

## WE REMEMBER AS TIME GOES BY

**101-year-old veteran Eric Robert Lindsay honours those lost by handing out poppys at Etobicoke mall**

Shayonna Cole and Karl Lewis  
*News Reporters*

Junior Brown, a 61-year-old retired veteran, reflected on his experience serving in the army and what Remembrance Day meant to him.

"I enlisted in the Jamaica Defence Force in 1991," Brown said. "It was a very challenging experience from the initial training to my retirement.

"The physical aspect of military training and trying to adjust to a new life was hard. I was only 20 when I enrolled and couldn't see my family when I wanted to," he said.

Brown said serving his country taught him many lessons that he'll continue to carry with him.

"I learned how to be creative," Brown said. "Eventually, I adopted a 'never say never' outlook. It makes you treasure the journey and the friendships you make."

Remembrance Day, previously known as Armistice Day, began in 1919, after the First World War ended. It marks the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month, the moment the war ended.

A moment of silence is observed at 11 a.m.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said Friday the country vows to never forget the sacrifices made by armed forces members and veterans.

"Today, we pay tribute to Canadian service members, past and present, for all they have done to keep us safe," he said. "At the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month, we observe two minutes of silence," he said.

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Eric Robert Lindsay, a 101-year-old veteran, sold poppies, the symbol of Remembrance Day, this week at Sherway Gardens mall in Etobicoke.

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# Remembrance Day: Service spanning generations

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One Humber student, however, wasn't aware the day was approaching.

"I think this is a good day to remember the people that laid down their lives, but I don't associate November with Remembrance Day," said Rayvon Johnson, a third-year student in the Mechanical Engineering Technology program.

He said the day hadn't crossed his mind since he attended mandatory assemblies in elementary school.

"All that really happens now is you get a poppy and that's pretty much it," he said. "Maybe if it was more like other holidays where people go all out with decorations then it would be on my mind."

Eric Robert Lindsay, a 101-year-old veteran, sold poppies, the iconic symbol of Remembrance Day, earlier this week at Sherway Gardens Mall in south Etobicoke.

He said he enlisted the year before the Second World War began in 1939.

"I could see the war was coming," Lindsay said. "I joined the Territorial Army. When my mother found out I had joined, she said, 'Why don't you tell them your right age?'"

"Well, I was actually 15, but I said I was 16," he said. "Well, I could drive and I was teaching older men than me."

Lindsay said he was eventually deployed behind what was then believed to be the impregnable Maginot Line in eastern France.

"My two friends who joined at the same time were captured by the Germans," he said. "I got out because a young officer got into my cab" and fled. Along the escape route, Allied soldiers were damaging their abandoned trucks to prevent the Germans from using them.

Lindsay said he returned to southern England, later to join a regiment in Scotland, but after a short interview he became tired and didn't mention how he managed to cross the English Channel.

History knows it as the Battle of Dunkirk, where more than 330,000 British, French and Belgian troops were evacuated by boat under heavy German fire.

Jennifer Facey, a part-time teacher at Yorkwoods Public School, is trying to change the nar-



SHAYONNA COLE

Junior Brown enlisted in the Jamaica Defence Force in 1991. He said the experience makes you treasure the journey and the friendships you make along the way. On Remembrance Day, he reflects proudly on his service.

ative and educate students in the best way she can.

"Each year, I give my students this exercise where they have to imagine that their loved one has been drafted into the army," Facey said.

"My students are encouraged to put themselves in the family members' shoes," she said. "As young minds and as seedlings, they can be impacted by reflecting on the work veterans did for the country."

Canadians wear a poppy on the left side of their lapel to show respect for the veterans.

The poppy is a flower that grew on the battlefields in North West France after the First World War ended.

It is one of the most powerful symbols used to honour veterans.

"I don't only want them to think of the red rose or petals," Facey said. "I want my students to leave my class knowing the significance that this day holds so they can take it with them when they are older."

There are several ways to remember Remembrance Day, but for veterans like Brown, it will always carry special significance.

"I feel proud to have served," Brown said. "For me, it means a day of recognition for those who served before me and makes me feel proud to be counted among the veterans."



JUNIOR BROWN

Junior Brown in his military uniform after retiring from service.



JENNIFER FACEY

Jennifer Facey is teaching her students the story of veterans.



KARL LEWIS

Eric Robert Lindsay, a 101-year-old veteran, joined the territorial army in 1938. He enlisted under-age at 15, and was deployed to eastern France.

## ETC •

Humber Et Cetera is the Humber College journalism program laboratory newspaper. It is created by second and third year journalism students. 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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# Awareness of Indigenous Veterans Day lacking in Canada

**Makayla Verbruggen**  
News Reporter

Indigenous Veterans Day has been a recognized ceremony since 1994, to show gratitude to all the First Nations, Inuit, and Métis service members who fought for Canada in the Canadian Armed forces.

More than 2,700 Indigenous People are currently serving in our military and in the past, Indigenous soldiers enlisted in multiple conflicts including in the First and Second World Wars, the Korean War, and in United Nations peace-keeping missions.

The Indigenous Veterans Day proclamation was posted on the city of Toronto website.

Toronto Mayor John Tory proclaimed Nov. 8 as Indigenous Veterans Day, where Canadians can “pay tribute to the important ongoing and past contributions of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis who served in the Canadian Forces, as well as to honour their sacrifices.”

Humber students were polled by Et Cetera, asking if they knew about the significance of this day and that more than 2,000 Indigenous soldiers fought for our country.



BENOIT ROCHON

Wreaths lay against a war memorial as part of a Remembrance Day ceremony in Ottawa in 2017. In the foreground are two in honour of Indigenous veterans, one displayed in English and the other in French.

The responses were shocking.

Out of the 26 students interviewed, none knew that Nov. 8 was Indigenous Veterans Day. Eighteen were also unaware that more than 2,000 fought for our country.

When students were asked if there should be a separate day to honour Indigenous Veterans or to keep Remembrance Day as is, the

response was split.

Twelve students thought Indigenous veterans should have their own day, while 10 voted to keep the status quo.

On Nov. 8, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau released a statement about his gratitude towards Indigenous soldiers who fought for Canada and those who are still

fighting, for the past 200 years.

“Despite their service and sacrifice during these conflicts, many Indigenous veterans endured hatred and systemic racism while serving,” Trudeau said. “When they returned to Canada, they did not receive the same benefits, honours, and respect as non-Indigenous Veterans.

“The Government of Canada is

working to ensure that all Indigenous service members and veterans receive the recognition and the support they deserve – we owe it to them,” he said.

One of the many Indigenous stories Canadians are learning about is the Last Post Fund.

The non-profit organization was established in 1909 to give headstones to all veterans, but it wasn't until 2009, a century later, that Indigenous veterans were included.

In 2019, the Indigenous Veterans Initiative (IVI) marked Indigenous graves and added traditional names to the existing graves. Since April 2020, the organization has installed 30 headstones in Yellowknife.

There are two elements to the initiative, which was established to ensure that “no veteran is denied a dignified funeral and burial, as well as a military gravestone, due to insufficient funds at the time of death.”

The Last Post Fund website said the IVI provides “grave markers to Indigenous Veterans deceased for over five years and lying in unmarked graves” and “to add traditional names of Indigenous Veterans to existing military grave markers.”

## Etobicoke veterans' museum showcases untold Canadian war stories

**Hawi Tulu**  
News Reporter

Francesco Bori, coordinator of the Legion Experience Museum, said the best way to build a better tomorrow is to understand history.

“Giving the young generation knowledge in the right way can construct the fundamental building blocks of how society today came to be,” he said.

The museum at 11 Irwin Rd. in Rexdale is set to open on Remembrance Day for the first time and will display more than 800 artifacts, including displays dedicated to Indigenous, Black, and LGBTQ+ veterans.

Bori told Humber Et Cetera the story about Canadian veterans includes everyone, and it's everyone's responsibility to be open and find our historical connections.

“There are a lot of links and connections. We need to find them. Linking the present and the past has shaped what we are today,” Bori said.

“It's every parent's responsibility to teach their kids about these sto-

ries. And the museum is here to be a place for learning,” he said. “We are here to expose youth and give them a shining light accessible to more people. It's also about young folks and certainly for kids,” he said.

Veteran Mike Turner at the Royal Canadian Legion's East Toronto branch said educating youth is vital to preserving the stories.

“We are getting to a point where many First and Second World War veterans have passed without telling the stories; young people need to understand the sacrifices made for freedom,” Turner said.

Indeed, the last First World War veteran was Claude Choules, who served in the Royal Navy and died at the age of 110 in 2011.

Turner told Et Cetera that many young people today don't know what a loss of freedom may look like.

“They take a lot of that for granted, so they don't understand the importance of what we have,” Turner said.

Bori said parents may be hesi-

tant to teach these stories, due to the horror attached, and if parents refuse to teach kids about the history, they won't learn anything.

“There are less horrifying and rather pleasant ways to approach the topic and ensure that young folks are exposed to it,” he said.

“We have Lego and facilitators who will help create a youth-friendly space whose guardians think they need to learn about this. Bring them,” he said.

Donna Sampson, chairman of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 643 at 110 Jutland Rd. in Etobicoke, said youth are more educated than we assume.

“We have a lot of schools in our area that we deliver poppies to, and they all do an assembly for the day of Remembrance Day. They're very knowledgeable about Remembrance Day,” Sampson said.

Sampson said most children would listen to these stories, especially if they had a relative who had fought in a war.

“It's crucial to have them and we want them involved. In legions,



NATASHA FARES

Francesco Bori at the Legion Experience Museum. The museum is open to the public starting on November 11 at Legion Branch 286.

there's a youth education program that we offer. They do poems about the war, they do pictures of the war, and they enter a contest,” Sampson said.

Sampson encourages young people to engage in their history and what Canadian veterans sacrificed for freedom.

“I would like them to continue to learn about the war and the areas. What it means to have freedom in

Canada today,” she said.

Sampson said Remembrance Day means remembering everyone, no matter how old we might be.

“To my family, to you and me. It's remembering our fathers that fought,” she said.

Royal Canadian Legion branches are open to recruiting young people who are reliable and want to contribute.





THE CANADIAN PRESS/ NATHAN DENETTE

CUPE president Mark Hancock, surrounded by other union leaders, speaks at a press conference on Nov. 7, 2022 after the Ontario government announced they would repeal Bill 28.

## Humber faculty union president expects better treatment for all union members

**Andre La Rosa-Rodriguez**  
News Reporter

Miloš Vasić, president of Humber's faculty union, is hopeful that Ford's government returning to the negotiating table will be a sign of more cooperation for all unions.

"I'm hoping that we've shown our hands, that we're not push-overs, that they will treat us with more respect," he said.

"I'm hopeful that the relationship will be more collaborative moving forward."

Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) members walked off the job on Friday in protest of Bill 28, which made it illegal for them to strike and imposed a contract on them.

This came after negotiations for higher annual salary increases for its lowest paid education workers broke down with the Ontario government.

By Monday, CUPE's 55,000 workers had become a collective of 715,000 union members.

Union leaders from the private and public sectors shared the podium at a press conference on Monday afternoon.

This came as CUPE announced that it had agreed to end its strike with a promise from Premier Doug Ford that he would repeal Bill 28.

J.P. Hornick, president of the Ontario Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU), noted at the conference the importance of union workers coming together to hold the government accountable.

"When you come for one of us, you come for all of us," she said.

"I know that as workers united, we'll shut this province down whenever we need to."

Vasić said OPSEU had plans for disruption in the works. But he noted that as college faculty, their focus was on the important role they have in indirectly changing the conditions for education workers.

"We wanted to be front and centre because we realized that in a lot of our programs here, like ECE (Early Childhood Development) and things like that, we're going to be graduating future CUPE members," he said.

"To us, CUPE's fight was also our fight," Vasić said.

However, he said Ford's use of the notwithstanding clause of the Charter of Rights Freedoms, which allows provincial legislatures to temporarily override constitutionally protected rights, is dangerous and that it should not be overlooked.

Ford threatened to use the clause in 2018 for a reduction in the number of seats on the Toronto city council, and it was invoked in 2021 for the first time in the province's history to limit third-party election financing.

However, Ford said that other premiers have used it "endless" times and described the clause as a tool.

"It's becoming more and more common," Vasić said. "The notwithstanding clause is supposed to



MILOŠ VASIĆ

Miloš Vasić, president of Humber's Faculty Union Local 562, told Et Cetera 'CUPE's fight was also our fight.'

be (used) in exceptional circumstances. You can't use the notwithstanding clause as a 'get out of jail free' card."

He said the decision by unions to stand together against Bill 28 was not only important for CUPE, but also for the other unions.

"That's why it was so important

that all unions were involved," Vasić said.

"Because we've all faced the same attitude from employers, and it's important for us all unions to be all in on this issue."

He is hopeful working conditions for education workers will improve after the government saw

labour's response to Bill 28.

"It's only when you can show your strength that you get treated with respect," Vasić said.

The provincial government and CUPE have resumed negotiations with an "improved offer" having been tabled by the government on Tuesday.



# Negotiations with CUPE continue after Ford promises to repeal Bill 28

Andre La Rosa-Rodriguez  
News Reporter

Negotiations have resumed between the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) and the Ontario government after Premier Doug Ford promised to repeal Bill 28.

Currently, the legislature is not in session and will not be called back, so the earliest that Bill 28 can be repealed is Nov. 14.

Laura Walton, president of CUPE's Ontario School Board Council of Unions (OSBCU), said that the rights of workers are once again safe.

"Workers' bargaining rights are intact again," she said.

"We are going back to the table with open minds, open hearts and we're ready to negotiate.

"We call on the government to do the same," Walton said.

Sharing the podium were several private and public sector union representatives standing in solidarity with CUPE.

Throughout the weekend, unions from across the province announced their support for CUPE members.

"We need to be clear to this government, this is just the beginning," Walton said.

"Protecting workers' rights will always come first."

Education workers rallied outside MPP offices and took to Queen's Park on Nov. 4 after the Ontario government passed a bill



UPKAR SINGH

Laura Walton, president of CUPE's Ontario School Board Council of Unions (OSBCU), spoke to media about the government's plan to repeal Bill 28.

using the notwithstanding clause of the Charter, which allows a government to opt out of constitutional guarantees.

The bill made it illegal for them to strike after both sides failed to come to an agreement. Members could have been subjected to fines of up to \$4,000 per day.

On Tuesday, education workers collapsed all picket lines and returned to schools. Along with the agreement to repeal Bill 28, all fines were waived.

Schools across the province announced they returned to in-person learning on Tuesday.

The confirmation came just three hours after Ford announced

Monday morning that as an act of good faith he was prepared to rescind Bill 28 if CUPE agreed to return to the bargaining table.

"I desperately hope that CUPE shows the same willingness to compromise as we are today," he said.

"I hope they hear my plea to keep students in class. But that's not something I can guarantee you. That's something that's up to CUPE."

Ford said he was left with "no choice" but to invoke the notwithstanding clause, maintaining his priority was to keep children in schools.

"We didn't make the decision to introduce legislation lightly," he said. "I know it's been controversial. But I've always respected the

right of workers to fair bargaining."

In response to questions about Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's criticisms of the Ontario government's use of the Notwithstanding clause, Ford noted they were within their right to use this "constitutional tool."

"We are using every tool we have to keep kids in class," Ford said. "It's very disappointing. The prime minister is being selective within certain provinces of his concerns of overturning the notwithstanding clause."

He said he's willing to sit down with Trudeau about any "constitutional changes" and noted that it should include all premiers.

Despite the progress that's been made, Walton said the unions remain in a legal position to strike.

The union would only need to give a five-day notice if negotiations were to break down again.

"These workers need to be able to afford to go to work," she said. "They need to be able to keep a roof over their head. They need to be able to put food on the table. But they also need to ensure that the services that they proudly provide to the students of Ontario are in place."

"Right now they are not in place," Walton said.

Ford said he will be focused on addressing lower-paid education workers.



UPKAR SINGH

Union leaders raised their fists in solidarity with CUPE after the provincial government confirmed that controversial Bill 28 would be repealed if CUPE returned to the bargaining table.



# Voter turnout reaches historic lows in 2022 municipal elections, says AMO

**Isabelle Ferrante**  
News Reporter

Weeks after the Oct. 24 municipal election, numbers of voter participation have started to roll in and the number is lower than in previous elections.

Preliminary numbers from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) show Ontario's overall voter turnout for the 2022 municipal election at 36.3 per cent turnout across 301 of the 444 municipalities that held local elections.

Nelson Wiseman, a political science professor at the University of Toronto, points out that this year, voters seemed unsure and unenthusiastic regarding who to vote for.

"There is less deference to authority by the public and more distrust about politics and politicians," Wiseman said. "Turnout goes up when there is an appetite for change like the 2015 federal election and when races are competitive and no incumbent such as Toronto mayoral election in 2014."

Turnout for municipal elections has historically been lower than the numbers seen in provincial and

federal elections but has stayed relatively within the same numbers.

Peel Region saw historically low numbers last month. Voter turnout in Mississauga was 21.8 per cent and 24.5 per cent in Brampton.

Law student and Brampton native Kev-Anna Williams said she didn't vote in this year's election, as she feels the issues she cares about are more directed to federal concerns.

"I know a lot of my friends who didn't vote," she said. "Younger people tend not to vote as frequently as older people and I think that's probably because people my age may feel they really don't have very much at stake in a municipal campaign."

When asked about the election, Williams told Humber News it came as a surprise to her.

"If I'm being completely honest, I forgot about the election," Williams said. "With life and school it wasn't even on my mind until election day and by that time I had no information about any of the candidates that I didn't bother with voting."

Lack of awareness about voting seems to be increasing among many

young post-secondary students.

College and university students have been encouraging students to vote in these elections by advertising and promoting students to come to campus to vote at all levels of government elections.

Christopher Waddell, a professor emeritus of journalism at Carleton University and a former CBC Parliamentary Bureau Chief, told Humber News it's more difficult for municipal candidates to receive votes.

"Most municipal campaigns are not party related, they're just campaigns of an individual person running," he said. "It may be hard for candidates to keep themselves organized, have enough supporters to be able to go over and do things like try to set up and try to do campaigns on university or college attendees."

Waddell also said voting is now very accessible across Canada. Voters can cast a ballot before election day through a call, a text, or by mail-in ballots, as well as online.

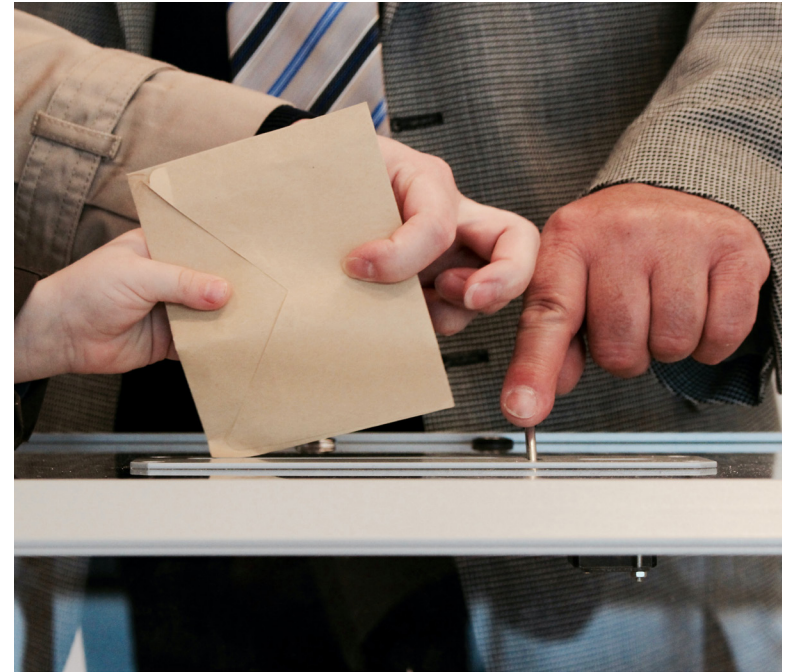
Ontario has allowed internet voting in municipal elections for almost two decades, and nearly

four million people were eligible to cast ballots online in last month's elections but didn't.

"There are more and more opportunities for people to vote. So it's not like, 'Oh, I wanted to vote today, but, you know, I got

tied up. I had to walk my dog, people seemed to be taking advantage of that," Waddell said.

"Polls are going up. But that doesn't mean that the overall number of people that are voting is going up," he said.



UNSPASH / ARNAUD JAEGER

Peel Region saw historically low numbers in last month's election. Turnout in Mississauga was 21.8 per cent and 24.5 per cent in Brampton.

# New scholarship for Ontario Ukrainian students announced

**Angelina Kochatovska**  
News Reporter

Humber College is among Ontario's post-secondary schools involved with the \$1.9 million Ontario-Ukraine Solidarity Scholarship.

The scholarship is awarded to four students at each college or university and the criteria is based on merit and financial need.

"Humber is pleased to announce that we will be collecting applications for the Ontario-Ukraine Solidarity Scholarship starting on Nov. 28," said Andrew Ness, the dean of the International Centre at Humber College.

The scholarship is funded by the Ontario government which provided \$40,000 in scholarships for each post-graduate educational institution. The required condition — choosing four students per school to receive a \$10,000 scholarship.

Kateryna Liutovych, a Ukrainian student studying in the Addictions and Mental Health at Humber College, felt relief hearing that Ukrainians can apply for this scholarship.



ANGELINA KOCHATOVSKA

The Ontario government will provide \$40,000 in scholarships for each post-graduate educational institution.

"I think it is a great opportunity for four Ukrainian students to cover at least one semester of studying," she said. "I will be very happy to hear that a couple of us don't need to worry about tuition fees."

Ness said the awarding of these scholarships is competitive.

"The challenge is we have close to 200 Ukrainian students so we're expecting a number of applications," he said.

Oksy Seredenko, an interna-

tional student from Ukraine in the Acting for Film and Television program at Humber College, told Et Cetera the Ontario-Ukraine Solidarity Scholarship is "a tremendous opportunity."

But knowing that there will be only four students to get scholarships, "it would undoubtedly not satisfy everyone," Seredenko said.

"It can only be done case by case needs," she said. "With the crumbling of daily lives, business, the structure of life, and general

income, it became hard to keep up with essential expenses here let alone the tuition fees."

Liutovych said a scholarship for those who need it the most will be able to cover many expenses.

"On the other hand, the scholarship given to more than four students would be a bigger chance to get help for me and my friends," she said.

"Many of us have to pay tuition fees on our own," Liutovych said.

Ness told Et Cetera that suc-

cessful candidates must be in good academic standing, demonstrate financial need, and provide information about how the war in Ukraine has directly impacted them.

"It's a mix of grade and self-identifying need," he said.

The main criteria and instructions to apply will be sent to students through emails at the end of November. The deadline to apply for these scholarships is Dec. 18.

Ness said Ukrainian students will receive another round of bursary funds for the winter 2023 term.

"Applications for the bursaries will be available on the financial aid website at the start of the winter term," he said.

Although, Seredenko said that she's "thankful and grateful" for each opportunity that Humber gives to support Ukrainian students, she also spoke about her concerns regarding tuition fees.

"The inability to return and visit my family back in Ukraine has automatically made Canada my permanent home, yet I'm still considered as an 'oversees' student," she said.





NIKO DE CIANTIS

Headwaters Health Care Centre ER in Orangeville, Ont. Patients across the province have been dealing with long ER wait times as hospital staff face high levels of stress and burnout.

# Ontario's healthcare system is rapidly crumbling

**Niko De Ciantis**  
News Reporter

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, doctors and nurses across Ontario have been desperately asking for help.

Over the last two years, hospitals have been understaffed and overcrowded and it's led to an overstretched healthcare system with its technicians, nurses and doctors suffering from burnout.

Ruth Mendes, a waiting room attendant at Headwaters Health Care Centre in Orangeville, Ont., stressed that there's a huge need for more resources.

"This is not a good time for us," Mendes said. "There is only one doctor and one nurse in the emer-

gency room at the moment. We are very understaffed."

The Ontario Council of Hospital Unions (OCHU) and the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) said in a statement that due to widespread staffing shortages and emergency room closures over the pandemic, "Toronto hospitals need to hire 15,000 more staff each year to deal with increased patient needs and rising paramedic offload delays."

Mendes said at Headwaters Health Care Centre, waiting times can be anywhere from two to three hours depending on the day.

Frank Tullio, an elderly Headwaters patient, said his time in the ER waiting room on Nov. 4 was torture.

"I'm here because of an allergic

reaction from a bug bite and I have been waiting since last night for me to even see the doctor," he said. "It has been over 10 hours."

It's not just doctors being affected by the lack of resources. Other staff, including nurses, lab technicians and cleaning staff, are buckling under the stress.

Ellen Francesconi, a medical imaging technologist at Humber River Hospital, said everyone in the system is feeling the pressure.

"If you have limited resources, you can only do a certain amount of patients per day," she said. "But if you have ten times that number then everyone in the system begins feeling the stress."

An experienced plastic surgeon who practices in the eastern GTA

region claims that this problem is not affecting all doctors the same.

"From a surgical perspective, the doctors are taking care of the patients," said the doctor, who spoke on condition of anonymity to avoid punishment for speaking to the media. "Anyone who needs urgent surgery and urgent care is being taken care of."

But on a larger scope, he said the system needs an overhaul.

"Privatizing some of our healthcare and moving to a hybrid system is probably where we are heading," he said.

According to some doctors, the Ontario government needs to put more money into the healthcare system for it to stay afloat.

Francesconi said there are two

solutions to this problem. The first is hiring more staff. However, this requires more workers available for hire, which isn't always the case.

The second is one that patients can help out with: using common sense when it comes to going to the ER.

"People tend to go to the ER for very light injuries or illnesses," Francesconi said. "This is taking time and space away from people who really need the help and it is causing overcrowding."

Either way, Francesconi remains hopeful that one day this whole situation will be resolved.

"This problem is like a snowball that keeps getting bigger," she said. "It will eventually melt away when the system learns to manage it."

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## EDITORIAL: Ford's leadership brand is Ontario's nightmare

When someone thinks of the duties that a provincial premier is responsible for, serving the people should be the first item on the list.

When someone then thinks of the top priority Premier Doug Ford currently has, the first item on the list isn't close to serving the people. Indeed, it sometimes seems Ford's interests directly conflict with the masses, and on multiple occasions, Ford has had standoffs with the masses.

A premier shouldn't be in the business of being an opponent to the people.

When Ford was first elected in 2018, he quickly set about reducing government spending. One of the first targets was education. He proposed cutting 3,475 Ontario teaching jobs right off the bat, which set about a long-running feud with the education sector that continues to this day.

He also sought to increase class sizes, which means more kids for teachers to handle, when there's already a teacher shortage to add to the problem.

Fast forward to this month, the education debate has surged back to



THE CANADIAN PRESS/FRANK GUNN

Doug Ford sits in the Ontario Legislature during Question Period on Nov. 1 as members debate averting 55,000 workers planned strike.

the forefront in Ontario, with educational support workers demanding an annual 11 per cent increase in pay to better match inflation. As is to be expected from a fiscally conservative government, such an increase was promptly rejected.

This time, however, the situation spiraled. As the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) announced its plans to strike, Ford and the Ontario government made an unprecedented move.

They imposed the notwithstanding clause in the Charter of Rights and Freedoms to make strikes

illegal and impose a contract.

The tactic was meant to portray the government as firmly in control. It was meant to send a message to workers to obey and keep kids in school.

Instead, it blew up in Ford's face.

CUPE doubled down, and other unions joined in protest against them. It took two days of strikes for Ford to fold and return to the bargaining table.

Instead of simply sitting down and negotiating with the workers, the people Ford proudly claimed to always represent, he desperately

went all-in -- only to fold.

He sought to strip the rights of workers away to save himself. Yet, making a decision, only to reverse it later, is nothing new with Ford's government.

His next blunder would be the Greenbelt. It's a vital and permanently protected area of green space, farmland, forests, wetlands, and watersheds. Ford's government said in 2021 that it wouldn't touch the Greenbelt, and yet a year later, this policy vapourized and now Ford is looking to carve away 7,400 acres of land for housing.

The reasoning for this change in course is supposedly because of Canada's new immigration target, which is nearly 500,000 immigrants per year by 2025. Ford claims there isn't enough room for them.

This is simply not the case. It's an attempt to shift blame to the federal government instead of simply admitting he's gone against previous promises again.

His government's own task force for combating the housing crisis even contradicted his claim. Plenty of land is available even inside urban areas to develop. The main issue is simply that there's red tape

and a poorly managed system along the way.

But it'd be easier for Ford to knock down trees and pave over farm fields than address these issues, it would seem. One piece of the Greenbelt will become two, and then three...

While it's true that striking workers will keep kids out of school, he failed to acknowledge why exactly they chose to strike, instead accusing them of not caring about the kids.

Although Ontario has a housing crisis and more immigrants will further strain that, he failed to address the problems with zoning rules and red tape that would help alleviate the challenges and build more multi-family homes to allow for denser housing.

Instead, he jumped to put 15 parcels of the Greenbelt to the torch instead.

This tells you exactly the type of leader Doug Ford has turned out to be.

He's short sighted and reactionary. He opted for a solution that seemed the simplest and quickest way to solve a problem, all while stretching the truth to do it.

Ontario deserves better.

## OPINION: Divorce at 24 taught me I can handle anything



Carter Roy  
Arts Editor

At the young age of 21, I got married. According to Statistics Canada, the average age of marriage in Canada is 30 years old, and average age of divorce is 45.

Meeting my now ex-husband, our relationship grew quickly, and once engaged, I was the happiest I had ever been. But, I felt shut out by my friends. They were skeptical and warned me to think it through.

They never questioned the love I had, but gave warnings because

they felt being 21 was too young to make this kind of decision, but I was happy and going to do what I wanted to do. When you're 21 you think you know it all.

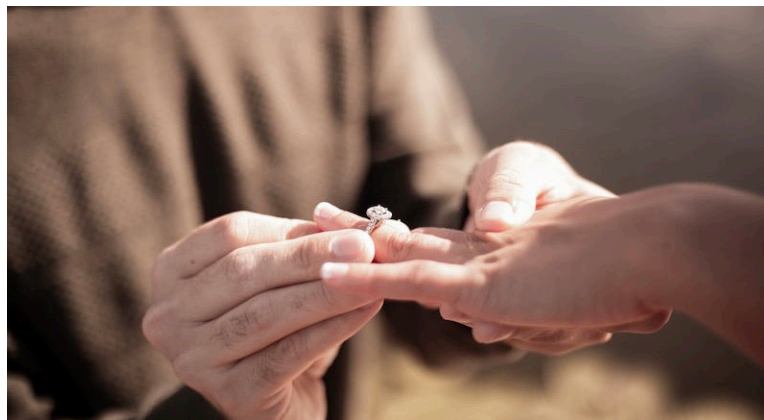
Although I thought I knew everything, I started to question everything: Was this the right decision? Are my friends going to hate me? Can I handle this?

I asked myself all these questions but I knew it was what I wanted to do. Sometimes when you're in love you have blinders on and only see what you want to see. We tied the knot in a quick and simple ceremony at Toronto City Hall.

I was happy that I now had a mother, brothers and sisters-in-law who were so nice and happy for us. I often felt that his family and friends were more accepting and happier than mine.

I found myself isolated from those I loved most in my life. I could feel they didn't support my decision, so they supported me from afar.

Everything went well but in early 2020 we decided to go our separate



UNSPASH/ANDRE JACKSON

Close up of someone proposing, placing a ring on the left hand finger.

ways. I felt like a failure of being 23 with a "failed marriage." I felt like all the things those closest to me warned me about, happened, and they were going to have an "I told you so" moment.

It's a moment that never came, but in situations like these, negativity seems to take over.

Early 2020 was rough.

Not only was I going through the end of a marriage and feeling heartbroken that I lost someone who I considered to be my soul-

mate, but the pandemic happened right as we separated.

I was lonely every day and felt like I had no one and nothing to do in my life anymore.

Due to the pandemic, filing divorce papers in court was pushed back months as only urgent cases were taken, as reported by Statistics Canada, making it much more difficult to get a divorce at that time.

Thankfully, as the pandemic progressed, things looked up. I started school in September 2020,

once restrictions loosened I reconnected with my closest friends who I hadn't seen in months, and in the summer of 2021, I was finally able to file for divorce.

All this was so new and I did not think I couldn't handle what life was throwing at me. I was 24 when I filed. I was dealing with lawyers and paying a big price financially to go through with a divorce. I never handled lawyers or the law, so I was anxious every day.

The unknown was scary, but as things progressed it got easier and I saw the light at the end of the tunnel.

Being so young and looking back at that time in my life I never thought I would be strong enough to make it through not only a pandemic while being completely alone for months, but also handling a divorce at age 24, again, all by myself. But I made it.

Situations like this showed people and myself that I can make it through anything. We can't ask life not to give us difficulties but we can definitely ask for the strength to survive.



# OPINION: Medical assistance in dying gave my aunt control through her final days



**Samantha Little**  
Politics/Science Editor

**M**y aunt Laura Sacco was born on Feb. 28, 1962, in Georgetown, Ont. She was a partner to Kelly Durant for 33 years and pet mom of Louie and Pearl.

I remember my aunt for the good times we shared at family events, or when she watched over me after school. She would surprise me with stuffed animals, always had my favorite shows recorded for me to watch, and gave me snacks I never had at home.

Aside from being my aunt, she was my friend, and I will forever feel pretty cool being friends with a biker.

She was diagnosed with laryngeal cancer in late 2020.

Laryngeal cancer involves the growth of malignant cancer cells in the tissues of the larynx. Tobacco products and excessive alcohol consumption can increase the risk



KELLY DURANT

Laura Sacco and her partner Kelly Durant ride a motorcycle in Trenton, Ont. Sacco suffered from terminal cancer and sought medically assisted death in October. Although it was a decision that rocked her entire family with grief, it was something that gave Laura control over her own life.

of laryngeal cancer.

The larynx is part of the respiratory system which is a tube that lets air pass from your throat to the trachea on its way to the lungs.

In order to try to remove the cancer, she received a total laryngectomy, which is the removal of the voice box.

Despite receiving radiation and chemotherapy, her cancer progressed to terminal esophageal cancer.

The cancer caused her to be in extreme pain.

She was unable to eat, drink, talk, and therefore had no quality of life. This led to her making the ultimate choice to die with medical assistance in Trenton, Ont., on Oct. 28.

Medical assisted suicide or as it's now referred to here in Canada as Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID) wasn't always available here.

The federal government passed federal legislation that allows eligible Canadian adults to request medical assistance in dying in June 2016.

The process of medical assistance in dying involves a doctor administering medication at their patient's request to relieve their suffering by facilitating their death.

MAID requires patients to be eligible for health services funded by the federal government, a prov-

ince or territory, or during the applicable waiting period.

The patient is required to be at least 18 years old, mentally competent and have a grievous and irremediable medical condition.

They must also make a voluntary request for MAID that isn't the result of outside pressure or influence, and give informed consent.

Generally, visitors to Canada are not eligible for medical assistance in dying.

According to the federal government, the number of cases of medical assistance in dying in 2021 represents a growth rate of 32.4 per cent in 2020.

After meeting the requirements for MAID, Laura lived and left her life on her own terms.

Although she will be deeply missed by my family, the hardest part was watching her suffer, which is why the family supported her decision.

It's never easy losing a loved one, but my family and I are glad she was able to make her own choice and is now at peace.

With this being said, MAID is not a decision to take lightly and must be carefully considered by those who qualify for it.

Those suffering from suicidal thoughts or grieving the loss of a loved one can call hotlines for help like the suicide prevention hotline: 1-833-456-4566.



KELLY DURANT

Laura Sacco and her dog Lou hiking at Lower Trent Conservation.



TERRI-LYNN HUNTER

Laura Sacco, left, with her sisters Vickie Sacco and April Hunter.



## OPINION: Elon Musk's brand of 'wild west' Twitter is a return to bigotry



**Annabelle Berry**  
News Reporter

Elon Musk's official takeover of Twitter was greeted with mixed opinions, including those who celebrated looser restrictions on the social media site. The tech billionaire hopes to fulfill his previously stated wishes of restoring free speech on the platform.

However, free speech on social media is often a way for users to freely spread misinformation, disinformation and hate speech to be posted online without consequences.

In the hours following the news of Musk's takeover, a rise of hate speech took over the platform. The Network Contagion Research Institute, a research group that examines social media to detect emerging threats, reported that use of the N-word had gone up 500 per cent in the 12 hours following the news of Musk's official takeover.

While the platform can boast free speech, for its users, Canada itself does not officially have absolutely free of consequence speech. In lieu of Freedom of Speech, Canada instead has Freedom of Expression in the charter. With this specification, hate speech laws take effect.

Spreading hate speech on social media can violate Sec.319 of the Criminal Code of Canada by inciting and promoting hatred.

Brett Caraway, an associate professor at the Institute of Communication, Culture, Information, and Technology at the University of Toronto, envisions free speech on the new Twitter may be a concern for Canadians.

"In Canada, there are prohibi-



AP PHOTO /GODOFREDO A VÁSQUEZ

Elon Musk's \$44 billion takeover of Twitter has led to an increase in hate speech and misinformation on the widely-used social media site.

tions on hate speech," he said.

"While the Charter gives us freedom of thought, expression [and] opinion, [it] doesn't actually say freedom of speech is a delimited right, meaning it's subject to reasonable regulation or intervention by the government," Caraway said.

But unmonitored social media

not only negatively affects users but the platform itself.

Derrick Johnson, president of the NAACP, took to Twitter to urge advertisers to pull their ads from the social media platform after a surge of hate speech targeting the African American community spread like wildfire when Musk's takeover went into effect.

"It is immoral, dangerous, and highly destructive to our democracy for any advertiser to fund a platform that fuels hate speech, election denialism and conspiracy theories. Until actions are taken to make this a safe space, we call on companies to pause all advertising on Twitter," Johnson tweeted.

Hours before his official acquisition of Twitter, Musk had written an open letter to advertisers, ensuring the platform won't become a "Free for all hellscape." Despite these assurances, client General Motors has said it will be temporarily pausing advertisements on the platform due to the new ownership.

With advertising making up 90 per cent of Twitter's revenue, it's not something the platform can afford to lose.

Whether this move was a vanity project for Musk or an attempt to push his brand of town square free speech, only time will tell — what is guaranteed is that it's become a hostile place for many marginalized groups.

## OPINION: Jane and Finch gentrification displacing low-income families



**Megan Smith**  
News Reporter

Gentrification in the Jane Street and Finch Avenue area is affecting lives, forcing whole communities to look elsewhere to find livable spaces. Today the median income for families in Jane and Finch households ranges between \$56,831 and \$60,000.

Once populated by baby boomers and predominantly Italian Canadians in the 1950s to '60s, Jane and Finch communities have grown to be a diversified melting pot of cultures, customs and norms.

The demographic for the area is now made up of up to 29 per cent

Black residents, 19 per cent European, 7.2 per cent Italian, and 11.9 per cent Southeast Asian.

On the argument of funding being at the forefront of discussions for political leaders, we can simply put it that diversified groups of people such as myself face similar barriers to equity, housing and upward mobility due to their socioeconomic status.

The Firgrove-Grassways neighbourhood, a huge lot consisting of two- and four-story townhomes followed by high rises, stood since 1971, and was a beacon for low income families — is now torn down.

The lot served as a vital hub with everything from a basketball court to a playground, childcare centre, outdoor pool and community centre.

It wasn't until 2016 that the Toronto Community Housing Corporation (TCHC) started conducting examinations of building units that were structurally unfit and deemed unsafe. They started a relocation process in 2017 and residents were given the option of moving to other units in the city and returning after the "revitalization" process was over.



TORONTO COMMUNITY HOUSING CORPORATION

Toronto Community Housing Corporation's development plan for the now demolished Firgrove-Grassways.

The Firgrove-Grassway community development project is set to be finished in 2023 where there will be 600 units approximately on the market for about \$600,000 per unit.

Along with the construction of the Finch LRT, there is a legitimate rise in the value of properties and the cost of living in the area. According to Statistics Canada the average cost of a home is expected to be \$1 million by 2023.

When gentrification happens, people are displaced and this widens the income gap between low-middle income earners whose

housing affordability is based on their earnings.

In order to find solutions to gentrification which affects almost every minority group, we must take into account the social, political and financial aspects of the root causes of the need to seek gentrification as a solution.

Multi-million dollar housing projects to boost the prospect of a budding society do not give a strong index of growth.

Marginalized groups need to be given proper funding to be able to invest in projects that uplift them.

If millions are pumped into projects such as housing and LRT systems, millions can also be given to marginalized groups to start businesses and uplift the situation around them.

The underlying factors of poverty and housing affordability should be predicated on the fact that everyone deserves the chance to live in a place that they feel comfortable.

This is an area where funding needs to be funnelled and it is a discussion that needs to be at the forefront of any political campaign.



# Excitement among football fans rises with the 2022 World Cup a week away

Jack Albanna

Sports Editor

The countdown for the 2022 World Cup sits just nine days away and although a late fall kickoff is not something football fans are accustomed to, the excitement for the grand stage is at its peak.

New faces, young talent, and a desert setting, Qatar will be hosting a very crucial World Cup for fans worldwide.

It's a World Cup that will not be played in the summer for the very first time. This is due to the extreme heat of the Middle Eastern summer.

This has led to a rather challenging schedule which forced club competition to begin in early August, with all games concluding this weekend before they resume again around January.

Fans have been eagerly viewing each nation's 26-man roster as they are announced, with many snubs and surprise call-ups that have led to both praise and criticism of World Cup coaches.

This tournament will almost certainly be the final runway for Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo, the two greatest players of all time, and holds near and dear to the hearts of Argentinian and Portuguese supporters.

Ronaldo is the highest goalscorer in international history, bagging 117 goals in his illustrious career. Meanwhile Messi has not shied away from international dominance either, currently leading the Argentinians with 90 goals.

Messi came as close as it gets to lifting the iconic trophy on enemy territory in 2014, when Argentine hearts were broken by Mario Götze in the second-half of extra time.

Meanwhile, Ronaldo, who will also be appearing in his fifth World Cup, is looking to captain the Portuguese to glory after disappointing results in their last World Cup and Euro campaign.

Portugal's last trophy came in 2016, when a teary-eyed and injured Ronaldo was able to lift the European championship trophy in France.

Argentina, on the other hand,

are in relentless form, recently lifting the Copa America trophy as well as the Finalissima, currently riding a 35-game unbeaten streak, the best in the nation's history, and just three away from breaking the all-time record held by the Italians.

The midseason tournament also features an aspect that fans feared when the tournament was announced, which is an injury crisis due to the rigorous schedule they've been handed this season.

The most prolific players who have been ruled out of the tournament with injury include N'Golo Kante, Marco Reus, Diogo Jota, Paul Pogba, Georginio Wijnaldum, and many others.

On a more positive note, this tournament will feature some of the world's greatest young talents who will be debuting in their first World Cup.

The sport has seen a surge in world class youngsters who have become key players in Europe's giant club scene.

Key young stars to keep an eye on include Kylian Mbappe, Vinicius Junior, Pedri, Gavi, Jude Bellingham, Jamal Musiala, Alphonso Davies and many more.

Qatar will also be featuring unfamiliar faces such as CONCACAF leaders Canada, who are playing in its first World Cup in 36 years.

They'll be replacing nations such as four-time winners Italy, who are shockingly missing out on their second straight World Cup after winning the European championship in 2021 and breaking records with a 37-game unbeaten streak.

Canada's qualification only further cemented the growing popularity of football in North America, with Canada being named one of the co-hosts for the 2026 World Cup.

Predicting tournament winners is never an easy task when the World Cup comes around.

Many fans have backed the French to lift the trophy as they did four years ago, but an unwritten curse has always shadowed the tournament winners, since no country has ever won two world cups in a row since Brazil did in 1958 and 1962.

After relying on betting odds, the majority of gambling websites



AP PHOTO/ JON SUPER

Superstars Cristiano Ronaldo of Portugal, left, and Lionel Messi, right, of Argentina during their international friendly at the Old Trafford Stadium in Manchester in November 2014. Portugal defeated the Albicelestes 1-0.

have Brazil listed as tournament favourites, with their last World Cup success coming in 2002. The Selecao are often recognized as the most iconic country to ever play the sport, producing countless legendary talents over the years.

Brazil holds the record for the most World Cups, five since 1958 when a 17-year-old Pele made history.

Blue-hot Argentina are an obvious contender as well, looking to assert their dominance in Qatar and win their first World Cup

since 1986, when Diego Maradona's "Hand of God" notoriously led to their success.

Spain are worth batting an eye on as well, with their young and gifted players coming up unlucky in the 2021 Euros, exiting to tournament winners Italy in a penalty shootout.

Spain may have lifted the World Cup trophy just once in their 2010 South African showcase, but football fans will never forget the sheer dominance and flawlessness the Spanish reigned between

2008-2012, often being called the greatest international team of all time.

Regardless of who some may predict to win, the tournament is expected to be a thriller full of unexpected twists and turns.

In what may be a grand finale for some players, this will also be introductory theatre for others.

It is every player's dream to play in, and every fan's prayer to see their nation succeed. The tournament will certainly be nothing short of a spectacle.



# Humber Hawks soccer secures spot in CCAA championships

**Jesse Glazer**  
Editor In-Chief

Humber Hawks soccer is looking to secure medals at this year's CCAA championships after coming off two historic seasons and winning provincial gold.

The Hawks women's team traveled this week to the city of St. Lambert, Que., south of the St. Lawrence River near Montreal, to compete against the best college soccer teams across the nation.

On Wednesday, Nov. 9, the Hawks set off in their first match against Les Rouges de Saint-Boniface in which they secured the 3-0 victory to advance to the semi-final.

Antonia Gatti, Emily Robitaille and Catarina Medeiros scored goals to send the Hawks through in the match.

The next day, the Hawks faced off against the Champlain St. Lambert Cavaliers in what can only be described as a razor-close game.

The goalless draw in regulation and extra time had to be decided by penalties. Through penalties,



HUMBER ATHLETICS/CHRIS TANOUYE

The Humber Hawks women's soccer team celebrates their OCAA victory in Oshawa at the end of October. The win launched them into the CCAA championships and saw them make it to the bronze-medal game.

both teams missed their first shots. However, the Hawks managed to score their next three while St. Lambert managed to score two.

Humber's Cassy Ettore unfortunately couldn't seal the victory for the Hawks and it gave the Cavaliers an opportunity to come back. The

Cavaliers managed to score their next two penalties and walked away with the victory to send them to the finals.

The Hawks are headed to the bronze-medal game, which is expected to be played on Saturday at 1 p.m.

On the men's side, the team returned to the CCAA to defend their national title in Langley, B.C. Their first match was played on Nov. 9 where they slammed Les Rouges de Saint-Boniface to the tune of 7-2.

The Hawks fell behind 2-1 in the opening 15 minutes, but managed to claw their way back even before the end of the first half. When the second half kicked off, the dominance the Hawks have shown all season long was on full display.

In the semi-final match — a battle of the birds of prey — the Hawks faced off against the Langara Falcons. The Hawks secured their spot in the gold medal game by winning 3-1.

CCAA National Player of the Year Luca Uccello was among the goal scorers in the crucial victory.

The Hawks will face off against their Ontario rivals Seneca Sting in a rematch of the OCCA championship, which Humber won 4-0.



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## 2022 FIFA WORLD CUP PREVIEW



Argentine captain Diego Armando Maradona displays the World Cup won by his team after a 3-2 victory over West Germany at the Azteca Stadium in Mexico City on June 29, 1986.

**WORLD CUP  
COUNTDOWN:  
NINE DAYS TILL  
KICK OFF  
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**HAWKS ROCK  
AND ROLL INTO  
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