

**HUMBER**

# Et Cetera

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# BRAWN AND BRAINS

**CELEBRATING ATHLETICS AND ACADEMICS  
FOR INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY**

**P 3**

**LAKESHORE CANDIDATES  
SHARE THEIR PLATFORMS**

**P 2**

**APP TEACHES  
STUDENTS' RIGHTS**

**P 4**

**STUDENTS OWING FEES WILL BE  
DROPPED FROM CLASSES**

**P 4**

# Communication is key at IGNITE forum

Caitlyn Clancey  
NEWS REPORTER

The IGNITE Lakeshore candidate forum Tuesday saw candidates on all platforms emphasize the importance of communication in their prospective roles.

Forum participants included the two presidential candidates, Allisa Lim and Monica Khosla; four Lakeshore vice president candidates, Layna Lubimiv, Khatira Mahmoodi, Graham Budgeon, and Joshua Davenport; and five of the six Lakeshore nominees for board of directors.

The election candidates gathered in the campus' L Building cafeteria to deliver their platform promises and field questions from a panel of current board of directors Nicholas Davenport, Allyson Sander and Niña Jocson.

The candidates outlined their platforms and campaign promises, as well as other issues such as communicating with students, mental wellness, campus food options and online accessibility to IGNITE.

Lakeshore vice president candidate Budgeon, who currently serves on the campus' board of directors, wants to implement an online portal dubbed "Societies," which he believes will not only open users to better communication with IGNITE but create a student networking system as well.

He also wants to create a permanent IGNITE desk on the first floor of the L Building with someone stationed there to guide students. The portal would work in partnership with the desk in booking appointments there, should students need additional help or support, Budgeon said.

VP candidate Davenport promises to improve communication at Humber and plans on doing this by developing an app which he believes will bridge the gap between students in the same programs. The app would also include an events tab to see what's going on at Humber and a place for students to chat with each other, he said.

"Every student in the school would be able to communicate with one another which would help end the segregation I feel students have in their programs," Davenport said. "It's kind of hard to meet people here, especially if you're shy and coming from a place where you don't know how to speak English that well.

"The app would help you communicate better and improve your college experience here," he said.

VP candidate Lubimiv's platform



VP Lakeshore candidates, from Left, Layna Lubimiv, Khatira Mahmoodi, Joshua Anthony Davenport, and Graham Budgeon present their plan for students if chosen to be the vice-president of IGNITE.

is all about communication, mental wellness and sustainability on campus. As part of improving student mental health, Lubimiv would like to introduce plants and vines into the school which she explained help clean toxins from the air.

As for communication, she wants to create opportunities for each educational stream to have a student representative in IGNITE to act as the word of mouth for events hosted on campus, she said.

Making the food on campus reflect Humber's diverse student body, something VP candidate Mahmoodi feels is not currently happening, is part of her platform.

She would also like to make the food more affordable for students to alleviate financial stress, she said. Presidential candidate Allisa Lim, who is also the current Lakeshore VP, said her top priority is completing the menstrual project she implemented in January and then focus on increasing student voices and opportunities on campus.

However, Monica Khosla, the other presidential candidate, is promising advocacy, accessibility and awareness, said they are all equally important.

"It's like asking your mom to choose their favourite child," she said. "I love all of the things that I am going to be advocating for and I really want to work on them at the same time."

Panelists asked Lim if she believes her menstrual project is something IGNITE should continue or if another organization should take on



IGNITE Presidential candidates Monica Khosla, left, and Allisa Lim discuss their platforms at the Lakeshore Candidate Forum on Tuesday.

the responsibility.

Lim said a survey conducted following the launch of the project revealed about 90 per cent of voters want to keep the program, which she describes as clear proof the project should be continued.

This could mean meeting with location holders of the free menstrual kits such as the LGBTQ centre to see if they would be interested in taking on the project, she said.

"It's first about coming back to the team after what we have gathered so far in terms of the feedback and the performance of (the project)," Lim said. "And deciding if we should even keep it on campus. It's first about understanding what we have in front of us."

Both presidential candidates were asked how they would increase communication with the student body. Lim said she would ask students what they want from IGNITE and figure out how to improve existing services.

Khosla said many students might be intimidated by IGNITE and won't share their opinions. She wants to be available to students in any way, which could include contacting her for one-on-one interactions. More than anything, she said she wants to be a voice for the students.

Voting is the week of March 12. Polls close March 16 when the winners will be announced.

ALL PHOTOS BY CAITLYN CLANCEY

## Giftcard offered to students who fill out sexual health survey

Nivea Raj  
NEWS REPORTER

The Ontario Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development is conducting a survey on sexual violence in Ontario's post-secondary institutions.

Students completing 65 per cent of the survey questions will receive a \$5 electronic gift card as a token of gratitude.

The survey, conducted by CCI Research on behalf of the province, wants to get feedback from the students about how they perceive, understand and respond to sexual violence and how post-secondary institutions respond and address sexual violence.

It's described as the largest survey of its kind undertaken by the province.

The survey wants to determine student perspectives and their experiences with consent, unwanted sexual advances, sexual violence and sexual harassment. The study also wants to determine students' experience with services dealing with sexual violence at Humber, their beliefs and knowledge and education and prevention of sexual violence.

"At Humber, we are deeply committed to a campus that is free from sexual violence and we think the information we get from the survey will help us advance that work," said Jen McMillen, Humber College's Dean of Students.

"We also understand these issues are really hard to talk about, so I want to reiterate you that the survey is completely voluntary," she said.

The survey will be conducted between March 5 and April 2 in Ontario colleges, between Feb. 26 and March 26 at universities and between Feb. 16 and March 16 at private career colleges.

Full-time students who are at least 18 years of age can participate in the online survey. Eligible students will get an email with a link to the survey either by computer or smartphone.

The survey results are expected to be released by the summer and this will help post-secondary institutions to assist and support students.



## Science, sport minister showcases exceptional women at Humber

Frédérique Ndatirwa  
NEWS REPORTER

Computer engineering student Ma-heshwerie Samaroo demonstrated an app that could save lives.

Samaroo with Humber colleagues Mohita Prabhakar and Karandeep Singh showed how a breathalyzer device connected to the app would measure blood alcohol levels. And if the device told the user they were impaired, it offered safe options, like a connection to Uber.

They were showing off some of the trailblazing work Humber students have been doing to Kirsty Duncan, the federal Minister of Science, Sports and Persons with Disabilities, who toured North campus Thursday in celebration of International Women's Day.

It was part of a whirlwind trek that took the minister from Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) courses to the Athletic Centre to rub elbows with the varsity basketball team who won provincial gold last weekend.

"With our device, along with the app, anyone who is going out to drink would be able to check themselves and see if they are okay to drive," Samaroo said as the minister's tour began in the prototype lab.

"If they are not okay to drive, the mobile application will give them the option to call two emergency contacts, or there's a functionality that we made call Uber that redirects them to the Uber app," Samaroo said.

The room had about 20 women involved in STEM who demonstrated the advancements Humber women have made in the male dominated field. Brandeen McDonald, who took the minister on her tour, said the prototype room "is a place that empowers [Humber's] students."

Duncan seemed impressed. The minister, who prides herself in being born and raised in Etobicoke, described the college as "a touchstone



Kirsty Duncan, pictured above with Brandeen McDonald and STEM students, visited North campus in celebration of International Women's Day.

of Etobicoke."

"We are really working on getting ahead" in the STEM fields, said Jessica Little, a first-year electromechanical engineering student.

She was demonstrating an industrial robotic arm to be used on a production line which she made this year with her all-female group.

The training and the tinkering that they do is all "so that once we get out there we will be ahead of the industry," Little said.

"We have accomplished a lot, yet we still have a lot to accomplish," the former associate professor of health studies at the University of Toronto said. "We need more women in STEM."

"As a former scientist I can tell you, we need you," Duncan said to the STEM students as she applauded their innovation.

The tour continued with a lunch where Duncan addressed the room packed with students and faculties from various departments.

"I was asked how I wanted to be treated — as a scientist or a woman," Duncan said.

"Remember, impossible is a dare. Impossible is temporary and I know all of you can change the world."

The minister then met with a Humber woman who is living her dream.

Ceejay Nofuente, 24, and

Duncan shot some hoops as the Humber's women varsity basketball point guard celebrated for their groundbreaking season. The team made history when it won its fourth consecutive provincial championship on March 4.

Nofuente, who is no stranger to making history, spoke with the minister, who is also MP for Etobicoke North, and presented her with a varsity jacket in honour of the visit.

"I started playing [basketball] at the age of six," the star guard said. "My uncles taught me how to play, because I would always follow them when they went to play, even though they didn't want to take me — I was their annoying little sister."

"I always followed them and picked up what they did," the final year sports management course student said.

She said it's important to keep doing what one loves, even if others are discouraging them.

"Because at the end of the day, if you do not love what you are doing it's going to drain the life out of you," Nofuente said. "Basketball has been able to create opportunities for me."

"I found sisterhood through my teammates that I grew up with," she said.

Nofuente is hoping to continue her history-making sports career by



Kirsty Duncan poses with members of the women's basketball team. From left, Felicia Velasquez, Aleena Domingo, Ceejay Nofuente and Jahnae Gyles.

winning her third consecutive national player of the year award from Canadian College Athletics Association for the 2017-18 season.

Christopher Whitaker, president of Humber College, appreciated the women who continue to make Humber the institution that it has been and continues to be.

"More than half of Humber's students identify as women, I would say about 60 per cent and our leadership represents about 50 per cent," he said.

"Because it is International Women's Day, I think it is an opportunity for us to celebrate and reflect where we currently are in terms of issues of inclusion and diversity," Whitaker said. "When we talk about Humber we always talk about its diversity and inclusion, it is something we take

pride in, it is our culture."

He said it's important for the college and its administration to challenge itself and "look at different ways of thinking about ourselves, our perceptions and society, because our community [Humber] is always changing."

Duncan said women shouldn't be afraid to ask for mentorship because it allows their journeys to success in whatever field they pursue.

"My dream is of a world where women's stories are heard and valued in a world of science," she said. "To all the women here I say this: continue to push the status quo and push beyond the rope, take time to dream your greatest dream."

# Orangeville volunteers look for missing three-year-old in Grand River

**Olivia Levesque**  
NEWS REPORTER

About 30 students from Humber's Orangeville Police Foundations program joined a volunteer recovery search on Monday for missing three-year-old Kaden Young.

The toddler has been missing since Feb. 21 when he was swept away from by the fast-moving Grand River, just west of Orangeville.

The van the young boy and his mother was travelling in was swept up by the rising waters caused by warm temperatures, melting snow and heavy rains. The lad and his mom tried to walk away from their stalled van but the water pulled him out of his mother's arms, police reported.

Joseph Bullock, a second-year Police Foundations student and a member of the Student Association at Humber Orangeville, assisted in organizing the search, along with instructor Amanda Crognale and Campus Director Joe Andrews.

"Unfortunately, Kaden still hasn't been found yet, but the search is definitely still going strong," Bul-

lock said. "The longer it goes on, the fewer unsearched places there are that he could be so in that regard the search is certainly serving its purpose."

Ontario Provincial Police reported that hundreds of volunteers aided in the search. Connor Maclean, a first-year Police Foundations student, was humbled by the commitment of the volunteers, and the actions of his own peers.

"The class and the school had been hearing about the search for Kaden, and I think it got to a point of hopelessness of how this boy (hasn't been) found," MacLean said.

He said that's when Andrews and Crognale wanted to know a rough idea of how many students would be willing to conduct a search for the boy on behalf of the Police Foundations program and the college.

"The second (Crognale) asked, every single person's hands went up," MacLean said.

As students helped in the search for the child with other volunteers, the experience also served as a learning exercise for the students who were involved.



COURTESY JOE ANDREWS

Students of Orangeville Campus Police Foundations program pose after the search for Kaden Young on Monday.

"It's one thing to discuss the abstracts in a classroom but it is quite a sobering act to go out and

be searching for the remains of a young boy," Bullock said. "I definitely learned an appreciation for

how dangerous nature can be and about the scope and size of an operation such as this."

## Swipe and know your rights in a tight spot

**Damian Ali**  
ARTS REPORTER

Swiping right is now designed to lend a hand in ending discriminatory police practices.

Criminal lawyer Christien Levien, co-founder of legal education app Legalswipe, told a Humber North audience during a March 6 President's Lecture Series speech about his work in giving the public readily available legal information.

Levien's Legalswipe works by informing people of their rights during encounters with police and giving them on-the-fly legal knowledge. It was created by Levien because of its potential for having a systemic impact through the power of technology.

He was inspired to become a lawyer after he was subjected to police violence — where he says he was assaulted by officers in Brampton — in his youth. Levien said he successfully filed a complaint, but was still inspired to fight back against racial profiling.

The app is also inspired by that incident, the law graduate from University of Ottawa said. He added that its interface draws from racial profiling-influenced practices used by police. Giving targeted groups of people a tool to combat prejudiced encounters was crucial, he said.

"I knew what the problem was, and that it was people weren't educated in their legal rights and it resulted in them coming into contact with the criminal justice system," Levien said. "The beneficiaries were those people affected by police violence."

In the criminal justice system, black people are more likely to be presumed guilty by members of the judiciary, he said. Realizing the sys-



DAMIAN ALI

Christien Levien talks to the audience at the President's Lecture Series.

tem itself was very broken and the odds were unfair, critical analysis is needed to debunk these perceptions, Levien said.

Ensuring that specific groups, particularly youth, had the convenience of basic legal knowledge readily available was important, said School-within-a-College dual credit teacher Mary Ellen Gucciardi.

"For me, as their educator, engaging in these events here at Humber just helps them to gain awareness and understanding, and what's available to them," Gucciardi said. "I really want them to engage and be a part of it, since they have this opportunity for free for kids and it's a huge piece."

Dealing with the issue of

accountability, however, and holding police officers to an ethical standard was key in moving forward with Legalswipe, Levien said.

If a police officer knows that one is more likely to make a complaint or go to the Human Rights Tribunal, that is going to change the way they interact, he said. It's about empowerment though the app's resources and showing those in positions of power that citizens can protect their rights, Levien said.

"What we need to do is educate ourselves as a community not only to know what the law is, but know what avenues or resources are available to us, so that we can adequately respond, so that we can hold those in high power accountable," he said.

## Students who owe tuition fees will be dropped from classes

**New policy will deregister students if they do not pay by March 16**

**Norma Zminkowska**  
NEWS REPORTER

Students who haven't paid their fees by March 16 are at risk of getting kicked out of classes, a new Humber policy states.

The college implemented a new "deregistration" policy this year, which is taking effect for the first time this semester, said the registrar's communications manager Mike Berg.

The college, under section 7.3 of Academic Regulations, now has the power to remove students from "all course sections in a specific semester."

The registrar's office sent students deregistration notices on Feb. 21 and March 5, Berg said. The third and last notices will be sent March 16. These notices and their dates have yet to be included in Humber's academic calendar.

A payment plan is available for students, however it still requires them to pay at least 25 per cent of their balance and apply for a payment plan agreement by March 16. This plan is a "one-time exception" for students, the payment plan application states.

Once approved for a payment plan, students would have to pay an additional 25 per cent by March 23, and another 25 per cent

in following weeks up to April 6. The plan or full payment must be in effect by March 23, otherwise students do not have the chance to be reinstated, the application states.

The terms and agreement listed on the application state international students' visas and study permits may be affected if they are deregistered. The terms for students living in residence are unclear, Berg said.

"Humber has experienced an increase in the amount of unpaid fees each semester over the last three years," he said.

"The college chose to implement this process and mirror what has been in place at many other post-secondary institutions."

Other schools with a deregistration policy in place include University of Guelph-Humber, Carleton University, University of Guelph, and Ryerson University.

Faculty members protested this new policy. Bernie Monette, who is the program coordinator of the web development program, said this policy is almost "draconian."

He said it's "ill-advised" and faculty haven't been consulted in the implementation.

"Why now? The students are feeling a little fragile as it is after the strike," Monette said.

"Some of the coordinators shared emails from their students who said that they don't know what to do because they're paying as they go along," he said.

# Girl power talk resonates with women

Vannesia Crayton  
ARTS REPORTER

Listening to actress Sophia Bush and model Iskra Lawrence talk about education and empowerment struck a cord with public relations student Renee Johnson.

The Lakeshore campus student said it was important hearing the two stress education during an IGNITE Real Talk session at the Student Centre on Thursday as part of International Women's Day celebrations.

"Because there are so many times that I just want to quit school but hearing Bush say how school played a key component in her life just makes me want to push a little more to becoming my own boss," Johnson said.

Bush said because life is a work in progress, women shouldn't "wait until you're just a masterpiece.

"Life is a work in progress, you're capable and beautiful and nailing it already," she said.

Lawrence and Bush came to speak and answer questions from the audience of about 200 people about their journeys to success and being an influence of change.

The two use marketing and advertising to promote positive images of people, women in particular.

Lawrence, who is an entrepreneur and social activist, is also the face of the body-positive Aerie Real Campaign, which changed the American women's clothing retail-

er's branding by not photo shopping its ads.

She is also the brand ambassador for the National Eating Disorder Association, which is working to support individuals and families affected by eating disorders. The BBC acknowledged her as one of the top 100 Women Of The Year in 2016.

Bush devotes her time to better the education of young women while serving as a global ambassador for Glamour's the Girl Project, which focuses on breaking down barriers girls face with attending secondary schools in developing countries.

"Working with a brand that promotes my message, everything that I stand for by showing my authentic self, that for me is the most freeing thing," Lawrence said. "It lets me know that no matter my size, shape and stretch marks, they still value me and let me know that I am special to them, I mean something to them."

Lawrence said she is an advocate for self-love and self-care, with those two things being the fundamental routes for women's empowerment.

"Self-care is imperative because when you remove your insecurities, you're capable of anything," she said. "When you have that self-love you start to find ways to contribute to the goodness of the world helping elevate other women."

Lawrence urges women to build themselves up and then dedicate



KASIE DASILVA

Aerie model Iskra Lawrence, right, told the crowded IGNITE student centre about self-esteem and body positivity during a Real Talks event for International Women's Day that was hosted by IGNITE president Maja Joczson.

time towards helping boost other women.

"Education is key, so educate yourself," she said. "With that, we as women can take over and be a strong force."

"It's no longer okay for us to not look out for each other as women anymore," Lawrence said.

Bush said women cannot let fear stop them from succeeding.

"One thing I've learned is that fear is strong and never goes away," she said. "You've just got to give it a seat at the table, don't run away from it, acknowledge the fear and go, 'Oh, it's all going to be okay' and move past it."

"You can overcome anything, just drop that self-doubt, that's a start in eliminating fear," Bush said.

"I love sitting in meetings with a big group of men, because they have this archaic thought that because I'm an actor I'm just pretty and dumb," she said.

Bush described herself as a nerd and "super smart."

"I have a journalism degree with an emphasis in public relations and political science in university," she said. "I'm educated, so I'm about to be insightful and mop the floor with you."

"Women are powerful beings who are pursuing a seat at the table they usually aren't assigned to, said Lake-

shore campus student Chantal Legere.

"It was awesome to see a lot of men here supporting women as well and being involved in the talk coming together as allies," she said. "Therefore it was a great event, it's always nice to highlight women especially on this day."

Dava Grocott, an addictions and mental health services student at Lakeshore, said just being in the same room as Bush was empowering for her.

"She touched on a lot of issues that are currently going on in the world, from the #MeToo campaign to oppression against women in Hollywood," Grocott said.

## PRESTO, international students main highlights at North VP forum

Kasie DaSilva  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Every student council's goals should revolve around the students and the candidates for the IGNITE election weren't short on that.

There were many concerns raised during the IGNITE North campus candidate forum on Monday, but everyone appeared to agree on one thing – there needs to be better communication with the students to meet their needs.

The forum consisted of the two presidential candidates, the current vice president of Lakeshore Allisa Lim and Monica Khosla; three North campus vice president candidates Jason Hyatt, Jeremy Afonso and Kuljeet Singh; and four North campus board of director candidates, Md Asaduzzaman, Shayan Shakil, Tashornna Simpson and Ehinomen Idialu.

Vice president candidate Hyatt may not be elected in office yet, but he is already eager on getting a PRESTO machine on campus.

Hyatt said he has already talking to PRESTO and TTC about placing a PRESTO machine at North campus and it is what Humber students need. One of Afonso's main platforms if he is elected is to create a plan that would help and benefit students if there was to be a strike again.

"I want to revise guidelines, so

that students don't have to suffer the penalty of not being able to finish tests, assignments, quizzes or reports during their time in the strike and making sure they get everything done on time," he said.

Meanwhile, Singh's platform focuses more on international students, saying he wants to help with the hurdles they face when coming to Humber, especially the language barriers.

The main event of the forum was when IGNITE presidential candidates Lim and Khosla hit the stage. Both shared their thoughts on how they want to communicate better with students.

"Students will bombard, hassle and get angry with you because they want to know answers, and we're not giving it to them," Khosla said. "When students are angry, it's because we aren't giving them the basics they need, which is communication."

When Lim spoke about communicating with students, she brought up the strike as an example on how students were left frustrated.

"We got a lot of angry emails, and the steps (include) sitting down with the students and hearing them out first," she said. "It may be one student, it may be 10 students. It's taking that time out of your day to say, 'How are you doing?'"

Lim had her menstrual hygiene kit pilot project come to life this year



KASIE DASILVA

North vice-presidential candidates at IGNITE forum. From left, Kuljeet Singh, Jeremy Afonso and Jason Hyatt.

and she hopes to expand it if she becomes president.

"The aim is that I want to support students when it comes to finances," she said. "Sometimes we're living on our own as well, and we forget to purchase these products for ourselves, and that's how I want to lead this project going forward."

She said that in future, she would like to add other products to the kits such as razors and pregnancy tests.

Khosla is focusing her platform on accessibility, awareness and advocating for students.

"I will fight so that all Humber campuses, as well as Guelph-Hum-

ber will accommodate the accessibility of our diverse student body," Khosla said. "I will do the best I can to make this a barrier free campus."

The last question asked by the panelists was why do they want to be the president.

Khosla said she wants to see a change in the school, and highlighted those changes brought about with her persistence.

"Our student cafe got an accessible washroom because I pitched that idea last year, because there are students here who are handicapped and they have to go so far just to go to the washroom, and be disconnected

from their social circle," she said.

"I implemented that and now it's actually put there and I'm proud about it," Khosla said.

Lim, on the other hand, reflected on her time as vice president of Lakeshore and how that was one of the big reasons she was encouraged to run for president.

"I love being out there. I love doing projects, and I love helping people," she said. "During this experience I've been in front of students, I've wanted to hear you guys out this entire time, and I have, and being able to do that another year is exciting to me."

# Ontario leaders debate on lowering voting age to 16

**Norma Zminkowska**

NEWS REPORTER

The four Ontario political party leaders entertained the idea of lowering the voting age to 16 to help overcome the lack of youth engagement in politics in a recent leaders' summit.

Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne, Progressive Conservative interim leader Vic Fedeli, NDP leader Andrea Horwath and Green Party leader Mark Schreiner attended the March 1 forum at Ryerson University forum, moderated by Toronto Star political columnist Martin Regg Cohn.

One solution to counter youth lethargy to politics, some of the leaders hint, is to lower the voting age from 18.

Horwath said her party lets 14-year-olds vote on policy issues and for leaders.

Wynne said young students can also vote in the Liberal party. She said it's important to register them before they graduate high school "so that kids get an understanding."

Schreiner said the overall voting age should be lowered to 16.

"Once you establish that voting habit, that becomes a life-long voting habit, and I think 16 is a great age to do that," he said.

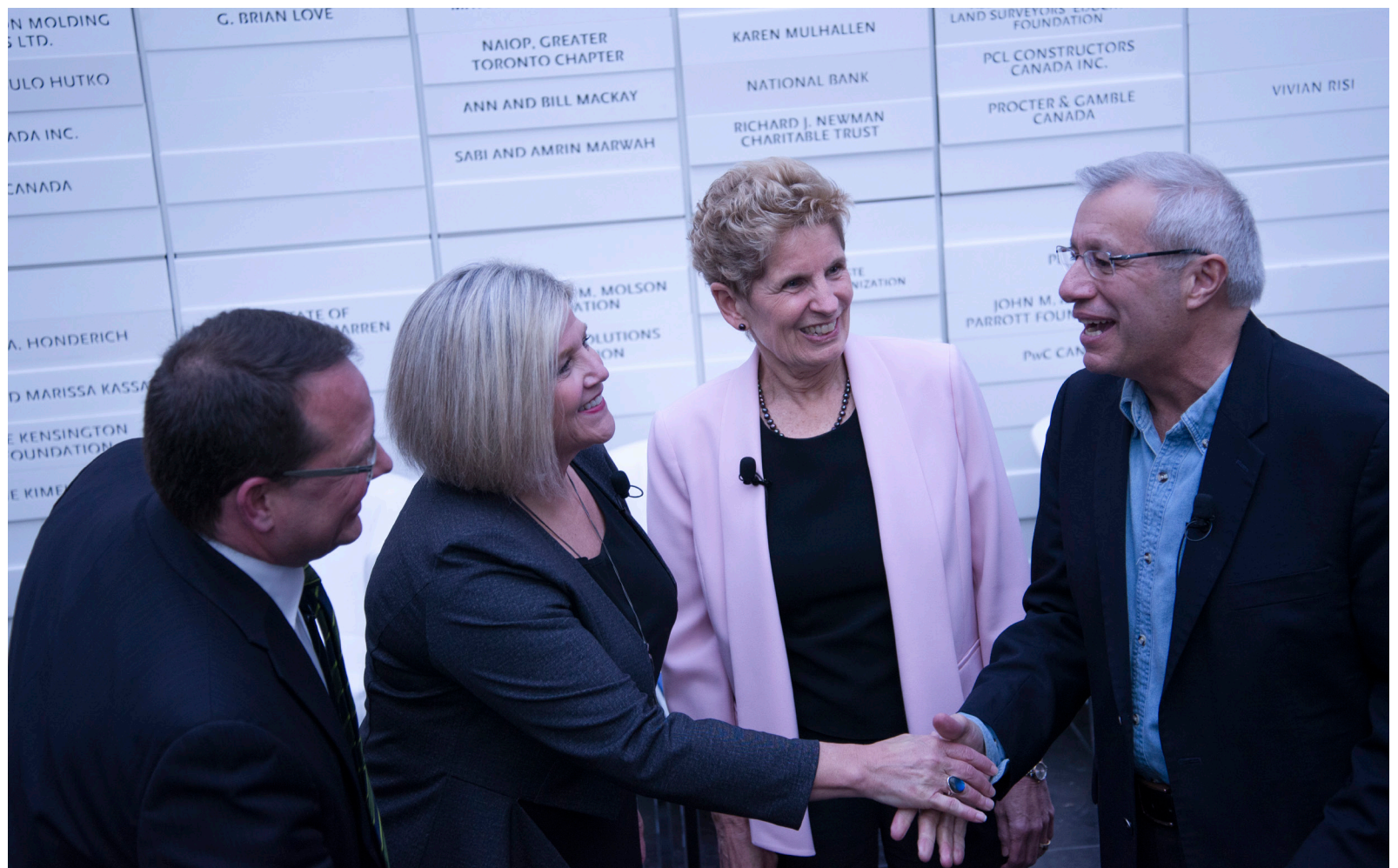
Fedeli didn't specifically mention high school students, but did say youth voting is important.

Horwath said the problem isn't that youth don't care about politics, but they aren't engaged — pointing a finger instead at governing bodies.

"I believe that young people are very tuned into what's going on around the world," she said. "The key is to make sure we're not just talking at them but that we're listening to them."

"I think everybody's talked to a young person who said they're not voting, but I think if we're honest about why, it's because we're not reflecting their hopes and dreams," Horwath said.

"I understand, because I have a son who's 25 years old, and he doesn't have a full-time job, and he's



NORMA ZMINKOWSKA

Ontario party leaders from left, Green Party leader Mike Schreiner, NDP leader Andrea Horwath, Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne and Progressive Conservative interim leader Vic Fedeli met at Ryerson University to discuss how to increase youth involvement in politics on March 1.

living in my basement," she said.

Wynne agreed, bringing up the protests around gun control as an example.

"For years we heard older people say kids aren't engaged, they're not interested in issues of the day," she said. "We look at what's happening in the States with the young kids who are rising up around gun control, and that's a statement of how engaged kids are."

"The mistake we make, I think, is we lay out the range of issues we think people should be interested in without going to people and listening to what they are saying," Wynne said.

Fedeli, who will be replaced when

the PC caucus elects its permanent leader March 10, said young people don't see themselves represented by legislature. The only exception, he said, is Sam Oosterhoff, who is Niagara West-Glanbrook MPP and the youngest member in the legislature at 20.

The second youngest, at age 40, is Liberal MPP Yvan Baker of Etobicoke Centre.

The problem of youth involvement extends to students' confusion of where they can cast their ballot, Schreiner said. He said he spends time with Guelph university students, who he claimed they don't know whether they can vote where

their parents live or where they attend school.

Taylor Howarth, who is a political strategist of the Green party, said she would rather see politicians talk about things that matter than fighting with each other.

"The reasons young people don't vote is because we're not reflected in the legislature, as was mentioned. It's sort of alienating," said Howarth, who is working on her master's degree in social work at Carleton University.

"We don't want to see people fighting all the time and not addressing the issues that matter," she said in a panel after the leaders spoke.

"We're having to change our be-

haviours as engagers and politicians because it's time to build the trust and to build the committees that we see, the traditional faces that we see in politics," Howarth said.

For IGNITE president hopeful Monica Khosla, the problem is people think they can't make an impact.

"I feel like the reason that youth are not engaged enough in politics is because not too many people are interested in putting in a lot of effort toward things these days, and with politics there could be a big chance that you could lose," Khosla said.

"So many people don't even bother trying," she said.

## Lunch and learn workshops on ecology, gardening and sustainability

**Harmanjeet Gurm**

BIZ/TECH REPORTER

There are a bunch of strangers Humber Arboretum staff want students to meet.

Humber College organizes regular "Lunch and Learn" events to explore the various species of trees living in the Humber Arboretum.

The Lunch and Learn sessions are a series of free workshops and presentations for Humber College and University of Guelph-Humber students, said Marilyn Campbell, communication assistant for the Arboretum.

"It's a place where people can have their lunch and learn about the different trees and topics such as ecology, gardening, and sustainability," she said.

Arboretum education assistant Ken MacGillivray said the program showcases activities at the centre and to inform students, faculty and community members about nature.

"It's obviously important to have trees on Earth and to protect them, and the first step to protect them is to know them a little bit better," he said.

"When I first started to learn about trees, people would ask me why I bother learning it at all because all you need to know is that trees are nice," MacGillivray said.

"In my opinion, if you look at forest as party of strangers, you might think that it's nice that stranger exist and we don't want strangers to be chopped down, but once you get to know them as individual, you care more about them, you see them as your friend,"

he said.

Campbell said that most people just don't notice the trees around them and just walk past.

The purpose of these workshops is to provide basic knowledge of trees to people so that they can appreciate the different species in the Arboretum, she said.

Campbell said the tours will continue in future and Arboretum staff hope people will use these events as the starting point to explore and become more aware of the natural habitats that are just a few steps away.

Future Arboretum events include Sustainable Urban Beekeeping on March 25, the Ethics of Nature Photography on March 28 and a Micro-Gardening workshop on April 7.



HARMANJEET GURM

Education assistant Ken MacGillivray taught students about different kinds of trees during a Humber Arboretum Lunch and Learn event.

# Health Sciences volunteers provide free health care in Guatemala

Michelle Neha  
BIZ/TECH REPORTER

The journey to provide healthcare in Guatemala was filled with hilly roads, beautiful valleys and lots of tortillas.

The final year students of Humber's health sciences provided health assessments in Guatemala from Feb. 16 to 25. They focused mostly on primary health and dental care for children, said Frankie Burg-Feret, Humber Nursing professor in charge of the mission.

Students from Bachelor of Nursing Program, the Paramedic and Practical Nursing Programs have to apply, need to write a letter of intent and have a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 before undergoing the interview process, she said.

"It is competitive to get a spot on the team," Burg-Feret said.

Once students know they're going on that trip, they get a lot of background information.

They are instructed on what to expect, what they'll be doing medically and how to frame simple medical questions, said Costantino Minielli, a fourth year Bachelor of Nursing student.

"I heard about it in second year and then from that point on I'm like, 'I want to do that,'" Minielli said.

This year, dean of Health Sciences Jason Powell, media student Ian Coll and Humber video producer Ryan Patterson, accompanied them the group. Their work would be used to educate students on inter-professional learning, cultural humility and global citizenship, Burg-Feret said.

"I think we took like eight to 10 bags, you know, those big hockey bags of equipment, medical equipment, paramedic equipment, as well as first aid stuff, wound care, medications and a lot of vitamins too," said Yvonne Ly, a second-year paramedics student.



COURTESY SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES

Constantino Minielle conducts an health assessment in Guatemala.

Burg-Feret said the team visited two communities of Indigenous peoples in Solola, about 140 km west of the capital Guatemala City, where they reached out to community leaders, discussed health teaching and set up clinics. Three doctors and a dentist from Canada accompanied them.

"We probably saw about 350 children and some adults, but altogether for the entire trip," Burg-Feret said.

They set up clinics at Orfanato Valle de Los Angeles, Guatemaltecos Extraordinarios, the Guatemala City dump in Basurera.

"That day was an emotionally moving day," Minielle said.

While assessing a single mom at the dumpsite, Minielle realised some problems were beyond their ability to solve. A priest from a nearby orphanage assisted by offering her a job to help her with her four children.

"In terms of health people not only need medicine but even being

employed makes that much of a difference," Minielle said.

A visit with a 95-year-old woman and her daughter left a lasting impression on the team. Despite living in a shack made of rusted corrugated metal with flies all around in a mud floor, was asked if she needed anything.

"I have everything," the elderly woman said.

Burg-Feret felt this was a great lesson for her and her students, about their attachments to material comforts, from a woman living in abject poverty.

"It (this trip) teaches the students not what they need to know, but also who they need to become, she said. "And that means they need to become more compassionate."

"They need to be more culturally humble," Burg-Feret said. "They need to look through the lens of other and see the world from a different perspective."



COURTESY SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES

Humber paramedic student Emma Moore examines a patient.

# The plastic straw that broke mother nature's back

Lindsey Charlton  
ENVIRONMENT REPORTER

Straws are tiny bits of plastic that pose a serious threat to the world's environment.

Humber's Office of Sustainability and activists around the city are trying to get people to rethink the use of straws and other unnecessary plastics.

The little plastic tubes have been causing quite a stir recently over the environmental implications of their daily use, and how it is affecting our lakes and oceans. The drive to end plastic straw use is part of the agenda for many environmental groups, such as the Plastic Pollution Coalition, which wants to end single-use plastics such as straws.

"We just like to raise awareness because a lot of times we go about our day and we're creatures of habit, and when we consume we don't do it consciously," said Humber's Sustainability Office Manager Roma Malik.

Straws are among single use plastics, which over the course of a week, a month, a year, these little bits of plastic discarded every day can add up to create a larger problem.

"We'll find that either we are unconsciously aware of the waste that is a result of our lifestyles but sometimes it's just about informing too," Malik said of the social media movement.

"Some of us may not know how much we can cause damage as a collective society on our eco-system."

She said eliminating straws may not be an option for everyone, but society has created products that are not necessarily needed by everyone.

"It makes a big difference when it comes to reducing our waste creation if we're able to just raise an alarm to the fact that it may not necessarily be a need when purchasing or consuming a beverage, even further it might be something that is just in our society because of habit," she said.

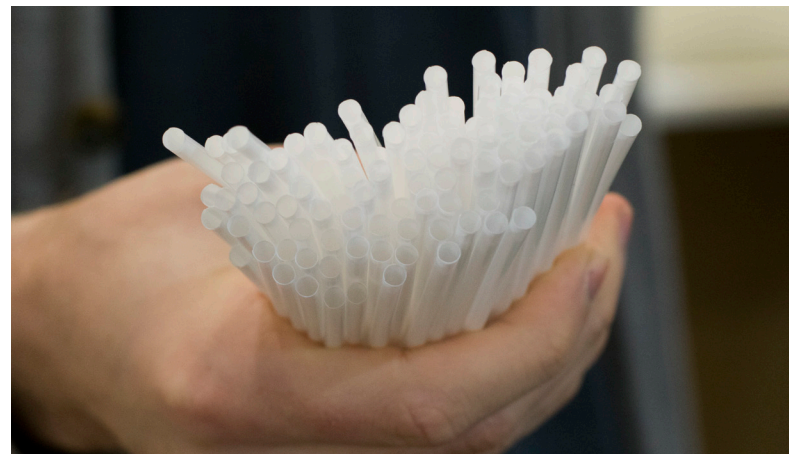
Plastic straws offer a particular threat to oceans, lakes and sea life. Videos and photos circulating on Facebook and Instagram show sea turtles and sea birds struggling because of waste have caused some to rethink their plastic usage.

But the task can be overwhelming to some.

"It seems so big and we read these articles every day that says things like, '90 per cent of sea birds have ingested some type of plastic and 52 per cent percent of turtles have,'" said Toronto activist and surfer Jenn Dumaran.

"Our oceans and beaches are so full of plastic and it feels like such a big problem," said the fashion arts and business alumna. "But I thought for me, if I want to do something I need to break it down even if it's just one small actionable step."

Dumaran said it's all about taking small steps, and rethinking what one can do personally to reduce their waste, focusing on what she



ADITYA KRISHNAN

National Straw Elimination Day aims to raise awareness about threats posed by single-use plastic straws, which threaten the environment.

says are the five R's, refuse, reduce, reuse, recycle and rot.

She cites her passion for surfing as being the big push to take on the initiative and change the way she uses plastic. Having developed a new respect for the environment and par-

ticipating in regular beach clean-ups around the Greater Toronto Area.

"That really triggered the idea that we have to be stewards of this, because if we're not who's going to be?" Dumaran asked. "Who's going to take care of this if it's not us?"

# Retired director's return to Lakeshore 'like coming home'

Elle Côté

NEWS REPORTER

Author, critic and former Humber College faculty Antanas Sileika may be a recent retiree, but the Canadian writer is keeping himself more than occupied during his post-career life.

Sileika, making a literary reading appearance at the Lakeshore Grounds' Assembly Hall earlier this month, read from his second book, *Buying on Time*. He said he's somewhat surprised but flattered by the continued appreciation for the work.

"The book came out in 1997," Sileika said. "It's amazing to me that a 21-year-old book still seems to have some resonance. That's kind of fun."

The event is Sileika's first official visit to the college since retiring as director of the Humber School for Writers last June. However, technically speaking, it's not his initial visit to campus since then.



Now, I write all day, come home, have dinner, and, look, there's Netflix, wow! I haven't seen anything on TV since Gilligan's Island,

**Antanas Sileika**  
FORMER DIRECTOR OF THE  
HUMBER LITERARY SCHOOL

"I've got to confess, it's the second," Sileika said.

"The first time, I had a laptop computer glitch," he said. "I ran down to Lakeshore and [it] took about three minutes [for the technical support team] to fix. So, even in retirement, Humber's been helping me out."

The host of the occasion, Humber English professor Ben Labovitch, said Sileika's return evokes fond memories for him.

"He kept everything going, he kept the students happy, paid so much attention to detail...it's welcoming back one of our great stalwart



LIUDAS MASYS

Antanas Sileika made his first official visit to Lakeshore campus since retiring. He read from his book titled 'Buying on Time', which came out in 1997. The continued appreciation of his work is both surprising and flattering for Sileika, the former director of the Humber School for Writers.

Humber heroes," Labovitch said.

As for why Sileika decided it was time to leave his post at Humber, there were more reasons than one.

"I had a good long run," he said. "I had a lot of fun. But it was becoming a little bit of the same thing and I knew we needed fresh blood. [I was] ready to go."

"The real kicker is, I'll be 65 this month," Sileika said. "I just need more time to get [the books I wish to write] down."

Sileika has five published books, with a sixth expected in 2019.

Though retired living hasn't taken

the writer out of Sileika, there's new aspects of life he's in the midst of discovering.

"Here's the big difference in my life: I never knew what was going on in the world. Everyday I'd come home from Humber, eat early and go upstairs to write until 9," Sileika said.

"Now, I write all day, come home, have dinner, and, look, there's Netflix, wow! I haven't seen anything on TV since Gilligan's Island, and that's more than 40 years ago," he said.

The Junction resident coming back to the college and Assembly Hall means more than revisiting

where he used to work.

"I knew all the nooks and crannies [in the Assembly Hall]. I knew where to sneak out to have a quick smoke where nobody sees you, if someone's taken off, where they're hiding," Sileika said.

"It's kind of like coming home," he said.

Many of Sileika's students, including Canadian writer Gillian Best, the author of the 2017 book *The Last Wave*, have gone on to become distinguished writers themselves.

Sileika said although at times a game of push and pull, his many

years as a teacher provided him with a special kind of satisfaction.

"[When you've] won your students...that's the best part of teaching."

Humber may no longer have Sileika full-time, yet the author can't seem to get away from the college, at least, not entirely.

He said the new director of the Humber School for Writers has assigned him a few correspondence students

"So, I got a few students, a little finger in the game, and having a good time," Sileika said.

## Opening night a learning curve for Lakeshore theatre students

Brandon Maron

ARTS REPORTER

Third-year Humber theatre student Clayton Batson didn't feel a sense of relief after opening night of the latest play by Humber Lakeshore theatre class.

But it offered him a chance to improve on his performance in the March 6 premiere of *The Day of the Locust*, the winter show of the graduating theatre class.

The two-act play, directed by Karin Randoja, a teacher at Lakeshore campus, shows a dark, satirical and hilarious look into the world of film in Hollywood during the Great Depression. It runs until Friday at the Humber Studio Theatre on Birmingham Street.

"What can I do better, what can I get from last night? How did it feel last night? It's an opportunity to try it again," said Batson after the first show. "So, it's not really a relief, I can build off the audience's reactions and try to do better."

The students' range of talents, including Batson's, were on full display, performing several musical numbers and generating constant laughter from the audience.

Batson is unsure of what his next move is after he graduates this summer, but he hopes to somehow make his way into the industry whether it's film or stage.

"Though it was written a long time ago, I find the themes, the dialogue, and the surreal characters completely applicable to the

entertainment industry of today," Randoja said.

*The Day of the Locust* explores a small group of actors and writers trying to make it big in Hollywood and doing anything it takes to break through. Sex, inequality, corruption and the desire for fame ultimately drove everyone involved into hysterical madness.

"There's only 12 people in our class, which is the lowest in eight to 10 years," said Prasanna Mondal, one of the stars of the play. "It's really good though because we get a lot of one-on-one time with teachers and get more lines in our productions."

Once the play wraps up, the students head right back into rehearsals for their next production about a circus for the end of April.



The students have had no time for a break since December because of the five-week faculty strike last term.

"Rehearsals start next week for our end of April production," said

student and actress Abi Stushnoff. "We went straight from our show in January into rehearsals for this one and then right into the next one, so it's a marathon."



# Sports reporter's visit inspires journalism students

Brandon Maron  
ARTS REPORTER

Eric Thomas made the move to Montreal from his hometown of Atlanta a decade ago to pursue a career in sports journalism. Fast-forward to today, and Thomas finds himself established in the industry as an anchor and reporter for Sportsnet in Toronto.

Thomas made his way to Humber College Wednesday, March 7, to speak to a class of third-year journalism degree students about the paths he's taken to get to where he is today.

He was also prompted by students to speak about various social issues in the world of sports journalism.

"In the States right now, things are so divisive," Thomas said. "You have people that think that these people should just be athletes," and keep quiet about social issues.

"But they're not. When you take off that jersey off you're a citizen, a father, a husband, a brother," he said.

"If you don't like their opinion, fine. But don't tell them to shut up and dribble."

The insult was hurled by FOX television host Laura Ingraham towards Cleveland Cavaliers superstar LeBron James, who had insulted President Donald Trump over the gun debate.

The discussion with the students also focused on the business side of reporting the news.

He said journalism is being overwhelmed by technology and seems to be losing its personal touch.

"Technology is really taking over the industry, and I'm not a huge fan of that. I don't love to use Twitter. I don't like sitting at the sports desk in front of cameras with no camera crew there," Thomas said.

Studio cameras are often unmanned and operated remotely. With a new wave of technological advancements, Thomas is unsure of what the future for broadcast television will hold.

He says less and less people are subscribing to cable services and consumers are now able to stream anything they want from their homes, without having to have that paid subscription.

With the landscape of journalism undergoing a massive change, Thomas urged students to take advantage of Humber while they're here, with the exceptional amount of resources at their disposal and precious one-on-one time with teachers and colleagues.

"I went to the University of Missouri in their journalism program and it was nothing like this. It wasn't for me. There were 400 to 500 people in my classes," Thomas said.

Although Thomas' focus was mainly on the sports side of journalism, his thoughts captivated everyone in the room.

"I'm not the biggest sports fan, except when the Blue Jays won the World Series in '93, but hearing him speak about all these issues on things



BRANDON MARON

Sports reporter and journalist Eric Thomas visited third-year journalism degree students to discuss social issues in the world of sports journalism.

I wasn't necessarily aware of or follow kept me really interested," said Lakeshore campus journalism teacher Shenaz Kermalli.

The biggest takeaway was that the path to establishing oneself in the

industry is a long one, and there will inevitably be ups and downs, Thomas said. The key is to persevere, to take every opportunity available to you, but to also create one's own opportunities, he said.

# Recess isn't just for children

Nathalie Leveille  
NEWS REPORTER

An animal farm came to Humber's library on Monday.

Two bunnies, a Guinea pig, a parrot, a snake, a hermit crab, and turtles showed up at the North campus's Learning Resource Centre as part of Recess Week. Students were able to pet them and take their picture with them.

Maria Suarez, a Recess coordinator, said the event was "a relief for the students" because Reading Week was cancelled for college students.

She said it was a bit of a reprieve for stressed out and overworked students.

A source of the pressure on students in the Humber community was the five-week faculty strike last term that rearranged this year's semester.

More than 2,000 students dropped out of school after the strike, and Winter Reading Week was completely cancelled.

Recess Week however has been part of Humber for about four years, and it includes the petting zoo, contests and other fun events, including Wellness Day, Games Day and Arts Day.

Percy the therapeutic dog is scheduled to arrive at the LRC Library between 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. Monday.

"I believe when it started, they wanted to bring something in for the students," Suarez said. "Someone came up with the idea of bringing some games in, so sometimes we've had board games."

She said organizers plan to introduce something new each year.

"It gets bigger and bigger for the students," Suarez said.

"I think this gives a little break for them to just come and the enjoy it too," she said. "We have



MICHAEL THOMAS

Students were given massages as a part of Recess week, which aims to reduce stress for overworked students.

a therapeutic dog named Percy coming in on Friday, and they always ask when Percy is coming back."The events were held at all three campuses.

Recess is no longer exclusive to Humber's Library as everyone on the third floor of the LRC is now involved.

"IGNITE, the Math and Writing Centre, and other departments become involved too," Suarez said. "They think it's a good idea."

Suarez said she believes the week's events are a good idea to replace this semester's reading week.

"I think it's a great idea especially because you can feel the stress sometimes, when all the assignments have to be done," she said.



MICHAEL THOMAS

Maria Suarez, the Recess coordinator, said students need a relief from the stress of the condensed semester and lack of reading week,

# Textbook for Change drive extended

Nivea Raj  
NEWS REPORTER

Humber staff and students so far collected more than 130 text books bound for post-secondary schools in east Africa.

"Textbooks for Change is a social enterprise that aims to make educational material accessible and affordable to students all around the world," Kara Seguin said.

The campaign and Humber's Office of Sustainability diverted more than 4,000 pounds of used book materials from landfill last year alone.

Since 2014, Textbooks for Change donated around 225,000 textbooks and have reused or recycled about 400,000 textbooks.

"One small thing can mean the difference in making students and youth successful," Seguin, a faculty member with Textbooks for Change, said.

"Access to proper learning materials and education plays a major role in the success of youth all around the world and with proper and relevant textbooks, big things can happen," she said.

On Feb 28, Textbooks for change team came to Humber College to pick up the donated books by the students, faculty and the community. It took place in four locations that were KX Building, K107, E205, Math and Writing Centre: LR-C3rd Floor.

This year they have collected over 130 textbooks and they have decided to extend the drive till the end of March.

The program has partnered with students of social and community services to raise funds that will be used for a humanitarian works trip to Peru.

## EDITORIAL

## TTC drives hands deep into post-secondary students' wallets

The Toronto Transit Commission won the "Transit System of the Year" award from the American Public Transport Association in 2017.

But does North America really have some of the best transit systems, as compared to other cities across the globe, for the TTC to be proud of this achievement? Or is this award recognizing Toronto for being the best among a group of relatively poor transit systems?

Toronto is regarded as one of the major cities in North America and is becoming more influential to the rest of the world.

That status demands a high quality transit system especially considering the dense population that calls the city home. But the TTC does not compare with many other cities across the world in terms of the complexity of the transit system.

The subway system in Toronto consists of just 79 stations, com-

pared to 421 in New York City, 194 in Moscow and 270 in London. Even Mexico City is home to 163 and Stockholm has 100 stations.

And while these subway systems travel in all eight directions, the TTC is limited in the fact that travels solely north-south and east-west.

Over the years, fantasy TTC lines have been drawn up, which has lines going as west as Square One Mall in Mississauga, maybe with a stop at Pearson International Airport, and as east as the Toronto Zoo.

These fictitious transit maps would be a dream come true for the Greater Toronto Area's (GTA) commuters from the suburbs, making a faster and more efficient commute.

Although it's understood this is quite unrealistic right now, as Toronto's transit system can't transform overnight, it is a wishful thought in the back of one's mind when they are taking multiple buses to reach a subway line to get to work.

Cleanliness and the frequency of delays are often complaints heard from Toronto commuters. But these issues just barely scratch the surface of some of the problems that are experienced by riders.

The TTC gives a very low subsidy of about a dollar per rider. This is in comparison to the average North American subsidy of \$2.60 per rider.

While the TTC's higher fare is understandable for people who are travelling far distances, or requiring the use of transfers to streetcars, subways or buses, it would make a great deal of sense if those who are travelling shorter distances could be paying less.

If a person can travel from one corner of the city to the other for \$3.25 cash or \$3 via Presto, then it may be a frustrating truth for some riders to have to pay this same fare to travel just one or two subway stops.

These high prices hit the post-secondary students in their wallets, as they receive only a \$30 discount on

monthly passes.

This means that a monthly pass in Toronto sets students back \$116.75. This is made all the more frustrating because post-secondary students in other cities around Ontario pay much less or, at times, nothing at all.

Students at the Brantford campus of Wilfrid Laurier University pay \$47.41 each semester for an unlimited bus pass. This is essentially a fraction of the cost of a pass in Toronto that is only good for one month.

Western University and Fanshawe College students in London, Ont., are entitled to a FAN card which allows them to travel around their city as no cost on the London Transit Commission.

These post-secondary students are in very similar positions as university students from Toronto. We are faced with the same costs, may that be rent, food, textbooks or tuition.

This raises the question of why post-secondary students in Toron-

to are faced with a cost for public transportation that is incomparably high as opposed to counterparts from other Ontario cities.

Yes, Humber does have transit systems other than the TTC bringing students to and from classes, including Brampton Transit, York Region Transit and Mi-Way Mississauga. This means that this is not solely a TTC problem, but rather a problem that facing the GTA as a whole, which is overseen by Metrolinx.

The fact is Humber is a commuter school. A large proportion of students deal with a long commute each way to attend classes at a school in the northwest corner of a huge metropolis.

As an incentive to skip driving to school, leading to less congestion both on the roads and in the always-packed school parking lots, a reduction in fares or monthly passes is paramount.

## OPINION

## Will the Blue Jays show up this season?



Kasie DaSilva  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

There is only one thought going through Toronto Blue Jay fans' minds as the 2018 season approaches — will we see the Jays in the post season again, or is it going to be another crash and burn season like in 2017?

As a Blue Jay fan, the past three seasons have been the most vivid.

In 2015, the Boys in Blue impressed fans across the league by making their first playoff appearance since 1993, when they took their second World Series win in as many years.

From controversy on the field, to the backflip heard across the baseball world, the Jays ended up losing in the second round to the eventual World Series Champs the Kansas City Royals.

Fast forward to 2016, coming off their best season in more than two decades, and an MVP title to third baseman Josh Donaldson, the Jays seemed to be unstoppable. The team traveled up and down the standings, but found themselves in a wildcard spot on the last day of the 2016 regular season.

An extra inning home run from

star slugger Edwin Encarnacion got them pass the wild card game, and into the running for the coveted hardware.

After beating the Texas Rangers in the first round for the second year in a row, the Cleveland Indians shut them down in the American League finals.

Three months later, Cleveland broke Jays' fans hearts all over again.

On Jan. 5, 2017, Encarnacion signed a three-year with Cleveland, leaving Jays' fans wondering what was going to happen to this team?

Well, the Jays didn't make it to post season last year as they went 76-86 and came in fourth in the American League East.

We can't just blame Encarnacion's exit for the Jay's failure in 2017, as the team was injury-riddled throughout the season.

Starting pitcher Aaron Sanchez struggled with a blisters and nail issues on his middle finger on his precious pitching hand, allowing him to only throw 36 innings for the entire season.

Along with Donaldson's strained right calf and short stop Troy Tulowitzki strained right hamstring, the once star-studded team struggled to keep up to divisional rivals Boston Red Sox and New York Yankees.

All of the above would make any Jay fan cringe, and I haven't even got to José Bautista's lack of effort in the 2017 campaign.

Once a 50 home run hitter in 2010, Bautista slacked this past season by hitting only 23 homers. Still a respectful amount, but for \$18 million USD a year? Not so much.

Despite the big boys being injured and not playing to their full potential in the 2017 season, there was one underdog on first base who

produced at the plate.

The 2017 American League all-star, Justin Smoak hit a career high 38 home runs last season, surprising all, as the year before he stood in the shadows of Encarnacion by only playing 65 games in 2016.

Smoak gave the Jays a glimmer of hope, but it wasn't enough to get back in the playoffs for the third consecutive year.

During the offseason we learned that our once star player Bautista would not be returning, which was a bittersweet goodbye for fans.

Fast forward to now, we're in the middle of spring training down in Dunedin, Fla., with a bunch of fresh faces.

Veteran outfielder Curtis Granderson has joined the team and 2017 World Series champ Teoscar Hernandez is projected to start in right outfield on opening day.

Even though more power has been brought to the line-up there will always be injuries haunting the team.

It was announced that ace pitcher Marcus Stroman is experiencing elbow issues again, and is questionable for opening day against the Yankees.

It was also announced last week that Tulowitzki will not be ready for opening day, and with the departure of Ryan Goins during the off season, there is a hole in their infield that needs to be filled.

As a Jays fan I would love to say I'm confident they're going to kill it this season, and that they'll be in the post season again, but with last year's performance and this off season's personnel changes it may be difficult to achieve that success again this year.

We'll just have to wait and see how the Boys in Blue will do until the home opener March 29.



Andrew Jeffrey  
EDITOR

The 2017-18 school year has been a difficult one for Ontario's post-secondary students.

Toronto students were disrupted by a faculty strike for the second time this year when around 3,000 York University contract faculty and teaching assistants went on strike earlier this week. This came months after a faculty strike eliminated five weeks of school for more than 500,000 Ontario college students across the province.

Disrupting studies at York is a familiar situation for these students, after teaching assistants and contract staff went on strike in 2015. It's frustrating for students to have their studies disrupted, but as teaching assistants and other faculty members struggle to improve their working situations, students should support an improved working environment for their instructors.

The striking staff's main points to negotiate before returning to work are improved job security for contract faculty, funding for TAs, reversing job cuts to around 800 positions since 2016, and prioritizing equity, anti-racism and anti-sexual

violence on campus.

The striking staff members are represented by CUPE 3903, who argued on their Facebook page that York's TA wages are "under the poverty line after tuition," and "contract faculty work is underpaid and often unpredictable."

Any classes unaffected by striking faculty are continuing to run, but roughly 60 per cent of teaching at York is done by the contract faculty members and TAs who are now on strike. As much as it would help students to feel as little disruption as possible to their education, in the long run, it's better for present and future students to have a teaching staff working in less precarious situations.

These working conditions should matter to students, because there's a clear connection between job security for faculty and an improved education.

A swift end to this strike would get students back in the classroom, but if York management doesn't faculty demands seriously, it'll miss an opportunity to improve the quality of the education these students receive.

Students can see how this ended the Ontario colleges strike last fall. Back-to-work legislation brought students back into the classroom, but there's little evidence since the strike ended in November to show that the five-week stoppage resulted in any improvements to college faculty working conditions.

A long strike this year will have a negative impact on students' education this year, but students should support the faculty's requests during the work stoppage. The points which striking faculty members and their union are fighting for will only help students in their education in the long run.

# QUOTED WILL YOU BE VOTING IN THIS YEAR'S IGNITE ELECTION?

"I don't think so. Mainly because I've been focusing a lot on my program and I haven't really thought about the election."



**Robert Monti**  
CIVIL ENGINEERING  
3RD YEAR

"Yeah I do plan on voting. I want to see some improvements and see some students implement new things for other students."



**Sharlyn Gante**  
PRACTICAL NURSING  
1ST YEAR

"I don't think so because I hadn't done it in my first year, and I don't have enough information and I'm leaving next January anyways."



**Yousif Sorisho**  
HVAC  
2ND YEAR

# PHOTO OF THE WEEK HUMBER CELEBRATES INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

March 8 was International Women's Day. Humber celebrated in many ways. IGNITE held a real talk with Aerie model Iskra Lawrence and actress Sophia Bush, who both spread their respective messages and shared positivity with those in attendance. Humber's School of Technology also had MP Kirsty Duncan come in and visit students.

-OLIVIA LEVESQUE



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



# Hawks reign supreme with fourth straight OCAA title

**Bobby Mihalik**  
SPORTS REPORTER

Another year, another provincial championship for the Humber Hawks women's basketball team.

But there's nothing hum-drum about it.

After playing to a perfect 20-0 record during the regular season, the Hawks were crowned OCAA champions by defeating the Fanshawe Falcons in the gold medal match.

It was the fourth straight provincial championship win for the Hawks, tying an OCAA record for most consecutive women's basketball championships.

"It feels amazing," Hawks star player Ceejay Nofuente said. "We couldn't have done it without this team, or obviously past teams, our alumni that played, too."

The Hawks' victory came on home turf as well, with the tournament hosted at Humber College's North Campus Gym this past weekend.

The Hawks met the St. Clair Saints in the quarterfinals first, and the Hawks put their dominance on full display. After an evenly paced first quarter, the Hawks took over, shredding the Saints 82-37.

After defeating last year's silver medalist team, the Mohawk Mountaineers, in the semi-finals, the Hawks were faced with the Fanshawe



BOBBY MIHALIK

**Humber's women's basketball team tied an OCAA record by winning their fourth consecutive championship.**

Falcons in the finals.

Riding on the strength of a dominant first quarter in which they outscored the Falcons 26-8, the Hawks survived a Fanshawe rally to claim gold, 69-54.

"With all the wins we've accumulated over this span, we've learned

to identify when we're dipping in our performance," Hawks coach Ajay Sharma said of the gold medal game. "And we've learned how to manage that."

The Hawks players echoed their coach's sentiments.

"We did come out hard every

game," Hawks player Jahnae Gyles said. "But the fact that it's the finals, you have to expect the other team's not gonna give up."

"I feel like we kind of slept on that fact, but Coach reminded us, 'Hey, this is the finals, we don't let up, we keep pushing,'" she said.

Nofuente, who was named the OCAA Player of the Year for the third consecutive year before the championships, was also named the tournament MVP after the gold medal match.

"It was an honour, being recognized by my teammates, coaches, and whoever else chose to give it to me," Nofuente said. "I want to thank everyone who helped me get there."

With another provincial championship wrapped up, the Hawks advance to the CCAA national championship in Sackville, N.B.

Nofuente believes the Hawks have a real shot at claiming the national crown as well.

"I feel amazing about it," she said. "The way we played our provincial championships, the way we've been practicing, we're ready for it."

Sharma agrees with his star player, liking the team's chances after their dominant provincial victory.

"I feel pretty good," he said. "Based on the way we played, I feel like that's maybe some of the best basketball we've ever played in my time here."

The national games are scheduled to begin on March 15.

"It's nerve-wracking, but very exciting at the same time," Gyles said. "To go with this team is a great opportunity. It will be very exciting to see what we can produce on the court."

## Cricket team ends season with semi-final loss to Fleming at UTM tournament

**Mike Furtado**  
SPORTS REPORTER

An extramural indoor cricket tournament may not hold as much importance as other varsity sports for a casual sport fan, but for the players involved the intensity of the competition is just the same.

"You see the amount of talent here and enthusiasm from all the players," said Humber's team captain Nauman Zafar.

Humber's extramural Cricket team took to the floor for the final time this season at a tournament held at University of Toronto Mississauga last Friday.

The Hawks began the tournament red hot as they took down the Colts from Centennial College. The Colts are widely regarded as the league's best team but didn't show it against the Hawks as they lost by a score of 51 to 25.

The Hawks then won a nail biting matchup against Georgian College by a score of 46 to 44, sending them to the semi-finals.

Unfortunately, the semis were as far as the Hawks would go.

The Hawks ran into Fleming College in the semi-finals but the Knights defense proved to be too much for the Hawks to handle.

"It was a pretty close game, but it's a good thing we ended up in the



ADITYA KRISHNAN

**Shivam Gautam led Humber to a tournament-opening victory against the Centennial Colts, who are considered the best team in the league.**

semi-finals and as part of the top four teams," Zafar said.

This is only the second year Fleming has had a cricket team, which is a shock to most people since they play like veterans.

Fleming's recreational coordinator Jane Bolin credits the team's success to its senior management that has been extremely supportive of the cricket program.

"They're very positive toward cricket, they really want it to be a varsity sport as well," she said.

The push for cricket becoming a varsity sport sanctioned by the

Ontario College Athletics Association was echoed by many players at the tournament, especially from Humber's team captain.

"We all want cricket to be a varsity sport, there should be more sponsorship, more people should be coming to sponsor these games," Zafar said.

The indoor season now complete means the focus now turns to outdoor cricket.

Zafar said the team will be having tryouts and preparing for the fourth annual Canadian College Cricket National Championships in August.

## Silver medalist men's basketball Hawks head to N.B. for CCAA

**Mike Furtado**  
SPORTS REPORTER

It may not have been the outcome the men's basketball Hawks were looking for, but they live to fight another day.

"We missed some good shots we normally make, these things happen, but it means a great deal to have an opportunity to play at Nationals," said Humber's head coach Patrick Au.

Humber's men's basketball team took home a silver medal at the OCAA Championships hosted by Niagara College last Saturday. In the process, Humber booked their ticket to the National Championship tournament and their quest for gold continues.

The Hawks exacted some revenge on their way to the finals by beating the Redeemer Royals in the semis. The Royals were favourites to win because they handed Humber a loss in their last game of the regular season.

"We played some close games with them throughout the season and we were very confident we could win the game," Au said. He said his team rising to the occasion is credited to the players dedicating themselves and following the game plan.

Unfortunately, the Hawks ran into the red-hot Seneca Sting in

their final game of the tournament. In this defensive matchup, the Hawks fell just short of a gold medal, losing by a score of 74 to 63.

The Sting's head coach Jay McNielly wanted his team to play a more defensive matchup against the Hawks, showing recognition to the multiple scoring threats in the Hawks lineup.

"We knew we could not take away all of their scoring, so we tried to limit them in some areas," he said.

McNielly said his team never took Humber for granted and knew it was going to be challenging game from start to finish.

"We have a serious respect for the Humber program, to win as much as they do and have the history they have, we are grateful to be able to play against them," he said.

Despite the outcome the Hawks get another shot at proving themselves at Nationals. The gold and silver winners get an invitation to the nationwide championships.

Au understands there is still a lot of work to be done, as the Hawks turn their focus towards the National Championships taking place March 14 to 17 in Laval, Que.

"We're going to go there and compete to the best of our ability, that's the only thing we can control at this point, if we do that then good things will happen," he said.

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# Et Cetera

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P 12

