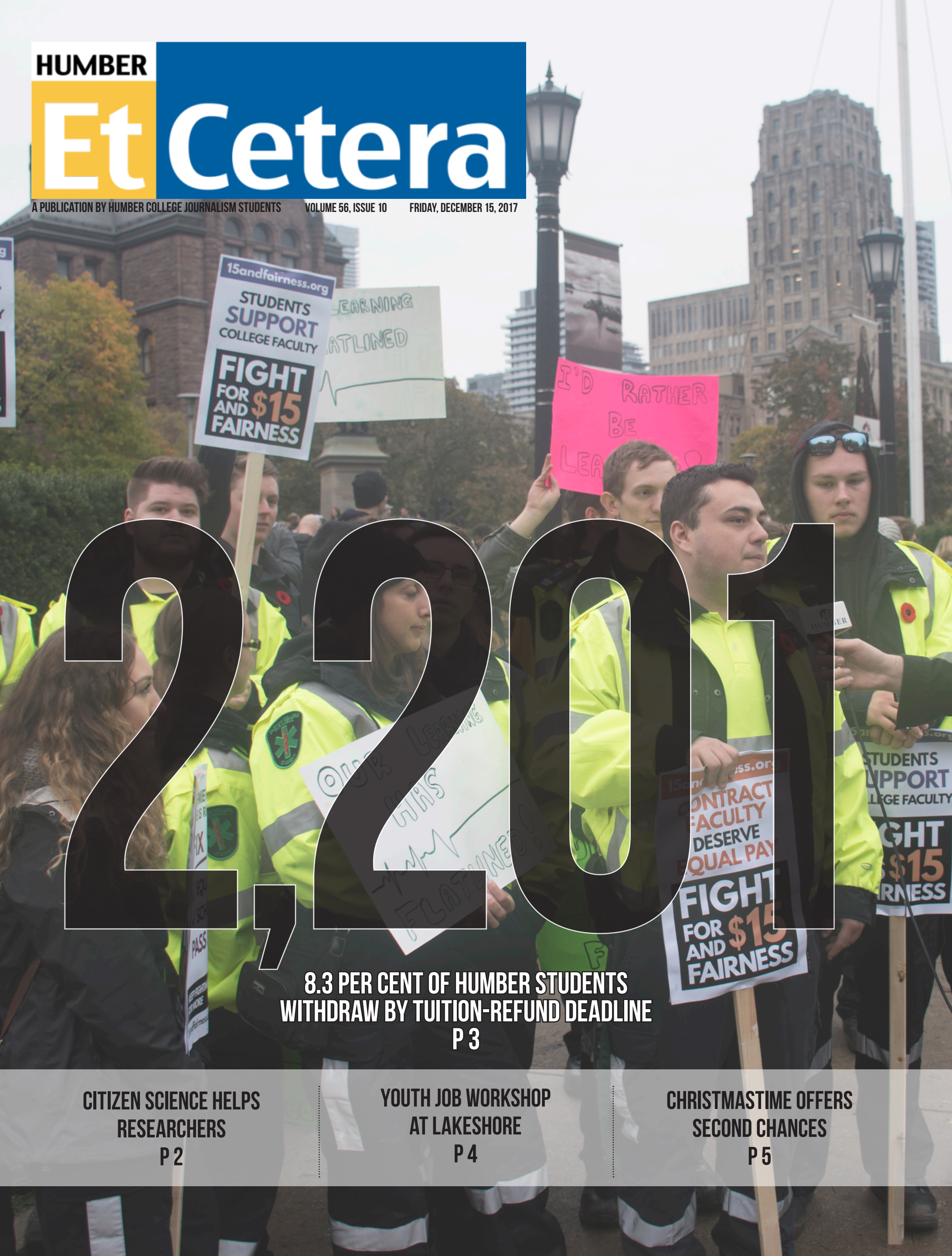


**HUMBER**

# Et Cetera

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2017

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## 'Tis the season to drink responsibly

Cassandra Ryan  
LIFE REPORTER

The holidays are a beacon for alcoholism.

Humber's annual Alcohol Awareness event held on Tuesday at the North campus included a vendor fair with resources and information about drinking safety and drinking while driving.

The event was put on by hospitality – event management students as part of their collective year-end project. Second year hospitality student Dakota Ekin said the message for this event was to promote the impact of reckless alcohol consumption, not to get people to stop drinking entirely. "Our event is to promote safe practices of alcohol consumption," Ekin said. "To teach students how to drink responsibly."

During the holidays 40 per cent of highway deaths are alcohol-related compared to 28 per cent during

the rest of the year, according to Alcohol Monitoring Systems.

More than 700 people in the U.S. will be injured or killed each day between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day in drunk driving accidents, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. This is two to three times higher than the rest of the year.

Four people on average are killed daily because of driving while high, impaired or both in Canada, according to Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD). That average doesn't include off-road fatalities.

But there is some good news in the Canadian statistics. Stats Canada reported in 2015, the most recent numbers, that impaired driving incidents dropped to 201 incidents per 100,000, a four per cent decline from the 2014.

Vendors, such as Smart Serve, came out to promote safe drinking and to educate the students. One of

the things that Ekin and his classmates have been pushing on social media is that drinks inevitably add up.

"A drink is a drink is a drink," Ekin said.

While Ekin said they tried to make the event positive, they did definitely outline the consequences of over-drinking.

Second year practical nursing student Gayathiriy Siva said she believes it's important to educate people on risks of drinking alcohol.

"People need to be able to make wise decisions when it comes to drinking," Siva said.

While she does think that some students will ignore the advice given at the fair, she also believes some will properly consider the information.

Siva herself is proof that thinking about the consequences of drinking can lead to smart decisions.

"I have never gotten into a car with a driver who is intoxicated," she said.



ROSS LOPES

The bird feeders at the Humber Arboretum make it easier for birds to get a quick snack before migrating.

## Citizen scientists keep eyes to the sky in second annual Arboretum bird count

Ross Lopes  
LIFE REPORTER

Citizen scientists can act like the "canary in a coal mine" by monitoring the environment by keeping an eye on birds. If they notice something wrong, they can sound the alarm.

Humber North's Arboretum communications assistant Marilyn Campbell said birds are a good indicator of changes affecting the ecosystem. The absence of a species in Toronto might be an indicator that something is going wrong in the feeding or nesting grounds, she said.

"That's why you need a lot of people to contribute [to citizen science] and do it regularly so you can actually follow the patterns and see where things are changing," Campbell said.

The Arboretum held its second annual Winter Bird Count for Kids, in partnership with Birds Studies Canada, on Dec. 9 to introduce them to citizen science relating to birds.

Humber Arboretum Director Alexandra Link said citizen science is scientific work that the general pub-

lic can undertake by gathering data and even submitting it to the scientific community.

"Citizen science happens in all sorts of disciplines, but we were focusing specifically on citizen science around birds," Link said.

Birds are a key part of the ecosystem. They control the insect population, feed the soil for plants to flourish, and are also a beautiful part of the environment, which is why people feel very close to birds, Link said.

"[The Arboretum] is one of the top birding spots in Toronto," she said. "We are a fly pass, birds who are migrating come through here in the spring and fall, so we get a lot of unusual or funky birds."

Some of the well-known birds regularly seen at the Arboretum include five different species of owls, chickadees that will eat from the palm of someone's hand and, of course, hawks, Link said.

"We have resident birds that live here that are often seen flying in the sky and they are absolutely beautiful," she said. Arboretum communications assistant Marilyn Campbell said birds

are also a good indicator species of changes affecting the ecosystem.

"The absence of a species in Toronto might be an indicator that something is going wrong in the feeding or nesting grounds," Campbell said.

"That's why you need a lot of people to contribute [to citizen science] and do it regularly so you can actually follow the patterns and see where things are changing," Campbell said.

Bird Studies Canada also runs a number of different programs during the year. The bird feeder project, for instance, is happening now for people who own bird feeders at home, she said.

"They ask you to watch so many times in a given week, for a certain [number] of minutes and record what you see," Campbell said. "By doing it regularly, then you are giving very specific information." The Arboretum launched a new program called the Arboretum Ambassador program for students to take part in citizen science that goes towards co-circular credits, Link said.



CLEMENT GOH

## Cookie-decorating event doles out fresh-baked holiday cheer

Clement Goh  
SKEDLINE REPORTER

Humber's Lakeshore campus hosted a free cookie decorating event for students and visitors to launch this year's holiday season. Taking place at the Lakeshore Grounds Interpretive Centre, the event is part of a monthly drop-in craft night that encourages visitors to see the welcome centre, which opened last year.

For their last event for the year, organizers put guests into the holiday spirit with Christmas-themed gingerbread men. Decorations from sprinkles to icing were used by guests to craft colourful snacks.

Jennifer Bazar, curator of the Interpretive Centre, says their hands-on approach of the events

give people a refreshing pause from daily activities.

"Crafts are just relaxing, so it's a time to just calm down, and stop for a moment. We're so busy," Bazar said.

The organizers handed out cards with the recipe to visitors to bake their own at home.

"There's this history of crafts on the campus with the Ministry of Mental Health hospital, some of the activities that patients would have been doing during their time as well so there's a bit of a stretch from that angle," Bazar said.

Visitors can also check out the Welcome Centre located at the Lakeshore Campus, which boasts a variety of services from a full study hall to a mental health centre for students during stressful times.



ROSS LOPES

One of the woodpeckers that fly through the Arboretum at Humber College is seen eating the seeds from the bird-feeders, which are filled.



ROSS LOPES

A dove waits on branches near the bird feeders at the Humber Arboretum.



## Humber loses 8.3 per cent to tuition refund program

Michael Thomas  
LIFE REPORTER

The strike is over and Humber students are now scrambling to finish assignments for the semester. But for 2,201 students their school term is over, deciding to opt for a tuition refund.

Humber's Director of Communications Andrew Leopold told HumberNews.ca the withdrawals make up 8.3 per cent of the school's enrolment.

"We certainly did encourage our students to consider staying in school and with their programs," Leopold said. "I know our faculty and our students and schools overall are working hard together to try to make sure that students who have withdrawn will come back in January or September."

Minister of Advanced Education and Skills Development Deb Matthews said 10.3 per cent of students across the province dropped out of school after the strike. In all, just less than 25,700 full-time students withdrew from their programs at 24 colleges across the province.

Humber's Dean of Students Jen McMillen said everyone is working very hard to get things back on track. Students are trying to find what works for them in terms of them moving forward with their courses and head towards the end of this semester, she said.

"We took the situation that was before us and try to balance the semester equally so as to give faculty and students the best opportunities to work together and make sure the material in the course are covered," McMillen said. During the interview she said she understands that while

this approach has worked for many students it has not worked for all.

"We hope that as students break for the two week holiday to be with families and have a bit of down time that this will help them feel the schedule is manageable," the Dean of Students said.

"I do not have numbers for students who might have dropped this semester the ministry will be in charge of releasing that kind of statistics," she said.

Robert Rose, 26, a final year paralegal student, said many of his colleagues have dropped the semester to come back in January while some dropped completely.

"In my case the books were there so I (hung) on, but for other students in different courses that were more tutorial based it's been harder," Rose said.

There is not enough time for answering questions and everything seems a bit rushed, he said. Rose said he's a bit disappointed. Tasha Brown, 35, a second-year creative photography student, said "the strike definitely had a negative effect on students, I feel like everything is due all at once."

She said she has seen some students who were excited about classes and their work at the start of the school year who are now just going through the motions because they are frustrated.

Five weeks of not getting instructions could kill one's drive, but Brown said she is glad to be back and wants to thank the college for saving the semester.

WITH FILES FROM MURISSA BARRINGTON  
AND TYSON LAUTENSCHLAGER



BRETT MCGARRY

About 60 stationary cyclists put the pedal to the metal for charity on Friday, Dec. 15 in the Athletic Centre.

## United Way Spin-a-thon raises \$4,100

Et Cetera Staff

A five-week strike and Friday's bone-chilling temperatures didn't stop Humber's annual Spin-a-thon to raise money for the United Way.

About \$4,100 was raised by the about 60 stationary riders at the Athletics Centre, said Tanner Gawley, a second-year Fitness and Health Promotion student. He said a bake sale a week ago garnered about \$525.

Organizing and hosting the eighth annual event was part of the program's Special Events Planning class, Gawley said.

He and classmate R.J. Lacorte said they consider the event was a

success.

"Our original goal was to raise \$10,000 but due to the strike, we were quite limited in terms of promoting the event, getting fundraising, and such," Gawley said.

But he and Lacorte say they feel raising \$4,600 salvaged their class's project. And donations could still be made to the college's United Way drive. The event last year raised more than \$13,000.

"Considering we lost five weeks of planning and preparation, I feel with the turnout this year, it was a success," Gawley said. "If you were in that room, it was packed, they were having a good time."

Fitness and Health students

cheered on sweaty participants, many decked out in holiday attire. Personal trainer Carmen Puyo, who led the class, loudly hyped up riders during the event.

Gawley said a number of people who intended to participate backed out after the original event was cancelled because of the faculty strike that began in October.

Prizes were awarded to top fundraising individuals and teams, for best team spirit and individual spirit. Among the top money raising teams include the Spoke'n'Word, the Lakeshore Scabblers, the Cyclomaniacs and the Spandex Spinners

## Naloxone kits will not be available on campus anytime soon

Terrence Bishundayal  
NEWS REPORTER

Humber College will not be implementing the use of Naloxone anytime soon, says the school's director of public safety.

But while the decision to not use Narcan remains in effect, the choice to use it is under review, said Rob Kilfoyle.

Naloxone is an injection-based drug temporarily counterattacking the effects of an opioid overdose.

Fentanyl, morphine, and heroin are all different kinds of opioids.

It has not yet been decided if this

is something we will be implementing in the future, Kilfoyle said.

In the event of an opioid incident, Security would call to emergency services and wait for Toronto Paramedics to arrive, he said.

Humber does however address narcotics use on a case-by-case basis when it comes to security's attention, including contacting police for assistance, he said.

Any student, however, who is using or has used, or know of anyone using opioids, is eligible for a free kit through participating pharmacies.

Each kit includes a small contain-

er of Naloxone, two syringes, one needle, a pair of gloves, two beakers and an identification card.

Humber student Amardeep Singh, 25, believes Narcan is not necessary and it should be thought as a last resort.

"If it's a really bad situation having the access is a good idea," he said.

Many students like Singh are not aware of what Narcan is and how it is used to treat a case of an opioid overdose.

If Naloxone is approved to be used at Humber, many students will need to be educated.



TERRENCE BISHUNDAYAL

Rob Kilfoyle, Director of Public Safety, says campus security will not be using Naloxone nor will the harm-reduction drug be available on campus.

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CLEMENT GOH

Organizers and event managers pose together after the 6 Degrees event about youth employment in the GTA at Humber's Lakeshore campus on Dec. 13.

## Workshop addresses employment struggles faced by marginalized youth

**Clement Goh**

SKED LINE REPORTER

Entering the modern job market fresh out of school is daunting for young people. This stress is only compounded for a new immigrant or a person of colour.

An event called 360: Propelling Youth Employment in the GTA, a collaborative forum to prep young professionals for just this, was hosted at Humber Lakeshore by 6 Degrees and Toronto Pearson's Youth Cohort program.

The first half of the event, the coffeehouse session, started with icebreaker conversations about what it means to be a young professional in today's career landscape.

Organizer and director of 6 Degrees Alain Pescador believes Canadian values like diversity and inclusion are keys to better hiring practices.

"We're doing good, but we still need to do better," Pescador said,

citing a push for employers to focus on minority groups.

"And so, we're here to do this event, along with a partnership [with Toronto Pearson Airport's Propeller Project] because we're interested in being in the discussions to those communities that don't get an opportunity to be involved," he said.

A special microphone cube was passed around by audience members asking questions of the speakers in the 360 session.

The session focused on a lack of government support, from mental health services to not having enough opportunities for marginalized communities.

Guest Raajkumar Kannan focused on medium-sized businesses, a professional sector difficult to reach for young minorities.

"Unless you know someone who's in there and you're confident enough and doing enough to actually build a network and make

a network, it's kind of hard to break in," Kannan said.

John Ralston Saul, co-chair of the Institute for Canadian Citizenship (ICC), said that despite having partnerships and benefits at school for employment, young applicants have to go an extra mile.

"If the employment systems don't work, then people might get an education and then they're stuck," Saul said.

"From a 6 Degrees point-of-view, you have to figure out how to build those ideas back into the national, international (levels). You have to be thinking to yourselves 'are there particular issues that we should be taking up?'" he said.

As a forum, 6 Degrees hosts an annual series of events from Toronto to Vancouver. Its flagship event, called Citizen Space, brought figures such as artist and activist Ai Weiwei for discussions at a three-day conference in Toronto in September 2017.



CLEMENT GOH

Organizers fielded questions from the audience at the 6 Degrees event.

## Film students understand college strike through doc

**Kateryna Hornia**

ARTS REPORTER

Ontario college students faced the longest strike in the province's history this fall and for both faculty and students it was a frustrating and uncertain time.

Lara Cordiano, a second-year Film and Television Production (FMTV) student, took advantage of the situation that idled about 500,000 students at 24 colleges and started to shoot an independent documentary in order to help students understand the issues.

"Basically, it documents myself and my classmates discovering what the strike is about and understanding what we're dealing with. We had no idea what the issues were," Cordiano said.

The team mobilized to cover the faculty rally at Queen's Park on Oct. 25 that shut down Bay Street.

"The first day we decided to film I asked Paul Cordiano, our director of photography, to go to the rally and see if we can shoot a documentary out of this," she said. "Maybe it's going to be 10 people, maybe it's going to be a thousand."

Cordiano said that shooting life on the picket lines and doing the interviews took two weeks. Classmate and camera operator Sam MacDonald said research also took a lot of time.

"You get a new piece of information, then you go home and you do the research, then again and again," MacDonald said.

"We were trying to get our own information, own grasp on what is going on," he said. "We didn't want to shoot the picket again and again, so we were trying to find new angles, and that became the most challenging part of the entire project."

The film, called *In The Dark: The Longest Strike in Ontario College*



COURTESY LARA CORDIANO

Film and Television Production students Sam MacDonald and Lara Cordiano produced a documentary about the faculty strike in an attempt to better understand the issues between OPSEU and the College Employers Council.

*History*, is scheduled to be screened in December.

Michael Glassbourg, FMTV Intake faculty, said he is sure the finished documentary will be worthwhile.

"It was a very useful activity to

undertake during these five weeks away from the classroom," Glassbourg said.

"The students who worked on it are intelligent, mature students who happen to be skillful filmmakers and

I look forward to seeing it screened," he said.

The project not only offered the students the opportunity to practice their skills during the strike, it also provided a release during tense times.



## FEATURE

# Second chances make Christmas meaningful

Nathalie Leveille

ARTS REPORTER

I love Christmas. It's my favourite time of year. I'm 19 years old, and I've already celebrated a dozen more Christmases than doctors thought I would see.

In Christian belief, Christmas is all about redemption. Jesus Christ was born to redeem the sins of humanity. For Christians, Christmas symbolizes the ultimate second chance. And I suppose that's why it means so much to me.

My second chance came when I overcame Bilateral Retinoblastoma. That's the medical term. My dad, Eric, put it in simpler words.

"You were dealt bad cards from the start, Miss Nat," he said.

In March 1999, when I was seven months old, I was diagnosed with Q-13 syndrome – which is the reason I appear smaller and am not as physically strong as a "normal" kid.

Some of the side-effects might include Bilateral Retinoblastoma, a genetic form of cancer that affects the back of the eyes and affects about two per cent of Canadian children 14 and under diagnosed with cancer every year. Normally, if the tumours aren't reached in time, they reach the optic nerve. You could lose your sight. Or even your life.

I had a friend during the early

part of my journey named Adrian Malagón, who lost his eyes to this type of cancer. Adrian and I were the first cases to treat this condition using what was then experimental techniques in Canada, which is now standard practice.

The doctors told my mom Irma about how my eyes were delayed in their development. They told her they were going to look out for the tumours until I was seven. If the tumours did not return by that stage, I could keep both my eyes.

Adrian and I both had our own versions of a second chance, because we both made it past this age almost at the same time.

My mom would tell me all time that she used to take both of us to the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto to undergo chemotherapy and Cryotherapy, which uses cold temperatures to treat tumours. I had to go through nine cycles of chemo before the doctors could finally calcify the tumours.

Adrian started his fight against Retinoblastoma a little too late, and he returned to his home country of Venezuela after both of his eyes were removed. But he pulled through, too, and is now 20 years old. I've heard he is now a sports reporter.

I'm with him again, in spirit, studying journalism at Humber.

My family always prayed that I would get better. Everyone close to



SANZANA SYED

Nathalie Leveille was diagnosed with Q-13 syndrome when she was seven months old, which left her partially blind. She finds meaning in the Christian belief that Christmas symbolizes second chances.

me was affected in one way or another. My mom would always tell me that it is because of me that she decided to accept the job she has now as an Educational Assistant (E.A) in a school for students with physical disabilities.

What happened to me served as an inspiration for her to accept that job, she said, because she had a better understanding of what the kids she now works with went through.

One of my former neighbours made sure I went to the Mass of our Lady of Guadalupe when I was growing up. She prayed for me in my fight against cancer because she and the rest of my family thought I deserved to keep my eyes.

A miracle happened.

I still have both of them.

We still go to Mass every Dec. 12

so I can renew my commitment to Mother Mary.

Despite spending almost my whole life at Sick Kids hospital, undergoing what seemed like every medical procedure imaginable, despite all the bullying from some of the kids in my school years, I managed to pull through. I never cried when I was small, only occasionally when I dealt with IVs and eye drops.

I may have been dealt bad cards from the start, like my dad always tells me. But he also tells me it all depends on how I use those cards, because I could end up winning even if I were dealt a two or a three.

From a young age, I always had a strong sense of direction, despite not being able to see very well. It takes a while for me to get used to

a new place, but I know my way around once I get used to it.

"You make me feel like nothing is more important than love, passion, perseverance, determination, and optimism," my mother once said when she was describing my personality.

I may not see very well, but I can write and draw well with help from the software I am using to do my assignments – like Zoom Text and Kurzweil3000.

I am not like any other "typical" 19-year-old girl. I mean, I don't do any of the things girls my age do, like going clubbing. I don't have a job, or a boyfriend. Sure, I'd like to think about those things. . .someday.

For now, I am happy the way I am. I have another Christmas.

And I never take those for granted.

## NEWS

# First-ever Sustainability Club advocates for student involvement

Zachary McGregor

NEWS REPORTER

A new club for Humber students passionate about green and eco-friendly initiatives has finally been established.

The North campus branch of Humber's new Sustainability Club held its first official meeting Dec. 7.

"The club will essentially be a student extension of the Office of Sustainability, as the two organization's initiatives go hand and hand," said Roma Malik, acting Sustainability Manager. She says the Office of Sustainability will provide support for the new club in its early stages, but were leaving it up to students to decide what issues surrounding sustainability they want to tackle.

Despite low turnout at the inaugural meeting, the club says it has big plans when it comes to promoting sustainability on campus.

"Sustainability is such a broad topic and most people don't know all the aspects it encompasses," said club executive Ankit Joshi. When the word sustainability is mentioned most think it relates to environmental awareness, but it also embodies

issues surrounding the social and economic wellbeing of others.

The club decided to come up with three guiding principles that would help steer the direction of the group to keep things simple.

The first principle is generating awareness about sustainability and ecological issues through education.

"Education is the best way to get students aware about sustainability," Joshi said. He says the club will give students tips on how to live a more sustainable lifestyle.

The other principle is offering students opportunities to network with leaders in the field of sustainability.

"A lot of students will be going into this field and networking helps create opportunities for them to get jobs in this sector," Joshi said. Sustainability is an issue in every industry and Joshi says having knowledge of the subject is transferable to almost any field of employment.

The third principle is driving change through action.

"Hosting events like tree plantings, trash cleanup days and info sessions will get students engaged directly," Joshi said. Campaigns to get more fair-trade products sold at



MATT OWCZARZ

Students (from left to right) Evan Curle, Incia Khaled, Avita Ragnauth, Ankit Joshi and Bradley Staite are present for the first official Sustainability Club. They hope to launch student initiatives in the new year

Humber and to ban the sale of bottled water on campus are just some of the long-term goals of the club.

So far, the biggest issue facing the club is low turnout. The faculty strike also delayed the club from being officially recognized by IGNITE.

The club is planning to host a meet-and-greet info session during the last week of school in December in an effort to entice people to join.

During the info session, mem-

bers of the club will outline their goals for next semester.

"Humber Earth Week is coming up in March and we will be working closely with the Office of Sustainability on a number of initiatives," Joshi said.

The club hopes they can help change cultural attitudes towards sustainability on campus.

"We want to give students an opportunity to adopt practices that

align with Humber College's sustainability initiative," said Bradley Staite, a club member and Sustainability Office work-study student.

He says students need to make an effort to preserve the collective future by embracing the social, ecological and economic impact of everyone's daily actions.

"Sustainability is a daily practice and this club will assist each student in that journey," Staite said.



## EDITORIAL

## Monopoly on broadcast rights bad for Toronto sports fans

Maple Leaf Sports & Entertainment (MLSE) acquired another Toronto sports franchise in the recent CFL Grey Cup champions Toronto Argonauts. MLSE now has the rights to the four major sports in the Toronto: hockey with the Maple Leafs and Marlies, basketball with the Raptors and Raptors905, soccer in Toronto FC and now football with the Argos.

In other words, MLSE — of which Rogers and Bell own 75 per cent and Kilmer Sports, owned by Larry Tannenbaum, controls 25 per cent — has full control over all but one major Toronto sports teams.

MLSE should be expecting profits

to continue to rise so should people expect them to purchase the Blue Jays as well.

The Toronto Raptors have continued to give entertaining playoff runs year-after-year. The young Toronto Maple Leafs are starting to peak, Toronto FC just completed a historic MLS season. Lastly, most importantly, the Argos are fresh from winning its 17<sup>TH</sup> CFL Grey Cup title, the most of all teams.

It's all a matter of what should the viewers expect to change the moment they possibly purchase of the Blue Jays. MLSE must also consider if the Blue Jays would be a good purchase as the team has been falling

apart after their phenomenal back-to-back playoff runs. They finished dead in their division last season.

The concentration of team ownership by the MLSE could be a bad sign for cable viewers because this could result in people buying more channels to watch their favourite sports teams.

In 2007 there were only two main sports channels, SportsNet and TSN. According to 2008 CRTC report, TSN added four more sports channels, where TSN2 is used for additional coverage, while TSN 3,4,5 is used for regional coverage.

While on the other end of the dial, SportNet completed a similar

setup as they added SportsNet One, used similarly as TSN2, with a couple of other channels depending on your region, you have a specific channel. But SportsNet added a few new channels dedicated to particular sports coverage. According to a 2016 CRTC report, Rogers released SportsNet World and One World Sports channels, to be used solely for European soccer, primarily the German Bundesliga and England's Premier League games.

The move by Rogers should make you consider that with the purchase of the Argos, and the "what if" purchase of Blue Jays they have to create more separate channels as MLSE

ownership might demand shared coverage between Bell and Rogers.

Rogers currently offers a Super Sports Pack which includes subscriptions for all the major sports for \$35.95 a month. While Bell presents numerous different bundles depending on what sports you watch ranging from \$15 to \$25.

So, would the concentration of team ownership mean viewing prices rise or remain the same? There are so many questions that will rise if MLSE has full reign over all Toronto sports teams.

And if it does, it's all a matter of if they'll use the power of monopoly to take advantage of the fan at home.

## Toronto's redemption story from the bottom to the best



Ed Hitchins  
SPORTS EDITOR

When the Toronto FC hoisted the MLS Cup on home soil on Dec. 9, it marked the very first time a Canadian team held the title of MLS Champions. It was also the first time in the 21-year-old league's history a team that won three championships in a calendar year, known as a domestic treble, the Supporters' Shield and the Voyageurs Cup.

It's an incredible accomplishment and it seems that as the 2017 calendar year closes, this is the way the winds of Toronto teams are shifting.

April saw the Toronto Raptors development team, Raptors 905, a team in only its second season of existence, run away with the NBA D-League (now G-League) championship. Led by Brady Heslip, Fred VanVleet and Bruno Caboclo, they lost just one playoff game on their way to the championship, as well as uphold an impressive 39-11 record throughout the regular season.

Last month we saw the Argos, which was thought of as a joke just last season, ride the golden arm of 38-year-old quarterback Ricky Ray to their first Grey Cup championship since 2012. It also became the first team to have two scoring plays



SOURCE: TORONTOFC.CA

of 100 yards in the CFL's final game.

We saw the rise of both the Raptors, who had another successful season before being clipped by the Cleveland Cavaliers in the semi-finals of the playoffs, and the Maple Leafs, who fought hard in a six-game playoff series loss to the Washington Capitals, led by the emergence of prospects such as Auston Matthews and Mitch Marner.

And the Jays? Well, they might've taken a back step, but they started this winning attitude by making the playoffs in back-to-back seasons prior.

Sports fans are known for flip-flopping. We'll boast or brag about our teams when they win, and cry and complain when they lose. Throughout the years, Toronto's teams (especially the Leafs) have given fan plenty of heartbreak to deal with. Fans know all too well about the constant fervent hope that each opening season brought, only to eventually evaporate into harsh defeat.

It wasn't long ago when ESPN dubbed Toronto as the "Worst Sports City in the World" with the focal point of our future resting on former Leafs general manager Brian Burke, which writer Stephen Marche described the city as being in a 'dark place' and officially hitting 'rock bottom.' Living in the largest

city in Canada, Torontonians are already hated for our perceived superiority.

Marche even suggested building an inverted statue to former MLSE head Richard Peddie, as a grave complete with a hole that fans could dump empty beer cans in lieu of all the victories he never gave us. Peddie, who ran MLSE for the better part of 12 years as president and CEO of Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment and the Raptors. When athlete Vince Carter expressed his displeasure, the fans turned on him instead of seeing MLSE as a greedy, money-making venture.

After Peddie's departure in 2011, MLSE has brought in executives such as Brandan Shanahan, Lou Lamoriello and Masai Ujiri to run both the NHL and NBA teams' top posts. Larry Tenenbaum, the minority-share owner of MLSE, brought in Mark Trestman and Jim Popp to run the Argos. All are proven winners who have brought in solid scouting, great personnel and reclaimed fan attention.

If there is a large trophy haul in the next few years and history continues to be broken, don't be shocked if ESPN soon declares Toronto as the "Best Sports City in the World."

## Drake started from the middle, now he's here



Elvin George  
NEWS EDITOR

If you aren't from Canada and you're not a fan, then you probably think he is a living meme. He has his corny dance moves, he's considered one of the "softest" rappers, he is surrounded by rumors of not writing his own songs and best of all, he said he "started from the bottom" when he actually lived in one of the wealthiest neighbourhoods in Toronto.

If you're reading this it's too late to even think if it's any other rapper than the man himself, Aubrey "Drake" Graham.

Drake is the poster-boy of emotional rap, and not many people appreciate that he shifted the hardcore angry genre to music about wanting to get back with your ex-girlfriend.

It would be understood if Biggie or Tupac crawled out of the grave and turned on the radio in their Rolls-Royce Ghost and played Drake's music only to crawl back into their graves.

Since the very first rap vinyl was ever spun by the early DJs back in the day, it was recognized that rap was going to get the listeners' heads bobbing. That is until the boy from Forest Hill introduced the "Why is She Talking to that Guy?" rap. His

music is categorized as soft and sappy rap music that isn't considered to be anywhere close to the classic gangsta rap.

When Drake released his first song in 2008, I was not a fan because I criticized his mockery of rap. The reason being is he didn't follow the guidelines of a classic rap song. Even after the constant bashing of his unorthodox rap, he consistently released the same type of music. Then it hit me, change is good. I was of the age where change was happening in every type of way, and that also helped me open the door to accept the new style of rap.

After his debut album "Thank Me Later" Drake began rising like a phoenix on his way to go back to his former lover. His second album "Take Care" is highly acclaimed as one of his best albums and it won him his first Grammy for the best rap album of 2013. People fell in love with his flow and then the shift in the rap game happened. All the rising rappers wanted the "Drake" sound so they ditched the standard rap style and followed the "Drake flow." There were more rappers rhyming on how horrible their ex's new man is by 2014.

Change isn't for everyone, especially if the music you listened to since you were four-years-old changed from something as hard as a brick to a soft and fluffy marshmallow. This is the adjustment some people follow or disregard. The older "hip-hop heads" seem to stay put and still listen to their vintage rappers while the current youth have fallen into the Drake emotional rap hypnosis.

There are millions of people who love to hate Drake just to follow the trend and then they plug their headphones in and start playing one of Drake's catchiest songs as they walk away. Not everyone will be open to saying they enjoy listening to a man sing about his emotional demises.



**QUOTED** How did the strike affect your holiday plans?

My plans were to work but now that we lost a big chunk of our break, I can't.



**Jonah Visser**  
SUSTAINABLE ENERGY AND BUILDING TECHNOLOGY  
2ND YEAR

I didn't really make any plans so I'll probably just catch up with friends.



**Fatima Abdu**  
FOOD AND NUTRITION MANAGEMENT  
1ST YEAR

I can't leave until the 22nd. I won't have time to spend with family.



**Zoe Rolph**  
KINESIOLOGY AT GUELPH-HUMBER  
1ST YEAR

**PHOTO OF THE WEEK** ARBORETUM OFFERS PERFECT LAST-MINUTE GIFTS

Arboretum staff sell plants grown in their greenhouse by students to raise awareness of the existence of the Arboretum at North campus.

MATT OWCZARZ



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GUELPH-HUMBER PROF JONATHAN HOOD MOTIVATE  
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