Davidson for Jazz Album of the Year: Group; faculty Dylan Bell and Suba Sankaran for World Music: Album of the Year; alumnus Matthew Burnett for Jack Richardson Producer of the Year Award for his work with Daniel Caesar; and alumnus K. Trevor Wilson for Comedy Album of the Year.

## Pushing boundaries: Artists connect their work with activism, resistance and resurgence

Vrushali Mahajan

ARTS REPORTER

Humber College recently hosted an art exhibition showcasing the Indigenous spirit.

It brought together an intergenerational group of artists who pushed past boundaries to illuminate the connection between art, activism, resistance, and resurgence. Whether through photography, painting, drawings, mixed media, or culturally embedded practice, the roots of Indigenous artistry ran deep in this exhibition.

The project marked an ongoing partnership and learning process between the Aboriginal Resource Centre and Humber Galleries.

"Gashkazin. Niibawin. Giigidoon." The powerful Ojibwe saying translates to "Wake up. Stand up. Speak up," describing the Aboriginal desire for recognition. All the speakers and artists who came to the podium to speak started with an Ojibwe introduction.

Sheila Sampath, principal and creative director of The Public Studio, acted as a mentor and sounding board for the exhibition. She spoke about decolonisation and creativity.

"What does it mean to live and

act in a world marked by thousands of years of history? Indigenous art occupies a unique space in today's world," Sampath said.

"Art is that form of nature which brings out the noblest intention in every person," she said.

"The collaboration of urban settings and cultural background influenced me on how I see the world," said Emma Petahtegoose, of Atikameksheng Anishnawbek, also known as the Whitefish Lake First Nation, on asking what inspired her towards her art work.

"Walking into *Two Worlds*' is an art work on Vans canvas shoes which reflect the duality of life and how a person can evolve and adapt to their environment while still remembering the roots of their origin," she said.

The artists also spoke about how they used struggle in schools when they were young due to their originality.

"It is really important that we respect each and every individual on this planet, be it a human being or an animal," said Nibin John, a Humber project management student. "Having these kinds of exhibitions really help people know more about the native communities."

"As they belong to the most



VRUSHALI MAHAJAN

**Artwork by Joseph Sagaj, a native of Neskantaga First Nation in northern Ontario, displayed at the Indigenous Spirit exhibition at Humber College North campus. Artwork from left are *New Era*, *Bear Spirit* and *Moonlight Woman*.**

deep-rooted population, they have a rich culture. It is enlightening to understand their ethics," John said.

Joseph Sagaj, a native of Neskantaga First Nation in northern Ontario, said his paintings on display,

*Bear Spirit*, *Moonlight Woman* and *New Era*, illustrate his devotion towards fine arts. .

"About my paintings, these three paintings portray lives of the natives. My painting *Bear spirit* portrays the

protective and shielding nature of our communities," Sagaj said.

"Paintings have always been a form of conveying powerful messages," he said. "Exhibitions have always got people together." he said.



# Campus clubs restart their drive for new members, after the strike

Amy Chen  
ARTS REPORTER

Silly or serious, student clubs at Humber College are an important part of campus life.

But the development of 50 different IGNITE-backed groups at Humber and at the University of Guelph-Humber were set back by last term's five-week faculty strike. Their business of bringing students together was cancelled during the work stoppage.

After the strike, clubs and students alike felt the acute need to socialize and belong. To that end, IGNITE hosted a club fair in late January to entice students to join a group, which range from eating dessert, to watching sports, to playing and developing games, to religion.

Huy Pham, a first-year student in the electrical engineering technology control systems program, was so busy with school work that he felt he no longer had time to enjoy his hobbies.

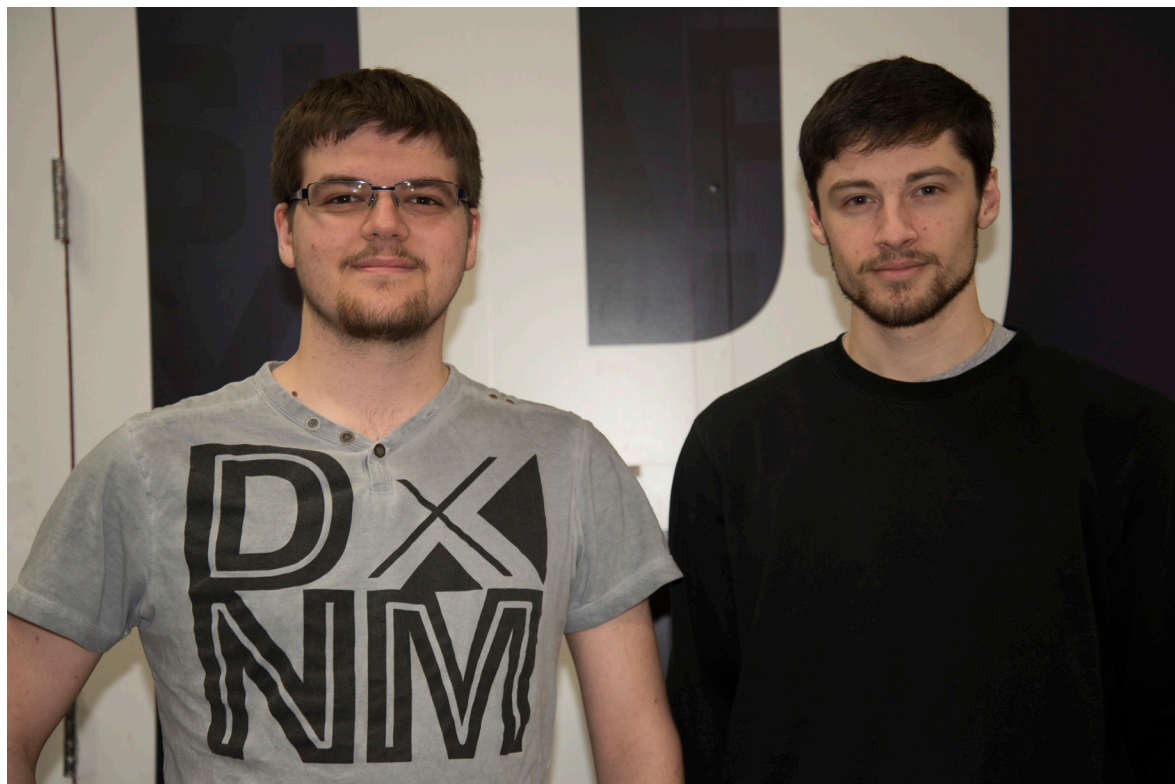
"I like anime, but I have not spent a lot of time watching them," Pham said. "I also like games, but I rarely have time to play those. I like Dimension W and Sword Art Online. I used to play League of Legends, but when I got here, I stopped playing games."

Members of the Humber North League of Legends club, which celebrates everything about the online game, were also disheartened by the strike.

"Last year, we had the strike, so we weren't able to kick it up that much," said club Vice President Willem Claassen. "Now we're hoping for something much better and something new and fresh."

The League of Legends club meets once a week where they host casual tournaments. They also have a professional team as well, and sometimes club members go up against other university and college teams vying to see who's the best.

"We compete, we talk, we play. It's all just part of the community, and just to have fun," Claassen said.



AMY CHEN

Samuel Bujold-Bouchard and Landon Grant from Humber's Game Jam Squad pictured at IGNITE's club fair.

Vice President of the Anime Club North Brandon Lo understands the need to socialize and have fun, too, as he recalled a past cosplay event.

"The event helped other people come out of their shell, not be afraid just to show who they really are," Lo said.

Anime Club North usually streams anime and play anime fighting games during gatherings, and attends Anime North, an annual convention held at the Toronto Congress Centre, a 15-minute drive from campus.

Aaron Burden and Johnathan Main, both third-year students in electrical mechanical engineering, joined Table Tops, a club where anybody can just show up and join in on an afternoon of board games, including Cards Against Humanity, Monopoly, Yu-Gi-Oh!, Uno and even a few versions of Munchkins. The club welcomes players of all levels.

"We have people in there who've

played the games multiple times, know the rules really well and they're more than happy to teach new people," Main said. "The more the merrier."



Last year, we had the strike, so we weren't able to kick it up that much. Now we're hoping for something much better and something new and fresh.

Willem Claassen

HUMBER LEAGUE OF LEGENDS CLUB VICE-PRESIDENT

Samuel Bujold-Bouchard, in his second semester of game programming at Humber, joined the Game Jam Squad, where he gets to create games. The development of

a game can span anywhere from 48 hours to a couple of months.

The squad brings together people with different skill sets, including programmers, artists, sound and audio experts, writers, and designers.

"We're mostly programmers, so [the games are] not pretty. The sound isn't really good and we know people that are like, 'Yeah, I can draw very well, but I can't code.' So if we combine everyone's skills, we can make actually really interesting projects with that," Bujold-Bouchard said.

The squad went to the Global Game Jam, which was hosted by Humber last year, where they created a game in a little over two days. During the college strike, they worked on a game they completed in just five weeks.

Humber's Dungeons and Dragons Club has always been busy, yet also felt the need to have students socialize and feel a sense of belonging.

"It's an escape from reality

sometimes," said Dungeon Master Osman Beyle.

"A whole bunch of people surrounding a table having adventures and challenges... It's a great way to take your mind off your school work and more importantly, meet new people and have a great time."

The club has about 10 Dungeon Masters this semester and 15 games going on at a time.

"It's a great experience," Beyle said. "The best part for me is honestly not even playing or 'DMing.' It's just watching the reactions of people when they find out they die."

A new club is d'LUXe, which is focused on self-worth, size acceptance and body diversity.

"Whether you are a double zero or a size 40, everyone deserves a safe space to grow and learn and to become the best person that they can be," said club member Sheena Brown. "We got IGNITE's approval in September, and the strike set everything back."

She hopes to get a Zumba instructor to come in and teach the club an entire dance exercise section this semester.

Michael Buchner promotes fitness regimes, too, but at the Exercise is Medicine on Campus club.

"We're trying to inform students on campus or people that join our club that there is other stuff you can do to stay healthy. You don't need to go to the gym, you don't need to be a gym freak," Buchner said.

The club hopes to host a swimming pool class, or a CN Tower climb. In the past, members have participated in Humber's annual five-kilometre run.

The Humber Sustainability Club hopes to get students more interested in sustainability practices. One project that they are thinking about is getting a ban on plastic water bottles across campus.

"We started last term, but with the strike, things kind of slowed down. It was hard to gain any traction," said Ankit Joshi, a first-year civil engineering technology student.

## Humber Love campaign shares alumni's campus romance stories for Valentine's Day

Nathalie Leveille  
NEWS REPORTER

Valentine's Day has been celebrated by many people around the world for more than a millenia, and the heart-filled holiday is usually marked by love stories being started, continued and shared.

Some of these stories come from people who are now happily married, but were once college students when they met and fell in love.

Five years ago, the Humber and University of Guelph-Humber Advancement and Alumni Centre located on the fifth floor of the Learning Resource Commons at Humber North launched a campaign known as Humber Love. It has been a tradition for former students to tell the community about their love stories on Feb. 14.

The Humber Love campaign had been done in different ways every year, either with interviews or a collage video.

Continuing with this Humber tradition, Karina Butzek-Morris, manager of Humber Alumni said the centre is "focusing on getting both stories and pictures of five couples to produce a video just in time" for Valentine's Day.

"We have a list compiled of all the couples that we know of and that we've met with throughout the years," Butzek-Morris said. "This year, we've reached out to eight couples. Three or four of them came from social media."

She said the couples are chosen, they send her a written version of their story along with five or six pictures of their romance to her via email or social media.

Butzek-Morris and the rest of the team continued this tradition because they felt like these love stories needed to be told, because the stories show the students have not just made it through school.

"Humber changed their lives personally as well," she said.

"Not only were they successful in their career, Humber was also the place where they met their significant other.

"It's a sweet side to the story, you know?" Butzek-Morris said.

Most of the feedback she gets from the couples or even from her own team is positive.

"The couples always think that the campaign is a fun way to share their stories with the Humber community," she said. "There's many stories that we can share about grads being successful."



NATHALIE LEVEILLE

Humber alum Colin Response serenades students for Valentine's Day.



# Local health groups visit Rexdale to discuss healthy development

Lindsay Charlton  
ENVIRONMENT REPORTER

Humber's Centre for Urban Ecology opened its doors for community members and groups to discuss the link between food production and healthy child and youth development.

The Centre of Innovation in Health and Wellness hosted a networking event last week, Healthy Growing, Healthy Living in Rexdale, bringing together representatives from 38 different community groups, businesses and government agencies.

Students and community members also took part in an interactive workshop that explored the intersection between food systems and healthy child and youth development.

"This is really what the Centre of Innovation is focused on, to bring in these different elements, these different parties and stakeholders together to address real world problems," said Matias Golob, director of the Centre of Social Innovation, Health and Wellness.

Golob said the centre provides students with experiential and real-life opportunities to become the change-makers who advocate for issues such as child health and food production.

Community and collaboration were major focuses as a necessity to implement new healthy food systems and make real changes.

"You are part of what I would call a Humber movement, which is really to be embedded and to be working with the communities that we live in and that we work in," Laurie Rancourt, Humber's Academic vice-president, told the workshop.

Participants worked as a group and discussed the many challenges and issues surrounding food that affect the development of youth in the Rexdale area.

The groups developed creative ideas and suggestions to achieve healthier food systems for children, such as green roofs and gardens, space in schools for healthy eating and education on gardening and food production.

Toronto Ward 1 (Etobicoke North) Councillor Vincent Crisanti said the city plans to invest more than \$1.7 million in continuing to support nutrition programs across the city.

"In Rexdale, we have so many wonderful opportunities. One of the things we do at the City of Toronto is we do believe in nutrition, we do believe in making sure nobody goes unfed," he said.

The Humber Arboretum also took the opportunity to share its plans for healthy living in Rexdale with the community by introducing participants to its Food Learning Garden.

Last spring, the Arboretum, the Centre for Innovation in Health and Wellness, School of Applied Technology, TD Friends of the Environment, and the community



LINDSAY CHARLTON

Nearly 40 community groups, businesses and government agencies came together to discuss healthy living.

collaborated to create Humber's Food Learning Garden.

"The goal and vision of this initiative is to really create a learning space about local food and food security for our community members," Arboretum director Alexandra Link said.

"Our idea was to create this learning garden space so our community could come and learn about how to build and create their own local

food gardens at home or at school or at their community centre," she said.

The Food Learning Garden will start planting fruits, vegetables and herbs this spring, and become a space for school children, students and community members to experience, learn, feel and taste what it is to grow a local garden.

There are also plans to develop new programming for children and the community around the education of

starting a garden, Link said.

She said the Learning Garden will also be available for Humber faculty and students to integrate urban food security and local food growth into their lessons, such as Culinary Management, Early Childhood Education and more.

The produce from the garden will also be used by those working in the student run Humber Room Restaurant.

## IGNITE VP introduces free menstrual kits to campus, accomplishing campaign promise

Caitlyn Clancy  
NEWS REPORTER

Free female sanitary products are now being offered to students as part of IGNITE's "Pads & Tampons" pilot project.

The person behind this initiative is Lakeshore IGNITE Vice President Allisa Lim, whose platform during elections was the promise of free menstrual kits. After two semesters spent campaigning, she's happy to see her project finally realized.

"I wanted to make sure that students aren't having to stress about finances when it comes to purchasing these products," Lim said. "This is a security blanket when you're on campus. If you've forgotten a pad or tampon, we're able to help supply those to you."

A big part of this project is about eliminating the stigma surrounding menstruation, Lim said. IGNITE wants to utilize the kits to start a conversation, as well as provide free products to those in need, she said.

"I think we're living in the time of breaking walls," Lim said. "And this is just one project that's trying to break one wall. I want future generations to understand that women who are menstruating, or even a person who's menstruating, is normal. It shouldn't be disgusting."

Lim credits her transgender

brother as being an influencer behind her pursuit of this initiative.

"This project is trying to increase the conversation of periods and decrease the stigma that it's gross, or that only a female can do it," Lim said. "A transgender person who's female to male doesn't have to identify themselves as female to menstruate. So this initiative is allowing that opportunity for all students across the board to have it."

At the beginning of the project, Lim personally contacted tampon manufacturer Procter & Gamble and received 4,000 free products. It was small milestones like this that led to the initiative finally being launched, Lim said.

There were some minor obstacles that Lim had to face in bringing this project forward, largely due to the kits being displayed in public spaces.

"I think people were scared that students were going to be uncomfortable having these products around," Lim said. "And maybe people would end up stealing them because they're all free. But to me, those things didn't matter."

"If a student had to take more than 10, I'd let them because you never know their story," she said. "Maybe they're struggling with finances or maybe they don't have the resources to purchase those themselves."

The free kits are available at the



CAITLYN CLANCY

IGNITE VP Allisa Lim holds up one of Humber's new menstrual kits.

North and Lakeshore campuses in their respective Health Centres, LGBTQ+ Centres, and IGNITE offices. They can also be found in room 108 at Guelph Humber.

Each kit includes two tampons and two pads, both regular size. The packaging also features a survey link

which Lim encourages everyone to fill out in order to make this pilot project permanent. The survey is open until the end of the semester on May 1.

Since being launched in January, Lim said they've received largely positive feedback from the survey. About

166 people have filled it out already with about 95 per cent of students saying they love the kits. Some commented they wished the packaging were more discrete or that they wished the kits were available in a different area.

Solest Waterman, a first-year law clerk student at Humber, thought the free kits were a great idea.

"They're pretty handy," Waterman said. "Those dispensers in the bathroom are unreliable. Sometimes nothing comes out."

Vanessa Green, also a first-year law clerk student, appreciated the kits' discrete packaging. People can't tell what's inside, she said.

Both Waterman and Green agreed an improvement to the project would be placing the kits in different locations, such as in the bathrooms.

"It's more private that way," Green said.

All feedback from the online survey goes towards making the project better. Lim hopes to see her initiative become permanent and add more products, like deodorant and razors.

With IGNITE elections coming up, she also encourages everyone to see the passion behind the candidate's projects.

"If you support their projects, they're able to do it," Lim said. "I got so much support for this project when I was running, and that's what made me really want to complete it."



## EDITORIAL

## 50 years in, the future is looking bright

**H**umber continues to grow youthful Fifty years already and we just don't think of slowing down. If we can light the CN Tower in blue and gold, there is little that will stop us from conquering the skies.

Humber is all pumped up for the future after the grand Golden Jubilee celebrations. And why not? As a learning institution, we have lots to look forward to.

This year it is projected that approximately 60,000 students will walk through the doors at Humber. What awaits them inside? One of the most diverse, highly-skilled and sustainable campuses in Canada.

Take a stroll through any building on campus, you will not meet more than two students in the same program. Humber's diversity also ex-

tends to student nationality.

We're looking forward to the launch of the new robotics lab in the near future. Starting this spring, the currently under construction structure behind the bus terminal will transform into the Centre for Technology Innovation. It will be home to some of the coolest robots and software, adding more recognition to Humber's fame.

North campus recently started using its refurbished recording studio as the home of Humber's very own CK-HC-FM 96.9 radio. Newly revamped after the realization the control board had reached the end of its life last year, the studio's upgraded broadcast software has excited students.

These new state-of-the-art technologies available for students are likely to put us on top in the league

of polytechnic colleges.

Infrastructure development is also spreading to the parking lots at North and Lakeshore campuses. Two brand new lots are sprouting up this year. Hopefully, it will provide an interim relief to the current situation.

Commuting for some of the 80,000 who use public transit to North campus will be easier once the Finch West Light Rapid Transit (LRT) Station is inaugurated in 2021. The LRT along Finch West will connect the North campus to the northwestern communities of Toronto, saving time for students coming from North York, and to the Finch West subway station.

Head to the Lakeshore Commons Field for the newly designed outdoor recreation space that will give performing arts a new boost. The quad-



COURTESY HUMBER.CA

Artist rendition of the new parking facility at Humber's North campus.

range is set to hear the sounds of Humber's talent rise above the waters of Lake Ontario and fill the air.

While we move forward in full gear, our roots have not been forgotten. The North and Lakeshore campuses will soon be home to classrooms designed on Indigenous themes, as a part of the Backfill Project, an addition to F Building,

that will be completed by 2020.

Humber's idea of renovation also means getting our roots firmer into the ground we occupy.

The amount of developments are definitely putting Humber into the spotlight for the next couple of years. How will we handle it? Looking at the records our alumni set, like the glamorous star we always have been.

## OPINION

## It's not always sunny in Philadelphia



Kasie DaSilva  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

**P**hiladelphia was on fire last Sunday, literally, as crowds filled the streets to celebrate the Philadelphia Eagle's first Super bowl win over the reigning champions, the New England Patriots.

Thousands marched along the city's coveted Broad Street, not letting anything get in the way of their celebrations.

Police were reporting people were climbing up light poles, cars were being flipped over and stores were being ransacked.

We saw a similar scene upon our TV screens almost three years ago in Baltimore after the death of Freddie Grey, where at least 34 people were arrested during the 2015 riots.

Last week's riot was considered a time of joy and happiness after the Eagle's beat the almost unstoppable Tom Brady and gang, while the 2015 riots were a time of grief and protest among America's black community.

Two completely different events that led to the exact same result, the downtown core of their cities being destroyed.

If you remember the 2015 riots, it was mayhem. Local businesses were being burnt to the ground and

police cars were being torched. The destruction by emotional crowds flooding the streets led to a city-wide curfew.

Tear gas was being tossed into the crowds, one after another being arrested and protesters crying in grief over the death of the young Baltimore man.

While in Philadelphia last week social media was filled with compliments and egging on of the havoc. If you clicked on '#Philadelphia' on Twitter, photos and videos of street signs being ripped down and crowds chanting "Tom Brady sucks."

Feeds from the city's local media outlets also were all over the internet, with reporters even edging on the celebrations.

Newsweek reported that instead of tear gas being brought out in Philadelphia, the police were using the tactic of yelling "everyone go home."

I'm sure the protesters of Baltimore would have loved a "please go home" instead of getting sprayed in the face with tear gas, which could cause permanent eyesight problems, and face off against the National Guard.

I will never understand why people who are so proud for winning

one of the biggest titles in pro sports would try to burn their winning city to the ground.

Thinking back to Vancouver riots in 2011, when the Canucks lost in Game Seven against the Boston Bruins after having a lead in the series, people were emotional.

Even though the riot was unnecessary, it was more understandable than a winning team destroying their own city.

At the end of the day the Philadelphia Eagles are still the 2018 Super bowl champions, and I'm sure the people apart of that riot will be telling their grandchildren about it in 30 years.

But at the end of the day is it really worth it? In Baltimore they were rioting for justice, while in Philadelphia, they were celebrating a Super Bowl win.

These people rioted for two complete different reasons, and they were both treated differently, but both downtown cores were wrecked in the process.

My only question is, was it worth it Philadelphia?



## A missed opportunity during the strike for international students



Aditya Krishnan  
EDITOR

**T**here was no reason for the international students to fear the Ontario Public Services Employees Union (OPSEU) strike.

Getting the acceptance letter from a college in Ontario and arriving in Canada seemed like a difficult step for international students, but after a month-and-a-half into college, the OPSEU strike was the toughest phase.

Yet I would say the five-week strike was a blessing in disguise which students fail to see.

That lengthy labour strike is the last thing any student would have anticipated, especially for those who came from different parts of the world in search of better education.

The uncertainty of its duration was worrisome, but the strike has not only helped international students to integrate into the novel system but also carried benefits for them.

The strike faced criticism from students and many expressed their anger over it. But it was timely for international students and it brought the occasion for them to adjust themselves to their new homes.

It gave them more time off school

to make themselves cozy in their new beds and look for part-time jobs as well.

And for the explorers, it brought the opportunity to wander around the new city they had set foot in.

The end of the strike ensured an easy transition back to school and towards a smooth end of the semester. Not much remained altered apart from dates of the semesters and the breaks through the school year.

The responsibility of making sure the students received the learning outcomes of their courses laid with the colleges the entire time. In addition to that, the course assessments and marking could only be made easier due to the shortened semester.

The onus for extension of study permits or any other disruption in the status of the students also lay with the colleges to solve. So the students had a more than a month off to do whatever they wished for.

The event also brought the choice for students to withdraw from their programs with a full tuition refund. This offered an exit for those who made the wrong choice with their programs and wanted out.

Basic monthly expenses like rent and groceries would have remained the same regardless of the strike anyways.

In addition to that, special arrangements were made for students who had made travels plans prior to the strike.

Students were skeptical and speculated about what would occur once the college re-opened, but there was no need for that. I saw the better option, and that was to just sit on the sidelines and benefit from the timeout.

It was an opportunity to work more, play more and get a positive routine going.



**QUOTED** WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT UGH GETTING A READING WEEK?

“It’s not the students’ fault we couldn’t come to school, it was the teachers’ fault, so it’s not really fair when don’t get a break.”



**RUSHANE**  
DESIGN FOUNDATIONS  
1ST YEAR

“It sucks because I had a trip booked since September, but my teachers are super understanding so I guess I still get a break.”



**SARA VANI**  
MARKETING  
1ST YEAR

“Obviously I’m glad we’re getting one, but it sucks that they don’t because we both went through the struggles of the strike together.”



**MEGAN ROOPNARINE**  
MEDIA STUDIES AT GUELPH-HUMBER  
1ST YEAR

**PHOTO OF THE WEEK** HUMBER LOVES BRIAN THE BARISTA’S LATTE ART

IGNITE brought Toronto’s famous latte artist Brian the Barista to share his artwork with students this past week. Long lines formed in the IGNITE Student Centre for free coffee and specialty drinks with the impressive artwork. From paintings of Ellen to portraits of students, Brian left everyone impressed with his latte art.

KASIE DASILVA



Send your best photos to [etc.humber@gmail.com](mailto:etc.humber@gmail.com) or tweet us at [@humberetc](https://twitter.com/humberetc) for a chance to be published in next week’s issue!

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# Women's Hawks volleyball remain undefeated

**Bobby Mihalik**  
SPORTS REPORTER

No matter the test or obstacle, the men's and women's Humber Hawks volleyball teams keep on rolling.

The women's team remains undefeated after two road victories last-weekend against the Boreal Vipers and the Cambrian Golden Shield. Going into Wednesday's matchup against the Fanshawe Falcons, the Hawks have won 147 consecutive OCAA league and playoff games.

They are also one win away from their seventh straight undefeated season.

Despite their monumental success, the women's team has been repeatedly tested this year. The Hawks dropped a set against Cambrian on Sunday and struggled at times in a closely contested win over the Sheridan Bruins the previous Sunday.

Women's coach Chris Wilkins said his team is using these tests as a learning experience.

"We need to learn," he said after the matchup against Sheridan. "When you allow a good team to take control, then you're playing from behind and anything can happen."

"We have to really just make sure that we try to take control away."

However, even with any troubles they may encounter, the Hawks' winning ways still earn them the praise of their opponents.

"I think overall Humber played a little bit more aggressive and executed their skills a bit better," said Sheridan coach Scott Hunt. "They definitely deserved to win the match."

The women's team is ranked number one in the province's college circuit.

Meanwhile, the second-ranked



BOBBY MIHALIK

First-year Hawks outside hitter Dylan Devecseri leaps to spike the ball against Sheridan. Fanshawe Falcons ended the Hawks' 14-game win streak.

men's team has been keeping an equally impressive pace. But their 14-game winning streak ended Wednesday night against the first-place Fanshawe Falcons. Despite the loss, the Hawks still sit in second place in the OCAA West division standings.

Leading the way for the Hawks have been key players such as Dylan Devecseri and Kamyn Wilkins.

Wilkins, who had 20 points against the Sheridan Bruins and was named the Hawks' Nation Player of the Game, is glad to be a part of the team's success.

"Any time you can score a straight point for your team is a great momentum booster," said Wilkins of his performance.

After opening the season with

a 1-2 record, men's coach Wayne Wilkins believes his team is growing more mature with every game during the win streak. This confidence was on full display in their matchup with Sheridan as their play improved throughout the match.

"At the beginning of the year, that probably wouldn't have happened," Wilkins said.

"But we've been through a number of these scenarios now all season.

"They've been prepared, and now they know what to expect at the end of a match."

With their spots in the standings solidified, both Hawks volleyball teams have their sights set on the OCAA Championships later this month.

## Historic Hawks women's basketball team continues breaking own records

**Mike Furtado**  
SPORTS REPORTER

A win is almost a sure thing for the Humber women's basketball team given their dominance over the past three years.

Even Niagara College's head coach Mike Beccaria understood the force his team was up against.

"Our prep is the same with everybody, but psychologically it's a little bit different," he said. Beccaria told his team not to have any expectations playing against the Hawks, just to go out and have fun.

A Feb. 3 matchup against the Niagara Knights may not have been circled on the calendar for the Humber Hawks, but it carried a lot more meaning than meets the eye.

With nine minutes left in the second quarter, Beryl Mefful hit a mid-range jump shot that will forever be ingrained in OCAA history. With those two points, Humber's women's basketball team broke the record for total points scored in a season, 1,561 points, a feat they accomplished each of the last two years.



MIKE FURTADO

Fifth-year Hawks point guard Ceejay Nofuente defends against the Niagara Knights en route to a 77-48 win.

Prior to that, Jahnae Gyles made OCAA history by scoring Humber's 150th three-point basket of the season.

Breaking records is nothing new for the Humber women's basketball team. Every year they prove why they are one of the greatest dynasties in OCAA history.

The Humber Hawks currently hold a total of five OCAA team scoring records. These records include points in a season, points in a game, two-point field goals made in a season, two-point field goals made in a game and three-point field goals made in a season.

In the midst of all these re-

cord-breaking performances, coach Ajay Sharma won't let the high praise get to his players heads.

"It doesn't matter what the score is, it doesn't matter how many games we've won, if you're not meeting the expectation of those details in practice, as a coaching staff we are going to ask for more," Sharma said.

This mentality instilled by the Hawks' head coach has strong impact on the mindset of his players.

Aleena Domingo is the Hawks' second leading scorer on the season and was the top scorer in the game against the Knights. Despite winning by double digits and breaking yet another record, Domingo isn't satisfied with her team's play over the past couple games.

"The last two games we've had, they are our worst games ever," Domingo said. "Yes, we are on a winning streak but the last two games we had a lot of mistakes."

Winning another national title is the only thing on coach Sharma's and his players' minds.

"Some practice to lose and some practice to win and we want to practice to win," he said.

Sharma has been preaching this winning mentality to his team amidst all the blow-out games and all the records his team has broken. He remains humble because he wants his team to experience winning the national title, a feat that he calls "a life changing experience."



HUMBER

# Et Cetera

SPORTS

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## HAWKS FALL TO FALCONS

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL KEEPS  
SECOND SPOT DESPITE SETBACK

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