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le 9 novembre

Government Commitments: What are they Worth?



Eric Shier
Contributor

By now, we have all heard from the various stakeholders about the province's cancellation of the \$305 million funding promised by the previous Liberal government for three new campuses in the GTA belonging to the joint projects of York University and Seneca College, Wilfrid Laurier University and Conestoga College, as well as Ryerson University and Sheridan College. This sudden event seems to have upset everyone, regardless of their political leanings. The common denominator in this collective outrage is that no one saw this coming. Even the new government admits that it will have to likely face some "wind-down costs", as their spokes-

person Merrilee Fullerton conceded following the government's surprise announcement.

Is it a conservative notion that the provincial government should be engaged in these projects at this time or at some time in the future? Are there other projects which are more suitable? There are plenty of questions that could be asked, and this is undoubtedly an issue that deserves debate. So, why wasn't there one? Doug Ford could have put this on the ballot and let the voters decide. Though he may justify the bold move by saying he went after the Liberal government for its financial recklessness, the question now becomes: what good are the provincial government's commitments? This currently suggests that any com-

mitments made by the provincial government are not worth the paperwork. What are the implications of that?

This issue is bigger and more consequential than the \$300 million commitment, or the larger provincial budget deficit, or the disgruntled participants, or the opportunities thousands of students will no longer have. What hasn't yet become a story in the press is the legal language that allowed Doug Ford to get out of these commitments. If this is boilerplate stuff that is traditionally included in all provincial financial commitments, giving it an "out," so to speak, then we can count on this language being an issue with any future commitments that the province makes.

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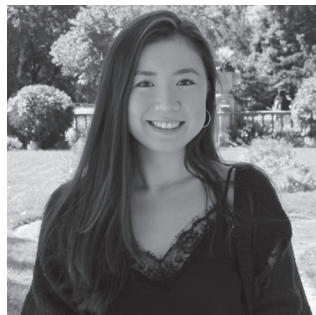
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Are you still there, Glendon?

Selon moi, ce semestre s'est écoulé très rapidement, êtes-vous d'accord ? On est déjà rendu à l'avant dernier numéro de Pro Tem du semestre ! In my fourth and final year at Glendon, I constantly feel like I have a bad case of "senioritis." Dès Septembre, j'avais envie de me lancer profondément dans mes études afin de me libérer enfin de mon bac. Ayant autant très hâte d'entamer ma maîtrise, je trouve que ma dernière année entre ces murs se passe trop rapidement. Many seniors, such as myself, are about to enter a very stressful time in our post-secondary careers. We're finally asking ourselves: "Where do I go from here?" "What will I do with my degree?" Ce sont des questions à la fois pertinentes et épeurantes. It's also the time to sweat over our keyboards about grad school personal statements and to wring our hands about reference letters, thinking "If only I had more time." Un



Sarah Ariza-Verreault
Editor in Chief

conseil pour les étudiants plus jeunes won't be long until it's all over. : profitez du temps que vous avez dans cet établissement merveilleux, faites Bonne continuation, Glendon ! connaissance de vos professeurs et ayez confiance en vos compétences. It - Sarah

NOUS CHERCHONS DES ARTICLES EN FRANÇAIS



**ENVOYEZ-NOUS VOS
ARTICLES POUR AVOIR
L'OCCASION DE LES FAIRE
PUBLIER DANS L'EXPRESS
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Letter of Resignation

Councillor Dael Vasquez

Editor's Note: This letter was sent to Pro Tem unexpectedly as a last-minute submission. The letter's French contents were only edited for grammar to uphold Pro Tem's grammatical standards. The unedited letter should be accessible to Glendon via the GCSU.

To the members of the Glendon College Student Body,

Vous m'avez élu pour représenter vos intérêts et j'ai travaillé sans relâche pour respecter cet engagement. Cependant, tout au long de ce processus, ma performance a énormément souffert entre les mains des gens auxquels je faisais confiance. Je me suis joint au conseil étudiant dans l'espoir de vous offrir plus d'opportunités. L'AÉCG a pris d'importantes mesures pour faire face aux obstacles qui l'ont empêchée de répondre aux besoins des étudiants de Glendon. Notre établissement est devenu un modèle d'organisation appropriée sur le plan administratif. On a mis de l'ordre à nos activités et à nos finances. De plus, notre bureau n'a jamais été aussi propre qu'il l'est maintenant.

Despite these incredible accomplishments, the GCSU has been unable to overcome the challenges that have pervaded upon it for the last several years. Relationships on council remain highly tense. On the eve of a meeting, I would walk into our senate chambers and the sudden bang of the gavel would prepare me for the hostilities that would ensue. Throughout meetings, there would be flurries of condescension, anger, and vitriol trad-

ed between certain speakers. I understand the inevitabilities of the occasional insult when in political discourse, but that does not excuse the exchange of statements that take place within these sessions. These statements come from a place of deep pain, and the discontentment is not unjustified. Certain members on council feel like they are unable to properly perform their duties due to the antagonistic practices of council leadership. There is something to be said in that. However, in the spirit of good professionalism, I will refrain from disclosing the identity of those responsible.

When dealing with council leadership, it is often the case that honest inquiry be met with belligerent commentary. This attitude has repelled many of our union members, with them claiming their opinions and intellect are not being respected. It is this frustration that has sown resentment within our union. With the voices of council members, legitimately elected, being constantly ignored and regularly neglected, I cannot help but empathize with the indignation of my peers. What those responsible must be aware of is that we on council demand respect. That is precisely why I present this to you today. I simply cannot continue to condone the despotic, antagonistic, and overall toxic culture that has been instilled by our new council's leadership; which is why I am resigning from the Glendon College Student Union effective immediately. I sincerely thank everyone who has backed me throughout my experience on council. Your support has meant everything to me.

Sincèrement,

Le conseiller Dael Vasquez



FSL at GL

Tristan Castro
Contributor

During my first year at Glendon, I was surprised at the incompetence of the FSL program. For a bilingual campus that welcomes students from all levels of French, I had expected the FSL program to be more effective and provide students with at least a basic conversational level of French.

The biggest problem with the program is that it is mostly writing-based. From FSL 1100 to 2100, students essentially complete the same work, but this workload simply increases as they move through the FSL stream. The activities and worksheets completed throughout all levels are generally similar in their approaches and objectives. The groupes des discussions that students participate in are little more than reading off a script, and do not provide a conversational environment within the classroom. Obviously, it is difficult to promote discussion based learning in a classroom setting. However, the small attempt made to promote class discussions within the FSL program is unsatisfactory.

Grammar and writing exercises are certainly an important component in learning a new language. Conjugation obviously requires students to study to material on paper through grammar exercises. Specifically, the difference between le passé composé and l'imparfait usually takes a while for FSL students to master. However, it becomes a problem when these are the sole tasks students are expected to complete in FSL courses. Unfortunately, it is very easy

for a student to complete the FSL program and be bilingual on paper, without being able to carry on a conversation in French.

Fortunately for students, the Explore program is strongly promoted at Glendon. The five week immersion program pushes students to communicate in French and develop their skills. Although the effectiveness of the program also varies according to the student's chosen Explore destination, students who complete the program in predominantly Francophone environments generally improve their French far more than they would by taking an FSL course. This opportunity is definitely one of the most effective resources Glendon presents to its students along with Le Salon Francophone.

Essentially the effectiveness of each FSL course depends on how far the professor is willing to stray from the curriculum. Some FSL professors at Glendon are adamant about promoting speaking only French and speaking it frequently in their classrooms, which helps students develop their speaking skills.

Glendon's bilingualism is deeply rooted in its institutions. Unfortunately, this bilingualism does not reflect strongly when it comes to the FSL program. In order for students coming from non-French backgrounds to be bilingual leaders in alignment with Glendon's leadership vision, they require a strong FSL education. The French education provided to students must be stronger in terms of giving students the confidence they need in their verbal, written, and listening skills. Otherwise, the student's bilingualism is just on paper.

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L'identité franco-ontarienne: à la fois une énigme et une richesse

Gabriella Giordan

Rédactrice adjointe français

Les Franco-Ontariens brandissent fièrement leur culture et leur langue unique depuis plusieurs décennies au sein d'une province majoritairement anglophone. Ils représentent plus de 50 % des francophones hors du Québec et constituent la plus grande minorité linguistique en Ontario. Quoiqu'on les perçoive souvent, de manière générale, comme des individus qui vivent en Ontario et dont la langue maternelle est le français, l'identité « Franco-Ontarienne » est toutefois plus complexe. De nombreux francophones ontariens ne s'identifient pas complètement comme tels. D'ailleurs, plusieurs facteurs influent sur le fait de s'assumer ou non comme Franco-Ontarien.

Une identité cachée

Pour certains, être Franco-Ontarien implique le fait d'être un francophone caché. Karina Pelletier, étudiante à l'Université d'Ottawa, explique : « Être Franco-Ontarienne, c'est souvent surprendre les gens en leur disant que je viens de Toronto quand ils entendent mon accent quasi-anglophone, mais non pas québécois, et me faire dire que je parle bien français pour quelqu'un de Toronto. »

Des avantages en milieu minoritaire

Il est énormément avantageux d'étudier en français en Ontario. Les étudiants francophones peuvent avoir accès à plusieurs bourses

pour le faire et obtenir des emplois tels que du tutorat avec des jeunes en immersion. « Je suis heureuse de vivre en Ontario et je reconnais les multiples occasions bilingues qui s'offrent à moi », soutient Francette Maquito, ancienne étudiante de Glendon.

Un sentiment d'appartenance à la communauté franco-ontarienne

Les Franco-Ontariens, quel que soit leur lieu d'habitation, font partie d'une communauté soudée. En effet, les écoles secondaires franco-ontariennes encouragent chaque année leurs élèves à participer aux jeux franco-ontariens, organisés par la Fédération de la jeunesse franco-ontarienne. Cet événement permet aux élèves de rencontrer d'autres Franco-Ontariens qui, tout comme eux, sont fiers de leur identité.

« Je suis fière d'être Franco-Ontarienne et de faire partie d'une communauté qui se trouve à moitié cachée partout dans une province majoritairement anglophone », souligne Karina. Camille Slaght, originaire de Toronto, et étudiante à l'Université d'Ottawa, soutient que son déménagement à Ottawa a renforcé son identité franco-ontarienne : « Je me suis rendue compte, au cours des années, que plus j'ai l'occasion de parler français, de lire en français ou de visiter des régions francophones, plus je me sens épanouie. »

Être Franco-Ontarien signifie également faire partie d'une communauté francophone où l'on peut partager des identités communes. Keesha Nurse, étudiante et ancienne coordonnatrice du Salon francophone de Glendon, explique qu'elle ne s'est jamais sentie seule au long de ses études secondaires et universitaires grâce à son appartenance à la communauté

franco-ontarienne. « C'est ce sens d'appartenance et la fierté des jeunes Franco-Ontariens qui permettent l'épanouissement et la vivacité constante de notre communauté remplie de diversité », affirme-t-elle. En effet, la diversité fait la force, surtout dans le contexte de la francophonie. Plusieurs francophones ont des origines différentes, mais cela n'empêche aucunement que l'identité franco-ontarienne les unisse. Maxine Demeter, qui est à la fois citoyenne française et canadienne, abonde dans le même sens : « Être Franco-Ontarien, c'est faire partie de la terre remplie d'immigrants qu'est le Canada et se rapprocher de gens qui parlent français en Ontario ».

Cependant, pas tous ceux qui parlent français chez eux et qui habitent en Ontario se sentent nécessairement Franco-Ontariens.

Un sentiment d'appartenance partiel à la communauté franco-ontarienne

De nombreux francophones qui habitent en Ontario, notamment ceux dont les parents sont français, québécois ou autres, et qui ne sont pas en Ontario depuis de nombreuses générations, ont parfois de la difficulté à s'identifier comme Franco-Ontariens. En effet, Maquito souligne ce sens d'identité ambivalent : « Je dis souvent que je suis française en premier lieu, et Franco-Ontarienne d'adoption. En tant qu'immigrante française, je suis fière de la belle langue française et de ce patrimoine, mais j'ai un peu de mal à me retrouver à part entière dans la culture franco-ontarienne. » Moi-même d'origine québécoise et italienne, même en ayant toujours fréquenté le système scolaire franco-ontarien, je ne me perçois pas exactement comme Franco-Ontarienne. Cela est peut-être à cause du fait que ma famille ne m'a

pas transmis la fierté franco-ontarienne proprement dite.

À la fois « Franco-Ontariens », « Franco-Torontois » et « Canadiens français » ?

Il existe également l'étiquette de « Franco-torontois » et de « Canadien français ». Bien que le terme « Franco-Ontarien » englobe plus de personnes, s'identifier comme Franco-torontois fait de la francophonie à Toronto une réalité concrète qui permet aux francophones de Toronto, y compris moi-même, de se sentir fiers d'être francophones en situation minoritaire. Effectivement, L'Express, l'unique journal francophone de Toronto, pourvoit aux Franco-Torontois d'une plateforme sur laquelle ils peuvent s'exprimer en français.

Le terme « Canadien français », quant à lui, est peut-être trop général, surtout si on n'a pas eu l'occasion de voyager beaucoup au Canada ; cependant, comme dans le cas de l'identité franco-ontarienne, laquelle unit les francophones venant des quatre coins de l'Ontario, se sentir « Canadien français » permet également aux francophones, quelle que soit la province où ils habitent, de se sentir plus unis les uns aux autres.

Sarah Ariza-Verreault, rédactrice en chef du journal Pro Tem, ajoute que le fait d'être à la fois Franco-torontoise et japonaise implique, selon elle, une sorte d'altérité linguistique ainsi que culturelle : « Les Canadiens français sont une minorité reconnue nationalement, mais on ne reconnaît pas aussi souvent ceux qui possèdent une double altérité, c'est-à-dire les minorités qui existent dans le cadre ce groupe minoritaire tel que les personnes biraciales, y compris moi-même. »

Quoi qu'il en soit, les racines distinctes et uniques de chaque francophone à Toronto et en Ontario enrichissent sans aucun doute leur expérience en tant que francophone dans ces milieux canadiens anglophones. Que l'on s'identifie comme « Franco-Ontarien », « Franco-torontois », « Canadien français » ou une combinaison des trois, ce qui est tout à fait valable, il faut néanmoins concéder que la culture et le patrimoine franco-ontarien sont d'une énorme richesse au sein de la francophonie canadienne. Surtout, il ne faut pas bâtir de frontières entre les types d'identités francophones.

John Kemp's Kitchen: Breanna's Breakfast Banana Bread

Breanna Berry with foreword by
John Kemp
*Contributor, Health & Wellness
Editor*

Hello everyone and welcome back to another installment of John Kemp's Kitchen! This issue I thought it might be nice to have a guest contribution in the J.K.K. column, namely that of a good friend of mine, Breanna Berry. Breanna and I traveled about Europe together last year, exploring countries such as Norway and Ireland for weeks at a time. As you can imagine, we got to know each other quite well during our voyages to these far away lands, but one thing in particular stuck out to me about Breanna throughout our trips: she is a lover of food. As such, Breanna has been kind enough to share with all of you her scrumptious banana bread recipe which I hope you'll enjoy just as much as I have. Bon appetit!

- John

Breanna's Breakfast Banana Bread

Ingredients:

2 cups all-purpose flour
3/4 tsp. baking soda
1/2 tsp. salt
1 cup packed brown sugar
1/2 cup vegetable oil
2 eggs
3-4 browned bananas, mashed
1/3 cup vanilla yoghurt
1 tsp. vanilla extract
Semi-sweet chocolate chips to taste

Directions:

Preheat the oven to 350° F. Meanwhile, grease an 8x2" cake pan. Set aside. First, you want to combine the flour, baking soda, and salt in a large mixing bowl. Then, in a separate bowl, blend the sugar and oil. Next, add the eggs into the sugar mixture one at a time, blending after each addition. When the eggs are blended in, add the bananas, yoghurt, and vanilla extract, blending just until consistent.

Add the flour mixture to the sugar mixture slowly while beating on low speed being careful not to overwork the mixture. Once the batter is consistent, add the chocolate chips.

Pour your banana bread batter into the prepared cake pan.

Bake for 45 minutes to an hour, or until a toothpick inserted in the middle of the loaf comes out clean.

Allow to cool to room temperature before removing the loaf from the pan. Enjoy!

Cognitive Dissonance: The Exploration of the Troubled Self

John Kemp
Health & Wellness Editor

University and early adulthood in general are a time for exploration. This could take the form of travel, intellectual exploration, finding a new genre of music you like, or even discovering that you just so happen to have a burning passion for mid-12th century gothic architecture. No matter what form it takes, this exploratory phase is crucial in personal development and ultimately, through our beliefs and values, forms who we are.

One thing to note, however, about this period of discovery is that, more often than not, what we think and what we do are in harmony. For example, if you were to find that travel is something you thoroughly enjoy, you most likely would not hold the opinion that travel is a waste of money, is dangerous, or pointless... But what if you did? This is what can happen with many new experiences in our young adult lives and also where the concept of "cognitive dissonance" comes in.

Cognitive dissonance, first discovered by Leon Festinger and discussed in his book *A Theory of Cognitive Dissonance* (1957), is a state of mental discomfort caused by the simultaneous holding of two or more contradictory thoughts, beliefs, or values. The discomfort comes about when an existing belief held by an individual is contradicted by new evidence perceived by

that individual. This evidence could be an undisputed fact or even actions performed by the individual that clash with his or her existing beliefs, thoughts, and/or values.

A common example right now might be those who are trying marijuana for the first time, especially now that it has been legalized. Let's suppose that a given individual, prior to trying marijuana for the first time, had held negative opinions about the drug. They might have thought that it was for those with a low moral standard who were careless with their bodies, and ultimately, for those who are distinct from that which the individual considers themselves to be. However, when this individual does try marijuana for the first time, they find that they quite like it. The individual, at this point, is susceptible to a bout of cognitive dissonance. Why would they like marijuana if it's such a terrible thing for such terrible people? Why would they like it if it's for people with characteristics they consider to be so far removed from their own? As long as they have this contradictory overlap of experience and belief, the individual is experiencing cognitive dissonance.

As you can imagine, having this inconsistency can be quite uncomfortable. For many, it can cause them to question their identity and image of self, both of which are founded on beliefs, thoughts, and values that have now been shaken. So, what is one to do when cognitively dissonant? How does one flee from this bizarre mental state? There are several answers, but they all have something in common: something's gotta give.

The first option is changing the dissonant behaviour, assuming that one of the dissonant elements is a behaviour. If we use the marijuana example, this would mean not consuming it anymore and allowing the original perceptions about cannabis to prevail. The second option, again, when one of the elements is a behaviour, is changing the dissonant thoughts, beliefs, and/or values to create a consonant relationship. This would mean, for the purposes of our example, changing the individual's perceptions about marijuana and therefore no longer thinking that it's only for people unlike themselves. The third and least drastic option is to minimise the importance of the entire ordeal. This is sort of an incomplete solution in that

it doesn't really make the dissonance consonant; it just kind of sets the issue aside. This is the case where the individual in our example would continue to hold their negative opinions on marijuana use but continue to consume it anyway because the matter as a whole isn't really that big a deal. This often happens when people present long-term cigarette smokers with evidence that smoking causes several serious health complications, only to merit a live-for-today-type response. They recognize that the physical harm is very much present, but choose to minimise its importance. Which of these solutions to use really depends on the situation at hand. If we're talking about your guilty pleasure of fangirling over One Direction, taking the situation with a grain of salt and minimising the importance of the matter may be the way to go. If, on the other hand, we're talking about your decision on whether to get an abortion or not, one of the first two methods may be more appropriate. As with so many other things, it all depends on the context of the matter.

Cognitive dissonance is a big part of personal growth and getting out of your comfort zone. When it plays this role, I often like to think of it as a transitional period between my current self and my future self. It can, however, also prevent us from making potentially dangerous decisions. So how is one to know? When is cognitive dissonance a warning sign? When is it simply a growing pain? When we're in this stage of our lives as students and as young adults making and forming often character-defining decisions and opinions, the ability to discern between and make decisions based on these two functions of cognitive dissonance is arguably more important than ever. How you prioritize external information and your personal beliefs is really up to you. Its product is how you'll experience the world, how the world will experience you, and ultimately how your life will come to form itself. The world we're in is a highly subjective place—question it.

GL Halloween Pub Night



Adrienne Arzaga



Adrienne Arzaga



Adrienne Arzaga





Adrienne Arzaga



Lewis Le



Lewis Le



Lewis Le



Lewis Le



Lewis Le



Adrienne Arzaga



Lewis Le

Navigating Around the Expensive Rent in Toronto

Gulsvert Dela Cruz
Metropolis Editor

Toronto has quite a sticky—and legitimate—reputation of having the most expensive rent and housing market in the country. In fact, PadMapper.com reported that, as of August 2018, the average rent for a one bedroom apartment stood at \$2,140.00—the highest among all Canadian cities. If anything, we are at least in second place to also-infamous Vancouver when it comes to two bedroom apartment, hovering at \$2,800.00.

In an ongoing poll asking what Toronto's most pressing issue is, over 65% responded that it was the city's affordability. This hasn't gone unnoticed among the higher rungs of municipal society; Mayor Tory has publicly issued his plans to address this problem in his mayoral platform, as the first among other major issues.

While things may not be likely to change anytime soon, there are measures we can use to get the most of this overvalued market:

First, try locations outside downtown or major transit arteries. Always start with the expectation that more accessible locations, particularly ones near major employment areas, and near subway stations and major bus routes, will be more expensive. Searching for something more off-the-path may cut down rent prices.

Second, look at older buildings.

For obvious reasons, these apartments will probably have cheaper rates compared to those new high-rise, glass buildings. More than that however, they were probably built before 1991, meaning that their rent prices have been long under Ontario's rent control regulations (amended in 2017 to now include most private rental units in the province). Landlords for these buildings are also likely to be "career landlords", meaning they are actively involved in maintaining the property, as it is their livelihood.

Third, widen your search network. Indeed, Kijiji, and Craigslist are great places to start (and maybe even end) your search, but there are tons more websites and resources out there to help you out. ViewIt, Realtor.ca, Condos.ca, Apartmate, and Nice Place Toronto are also very useful sites to check out—some of them are pretty organised which can lighten your workload. There's also Bunz Home Zone on Facebook where individuals post locations up for rent or purchase. Lastly, don't be afraid to ask around. Your new friend might actually be an experienced renter, a realtor, or even just know someone renting out a place for cheap.

Finally, the other stuff. Don't seek too many amenities—separate your wants and your needs. Find roommates to help lessen your rent and utilities' costs. Budget to accommodate your other living expenses. Find better-paying jobs to compensate for the range of prices in market.

That being said, always make sure to account for your own safety and time. At the end of it, we can only hope that prices will drop, or at least stabilize, in the years to come.



Fall Events in Toronto: What Not to Miss

If you're around Toronto and hear of an event that might be of interest to our community, write to us at: metropolis@protemglendon.com.

Arts and Culture

Japan Now: Female Masters

Gardiner Museum, September 7–November 25

Transforming Traditions: The Arts of 19th Century Iran

Aga Khan Museum, September 22–December 9

Cinesphere Fall Film Series

Cinesphere @ Ontario Place, October 5–December 23

Maker Breaker: Secret Teatime at the Gardiner Museum

November 3

Day of the Dead

Harbourfront Centre, November 3 and 4

Syria Film Festival

AGO, November 9–11

Regent Park Film Festival

Daniels Spectrum, November 14–17

Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire in Concert

Sony Centre for the Performing Arts, November 15–17

Career & Education

Toronto Job Fair

One King St West, November 5 and November 26

Urban Land Institute Toronto Symposium

Evergreen Brick Works, November 7

Pathways to Success: Youth Career Education Fair

WE Global Learning Centre, November 15

Community and Environment

Whole Life Expo

MTCC, November 9–11

Royal Agricultural Winter Fair

Enercare Centre, November 3–12

Kawaii Land

Design Exchange, November 17

Food and Drink

Food Truck'N Friday Hope Series

Rainhard Brewing Co., November 9 and November 23

Queen West Pastry Crawl

Nugateau, September 25–December 28

Kensington Krawl Food Tour

Jimmy's Coffee (Kensington market, every Wednesday to Sunday until December 16)

Music and Entertainment

The Best Of: A Stand Up Comedy Showcase

Comedy Bar (945 Bloor St West), November 3

Friday Night Jazz

Ripley's Aquarium, November 9



Reprendre ses études à plus de 30 ans, en français et à Toronto: c'est possible

Marine Sibleau
Contributeurice

Après avoir suivi des études supérieures en France, qui ne m'ont jamais servie, et abandonné en cours de route des études à l'Université du Québec à Montréal, j'ai finalement repris mes études à trente-deux ans passés à Toronto. Là où certains auraient pu voir des échecs ou des mauvais choix, j'y ai vu une expérience de vie extraordinaire et la preuve que le Canada offre, à qui sait bien regarder, des occasions exceptionnelles qui n'ont de limites que celles qu'on s'impose à nous-mêmes.

L'air était tiède et murmurait à qui voulait bien l'entendre la promesse d'un défi indéfini. C'était le 8 juin 2006, je débarquais à Montréal avec deux valises contenant un visa temporaire, une envie de découverte et surtout aucun projet précis. Je venais de terminer d'étudier dans une école d'audiovisuel en France, je voulais faire le point, mais par où commencer? Pas besoin de réponse.

C'était ça, le Canada, il y a plus de douze ans. Avant la crise économique de 2008, avant les documentaires à foison vantant les promesses d'un Eldorado à saveur d'érable. C'était l'inconnu, les possibilités infinies, aussi vastes que les terres canadiennes elles-mêmes. Je faisais partie de cette vague d'immigrants qui n'attendait rien de précis, qui voulait simplement se laisser porter par l'énergie particulière de ce pays. Le Canada, c'est doux et chaud comme les feuilles jaunies par l'été indien. On a envie de jouer dedans comme un enfant. Le reste, seul le temps le moulerait comme un sculpteur taille la pierre.

Les emplois se sont enchaînés comme des petits pas de danse. Le temps s'est noué plus vite qu'un lacet de chaussure. Un matin, on réalise — je réalise — après des années à traîner des pieds, seulement heureuse de me laisser porter par le bitume, que j'aspire à plus professionnellement. Et juste-

ment, ce « plus », le Canada peut me l'offrir.

À vingt-huit ans, j'ai décidé de reprendre mes études à l'université. Je me suis inscrite à l'UQAM pour obtenir un certificat en rédaction et composition françaises. En suivant quelques cours du soir en parallèle du travail à temps plein, ça prendra quelques années. C'était un bon début, un projet réalisable. Les journées étaient longues entre le travail et les cours du soir, mais les belles perspectives professionnelles qui s'offriraient un jour à moi grâce à ce diplôme me motivaient plus qu'une cure de vitamines.

La vie est joueuse. Je le sais, tu le sais, tout le monde le sait. Alors, quand une opportunité de carrière a emporté mon amoureux à Toronto, en 2015, j'ai fait de nouveau les valises. J'ai laissé ma « job », j'ai arrêté l'université et j'ai entamé ce que j'appelle ma seconde immigration : je me suis installée à Toronto. Déménager de Montréal à Toronto, c'est comme tout recommencer à zéro. Il y avait le défi linguistique, pour la première fois le sentiment d'être en minorité, et les nouveaux défis personnels et professionnels qui s'enlaçaient dans une étreinte parfois étouffante, mais ô combien étonnante. L'avantage ici, c'est que lorsqu'on se débrouille en anglais et que l'on parle français, on peut facilement trouver un emploi. Et puis les années ont passé, les opportunités se sont enchaînées.

J'ai réussi à trouver un emploi dans mon domaine de prédilection, celui qui avait été mon premier rêve de petite fille et dans lequel j'avais eu l'opportunité d'affûter ma plume ici et là : l'écriture.

Mais l'expérience, le diplôme, c'est essentiel. Il y a des barrages qui ne peuvent être franchis qu'à coup de grands moyens. Il me manquait le diplôme pour crédibiliser ma carrière et surtout, m'ouvrir d'autres possibilités pour le futur.

Alors, à 32 ans, j'ai décidé de retourner à l'université à Toronto. Caché au fond d'un petit bois, le campus Glendon, offre justement un Baccalauréat en Études françaises.

Voilà où j'en suis aujourd'hui : j'étudie à Glendon ET je travaille à temps plein. Ça demande beaucoup d'énergie, c'est passionnant aussi. Je suis une « étudiante mature »; je me sens pourtant loin d'avoir l'âge cano-

Après avoir suivi des études supérieures en France, qui ne m'ont jamais servie, et abandonné en cours de route des études à l'Université du Québec à Montréal, j'ai finalement repris mes études à trente-deux ans passés à Toronto. Là où certains auraient pu voir des échecs ou des mauvais choix, j'y ai vu une expérience de vie extraordinaire et la preuve que le Canada offre, à qui sait bien regarder, des occasions exceptionnelles qui n'ont de limites que celles

The Perfect Roadtrip Playlist

Radio Glendon

Hey there readers!

We are back and we have some exciting news to tell you! Radio Glendon just got our new mixer so we're ready to bring some new and old shows to our live booth. Make sure you're checking www.radioglendon.ca or our social media @radioglendon for more updates!

Hello everyone! I'm Marie, one of the Radio Glendon managers. I recently visited Chicago with a few friends during reading week. We rented a car, got out our Google Maps, and sooner than you know, we were on the road! But what good is a road trip if you don't have any road trip jams? Luckily for us, we all enjoyed very similar music tastes and I had already made us a playlist.

You're probably wondering what we had on our list. For sure there was Chainsmokers, Rihanna, DJ Snake, Justin Bieber, Ariana Grande and more... I would run out of space if I wrote them all. But I'm not here to impose my musical likings on you because it doesn't matter what music taste you have—anyone can make a road trip playlist, and here's how:

Step 1: Go through all your songs. This is important because you want to pick songs that will keep you in the driving mood. Whether you're the driver or the passenger, no one wants to be falling asleep because a slow and sappy song came on. Road trips are long and you have to stay awake so pick the songs that will keep you bumping your head or singing along.

Step 2: Mix it up. I have a bad

qu'on s'impose à nous-mêmes.

petite fille et dans lequel j'avais eu l'opportunité d'affûter ma plume ici et là : l'écriture.

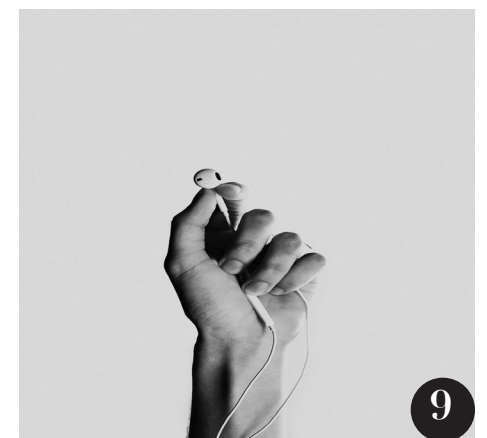
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habit of alphabetizing songs in my playlists or bunching together songs from the same artist. You don't want to do this on your road trip playlist because you'll get tired of it real fast. Keep it on shuffle or just don't start from the top of your playlist every time. You don't want to predict the song each time because it gets too routine, especially after several hours in a car.

Step 3: Choose a variety of genres. Keep in mind that you don't want to just listen to a dance beat all the way to your destination. Throw in something different for a dynamic ride or take the opportunity to listen to those throw-back songs; you'll love singing along. You also don't want to tire yourself out so keep some of the upbeat stuff for later.

Step 4: Make it a long playlist. This is one of those times that you should add more and keep adding because you want to make sure you enjoy a wide range of music over the several hours. Just add everything and a little bit more!

Step 5: Just like everything on a road trip, get ready to go with the flow. Sometimes you feel like listening to a certain song and it just puts you in the right mood. Whatever it is, sometimes you just gotta ditch the plan (or the playlist) and make your own fun!



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Government Commitments (cont.)

Just imagine that a new hospital project is undertaken with funding from the provincial government. What good will any commitments from the provincial government be, given the precedent created by the elimination of the most significant funding for these post-secondary institutions? After so much time has passed and so many ancillary commitments have been obtained (most of them either because of, or heavily influenced by, the province's initial commitment), how will the current provincial government be held to these promises? At what point does it become immoral to back out of a commitment that has incurred so much in the way of costs, spawned so many participants, and created so much propulsion? The sudden and unexpected unilateral stop and the unexpected

causes that come with such decisions result in significant hardship to everyone involved—in this case literally tens of thousands of people.

We ought not to mistake the issue here; a discussion about the role of government, at any level, is always a good debate to have. The issue that this case raises is: should we be debating about whether or not the provincial government should be reliable when it comes to the promises it makes? Our government is a representative government for the people. The pledges made by the government should only ever be considered for reversal by direct referendum or as part of the debate during an election campaign. The perfidious surprise that Doug Ford sprung on the universities, the cities, the participants, and all his fellow citizens, will forever place in doubt whether or not the assurance given by the provincial government has any integrity at all—and that can't be good for anyone. He should reconsider immediately.

Le manque de compréhension envers les immigrants handicapés au Canada

Ed Leurebourg
Contributeur

Les immigrants ayant un handicap affrontent des défis auxquels les travailleurs sociaux ne font pas assez attention. Les parents et la famille des immigrants d'un enfant ayant un handicap doivent s'adapter à la fois à un nouveau pays et aux difficultés particulières de l'enfant. Ils ont des difficultés à obtenir des services tels que le transport, de l'aide avec les études et des services de santé physique et mentale. De plus, ces immigrants se font souvent discriminer.

En juin 2018, le gouvernement libéral du Canada a finalement renoncé à la loi d'inadmissibilité rejetant ceux qui ont des conditions de santé risquant d'entraîner un « fardeau excessif » pour les services sociaux ou de santé. Pour cette raison, il est probable que la société canadienne verra beaucoup plus d'immigrants ayant un handicap s'installer au Canada à l'avenir. Il faut donc que l'on s'informe sur leurs problèmes. Or, malgré l'augmentation du nombre d'immigrants au Canada, peu d'études traitent de la condition particulière des immigrants avec un handicap et de leurs parents.

L'abondance de services et d'établissements s'avère déconcertante pour les nouveaux arrivants ayant un handicap et leurs parents ou aidants. Isolés, ces derniers ne savent souvent pas vers qui se tourner. Les

professionnels médicaux et les intervenants présentent aux parents des informations à propos de la santé et de la vie quotidienne dans une langue qu'ils ne comprennent pas complètement, et selon des perspectives culturelles qui sont différentes des leurs. Puisque les services sociaux au Canada se basent en général sur des idéologies occidentales, les travailleurs sociaux risquent d'être très méfiants de la situation des immigrants handicapés, ce qui va à l'encontre du climat de confiance que ces derniers recherchent. De plus, les travailleurs sociaux et les médecins peuvent parfois donner l'impression aux familles qu'ils ne font plus partie du développement de leur enfant.

La présence des proches et le soutien que ces derniers offrent aux enfants handicapés influent de manière considérable sur la décision des parents de chercher ou non les services personnels, pour lesquels ils doivent peut-être payer. S'ils sont loin du reste de leur famille, les immigrants handicapés sont obligés de trouver d'autres façons de répondre à leurs besoins. Ils peuvent communiquer avec eux par téléphone ou même attendre qu'un membre de leur famille effectue un déplacement provisoire, ce qui risque de nuire aux relations familiales. Cependant, la situation est plus compliquée que cela. Les parents des enfants handicapés sont culpabilisés par les autres, selon certaines cultures et croyances. Parfois, la famille et la communauté d'origine marginalisent et rejettent les enfants ayant un handicap et leurs parents. Dans de telles situations, recourir à l'aide de professionnels semble être le seul moyen de résoudre le problème.

Il faut ainsi absolument que les travailleurs sociaux se posent plus de questions sur ce sujet et redoublent d'efforts pour aider les immigrants ayant un handicap.

Punjab and its Stubble-Burning Bind

Rajbalinder Ghatoura
Contributor

Stubble are the straws belonging to grain plants that are left sticking out of the ground after the harvest season. Farmers in India need to get rid of this stubble to prepare for the second sowing season from the end of October to November. Last year, stubble burning in Northern India significantly contributed to carbon monoxide, methane, and volatile organic compound pollution, which resulted in smog that caused several health problems for citizens. The heavy fog formation at the end of the harvest season could become an annual concern for many residents of Northern India.

Currently, the majority of these farmers burn their stubble to clear their land. This method is inefficient as it results in massive amounts of smoke, which last year prevented the burning of around 15 million tonnes of stubble. Furthermore, many Indians were not able to leave their houses without wearing an air mask to prevent the intake of the pollution. It was a major factor in certifying Delhi as the most polluted city in the world.

There are alternate methods to clear stubble, such as using the Happy Seeder. The Happy Seeder is an eco-friendly machine that is used to sow wheat without burning any stubble. The only problem is that this machine is largely unaffordable. The Happy Seeder can cost up to \$3,000 CAD, and 66% of Punjab farmers earn less than \$1,010 CAD per year. Also, considering that many Punjab farmers have debts

worth tens of thousands of dollars, it is nearly impossible for them to purchase such a device.

The solution that the Punjab government has implemented this year is to fine farmers around \$4,500 CAD for burning their stubble. Unfortunately, Punjab farmers can afford neither the more environmentally-friendly machinery nor the fine for burning stubble. Politician Sukhpal Singh Khaira remarked in an interview with Hindustan Times that “farmers have no option, as the government has completely failed to provide machinery, subsidy or financial assistance”. So, what should the Punjab farmers do now?

Some farmers have already started to burn the stubble to prepare for the sowing season at the end of October. Others are waiting for the government’s assistance. Regardless, this is a serious issue that can’t be ignored. This pollution is affecting the health of around 84% of Punjab’s population as well as neighbouring states such as Delhi, which cannot afford more of the destructive effects of pollution

I believe this environmental issue has become a political concern, as well. It should be the government’s responsibility to provide low-income farmers with machinery, such as the Happy Seeder, or financial assistance to prevent stubble burning. Instead, it seems that the government is looking to profit off this problem by not addressing it all. If the government can’t afford to accommodate farmers with these resources, there should be some sort of campaign held to raise money for this purpose. Even if the municipal government obtains four or five machines, farmers can share these machines to clear their stubble. This could result in a cleaner and healthier environment for many people, and it’s clear that such change needs to take place now.

What Snapchat Fails to Reveal

Amrit Bath
Contributor

It goes without saying that social media networks, such as Facebook and Instagram, are immensely popular in our world today, and global usage of these networks are rapidly increasing. According to Statista, 71% of internet users were active on social media in 2017, and these rates are expected to grow. Social media platforms certainly have their benefits, including the opportunity to communicate with others, display creativity with photos, and so on. However, some social media platforms also come with dismal consequences. One such platform is Snapchat and its ‘Discover’ page on which ‘stories’ are featured. The problem is that some topics do not hold as much significance as others, yet are prioritized on the page.

This is a severely negative aspect of the app considering there are many world issues that deserve our attention. Social media users are adversely impacted in that they are prevented from learning about important issues that may impact them or to which they can relate. Considering this, Snapchat is not a reliable source to understand what is taking place around the world.

I remember scrolling through Snapchat’s Discover page one day and viewing stories on how Kylie Jenner managed to put on a tight dress. As I continued scrolling, I uncovered horrific videos about the destruction Hurricane Michael had caused in Florida. The fact that the story about Jenner was placed above the natural disaster was shocking and disappointing.

Jenner and her dress struggles are not a serious, wide-ranging concern, yet seems to hold more value since it appeared before the tragic hurricane on the page. If I had not scrolled down, I would not have been informed about the hurricane and the circumstances surrounding it.

The feature on Hurricane Michael should have had tremendous priority over unimportant celebrity news. It was a major event that destroyed the environment, devastated communities, and took the lives of many. I refreshed

the page and had a difficult time finding the feature, only to notice that it had been placed even lower than where I had found it before.

Even worse is that some issues fail to even make it onto Snapchat. There was a story that surfaced on Twitter and Facebook three years ago about a human rights defender named Surat Singh Khalsa. Khalsa went on a hunger strike to raise awareness about Sikh political prisoners that were not being released from jail after completing their terms. During his strike, many prisoners were released and some obtained a parole; it was successful in that sense.

This story, however, was never featured on Snapchat’s Discover page, and it is a shame that users were not notified. It projects a positive message of hope and shows the extremes people suffer to achieve their goals. SikhNet, a website regarding information about the issue, argues that Khalsa’s story should be promoted on social media and that the struggle should be recognized frequently. Surely, many would agree.

The number of individuals that use Snapchat have decreased by 73%, one possible cause being that an update that redesigned the stories feature. This prevented some stories from appearing, understandably frustrating users and driving them to quit the app for good. Importantly, this demonstrates that the stories feature no longer has the appeal it once did.

Nonetheless, there are some simple resolutions. For example, Snapchat’s creators could categorize large-scale issues—like natural disasters or health crises—into a large story featured at the top of the Discover page. Users would then be able to click on it to view stories of their choice and skip through ones that do not interest them with a single tap.

I strongly believe Snapchat should consider promoting awareness of world issues on their Discover page, over ones that lack meaning, to allow for a more socially-conscious and relevant user experience. We cannot let Snapchat inhibit our real connection to the world.





Miradas

Gabriella Giordan
Rédactrice adjointe français

El camino es largo pero a mí no me molesta. Mamá siempre dice que tengo que tener cuidado con todo y con todos y que alejarse de lo que conocemos es mala idea, que la casa es el lugar de la vida. Papá me mataría si supiera que cada noche no estoy en mi cama, y mamá se quedaría en un silencio fuerte también pero a pesar de todo lo sigo haciendo. Suspiros, llantos...

La luna me mira intensamente y yo la miro con desafío, no le tengo miedo esta vez. En la habitación duermen mis cuatro hermanas, yo soy la más joven pero la única insomne. Me pongo los zapatos, los rojos chillones que papá me regaló cuando cumplí ocho años. Aún me acuerdo de la cara que hizo mamá cuando los vio por primera vez, se puso blanca como aquellos peces que antes se veían nadando libremente en el lago, y no pronunció ni una palabra en toda la tarde pero sí que habló con su mirada. Cuando nos fuimos a dormir nuestra casa es pequeña y los muros son tan finos que casi no se necesitan, oímos todo lo que le dijo a papá, ¿Y con qué crees que vamos a vivir ahora, Rubén? ¿Te das cuenta del valor de estos zapatos? Toda una vida trabajando, trabajando, para gastarlo todo y acabar como reyes, y empezó

a reír, pero no como mi hermana Valeria cuando antes le hacíamos cosquillas, más bien como uno de esos pájaros amenazantes que gritan de una manera tan dolorosa e incómoda que escalofríos me recorren todo el cuerpo. Yo sabía en aquel momento como siempre que algo muy malo iba a pasar porque cuando mamá le habla así a papá es como un terremoto, no puedo hacer nada para parar lo que le va a hacer papá. La mañana después ya era demasiado tarde como siempre, mamá se quedó callada, aunque sus nuevas heridas gritaban sin parar. Suspiros, llantos...

Abro muy lentamente y con mucho cuidado la puerta de nuestra habitación para no despertar a mis hermanas. Pero Carmen, mi hermana mayor, susurra con miedo "Heranita...". Yo no le contesto, siempre intenta impedir que me escape pero no le hago caso y ella se queda allí en casa sin hacer nada. Suspiros, llantos...

Salgo de casa y camino, mis zapatos rojos me llevan adonde yo quiero ir y no miro por detrás. El camino es largo pero a mí no me molesta. Mis zapatos rojos me llevan adonde quiero ir, lo hago casi sin pensarlo, el lago está en mi cabeza desde niña. Suspiros, llantos... Llego al lago, esta noche el agua sucia brilla y por un momento callo a las voces para escuchar mejor el silencio. Miro adentro, las voces continúan pero más fuerte que antes. Suspiros, llantos... Dos caras aparecen

en el lago y luego aparecen el resto de los cuerpos extensos, desnudos. Abro los ojos completamente. Suspiros, llantos, suspiros, llantos, afortunadamente mis ojos están abiertos y así escucho mejor. Las caras y los cuerpos forman un solo cuerpo lentamente, sus voces forman una sola. Con mis ojos abiertos hacia el lago la noche se vuelve día, el agua marrón se vuelve azul como cuando tenía tres años e íbamos a bañarnos aquí. La cara tiene ojos ahora, y unos labios y una nariz, pelo hasta los pies y más negro que el humo que sale del Volcán Masaya del cual me habló abuelito, la cara de la niña del pelo largo me mira y me siento ligerísima. Solamente veo a la niña del pelo largo, a ella y a nadie más. Suspiros, llantos, suspiros, llantos...

El camino es largo pero a mí no me molesta, ella está aquí, me mira y me siento ligerísima, ahora que estamos juntas todo está bien. Cierro los ojos durante dos segunditos, los brazos de la niña del pelo largo salen del lago y me los abre con violencia. Me concentro en su mirada. Nos quedamos así un momento, hasta que lentamente me siento tan ligera como una pluma y siento la fuerza de mis zapatos rojos a través de mis pies y todo mi cuerpo. Ahora estoy en el agua al lado de la niña del pelo largo, tenemos los ojos abiertos, escucho los suspiros y los llantos a través de su mirada.



Still

Ben Da Salco
Contributor

You'll find me before the beginning
And at the very end.
I can provide an experience most
thrilling
When you do not know what lies
around the bend.

As your cloak, I could hide you from
harm.

Eyes need be your only worry.
But beware! Break me and so shall
sound the alarm.
I would then abandon you, necessitat-
ing you to hurry.

From time to time, I'm not bad.
At times, you and your other half may
need time apart.
And while too much of me will drive
you mad
I can serve as the string to sew back
together your reluctant hearts.

What am I?

Vagabonde

Ayla Slijvar
Rédactrice d'expressions

J'ai cherché partout autour de moi,
Un refuge,
Un asile,
Même un sanctuaire temporaire chez
les autres,
Afin de pouvoir voler de mes propres
ailes,
Pour que je ne me sente pas comme
un bâtiment fragile,
Attendant de s'affaïsser sur lui-même.
Mais c'est quand j'ai arrêté de chercher
une maison parmi d'autres,
Et de construire mes fondations,
Que j'ai appris l'importance d'unir mon
corps et mon âme,
De les lier pour qu'ils soient encore
plus grands que moi.