



## FINDING SCHOONA IN TORONTO

A tourist searched for Schoona, one of the three endangered green turtles in Ripley's Aquarium in Toronto, on April 5, 2023. Schoona moved to the aquarium from Vancouver on April 3.

**BEST PHOTOS BY  
OUR REPORTERS  
P.10 - 11**





# ‘It actually means homelessness’: tenants fight against demovictions

**Tenants at several Toronto apartment buildings say that they will be displaced during the demovictions.**

**Tyreike Reid**  
Senior Reporter

When Megan Kee heard a developer purchased her midtown Toronto apartment building, she knew a demolition notice may soon follow.

She was right.

“In December of 2022, we received an official notice from the landlord that our building was slated to be demolished and that an application had been submitted to the City of Toronto,” Kee said.

She, along with the other tenants of 55 Brownlow Ave. in the Eglinton Avenue and Yonge Street area, a rent controlled apartment in Toronto’s midtown neighbourhood, became the latest target of a demolition eviction, also known as demoviction.

Menkes Development submitted an application in 2022 to the city to demolish the building and replace it with three residential condo towers, providing a total of 1,162 units.

According to Ontario’s guidelines this means units in the new towers will be exempt from rent control, making them less affordable for many of the existing residents.

The application has yet to be approved by the city, but Kee said it is unlikely to be rejected.

Kee said for many of the residents living at 55 Brownlow Ave., the threat of eviction will not only result in displacement, but may also lead to homelessness.

“There are some people in this building who are already on ODS, who are only able to live in this building because they moved in at a time when rent was reasonable,” she said.

The tenants association at 55 Brownlow Ave. organized a rally on April 1 to fight against the demovictions taking place across the city.

The rally was organized in partnership with tenants associations at 25 St. Mary St. and 145 St. George St., both rent controlled apartments that also received demoviction notices.

Tenants gathered outside of 25 St. Mary St. before marching over



TYREIKE REID

Tenants at 55 Brownlow Ave., 25 St. Mary St. and 145 St. George St., rallied against the demovictions of their buildings in downtown Toronto on April 1, 2023. The buildings are slated to be demolished to build condos.

to 145 St. George St.

Julia Kelemen, a senior who has been living at 25 St. Mary St. for 40 years, said the threat of eviction and displacement is particularly hard on the elderly.

“If you’re young, you can still kind of have enough energy to move somewhere else,” Kelemen said. “And you know, you can live

together and all that.

“But we’re seniors, it’s much harder for us,” she said.

Kelemen said many of the seniors in her building rely solely on their pensions to live, which can make it increasingly difficult to find another apartment building that is considered affordable.

Ontario MPP Jessica Bell

(NDP-University-Rosedale) joined the tenants in protest, and said the Ford government is not doing enough to protect tenants.

“Doug Ford has picked a side and it’s not the side of renters,” Bell said. “It’s the side of corporate landlords that want to make a whole lot of money, and they’re making this city very expensive right now.”

The Ontario government said in a news release on April 5 that it will be increasing protections for tenants and renters.

The government said it will be proposing protections for renters who are threatened with evictions due to renovations, demolitions, and conversions.

This includes requiring qualified persons to provide reports stating units must be vacant for renovations before tenants are required to leave, the government said.

But for tenants like Kee, the worry of having to find a new home lingers on.

“Everything in your life falls apart if you don’t have a home,” she said. “So we need to make sure that people are housed, and that people aren’t being pushed out of the city because they can’t afford it.”



TYREIKE REID

Megan Kee, a tenant at 55 Brownlow Ave., says threat of eviction will not only result in displacement, but may also lead to homelessness.

ETC •

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ANDRE LA ROSA-RODRIGUEZ

Meghan Nicholls, Chief Executive Officer of the Mississauga Food Bank, checks inventory supply.

## Federal gov't creates policies 'that mandate poverty,' food bank says

**Andre La Rosa-Rodriguez**  
News Reporter

The federal and provincial governments are being asked to take action as food bank demand across Toronto and the GTA reached record-high numbers.

Meghan Nicholls, chief executive officer at The Mississauga Food Bank, raised concerns over the growing number of users in her community.

"It's the highest month on record in the history of the organization," she said about their client visits in March. "There isn't an unlimited amount of money in the community. There isn't an unlimited amount of volunteers."

The organization's annual spending has more than doubled since pre-pandemic times. They will need to spend up to \$7 million to be able to serve the number of people expected to use the Mississauga Food Bank in 2023. Nicholls said they currently serve on average 16,000 people each month.

The Daily Bread Food Bank's CEO Neil Hetherington announced at a news conference on Tuesday that food banks across Toronto are "in a crisis" and called on the provincial government to take action by providing similar support given during the pandemic.

An annual Food Banks Canada report found rising housing costs, low provincial assistance rates, and food costs were the main reasons people were forced to turn to food banks last year.

Nicholls criticized the Canadian government for allowing demands to reach record-breaking levels

and pointed to the lack of affordable housing, and stagnant wages for low-income jobs as areas that need to be addressed.

"Technically, charities like us, the food banks, are subsidizing what the government is supposed to be taking care of. People who are vulnerable, struggling in our community," she said.

"The government continues to make policy choices that mandate poverty and that means that people have to rely on charitable organizations like ours just to meet their basic needs," Nicholls said.

Pierre Desrochers, an associate professor specializing in food policy at the University of Toronto, noted that helping food banks keep up with demand can only a temporary solution.

"They cannot be a way of life or a way to feed a large number of people in the long-run," he said. "Even if you have food banks in the short run, you don't build a prosperous society or a long-term sustainable food system by investing in food banks."

He stressed long-term solutions start with the government looking at the factors that are impacting food prices which are currently at a 40-year-high. Desrochers highlighted that it will require taking supply chain, labour, and energy costs into consideration.

"Everybody is hurting. It's not just food," he said. "The economic fundamentals need to be addressed. That's the only way to bring food prices down."

Janet Music, a research coordinator of the Agri-Food Analytics Lab at Dalhousie University, echoed Desrochers and said that

there needs to be more focus on aspects of the economy that are affecting food prices in a "ripple effect."

A 2023 Food Price report by Dalhousie University released this week, projected food prices will increase by seven per cent and listed labour shortages, transportation costs, and trade disruptions as some of the factors affecting costs.

"Very serious conversations need to be had at the national level about what we feel is important," she said. "But at least we're talking about it. I don't think I could have said that a few years ago."

However, Music noted rising food prices is not only affecting people who visit food banks, but also those willing to donate.

"As food prices rise, people are donating less food to food banks. So we see food banks kind of stuck in this crunch where they have so many more users because of food prices, with a lot less donations," she said.

Nicholls said the Mississauga Food Bank, which recently been able to move to a new larger location capable of storing twice as much food because of funds raised through donations, is concerned the growing demand will eventually outbalance what they are receiving through charities.

"Those are the kind of challenges that food banks are coming up against. What happens if we get to the point where 50 per cent of the city lives in poverty. How would we cope then," she said.

"People's ability to eat shouldn't rely on somebody else's desire to be generous. It's a human right to have access to food," Nicholls said.

## Service cuts and fare increases will drive riders away, TTC activist says

**Asma Sahebzada**  
Senior Reporter

The TTC has cut services to specific routes and raised fare costs after Toronto passed in multi-billion dollar budget, raising concerns for safety and transit reliability.

The service cuts kicked in on March 26, causing longer wait times on 39 routes including two subway lines, a streetcar route, and 36 bus routes.

TTC released its 2023 operating budget in January, which revealed service cuts and a fare increase of 10 cents for adult and youth single fares.

Increases for single cash and pay-as-you-go PRESTO fares rolled in on April 3, 2023, now costing adults \$3.35 and youth \$2.40 to use TTC services. Customers paying with PRESTO cards save five cents on the new fares.

The service cuts and fare increases follow a loss in revenue the TTC incurred, due to low ridership during the pandemic, causing a budget shortfall of \$366 million.

Riders using the Bloor-Danforth Line 2 subway will now have to wait up to eight minutes on weekday evenings, an increase from the previous five minute wait on platforms, Monica Mason said, coordinator of the TTC advocate group TTCriders.

The recent changes will cause frustration for staff and customers amidst the spike in violence.

"Especially as a woman myself, being alone on a platform, waiting eight minutes for a subway at night contributes to increased isolation and it can be a safety issue," Mason said.

Cutting service leads to less staff on platforms and in trains. As TTC staff tend to be the first responders in emergencies, it creates an even

more dangerous environment for riders and staff, she said.

The TTC stated on their website that a fare increase will help "ensure the system is reliable, safe and accessible," however, Mason said that the changes will cause unreliable service that will drive riders away.

"People don't want to pay more for less service," she said.

"We're losing riders to Uber and Lyft and a lot of ride sharing apps so when we lose riders we lose the revenue and that creates this vicious cycle where we really cut away at our existing public transit system."

"The fare increase is for single fares, not for the monthly pass, so people who are low income tend to use single fares more just because they don't have the funds to pay up front for a monthly pass," Mason said.

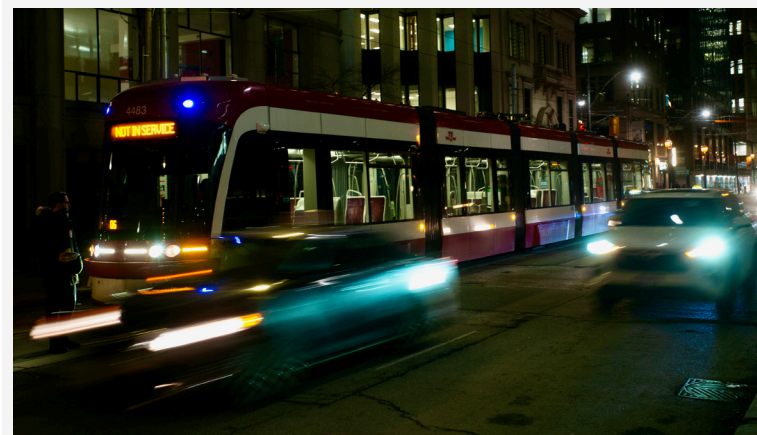
Last month, the TTC ended its police deployment initiative that was introduced after a recent string of violent crimes plagued the transit system.

The program resulted in 314 arrests and 220 referrals for individuals who required social assistance, the Toronto Police said in a news release on March 13, 2023.

Despite efforts to strengthen safety, violence indeed persists, with the city seeing another random attack on the TTC on March 25, 2023, when 16-year-old Gabriel Magalhaes was stabbed at Keele Station and died of his wounds.

"There is a bigger conversation around what's happening to our public spaces – the TTC is just a public space," Mason said.

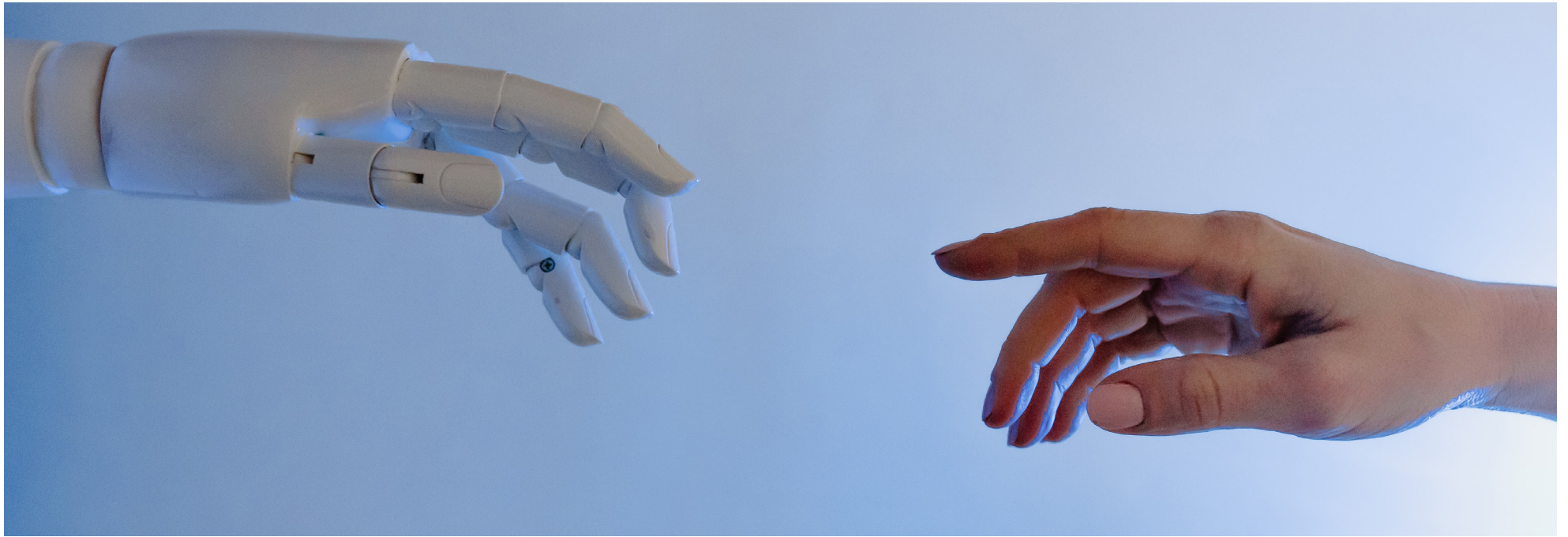
"It's a third space for people to be in and there's fewer and fewer of those for people to stay in so we are not seeing enough funding and investment in the root causes of violence," she said.



THE CANADIAN PRESS/ GRAEME ROY

An out of service TTC streetcar is shown in downtown Toronto.





PEXELS / TARA WINSTEAD

Experts are recommending that journalists experiment and work alongside artificial intelligence like ChatGPT to assist them in their reporting instead of avoiding the service.

# AI can help journalists but not replace them, experts say

**Antonio Peláez Barceló**  
*International News Editor*

Two weeks ago, ChatGPT was prompted to write a story about the banking crisis and how it could affect Canada.

It failed.

It said, among other things, that two banks that had already collapsed were just having problems.

Patrick White, professor of journalism at the Université de Québec à Montréal (UQAM), said it could be worse.

“It denied that there is a war in Ukraine,” he said. But White said AI can help journalists to add content value and reduce routine reporting.

Joe Amditis, assistant director for products and events at the Center for Cooperative Media at Montclair State University in New Jersey, agreed.

“I do not recommend that journalists use it to write stories, but it’s very good at helping to edit them,” he said.

Indeed, some news outlets are already using it in different ways.

Nicholas Thompson, the CEO at The Atlantic magazine, recently shared in LinkedIn a letter addressed to the magazine’s employees.

“We should all be curious, [...] I want us to experiment,” he said.

“More important than that, though, I want us to really think through how this is going to change our business,” Thompson said.

White said news agencies like “AP, AFP and Reuters are all using aid to automate some news content, and that does free journalists out to do more in-depth inter-

views and more features.”

However, he said this should not be used to layoff journalists and automate newsrooms.

MSN United Kingdom let go of all its editors in May 2020. White said their traffic went down and they had troubles with the captions.

Buzzfeed said in January 2023 in an internal memo it was going to use ChatGPT to help create content.

But White said this was not happening in Canada.

He published a study conducted with student Nicolas St-Germain in June 2021 where they gathered the answers to a survey of 13 Canadian media outlets operating in Canada.

The research, titled *The impact of artificial intelligence on journalistic practices in Canada*, concluded that only *The Globe and Mail* and *Canadian Press* were using AI.

*Canadian Press* used it to provide a first translation into French, which would be fine-tuned later. White said *Canadian Press* still uses this system.

White and St-Germain underlined the program developed by *The Globe and Mail*, called *Sophi*.

According to the case study on its website, every 10 minutes, *Sophi* “finds valuable stories that merit greater promotion and updates every page of the website accordingly.”

*The Globe and Mail* said the process helped “the subscriber acquisition rate increased by more than 10 per cent.”

They said 99 per cent of its website, [www.theglobeandmail.com](http://www.theglobeandmail.com), is automated and *Sophi* also took

charge of the print laydown.

“In a few seconds, *Sophi* does what used to take humans two hours to do, freeing valuable newsroom talent,” *The Globe and Mail* said.

According to its website, *Sophi* has been used by organizations such as Reuters, Global News, *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, *The West Australian* or the *CIBC*.

**“I DON’T SEE ANY  
PRINT NEWS  
ORGANIZATION  
LEFT IN CANADA  
AFTER THE NEXT  
FIVE YEARS.”**

**Patrick White**  
*Journalism professor,  
Université de Québec à  
Montréal*

But *Sophi* is not a generative AI like ChatGPT. According to assistant professor on journalism at Toronto Metropolitan University Angela Misri, the language models are “basically a pastiche.”

“They take everything from the internet and then they try to make it into something you can read,” she said.

Open.ai, the company behind ChatGPT and the new GPT-4, said on its website, “GPT-4 still has many known limitations that we are working to address, such as social biases, hallucinations, and adversarial prompts.”

Regarding these inaccuracies,

Misri said it was a mistake clearing out editors from the newsrooms, because corrections are always needed.

“One of my fears is that we’re all going to become fact checkers for GPT,” she said.

White agreed and said journalists will be needed to double check whatever generative AI tools produce.

“AI is not there to save money,” White said. “It’s to help journalists go through large datasets.”

White, who’s been chief editor of *Huffington Post Québec*, said that this is what *Bloomberg News* is currently doing.

He also said, however, that smaller organizations could face problems if they don’t provide enough money and staff for automatization.

Amditis has written a handbook for small newsrooms (under five people) to take advantage of the latest developments in this area, called the *Beginner’s prompt handbook: ChatGPT for local news publishers*.

Amditis said he wrote the book for local publishers, so they can save “a little time here and there so that they can spend more time focusing on reporting and engaging with their communities.”

“I do not recommend that journalists use it to write stories,” Amditis said. “But it’s very good at helping to edit them.”

“For instance, it’s very good at helping to create an outline, to clean up your notes or to identify gaps that you might have missed in your reporting,” he said.

Amditis, who also teaches multimedia production for strategic communications, said you have to

know what you want and how to ask for it.

“But the real value, for me at least, has been using it as a starting point for learning something,” he said.

Amditis said he wouldn’t know where to start with legal documents about a partnership agreement.

“But what I could do is asking it to give me all the components or all the basic elements,” Amditis said.

Amditis said these capabilities are also in Microsoft’s Bing and other tools like ChatPDF, and are leading newsrooms to create their own policies about AI.

“Wired magazine has a really good policy that outlines what they are willing to use AI for, [...] what they’re not [...] and what they’re sort of exploring,” Amditis said.

Regarding education, Misri said these discussions should be held.

“For professors to really get involved in the AI, sign up for ChatGPT, learn what it can do, so you understand it, so the students don’t know more about it than you do is really important for journalism teaching,” she said.

Finally, White said the recession forecasted for this year was not going to help journalism in general.

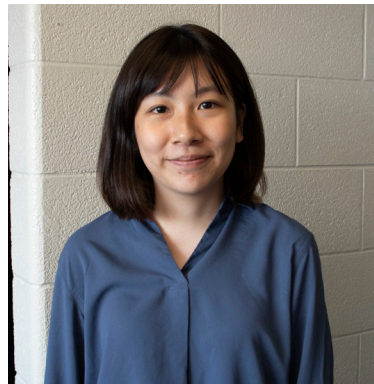
“I don’t see any print news organization left in Canada after the next five years,” he said.

Amditis said he wrote his handbook to help small media.

“If we don’t pay attention to this as journalists, as educators, as information connoisseurs, ... we’re going to get tricked ourselves and we’re going to lose credibility with our audiences,” he said.



## OPINION: Schools should not fear ChatGPT, add it into curriculums



**Krystal Yeung**  
Sports Editor

Artificial intelligence is pushing people into a new era of technology assisted life. Schools should help students move forward, instead of sticking with the old rulebook.

AI developer OpenAI introduced ChatGPT, an automated text generator public in November 2022.

The program writes texts based off of information on the Internet which can be tailored to different contexts within seconds.

This also includes academic essays and papers.

Schools around the globe subsequently announced they would be banning the use of ChatGPT for assignments.

Manager of Discipline and Appeals at Dalhousie University, Robert Mann, said in a statement their concern is whether “students are fairly and genuinely evaluated on meaningful exercises aimed at maximizing learning.”

Sciences Po, a university based in Paris, said students using ChatGPT would face repercussions, including expulsion from the school, or the French higher education system entirely.

The ban of ChatGPT in educational settings revealed the inconsistencies in education policies.

Academia has been promoting science and technology education for decades.

Science Council spokesperson Ruth Fawcett expressed her vision for this research and education in 1991 in Science Education In Canada.

She said it was important to provide Canadians with the best general education possible.

Fawcett said curriculum should “present a more authentic view of science with a greater emphasis on the connection between science and technology and everyday life.”

The Canadian government announced in 2021 that it aimed to encourage STEM education across the country to fill a growing need

for technology literacy.

“As more and more businesses and organizations look to innovate, modernize and grow, the demand for people who can fill STEM-related jobs will only increase,” the government said.

However, schools are now blocking the way.

Schools prohibited students’ use of ChatGPT in the name of academic integrity and maximizing learning outcomes.

But it is time to redefine these terms.

The University of Oxford said academic integrity was the expectation that “all its researchers, be they staff, students or visitors, are expected to maintain the highest standards of rigour and integrity in all aspects of their research.”

Is artificial intelligence an infringement on maintaining the highest standards of rigour? It could be true in the early days of AI, but not now.

According to Gitnux, the accuracy rate of ChatGPT was above 85 per cent in March 2023.

The system was just four months old at the time, and the expectation is that it could be trained further.

The reliability of ChatGPT is going to improve in the foreseeable



PEXELS / HATICE BARAN

OpenAI introduced ChatGPT, an automated text generator, on Nov. 30, 2022.

future. However, another concern schools had was the standards of integrity of ChatGPT.

In the research paper *Cheating: It depends how you define it*, Milan Jelenic, with Brock University Faculty of Education, and Durham College Faculty of Liberal Studies, say faculties tended to perceive the use of “aids” and “other resources” as cheating.

But the perception must change in this era of technological advancement.

The Academic Integrity Council of Ontario said, in a written state-

ment, “the guided use of artificial intelligence can help students to think broadly or help them focus their thinking.”

What students need is guidance in how to derive new ideas with the help of ChatGPT, and how to use it to benefit students’ growth.

People need to outperform ChatGPT to stay competitive in the job market.

The ability to build something out of ChatGPT is the key.

And banning its use cannot cultivate such abilities.

## OPINION: Soccer needs to take concussions, player safety seriously



**Andre La Rosa-Rodriguez**  
News Reporter

Tottenham defender Jan Vertonghen crashed head-first into a player during a semi-final soccer match in 2019. The game continued without him as he was taken aside by medical staff to be assessed. After being cleared to play, he was back for 15 minutes before trudging off the field vomiting.

I was reminded of that moment when Major League Soccer submitted a formal proposal to the International Football Association Board (IFAB), the rule-making body for the sport, on March 7

to test temporary substitutions so that players with head injuries can have proper off-field assessments during matches.

Several player unions and leagues have been pushing for these trials, but IFAB continues to keep all proposals under “active review” regardless of the criticism for not taking action.

The Major League Soccer Players Association said the IFAB’s decision is an example of global soccer’s “broken governance” structure.

“FIFA and IFAB’s short sighted, misguided decision demonstrates once again their failure to prioritize player health and safety in our sport,” the MLSA said in a statement. “Their refusal to act provides yet another example of global soccer’s broken governance structure.”

Instead the governing body is set on the permanent concussion substitution rule implemented in 2021 to make the difference when it comes to player safety. It allows a team to make a player change purely for head injury-related

reasons.

Dr. Andrew Massey, FIFA director of medical, said in a press conference that the rule’s protocol is that if there is any doubt a player might have a concussion, they will be switched off for the rest of the match since it can take up to three days for symptoms to appear.

“That’s why the permanent subs are so much safer [than temporary subs],” he said. “Zero chance of taking a risk with anybody that you suspect has a concussion, either from whatever symptoms they’re displaying at the time, or the mechanism of their injury.”

But the rule on its own is not enough.

A 2022 study by the University of Toronto found that this new rule in the Premier League has had almost no effect on protecting player health since the medical assessment time remains the same.

Emiliano Martinez, an Aston Villa FC goalkeeper, was taken off using this rule in October 2022. But it was after he returned to the field after being medically assessed from his collision with another

player’s knee. The symptoms appeared shortly afterwards.

But the permanent concussion substitution rule is not the problem as its been welcomed by numerous leagues. It’s not about making a choice between both approaches despite the way Massey has chosen to respond.

Without a temporary substitution rule, they are maintaining protocols that force medical staff to make decisions in a situation that in some cases might require more time.

Without taking further action, IFAB and FIFA’s claims to prioritize player health and safety in soccer is a fallacy.

Support for this rule is continuing to grow and so is the criticism towards the inaction of the organizations.

The Professional Footballers’ Association (PFA), the English players union which houses over 5,000 members, says 80 per cent of players are in support of introducing temporary substitutions.

“This feedback reflects what we see as a common-sense next step to

prioritize player safety,” said Adam White, the Head of the PFA Brain Health Department, in a letter to IFAB. “There is a real difficulty when football’s lawmakers prevent us from taking the necessary steps to protect players.”

Adding the new protocol could impact the course of a player’s career.

Vertonghen’s career was changed the night of the head injury. He spent nine months with lingering dizziness and headaches that negatively affected how he played. He was not given a new contract.

“I continued to play, which I shouldn’t have,” he said at a press conference.

“I had a year left on my contract and I thought I had to play because I had to showcase myself to other clubs and to Tottenham, but when I played, I was rubbish,” said Vertonghen, who currently plays for Anderlecht in Belgium.

If FIFA and IFAB want to put player’s health first, then more action needs to be taken. It starts by listening to the needs of the ones who are being put at risk.



# OPINION: Intimate partner violence cases increase, must stop



**Muhammad Hamza**  
Senior Reporter

Family and intimate partner violence accounted for 17,000 service calls in Peel Region in 2021, according to Peel Regional Police. The data translates to an average of 46.6 disputes per day or about two every hour.

The rate of intimate partner violence in Peel reflected the national numbers, increasing by 3.5 per cent between 2016 and 2021, the data showed. And Peel police are responsible for policing two-thirds of the region — Brampton and Mississauga.

Statistics Canada reported more than 127,082 victims of family violence that were reported to the police nationwide in the same year. It said 2021 was the fifth consecutive year marking an increase in domestic violence. Women and girls accounted for two-thirds of the victims.

It reported 114,132 people aged 12 or older were assaulted by a former or current intimate partner or other type of intimate partner, the seventh consecutive year marking an increase. Eight of 10 victims, or 79 per cent, were

women.

Since 2020, there has been an 11 per cent increase in abusive and harassing communications and a 29 per cent increase since 2019, and in 2021, 90 victims were killed by an intimate partner, with 76 per cent of these victims were women and girls, Statistics Canada reported.

In the last several years, especially after the covid outbreak in March 2020, there has been a rise in the number of cases of intimate partner violence.

Statistics provided by the United Nations show Canada is not much different from any other regions. The UN reported more than a quarter of women aged 15 and 49 who have been in a relationship were physically and/or sexually attacked by their intimate partner at least once in their lifetime.

Incidents of intimate partner violence range from 20 per cent in the Western Pacific, 22 per cent in high-income countries and Europe and 25 per cent in the WHO Regions in the Americas. The WHO African region reported 33 per cent while the WHO Eastern Mediterranean region recorded 31 per cent and 33 per cent in the WHO South-East Asia region.

Globally as many as 38 per cent of all murders of women are committed by intimate partners, the UN reported.

There are organizations offering immediate assistance and providing shelter for victims. In Brampton, the Salvation Army Family Life Resource Center (FLRC) offers an emergency short-term shelter for women and their children escaping intimate partner

violence by providing assistance, protection, and support to these women.

Mercy Gichuki, a program manager at the FLRC, said some of the services the shelter offers to survivors of gender-based violence include counselling, housing, and work.

The FLRC also provides support for applying for housing, legal supports that include accompanying them to court, working with them in family court if they are having difficulties, and supporting them in applying for immigration services, she said.

Some other programs offered include life skills building programs, such as boundary setting and developing healthy and unhealthy relationships, and supporting women in their journeys of healing from trauma, Gichuki said.

She said the shelter was created so women can stay there for between three and six months, however, women are staying longer because of housing difficulties and high rental costs.

Women who came to the shelter ranged in age from 24 to 40 years old, she said.

Every woman in this shelter has experienced partner abuse, including physical, mental, religious, financial, spiritual, and sexual violence. Therefore, there are often about 18 women residing there, along with about 40 children, Gichuki said.

Since the shelter is limited and cannot accommodate everyone, her team also works with other women in the neighborhood. Her team now works with 300 women



MUHAMMAD HAMZA

Mercy Gichuki, Salvation Army program manager, said the shelter offers counselling, housing, and work for partner violence survivors.

who are all survivors of intimate partner abuse, she said.

Gichuki said the United Nations has called intimate partner violence a “shadow pandemic,” because the problem is so invisible that people cannot often see it but it does have local and global impact.

The United Nations referred intimate partner violence (IPV) as a “shadow pandemic” since it has turned into an invisible crisis that is made worse by the COVID-19 pandemic. Lockdowns, hardships, and social isolation brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic have raised the danger of IPV and made it more difficult for victims to get the support they need.

She said she has seen an increase in the number of women coming to the shelter in the last three years because of the pandemic.

“We are seeing more expectant moms coming to the shelter,” Gichuki said.

She said that the shelter was running an outreach satellite, but they had to close it because they ran out of funding.

It has impacted her team because in the last three years in that out-

reach shelter, her team served about 256 women and about 329 children, Gichuki said.

Kavita Bhagat, a certified family law specialist in Brampton, said unfortunately, during the past few years, there has been an increase in intimate partner violence.

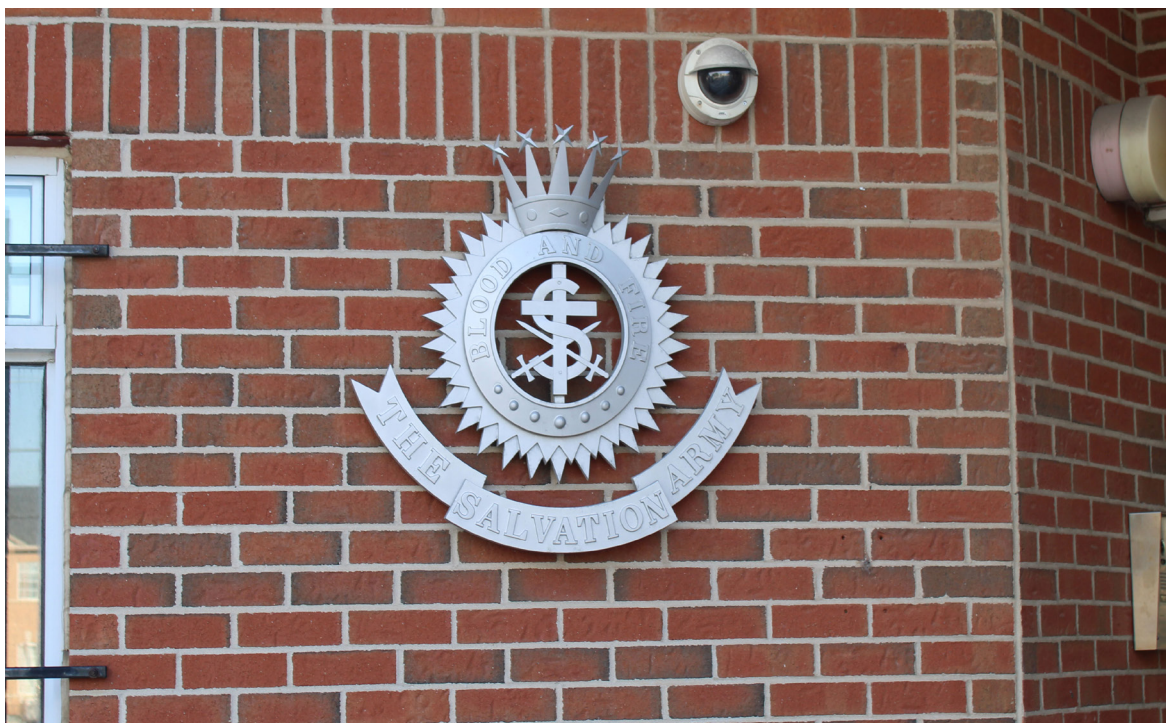
Bhagat said some causes of intimate partner violence include societal inequities, power imbalances that arise from language, immigration, financial issues, and education.

Other reasons include mental health, familial pressure and addiction, Bhagat said.

If males could also attend counselling sessions to avoid problems with their intimate partners, the situation might alter, he said.

Additionally, police need to be ready to act quickly to protect these women from harm and abuse from their partners.

Police and society need to do more to address the dangers and fears that many abused intimate partners or family members experience, including the trauma of ongoing emotional and psychological abuse as well as the threat of violence.



MUHAMMAD HAMZA

The Salvation Army Family Life Resource Center (FLRC) offers an emergency short-term shelter in the Brampton region, providing protection and support for women and their children escaping partner violence.



## OPINION: Premier Doug Ford is gaslighting the media



**Emma Posca**  
Senior Reporter

Ontario Premier Doug Ford scoffed before he replied to a question asked by Global News reporter Colin D'Mello at a February media conference about the possibility of waiving a confidentiality agreement between him and the integrity commissioner because it was in the public's interest.

"Colin," he said in a stern tone, "my daughter is a private citizen, I don't know what you don't understand."

What we don't understand, Mr. Ford, is why developers were suddenly able to buy land that was protected by the Greenbelt, and

why these developers in question were invited to your daughter's stag-and-doe.

Why wouldn't a reporter question you on this? More importantly, why shouldn't a reporter question you on this?

In fact, the Toronto Star and The Narwhal published an investigation last November after an extensive look into documents that showed Ford had indeed sold land deemed to be "undevelopable" on the Greenbelt to big corporations like Rice Group and TACC Developments on more than six different occasions since he has come into power in 2018.

The timing of Ford's most recent carve-out raised so many eyebrows that NDP leader Marit Stiles presented these concerns to the Ontario Legislature and laid out enough evidence to call for an investigation from the integrity commissioner, which is still ongoing.

Five days before the media conference with D'Mello, veteran Global News reporter Sean O'Shea asked Ford why he wasn't being transparent about who was invited to his daughter's stag-and-doe.

Ford replied to O'Shea in a similar way he did to D'Mello. Ford gave his response, but implied that it was some sort of an "overstep" into a politician's life to ask such a thing.

"That's the first time that's ever come out in Canadian history, someone asking about someone's daughter's wedding," he said.

The saying goes, "if it looks like a duck and walks like a duck..." Well, it may just be Ford using manipulation tactics on the media who are questioning his seemingly ironic decisions.

The popular term "gaslighting" was the Merriam-Webster dictionary's "Word of the Year" in 2022. It's defined as the "psychological manipulation of a person" where over time, the victim begins to question their own reality of a situation.

It is Ford's attempt to make the reporter feel embarrassed for doing their job and daring to ask about his controversial actions that is the crux of his "gaslighting."

Media freedom in Canadian law states there is the "freedom to seek, receive and impart information and ideas of all kinds."

When Ford responds that way to



EMMA POSCA

Premier Doug Ford at Humber College North campus earlier this year.

a valid, thought-out question from an accredited media organization, does this not blur the lines of transparency that all levels of government claim to have here in Canada?

But back to the interaction between D'Mello and Premier Ford:

"You have to have journalistic integrity," Ford told D'Mello, referring to keeping a politician's family matters out-of-question.

Integrity? That's rich coming from you, Ford.

I believe your exact quote from five years ago on a video you posted on Twitter said "unlike other governments that don't listen to people, I've heard it loud and clear, people don't want me touching the Greenbelt, we won't touch the greenbelt."

Sounds like that makes your government one that doesn't listen to its people.

Doug Ford is "for the people" as long as the "people" don't ask any questions.

## OPINION: Women underrepresented, underserved in healthcare



**Tessa Bennett**  
Sports Editor

Caroline Cunningham sat in an emergency room in Georgetown, Ont., for three hours before being treated for a heart attack. This is because medical staff dismissed her, saying she was experiencing indigestion.

Cunningham is just one of the many women who have experienced the obvious gender bias in healthcare.

According to a report from Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, women display unique symptoms of heart attacks, which often-times medical students are not trained to recognize.

According to Heart and Stroke Canada, these signs include nausea and migraines.

For men, on the other hand, it is often relatively easy to diagnose a heart attack, as medical professionals are taught to detect signs like crushing chest pain, which is how the male body responds to this illness.

This is just one of many examples of bias disproportionately benefitting men in the world of medicine.

"When I went into the hospital, I don't think I was treated properly, and after two hours of waiting, the pain was persisting, and only at that point did they say they would monitor me," Cunningham said. "And they didn't have any rooms or stretchers, so I was sent back to the waiting room."

Mackenzie Lemieux, a medical student at Washington University and advocate for women in STEM, said bias in healthcare against women starts on the practitioner's side.

"When I think about gender bias in medicine, I tend to jump towards the perspective of the provider and how there's bias in terms of hiring and bias in fields that are more surgically heavy," she said. "There are some specialties that are just so heavily skewed towards male dominance, and it takes a long time to change.



PEXELS/ANNA SHVETS

The presence of women in medicine is minimal, and it negatively impacts the care women receive when they seek medical attention.

"Because when you have men, they tend to hire men," Lemieux said.

She said this bias against women is in large because of how the field of medicine was built.

"So many of the original studies in medicine that we base a lot of our drugs and how we treat people off of, were studied with men," Lemieux said. "And that is a huge thing in my field of OBGYN, because so few studies guide us to know what to give for a woman in pregnancy."

Statements like this highlight the obvious difference in care and treatment for women and men.

For example, a 2018 pain research

and management study found that medical practitioners often view women exhibiting signs of chronic pain to be "hysterical", while men were deemed to be "stoic".

Similarly, another survey from 2018 published in Dove Medical Press, a peer-reviewed database of scientific journals, found most healthcare providers believed women exaggerate pain and illness to some degree.

There are certain factors that further perpetuate this narrative of women being "hysterical".

Women are more likely to experience invisible health issues like fibromyalgia and autoimmune disorders, which providers often dis-

miss and say it's all in the patient's head, Lemieux said.

"These patients, which are majority women, are often treated poorly by the system and not fully cared for," she said. "And they end up having very negative views of the healthcare system, which breeds distrust of medicine because you think your doctor doesn't care about you or your pain."

Lemieux said this complicated history of medicine looking at women as less-than goes as deep as those who identify as female having around 70 body parts named after men.

While women are slowly creeping their way into the field of medicine, which might change the type of care women receive when in need of medical attention, Lemieux said this is a long road.

She said there are factors beyond the male dominance in the workplace that restrict women, like pregnancy and having children.

In the meantime, women like Cunningham are experiencing a lack of care when they need it most, which is unacceptable.

"Every second is so important when you have a heart attack because the heart muscle starts to die. I could've died," Cunningham said.



## OPINION: Climate chaos is inevitable without the private sector's cooperation



**Rheegan Goodale**  
Culture Editor

The opportunity to properly confront climate change is slipping between the world's fingers. If we don't act now, it'll be too late.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's (IPCC) new Synthesis Report shows that, while limiting temperature rise to 1.5 degrees is achievable, time is running out.

In his speech for the Synthesis Report, the United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres set out an acceleration agenda to fast-track climate action across the globe.

This Acceleration Agenda calls on all big emitters to create national climate plans for 2030, with more ambitious emissions-re-

duction targets than they currently have in place.

Part of this agenda addresses the private sector. Specifically, Guterres called on them to work together with the government to tackle climate change.

The private sector is pivotal to achieving this 1.5-degree goal, but unfortunately, they have done nothing but enabled global warming thus far.

While G20 members agreed to stop funding new coal projects back in 2021, the same cannot be said about the private sector.

They have yet to make the same agreement, and many big-name banks and financial institutions are still investing vast amounts of money in new coal and fossil fuel projects.

Guterres said fossil fuel producers have been aware of their product's devastating impacts on the earth since the '70s. Even so, they ignored their own conclusive evidence to deceive the masses.

"Today, fossil fuel producers and their enablers are still racing to expand production, knowing full well that this business model is inconsistent with human survival," Guterres said. "Now, this insanity belongs in science fiction, yet we know the ecosystem meltdown is



UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres speaks about the importance of phasing out fossil fuel subsidies. CANADIAN PRESS FILE

cold, hard scientific fact."

We do not have time to waste. Guterres said while the 1.5 C limit is still achievable, it will take serious advancements in climate action to attain.

"The climate time-bomb is ticking," he said.

Even so, there has been a dramatic and nonsensical expansion of coal and fossil fuels since the war in Ukraine began, under the false guise of energy security.

The February report conducted by the International Energy Agency said we can still meet that 1.5-degree threshold, but only if new fossil fuel projects are put to an end.

The report showed that, not only are global fossil fuel consumption subsidies not decreasing, they're actually increasing at an alarming rate. More specifically, they've doubled in the past year, to a staggering high of \$1 trillion USD.

It is mind-boggling to see governments subsidize the pollution that is destroying our ecosystems.

The reality is, fossil fuels are still getting massive taxpayer-funded subsidies in most major economies. And indeed, one of Guterres' calls to action in the renewables revolution is to immediately switch taxpayer-funded subsidies from fossil fuels to renewables.

The Glasgow Climate Pact

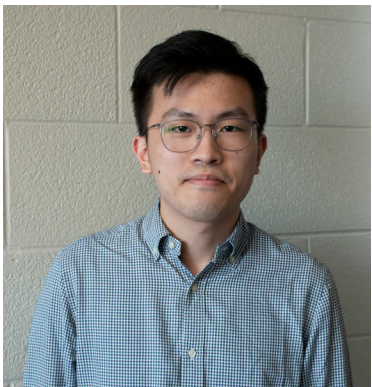
was the final outcome of the UN Climate Change Conference in Glasgow (COP26), and emphasized the importance of phasing out fossil fuel subsidies throughout the shift to clean energy.

And while the private sector has a long way to go in order to achieve 2050 climate targets, there is hope.

There needs to be accountability, and far more responsibility from private sector financing to stop supporting the most egregious, damaging investments in new fossil fuel initiatives.

Instead, they need to start investing in renewables and climate resilience measures to prevent large-scale climate chaos.

## OPINION: Government needs to step up to revitalize and protect Chinatowns



**John Wong**  
Senior Reporter

funding to revitalize Vancouver's Chinatown in February. This included modernizing its iconic neighbourhood buildings, adding new lighting and signage on the streets, and making other necessary improvements.

"It's not really much money if you're talking one city, in Vancouver," the Toronto-based Chinatown historian, Arlene Chan said. "But it really needs the support of the community, the grassroots groups, to make sure that that money is put to good use and that it does contribute to the longevity of Chinatown."

Toronto's Chinatown is also facing its unique changes, especially due to gentrification and the havoc of the pandemic, which has driven out many long-standing businesses.

The Bright Pearl seafood restaurant and the Furama Cake and Dessert Garden, a popular bakery in the district, are just two of the many examples.

Chan said many Chinatowns, including Toronto's, were established in the centre of today's downtown and is accessible by many subway stations.

This kind of location is very valu-



Numerous buildings and businesses in Chinatown in downtown Toronto where gentrification runs rampant. JOHN WONG

able to many real estate developers, especially with the prices of real estate in Toronto being so high.

"That's why there are so many challenges of the redevelopment or gentrification because that all of our Chinatowns are sitting on is a very valuable piece of property," Chan said.

Toronto launched the Cultural Districts Program in November 2022 and has considered designating downtown Chinatown as one of the cultural districts to support in hopes of protecting the local culture of the neighbourhood.

However, the program is still

currently in development, with an announcement of the final program design expected in mid-2023.

However, new development projects are going on in Chinatown and are affecting local businesses.

For example, the redevelopment of 315-325 Spadina Avenue, has forced the famous dim sum restaurant Rol San to close after operating in the same spot for 28 years.

It's clear the city has to step up its efforts to preserve the long-standing heritage and diversity of the district.

But Chan said she sees the Chinese community speaking out about preserving the historic dis-

trict.

"The redevelopment is affecting the whole city in terms of any businesses or communities that are downtown," she said. "That's why there are so many initiatives, not only grassroots initiatives but also from the city, to preserve historic districts like Chinatown."

Certain changes to Chinatown might not be avoidable.

Still, it's clear that the city needs to step up its responsibilities to find a balance between redevelopment and preservation in order to help save the long-standing history of Chinese Canadians and their culture within Canada.



# EDITORIAL: Paying for Twitter verification does not benefit journalism



TWITTER VERIFIED

Twitter announced on March 24, 2023 that starting April 1, 2023, the only way institutional and individual accounts can obtain gold and blue verification badges is to pay for them.

Journalism can't compete with Twitter, which focuses more on advertising revenue instead of ensuring the authenticity and credibility of content creators.

Elon Musk's plans to charge each institutional account \$1,000 a month for a gold verification badge. Blue checkmarks are also up for sale to individual accounts for \$10 per month.

Media outlets and individual journalists who have been accustomed to the platform are facing a dilemma – either pay or lose their verified status.

But the answer is clear. Paying for these checkmarks just isn't worth the money.

Twitter announced the policy change on March 24, 2023. The company said starting April 1, 2023, it will phase out old checkmarks which were based on a manual review of authenticity

instead of being based on money.

It also said starting April 13, the "for you" tab will only show content from Twitter gold and blue subscribers, as well as accounts followed by individuals.

Individual users and organizations who haven't paid found out on April 1 that they still have their old checkmarks.

The only exception is the New York Times. Musk said he stripped the outlet of its gold badge following a tweet from DogeDesigner.

Some other outlets in the U.S., including the Washington Post, have said they won't subscribe to gold or blue checkmarks with their company accounts or those of their journalists.

The Toronto Star reported Tuesday it has made the same decision. The Globe and Mail has yet to respond to an inquiry from Humber News on the issue.

It isn't surprising many media outlets are against Twitter's new subscription-based verification system.

Twitter has seen a surge in misinformation since Musk took over the platform, according to statistics compiled by data scientist Bastien Carniel.

Accounts which repeatedly publish popular tweets linked to misinformation, also known as misinformation super spreaders, saw an average increase of 42.4 per cent in their engagement, Carniel said.

He said highly credible accounts, like those of established media outlets, suffered a decline of 6.3 per cent on average, even before Twitter announced its plan to remove old verification badges.

The Center for Countering Digital Hate (CCDH), a non-profit organization based in the U.K. and the U.S., said the platform has

also experienced a rise in anti-LGBTQ+ rhetoric.

CCDH said in a report published in March, that five influential accounts, four of them being Twitter gold or blue subscribers, were the main drivers of the 119 per cent increase in hate speech targeting LGBTQ+ since last November.

The report also said the five accounts alone can generate up to US\$6.4 million per year in advertising revenue for the platform.

Another report published by CCDH in February said Twitter could make an additional US\$19 million in advertising revenue by bringing back previously banned accounts.

The ugly truth is Musk's Twitter no longer promotes content based on authenticity or credibility and instead focuses on what can bring in the most money.

Twitter has undeniably played an important role in journalism. A survey by Pew Research Center in 2021 showed seven out of 10 Americans consume news on the platform, particularly breaking news.

The same survey showed two-thirds of Americans trusted information on Twitter, significantly higher than the 27 per cent figure for social media in general.

But this trust will be eroded as Twitter changes its direction moving forward.

Media outlets and journalists, even if they subscribe to Twitter gold and blue, can't compete with misinformation and hate speech super spreaders who generate much more engagement and money.

It will be a painful decision to make, but it appears time for journalism to give up on this new Twitter that no longer values its work.

96<sup>+</sup>9 FM | radio.humber.ca



# AMONG THE BEST



Hawi Tulu

Toronto announcer Herbie Kuhn lifted the Grey Cup during the Argonauts 2022 Grey Cup Championship rally in Maple Leaf Square on Nov. 24, 2022.



Security guards escorted a lone pro...  
City Council voted to approve the...



Jordan Griffith

Flag bearers representing various branches of the Canadian Armed Forces marched towards the centre stage for the annual cenotaph ceremony at the Old City Hall on Nov. 11, 2022.



Andre La Rosa-Rodriguez

Constable Morgan Russell's daughter Maggie (left) and wife Marisa walked towards the caskets while holding Morgan's police cap over a wrapped Canadian flag.



Designed by pikisuperstar / Freepik

Photos taken by Humber News reporters during the 2022 - '23 academic year.



Scott McLaughlin  
protester out of the council chamber when the Toronto  
city's annual budget on Feb. 15, 2023.



Jacob Tye  
Durham Lords wing Alex Leed was being chased by Humber Hawks wing Ethan Sperling on  
Sept. 23, 2022. Hawks lost the game by 52-14.



Krystal Yeung  
Isabelle Blanchet-Rampling flipped mid-air in  
her Mixed Duet Technical Free at the World  
Acquatics Artistic Swimming World Cup 2023,  
which took place from March 16 to March 18.



Tyreike Reid  
The Strawberry Ceremony occupied Yonge and College Streets on Feb. 14, 2023, to honour  
missing and murdered Indigenous women , girls, trans and two-spirited people .





HUMBER ASSET BANK

Humber's International Graduate School near Bloor Street East and Church Street in downtown Toronto.

# International students struggle with lack of on-campus jobs

**Angelina Kochatovska**  
News Reporter

Hiring equity at Humber is put into question as international students raised their concerns about not being legally able to take on work-study jobs.

The Work Study program is a way for students at Humber College to get a part-time job on campus. To be eligible, students must be enrolled in a full-time program, demonstrate financial need, and maintain good standing in a ministry-approved post-secondary program.

However, Humber College provides work-study opportunities only for domestic students who are permanent residents, Canadian citizens, or have a status as a Protected Person.

Anthony Nguyen, a co-curricular programs coordinator at Humber College, told Humber News the reason to exclude international students to apply for the program is the funding from the government.

"The work-study program is specifically for domestic students because the funding comes from the government," he said. "So, Ontario gives each college or university a pool of money to help domestic students."

Nguyen said some domestic students can't qualify for the work-study program and receive a denial.

"They need to show financial need and fill out the application to prove it. And some students can receive a denial at this stage," he said.

Also, Humber College provides career advising services guiding international students to find a job and show career opportunities.

However, Nguyen said the hiring process is "very inconsistent."

"Each office has a different number of staff and it depends on what the role is and the budget that each office gets for the work-study program," he said.

Amandeep Singh, a first-year student of Multimedia Design at Humber College, said he applied for many jobs, both on and off campus, but hasn't heard from any employers yet. He said he feels "helpless."

"I'm worried about paying for my tuition fees in the future," he said. "I faced a lot of problems and I still face them."

Singh said skills are more essential rather than residence status in the workplace.

"Skills are crucial and residence status in Canada shouldn't be based on it," he said.

Nguyen said non-work-study positions that international students can apply for have a separate budget, however, hiring equity on campus is questionable.

"It's a big concern that there are specific work-study positions that are only for domestic students and it excludes international students," he said. "Each office has a different number of staff but hiring is very inconsistent."

"It depends on what the role is and the budget that each office gets for the work-study program," Nguyen said.

Melany Palacios-Naranjo, a student advocate at IGNITE, told Humber News the student union hires students regardless of their residency status in Canada.

"In IGNITE we do offer jobs to anybody no matter their residency status," she said, adding the stu-

dent union also provides programs for students to prepare for specific job positions and get a certificate after finishing the courses.

Another office that provides most jobs for international students on campus is the International Centre but Nguyen said there is still a "gap" between the centre and other services offering jobs for students.

The International Centre refused to comment.

"I think there can be a gap between the International Centre and specific offices. Working on bringing this gap is always important so that the International Centre refers students to different areas," he said.

Humber College created Career Connect Job Portal for both domestic and international students as an additional source for job hunting. However, Nguyen said the criteria for work-study eligibility is still an "issue."

"I think work-study is always going to be an issue. We should continue to improve the program and think about hiring equity," he said.

"Also, there's a population we should be concerned about because 20 per cent of the campus are international students," Nguyen said. "So, the same number of work-study positions should be allocated to them."

Singh said the experience that international students gained from different parts of the world should be considered by employers.

"International students should also get a chance to be employed by the college because we are all from different countries and our experience could be helpful and valuable for employers," he said.

## College Ontario roll out new standards for international education

**Angelina Kochatovska**  
News Reporter

Ria Bakshi, a student from India and enrolled in the business administration program at Humber College, said she's not sure if her program is worth the tuition fees she pays.

"All Canadian colleges charge international students from all over the world a hefty amount of money to pay for tuition fees but I'm afraid that after my graduation I will not get the job options that I hope for," she said.

Business students pay more than \$16,000 for a school year, compared to about \$3,700 for domestic students, according to Humber.

Canadian Bureau for International Education reported there were 807,750 international students in Canada at all levels of study last year, up by 43 per cent from five years ago.

There had been no rules to guide the sector that serves international students, however, Linda Franklin, the president of Colleges Ontario, said some rules should be set to support students while they stay in Canada.

The 12-page standards of practice for international education cover different areas such as housing and residence options, learning assistance resources, immigration pathways, health services, and post-graduation support to help international students with the settlement.

"We felt it is really important that the colleges send a message to international students that we have their backs, we're thinking about them and putting protections in place where they get the right information before and after their arrival to Canada," Franklin said. "And they understand that there are also services that will be implemented once they get here."

Also, Franklin said some recruitment agents provided misleading information to international students about programs and living expenses in Canada.

"Some agents work directly with the colleges but others don't, it's a business opportunity for them," she said. "We have been finding that, in some cases, agents are providing wrong information to students on the cost of living in Canada and the programs that don't have good job outcomes."

Franklin said providing standards that can control the program marketing is one of the key pillars of the new plan. Students are worried about the hard financial and employment realities, and the Canadian education they came for, she said.

"We're going to take all our agents through a training program that we stand up and rely on. The colleges were asked to cut ties with those recruitments who mislead students because it's not good for anybody if international students come here with false expectations that we can't live up to," Franklin said.

Abhi Sachdev, a first-year student of Multimedia Design and Development at Humber, said more help and support for students is needed.

"I came to Canada alone without knowing anyone here so I was very confused and afraid where to ask for some help," she said. "It will be helpful if the colleges assist us with more information about visa inquiries and registration concerns."

"If they're doing something to help us with adaptation here, it means that they care, it means that we matter," Bakshi said.

All colleges across the province are expected to sign the new protocols by June 2024.



HUMBER ASSET BANK

Humber's International Graduate School located in downtown Toronto.





NASA / JOSH VALCARCEL

American astronauts Christina Koch, Victor Glover, Reid Wiseman, and Canadian astronaut Jeremy Hansen. They are embarking on a 10-day journey to the moon with Artemis II.

# First Canadian astronaut orbits the moon

**John Wong**  
Senior Reporter

Jeremy Hansen will be the first Canadian astronaut to orbit the moon.

NASA and the Canadian Space Agency announced on Monday, April 3, the four astronauts who will become the Artemis II space mission crew. Hansen, 47, joined along with American astronauts Reid Wiseman, Victor Glover and Christina Hammock Koch to be part of the approximately 10-day Artemis II mission.

During the announcement, a smiling Hansen said there are two reasons a Canadian is going to the moon.

The first one would be NASA's decision to curate an international team on this mission.

"The second reason is Canada's can-do attitude," he said.

"I am left in awe of being reminded what strong leadership, setting big goals with a passion to collaborate and a can-do attitude can achieve," Hansen said. "And we're going to the moon together. Let's go."

He also said his participation shows Canada is willing to contribute its values and solutions to the international space exploration partnership.

Artemis II will be the first crewed mission of the program, according to NASA.

"Canada's participation in the Artemis program will spur the creation of thousands of highly skilled jobs, boost innovation and be a source of national pride for years to come," Hansen said.

Chris Damaren, a professor at the University of Toronto and the Institute for Aerospace Studies director, said the announcement is key for Canada's contributions to future space missions.

"It has given Canada a front-row seat for the next big direction in human space exploration to the return to the moon," Damaren said. "His participation represents the great esteem in which Canada's contributions to previous space missions are held."

He said the Artemis program would eventually lead to humans spending extensive time on the surface of the moon.

Damaren said this would be an important precursor to missions to Mars.

Gordon Osinski, a Western University professor in Earth and Planetary Science, said Hansen's participation is remarkable for Canada's achievement in space exploration.

"This will go down as one of the biggest moments in our space program's history," Osinski said in an article published on *The Conversation*.

Osinski has assisted in training astronauts from Canada and the United States in geology for the past 10 years, including Hansen. He is also the principal investigator for the Canadian Lunar Rover Mission.

"This will make Canada only the second country in the world, after the U.S., to send a human to deep space," Osinski said.

NASA said on its website the crew would carry out a series of demonstrations in the Orion spacecraft while around the Moon. They're meant to validate the capabilities of humans to live and work in deep space, according to NASA.

Artemis III, the next stage of the program, is currently planned for 2025.

It would mark human's first return to the lunar surface since the Apollo 17 mission in 1972.



NASA / JAMES BLAIR

Canadian astronaut Jeremy Hansen, from London, Ont., greeted the crowd during NASA's announcement on the Artemis II mission on April 3, 2023.





KRYSTAL YEUNG

A green sea turtle at Ripley's Aquarium greeted a young visitor by waving its hand on April 5, 2023. The attraction now has three green sea turtles for tourists and families to enjoy.

## Ripley's Aquarium houses its third endangered green sea turtle

**Krystal Yeung**  
Sports Editor

Schoona, an endangered green sea turtle, moved home to Toronto from Vancouver on April 3, 2023.

Schoona the green sea turtle glided through the exhibition tank with her new family members in Ripley's Aquarium in Toronto.

The turtle, who was once weak and unable to find her way back to her habitat, now brings joy to Torontonians.

"It's a turtle!" children and adults exclaimed in excitement.

Ripley's Aquarium of Canada welcomed the green sea turtle Schoona to join their two resident turtles, Spot and Chewy, on April 3, 2023.

A spokesperson from the aquarium said their husbandry team had been working hand in hand with Vancouver Aquarium to ensure Schoona had a smooth transition, which included diet and target training.

"All three green sea turtles have expressed excitement and curiosity since Schoona's arrival," the spokesperson said.

They said the aquarium would be focusing on helping Schoona to adapt to the new environment and "having our turtle duo become a trio" for now.

Green sea turtles have been considered endangered under the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species since 2004.

Jeffrey Seminoff, from the Southwest Fisheries Science Center in La Jolla, Calif., said that a decreasing population trend in the Red List Assessment shows they were exposed to threats including "residential and commercial development" and "biological resource use."

Schoona is one of them.

The Ripley's spokesperson said Schoona she was found in cold shock when rescued by Vancouver Aquarium in 2005.

"She has been in human care since, helping educate visitors as an ambassador for her species," the spokesperson said.

They said Schoona who now weighs 130 kilos (288 lb) was outgrowing her former exhibit in the Vancouver Aquarium. She was relocated to the Dangerous Lagoon in Ripley's Aquarium so "she can spread her fins freely with our two resident green turtles, Spot and Chewy."

It isn't easy to transport any animal, especially when it comes to a flight, they said.

"It's not [every day] you have to move [an] endangered species across the country but our

whole team worked tirelessly to make sure this move happened as smoothly as possible," the spokesperson said.

The spokesperson said they were grateful for Air Canada's help.

Air Canada Cargo Managing Director of Commercial Mathieu Casey said the air carrier was proud in its work to transport Schoona with the utmost care.

"We provide the highest standard of safety and attention for all animals we are entrusted to carry, and we are thrilled to see Schoona is doing well in her new home," Casey said.

The Ripley's spokesperson said with Schoona joining the family, they will update their educational programs for children.

"Our education team has a fantastic curriculum of programs for children of all ages, and new elements are constantly being added and changed to keep up with the latest information," the spokesperson said.

Families are visiting the aquarium to let their kids know more about the marine life.

Marine enthusiast Denise Gray said she and her husband brought their grandchild Avery Gray to

visit the aquarium.

Avery said it was her first time visiting and she liked the sharks and turtles.

"I think visiting the aquarium is just so educational and awareness, it just provides the daily income for the aquarium," Denise said. "It's just going to help the animals."

Denise said she will continue to educate Avery on endangered animals of all kinds.

"Our grandbaby loves turtles and fishes, so this is our adventure today," Denise said. "We are going to help Schoona, right?"

"Yes," Avery said.



KRYSTAL YEUNG

Denise Gray (left) brought her grandchild, Avery Gray (right), to the Aquarium to teach her about marine animals.



# Tyrannosaurus rex roars back to life at the ROM

**Julian Arwen**  
Senior Reporter

About 66 million years ago, a 4.5- to seven-tonne carnivorous dinosaur preyed upon every large creature that lived on the ocean-split landmasses that would become North America.

The Royal Ontario Museum in downtown Toronto is displaying more than 40 models and casts, including full-sized ones, of the deadly Tyrannosaurus rex that once roamed the continent have been reconstructed for a special show, T. rex: The Ultimate Predator.

The exhibition, sponsored by the Desjardins Group, also features real fossils of the ancient predator, all of which were found in Canada.

In a ROM media release, the museum stated its aim is to have the exhibit “thrill and engage all who dare enter.”

“With its dynamic blend of skeletons, life-like models, and digital experiences, T. rex rekindles a childlike awe for a ferocious hunter that has long loomed large in the public consciousness,” said ROM CEO and Director Josh Bas-

seches in the press release.

Among the Items at the showcase were models of the T. rex in various stages of its life.

The models depict it from a small, almost unrecognizable infant to a moderately sized theropod to a titanic life-sized model showing how truly large the predator might have been when alive.

In front of the life-like statue is a skeleton of a full-sized T. rex with its shadow on the floor. However, thanks to the projectors above it, the shadow comes to life, as if the prehistoric ghost of the dead dinosaur haunts the room.

However, the skeleton is not a real fossil, but there are fossils of the beast throughout the exhibit.

A real fossil includes the skull of an adult Tyrannosaurus rex, with portions of its lower jaw missing and somewhat warped on the upper right area. Other examples include parts of skulls of younger specimens and vertebrae.

The exhibit also celebrates other Tyrannosaur species, such as the Asian T. rex variant Tarbosaurus, or Canada’s own Albertosaurus, with some displayed as wall art

depicting the size of each species in comparison to each other and humankind.

Dr. David Evans, a University of Toronto professor and ROM Temerty Chair in Vertebrate Paleontology said some of the best tyrannosaur skeletons ever found come

from western Canada, which was “home to a diverse group of tyrannosaurs, including T. rex, between 80 and 66 million years ago.

“Western Canada is still one of the best places to go Tyrannosaur

hunting today, and we are excited to show off some jaw-dropping Tyrannosaur fossils from Alberta in this exhibition,” Evans said in the press release.

The exhibition continues until Sept. 4, 2023.



JULIAN ARWEN

A fully realized, full-scale model of an adolescent T. rex at the new ROM exhibit T. rex: The Ultimate Predator.

# Toronto tattoo shop hosts fundraiser for animals in need

**Alexa Gregoris**  
Senior Reporter

Tattoo artists at a west-end Toronto shop tattooed animal lovers will support foster pets in need, by donating 70 per cent of proceeds.

The donations were raised for New Collar Collective, a volunteer-based nonprofit animal rescue organization dedicated to diminishing animal homelessness.

The organization takes in stray, abused, abandoned, or surrendered animals who require care both Canada-wide and internationally.

Storm HorseTattoo partnered with New Collar Collective to host the animal rescue fundraiser at their shop, last Saturday, March 25.

Owner of Storm Horse Jacqueline Pavan, alongside fellow artists Stephanie Metcalfe and James Dray, designed animal themed tattoos to reflect attendees’ pets and their love of animals.

“I hope that this brings awareness to them and that these organizations are out there,” Pavan said. “I think that there are a lot of the people at the event that know New Collar Collective and there’s people that just know us, so it’s really nice to bring those two communities together and to get people aware of what they do and spread the word.”

The Storm Horse owner said

this year was the right time to support animal rescues, following the rise in pet surrenders since the COVID-19 pandemic.

New Collar Collective Foster-Lead Kersty Kearney said there is an endlessly long list of needs for animal rescues and shelters, with demands changing day-by-day.

“The rescue world has gone through so much in the last few years and so many ups and downs, and there’s lack of education and access and just basic understanding of foster dogs and cats and some of the challenges that they go through,” Kearney said.

In a statement, Humane Canada said there was a surge in animal shelter capacity in 2022 across the country, which decreased shelters’ effectiveness in saving the lives of homeless animals.

“In 2021, Canadian shelters took in more than 60,000 cats and 21,000 dogs. In addition, reporting organizations admitted into care almost 13,000 animals of other species, including domestic companion animals, exotic animals, and wildlife,” Humane Canada said.

Kearney said New Collar Collective is always in need of financial support, as they operate solely on donations and volunteer work.

The sold-out Storm Horse fundraiser raised \$2,000 to be donated

to New Collar Collective.

Foster parents with New Collar Collective do not purchase anything themselves while fostering pets.

The organization provides foster parents with all sorts of supplies such as crates, leashes, food, bedding, and anything else required

for the foster pet’s wellbeing.

“Our goal with New Collar Collective is always to try and help as many cats and dogs as we can,” Kearney said. “Every once in a while, dogs and cats require additional care and training support and those are services that we want to be able to offer widely.

“Relying on donations does sometimes make that challenging, so always coming up with creative new ways that we can engage the community at large and funnel any of those financial and monetary donations back into the organization really is a priority for us,” she said.



ALEXA GREGORIS

Bea picked the design that most resembled her pet dog. Funds went to foster parents and animals in need.





AP PHOTO/ MICHAEL SOHN

People take part in a "Fridays For Future" protest rally in Berlin on March 3.

## UN gives dire warning about irreversible effects of global climate change

James Westman  
Senior Reporter

Humanity's window of opportunity to ensure a livable and sustainable future is rapidly closing, the United Nations' International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) announced.

"The choices and actions implemented in this decade will have impacts now and for thousands of years," the IPCC said in its synthesis report released March 20.

Further increases in global warming mean it's more likely that we could trigger abrupt and even irreversible changes in the global climate system, the report said.

"As warming levels increase, so do the risks of species extinction or irreversible loss of biodiversity in ecosystems including forests, coral reefs and in Arctic regions," the report said.

Nearly half of the cumulative carbon dioxide emissions occurred in a little more than one century, between 1900 and 2019, the report said.

Atmospheric carbon dioxide concentrations in 2019 were higher than at any time in at least two million years, according to the report.

The IPCC synthesis report is the final part of the sixth assessment report. It brought together three working groups which studied the physical science basis, mitigation of climate change, as well as impacts, adaptation and vulnerability.

The next assessment report is unlikely to conclude before 2030, according to a UN blog post.

This means it may be the last report before the planet reaches an average global temperature rise of 1.5 C, a threshold many countries have pledged not to cross.

The 2015 Paris agreement stated the overarching goal is to hold the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 C above pre-industrial levels, and try to limit temperature increase to 1.5 C.

The report said there is a 50 per cent chance the room for limiting warming below 1.5 C would almost be exhausted between 2020 and 2030, if annual carbon emissions stay on average the same at the 2019 levels.

The report also said future emissions from fossil fuel infrastructure currently in place already exceed the remaining budget to keep temperature increase under 1.5 C, if no changes are made.

The report said for any future warming levels, many climate-related risks are higher in the current assessment than when studied in the fifth report, released nearly a decade ago in 2014.

The projections for long-term impacts are multiple times higher than current observations, the report said.

"Climatic and non-climatic risks will increasingly interact, creating compound and cascading risks that are more complex and difficult to manage," the report said.

## Recruitment officer offers new post-secondary students expert advice

Maegan Lee  
Op-Ed Editor

Whether it's a university or college in their hometown, or moving away to a school, post-secondary education shapes students' lives.

Paul Vanderburgt, 29, is a Student Recruitment Officer at Humber College. He started his current full-time position in November 2021 however, he has experience with the student recruitment office from when he was a student at Humber in 2015.

He said the goal of the student recruitment office is to become the first point-of-contact with students coming directly from high school.

"If you remember back to your time in high school, if there were a bunch of people in your gym at individual tables," he said. "That was me."

Vanderburgt said he visits an average of 150 high schools per year. Additionally, he holds one-on-one meetings with students to help them with their pre-enrollment questions.

He is an expert in helping students from high school successfully transition into post-secondary programs, both university and college degrees, diplomas, or certificates.

His knowledge is vast, and he has valuable advice from to his experience over the past eight years dealing with thousands of students.

### 1. Change is difficult, so don't get discouraged.

"Finding out that you don't like something at 17, 18, 19, is more valuable than you know," Vanderburgt said.

He said many high school students are stressed and worried the program they choose to pursue will not be the right fit.

Further, students are worried about disappointing their families and wasting the money that goes into their studies, Vanderburgt said.

"Don't be discouraged. Finish the semester if you're in one, get the transfer credits and take the time to figure out what you like and don't like," he said.

Vanderburgt said many high school students going directly into post-secondary education grew up studying and preparing for university or college.

Many of them don't get to



MAEGAN LEE

Humber students are studying hard towards the end of the semester.

experience enough to find out what they like, or even what they're good at. Most of all, he said life happens and things change.

"Students and parents are so nervous about failure, or trying something and failing, that they just choose not to try at all," Vanderburgt said. "Start small, earn credentials that you can use towards getting a job."

### 2. Take a campus tour

"One of the ways I think a student can know a program is right for them is by taking a campus tour," Vanderburgt said.

He said any program can be great, but sometimes, the community and the environment that students are in makes a big difference.

Making sure that the campus, their services, and the surrounding community is the right fit, is important to consider as well.

Vanderburgt said visiting the campus and attending open houses in-person is also helpful.

### 3. Get involved with something other than your classes

Vanderburgt said getting out of your comfort zone is important during the transition from high school to post-secondary. He said students should join clubs, get an on-campus job, or joining a varsity or intramural sports team to play a sport they love.

"By getting involved, it statistically improves an individual's grades, and their attendance and likelihood to finish their program," Vanderburgt said.

The Center for the Study of Student Life at The Ohio State University conducted a research study about the impacts of students being involved in co-curricular activities outside of their classes.

Students who were highly involved in co-curricular activities on campus were 18 per cent more career-ready and three times more likely to be considered by future employers compared to uninvolved students.

"College student involvement is positively related to academic performance, cognitive development, well-being, leadership and multicultural awareness," the study stated.

Vanderburgt said finding friends outside of your program and finding like-minded people is a great way to improve your life in ways that you wouldn't expect.

### 4. Scholarships, bursaries, and awards

Humber College gives out almost \$7 million in the form of scholarships, bursaries, and awards, Vanderburgt said.

But many, if not all, Canadian universities offer a vast amount of money and opportunities for students looking to apply for funding.

"A significant amount goes unclaimed. I hear this from other schools as well," he said. "It's really unfortunate because these amounts don't carry over."

Vanderburgt said scholarship applications can also be submitted online, outside of university/college institutions, on websites like yconic.com or scholarships.com.

He said students should apply for any and all scholarships, even if they don't meet all the requirements.

"If no one applies, they will give it to the next best applicant, the one who applied," Vanderburgt said.

While the future is unknown and change is scary, student recruiters like Vanderburgt are there to help make transitions easier and less intimidating.



# Floyd Kuptana exhibits Inuit sculptures at Gallery Arcturus



SHAYONNA COLE

This sculpture was created in the early 2000s by Inuit artist Floyd Kuptana and is on display in an exhibit at Gallery Arcturus located near Church Street in downtown Toronto.

## Shayonna Cole News Reporter

Inuit artist Floyd Kuptana started his career by sanding and polishing the carvings of his cousins Francis and Abraham Anghik. He then became an apprentice to artist David Ruben Piqtoukun, the older brother of Abraham and Francis.

It was only in the mid-to-late 1940s that Indigenous peoples of the Canadian Arctic and subarctic regions began living in fixed communities where modern Inuit art developed.

In Canada and other countries, contemporary Inuit art grew in popularity as the Canadian government promoted stone carvings and other forms of artistic expression.

Gallery Arcturus, an art gallery on Gerrard Street East near Church Street in downtown Toronto, features several art pieces by Kuptana. He connected with the gallery in the late 2000s and started working with paint before switching to an artboard and canvas.

Ed Drass, the communication manager and host at Gallery Arcturus, said Kuptana was a creative artist who visited the gallery frequently.

“We occasionally get fans, particularly of Floyd Kuptana who was a very interesting character,” Drass said. “Some people knew him — for good or bad.”

The gallery now has two works,

“Sedna” and “Self-Portrait,” in its permanent collection, and many others on loan to the gallery can be seen across the display spaces.

“He was very prolific. He made a lot of sculptures, a lot of paintings, and also a lot of pastels which we have,” Drass said.

Kuptana, who died two years ago, has several sculptures featured in multiple galleries across Toronto.

“Even during covid, we’d hear from him quite often. He’ll be painting and call us up and we would just talk cause he was trying to paint, and he was otherwise isolated at home,” Drass said.

“Right now, there’s a retrospective of his work. Unfortunately, he died just almost two years ago,” he said.

Blue Crow Gallery is another gallery located in downtown Toronto that promotes Indigenous artwork by Inuit artists.

It hosts its annual Kid Program that encourages children to build on their art skills and expand their illustration techniques in the art world.

“I had participated in our summer group show the year before I applied to work here,” said Tina Fucher, an artist and gallery assistant at Blue Crow Gallery.

“When I came to drop off my art piece, I had such a lovely experience chatting with the owner Jody Miller, that when I saw the job posting go up, it was just a perfect fit,” she said.

Fucher’s artwork has a high level of detail allowed by stippling with micron ink pens. Her current body of work explores the necessary struggle for collective liberation, as well as examines its effects on our mental health and culture.

She aspires to open people’s hearts and minds to the intrinsic importance of all human and non-human animal life through various means, including art.

“Our artwork is changing all the time so I’m always looking forward to seeing what’s new,” she said. “When I look at the pieces in this gallery, I always think of the fun that the artists bring to our workshops.”

Natalia Lebedinskaia, the gallery preparator at Urban Shaman Con-

temporary Aboriginal Art in Winnipeg, said it’s important to recognize Indigenous artists through the pieces they create.

“During my 15 years of working here, I’ve met a majority of the artists that sell their work in this gallery,” Lebedinskaia said.

“Many of them have heart-breaking stories and obstacles that challenged them to get to where they are, so essentially I think it’s important that they can have a safe space to live and to create art,” she said.

Urban Shaman Contemporary Aboriginal Art was founded in 1996 and is one of many galleries in Winnipeg that features First Nations, Métis, and Inuit art.

“You get that raw feeling of

seeing how each artist expresses themselves and eventually, in a way, the history just bursts out at you,” Lebedinskaia said.

Kuptana’s artwork is on display at Gallery Arcturus as of March 2023 for the public to enjoy.

“I get to work in a room like this, and I do take it for granted sometimes,” Drass said. “There’s another element to that. I imagine even people that work in the Louvre, start to take things for granted, and they walk by the Mona Lisa 200 times, and they don’t see it anymore.”

“The same thing can happen here. I’m surrounded by really interesting objects, but there’s a huge human habit of stopping and seeing things,” he said.



SHAYONNA COLE

This sculpture created by Floyd Kuptana was inspired by the Guernica piece created by Pablo Picasso.



# TO Six make history with Isobel Cup win

**Tessa Bennett**  
Sports Editor

Toronto Six is the first Canadian team in the Premier Hockey Federation to nab the title of Isobel Cup winner.

The Toronto Six made history on March 26 with their dramatic overtime win of the 2023 Isobel Cup.

They are the first Canadian team in the Premier Hockey Federation (PHF) to win the prestigious title. The victory came in the three-on-three overtime following a close game against the Minnesota Whitecaps at Arizona's Mullett Arena.

The winning goal that changed the Six from championship competitors to Isobel Cup winners came from left-winger Tereza Vaníšová

Toronto Six team captain and seasoned hockey veteran, Shiann Darkangelo, said it took a team effort to pull through in overtime, and they are proud and excited to have taken the title.

"We're super excited, and it's a lot to take in at once," she said. "You're still kind of in awe, to be honest, I don't really think its sunk in yet, because we've had so many different celebrations and been involved in so many events, it almost doesn't seem real."

The Toronto Six's Twitter account echoed this excitement and said the team was riding a high following the momentous win.

This game also marked the first time the Isobel Cup Championship took place on NHL-sized game ice at the Mullett Arena in Tempe, Ariz., and had more than 1,500 fans in the stands.

Darkangelo said while the adrenaline and nerves ran higher than normal, the team prepared for the final game the same way they always do.

"[The preparation for the game] was the same as it normally is, because you've got to treat every game like it's your last, because you never know what it might be," she said.

This win has brought much deserved attention to women's hockey, and Darkangelo said she hopes it will inspire young women and girls to take their shot.

"Definitely bringing the Isobel Cup back here to Toronto, you already see the visibility and the opportunity changing that much more with it," she said. "And hopefully it's something that audiences will hook on to and realize that this is around all year long, and female athletes are putting in just as much work as pro athletes."

The Toronto Six have also gained notoriety for having already achieved the status of Cup winners, despite only being founded in 2020.

"It's really exciting, it's what we've been striving for in the three years that the Toronto Six has been in the league," Darkangelo said. "It's that much more exciting to be the first Canadian team to hoist the Isobel Cup, it's history that we're making, and it's amazing to be a part of that."



TWITTER / PHF

The Toronto Six scored the winning goal in just five minutes of the overtime.

# Canada dominates Swiss 4-0 at IIHF worlds

**Isabelle Ferrante**  
Senior Reporter

BRAMPTON — Canada kicked off its quest for a three-peat at the 2023 International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF) Women's World Championship with a dominant 4-0 victory over Switzerland in its opening game at the CAA Centre.

The win keeps Canada a perfect 11-0 record against the Swiss all time, with a goal differential of 81-2, nine of those wins by shutout.

Forward Sarah Nurse felt like they executed their game plan in all three zones of the ice.

"I don't think we actually had to play in our own zone very much," she said. "I thought our forecheck was so good, our neutral zone transition was good, so we were able to limit them and their Grade A scoring chances."

The team ran into penalty trouble with three straight first-period penalties but were killed without any damage. Back at even-strength, looking for the ice-breaker, Canada was back attacking in the Swiss zone when an opposing defender turned the puck over, landing on Natalie Spooner's stick, who makes no mistake putting it past goalie Andrea Braendli and into the net to make it 1-0.

Eyes were on the 32-year-old Scarborough native as she made



THE CANADIAN PRESS / NATHAN DENNETTE

From left, Sarah Fillier, Angela James, Jayna Hefford and Anna Kjellbin at the Hockey Hall of Fame.

her return to the competition after sitting out of the 2022 Worlds tournament in Denmark, during her pregnancy.

Four weeks after the birth of her son, Rory, the Canadian veteran was back on the ice skating. Now she has made the return for her ninth World Championship just four months postpartum and scoring goal number 67 for team Canada but her first as a mom.

"Obviously I came into this tournament just hoping to make an impact and help my team and to get that first one was pretty spe-

cial," Spooner said.

Canada continued their strong play, and less than three minutes later, Canada doubled its lead on a power play as a shot from Nurse found its way in.

Nurse said Canada's ability to take advantage of the power plays and effectively kill off penalties has been one of the focuses in practices.

"There are little details that we'd like to tighten up for sure but in the last few days of practice we've worked a lot on special teams, our forecheck," she said. "We won the special teams battle and I think we

executed what we needed to today."

The attendance at the CAA Centre, whose capacity is listed at 5,000, was announced at 3,510. Most of those in the stands were wearing red and their presence was felt — and heard — throughout the entire game.

Nurse said it was awesome to have fans on home ice again.

"It was so loud. It felt like every time you walked somewhere or looked somewhere somebody is yelling your name or waving at you, so it felt great to be back home."

Canada didn't let off the gas

pedal in a chippy and physical second period. On the power play, Canada was once again able to find the twine, this time off the stick of veteran Rebecca Johnston.

Johnston, who sat out last summer's worlds because of a back injury, was back on the top line with Marie-Philip Poulin and Breanne Jenner.

"I think it's always fun to be able to score," she said. "But just helping to contribute as much as I can for this team to help us win is really the ultimate goal."

Team Canada head coach Troy Ryan praised both returning veterans.

"They are two people that we're trying to manage a little bit of their load because they're now coming back," he said. "To have them contribute right off the bat, it's great for us as a team but it's also great for them individually."

Canada finally got a fourth goal in the third thanks to a turnover at the Swiss blue line with Sarah Fillier finishing the play with a quick shot in front.

Ryan and Nurse pointed to some missed details in the first period, but was happy with how his team responded.

The next game for Canada is April 7 against Czechia. In other games yesterday, the U.S. beat Japan 7-1, and Finland defeated France 14-1.





KRYSTAL YEUNG

Figure skater Fiona Bombardier took bronze in her first senior nationals in Oshawa, Jan. 17, 2023. Her season ended early after suffering from a concussion after a fall during practice.

# Concussion ends season early for Bombardier

**Krystal Yeung**  
Sports Editor

Canadian figure skater Fiona Bombardier fell badly while performing a jump in practice, which led to a concussion. She initially thought she was okay, but the situation was more severe than she thought.

“The only reason I cried is not being able to go to the competition, not even because of the pain,” Bombardier said.

The nationals bronze medalist’s concussion cost her a ticket to last month’s 2023 Coupe de Printemps in Kockelscheuer, Luxembourg, and next week’s 2023 ISU World Team Trophy in Figure Skating in Tokyo.

The University of Toronto’s Faculty of Kinesiology and Physical Education said in a written statement that a concussion is “a type of brain injury that requires immediate and appropriate medical evaluation.”

“If you suspect a player has been concussed, he or she should be removed and not returned to practice or play until medically cleared to do so,” they said.

Bombardier said she fell on her jump in practice four weeks ago, and she was “not fully cleared from the doctor.”

She was practicing her Triple Lutz and tossed herself onto the ice because of too much momentum,

she said.

“It always happens on the easier things, on the comfort elements, because you are not thinking as much,” Bombardier said.

She thought it was just another fall, which happens daily for figure skaters, she said.

Bombardier said she was feeling unwell after the fall and felt lightheaded, and realized she couldn’t walk in straight lines.

She then went to the sports doctor, and was told she showed symptoms of a concussion.

“I was kind of upset that my chances of competing were very low,” Bombardier said. “The doctors were trying to be nice, but as an athlete, you know if you are able to or not.”

Her coach, Bruno Massot, was exploring the chances of sending her to World Team Trophy in Tokyo with Skate Canada, she said.

However, the concussion took the opportunity away.

She also had to skip her first senior competition, the 2023 Coupe de Printemps, she said.

The International Skating Union also announced on April 4, 2023, that the entries for Team Canada women’s singles at World Team Trophy were Sara-Maude Dupuis and Madeline Schizas. Bombardier’s name was not there.



KRYSTAL YEUNG

Figure skater Fiona Bombardier skated to her free skate at the senior nationals in Oshawa, Jan. 17, 2023.

She said the concussion prevented her from showcasing everything she had been working towards.

“They knew I wouldn’t be ready for this competition,” Bombardier said.

She said she took three days off the ice, and was only allowed to do minimal activity after resuming. Bombardier said she worried she would lose her ability to perform

triples and triple-triple combination jumps, she said.

All her skills are back, but she is doing fewer repetitions and playing it safe, Bombardier said.

Above all, Bombardier has decided to move on and set her sights on the future season.

She plans to compete in open internationals in the United States over the summer to earn a qualifying score for

Grand Prix, Bombardier said. She said she will keep attempting the Triple Axel once she is fully cleared from medical attention.

There are people who shy away from difficult jumps after injuries, but Bombardier said she believed that practice leads to improvement.

“You just have to trust yourself, and muscle memory will take over,” she said.





## CONCUSSION CUTS CANADIAN SKATER'S SEASON SHORT

Figure skater Fiona Bombardier, seen here at the 2023 Canadian Tire National Figure Skating Championships in Oshawa, suffered a concussion during training ending her season early.

**CANADA  
DOMINATES  
SWISS AS IIHF  
WORLDS BEGIN  
P.18**



**TORONTO SIX  
MAKE CANADIAN  
HISTORY WITH  
ISOBEL CUP WIN  
P.18**

