

# HUMBER ET CETERA<sup>o</sup>

Humber's Student Newspaper

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## COST OF LIVING SOARS IN ONTARIO

STUDENTS, FAMILIES TURN TO FOOD BANKS TO MAKE ENDS MEET, P. 4-5



**INDIGENOUS  
KNOWLEDGE  
GATHERING  
HEALS  
P. 3**



**HAWKS  
AT CROSS  
COUNTRY  
FINALS  
P. 14**



# Restaurant workers get used to QR codes

**Khiana Gutierrez**  
News Reporter

Restaurant staff have found the province's QR code scanning tool to be helpful in business.

The Ontario government introduced QR codes as a form of vaccine passport three weeks ago and it has been receiving good reviews from workers.

"It's more legitimate to see the QR code, rather than the papers because people can always fake the papers, there were always loopholes in that system," said Anshul Jain, manager of the Cactus Club Cafe in downtown Toronto.

The province has provided the restaurant with an app that scans guests' QR codes with the help of an iPad scanner and Jain said the codes have been a great asset for the restaurant's workflow, especially as maximum capacity has also been introduced this month.

As the restaurant maximized its capacity, it has been slammed with reservations and walk-in customers. Cactus Club Cafe has opened all three floors to make room for more reservations, especially during Thursdays to Sundays when bookings reach 300 reservations.

During the pandemic, there



KHIANA GUTIERREZ

William Yong and Jessica Xavier, stand in a restaurant vestibule waiting to check guests in as Ontario has made proof of vaccination mandatory.

have been about 70 new front-of-house and back-of-house staff introduced to the company.

Patrick Allen, a security guard for Cactus Club Cafe, ensures that all guests have their QR code present alongside a physical copy of their government-issued ID before entering the restaurant.

"I kind of wish it was done in a way that displayed ID, so I didn't have to check their physical

copy," Allen said.

At night, when the restaurant starts to get busy and the line starts to spread down the street, customers sometimes become impatient. But Allen still manages to check all QR codes and enforces mandatory contact tracing.

Thomas Deconi, a security guard for King Taps, said the people he deals with are more aggressive when checking into

the restaurant.

"I had one guy from Manitoba and they started their scanners before us, so they already had bar codes," Deconi said. "I asked him if he had any other form of vaccination status, and he cussed me out for that."

He said he also encountered a customer who did not want to keep a mask on because of health conditions but had no documents to prove it.

"It was a fight, back and forth," Deconi said.

It is a mandatory procedure at Cactus Club Cafe for guests to scan the QR code that will ask them questions regarding their current health status. It is a screening process for guests to ensure their safety.

"I've had multiple issues with people who either forgotten their ID or get frustrated, you know, berate me for doing my job," Allen said. "I've had people yell at me for enforcing to fill out the QR code, it's just about following rules.

"It's frustrating but it is for everyone's safety," he said.

The Ontario government plans to lift proof-of-vaccination requirements in restaurants, gyms and casinos on Jan. 17, 2022, if there are no risks.

# TDOR remembers 375 transgender people killed this year

**Jess Kerr**  
News Reporter

Humber College held an ally-led ceremony on Friday for Transgender Day of Remembrance, with participants observing two minutes of silence in support of the school's transgender community.

"We'd like to acknowledge the countless missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls, trans and two spirits," said Chantal Joy, an associate dean at Humber.

Transgender Day of Remembrance was established in response to the killing of Rita Hester, a black trans woman in Massachusetts.

The number of transgender people killed in 2021 rose to a new global high of 375, according to a report released

on Nov. 11 by the Transrespect Versus Transphobia organization.

However, this number likely doesn't tell the whole story, with many instances of trans deaths being rendered invisible by underreporting, misgendering, and mislabelling their cause of death, Joy said.

"We aim to take responsibility for our own learning, and to stand in solidarity with those who identify," she said.

"Personally, I aim today to mourn the bright lights extinguished because of prejudice, discrimination, and colonization and to use my privileges as a white straight cisgender woman to effect change," Joy said.

Humber College has made donations to various organizations to support transgender

remembrance and awareness.

Christine Galvin, manager of leadership and advocacy for IGNITE, said planning was underway for workshops on how to build awareness and create safer spaces for the community.

"We'll be organizing workshops centering transgender voices about how to create safer spaces and post-secondary institutions, including more work by transgender artists in our students' spaces, and working with a queer-led consulting firm to assess and research how we can create safer spaces for the transgender community in places like washrooms and change rooms," Galvin said.

"Transgender lives will continue to be unjustly taken as long as there is still work to do," she

said.

Galvin feels more transgender and LGBTQ+ awareness is needed, and not just a day where we reflect.

"It's important to share that the work of being an ally takes action, not only the responsibility of Student Success and Engagement or the LGBTQ plus Resource Centre," Galvin said.

"My hope is that this reflection becomes a regular practice and not just something that happens on transgender day of remembrance," she said.

Shaun Carson, associate director of Student Life and Learning at Humber, said being alone is among the worst of feelings.

"These organizations are there to make sure that people aren't alone," Carson said.

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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# Indigenous Knowledges Gathering theme links mind, body and spirit

**Humber's Indigenous Education and Engagement Centre made keynotes about culturally responsive education**

**Santiago Arias Orozco  
Ashima Agnihotri**

*News Reporters*

Madelaine McCallum, a survivor of both a broken home and breast cancer, shared her story of finding enlightenment through dance at the Indigenous Knowledges Gathering organized by Humber College.

"It felt like I could fly. My feet never stopped and it felt like the beat of the music was calling me," McCallum said. "I had always known how to dance and was very good at it.

"I just needed to believe that," she said.

McCallum, a sister to 17 siblings, is a multi-disciplinary Metis artist who has shared the resiliency trail of Indigenous people through her story of abuse and abandonment. She started her career as a dancer and then shifted into film production to empower fellow Indigenous peoples to share their stories as a healing path.

"She knows there are many stories to be told and viewers that need to hear them," said Kathyln Philips, host of the "As I Am" meeting. "Supporting others in their journey of vulnerability, exploitation and neglect."

McCallum, as a six-year-old, went to hospitals to get herself treated, and at 12 years, she hitchhiked from Northern Saskatchewan to Edmonton. She is named after her grandmother and described her spirit name as "Strong Earth Woman."

During her keynote message, McCallum shared the role dancing had in her work with the "Butterflies in Spirit" group, a dance group built up of family members of missing and murdered Indigenous women.

Her short film "Dancing Through" re-told her life story



MADELAINE MCCALLUM/FACEBOOK.

Madelaine McCallum, Cree keynote speaker on Humber's Indigenous Knowledges Gathering, dancing for her award-winning film dance. Through production she retells her own life story aiming to overcome breast cancer and the intergenerational residential school trauma effects using dance as a path towards healing.

shaped by the intergenerational trauma of residential schools and her battle against breast cancer. Awarded with Best Canadian Female Filmmaker at the Toronto International Women Film Festival, the film is premiering at the Portland Film Festival 2021.

## "DESPITE THE PAIN, DANCING MAKES ME FEEL ALIVE"

**Madelaine McCallum**  
*Multi-disciplinary Metis artist*

"Despite the pain, dancing makes me feel alive. And that's what will make you go through hard moments," said McCallum. "It gives you the moment to be free and healing."

November is celebrated as Indigenous Education Month and every year, Humber organizes various on-campus and online events. Keynote speakers share their histories and experiences and teach about their journey of finding themselves. Multiple skill workshops are also organized.

Patricia Chrisjohn, of the Oneida First Nation, facilitated the corn husk doll workshops and storytelling sessions.

"You will always cherish your creation, even if it is a lifeless

doll because you're giving it the love and care you always wanted," she said.

Chrisjohn is currently working on the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, Trans and Two-Spirit Family Wellness Project with Toronto Council Fire Native Cultural Centre to

increase awareness and support families affected.

This year's theme centred around building relationships between mind, body, and spirit.

The Indigenous Knowledge Gathering 2021 ran from Nov. 15 to Nov. 19. It provided opportunities of learning about Indigenous ways of being, examine emerging challenges impacting Indigenous students and engage in hands-on cultural teachings and workshops.

"The event offers the possibility, hope, and opportunity not only for the enhancement of educational outcomes but, conceived broadly, for the health and wellness of broader communities," reads Humber's website.

Cree professor and symposium speaker on the "Ethical Space" concept, Willie Ermine, was among the Nov. 17 keynote speakers.

Featuring the relevance of Indigenous ancestral knowledge on postsecondary education, Ermine spoke on the importance for an ethically responsible institution that can further contribute to the reconciliation process with Indigenous people.

"It starts by acknowledging who had a foot in this land before we did," Ermine said. "Their presence is and is going to be embedded in these places forever."

To show appreciation for its Indigenous students, Humber has introduced multiple awards, bursaries and scholarships ranging from \$2,000 to \$40,000. It has also mandated Truth and Reconciliation training and certificates for its programs. This supports Humber's 2018-2023 Strategic Plan by expanding and enhancing Indigenous programming and research.

"Success is shaped not only by our capacity to dialogue and transform differences but also the extent to which diverse communities can equitably contribute to the conversation, share resources and implement change together," reads the Virtual Indigenous Knowledge website.

Though the clinics ended Thursday, appointments are still available for the coming week while supplies last.

## Humber offers flu vaccines

**Erin LeBlanc**  
*Editor-In-Chief*

The Humber community had the chance to get their flu shots on campus this week.

The Student Wellness and Accessibility Centre (SWAC) held flu vaccine clinics for Humber College and the University of Guelph-Humber faculty and students who are learning and teaching on campus, as well as students who live in residence.

The clinics took place on Nov. 15 at Lakeshore campus, and Nov. 16 and 17 at North.

Trisania Riley, a Humber nursing student who worked at the clinic, said more than 200 people came in for shots during the two days the clinic was open at North campus.

"A lot of people seem to be getting [the flu shot] more than normal this year," she said. "No one wants to be sick at this time, because if you have a cold they assume you know, COVID, and you can't go to school and work."

Everyone is recommended to get the flu vaccine. They are safe and protect against three strains of the flu virus. They are free to anyone over the age of six months in Ontario.

"The vaccines are made from deactivated flu particles to help your immune system prevent flu, but cannot give you the flu," said the SWAC flu vaccine release.

Influenza is a virus that spreads by droplets when talking, sneezing or coughing. Kids and adults can spread the infection before they show any symptoms. Young children, seniors and those with a weak immune system are more likely to get very sick.

"Protect yourself and the ones around you. If you get sick, stay home. Don't go to work school and spread it," Riley said.

Though the clinics ended Thursday, appointments are still available for the coming week while supplies last.

## COST OF LIVING

# Students worry about meeting daily costs as food prices soar

**Alex Muzychko**  
News Reporter

Stephanie Zarb has a solid grasp of the inflation that's bringing economic stress to post-secondary students.

"The minimum wage is still so low. Prices are being increased by dollars, but then they're only increasing our wages by cents. It's just extremely unfair how things are being added up," said Stephanie Zarb, a University of Guelph-Humber Media Business and Communications student.

Zarb has been supporting herself financially since becoming a student in 2019. Until now, she has never worried about having enough food on her table and in her fridge. But a spike in the cost of living is changing that.

"I work out a lot, and for someone who is trying to build muscles, having meat in your diet is important," Zarb said. "Every time I go to get a piece of meat, it's over \$20 just to get a decent-sized piece. It's frustrating."

According to Canada's Food Price Report 2021, by Agri-Food

Analytics Lab at Dalhousie University, overall food prices are set to increase between three and five per cent compared to 2020. The most significant price increase is in meat, at 4.5 to 6.5 per cent.

Annual food prices are expected to rise by as much as \$695 per household.

The report finds the pandemic affected the entire agri-food chain, caused border and facility closures, shifted consumer demand from food service to food retail and created unemployment and underemployment.

Steve Reiterowski, a Toronto grocery store manager, said 2022 will probably be an expensive year.

"One of the biggest things we need to get through is all the shortages," Reiterowski said. "When the first lockdowns began, everyone was at home, not just in Canada but in the world.

"All these factories that produce things in Asia primarily sat empty, and these are places that employ tens of thousands of people every day," he said. "So that was three months-plus

closed. To catch up, it's going to take years."

Reiterowski said when transport companies pay more for fuel, those costs are passed along to grocery stores, and then that price increase is passed onto the customers.

"The pandemic has also made the normal delivery logjams at border crossings even worse," he said.

Chloe White-Meaney, a 19-year-old pathology student at Western University, lives in a house with roommates and pays her share to have a roof over her head.

"Living without my parents' support hasn't been easy," Meaney said. "And now that the price of food is growing it really sucks."

"I have limited funds because I'm spending too much on tuition and books," she said. "So it's difficult to also pay for rent and groceries, too."

On top of rising food prices, the cost of housing is also increasing due to inflation. According to Statista, 2021 living costs are up



ALEX MUZYCHKO

Fresh produce prices are expected to increase by four to six per cent compared to 2020, according to Canada's Food Price Report 2021.

by 3.2 per cent, as opposed to rising less than one per cent in 2020.

"Rent and hydro are both higher than normal, my roommate and I are struggling to even

find a place to live within budget next year," Meaney said.

"People complain that Toronto is super expensive to live in. London is not that much cheaper."

## Toronto food banks see demand rise as COVID, inflation hit hard

**Danyal Khan**  
News Reporter

Toronto's food banks are preparing to deal with a crisis of their own as the COVID-19 pandemic is slowly coming under control.

The city's two largest food bank organizations — Daily Bread Food Bank and North York Harvest Food Bank — are responding to the highest demand for food relief they have seen since the 2008 financial

crisis.

A report issued this week by the two organizations, titled-Who's Hungry, said there has been a 47-per-cent increase in visits to Toronto food banks in a single year, that's nearly 1.5 million visits, the highest number ever recorded, and almost 1.5 times greater than the "previous record set in 2010 in the aftermath of the 2008 financial crisis."

The report showed that for the first time, new clients outnumbered existing clients at food banks with a 61 per cent increase compared to the year before.

Among the findings in the study, 53 per cent of the users were female, about 36 per cent were aged between 19 and 44, and 51 per cent reported a disability or an illness expected to last a year.

Food banks are generally seen as a last resort for people experiencing food scarcity.

According to the report, one in

five food-bank clients came to a food bank because they had lost their job in the past year.

Two in five food bank clients reported coming to a food bank because, even though they were working, their income was too low to afford adequate food.

"It is definitely concerning to see more people relying on food banks instead of grocery stores recently," said Rob Datema, executive director at the Lighthouse Food Bank.

The COVID-19 pandemic has played a big role in the increase of food-bank clients. As people have been struggling to make ends meet during the pandemic, some have accepted the fact that this may be their new normal.

The report also attributed the surge to insufficient income support, with many clients saying social-assistance rates that remain below the poverty line do not allow them to fill their fridges or cupboards.

Perilous employment is another reason cited for increased foodbank demand, with many people working without benefits or facing sudden job losses or long periods of unemployment between paycheques in the gig economy.

One in seven clients said their disability was the reason they needed access to a food bank. Of the people surveyed, over half reported having a disability or health condition that will last a year or more.

Half of the clients cited the Ontario Disability Support Program as their main form of income.

Who's Hungry' also reports that there has been a significant decrease in affordable housing. Around 65 per cent of people tend to live in private rentals.

"The high cost of housing in Toronto is one of the key drivers of food insecurity," the report stated.



JOEL MUNIZ / UNSPLASH

A report by Toronto's two largest food bank organizations showed that there have been nearly 1.5 million visits to food banks across the city in 2021. There has been a 47 per cent increase in visits from last year.

## COST OF LIVING



TRISHELLE DOTSON

Humber student Amenzeiofo Orobor and her two children enjoying some treats at Humber North campus. Orobor said that being a single parent while in school is a daily struggle.

# Full-time moms face the anxiety of expensive times

Single moms struggle with balancing their full-time studies with the need to work as the cost of living in Canada continues to increase

**Trishelle Dotson**  
Life Reporter

The everyday struggle of attending school while being a single mother is hard.

"I have to augment for what's most important," said Amenzeiofo Orobor. As a single mother of two small children, Orobor will be returning to Humber in January, switching from the Information Technology program to study Practical Nursing.

"At the end of the day, you have to pay your bills, your utilities, and have to do a number of things with finances," she said.

Many single mothers wonder if their choice to attend full-time studies was right as the cost of

living keeps rising.

According to a report from Statistics Canada, the annual pace of inflation reported in the October 2021 Consumer Price Index rose to 4.7 per cent, the highest level since February 2003.

From hiked prices in housing, groceries, gas, utility bills, and just about every other daily necessity, the cost of living is stressful.

With some depending on the Ontario Student Assistance Program and the Ontario Child Benefit, money is not something to spend frivolously. OSAP barely provides enough to live on throughout the year, and not everyone can work while

attending school.

"It's not enough," Orobor said. "You don't want to go beyond your budget, but you're worried about living in a deficit."

Financial stress puts strain on full-time students who are also single moms. There is a constant decision between a need and a want. Even food, at times, must be thought out strategically.

With the rate of inflation slowly increasing, single mothers are fearful. Sometimes it's the difference between paying a bill or for gasoline for the week.

Working in the infant room at Humber's Child Development Centre, Elizabeth Dias sees the struggle of financial hardships on single mothers attending full-time school.

"Moms are struggling. I don't know how they do it," said Dias.

Childcare is expensive, and finding a place to accommodate evening and weekend shift

workers is difficult.

"We have moms who have their kids enrolled and unfortunately have to pull them out because (child care) hours aren't conducive to their job," Dias said.

The pandemic made things worse as many mothers lost money or fell behind in their studies. If a child is sick, mothers

must either have them tested or stay home with them, sometimes for 10 days, to quarantine.

"Some parents don't want to get the COVID test if the child is young," Dias said. "So that impacts their studies, and if they're working, that impacts their employment as well. Some bosses are a little bit nicer than others."

**"MOMS ARE STRUGGLING. I DON'T KNOW HOW THEY DO IT"**

**Elizabeth Dias**  
Humber College Daycare Worker



TRISHELLE DOTSON

Elizabeth Dias works in the infant room Humber's daycare centre. She has seen single mothers in school struggle to balance their full plates.



ELI RIDDER

The union went on strike for five weeks in 2017, bringing classes across the province to a halt until the province legislated faculty back to work. New contract talks broke off Thursday.

# Conciliation fails, risking Ontario college faculty strike

Talks between the College Employer Council and the college faculty union's bargaining team broke off on Thursday, starting a countdown

Eli Ridder  
News Editor

Negotiations for a new collective agreement between Ontario's 24 public colleges and the faculty union broke down Thursday evening, opening the door to a strike or a lockout that could interrupt classes provincewide.

Talks had only just restarted between the College Employer Council and CAAT-A with a government-appointed conciliator present when the CEC rejected the union bargaining team's proposals.

The employer council rejected the union's offer to avoid escalation through voluntary binding arbitration that would have brought a forced conclusion to negotiations.

More significantly, the council rejected the union's most recent contract proposal and requested the conciliator file a "no-board" report, a required step that would come before any form of "labour disruption."

Once the report is issued, a 17-day cooling off period will occur before any action is taken.

The colleges could decide to enact a faculty lockout or impose "terms and conditions of employment" that would force faculty to work until the collec-

tive bargaining is completed.

Meanwhile, the faculty union could decide to strike, but would first need to be a strike vote.

Both sides blamed each other for the talks faltering.

"The CAAT-A team is clearly no longer interested in bargaining," CEC bargaining team chair Laurie Rancourt said in a statement.

"The colleges do not want students and employees to be negatively impacted because of the unwillingness of the CAAT-A team to bargain in good faith and work towards concluding a collective agreement."

The chair of the college faculty bargaining team, JP Hornick, was adamant there was no need for escalation.

"The bargaining team has presented extremely low-cost, reasonable proposals that showed they had listened to the employer's concerns with previous proposals," Hornick said.

"These proposals support quality education, support students and communities, and are a path to a settlement with no escalation or labour disruption," she said.

Hornick emphasized in a

release that CAAT-A remains willing to bargain. Bargaining talks can still occur during any disruption to education.

The union's bargaining team

**"I THINK THAT THE CEC HAS BEEN WAITING THE WHOLE TIME TO CALL FOR CONCILIATION"**

Miloš Vasić

Humber College's Local 562 President

asked its members in an email seen by Humber Et Cetera to prepare alternative forms of contact for CAAT-A to reach them, a sign the union may anticipate a strike.

Humber College's Local 562 President Miloš Vasić told Humber Et Cetera the union was anticipating negotiations would reach this point.

"I think that the CEC has been waiting the whole time to call for conciliation, to kind of end this," Vasić said.

Vasić said that a strike vote is part of what he described as a game of "poker" played by both sides.

"The point of it is really just

to show the employer side we mean business," Vasić said.

The last time a strike vote was held in 2017, 68 per cent of the academic faculty union voted in favour of a strike.

Vasić said the strike vote in 2017 was "weak" but towards end of the striking period, faculty discontentment with the colleges grew to the point that 86-per-cent of the union voted against a college offer that would have ended it.

The walkout lasted for five weeks before the then-Liberal provincial

government appointed an arbitrator to force a final collective agreement — a new contract that the union saw as a success.

The CEC and the CAAT-A bargaining team, under the Ontario Public Service Employees Union, have been negotiating since earlier this year.

Mediation of the two sides failed on Oct. 28, with mediator Brian Keller saying the union failed to negotiate in a "meaningful way." The faculty bargaining team denied the accusation.

Many of the union's requests are centred around workload limits, equality in the workplace and intellectual property rights.



FILE PHOTO

A strike or lockout is now possible as conciliation talks abruptly ended. College faculty could strike like in 2017, interrupting classes in Ontario.

# Humber board begins search for next president

Joshua Drakes  
News Reporter

The search is on for a new president for Humber College.

Humber's Board of Governors announced Nov. 12 that a dedicated search committee was being formed to find Humber's fifth president and chief executive officer.

The move came after a month of searching had already been conducted to identify a replacement for retiring Humber President Chris Whitaker.

"The 11-person committee includes representatives from key college constituencies, including students, alumni, support staff, faculty and administrators," said Ana Fernandez, chair of the Board of Governors.

The search committee is a welcome addition for the Humber faculty union, OPSEU Local 562, which has been wanting such a panel to add representation from different groups at Humber.

The search committee gathers data from employees and a recruiting agency to provide recommended candidates for the post. It has committed to regular updates to keep the Humber community informed of its progress.

For Miloš Vasić, president of the local faculty union, it is a positive sign of inclusiveness and transparency, though he was not without some skepticism.

"They've got a track record of basically telling us what's happening, with kind of superficial inputs," Vasić said.

"Now there is a search committee involved and an outside agency. Maybe there can be more transparency and consultation with the Humber community," he said.

There is also hope for greater diversity in the top job at Humber, where presidents have traditionally been white males.

Diversity as a goal will need to be championed by the next president, Vasić said.

He cited the Ontario College of Art and Design as an example.

"They got a new president, someone that took equity and diversity seriously," Vasić said. "Things changed drastically. They started doing cluster hires instead of just hiring one or two Indigenous profs, they hired entire clusters of them."

Vasić said this is the kind of change and inclusivity the faculty union would like to see adopted by Humber.

The college is using the services of recruiting company Knightsbridge Robertson Surrette to assist in the search.

The inclusion of a staff survey, conducted by KBRS, will gauge the college staff's views and recommendations for the new president. It will be a forum through which staff can be honest about what they want to see change with a new president.

"A survey was sent out, and that's what I really like about this," Vasić said. "We're encouraging everyone to participate in and flood the survey to share what they want to see."



HUMBER COLLEGE

Humber's president and CEO Chris Whitaker, Ontario's highest paid college president, is retiring. A committee is seeking a replacement.



ETIENNE DELORIEUX/UNSPLASH

Ontario is expecting a colder-than-usual winter, with increased snowfall because of La Niña tradewinds.

## La Niña is expected to bring a winter to be remembered

Santiago Arias Orozco  
News Reporter

Humber College marketing student Laura Espino said her first winter in Canada will be "a season to remember," and Ontario-based meteorologists seem to agree.

"We are used to humid and rainy weather in Manila," Espino said. "There's no chance for us in the Philippines to experience the snow or cold temperatures of Christmas movies."

Espino has only experienced winter through television, but according to Prof. Danny Harvey, a University of Toronto climatologist, that will not be the case for much longer.

"Fall might have surprised us with above-normal temperatures," Harvey said. "But we are heading into a cold, snowy and early winter, all shaped by La Niña."

He said up to three more inches of snow per hour would pile up in Ontario during the first weeks of winter in addition to the colder temperatures.

Harvey has followed global air circulation changes across the equatorial line. Normally, winds blow west along the equator, moving warm water from South America to Asia and allowing cold, deep waters to rise to the surface.

"When this pattern is broken,

the weather around the world is affected," he said.

When trade winds are stronger than usual, they push more warm water into Asia and leaving a greater space filled with cold waters along South America's west coast. Known as La Niña, this climate pattern affects Canada's weather.

This large-scale cooling is occurring for the second year in a row after altering weather patterns during 2020.

"It is not uncommon that it happens twice, but it doesn't mean it is going to be equal both times," Doug Gillham said.

Gillham, Canada Weather Network meteorologist, forecasts La Niña's comeback will alter the high-level wind current separating the northern hemisphere's warm and cool air masses.

"During past years, this wind current brought the winter quicker than usual to Ontario," he said. "But this year, it is going to reach [Ontario] quicker than the province has seen during the past 25 years."

In the weeks leading up to the holidays, Ontario is expected to experience the weather commonly seen during the beginning of January. Gillham forecasts a wintry start with temperatures three degrees lower than average.

Harvey said a turnaround

is foreseen in 2022, and with the new year will come a "mild winter." Between January and February, Ontario will experience above-average temperatures ranging from 2 C to -12 C.

"Rainfalls are going to dominate this part of the season, while snow will be less common, but not impossible in Toronto," Harvey said.

Even so, Gillham and Harvey agree other conditions such as the wind speed will keep last year's La Niña's pattern. Reaching speeds of up to 68 km/h, the wind will enhance the cold sensation, making January and February feel up to five degrees cooler.

As the earth's surface warms and CO2 concentrations increase, Harvey and other meteorologists are still analyzing the possible impact global warming has on this weather pattern.

While no conclusions have been made proving that global warming directly affects La Niña, Harvey said the pattern's intensity and frequency appear to be more than just a coincidence, suggesting the two might be related.

"I knew this was going to happen, I just thought it wasn't going to be this cold," Espino said of the predicted colder-than-average winter. "I just wish this winter would go by, as many of my Canadian friends do."

# Disney+ Day filled with errors, confusion, leaks

**Jesse Glazer**  
Arts Reporter

An over-hyped, over-marketed event left Disney+ fans perplexed about what went wrong with Disney+ Day.

"It did not deliver," said Jessica Bay, a doctorate candidate in Communications and Culture at York University and a Disney+ fan.

There was lots of hype and anticipation for the event, but Bay said it wasn't clear from the beginning what fans should expect.

"It's Disney, right? All we knew was that it was going to happen on social media and Disney+. In so many ways, it was just really clunky," Bay said.

Disney+ turned two years old last Friday and there were big plans for its anniversary. They promised surprises from Disney, Disney Animation, Pixar, Marvel and Lucasfilm, including films and shows arriving on the platform by the end of 2021 and beyond.

An announcement from Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson and Emily Blunt about their film *Jungle Cruise*, which arrived on Disney+ that day, was charming. But things soon spun out of

control.

"On a structural level it was a failure as far as I can see," Bay said.

Disney chose to showcase the event through social media, specifically Twitter. A long, error-laden Twitter thread on the Disney+ social media account made it increasingly difficult to find announcements that fans were interested in.

Bay said this thread was confusing and that it was easier to follow people who were live-updating websites or blogs compared to following the actual Disney+ Twitter page.

"I think they don't understand. I think they went into it not knowing what they were trying to do, what audience they wanted and what the purpose was, that's what it felt like," she said.

Bay questioned the choice Disney made to focus its efforts solely on Twitter.

"Who are they trying to speak to on Twitter? Are they trying to speak to the fans? To the investors? Are they trying to speak to their audience, the viewing audience? Who is the actual audience?" Bay asked.



MARVEL STUDIOS

Hailee Steinfeld stars as Kate Bishop in the upcoming *Hawkeye* series on Disney+ which debuts on Nov. 24

Adam Hlavac, a YouTuber, podcaster and VFX artist, felt similarly, saying his biggest complaint with the event was a lack of clarity. He had assumed the event would be a video-style presentation like last year's Investor Day.

"Instead, everything was spread through several social media accounts and Disney+. Having to manually search 'Marvel 2021' to find the new sizzle reel [on Disney+] wasn't the most ideal situation," he said.

This was just the beginning of the problems Disney encountered.

Trade publications like *Variety*, *The Hollywood Reporter* and

*Deadline*, were beating Disney to the punch on announcements. Leaked show announcements included *The Spiderwick Chronicles*, a *Kenobi* sizzle reel and more.

Jonathan Gootgarts, a Disney+ subscriber and Marvel fan, thought the event was successful in drawing in people to pay attention to a Twitter-thread for a significant portion of the day.

"The fact they waited to do Marvel until the end made me stay and watch the stuff that happened before," he said.

Gootgarts did take exception to the paywall that fans who aren't subscribers to Disney+

were forced to bypass to see new content.

"If you want me to sign up for the thing, give me full access to the previews at least, so that way I know what I'm signing up for," he said.

Et Cetera reached out to Disney on the success of Disney+ Day and no comment was provided in time for publication.

Disney+ Day's rocky delivery could've been avoided with better communication, planning and understanding who their audience was for this event. Fans are hopeful next year's anniversary runs more smoothly.

# Old-fashioned sexism in the modern world of gaming

**Samantha Little**  
Arts Reporter

Hannah Heard, a Humber College Interior Decorating student, knows that the world of gaming can sometimes be an ugly place for young women.

Heard and other female gamers report experiencing sexist abuse, threats and harassment because of their gender. It's a phenomenon that often gets worse the better they perform.

And even in the most modern of social forums, Heard has found, the sexist imagery can be depressingly old-fashioned.

"When I communicate with my teammates using voice comms the boys on my team often tell me to 'get back to the kitchen' or make them a sandwich," Heard said. "It doesn't matter how well

I play, I will always be told I am not good enough because of my gender."

Women are fighting against sexism in the gaming community by sharing their stories online and organizing women-only gaming tournaments and esports teams.

In a survey conducted by Reach3 Insights, 77 per cent of women polled said they have experienced discrimination because of their gender. The abuse occurs frequently enough to discourage some young women from continuing to play video games or pursue careers in the burgeoning gaming industry.

A great deal of work goes into content creation and many women find their skills or success degraded because of their gender.

"A lot of people tell me I only

have viewers because I'm a girl," said Twitch streamer Blushi. "It hurts because I have spent years building my fan base, and people automatically assume I didn't earn it just because of my gender."

Even though Blushi also makes YouTube videos, Twitch is where she's most popular with 196,000 followers on the platform.

"Since I have started streaming I have been sexually harassed," Blushi said. "Viewers will make comments about my body that make me feel uncomfortable. Sometimes it gets so bad I have to end the stream."

The same Reach3 Insights survey suggested about 60 per cent of women hide their gender online to avoid being harassed. This causes gaming to be more difficult or less enjoyable for women as voice communication

with the team is a key component of many games.

Transgender women also face harassment in the gaming community.

"A lot of people try to tell me I'll always be a boy or make up some insult to tell me I'll never be a real woman," said Kay Carney, a transgender gamer. "I try to overcome this by immediately blocking them and venting

to people I trust about the issue," she said.

There have also been incidents in which transgender people were not allowed to participate in tournaments because of their identity.

"I was excluded from a co-ed gaming tournament because the host wanted me to play as a male player even though I identify as female," Carney said.



BLUSHI

Blushi, a popular Twitch streamer with over 196,000 followers, has been sexually harassed during her live streams by her anonymous viewers.



# Ed Mirvish theatres return with full capacity

**Carter Roy**  
Arts Reporter

Ed Mirvish Theatres are opening for live performances at full capacity after being shut down since March 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sue Toth, communications manager for Mirvish theatres, promises an “exciting year ahead” at the CAA Ed Mirvish, CAA Theatre, Princess Of Wales Theatre and Royal Alexandra Theatre.

Shows opening to full capacity include *Come From Away*, *Room*, and *Harry Potter And The Cursed Child*. The 50th anniversary of *Jesus Christ Superstar* kicks off the holiday season on Nov. 30.

Training with COVID-19 safety protocols has already begun for employees and artists. Full vaccination is required to enter theatres to work, and the same will go for patrons.

Guests are also expected to wear a mask or face covering at all times. Contactless payments, sanitization stations, enhanced cleaning measures, and contact tracing will all be COVID-19 prevention strategies.

The theatres opening its doors offers good news for some actors and stage crews.

“It’s been a hard year to get gigs,” said Amber Naujok, who studied theatre performance at Toronto Film School.

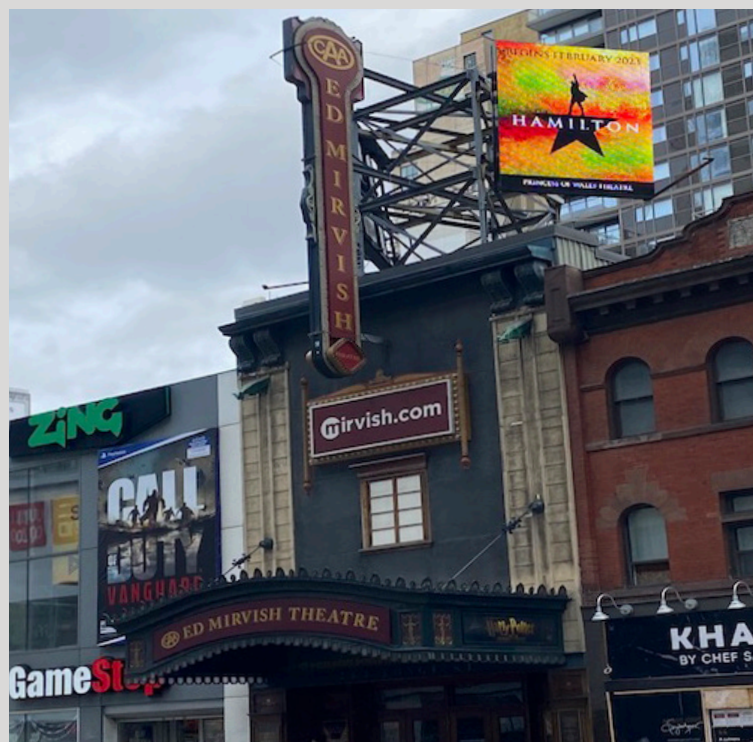
“Live theatre is making a comeback, which is great for people wanting to watch,” she said. “But up and coming actors are still going to struggle for roles. I feel the same actors will get the jobs for the next few runs.”

Ed Mirvish was an iconic Torontonion who saved the Royal Alexandra from demolition in 1963. Mirvish was known in the city for running the bargain department store *Honest Ed’s* at the corner of Bathurst and Bloor Streets.

Afterward, Mirvish rented out the Royal Alexandra to touring productions from London and New York. He then expanded to the other Mirvish theatres for local productions.

Theatre goer Sam Dyer said he is looking forward to the openings, but full capacity is what concerns his family.

“I’m nervous because even with vaccinations, you can still get COVID,” he said. “My grandmother may want to go but she has a compromised immune system. Any space at full capacity makes me worry for her.”



CARTER ROY

The Ed Mirvish Theatre will be full again in 2022 when *Harry Potter* and *the Cursed Child* hits the stage as its first show since COVID.



SONY PICTURES/MARVEL STUDIOS

Tom Holland returns as Spider-Man in the third instalment of his trilogy which is the first of Marvel’s phase four films to get a Chinese theatrical release. Prior Marvel films were delayed by the pandemic or banned.

## Marvel conforms to Chinese censorship rules as Spider-Man swings into theatres

**Jacob Tye**  
Arts Reporter

*Spider-Man: No Way Home* will be the first of Marvel’s phase four films to be released theatrically in the Chinese market following a series of banned films because of censorship laws.

Amateur filmmaker Chase Dumbrique wasn’t surprised to see Disney comply with China’s censorship guidelines for the new *Spider-Man* film.

“These big corporations care about profit and *Spider-Man: No Way Home* is going to be a literal gold mine,” he said.

*Spider-Man: No Way Home*, the first to pass censorship and screening approvals, is the fourth movie in phase four of the MCU and is expected to be released in Canada on Dec. 17. *Black Widow* also passed censorship screenings, but the pandemic forced Disney to delay the release.

*Shang-Chi and Eternals*, on the other hand, contained content that the Chinese censorship board deemed unacceptable.

Jessica Bay, a doctorate candidate in Communications and Culture at York University, said

movies before *Spider-Man: No Way Home* faced obstacles imposed by China.

“For the three first films, *Eternals* and *Shang-Chi* were completely different situations from *Black Widow*, not only did *Eternals* have LGBTQ+ content that could not and would not be removed, both films have outspoken creators attached who have made negative comments about China,” Bay said.

“If China is also only allowing a set number of blockbuster films in each year, then it makes sense that Disney would want to push those that have a better chance of succeeding in that market, like *Spider-Man*, where it’s a trusted product with a long history, no controversial content, and a steady PG-13 rating,” she said.

Bay said censorship movies could be a factor in the production of a film as it can be produced with the purpose of showing equal representation to Hollywood and to China.

“Hollywood definitely makes decisions based on the Chinese market and box office,” Bay said.

Dumbrique agrees with Bay in that censoring movies could be harmful to the final product and

the story they are trying to tell. “I understand why some things are censored but I think when it comes to art, especially an artistic medium like film, it can take a lot away from the art,” he said.

The previous Holland *Spider-Man* film *Far from Home* grossed more than US\$199 million in China alone. *No Way Home* is highly anticipated and appears poised to make more than its predecessor as it sets the scene for the return of many fan favourites.

Noah Sefton, a McMaster anthropology student, is expecting to see all the Peter Parkers unite in this film. By utilizing the concept of the multiverse, it’s expected actor Toby Maguire, a former *Spider-Man* from a previous series of films, and the current *Spider-Man* actor Andrew Garfield will team up with Tom Holland in the forthcoming instalment.

“There are so many fan theories that make just perfect sense, especially after the most recent trailer, where it almost seems that there’s parts where Tobey and Andrew look to be edited out,” he said.

# Ontario aims to ease newcomer anxieties over cultural adaptation

**Barbara Patrocino**  
News Reporter

Toronto is one of the most multicultural urban areas in the world. Each year, the city is chosen as a new home by thousands of people from all over the globe.

Being constantly lost geographically and culturally, added with the daily riddle of “how many layers of clothing should I wear in Toronto today” is enough to shake even the most motivated and energetic of immigrants.

Being involved in cultural or recreational activities is a way for newcomers to make friends and become connected to their new community. The Ontario government offers a wide variety of activities.

For Rejane Verguinini, the Learn How to Skate Program became the most exciting part of her Fridays in Canada. The hotel manager, who arrived in the country from Italy in September, said that this program helps people learn the culture of Toronto and get to

know each other.

“It feels good to make new friends from all over the world while experimenting with ice skating,” Verguinini said. “It also helps to relieve stress and is boosting my English skills, since

I hardly ever get the chance of speaking English at home.”

The programs offered by the government are not exclusive to immigrants, but they often make up the majority of participants. The diverse and inclusive pro-

grams provide activities in art and dance, sports, museums and heritage, LGBTQ+ community, and book clubs.

Weng Loh arrived in Canada at the end of 2017 from South Korea to complete his law studies. He is

one of the attendees of the Book Club Program.

“It is nice to feel like I have a hobby again, and I am having fun socializing with people there,” he said.

When it comes to adapting to a new country, each process is an individual case, with different difficulties, although it is unlikely to find someone who says they had no trouble.

Having the chance to meet people who are somehow going through the same experience and challenges has been a relief for Guilherme Verguinini. He is an Italian-Brazilian who enrolled in the Ice Skating Program.

“It’s been therapeutic for me to come here and try to learn how to skate because I feel more comfortable doing that with people who are also experiencing it for the first time,” Verguinini said.

Although most of the programs are offered for free, some of them cost about \$60.

The health requirements for registration can be found on the City of Toronto’s website.



BARBARA PATROCINIO

Getting involved in recreational activities such as skating is a way for newcomers to Canada to make friends.

# Tiffany Haddish’s journey from homeless to stardom

**Jess Munday**  
News Reporter

Tiffany Haddish loves to hear laughter.

The standup comedian and actor told Humber’s student union IGNITE this week that to hear people laugh allows her to tackle the tough days.

“To hear people laughing is to me, like birds singing,” Haddish told the virtual Humber Real Talks audience, sharing her personal journey of overcoming homelessness and becoming famous.

“It’s the most beautiful sound in the world to me,” she said. “I laugh even, and some people out here with the ugliest laughs — it sounds like they got all the phlegm up in their throat or whatever — is still beautiful to me.”

Appreciating that beauty, Haddish said, is how she gets through the tough days.

With a guest like Haddish, the night was filled with inspirational stories for students with lots of laughter and a message

about the importance of new opportunities. She showed her talent really had no limits — even on a screen.

She gave listeners tons of advice through the event and wanted students to know they should love what they do because then they’ll truly want to do it.

“She has an awesome person-

**“IT’S THE MOST  
BEAUTIFUL  
SOUND IN THE  
WORLD TO ME”**

**Tiffany Haddish**  
Author and Actress

ality and gave truly priceless advice,” Markus B. Music, a bachelor of paralegal studies student, told Et Cetera after the event.

“It’s eye-opening to know that regardless of success; people are people,” Music said. “You will be sad, you will experience disappointment and hardship, but

just as life can be hard there is always an opportunity for many more successes to come your way.”

IGNITE offered numerous prizes to event-goers, including an Apple Watch Series 3, a Peace Collective bundle including a crewneck, backpack and a hat, and a free one-year subscription to Netflix.

On top of that, 50 students who registered on IGNITE’s website and stayed for the entire duration won a prize-pack that included a brand new copy of Haddish’s book, *The Last Black Unicorn*, and an Amazon Alexa.

“It kept lagging a couple of times and there was one moment when the audio and video weren’t in sync,” Dilshan Marasinghe, an electronics engineering technology student, told Et Cetera. “But that’s alright, things like this tend to happen in live stream events.”

Marasinghe said he enjoyed seeing a more personal side of Haddish and hopes IGNITE puts on similar events.



COURTESY TIFFANY HADDISH

Tiffany Haddish spoke to Humber College students as part of IGNITE’s Real Talks, saying that laughter as helps her get through tough days.

IGNITE continues to put on free virtual events for students throughout the school year to provide safe entertainment during the pandemic.

IGNITE’s Real Talk series allows celebrities to connect

with students on a personal level, letting them tell their stories to relate with students.

Previous Real Talks showcased celebrities such as Bretman Rock, Margaret Cho, Tyler Oakley, and Dan Levy.

## EDITORIAL

# Corruption, injustice rules if the media is silenced

The pressures put on the media by governments and criminal organizations to conform, be silent, and to look the other way are growing. The list of journalists being subjected to censorship, detention, arrest, exile, and death is growing.

According to Reporters Without Borders (RSF), 274 journalists were behind bars around the world as of Dec. 1, 2020, because of their work. Fifty reporters died in 2020, while 53 journalists were killed in 2019.

China has the highest number of imprisoned journalists at 47 reporters, including some who received long sentences and are being held without charge. Among the journalists jailed in China, some have been held in inhumane conditions, being mistreated and tortured, including those accused of espionage.

Zhang Zhan, 38, a Chinese citizen journalist and former lawyer, reported from Wuhan about the chaos at the pandemic's centre. She criticized the Chinese authorities' handling of the outbreak by posting smartphone videos in February 2020.

Subsequently, she was sentenced to four years in prison in December, and is now on a hunger strike protest and at risk of dying.

Turkey follows China with 37 imprisoned journalists. After the 2016 alleged coup attempt, 180 media outlets were shut down, and more than 120 journalists were jailed. Some reporters escaped Turkey to continue their reporting.

"After the so-called coup attempt in 2016, since I criticized the government who tortured people held in custody, I was accused of propaganda," said Arzu Yildiz, an exiled Turkish journalist who has been living in Canada for five years. Yildiz currently works for New Canadian Media in Toronto.

"Where we come from, journalists report with zero legal assurance," not even assured of knowing where they'll be in the morning, said Yildiz, who went into hiding in 2016 before fleeing Turkey. Yildiz, a member of PEN Canada's Writers, won



Journalist Kamil Maman was forcefully detained when the Bugün newspaper in Istanbul, Turkey, he worked for was raided by the police in 2015. COURTESY

the 2021 PEN Canada Humber College Writers-in-Exile Scholarship.

India is one of the most dangerous countries for journalists, according to RSF. Four journalists who criticized the government were murdered in 2020. Reporters who speak out or write about subjects that disturb followers of Hindutva, the ideology behind Hindu extremism, have been harassed by the police and subjected to hate campaigns.

Gauri Lankesh, 55, a journalist and media freedom defender, was killed Sept. 5, 2015, by a gunman who shot her in the chest and head. Lankesh had rejected censorship restrictions and was targeted by Hindu nationalists.

RSF claimed Indian Prime Minister Narendra Damodardas Modi did not condemn the murder. "He has said nothing about the Lankesh's case, despite the progress being made in the investigation," it said.

Yildiz said that in many countries of the world, instead of universal values, divisions are created by using race, religion, homeland, and historical heroes. "Democracy, freedom, and

heresy disturb the powers that be, hidden behind one or all of these holy ones. Along with the governments, it also disturbs their supporters," she said.

Journalists who practice their

professions in North America are exposed to some restrictions. Canada is ranked 14th out of 180 countries on RSF's 2021 World Press Freedom Index. Norway scored the freest for

the media while the U.S. is 44th, India is 142nd, Mexico is 143rd, Russia is 150th, China is 177th, and Eritrea is at the bottom of that list.

Nevertheless, Canadian reporters might face detention over their coverage.

Indigenous Canadian journalist Karl Dockstader has been charged while covering news about a land dispute on Indigenous territory. The Ontario Provincial Police detained Dockstader over the accusations of criminal mischief and failure to comply with a court-ordered injunction.

"The press is not free in such countries either," Yildiz said. "For instance, if you want to write something critical, you are urged by people saying that those coverages would disturb the government, so do not write it."

A free media is essential for all nations. If the press is silenced, democracy, human rights, liberty, freedom of expression and facts would be silenced. If independent reporters are restricted, corruption, human rights violations, injustice, and dictatorships will prevail.



Approximately 180 media outlets were shut down in Turkey. While one of those outlets was raided by police, the journalist was tortured due to the news coverage, and his yellow press card was blooded in 2015. COURTESY

## OPINION

## Learning more things about myself, through others



**Hannah Clarke**  
Op-Ed Editor

I'd like to think my perspective of others has changed drastically over the years.

Like most other families, I've had a pretty sheltered religious upbringing, mainly because of my mother and her upbringing.

My siblings and I were barely able to go out late or hang out with friends from school unless

we made her aware well in advance and had an invitation or reassurance that we wouldn't be up to anything illegal or dangerous.

Or at least if there was an adult there too.

Which of course led to a rebellious stage of our lives where we defied our mother's rules, just to have a taste of freedom and independence.

Nowadays, it's a bit more chill, but she still needs reassurance if I'm ever going out with friends that I've known since high school.

And I know my mother is a caring woman who loves me and only wants the best from me, but there are times now, as I'm getting older and wiser, that I start questioning my mother's beliefs.

With my religious upbringing — though I'm not as religious as I used to be — I at least have the decent understanding to treat

others with respect and to not judge them. Unless there was a justifiable reason to do so.

Yet ironically enough, I've been "taught" by my mother to cast out others, especially those of other races or the LGBTQ+ community. Even though I've had multiracial friends in elementary, middle, and high school, to this day, this still is a shock to me.

Among all incidents of this kind of prejudice over the years, and even now, one truly sticks out to me.

In my first year of Humber's journalism program, I was working on a story that never got published.

It was about Humber's LGBTQ+'s Queer Book Club and how they were using this club to cope with the pandemic and transition to online learning.

I even got a chance to speak with Matthew Travill, Humber's

Student Diversity and Inclusion Initiatives Coordinator about the club and the book they were reading at the time, *We Have Always Been Here: A Queer Muslim Memoir* by Samra Habib.

Habib's memoir focused on her experiences of her own upbringing, her immigration to Canada, her coming to terms with her sexuality, and more.

I got the chance to read it for myself after that interview and when my mother heard me speak about it, she got upset with me, questioning why I was reading it instead of the Bible.

I still can't figure out why she'd make a comment like that when I was just reading it out of curiosity and self-indulgence into someone of another culture, upbringing, and sexuality from my own.

Still, as a journalism student, professors like Jim Coyle and Rob

Lamberti teach me to be both skeptical about what others say and post, offline or online, and also to be more open-minded to others, their views, and philosophies.

I also have my own personal philosophy: with whatever you say or do or how you behave, as long as it's not hurting you, your loved ones, or others around you, it's not my job to change your way of living.

For now, it's going to be hard to change my mother's opinions on everything, even as society grows and changes with each generation.

But as a young journalist, I'll surely continue looking for more opportunities to speak and work with more diverse people, regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, and status, and help to bring their stories to life in the news as well.

## Grow up! Mask up! Vax up now!



**Garrett Thompson**  
Sports Editor

It feels like an eternity since March 13, 2020. Yet here we are, more than 18 months later, still battling the COVID-19 pandemic.

When we went into lockdown it meant stepping into the unknown, entering an unprecedented world that no previous generation of post-secondary students had ever known. We had no idea what it would involve, what the consequences of new safety protocols would

be, or how long the campaign against COVID would last.

Governments across the world asked citizens to put on masks and for the most part people abided by the request for our own well-being and that of people around us.

However, there are some who have resisted masks and vaccines in the face of scientific evidence and overwhelming death tolls and debilitating illnesses. Such resistance to the well-being of people around them — especially from working in healthcare — astounds me.

That there are nurses, doctors, firefighters, paramedics and police officers willing to put themselves, their families and those in the community at risk for their own selfish reasons is quite frankly a joke.

At the mass temper tantrums they call protests, those in attendance believe it is a violation of rights to make people get a vaccine and wear a mask. It is so hard to wrap my head around

the thought processes of why it is a violation of rights to keep yourself and those around you safe.

The government's decision to make masks and vaccine proof mandatory to help Canadians live a sense of normalcy again was a smart decision. It helped case counts go down and restrictions to ease.

Countries around the world that did not have such mandates, have been once again thrown into complete lockdowns. Austria for example just announced a full lockdown due to low vaccination rates and high case counts. They now require

all citizens to be vaccinated before February 2022.

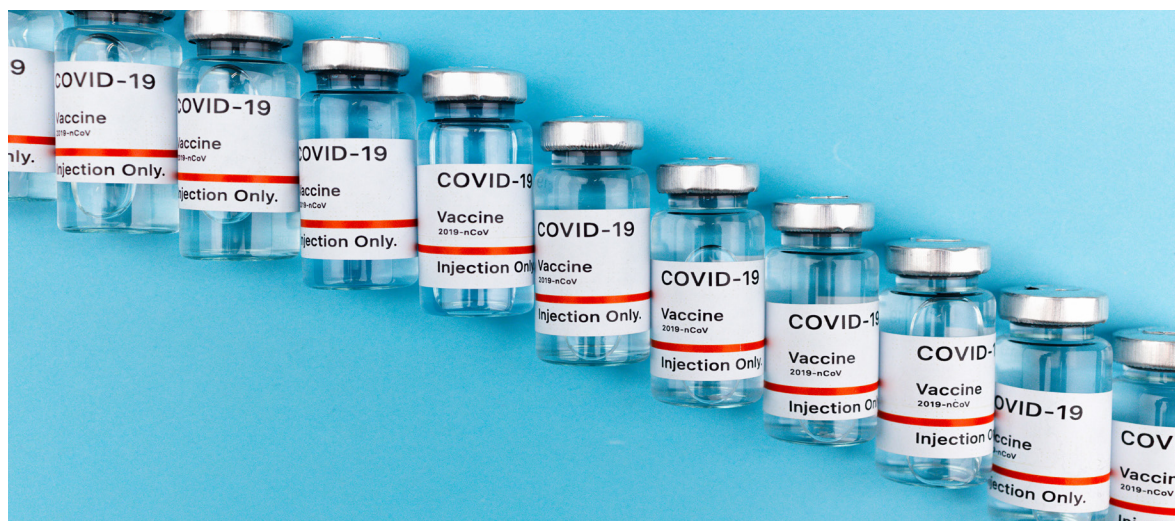
Being able to safely go see family and participate in somewhat normal pastimes must not be something they want to do. If you have a family member who is in a long-term care home, not getting vaccinated and not wearing a mask will keep you from seeing them. I would be very upset if I weren't able to see my grandmother.

I cannot understand the logic and thought behind the anti-mask and anti-vaccination movements. I have seen children not complain when putting on a mask, and it's not just because

their parents told them to, but it is because they see the people around them doing it and they see it as the right thing to do.

I have seen grown-ups come into establishments, yelling and screaming that they are "exempt". If you do not have doctor-approved proof you cannot get a vaccine, get out of the establishment or let someone you know who is vaccinated and masked go get what you need.

If you cannot breathe with a mask on, wear a shield or if you have concerns about breathing maybe you shouldn't be going outside. Better yet, to solve your problems, get your vaccine.



MASKIM GONCHAENOK/PEXELS

Nearly 80 per cent of eligible Canadians are vaccinated against COVID-19 in efforts to get back to normal.

## TALES FROM HUMBER

# How Teshar and Jason Derulo's 'Jalebi Baby' is changing the music game



**Danyal Khan**  
Arts Reporter

The Hindi-English chart-topper launched as a single, released by Teshar on Nov. 13, 2020. Shortly after, it received a lot of attention on the popular social media app "TikTok" as many content creators used the song to make their videos.

Derulo, who is active on the social media app, came across the song and created a TikTok video of himself indulging in the South-Asian delicacy "jalebis," mentioned in the song title, while playing Teshar's track in the background.

Teshar relaunched Jalebi Baby in May, but the revamped version included an unexpected feature: Derulo. Not long after the release of this remix, it was labeled as "the most used sound on TikTok."

Many people were creating their own fun videos to the

sound, and people from different ethnicities were coming together and enjoying the foot-tapping single.

The song has opened a new genre of music, and promoted inclusivity on a global scale. It brings diversity to the music industry as it introduces a hint of South-Asian music, mixed with a hint of pop to people of different cultures.

A few months after its release, the song was being played on radio stations. This increased its popularity in different ethnic audiences. The song portrays South-Asian culture in many ways.

First, it includes a famous South-Asian dessert that is enjoyed all across the continent, known as jalebis. Second, the music video boasts a heavy representation of South-Asian cul-

ture, as South Asian women are spotted throughout the video dancing to the tune in traditional clothing.

Derulo is also seen doing the traditional Bhangra dance, a popular dance in the South Asian community, particularly among those originating from Punjab.

There are several other representations of the sub-continent in the song and music video. The head-bopping track's lyrics include many Hindi words.

This collaboration opens opportunities for other ethnic collaborations. The pathway to Bollywood-Hollywood alliances opened up in 2008, when Snoop Dogg appeared in Bollywood as a feature in one of the songs for the acclaimed Bollywood movie "Singh is King."

The Snoop Dogg-Singh is King collaboration topped interna-

tional charts as well. Akon also appeared in Bollywood back in 2011 when he featured in two different songs for Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan's movie "R.A. One."

Ethnic collaborations, especially in music, play a role in bringing people together and help raise awareness of other cultures.

Teshar, being a Canadian rapper and producer, grabbed the opportunity to create a song that would be loved by people of different ethnicities, knowing how Canada is known as an example of multiculturalism around the world.

It would be great to keep this sense of togetherness in the music industry through future ethnic collaborations, even developing new genres on the road to success and stardom.

It is fair to say the song "Jalebi Baby" has become a global jam and is enjoyed by people of all ages, on their way to work, school or anywhere else.

The tune is sung and produced by Canadian rapper Teshar and is a popular feature by the evergreen Jason Derulo.

## As Canada gets too expensive, immigrants are forced to relocate once again



**Sarah Hurtado**  
News Reporter

Toronto.

Moreno and his wife could only fit a bed and small desk in their room and had to squeeze past the furniture to reach the closet. With two daughters, aged 10 and 19 at the time, there wasn't enough space and privacy to go around and tensions grew.

Since he started working at home due to the pandemic, Moreno also lacked space to set up an office, so he worked from a hot and cramped living room.

The apartment, as inadequate as it was to their needs, cost the family about \$2,300 a month.

Close to the end of 2020, the family moved to Mississauga, to a larger flat. They hoped to purchase their own home. But rising housing costs and the inflation that eats into their income is throwing that dream farther into the future.

"Household costs in Canada has skyrocketed in the past few years, specially since the pandemic," Moreno said.

"Prices have become prohibitive, even for high-income families" he said. "A semi-detached home about one hour away from Toronto costs about \$1 million, which means we would need \$200,000 as a down payment."

Moreno works about 16 hours

a day, every day, in order to save for that down payment, pay for his eldest daughter's college tuition and other living expenses such as food, gas, and clothing.

Not surprisingly, the workload took a toll on his mental health, as he was working to "survive," he said, not to live.

Moreno expects he might have to leave Canada, in part due to the bureaucratic barriers facing immigrants.

"Paperwork is constant and extremely expensive for those who want to stay in the country," he said. "They are extremely draining processes which the Government of Canada profits from, as you have to pay for lawyers, paperwork, translations, medical examinations and many other fees."

Moreno estimates he has had to spend about \$30,000 so that he and his family can meet all requirements to stay in the country.

The Morenos are alone in Canada and, given the demands of earning enough to make ends meet much less get ahead, have found it difficult to build new relationships.

"It is difficult to have a support system here," Moreno said. "Many people I have encoun-



DANIEL MORENO

Daniel Moreno, second from left, along with his wife Xiomara, daughter Sofia, and family friend Isaac outside of the CN Tower in Toronto.

tered here only try to establish a relationship if there is a chance they can gain something from it, and that would be mostly money."

"Not long ago my wife had surgery, and because we are alone here, I had to rush to the hospital and leave my youngest daughter alone at home for about three or four hours, since the eldest was

not in the city at the time," he said.

Sometimes, when the barriers are hard to climb, and seem to multiply month by month, the most cherished of dreams slip away.

Like Moreno, many immigrants share similar experiences. And if they haven't left already, they know it's probably only a matter of time.

When families migrate to North America, they are almost always looking for better economic opportunities and a brighter future for their children.

The dream does not always come true, and rising inflation, along with the global pandemic, is making major transitions more difficult. This is a story about one family's Canadian dream, and their experience of watching it slip away.

Daniel Moreno, a graphic designer and illustrator from Spain, moved to Canada with his Colombian wife Xiomara and their two daughters in 2016. They initially lived in a small two-bedroom apartment in



AMANDA THICK

Robbie Cleary (#19), dribbles past an opponent. He looks to impress every time he steps onto the pitch.

## The dawning of a golden age for men's soccer in Canada

**Nathan Abraha**  
News Reporter

For men like Billy Wilson and Robbie Cleary, it's time for this generation of Canadian soccer to dream.

Soccer fever is growing as the men's Canadian national team becomes the country's new sports darling, rising to 40th in the FIFA rankings with recent wins against Mexico and Costa Rica and currently atop their group in the World Cup qualifying tournament.

"It's incredible to have role models for these kids," said Wilson, technical director of the North Toronto Soccer Club. "Canada's relatively years behind in terms of culture and passion for the game, but to have a role model playing at the top level like Alphonso Davies, that's never happened before."

Inspired by young talents like Davies and Jonathan David, the Canadian team has achieved its second-highest ranking in history and made waves with electrifying play in its bid for a spot in the 2022 Qatar World Cup.

The men's team has lit a soccer spark across the country, Wilson said.

"I see at the club now everyone's talking about Davies," he said. "But if I asked the kids when

I first came to Canada 'who's your favourite player?' or even, 'Can you name a men's national team player?' they wouldn't have known."

He sees the game is moving in a great direction, focusing on more child-friendly atmospheres with training centered on skill development.

"Canada Soccer has done a really good job over the last five or six years to really not copy and paste a model from somewhere else but really trying to create a Canadian identity," Wilson said.

Meanwhile, Cleary, an 18-year-old Oakville, Ont. native playing for Oakland University in Rochester, Mich., is one of those with a new determination to rise as high as he can in the sport.

Cleary's first heroes lived under his own roof, his dad and older sister, both players. His memories of happily kicking the ball around the backyard at his home remain vivid.

"I always followed what my older sister was doing, she started playing at a young age and along the way, as I followed her, I ended up falling in love with the sport," Cleary said.

In the beginning, he was an average player. But at 14, things started changing.

"I realized I could potentially make a career out of this," he

said. "I started training harder."

The Canadian men won this week, defeating Mexico 2-1 on the frozen pitch of Commonwealth Stadium in Edmonton. With that, Cleary had only one thing on his mind as he looks ahead.

"I want to play professionally at the highest level," he said.

It's been over 20 years since Alex Santini began coaching and he's never seen anything like this.

"This men's team, caught a lot of eyes because of their success. It's a result of this golden generation of players," said Santini, assistant coach for the Humber Hawks since 2013.

A year ago Santini wouldn't have believed Canada would be at the top of their group.

"I probably would have said the U.S. or Mexico would have been top, but Canada's there," he said. "It's a pleasant surprise."

Santini puts it down to the expansion of the Canadian game, and home-grown players being scouted overseas at younger ages has helped aid a cultural shift.

"You're starting to see them look at Canadians a little more seriously," Santini said. "Clubs around the world are looking here now, probably trying to uncover the next Alphonso Davies."

## Humber's cross-country runners shine this season in return to competition

**Antonio Clarke**  
News Reporter

Humber's Megan Raso has no trouble recounting her favourite moment of the Ontario College Athletics Association cross-country season. Teammate Sofia Vozza had a different highlight but chose it mostly for the same reason.

"My favourite moment of the season would have to be after the race at nationals," Raso, a second-year film and TV production student, said.

After almost a two-year hiatus from competition because of the global health crisis, the team had to readapt and find its footing when runners got back out on the track.

For Vozza, the most trying moment for the team was the provincial championships.

"A lot of us were coming back from injuries, the weather wasn't ideal, and the course was muddy," she said. "We weren't certain of how it would go but we all kept a positive headspace despite our doubts."

Almost by definition, cross-country running is a sport that demands stamina, resilience, determination and the ability to overcome challenges and discomfort.

Vozza said the Hawks overcame their challenges to finish strong because of their "ambition" and the "support" of the team.

Raso recalled the first meeting

of the season at Fanshawe College in London, Ont. and how the team recovered after a slow start.

"It took us a bit of time to find our footing and build up the mileage again, but we took what we learned from that race and came out stronger at the next invitational," she said,

Although the team placed well at Fanshawe, the runners came out stronger at the following meeting, the Centennial Invitational. The last runner placed 47th, with a few athletes placing among the top teens, and even mixed in among the top 10 from both the women's and men's teams.

Raso finished 16th at Centennial with a time of 27:36. Vozza placed sixth by crossing the finish line 59 seconds earlier.

The team continued to progress through the season, breaking records along the way, despite being banged up.

The season ended on Nov. 13 with the team heading to Calgary for the CCAA championships.

Raso, Vozza, Umberto Lopardo, Brendan Woolley and Julian Zamparo were among the finalists to qualify for the CCAA championships.

Scott Skimming, the team's head coach, said he wanted the qualifying runners in Calgary to post their best results there.

"You want to get your best results at your biggest meet," Skimming said.



HUMBER ATHLETICS

The Humber Men's Cross Country team racing in the 2021 OCAA championship at Albion Hills Conservation Park in Caledon, Ont.