

HUMBER

Et

Cetera

HUMBER'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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ELECTION SPECIAL

WHAT IS THE FUTURE FOR IGNITE
IF STUDENTS CAN OPT-OUT OF FEES?

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No negative ramifications following smoking ban

Madeline Jafarnejad

NEWS REPORTER

Humber College has not seen any negative ramifications of cannabis legalization so far, said Rob Killfoyle, Director of Public Safety.

“It’s been really anti-climactic,” he said. Only two notable incidents have taken place on campus since the legalization on Oct. 17, 2018, he said.

“In one case we ended up having to contact the police to help us,” Killfoyle said. “But by the time police had got here they had finished and moved along on their own.”

Signs around the school say “Not Here” to specifically remind students that using cannabis is prohibited on the property. Some students have been reluctant to comply to the rules, which have changed, and have chosen to still smoke up at school.

But the smoking ban includes cigarettes and vapes, which were also outlawed on campus, the residences

and the Arboretum on Jan. 1.

This new rule is a part of Humber’s new initiative to become to the healthiest campus in Canada.

Getting high at home before coming to class however is not against Humber’s policies.

Nonetheless, there have also been no reported behavioural issues in classes since the legalization.

“Why would there be?” said Maryam Yussuf, a first year Web Design student at Humber. “Weed is not like alcohol. It doesn’t make people act crazy, they’re just relaxed.”

“Relaxed” may sound like a good thing but Pearlyn Ng, Research and Knowledge Exchange Coordinator at the Centre for Innovation in Campus Mental Health, says it’s not a good thing for a young student’s brain.

“Cannabis alters mental processes such as such as cognition,” she said. “And those who start using it earlier in life are more at risk to have these problems later.”



MADELINE JAFARNEJAD

Signs around the school say “Not Here” to remind students that using cannabis is prohibited on the property.

‘Crazy Marxist nonsense’ include menstrual kits, soup kitchen

Austin Spearman

SENIOR REPORTER

Sanzana Syed

SENIOR REPORTER

In a fundraising email sent out by the Ontario Progressive Conservatives, Premier Doug Ford said he changed the system of funding post-secondary student unions because they are up to “crazy Marxist nonsense.”

“I think we all know what kind of crazy Marxist nonsense student unions get up to. So, we fixed that,” said Ford in the email. “Student union fees are now opt-in. It’s little things friend. But they add up.”

Dhruv Singla, president of the University of Guelph-Humber’s Campus Conservatives club, said he understands Ford’s message, but disagrees with him.

“It does affect me and obviously I do wish [they] didn’t cut it,” he said. “Clubs do create a strong community on campus and do help many individuals.”

Many students rely on services provided by IGNITE, Humber’s student government. IGNITE asked students to write notes to about what will happen if students were to lose IGNITE services such as access to bursaries and financial relief, clubs,

tax clinics, insurance and more.

Public responses on Twitter leaned towards outrage.

“Someone who does not have a university education should not dictate how universities function,” UnimatrixMagpie wrote in a tweet on Feb. 11. “I deleted my previous tweets because I uncharacteristically used harsh language — that’s how upset I am about this!”

IGNITE president Monica Khosla refused comment, but released a statement in January highlighting what the union has provided Humber students throughout the years. Non-academic fees cost about \$900 per school year.

She reminded the premier that IGNITE provides health and dental insurance to more than 28,000 students, provided \$412,000 in bursaries to 550 students in need last semester, employs more than 100 students, offers a tax clinic used by about 700 students, and provided 4,200 lunches to students since last fall at the soup bar.

IGNITE also uses those fees to offer \$50,000 annually to its Financial Relief Program, which helps students in crisis, including homelessness, abusive relationships and illegal tenant evictions.



IGNITE student union fees fund services such as the Pay-What-You-Can soup bar at North campus and menstrual kits.

There are other programs for students, such as providing complimentary emergency menstrual kits — about 9,000 so far — and advocating for change.

“I would like to meet with you in person to further educate you on the importance of student advocacy organizations and why your decision to make these fees optional is putting thousands of students and their futures at risk,” Khosla wrote in her letter to Ford.



Contract support staff ratify first OSPEU contract after 14 years

Druv Sareen
BIZ-TECH REPORTER

Part-time support staff across Ontario's 24 colleges voted on Feb. 21 to ratify a deal between the Ontario Public Service Employees Union and the College Employer Council (CEC).

This deal is the first regarding part-time support staff on campuses. Under this deal, part-time support staff will see a 3 per cent pay increase over two years, seniority, consideration for full-time openings and a shift premium.

Part-time support staff include those who work a maximum of 24 hours per week. Support staff work for academic services like the registrar's office and financial aid.

OPSEU described its 14-year struggle to organize the 20,000 part-timers, about half who are students, as the largest in Canadian labour history.

CEO of the CEC Don Sinclair anticipated the deal to be ratified at the Feb 21 vote.

"I think it achieves a number of objectives for the union and also achieves a number of objectives for the colleges" Sinclair said. "It will provide a consistent terms and



DRUV SAREEN

Part-time support staff have joined the Ontario Public Service Employees Union after 14 year battle. A majority of members are students.

conditions of employment over the 24 entities."

He views the deal positively. The deal took 40 days of bargaining over nine months to reach, Sinclair said.

"It also will maintain our regional flexibility to maintain services for students and also also maintain those job opportunities for students," he said. "I think overall it was a win-win."

The bargaining team, however,

viewed the process differently.

"The CEC wants to keep everybody in the dark," said Duncan McFarlane, vice-chair of the bargaining team and from Algonquin College in Ottawa. "That's my opinion."

"The CEC, they don't want to give us rights," he said. "They want the status quo. That was probably something that we heard every single time we met with them."

Humber's Local 563 Vice-President Bill Townsend has his own issues with the deal.

"I think that there's some serious deficiencies in the language and that there's some stuff that they should look at again, but to do so they're going to have to go back to the bargaining table," Townsend said.

Marlee Greig, a Humber contract support staff, said they believe the deal doesn't address the right issues

facing campuses.

"The union contract does not address the fact that en mass, post-secondary institutions are only hiring part-time workers," Greig said.

"They're hiring all these administrative people who make really good money, and they are good jobs, but they aren't hiring people to be in classrooms with students."

Pay-What-You-Can soup bar's future is uncertain as province rejigs funding

Patrick Simpson
BIZ/TECH REPORTER

Dave Hunsburger used a ladle to pour hot soup into a bowl for a student at Humber College's LinX Lounge soup bar, something he does hundreds of times a week.

It's a Pay-What-You-Can service that provides an alternative to the higher priced campus cafeterias and restaurants. And with about 54 per cent of Humber students needing grants to attend school, it's an affordable option for lunch.

The program — supported by IGNITE that has so far fed about 4,200 people since it opened in the LinX Lounge last fall — remains unclear. The Doug Ford provincial government announced last month it intends to make a number of cuts to post-secondary school funding — including the elimination of free tuition for students coming from low-income families.

And some student union fees — which help fund the soup bar — would be optional.

Ford stated in a fundraising email to party members that the government needs their help to battle radical student unions. "I think we all know what kind of crazy Marxist nonsense student unions get up to. So, we fixed that. Student union fees are now opt-in," the email read.

The proposed cuts to student fees

won't immediately affect the running of the soup bar, it's future isn't clear.

Hunsburger said while he hadn't heard of the cuts that could affect the operation of the soup bar, he said the program will continue to be in place for the rest of this year.

He said if Humber is forced to make the cut that may impact students' lives.

"My fear would be that we can't do this anymore and people would not be eating lunch properly and it would impact real people's lives," he said.

However, Hunsburger said that the program will find a way to keep the soup bar going.

The option of having a cheaper alternative at lunch benefits many students, said Hunsburger, one of the managers of the bar. He said the goal of the soup bar is to feed as many people as possible.

He's been volunteering at the soup bar since it opened and has been a volunteer at the bar's founding company, Feed it Forward, for about two years.

While the soup bar services about 200 people during the two days a week they're open, Hunsburger they've had some trouble creating enough awareness among the larger part of Humber's North campus.

"We're in a lovely area, the LinX Lounge, but it is out of the way," he



PATRICK SIMPSON

Feed It Forward volunteer Dave Hunsburger serves up a hot lunch to a student at the LinX Lounge Soup Bar.

said.

"So I think they're [IGNITE] trying to improve the signage and I think a couple weeks ago they gave away soup over by the IGNITE office to try and publicize the fact that we exist," Hunsburger said.

He said in the future they're thinking of expanding the nonprofit business and possibly start servicing up soup lunches more than two days a week.

Evan Lam, a first-year Recreation and Leisure Services student, said the proposed provincial cuts would affect him because the soup bar is a cheap alternative to the more ex-

pensive food on campus.

"I think it would affect me because sometimes I personally don't like eating on campus because the food is really expensive," Lam said.

Regina Alcantara, a second-year Behavioral Science student, goes to the soup bar twice a month and said the bar helps out people who are in need.

"Some people they can't afford lunch and it just helps them get some nutrition," she said.

Valentina Palacio, a second-year General Arts and Science student, said while she doesn't use it much anymore, she counted on the ser-

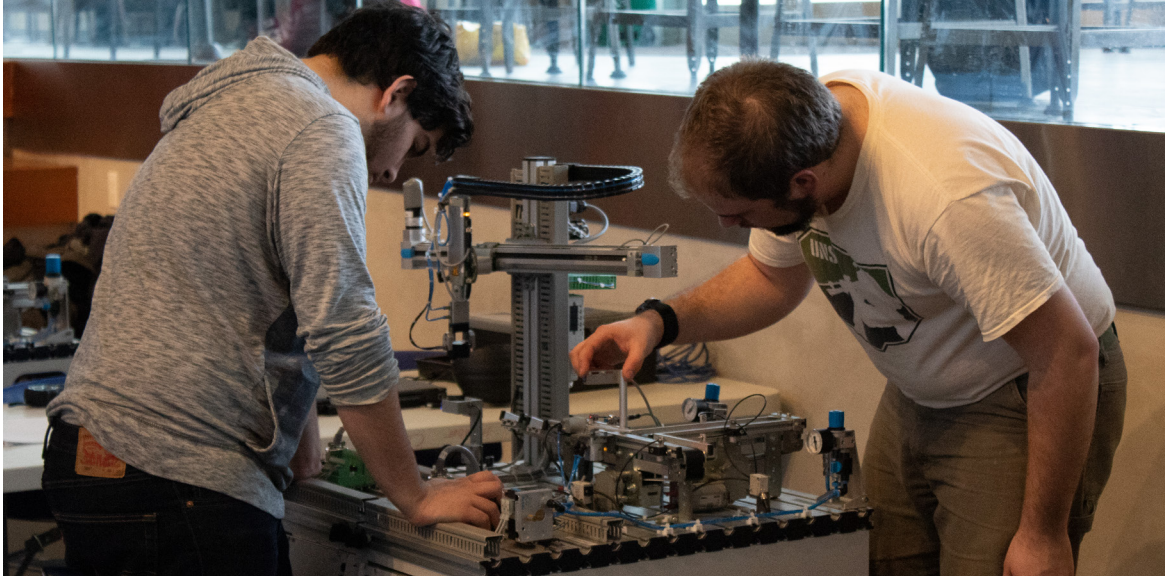
vice on it as a free lunch last semester.

"I don't use it as much anymore but last semester it would have affected me because I counted on having a free lunch or a \$2 lunch," Palacio said.

Hunsburger said the program would remain. Somehow.

"If push came to shove we want this to continue," he said. "We would somehow do what needs to be done to make sure that we don't go away because of some silly cuts."

"I would give assurance to the people that rely on us for lunch, we're going to be there," he said.



DRUV SAREEN

Competitors make last minute adjustments to their sorting cells at the Skills Qualifying Competition.

Teams vie for Skills Ontario

Druv Sareen
BIZ-TECH REPORTER

Neal Mohammed has been involved with the Skills Ontario mechatronics competition for a quarter century and has seen the competition grow. This year, it reached a new height.

“To see females in technology, two young ladies that’s competing, that’s a milestone for us,” he said. “It’s really good to see young students engage in more mechanical, there’s a lot of interest for students to enter this field of mechatronics.”

Students from Electro-Mechanical Engineering Technology program competed in the Skills Ontario mechatronics qualifying round for the provincial tournament in May.

Twelve teams competed to design an automated sorting station to specification. Teams are then evaluated, with the two best teams going to provincials.

“Students begins with an interest,

then they’re going to go through a series of evaluations and then that’s going to be filtered down to the 12 teams,” Mohammed said.

“It’s a combination of all various skill sets from mechanical to electrical to software to coding it’s all incorporated into this way.”

The director of the Centre for Technology Innovation helps run the event every year.

Hartej Tapia competed in the event for the third year. Last year he placed silver. He thinks the experience is incomparable.

“It’s a whole different experience. You feel like a rush,” Tapia said. “When the competition starts, you feel nervous, but at the same time you’re excited and the speed that you work in is unbelievable.”

He thinks the experience is invaluable for the workplace.

“It teaches a lot about how to be professional in the workplace,” he said. “A lot of these competitions

take place with big companies such as Magna, Hydro One, and a lot of employers come to see these competitions.”

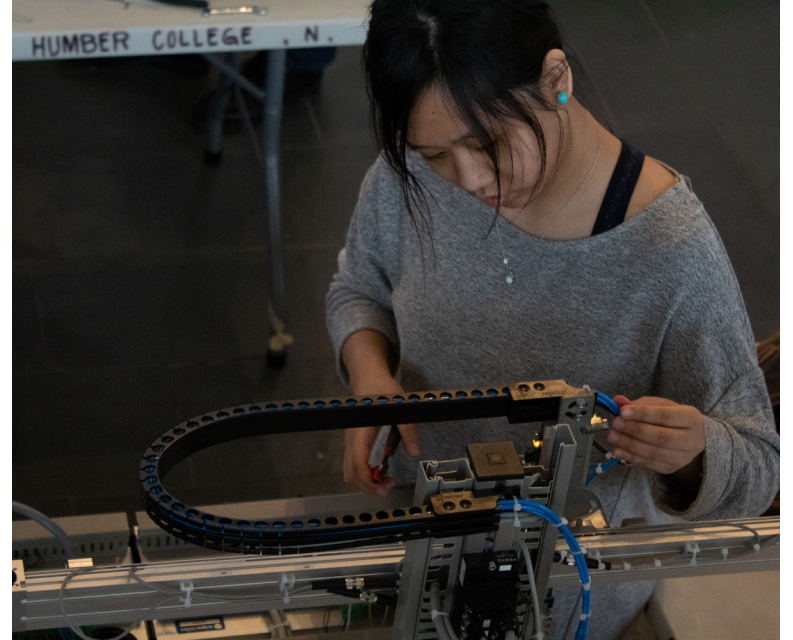
Mateusz Cwalinski, a recent Humber graduate, has been involved in the event for four years. Last year he took gold in the national tournament and will be competing against other nationally placed teams in Russia this summer.

Cwalinski is proud of the work he put into the competition.

“It was good to have a small relief of so much hard work and to show that hard work pays off,” he said. “You can honestly say that you are the best in the country.”

Mohammed is proud of Humber’s results in competition.

“I think we do have a niche in mechatronics compared to the other schools,” he said. “They all do training in our fields as well but we are taking students to podiums, that’s the difference.”



DRUV SAREEN

Theresa Martinez competes in the Skills Qualifying Competition at Humber College on Feb. 15, 2019.



DRUV SAREEN

Attendees of the Skills Qualifying Competition could test their drawing skills against a robot arm.

Students caught smoking on campus face little consequence

Rachel Taylor
NEWS REPORTER

Druv Sareen
BIZ-TECH REPORTER

Students started the new semester expecting the smoking ban to be enforced. Instead, smokers who sneak drags between classes have been met with passive enforcement.

Humber announced the Jan. 1 smoking ban in October. No one can smoke tobacco or cannabis anywhere on school property, including the Arboretum.

Andrew Leopold, Humber’s director of communications, said he’s confident in the ban’s implementation.

“So far so good, the Humber community has taken our new smoke-free campus to heart,” Leopold said. “We haven’t experienced any issues.”

The punishment for those caught smoking matches the administration’s optimism.

“When individuals on campus may be caught smoking, what we’re trying to do initially is raise awareness and education around the smoke-free campus and smoke-free policy,” Leopold said.

When students are caught smoking or suspected to have been smoking, security and public safety will hand them a card to remind them this is a smoke-free campus.

The card has “Welcome to our smoke-free campus!” on the front, and information about how to submit an accommodation request for smoking on the back.

Leopold said the cards are meant to be an educational tool.

“Our security team do have cards that have some information about the plan and some resources that can help individuals learn more about smoking cessations services and other resources that they might need,” Leopold said.

Cassie Peterson, a second-year film student, was handed a card.



DRUV SAREEN

Students caught smoking are warned by security and handed a card reminding them the campus is smoke-free.

“I was in the back part with other students, we had just gone out for a smoke break and had just finished, we saw security giving a piece of paper to someone and we asked if they handed the students a ticket but security said they couldn’t hand out tickets,” Peterson said.

She is critical of the cards.

“It’s not effective. It’s just letting people know. I guess the most effective part is when they initially approach people because you get scared,” Peterson said. “People are still gonna continue smoking.”

Leopold said decisions have not been made but the college has consulted outside organizations about

ticketing.

“We’ve consulted Toronto Public Health, who have also given us some resources on it,” he said. “There are a number of external experts and external partners we can work with, all part of our discussion, but no decisions are made yet.”

ELECTION SPECIAL

IGNITE Elections: President

Incumbent Khosla seeks a second term

Galvin Zaldivar

NEWS REPORTER

Monica Khosla, the current president of IGNITE, says her work is not done.

“We’ve made amazing progress this year on a number of initiatives and I’d really like to help progress that even more next year,” said Khosla on why she is running for reelection this year.

The year business administration student said she has worked hard to earn students’ trust.

“They know that if they send me an email, they’ll get their inquiry or concern answered within 48 to 72 hours,” Khosla said.

Even if she isn’t able to solve student’s concerns, Khosla said she tries her hardest to direct them to the appropriate service that can.

“Whether it be IGNITE services or any other Humber or University of Guelph-Humber services,” she said.

Accessibility was a major plank of her platform last year and Khosla said it remains one of her major

concerns.

“Accessibility doesn’t have an end date,” she said. “So I’m never going to feel like my work is done in that sense.”

Khosla said she plans to keep moving those conversations forward and build on the progress made this year.

“We got really great responses from students and finding out what are the barriers that they’re experiencing in their classrooms,” she said.

Khosla says that she is concerned by the Ford government’s new Student Choice Initiative, and is committed to selling students on the fees that fund IGNITE.

“Communicate, communicate, communicate. That is my motto when it comes to dealing with the Student Choice Initiative,” she said.

She said if IGNITE can’t communicate to students about its services and benefits of funding IGNITE, students will feel like the student union doesn’t do anything for them.

“It’s actually not true” the student union doesn’t do anything for students, she said. Khosla points to the range of services provided by the student association, such as the soup bar, and the sleep lounge.

She said it’s up to students themselves on whether or not to pay fees to IGNITE, but argues the benefits



COURTESY IGNITE

of opting into IGNITE outweigh the savings of opting out.

“If they still don’t think that it ultimately benefits them and it’s something that they don’t want to pay then that is completely their decision,” Khosla said. “You’re paying a very small fee at the end of the day to be exposed to many new opportunities many new services that can

really help.”

Whatever level of funding is available next year, Khosla says she is committed to providing as close a level of service as before.

“There’s no reason why they should have a decreased level of service,” Khosla said.

Margarita Bader



COURTESY IGNITE

At the time of going to press, Margarita Bader was unavailable for comment.

IGNITE Candidates: Vice President Lakeshore



COURTESY IGNITE

Ostap Pavliuk

Why did you decide to run?

Yeah, so last year there were elections too and I was trying for board of directors with one of my friends, He motivated me to run board of directors and I didn’t get that position. There were four votes difference with my nearest competitor and then this year he got the position of board of directors. He said I should run so he kind motivated me again to run for that position, also because they saw that

I really want to change some stuff on campus that is bothering me and students.

What do you want to improve for Humber?

I’m not sure what I can and cannot change. The main thing I would say is education and student wellness are very important, things like mental health. We do have some mental health weeks and stuff like that, but I want to do to do more. And also, education, I would try to improve... Like you can do better,

there’s always room to improve.

What steps will you take to achieve your goals in your specified position?

I wanted to cooperate with Athletics to create more opportunities for students and to help them understand what a healthy diet is when you’re in school, and how to control your emotions, how to schedule things, because you know, first-year students, they can miss classes because they just forget about them. So, making this in a way that will be

less stressful for students, that’s the way of Health and Wellness help for students for education.

How will you sell IGNITE now that student fees are optional?

It’ll be hard to communicate with them. Maybe it’ll be beneficial to cooperate with the International Centre and with the email list that Humber has to communicate with students and message them about IGNITE to tell them what they did in the past.



COURTESY IGNITE

Ryan Stafford

Why did you decide to run?

I was talking to my manager at the LinX cafe, and we saw a couple things that could change the school. I didn’t hear about anybody running, and I was talking to the previous Vice President of Guelph-Humber. I was talking to her and she told me that I’ll be good to run. And that there won’t be a lot of people running this year so I decided to take it upon myself to do it.

What do you want to improve for Humber?

I want to improve health and wellness and healthy active living. I went around asking students how I could better things over at Humber, some of them said some good things. So, I’m going to try to see if I can do that use those ideas that they gave me in my campaign. I don’t know what I can and can’t do if I do get elected, but I’m going to try to call my promises.

What steps will you take to

achieve your goals in your specified position?

I don’t really know how I will achieve my goals. I’m going to try to go by the book and make sure that all the ideas that have I finalized over with all the work.

How will you sell IGNITE now that student fees are optional?

I don’t know how I will promote IGNITE. I’ll see what restrictions I have. When I was campaigning, I was talking to students, many of

them were saying that they would like more events so that they can meet fellow classmates. So, I guess that would be a perfect way to promote IGNITE, to see if I can get these students often and donating the money.

ELECTION SPECIAL

IGNITE elections underway amid uncertainty over funding changes

Terrence Bishundayal
Justice A. T. McCormack
Michael Thomas
Galvin Zaldivar

It's election week at Humber College and the next president of IGNITE could be facing a hurdle because of government changes to funding that allows students to opt out of paying for some services.

Ballot boxes are open around the North, Lakeshore and Orangeville campuses until at 4 p.m. Friday.

Monica Khosla, a presidential candidate, wants a second term. She said her work is just getting started.

"We've made amazing progress this year in a number of initiatives and I'd really like to help progress that even more next year, as well as bring in some new and creative perspectives that I didn't bring in this year," Khosla said.

Last month the Ford government in Ontario announced major

changes to OSAP funding and introduced changes that would allow students whether they want to pay for certain clubs and services.

No one knows yet how this will affect Humber and IGNITE.

Khosla said IGNITE will have a clearer picture in June or July as students make deposits for next year.

"I do hope that many students do decide to stay opted in, so that a lot of our services won't get affected but that is something that will be looked at down the line," she said.

Khosla said she wants additional accessibility options for the students.

She said if she is re-elected she plans to maintain an open line of communication with the students that she developed during her current term.

Humber News reached out to many of candidates but received no responses, including presidential candidate Margarita Bader.

Kimberly Daniels, Services Co-

ordinator of IGNITE, said candidates should be available to the media for comment during an election, but "some of them were not comfortable giving out their emails to be contacted."

Second year student in General Arts and Science, Jason Hyatt is running for Vice President for IGNITE at North.

One of the changes Hyatt wants to see is how information is distributed to students.

"I'll have to speak to a lot of people face to face, treat them like people so they know that they matter, and I want to get that information out there to them by doing that," Hyatt said.

He said he wants more vegan food options because many of his friends struggle to purchase food on campus. If elected, he plans to expand the food options.

Shawayne Dunstan, first year student in Hospitality and Hotel



MICHAEL THOMAS

Management, said being transparent and in touch with the students is important.

In light of the student administration financial scandal at Ryerson University, he said accountability is key to ensure problems don't happen

at Humber.

"If we don't have goals as to how we would bring about change for the students then it's more likely that a few members are going to want to become selfish with their intentions," he said.

IGNITE Candidates: Orangeville Director



COURTESY IGNITE

Navnit Sidhu

Why did you decide to run?

It's my first year in police foundations at Humber and I wanted something more out of my time here at Humber so when I heard about the position, I thought hey, this might be a good opportunity to get the most out of what I've done in the past.

What do you want to improve for Humber?

Specifically, for the Orangeville

campus, I feel it's a little tough to be objective. I feel we miss out on a lot more than the other campuses like North or Lakeshore, so if I can be a little bit more involved, maybe I can get Orangeville students involved in the activities that North or Lakeshore have. That's kind of why I chose to do this so people like me could take part in activities and fun stuff that goes on, on campus. We kind of miss out on all of those things.

What steps will you take to achieve your goals in your

specified position?

The class sizes at Orangeville are really small so it's easier to go class to class to communicate with everybody and I want to get their point of views on what their issues are. Maybe they want to be more involved in fitness activities or dealing with mental health issues. Just letting them know that the step I would take is speaking to our student body to let them know that there are more options.

How will you sell IGNITE now

that student fees are optional?

Because the class sizes are so small, I don't think that putting up posters or even campaigning. I wasn't too worried about putting up posters to let people know that I'm running for Board of Directors. So just speaking to people directly or putting out a table with little knickknacks to give out to promote IGNITE would really be the only thing that you would need to do and maybe putting up posters here and there.

IGNITE Candidates: Vice President Guelph-Humber



COURTESY IGNITE

Carmen Duong

At the time of going to press, Carmen Duong was unavailable for comment.



COURTESY IGNITE

Saffiya Lulat

Saffiya Lulat has been in contact with Et Cetera, but was unable to answer questions at press time because she is in South Africa.



COURTESY IGNITE

Megan Roopnarine

Why did you decide to run?

Honestly, I have really tried to be a lot more involved on campus this year, and one of the things that I've done in particular is I've been working with IGNITE on the promo team. I got an opportunity to get to know the execs and I woke up one

morning and I was like, there's so many things that I want to change on campus and I feel like I can be the person to make those changes and I'm familiar with the organization, I'm familiar with the campus.

What do you want to improve for Humber?

I have a lot of ideas. One of the biggest things that I do want to work on is creating a lot more transparency between students and professors. I also want more transparency between IGNITE as an organization and the student body. I want to make sure that we're helping students financially, especially with the OSAP changes.

What steps will you take to achieve your goals in your specified position?

Yeah, so I just want to make sure that in order to achieve some of these goals, it's going to be really important that my communication

is on top of the game and I'm talking to the people at IGNITE who are in charge of the different resources. I just want to work on making sure that Guelph-Humber students are aware of a lot of the service we offer on campus, aware of a lot of the issues that are going on. I've noticed as a Guelph-Humber student, it's never Guelph-Humber and Humber, it's always like it's two very distinct places and I wish the two were a lot more involved.

How will you sell IGNITE now that student fees are optional?

So the nice thing about working on the promotion team with IGNITE is that I'm very familiar with what we offers and I'm very familiar with what we do on campus. It gives a lot of students like that opportunity to be more involved on campus to get to know people, to take advantage of the resources that we have, but we're not able to do any of those things if we don't have that budget that we can rely on.

IGNITE Candidates: Vice President North



COURTESY IGNITE

Jason Hyatt

Why did you decide to run?

I feel like there's a lot of stuff that could be fixed with Humber and I just want people to know all the beneficial stuff that they have because a lot of people finish at Humber no knowing about IGNITE the services. I want to make this [college] a better time of their life.

What do you want to improve

for Humber?

I want to improve the way information gets passed out so more people can know [about IGNITE events and services]. Also, I have a lot of vegan friends and they don't really have that much of a choice in food so I want to try and make more choices for them.

What steps will you take to achieve your goals in your specified position?

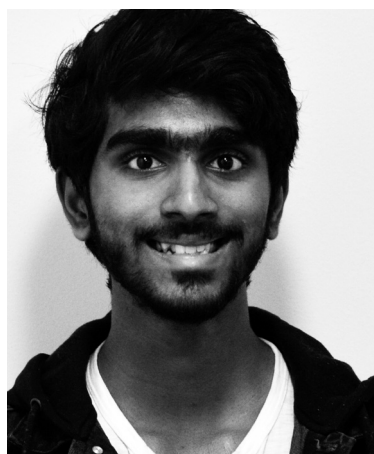
They are always on the go [stu-

dents] and I notice when they are outside, IGNITE will talk to them and they [students] will be like, 'OK, I gotta go bye,' and I want to make it in a way where they can text a number."

How will you sell IGNITE now that student fees are optional?

I feel like the only way they [students] will be hopping out is if they don't know, because what IGNITE seems like is that they are just doing these free events but they

don't know what IGNITE really does and I want go get that info out there to them. By doing that I need to speak to people face to face, do word to mouth and treat them like people who matter and if they opt out show them what they are missing.



COURTESY IGNITE

Dilshan Marasinghe

Why did you decide to run?

I decided to run because whenever I see an opportunity, I make sure to grab it by the neck and make sure I hold onto it to make it a reality. I want to become vice president to make sure I explore the problems Humber is facing.

What do you want to improve

for Humber?

I want to improve the financial costs, so basically things including buying textbooks and notebooks. I want to make sure students are not facing any problems trying to buy things, because that's what you need to study and I want to make it a bit cheaper.

What steps will you take to achieve your goals in your specified position?

I will achieve my goals by, firstly,

listening to the people. Without the students we won't be able to perform. We will perform surveys and all that and make sure I get all of the opinions and suggestions so we can grow together as one team.

How will you sell IGNITE now that student fees are optional?

IGNITE is a really hard working team that make sure your life at Humber is as suitable as possible, they organize events for your life in Humber and too these events you

can learn a lot while you study, so I can make sure they continue paying for it by constantly telling them be benefits of doing so.



COURTESY IGNITE

Ameen Rahman

Why did you decide to run?

I have decided to run because in the past I heard from students that there are so many problems on campus that can be changed. I observed these problems myself. I want to help the students to build a better experience and more comfortable environment.

What do you want to improve for Humber?

I also want to include more halal, gluten-free, vegan and vegetarian food as well as coffee during exam time. Also, I was told that the food contract is ending on campus so I would like to reduce the price of foods. I'm also going to reduce the price of transportation as well and try to make it more available. I'm going to make the parking lots free after 3 p.m. or 4 p.m. like last year due to students having night classes. I'm quite aware that students want to have a PRESTO machine on campus. Since

the PRESTO machine is available in different colleges and universities, it should not be hard to get it. I will try my best to bring the bar back in the LinX Lounge.

What steps will you take to achieve your goals in your specified position?

I will work together with the President and Board of Directors. I will try to involve students to work with these goals. For key issues, we will not take no for answer and we

will make compromises for necessity, but will not back down. I'm hoping to see a new change for Humber College North campus.

How will you sell IGNITE now that student fees are optional?

I want to release a line-by-line budget for the students. I am willing to make the financial cost of IGNITE more transparent as a way to make students pay for IGNITE. Students deserve to know where their money is going.



COURTESY IGNITE

Simran

Simran did not respond to Et Cetera requests for comment.



COURTESY IGNITE

Ekmjyot Sohal

Why did you decide to run?

I'm already a popular guy, people know me in class and on campus so why not and get a friendly face in school council.

What do you want to improve for Humber?

I want to improve the better life experience for students. I want to improve library printers, keyboards, also I want to have more Punjabi language

around campus because we have so many international students. Also, I want to improve the social media platforms for IGNITE to keep people more connected and hopefully more events. I also want halal, kosher, vegan and vegetarian options.

What steps will you take to achieve your goals in your specified position?

I won't be able to achieve it [goals] alone because there has to be teamwork to get goals done

which are the most important student council. From starting with small changes to see how students react we can see how big changes react to students.

How will you sell IGNITE now that student fees are optional?

We need students more connected with IGNITE so they know what we have in store for them and what they will be missing out on if we don't have IGNITE. Walking and talking around the

halls, one on one, interacting with students to get their feedback is an important way to convince people to use the funds for IGNITE because that's how they know we care if we talk to them directly.

CANDIDATE INTERVIEWS CONDUCTED BY CHRISTIAN AGUIRRE, MADISON RAYE AND GALVIN ZALDIVAR

EDITORIAL

Students should support part-time faculty union

With the new deal being ratified for part-time college support staff, the time has come for student workers to support their union.

The government's changes have placed students in a precarious position, as a 10 per cent reduction in tuition fees and possible cuts to student fees is going to hurt campus life.

Faculty and support staff are already overworked. There are part-time employees who put in unpaid hours because they understand the responsibilities they have to students.

"You do it because your students need help or that assignment needs marking," said part-time Humber

staffer Marlee Grieg. "You can't tell your students. 'oh, I couldn't respond. I couldn't do that thing I was going to do for you because I'm not getting paid to do it.'"

Part-time support staff are now represented by the Ontario Public Employees Service Union. It took a long time, fourteen years of legal wrangling between the colleges and the Ontario Public Service Employees Union.

Now, part-time support staff represent more than half the union members, according to Don Sinclair of the College Employers Council, the bargaining agent for the 24 Ontario colleges.

Members of the bargaining team,

who helped fight for the first ever part-time support staff, know that the fight is just beginning.

Duncan McFarlane, vice-chair of the union bargaining team, knows that deal is a first step to better workplace rights for student workers.

"Part of our problem with the first contract is that we had trouble even knowing who our members were," McFarlane said. "The schools don't know and the schools don't track it."

"So, moving forward, the students are going to have dues taken off their paycheque and we're going to know," he said. "We get a list of everybody that pays dues, so we'll be able to better able to

communicate."

Christopher Millado, a member of the bargaining team, knows that student support is important.

He argues representation from students working part-time is crucial, both in ensuring workplace rights are upheld and as a source of strength for the union.

"And once we have student members, student workers representing I think we can make a really big impact," Millado said.

Rena Borovilos, Chief Steward for the Humber Faculty Union, stresses that solidarity is important.

She said the union is looking at ways to speak up for its members, to speak up for students and to connect

with one another and form alliances to better deal with the employer.

The provincial government is moving to cut OSAP, eliminate the six-month grace period to begin repaying student loans, cutting student union fees that support programs for students, and other initiatives that ultimately tighten belts unnecessarily.

"All governments are susceptible when it comes to people showing that some of their initiatives maybe are not acceptable to the wider population," Borovilos said.

Part-time student workers, through participation in their union, can add a voice to the response to the austerity promised by the provincial government.

OPINION

Bernie Sanders' 'radicalism' is tomorrow's common sense



Alireza Naraghi
SENIOR REPORTER

When Bernie Sanders announced he was going to run for president last election, his candidacy was viewed by most as a relic of the past. His role was a simple one: energize the large but relatively powerless left-wing of the Democratic Party and, most importantly, clear the way for Hillary Clinton's path to the White House.

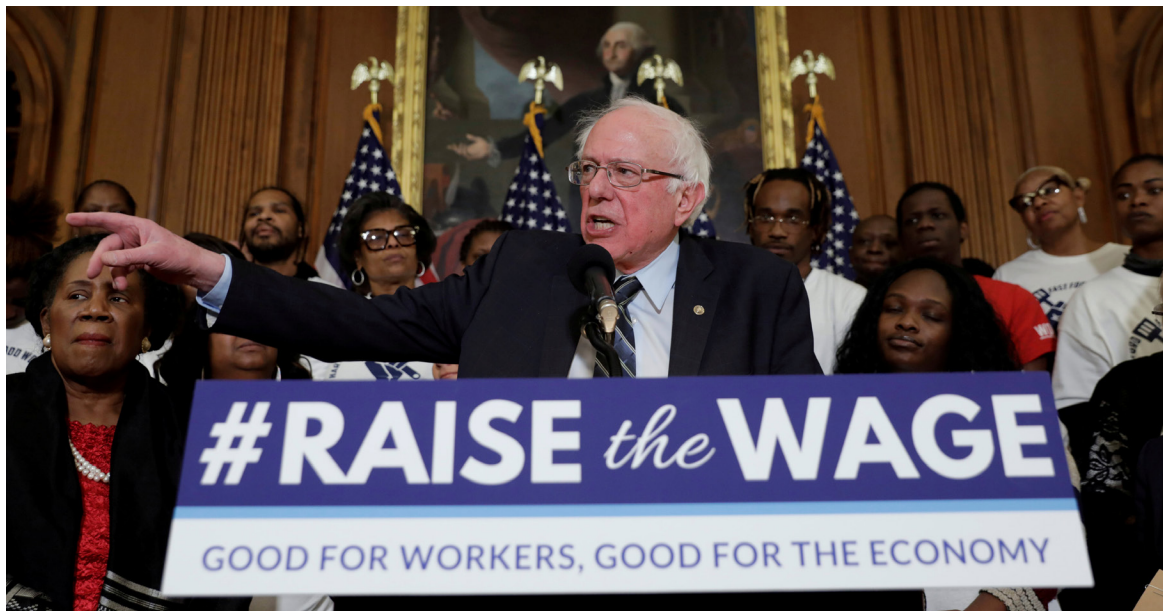
How things have changed.

Sanders, an obscure New England democratic socialist, who triumphed in 20 states with millions of votes as the outsider, is the most popular politician in the U.S., according to a survey conducted by the Harvard-Harris Poll. Figures from 2017 showed he "would defeat Trump by 13 percentage points if a general presidential election was held at that time."

That's because, on many issues, Sanders' thinking actually aligns with an evolving, unspoken consensus among the public.

His 2016 candidacy has redefined the economic and political conversation in this country. One might even call it "the new common sense" of American politics.

Take the country's health care system. Today, casting Medicare for All as an economic impossibility is widely rejected within the Democratic Party base. And for a good



REUTERS/YURI GRIPAS

U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders speaks during a news conference on "Raise the Wage Act" legislation on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., Jan. 16. His involvement in the presidential race is setting the agenda for Democrats.

reason: many studies including one released late last year by the Political Economy Research Institute at the University of Massachusetts Amherst suggests that, yes, the wealthiest country in the world can afford universal healthcare.

The real stumbling block is not that a single-payer system is too costly or "aspirational", as Sen. Amy Klobuchar puts it. It's that American politics is dominated by the rich.

The trademark of centrism is that it does "what works," regardless of political ideology. That Sanders' detractors refuse to even consider it, despite all the impartial evidence, shows they are more tied down to an uncompromising ideology than the senator from Vermont.

Perhaps more than any other policy, Medicare for All would represent an easy win for Democrats, as this would bring down costs for the majority of Americans and reduce the deficit in the process. It's the centre of gravity of public opinion, and yet no other candidate has been pushing for single-payer health care

on the framework that "health care should be a right of all Americans regardless of their income."

Only Sanders staked a claim on it until Wednesday when Washington state Democratic Rep. Pramila Jayapal introduced the Medicare-For-All Act of 2019 in the House of Representatives.

As well as making economic sense, eliminating college tuition fees is also popular. Eight in 10 Americans are in favor of it, according to PSB Research for the Campaign for Free College Tuition, along with 41 per cent of Republicans.

In a similar vein, Sanders also supports Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez's Green New Deal. And who could disagree with him, when private oil companies have been subsidized by the taxpayer, to the tune of billions, while the uncertainties associated with climate change—extreme weather events, mass global migration, and economic and political instability—will impact every aspect of human life. It's no surprise

then that more than 80 per cent of Americans already support all the key elements of the idea.

It's the same story with the country's foreign policy—one of the defining areas of weakness for the Democratic establishment, which Donald Trump has exploited.

After a series of disastrous wars overseas, Sanders has drawn clear distinctions with the Democratic status quo on foreign policy. "Foreign policy is not just tied into military affairs; it is directly connected to economics," he said. "Foreign policy must take into account the outrageous income and wealth inequality that exists globally and in our own country." It's a sentiment in tune with public opinion, which, for the most part, views American interventionism as a giant waste of money.

Like Medicare-for-All and a \$15 minimum wage, opposition to American military adventures around the world represents the unspoken centre of American politics, with poll after poll showing a clear majority against intervention-

ist policies.

The results of a 2018 survey conducted for the bipartisan Committee for a Responsible Foreign Policy showed that "86.4 per cent of those surveyed feel the American military should be used only as a last resort, while 57 per cent feel that U.S. military aid to foreign countries is counterproductive."

The truth is many of Sanders' policies, is presented as a half-buried fossil stuck in the ways of the '80s. The likes of Harris, Booker, and the rest of mainstream Democrats aren't "pragmatists" who prefer whatever works now. Their vision of the future is the Democratic Party of 20 years ago.

It is they, not Sanders, who are constrained by yesterday's ideas.

Sanders has shown a consistent track record to advance a progressive agenda, and his authentic disposition is a potent weapon against Trump's fake brand of "populism."

Unlike the early 1980s, it is the left, not the right, which is framing the emerging political landscape.

The electorate of the 2020s is coming into view. It is angry, frustrated, and it understands a repackaged version of politics from the 1990s will not deliver in the 21st century. Now, a majority of young Americans have a positive view socialism over capitalism, says a 2018 Gallup poll.

More people are realizing this democratic socialist is the only presidential candidate offering solutions to the biggest challenges of our time: authoritarianism, xenophobia, stagnant wages, and a bleak future for young people.

Whether or not Bernie Sanders wins the Democratic nomination in 2020, his message has already transformed American politics.

Young voters have a stake in this fed election and need to vote



Jared Dodds
NEWS REPORTER

I remember walking into my old elementary school gym in Mississauga the year I turned 18 about five years ago. Bright lights, linoleum floors, a slight smell of rubber reminded me of eight years filled with games of tag and

Eenie, Meenie, Minie Mo isn't the way students should vote



Elisha Nichols
NEWS REPORTER

I walked into Humber North shortly after Reading Week and was greeted by the smell of popcorn. One thing you can count on in Humber is to get some type of snack — popcorn being the most popular choice — to make students do something, like sign up for an IGNITE bursary or get more information about an upcoming event.

This time, however, it was different. There were no prizes, nor was a bursary being offered. Just an exercise in the right to vote.

It was the start of elections at the college and they were grabbing student's attention by giving away bigger than usual bowls of this buttery salty snack. I had some extra time on my hands so I said, "why not?"

I was briefed about the candidates.

There are two running for president, five for vice-president North, three candidates for vice-president at the University of Guelph-Humber and two vice-president candidates at Lakeshore. Another 13 are running for board members.

IGNITE's budget was about \$11 million. That is a heavy responsibility they are seeking to take on.

But while in line I overheard many students say, "I'm only voting

dodgeball.

This trip, however, was not significant because of childhood memories.

It was important because it was the first time I got to vote.

I grew up being reminded every election about the importance of voting, and the countless lives that were lost across multiple conflicts to secure my right to participate in democracy. This made me proud to fulfill my civic duty when the time came to cast my first ballot.

So, imagine my shock when I learned that many of my generation did not vote, they had no plans to ever do so.

Youth engagement in politics has ebbed and flowed over the years, with Elections Canada estimating that in 2011 only 39 per cent of Canadians aged 18 to 24 eligible to

so I can get the popcorn you know" or "I'm choosing randomly."

My subconscious screamed about our collective future: "WE'RE ALL SCREWED!"

I was also thinking about the people who deserved to be in office being snubbed because a bunch of hungry students closed their eyes, played Eenie Meenie Minie Mo and made their decision based on what name their finger fell on.

It is a tactic many students were using to choose the next president, VP, and board of directors. It was just all around bad.

In recent news, a scandal at the Ryerson University Student Union shocked many when it was revealed funds were being misused at places such as bars, Airbnbs, and the LCBO. With a story like this as the backdrop, one would think students would be more cautious when electing other students to govern the things we need most at school, such as accessibility, insurance, bursaries and extra-curricular activities, sports and celebrity appearances.

Elections end March 1 and for the rest of the week, more students will be enticed to vote because of this guaranteed snack of popcorn. I see a huge problem with this because if we're making important decisions like this based on the emptiness of our guts, then we are really screwed. It also proves how Millennials like myself are easily swayed and want to be rewarded for every little thing that we do, big or small.

Voting is a privilege. It helps bring the right candidates into power to bring about change that will better everyone.

Humber needs to scrap the snacks for serious moments like these and choose better interactive ways to get the student body engaged, and not force feeding us with movie theatre snacks.

vote did so.

Elections Canada said the number rose to 51 per cent of young voters in the 2015 federal election, which may have sealed the historic win for Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

However, as we approach another battle for 24 Sussex Drive this October, young people's apathy towards the political process has begun to rise.

It seems as if every political conversation I have with other millennials is greeted with a chorus of "I don't know," or worse, "I don't care." Not only do people seem uninformed, they seem uninterested, and that is a dangerous proposition.

When young people band together, they become a massive influence in many situations. One only needs to look at the youth mo-

bilization following the Parkland school shooting or the influx of progressive members of Congress in the United States championed by youth.

This is evidence that whatever party can inspire young people to vote will increase their chances of winning this crucial election.

And believe me, this election is crucial.

Whatever you think about President Donald Trump, it must be said he has displayed a volatile relationship between the United States and its various trade partners.

Canada will need a leader who can stand toe-to-toe and fight for the things Canadians find important, and the leaders of the various political parties would be wise to find a way to engage the young people of this country and convey their

message.

There is some debate as to what young people are passionate about in the political arena. Consider Trudeau's success in his crusade to legalize marijuana, which likely drove a much more impressive turnout from the Millennial vote last election.

Historically issues such as climate change are far more important to young people than the rest of the voting population, leading some to speculate that it will be a hot button issue in the debates and on the campaign trail in the upcoming election.

I do not know what the focus of my generation will be when we get to the next federal election in October. But I do know that whoever can inspire them to participate will have a significant advantage.

OSAP cuts are a setback for all students



Madison Raye
NEWS REPORTER

Ontario Premier Doug Ford recently announced his government is cutting the use of the six-month grace period post-secondary students begin repaying education loans, as well as converting grants into loans.

Many students are in an uproar about the matter and they should be. They have every right to be.

It's already difficult for students to pay back their student loans even with the six-month grace period set in stone because jobs aren't guaranteed, but it is quite unreasonable to remove it entirely. It would be an undue hardship to pay them off without some sort of advance.

Ford expects graduates to pay their debt from the moment of graduation. This expectation is too high of a standard considering that every individual attending college is living different scenarios.

Some post-secondary students may not have jobs and their parents may be funding their education, so paying interest the moment of graduating would be possible but still difficult.

Other students without jobs and utilize OSAP may be pressured to find a job and save as much as they can in the little time they have before the interest rate piles up leaving many drowning in tuition and



JUSTIN MOWAT

Student protesters gathered at Yonge and Dundas Square to fight back against Ontario Premier Doug Ford's OSAP funding cuts last month.

interest fees.

In my scenario, I will realistically never be able to pay off my debt unless I get a well-paying job to which I would be able to pay back the government. It is unimaginable to pay off the interest that begins to collect the moment people graduate, and then to have those fees collect more fees daily that technically get doubled.

Many students are stressing whether they should drop out due because will not be able to pay back those fees, or they won't be able to pay for their upcoming semesters.

Students are already under pressure during college or university, so should they really have to stress about their education too? Is it fair or reasonable to destroy what the Liberal Party created for Ontario students in need?

I think the students are utilizing their rights by standing up to the government. Even if it seems like

Ford is not meeting the students halfway, at least the many that attended protests and other forms of action can say they did something to try and stop the government from making unnecessary — and unpopular — changes.

I could understand trimming aspects of the OSAP program, but to take away the six-month grace period is literally the government's way of saying they want their money back right away.

It isn't fair to students that are affected and it could put the colleges like Humber in a difficult funding crisis.

Some programs may have to be canceled and some may have to beg students for funding, like IGNITE. The changes to OSAP and funding for post-secondary schools will impact many, and, it seems, the austerity drive is far from over as the government may have other plans for us.

QUOTED

WILL YOU OPT-OUT OF STUDENT FEES?

I would opt-in to pay the fee because it's already included in our tuition now and these are things that make school. So why not opt in? It pays for events and things that are beneficial for us.



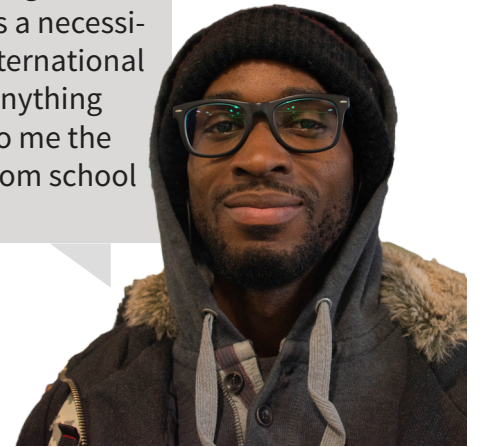
DONNA SMITH
BIO TECH STUDENT, 1ST YEAR

I wouldn't want to pay for the fee because I think it's unfair to not have the option. We are already paying a lot of money to the school for our tuition.



AROJ WAHEED
BIO TECH STUDENT, 2ND YEAR

Yes, I would opt-in because I think it's beneficial for students. The insurance we get from the school is a necessity. I'm an international student. If anything happened to me the insurance from school covers me.



KENNETH ARIZE
NETWORKING TECHNOLOGY, 1ST YEAR

PHOTO OF THE WEEK

SECOND LATE CAMPUS CLOSURE OF THE SEASON

Snow plow cleaning up the sidewalks around Humber College's North campus on Feb. 27. The school closed at 1:30 p.m. because of the 20 cm of snow expected to fall.



SEND YOUR BEST PHOTOS TO ETC.HUMBER@GMAIL.COM OR TWEET US AT @HUMBERETC FOR A CHANCE TO BE PUBLISHED IN NEXT WEEK'S ISSUE!

96.9 FM | radio.humber.ca

Hawks lose to rival Bruins in last game of season

Paige McGowan

SPORTS REPORTER

There are some great rivalries in sport. The Argos and the Ticats, Ohio State and the University of Michigan, and in that heady mix of sports animus lies the rivalry of the Humber Hawks and the Sheridan Bruins.

They met for the final regular-season men's basketball tilt in Oakville on Feb. 15. While the Bruins beat the Hawks 90-80, the game didn't settle anything because rivalries never end.

"I've been coming to these games for the last six years and it's a really big deal because it brings out a lot of fans and a lot of alumni," said Humber fan Dylan Walters. "The rivalry is very historic."

The loss however didn't overshadow the personal bests reached for three players in the Sheridan game as they now prepare for the OCAA playoffs at Georgian College on Feb. 28. They returned to their winning ways by beating Kingston's St. Lawrence Vikings 83-68 in a crossover playoff game Feb. 23.

The Bruins and the Hawks kept the score close throughout the entire game but with full court press defence, the Bruins managed to get a 10-point lead in the fourth quarter and locking in the win.

Humber versus Sheridan is a match up that basketball fans look forward to every year.

The rivalry between these two teams is the most historic and fiercest in the OCAA.

As always, it was an exciting game to watch and the stands were filled with rowdy fans.

Captain DeQuon Cascart led the



PAIGE MCGOWAN

Humber shooting guard Fowzi Mohamoud takes a contested three-point shot. Mohamoud is known for taking and making three-pointers.

way for the Hawks, scoring a team-high 20 points and recording six rebounds. Three Humber guards finished with double digit points, Kevin Otoo with 14 points, Curwin Elvis had 13 points, and Fowzi Mohamoud finished with 12 points.

"Even though we didn't come out with a win, the team still played really well," Cascart said. "Sheridan gave us a really good fight in the fourth quarter."

Despite the loss, it was a milestone game for the third-year guard.

Cascart needed 19 points to become the 31st player in team histo-

ry to score more than 500 points in his career, and his 20 points put him over the top.

Elvis reached his ironman milestone, becoming the first player ever to play 90 games for the Humber Hawks men's basketball team. And then Hawks' forward Jaylan Morgan became the 15th player to join Humber's 300-point club in his first season with the Hawks.

But Morgan's mind wasn't so much on the achievement as "18-2 to finish out the season.

"Time to go to a new level, we're all we got," he said.



PAIGE MCGOWAN

Hawks forward Jaylan Morgan goes up for a rebound followed by a solid put back, drawing a foul. Hawks lost to Bruins in last season game.

Men's curling coach takes helm at Brier

Jacob Phillips

SPORTS REPORTER

Ever since Humber established curling as part of its athletic program, having one of their own head coaches lead Ontario in the Brier has always come up short.

That was until Humber Hawks men's curling head coach Sean Turriff was chosen to lead Ontario in the 2019 Brier, becoming the first Humber head coach selected for the Brier.

Turriff earned his trip to the Brier by coming in first at the Ontario Tankard curling championship as the head coach for Team McDonald with team captain Scott McDonald.

The Brier is the annual Canadian men's curling competition held since 1927, the winners of the Brier will represent Canada at the World Curling Championships of the same year in March.

For the past 92 years Ontario has only placed in the top 3 only 41 times, finishing first 10 times, second 18 times, and third 13 times.

The last time Ontario placed first in the Brier was in 2012 when Ontario's Glenn Howard defeated Alberta's Kevin Koe with a score of 7-6.

Howard would then go on to win the gold at the 2012 World Men's Curling Championship against Scotland's Tom Brewster with a score of 8-7.

Turriff not only hopes to bring pride to Ontario and win the World Men's Curling Championship, he wants to bring pride to Humber as well.

"It's overwhelming just to be apart of it, it's still hard to process what it means to me as the first Humber curling coach to be in the Brier," Turriff said

He said what was going on in his head when he was told he would lead Ontario in the Brier

"It took me and the team I was coaching (Team McDonald) awhile to process," he said.

"Right after you win you have to go into a meeting, a ton of paperwork you have to sign, clothing to

try on, we didn't have enough time to soak it up," Turriff said.

Second Brady Lumley said having Turriff going to the Brier is significant for him and his teammates.

"I think it's amazing we will have the experience and the chance to be coached by someone by some that high of a level. I think it's a great resource to have," Lumley said.

Head coach of the mixed Humber Hawks curling team Zachary Shurtleff said having Turriff at the Brier brings invaluable experience to the team.

"I think its great exposure for both him and Humber College, him being chosen for the Brier is every curlers dream. Hopefully this means other Humber coaches will be chosen for the Brier in the future," Shurtleff said.

The Brier will last for eight days starting March 2 at 3 p.m. and ends on Sunday, March 10. Turriff's team will be playing in Pool B at Westoba Place in Brandon, Man. Sixteen teams are competing.



COURTESY HUMBER ATHLETICSC

Humber Men's curling coach Sean Turriff takes the helm of a team at Brier.

HUMBER

Et

Cetera

SPORTS

HUMBER'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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BRUINS MAUL HAWKS IN SEASON ENDER

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