



## Warm days, lack of snow, present special challenges for Arboretum

Sveta Soloveva  
STAFF REPORTER

While the warmer winter this year gave deer and squirrels extra time for snacking, it deprived the Humber Arboretum of snowshoeing and put many plants at risk.

The absence of snow hit the budget of the Arboretum as it cannot run regular winter programs, such as snowshoeing and owl sighting, said Taurean Linton, a public relations and event manager.

The future of maple syrup tapping is still uncertain.

"We usually tap maple trees between the end of February and early March, but for maple syrup you need cold fluctuations," Linton said.

The squirrels don't seem to mind the economic woes, since they had a chance to store and

eat their food for much longer during this fall. They're significantly fatter now.

"I've noticed a few of them are like, 'Man, that squirrel is big,'" said Linton.

The warmer weather is beneficial for animals that are active in the winter because they don't have to waste their energy running through deep snow looking for food, said Arboretum coordinator Jimmy Vincent.

"It's a huge advantage for the white-tailed deer that has been able to eat grass instead of small buds," he said.

Birds have also been enjoying the generosity of the season. Canada geese continued eating the grass and did not migrate at all. Linton said he even saw American robins at the second week of January, while they normally fly south for the winter.

Unfortunately, the unseasonal warmth is not that beneficial for many plants.

"I have my fingers crossed that the 6,000 tulip bulbs the students and my team planted will not bloom too early and freeze before the season officially starts," said Andrea Sudak, the horticulture technician at the Arboretum.

She noticed that cherry trees and viburnum species have already started flowering, but if a frost hits, the opened buds die killing the spring flower.

"Prepare to see lighter and shorter bloom times in the spring," Sudak said.

Vincent said it is going to be a very difficult season for maple syrup because it needs to freeze at night and warm up during the day to flow. If sap does not freeze, it may



SVETA SOLOVEVA

Lack of snow highlights unseasonably warm weather at Humber Arboretum, where some winter programs are postponed, animal behaviour has changed and some plants are at risk.

not flow at all.

"I don't even know if we'll be able to get sap," Vincent said.

The cold also helps in fighting many foreign pests such as the emerald ash borer that kills ash trees, said Sudak.

The ice storm in 2013 killed the larvae before they could emerge as beetles. However, this year the insects might

win the battle, she said. The experts at the Arboretum don't look at the unseasonable weather in terms of pros and cons, rather that nature is ever evolving and changing and humans cannot control it.

Nature is like a river carving its path and changing over time, said Sudak.

"At the end of the day na-

ture is going to do what nature is going to do," she said. "Next year at this time we could be under 20 feet of snow."

"In this sort of job you begin to expect the unexpected," Linton said. "Is it going to get worse or is it going to become the norm? I don't know, but for me it brings to mind climate change."

## Ghomeshi trial concludes with perjury accusations

Veronica Appia  
Ali Amad  
SENIOR REPORTERS

The Crown and the defence have wrapped up closing arguments in the trial against former CBC host, Jian Ghomeshi.

Ghomeshi has pleaded not guilty to four counts of sexual assault and one count of overcoming resistance by choking.

The defence arguments, initially presented by co-counsel Danielle Robitaille and later by Marie Henein, focused on what they described as the alleged victims' "failure to disclose and efforts to conceal" their subsequent communications with Ghomeshi.

Crown Attorney Michael Callaghan argued that the three complainants' stories indicate a troubling pattern of sexual abuse. That they pursued Ghomeshi after the fact has no bearing on whether the assaults occurred, he said.

"Everyone reacts differently to sexual assault," said Callaghan, criticizing the "stereotypical assumptions about how people ... react to sexual abuse" used by the defence.

The prosecution said that



KATIE PEDERSEN

Former CBC Radio host Jian Ghomeshi exiting the courthouse at Old City Hall on Thursday.

the defence did nothing to directly challenge the witnesses' assertions that they had not consented to sexual violence.

"One cannot give consent after the fact," Callaghan said. "Not having a response isn't tantamount to consent."

Henein said the complainants' attempts to contact

Ghomeshi after the alleged assaults shows there was at least some degree of consent.

She said the evidence against the accused fell short and was "riddled with inconsistencies" attributable to deception, not trauma.

"No expert will testify that perjury is indicative of trau-

ma," she said. "The extraordinary fact of this case is that all three complainants withheld information from police, the Crown and court."

But Callaghan said the inconsistencies are natural given the years that had elapsed since the alleged events occurred.

"Victims of abuse often do

not ... disclose and if they do, a substantial amount of time might have passed," Callaghan said.

Robitaille highlighted behaviour between Lucy DeCoutere and another complainant, who cannot be named due to a publication ban.

This comes after judge William Horkins ruled Tuesday that evidence would be allowed from a fourth and final witness presented by the Crown.

The decision by the judge came after the defence submitted that Trailer Park Boys actress Lucy DeCoutere fabricated her testimony and colluded with the third witness.

The defence suggested that among the motives behind DeCoutere's alleged fabrications was the intent to garner attention through publicity.

Crown attorney Michael Callaghan told the court on Tuesday that the fourth witness would rebut the defence's submission and corroborate DeCoutere's testimony by confirming that the actress told her she was choked by Ghomeshi over a decade ago.

On Monday, the third witness in the trial, whose name is protected under a publi-

cation ban, testified that she and DeCoutere exchanged up to 5,000 emails and Facebook messages where they discussed Ghomeshi.

The messages cursed Ghomeshi and occasionally discussed specific details of their allegations.

The Crown described their relationship as merely "an informal support group."

Danielle Robitaille, co-counsel for Ghomeshi called DeCoutere's allegations "a wholesale lie."

Owing to inclement weather conditions in her town in Nova Scotia, the fourth witness did not appear in court on Wednesday. Instead, the Crown presented the court with transcripts of her statement to police and electronic conversations with DeCoutere.

The trial began on Feb. 1, and Judge William Horkins said he will reserve a decision until March 24.

Ghomeshi will face an additional charge of sexual assault in a separate trial in June.

WITH FILES FROM JEREMY APPEL AND JENNIFER BERRY

# Campus



SAM JURIC

New library space in North campus LRC has been outfitted with modern equipment as well as an expanded archive of books.

## Library gets enlarged, updated space at LRC

Kasandra DaSilva and Anusha Azeem

REPORTERS

Humber North campus has grown dramatically with the recent addition of the Learning Resource Commons, home of the expanded library facility.

The LRC building, which officially opened in fall 2015, is always packed with students waiting for their coffee at Starbucks or working away in the new library.

"If you have been going to Humber for a long time, you know how big of an upgrade this is," said Fareesha Saheed, a third-year paralegal student.

"The new computers, the larger space and the new

study rooms are great, and the printers are more efficient now so the line is shorter, making it a huge benefit to all students," said Saheed.

Despite the new features, however, students are not fully aware of all the library has to offer, said circulation clerk Amanda Vanmierlo.

"We have the learning commons that is open 24 hours a day, which is always available to students. Also, for those who want a quieter area to study, we have the private study rooms to accommodate all," she said.

Vanmierlo said the library has an extensive e-library collection of textbooks and resource guides to help students with their projects.

She said the library also

has a self-checkout line.

Vanmierlo, who has been with the library for 14 years, said the facility is now more accessible to people with disabilities.

"Last year, the elevators were broken down for six weeks" and there was limited access into the library for the disabled.

Students are also served by a coffee and snack cart near the entrance of the fourth floor library so they don't have to trek to the first floor for refreshments.

"The coffee cart is awesome, it is like a small cafe and way better than the old vending machines and it is only a few steps away," said Noah Williamson, a second-year Humber Business student.

Although the library has become more current and tech-savvy, it has also expanded its catalogue of physical resource books.

"I'm glad they kept the reference books as sometimes it is easier to study from those than from all the notes and articles online," said Williamson.

Humber boasts that the six-storey LRC has added 264,000 square feet to the North campus and can accommodate 2,200 students. It was built at a cost of \$79 million, \$74.5 million of which was provided by the Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities.

WITH FILES FROM PATRICIA TSOLIS

## Student group advocates free tuition

Hayley Michaud

SENIOR REPORTER

Free post-secondary tuition could be a reality for students across Canada if the Canadian Federation of Students had its way.

After a week of lobbying on Parliament Hill and some 200 meetings, the federation released a list of recommendations on tuition fees for the federal government to review.

Bilan Arte, national chairperson of CFS, spoke about the logistics of passing a federal post-secondary education act.

"We have a really good basis to be able to (pass) a national act from modeling

it after the universal health care act that we already have," Arte said.

"Free education is not a new concept in Canada, it's very much already been successful in at least one of our provinces," she said.

"I think modeling legislation at the national level after the universal health care act would be (the) best way moving forward," she told Humber News in an interview on Tuesday.

Ahmed Tahir, president of the Humber Students' Federation, believes that free tuition is the next logical step for the Canadian government, which has European examples such as Germany and France of free university

tuition.

"I'm a huge advocate for it, and I think it's something that makes a tonne of sense," he said.

"The more educated people are, the better work they do. The more productive they are, the better your economy is going to go and the more jobs you create because you have more people starting businesses."

"Getting a university or college education is no longer (optional)," said Arte.

"More than 70 per cent of new jobs require some form of post-secondary education."

"Education as an industry needs to come up to the 21st century," Tahir said.

The debt load carried by

current students is higher than ever before, said Arte.

For the first time in Canadian history post-secondary educated people face nearly \$19 billion in federal debt alone she said. That doesn't include provincial or private loans.

This leaves students unable to make investments in the economy in terms of buying a home or starting a family or business, Arte said.

"Were facing insurmountable — crushing — levels of student debt and that is having an enormously negative impact on our ability to be able to invest back into the economy and to be successful once we graduate," Arte said.

## Mechanical bull draws students to country pub night

Daniel Caudle

REPORTER

Humber students took the bull by the horns this week at Humber's North campus.

Plaid, denim, cowboy hats and a mechanical bull could all be found at LinX pub for a modest gathering at Wednesday night's country pub night.

The bull riding started at 3 p.m. — and within minutes some two dozen students had signed up to participate.

"This event is always busy and provides students with a study break and an opportunity to make memories" said LinX manager Daniela Trozzolo.

Country pub night attracted students from Humber College and University of Guelph-Humber to take their shot at eternal glory as the longest rider on the bull.

The event provided some much needed enjoyment for people riding the bull and for those watching people ride the bull, said Monica Amendala, a second year Justice Studies student at Guelph-Humber.

The Humber country night has featured a mechanical bull three times so far, the first time in September of 2014, providing students with a free way to dissolve their

stress, said Trozzolo.

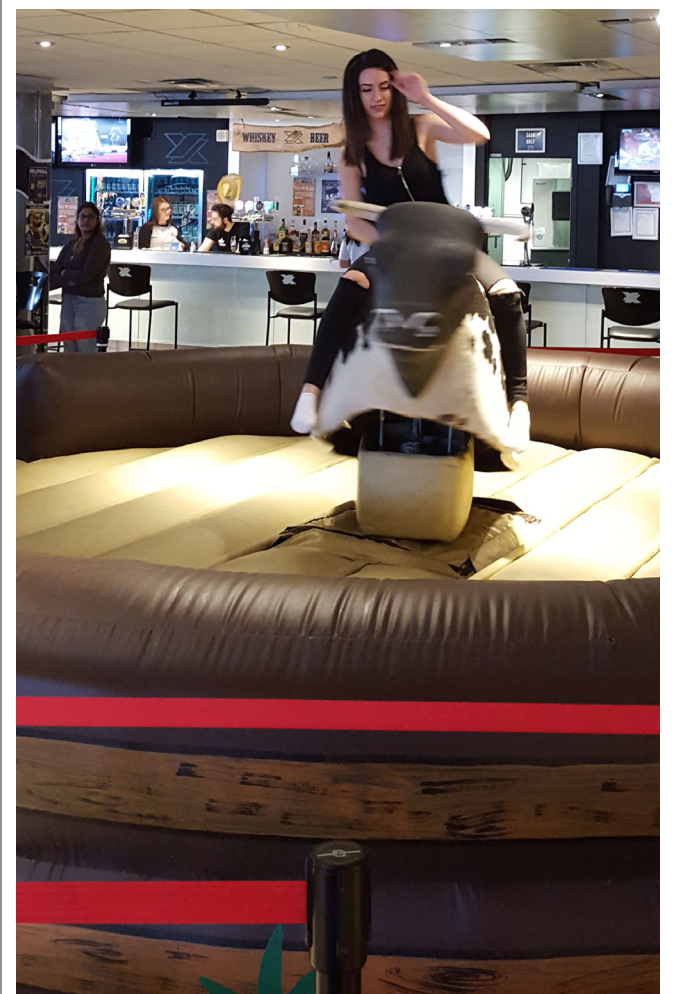
The company which provides the mechanical bull, Checkers Fun Factory, rents out different kinds of party-oriented equipment, such as bouncy castles and popcorn machines. The average person last about 10 to 12 seconds on the mechanical bull said Checkers employee Chris Barclay. The company provides equipment to bars across the GTA, including three mechanical bulls for rent, added Barclay.

In this case, the mechanical bull's \$1,400 daily rental fee was covered by Molson Coors due to the mutual endorsement between the brewery and LinX Lounge.

"People are a big fan of our equipment and find a thrill that they didn't know was possible. After they sign the waiver they have the ability to hold on with one hand to reign supreme," said Barclay.

With music playing from Kid Rock to Carrie Underwood, students sing along to their favorite songs as an external speaker blasts through the bar.

"This event will go on as long as possible," said Trozzolo. "As long as it is sponsored, LinX will be able to provide the event free to students."



DANIEL CAUDLE

Student rides mechanical bull at LinX Lounge country event.

# Black students raise AIDS awareness

Lia Richardson  
REPORTER

Marking Black History Month, a BrAIDS for AIDS event in which visitors could have their hair worked on, took place Wednesday at the University of Guelph-Humber. Hair instructor and coordinator of Braiding with a Social Twist program Tanya Tortin helped host the event, with the Black Students' Association.

Her program is for women ages 18 to 29 and teaches hair care information as well as sexual education. Doing hair is an easy way to get crucial talks about sex and social issues going, Tortin said.

"Black hair is not always understood. So to create a hair salon type of atmosphere where meaningful conversations often happen, it can make things like sex and race not so taboo and awkward," she said.

BrAIDS for AIDS was founded in 2008 by social entrepreneur, Stachen Frederick, who launched the enterprise to raise awareness of HIV/AIDS in black communities in Canada.

In a 2006 study, the Public Health Agency of Canada found that 12.9 per cent of people who tested positive for HIV were of Caribbean



LIA RICHARDS

**Guelph-Humber Black Students' Association seeks a conversation about safe sexuality.**

and African descent. Eleven per cent of contracted AIDS cases were part of the same group, making black Canadians the demographic with the highest rate of infection.

Anna-Kay Hyatt, 19, a second-year family and community social services student at Guelph-Humber, said she could relate to this particular event in every way.

"I'm always doing everyone's hair as well as my own. Black hair is beautiful to me but it's clear not everyone

understands that," she said. "Plus, the sexual health education aspect is so important, I was interested immediately."

Lakeisha Ferreira, president of the Black Students' Association at Guelph-Humber, said the issue of HIV/AIDS isn't how much someone knows, but how well they follow up on evolving research.

"Even I don't know that much about it," she said. "I have to continuously and responsibly keep up with the facts because they are always

being updated."

Ferreira said she picks and arranges specific organizations she thinks will complement the BSA, as well as educate others about issues affecting minorities.

Her cousin's death from the disease encouraged her to speak more publicly on the matter, she said.

For more information on BrAIDS for AIDS, Braiding with a Social Twist and the Black Students' Association, contact Lakeisha Ferreira,

## Open Mic Night offers students chance to shine

Matthew Owczarz  
REPORTER

Guitar in hand, Sydney Riley, a Humber cosmetic management student, stands in front of the spotlight. It's a quiet bar room where piercing eyes and perked ears have all drawn their attention to her.

Anxiety and panic initially clash inside Riley's head but quickly dissipate as she steps closer to the mic.

Riley adjusts her strap so her guitar rests comfortably at her waist and then delicately positions her hands around it. She strikes down her pick and the guitar bellows out the opening chords to Queen's "Another One Bites the Dust". Her voice quickly joins in singing, and so does the crowd.

This was what show time was like for Humber students who displayed their talents on Tuesday night at the second Open Mic Night event hosted by Humber Students' Federation at North campus' LinX Lounge.

Attendance was strong as singers, guitarists, rappers and poets took the stage.

"It's a great opportunity

for students to leave their comfort zone, make friends and unite a student community," said HSF programming coordinator and Open Mic acting judge Kori Plaughman.

"I think it's important to have events that showcase local talent because it allows us to grow and supports local musicians and the arts," said Humber horticulture student and Open Mic participant, John Fry.

Crowd feedback and reaction plays a role in narrowing down the best contestants, while four judges decide the top two winners. The top two are announced privately by email in the following days, said Plaughman.

Prizes for the winners of the evening's competition are \$25 pre-paid VISA cards. On top of that, the winners also qualify for "Humber's Got Talent" when all the open mic night winners throughout the year compete. Prizes for that event include \$500 for first place, \$250 for second and Toronto Maple Leafs or Toronto Raptors tickets for third, said Plaughman.

The Humber's Got Talent event is slated for March 29.

## Interpretive Centre to open in fall

Christina Mulherin  
STAFF REPORTER

Humber College's Lakeshore campus is a setting of significant history and the Lakeshore Grounds Interpretive Centre, set to open in September 2016, will commemorate it.

Built in 1888 as the Mimico Asylum, the original psychiatric institution, became the Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital for decades before closing its doors in 1979.

A few years later, while the

City of Toronto was discussing what would become of the site, Humber proposed turning it into a campus.

Humber signed a 99-year lease on the property in 1991 and renovations followed soon after.

"Humber Lakeshore campus is a hidden gem in the Etobicoke Lakeshore community with rich history," said Wanda Buote, principal of Lakeshore campus.

Moreover, Humber's Lakeshore campus is expanding. The Lakeshore Grounds In-

terpretive Centre will be a 200-square-foot area within a new Welcome Centre, described as an area celebrating art, the surrounding community and civic engagement.

The campus' history will also be well displayed in the exhibition space on the first floor of the new four-level Welcome Centre.

The gallery will focus on four main themes: Aboriginal history of the site, natural ecology of the area, the Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital and educational history.

"The amazing thing about this area is that there's no one history, it's multiple histories that intersect and influence each other," said Tara Mazurk, curator for the new centre.

Also part of the college's new additions is an online gallery of stories about the area.

Anyone with any memories associated with the location is welcome to write out their story to be posted to share with everyone.

A new 24,000-square-foot Athletic Centre is also being built on the north side of Lake Shore Boulevard near 24<sup>th</sup> Street. The building is expected to open later this year.

## Health insurance workshops tell students about access to coverage

**Humber Students' Federation uses half \$11-million budget for health benefits**

Zachary McGregor

STAFF REPORTER

The costs associated with out-of-pocket medical care can be enormous for those who lack a health insurance plan.

Major medical expenses like dental work or vision care can be a financial burden on college students struggling to make ends meet.

That's why Humber Students' Federation is allocated nearly \$11-million from student fees, over half of which pays for their college health insurance plans. The problem is, most students at Humber don't know how to access the insurance plans or what expenses they actually cover.

"It's hard for students to know what type of health insurance plan is right for them," said Jade Moore, an HSF customer service representative.

Accordingly, last Monday,

HSF held its first ever health insurance workshop to educate students about the benefits they are entitled to. The workshop, held at Humber's Lakeshore campus, gave students information about some of the different health plans available to them and what they cover.

HSF offers three different health insurance plans to full-time students who have paid their tuition and student activity fee. The categories are balanced, enhanced dental and enhanced prescription drug plans.

"The balanced plan works for me since it covered most of the costs for my eye exam and contact (lenses)," said Evi Marita Masthio, a second-year Global Business Management student.

The health insurance plans offered by HSF are especially important for international students like Masthio. Without HSF insurance, Masthio would have to pay the full costs of medical expenses not covered by Canada's universal healthcare system.

"Our insurance is able to

help so many people in so many different ways," said Melissa Khuai, the HSF Service Coordinator. "Being covered by HSF insurance has so many benefits and the workshop allows us to share that with students."

More information sessions on health insurance are being planned "There will definitely be more workshops to come as more students become interested in signing up for a plan," said Moore.

The number of students enrolled in health plans grows every year, according to HSF representatives, a trend the student government would like to see continue.

"If you paid for your tuition you might as well use the free health insurance you are entitled to," said Khuai.

The next health insurance workshop will be held Feb. 25 at 1:30 p.m. in K Building on Lakeshore campus. All full-time students are encouraged to sign up and get enrolled in an HSF health plan that is right for them.



RUTH ESCARLAN

**A new Lakeshore Grounds Interpretive Centre will archive history of facility first built in 1888 as Mimico Asylum.**

# Commentary

## Did we forget we're Canadian?

Canada has committed to withdrawing from a combat role against ISIS, focusing instead on training local forces and providing humanitarian aid to the war-torn countries of Iraq and Syria. This has produced a startling revelation about modern Canada, namely that we have become a nation of mouth-frothing warmongers with no regard for the lives of innocent civilians.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and the Liberals have announced a plan to withdraw our six CF-18 fighters by the end of March and a poll from the Angus Reid Institute suggests only 27 per cent of Canadians agree with this decision. Some 37 per cent of respondents said the government should continue the current level of bombing and an alarming 26 per cent want to increase that level.

Canada is the nation that invent-

ed the concept of peacekeeping, which ostensibly has become a core part of our national identity, yet 63 per cent of its citizens support the wholesale destruction of cities loaded down with innocent lives because of the actions of a militant few.

Did we fall so far under the crushing fist of the Harper government? We vote for sunny ways back home and endorse blackening the skies of faraway nations with the grim spectre of imminent death?

It's not like Trudeau said we were going to let ISIS run willy-nilly around the world spreading fear and destruction. The commitment the Liberals want is one of mediation, humanitarian aid for victims and training for the local forces that must deal with the militant group on a daily basis. The U.S., France and other countries are already committed to waging a war of attrition against an

enemy that is more an idea than a force. Shouldn't at least one country step up to pick up the debris?

Bombing schools and mosques doesn't destroy ISIS, it makes them stronger. The idea is that the West persecutes the Muslim world with oppressive tactics, and a pile of rubble littered with the charred remains of schoolchildren reinforces that idea. Every building that is demolished without a pair of feet touching the ground bolsters hatred of the Western boogiemans indiscriminately killing from the sky in order to bring Coca-Cola into as far a reach as possible.

Interventionism causes more problems than it solves. It happened to the U.S. in Vietnam, it happened in Cambodia, it happened in Afghanistan, it happened in Iraq and now it's happening in Syria. Why would Canada want to make Amer-

ica's sordid legacy as international warlords spreading the gospel of manifest destiny into our own?

And while ISIS are the obvious bad guys in Syria, the answer of who the good guys are is not exactly forthcoming. Is it the Syrian government waging a war on its own people, including the use of chemical weapons on a civilian population? Is it the Free Syrian Army, which engages in kidnappings, torture and other war crimes? Anyone who claims to have a clear answer to this type of question swears allegiance to something more mundane than moral authority.

So who cares what the Canadian population thinks? Let them mire in base animal instincts and blood-thirsty rage. Meanwhile the government and grown-ups must take on the responsibility of making Canada great again.

## Sexual exploitation in local music scene



**Phil Witmer**  
ASSIGNMENT EDITOR

Power and influence in the music industry is in the possession of a few people, mainly men. When the cache of influence held by these men is used as a bargaining chip, it

creates a toxic cycle of sexual abuse and blackmail. In fact, the tight-knit circles of local scenes can be more conducive in allowing abusive professional relationships to self-propagate. Male promoters, managers and publicists can choose to give or take influence from female musicians when they please.

I've seen it happen here in Toronto's all-ages scene. Teenage artists struggle to find shows at venues that aren't 19+ and are susceptible to falling in with men who abuse them and then use blackmail to ensure they aren't found out.

A story that made the rounds in local circles last year concerned prominent Toronto promotion company Johnnyland.

Their founder had taken advantage of girls who attended and performed at the company's shows before being

exposed by a network of survivors.

What's key here is that because the scene is so small, the behaviours of the individuals in question were an open secret, whether it was irresponsibly getting kids inebriated or dismissing reports of harassment.

Through an anonymous Tumblr user, the accounts became one solid case, and it was strong enough to make some venues blacklist Johnnyland from holding shows on their property.

Earlier this month, New York musician Amber Coffman tweeted about her experience with Heathcliff Berru, publicist at the major New York firm Life or Death PR.

While Coffman's coming forth with the details of exploitation was courageous and resulted in Berru's resignation, only through the corroboration of other women did her story gain traction. Had no one

else backed her up, Berru and his team could have likely buried her claims, apologized and continued as if nothing had happened. Because many voices were heard in unison, an influential New York industry figure was toppled.

In both these cases, action was only taken when enough women spoke out. But why did it need to be so many? Why does the music industry have such difficulty in not believing women?

Bringing the bigger issue down to the minimal size of a local music scene can allow for sexism to be tackled with more ease. Hiring women into administrative music management positions here in Toronto would also help in deterring a frat house-like atmosphere. Maybe next time one woman's claims will be enough.

### QUOTED: How much do you think it costs to be in a relationship?

"Not only are you spending money but you're also spending your time. It requires a lot of effort and there's both monetary value and time value."



**Ronia Franci**  
Law Firm Profile -- Office Admin.

"It cost a lot because there's so much expectations. People like receiving things so it costs a lot to keep that up."



**Isaac K.**  
Tourism Management, 1st year

"It cost thousands of dollars to be in a relationship because that includes going out to eat and the gifts."



**Nichelle Whyte**  
Academic Upgrading, 1st year

*Humber Et Cetera serves to inform the Humber community and give its readers well rounded coverage on the things that matter to them.*

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## Musical transit bandits launch rude assaults on shared space



**Jennifer Berry**  
SENIOR REPORTER

**T**hey hop on subway cars and buses when you least expect it. They seem unassuming until they get a little closer and your eardrums are viciously accosted. They wield weapons of auditory assault so rude, so imposing, you do nothing but sit dumbfounded, vacillating between total shock and sheer outrage.

Dirty looks and exasperated side-eyed glances are shot and fired. You share knowing glances with fellow commuters, as if to say, "The nerve, right?" You hope these loud, musically inclined miscreants will notice your utter disdain, wake up as if from a deeply rude trance, and plug their Beats by Dre in.

But the realization never comes. They stare ahead, defiant, and you're stuck for another 17 stops in audio purgatory. These music-blasting

bandits are going sans headphones, force-feeding their musical preferences onto unsuspecting transit riders. And they must be stopped.

At first, I thought it was my real age rearing its mature head. Was my chronological 32 years betraying my youthful joie de vivre? I like Justin Bieber! I know how to use (most of) the latest vernacular! Why did this particular behaviour grate so violently on each of my last nerves? Was this seemingly new trend merely a sign of the times? Am I just behind?

Ultimately, the age argument doesn't hold up because the assailants in these musical drive-by's aren't just young rabble-rousers, but men and women of all different ages and stripes.

Just last week, a middle aged man plunked down on the subway and proceeded to blast non-descript beats from a poor quality device as pillowy headphones dangled from his knapsack, the useless appendages begging to be deployed.

And it's not simply that my taste in music varies wildly from many of these public transit audio bandits, it's the utter disregard for other people's space that gets me. Could this behaviour be anymore outrageously rude? What possesses people to force dozens of strangers to endure their particular musical tastes?

The act of blaring music in public is not brand new but its motivations have changed. In the late 1970s, tunes were pouring out of portable

stereos called boomboxes.

This was largely a cultural behaviour associated with urban communities, which eventually gave birth to the term "ghetto blaster." While boomboxes were ultimately banned from public places in most cities, they're arguably an inextricable part of the history of hip-hop culture.

The current headphone-free trend is less a rebellious cultural message than it is a disregard for personal space, an utter lack of manners. Some argue it is a by-product of advances in technology that has blurred the distinction between public and private. Smartphones and social media have made it possible to broadcast our every move to whoever cares. They allow for us to connect to people, places, and experiences without ever leaving our homes, while noise-cancelling headphones can create pods of solitude in the most bustling crowds.

And the crossover between public and private has seemingly caused some people to lose their sense of what's appropriate and how to be considerate of other people's needs.

Are we noise-policing naysayers with old fashioned ideas about manners? No. Regardless of age, having at minimum polite consideration for others - and their eardrums - in shared spaces is timeless.

## Cost of finding love? Just about \$61,000



**Jess Reyes**  
ONLINE EDITOR

**V**alentine's Day is emerging around the corner marked by cinnamon hearts, dozens of roses that will eventually meet their end and the subtle emptying of your pocket book, all in the name 'love.'

A recent study by RateSupermarket reveals that behind every love story is a destitute former single with a drained bank account filled with disappointment.

Wearing a massive sheet of overpriced tulle and a crisp tuxedo might sound romantic (whatever that means) but the study shows that by the time you reach walking down the aisle and saying the words "I do," a romantic relationship can cost about \$61,000.

Why pay off your mound of student debt when you could spend it all on a relationship that will most likely end?

Go ahead, pay for matchmaking sites and use online dating apps to your heart's content. But don't expect to get any richer. A membership with eHarmony can cost up to \$65 a month.

After a string of blind dates (the 300th date is the charm) which require gas, parking and most likely paying for at least your share of night's activities, whether it went good or bad, you will soon see the spending doesn't end.

But hey, "love don't cost a thing," as wise Jenny from the block once said. Wrong.

Once you've acquired a committed partner from the long and almost always arduous task of dating, the costs just get steeper.

Ikea trips, condo shopping and, maybe, putting a ring on it.

You have big choices to make: princess cut, cushion cut or marquise? Carnations, roses, or lilies? What will your wedding party be wearing? And what will you give your party as a thank you for witnessing your big day and colossal descent into debt.

And don't forget that honeymoon getaway. Five star resorts for seven days mean new lingerie, swimsuits and lots of extra-curricular spending.

And after the somewhat amnesic effects of a honeymoon you remember exactly how much money you've spent in wooing and dating your spouse. And that's when it happens; you realize love does in fact cost more than you think.

## Canadian justice system's problem with consent



**Malcolm Campbell**  
SENIOR REPORTER

**A**t the conclusion of an episode of Law and Order in which an arsonist has been convicted in the murders of 53 people, the bailiff reads aloud the names of the dead. Watching this as a 14 year old at home "sick" from school one day shortly after 9/11, I asked my mother if they would read the names at the trial of Osama bin Laden, if they ever found him.

The optimism that if he was found, he would be tried and convicted could only have existed with the innocence that comes with ignorance. At this point pessimism is really taking hold and the Ghomeshi trial has done nothing to slow the onslaught.

What has seemed like such a short trial for those lucky enough to be external actors, has been a grueling process for the victims. Their credibility has been attacked and in some cases brought into question by the defence, led by Marie Henein.

This is how sexual assault cases often proceed when no physical evidence exists and the issue of consent or culpability is left up to an argument between what the complainants and defendant say.

The media throughout has brought to light the plight of sexual assault survivors and how difficult their attackers trials can be. Many often say that dealing with the criminal justice system is in the end, in some ways worse than the assault itself.

The coverage of the trial however,

has been salacious and wall-to-wall. Reporters have been accused of misquoting complainants, creating inconsistencies that have drawn the credibility of their assertions into question. And at the heart of the matter, no one is talking about how the legal framework criminal cases are processed through is not sufficient for cases of sexual assault.

Jian Ghomeshi has never maintained his innocence. He has never contended that he committed, at the very least, many of the brutal acts he is accused. This has always been an issue of consent, and the defence has done a good job of using of circumstantial evidence, seemingly unrelated to the assaults themselves to prove that there was an implicit consent to these assaults. Henein is a top end lawyer, she is earning her money, and the system is working as it should, and that is the problem.

The criminal justice system as it is now, is designed to put people in jail for committing crimes by using tangible evidence to convict them. Consent isn't a tangible object.

That is why it is nearly impossible

to prove that consent was never given beyond a reasonable doubt, it is also why the system needs an overhaul. Just spit balling here, but what about having a different system of courts for cases of sexual violence where the main actors were trained in dealing with the complexities of these situations?

There would be several benefits right away. First, complainants wouldn't be subjected to the kind of interrogation and humiliation they are now, as the standards of proof for something like consent would be different, they have to be.

The other side of this, is that people committing offences, at least less violent ones, may be saved through a new system.

The prison system as it is now, is not about rehabilitation, and if it is, it isn't working. I for one would rather see people committing lewd acts, and less violent sexual offences in secure psychological institutions rather than the general population of a federal corrections facility.

It is commonly accepted that prisons are the schools of criminals;

people go in for five or more years and come out with a network of contacts in the criminal world from around the country. In many cases they have honed their criminal skills.

This obviously isn't everyone, many come out and lead productive lives, and none of this is the point. The point is, if a man committing sexual offences goes to prison, creates a network, and hones his skills, what is going to happen when he comes out?

Sexual offences need a place of their own within the criminal justice system both for survivors of sexual violence and the perpetrators, in the hopes they can be rehabilitated. Societal attitudes about rape and violence towards women have come a long way, but it often seems like we haven't really moved forward at all.

Changing the criminal justice system to address the glaring need for a safer, more supportive environment would allow victims to feel like survivors more quickly, and help address the problem at its roots: The offenders.

# One Billion Rising raises awareness of domestic abuse

Allyssa Sousa-Kirpaul  
STAFF REPORTER

A One Billion Rising event sought to raise awareness about domestic abuse with speeches and manicures this past week at Humber North campus.

One Billion Rising is a worldwide campaign intended to increase awareness of and prevent violence against women.

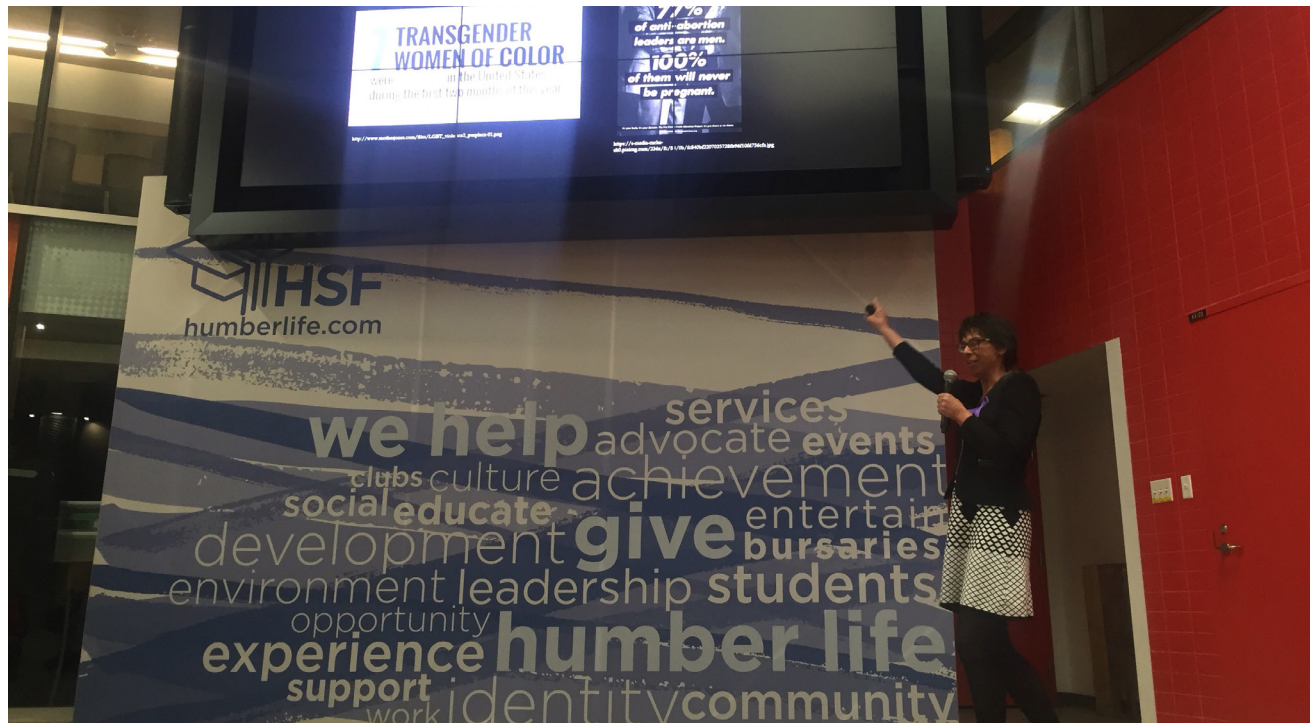
The Feb. 10 event was hosted in the Student Centre by First Year Experience peer mentors. Students crowded around the 11 booths which included a manicure, hand massage and public safety booth.

They came with -painted fingernails to represent wherever available, said Student Life co-ordinator Nivedita Lane.

"This is an event that means a lot to our students, so our senior peer mentors decided this was a campaign they really cared about and the Student Life staff is here to support that," Lane said.

"The massage therapists are here because they know talking about this issue can cause stress," she added.

Sharrone Stone, a pro-



ALLYSSA SOUSA-KIRPAUGH

Sharrone Stone gives an inspirational speech in North campus Student Centre as part of Humber's One Billion Rising event.

fessor at University of Guelph-Humber, started things off by giving an inspirational speech on the stage.

FYE has hosted the event before but this year tried to make it an even bigger event with more activities, said Amarjot Khosa, 22, a second-year Business stu-

dent and one of the senior peer mentors that organized Humber's occasion.

"One Billion Rising is done everywhere across the world and universities and colleges need to also take this step," she said.

This is a global event that the Lakeshore campus is in-

volved with as well, said Lane.

Matthew Allen, 21 and Joseph Dawod, 25, both fourth-year Justice Studies students, were hosting the public safety table.

They were promoting the Campus Walk and self-defence programs at the school.

Allen gave some tips on

how women can protect themselves.

"Know your surroundings, know who's around you, always travel in groups and always be aware of what's happening," he said. "What we can't stress enough is know where you're going, who you're going with."

## Humber professor designs glasses-free 3D technology

Omar Jaber  
STAFF REPORTER

A 3D technology for use with the iPad is being developed by Humber Research and Innovation with the college's Industrial Design program in partnership with an Ontario-based company.

Odin Cappello, professor in the Industrial Design program, was recently given the opportunity to work alongside a team of students to design a prototype that would make 3D viewing on the iPad possible without the need for 3D glasses. This project was presented to Humber's industrial design department by OOOYAVAH Inc., the partner firm.

"The opportunity to work on the OOOYAVAH project was a situation where I was in the right place at the right time," Cappello said. "OOOYAVAH approached Humber Industrial Design about getting some help with design and I was elected by the department to get involved."

Cappello was successfully awarded funding from the VIP program of the Ontario Centers of Excellence.

He received his Masters in industrial design from Pratt

Institute in New York City and soon after found a job designing glasses for Marchon Eyewear, a company based out of Manhattan.

"I've been involved in the design of eyewear ever since, having worked for several companies on a variety of brands including Nike, Michael Kors and Calvin Klein," said Cappello.

While Cappello is still involved in the design of eyewear, his move to Toronto opened new doors for him, including the current project with OOOYAVAH.

Alexander Pantalone, a Toronto real estate agent, sees the potential for a product like this when it comes to real estate development,

"Clients are all about the visual aspect of things, and a product that allows you to get a 3D look into a property before it's built would appeal to them a great deal, as well as developers."

Although the product is geared towards industrial and commercial applications such as engineering, architecture and pharmaceuticals, Cappello said OOOYAVAH also sees the potential for consumer applications for the product such as watching



SCREENCAP FROM OOOYAVAH

Odin Cappello, professor of Industrial Design, worked on prototype for 3D viewing on iPad.

movies and gaming.

Amanda Brown, research coordinator for Communications and Partnerships at Humber commended Cappello.

"Odin Cappello's work with OOOYAVAH Inc. is a great example of the innovative research Humber students and faculty are doing

to develop solutions with our industry partners," she said.

The production schedule of the new technology is still to be determined.

## #RIPTwitter trends after timeline shift to algorithm

Phil Witmer  
SENIOR REPORTER

Social media giant Twitter will be making important changes to how the site functions but users aren't pleased with the potential plans.

Initially reported by BuzzFeed and introduced this week, Twitter was said to be abolishing its chronological timeline in favour of an algorithm-based system this week.

When implemented, Twitter users will see tweets sorted by what their assumed interests are rather than in order of occurrence.

Facebook phased in a similar system last year, forcing creative professionals such as musicians and artists to pay if they wanted their posts to be visible.

Writers and other creatives immediately condemned Twitter's strategy, saying that it would undermine the very reasons the site is popular.

The #RIPTwitter hashtag became a trending topic for most of the weekend.

Twitter CEO Jack Dorsey insisted that Twitter is not rushing into any decisions regarding site-wide changes, tweeting, "Regarding #RIPTwitter: I want you all to know we're always listening. We never planned to reorder timelines next week."

The algorithm is the latest in a series of prospective changes that Twitter has been testing out, reportedly to broaden a user base that is stagnating compared to growing competitors like Instagram and Snapchat.

Twitter's "Moments" tab, a simple news aggregator, received similar derision after its launch last year, as did the news of possibly raising the 140 character limit to 10,000.

On Wednesday, reports came in of Twitter's stock falling by 12% as well as a loss of 2 million users.

Dorsey told analysts over Periscope that the company "will refine our core service and make everything more intuitive."