

Le journal bilingue de Glendon | Glendon's bilingual newspaper

Issue 9: le 27 mars 2019

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The Importance of the Student Free Press



Connor Boyd Layout Editor

Pro Tem is the only bilingual student newspaper in Ontario and the oldest publication at York University. According to the Canadian University Press, there are 14 student newspapers across Ontario in addition to Pro Tem. Our editors and contributors work hard to deliver quality journalism on student life and world issues as the primary forum for student voices at Glendon. There have been, however, rising concerns among student newspapers across Ontario in light of recent provincial legislation on cuts to funding for these publications.

This past January, Premier Ford announced the Student Choice Initiative—a policy that gives post-secondary students the ability to choose which fees and services they want to pay for. This presents a threat to student newspapers including Pro Tem,

as many students may choose to stop funding them. Should students stop supporting us, we will have to find other means of funding and may be unable to continue publishing. As layout editor, I know how expensive printing is—costs range between \$600 and \$700 per issue.

Printing copies of Pro Tem every other week also requires the hard work of both our editors as well as the many workers at our printer, Centra Web Reproductions. When I visited the their offices, I had a chance to speak with production manager Tavi Baciu, who has been in the printing industry for over 25 years. "Students are able express their opinions and talk about important events at their schools," says Tavi. "And printing companies like us help them do that." Centra Web currently works with over 50 publications, including student newspapers at the University of Toronto, the University of

Waterloo and Wilfrid Laurier University.

Student newspapers cover issues left out by mainstream media such as the investigation of the Glendon College Student Union (GCSU) for financial fraud. On October 11, 2017 Pro Tem issued a notice from the then-members of the GCSU that \$20,000 was stolen by a former member. More recently, Ryerson University experienced a financial scandal of its own. According to one of the university's student newspapers, The Eyeopener, the Ryerson Student Union (RSU) spent \$273,000 of student fees on food, clubs and alcohol between May 1, 2018 and February 1, 2019. Following a forensic audit, the RSU's president Ram Ganesh was impeached. Without student newspapers holding school authorities accountable by reporting these stories, many students will remain uninformed of the pressing issues at their schools.

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Notre Équipe

Editor in Chief | Rédactrice en chef Sarah Ariza-Verreault editor@protemglendon.com

Chief of Operations | Chef des opérations Kaya Harris-Read operations@protemglendon.com

English Editor | Rédactrice adjointe anglais Amanda Sears assistanteng@protemglendon.com

French Editor | Rédactrice adjointe français Gabriella Giordan assistantfran@protemglendon.com

Media Officer | Agente des médias Krysta Veneruz media@protemglendon.com

Photographer | Photographe Adrienne Arzaga photography@protemglendon.com

Layout Editor | Maquetteur Connor Boyd design@protemglendon.com

Section Editors | Chroniqueurs

Campus Life | Vie étudiante Ayse Koca campuslife@protemglendon.com

Issues & Ideas | Actualité et opinions Sabrina Sukhdeo issuesideas@protemglendon.com

Metropolis | Métropole Gulsvert Dela Cruz metropolis@protemglendon.com

Arts & Entertainment | Arts et divertissement Bruno Da Costa arts@protemglendon.com

Health & Wellness | Santé et bien-être John Kemp health@protemglendon.com

Expressions | Expressions Ayla Sljivar expressions@protemglendon.com

About Us

Pro Tem est le journal étudiant du collège Glendon. Publié pour la première fois en 1962, c'est la plus ancienne publication de l'Université

Opinions published in Pro Tem are those of the individual writers, and do not reflect the views of the publication as a whole. We will not print copy deemed racist, sexist, homophobic, or otherwise oppressive.

Les lettres adressées au journal peuvent être éditées au niveau de la clarté ou de contenu. All copy appearing in Pro Tem is at the discretion of the editorial team.

Feel free to respond to what you read in the pages of Pro Tem! / N'hésitez pas à réagir à ce que vouz avez lu dans Pro Tem!

To see past editions of Pro Tem, please visit our website: www.protemglendon.com.

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Wow, Glendon.

It has been my greatest honour to have served as your Editor in Chief for this year—despite all its twists and turns—and let me tell you, your articles this issue did not disappoint! Ces dernières semaines, je me souciais de l'avenir de ce journal; j'étais très surprise d'avoir reçu tellement d'articles qu'on avait dû mettre plusieurs en ligne! Make sure you check out our website for more students' voices.

Always remember: You, the students, are the beating heart of this university. Pro Tem is not the voice; you are. Maintenant, c'est à vous de garder l'héritage journalistique de Pro Tem en vie. Et, ayant lu vos articles cette semaine, je suis certaine que Pro Tem aura un avenir à Glendon, grâce à vous. I thank you, a hundred times over, for your support in our referendum and your advocacy against the Student Choice Initiative. Never stop fighting.



Sarah Ariza-Verreault Editor in Chief



Kaya Harris-Read Chief of Operations



Adrienne Arzaga Photographer



Gulsvert Dela Cruz Metropolis

Dernièrement, je voudrais accueillir votre Rédactrice en chef entrante, Amanda Sears, ainsi que votre Chef d'opérations reventante, Kaya Harris-Read. I have full confidence that these two ladies will continue to drive Pro Tem forward fiercely as well as gracefully, and I have no doubt that they will take next year in stride. They are strong because you made them.

Adieu, Glendon. Et pour la dernière fois, merci.

- Sarah



NOUS EMBAUCHONS!

Chief of Operations
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6 Section Editors

Envoyez votre CV et lettre de présentation à editor@protemglendon.com avant le 31 mars



Amanda Sears
Assistant English Editor



Connor Boyd Layout Editor



Bruno Da Costa Arts & Entertainment



Gabriella Giordan Assistant French Editor



Ayse Koca Campus Life



John Kemp Health & Wellness



Krysta Veneruz Media Officer



Sabrina Sukhdeo Issues & Ideas



Ayla Sljivar Expressions

ATTENTION: Principal's Office, York University

Anonymous

To whom this may concern,

I am hereby tendering my resignation. I would like it to be known that the reason for my departure is based solely on the unprofessional manner in which my situation was handled by your office.

I came to you as a vulnerable student, seeking asylum from the harassment of one of your esteemed employees. As a result, I was expunged from a project I had created and grown over the past year and a half. I was exiled from my peers and colleagues, who were instructed to cease all communication with me. Meanwhile my supervisor was left to destroy that which I had established. Since my departure, the services I had set in place have become inaccessible to those in need and I have received several emails seeking



support. Needless to say, resolution has not been achieved for anyone involved, namely my peers, who remain overworked and uncomfortable in the hostile environment I brought to your attention. I am astounded at the lack of empathy provided to me from an organization with the sole purpose of supporting the student body.

I may have been removed from my work, but in reality I was removed

from all of campus life and everything that felt safe about going to school. Not a day goes by that I don't walk down the halls without the fear of running into someone, colleague or peer, who might question my absence. The repercussions of this have forced me to reduce my course load in an attempt to reduce academic stress. This has pushed my graduation further back, forcing me to spend another 2+ months on a campus

where I feel uneasy, and negatively impacted my graduate school applications. It is clear now that this university does not put their students first and I will not stop fighting for myself, my peers, and the rights of all students on this campus.

Alteri Sæculo - for future generations,

- A Person In Need

L'élimination des frais de scolarité : illusoire

Kaya Harris-Read Chef d'opérations

Je serai franche: non, je ne crois pas que l'élimination des frais de scolarité soit possible. Je comprends qu'il est difficile payer les frais de scolarité. Je n'examine pas cette question d'un point de vue élitiste. Grâce au programme RAFÉO (OSAP en anglais), je paie mes propres frais de scolarité. Dans un monde idéal, il serait très agréable de ne pas avoir à payer ces coûts. Cependant, lorsque les étudiants se mobilisent pour éliminer ces coûts, je ne pense pas qu'ils prennent en compte les conséquences d'une telle mesure.

Tout d'abord, j'estime que si les études universitaires étaient gratuites, les cours et les programmes disponibles seraient différents et probablement beaucoup plus limités. Plusieurs personnes sont de l'avis que les diplômes d'arts libéraux ne sont pas « utiles ». La plupart des étudiants en arts libéraux sont habitués qu'on leur de-

mande ce qu'ils feront de leurs études. Avec ces jugements en tête, imaginez si les universités étaient entièrement financées par le gouvernement. Dans ce scénario, pour couvrir les coûts de l'université, il faudrait soit minimiser le budget, soit augmenter les impôts. Bien qu'il soit possible de combiner les deux options, je pense qu'il est plus probable que les universités réduisent leurs budgets. Dans les écoles publiques, lorsqu'il y a des réductions budgétaires, il est normal qu'on élimine en premier les programmes d'arts. Cependant, je me rends compte que ce n'est pas en soi un argument convaincant, car les étudiants ne poursuivent pas tous des études en arts libéraux.

À l'heure actuelle, il est courant d'être accepté à l'université. Évidemment, il est plus difficile d'être admis à certains programmes. Cependant, si l'on a des notes décentes à l'école secondaire, il y a de fortes chances que l'on soit admis à un programme universitaire. Je pense que cela est une bonne chose, particulièrement ces temps-ci, puisqu'il devient de plus en plus difficile de trouver un emploi sans un diplôme universitaire ou collégial.

Le fait qu'il soit plus facile d'être admis à l'université permet aux gens

de poursuivre des études supérieures avec moins d'obstacles scolaires. Les universités publiques d'autres pays sont difficiles d'accès, car elles exigent des notes élevées et dans certains cas, des examens d'entrée. Il est difficile d'être admis à ces universités car les études y sont gratuites et par conséquent, on n'y accepte que les meilleurs étudiants. S'il était gratuit d'étudier en Ontario, il serait beaucoup plus difficile pour les étudiants de poursuivre des études supérieures.

Je pense que le système qui était en place avant les changements de Ford constituait un compromis équitable. Grâce au programme RAFÉO, les étudiants ontariens de familles à faible revenu ont pu avoir accès à des subventions qui couvriraient les frais de scolarité. Cela offrait un enseignement gratuit aux étudiants qui en avaient le plus besoin. Il est vrai que le programme RAFÉO est un système partiellement défectueux, car il n'aide pas les étudiants qui viennent de familles à revenu élevé qui sont néanmoins responsables de payer leurs propres frais de scolarité. Cela a toutefois aidé les étudiants qui avaient le plus besoin d'aide financière. Encore une fois, il s'agissait d'un bon compromis.

Après les modifications apportées par Ford aux études postsecondaires, l'on se rend compte des désavantages qu'entraîne la réduction des frais de scolarité. La réduction de 10 % des frais de scolarité a entraîné l'élimination des subventions du programme RAFÉO. Bien que cela ne prouve rien sur les conséquences de la gratuité de l'enseignement, puisqu'il ne serait pas nécessaire de recourir à une aide financière s'il n'y avait pas de frais, ça signifie qu'il y a des concessions. L'aide financière entraîne donc, ironiquement, plus de désavantages que d'avantages.

Les étudiants se rassemblent pour demander des cours gratuits. Or, je me demande d'où proviendra l'argent. Certes, peu de gens veulent payer leurs frais de scolarité ou penser à rembourser leurs prêts étudiants. Cependant, je reconnais la valeur de ce que je paie. Je me rends compte que c'est peut-être un parti pris de ma part. Cependant, je crois que si les universités ontariennes supprimaient les frais de scolarité, tous les étudiants se rendraient compte des conséquences négatives que ce changement aurait sur leur éducation.



Game of Glendon: A Satire on Campus Politics in Anticipation of the Eighth Season of Game of Thrones

Sarah Ariza-Verreault Editor in Chief

I'm excited for April for two reasons: the completion of my undergraduate degree and the much-anticipated season finale of Game of Thrones. In the wake of Doug Ford's attack on post-secondary student funding (and francophone education as a whole, but I digress), I have been jokingly warning my Glendon underclassmen that "Winter is coming," or that "The night is dark and full of debt." All jokes aside, our situation is pretty dire and I hope you can laugh along with my nerdy-yet-grim sense of humor.

l'il let you decide for yourselves who the Starks, Lannisters, and Targaryens are on campus. In the Westeros of our student politics, cam-

eros of our student politics, campus clubs squabble for power,

student engagement and most of all, funding. Of course, as this semester winds down, we are all preoccupied with the question of "Who will sit on the Iron Throne?" But alas, there are much bigger problems on our hands as the Night King, Doug Ford, is coming for us all (not to be over-dramatic).

Taking into consideration the incoming and infamous Student Choice Initiative, all these campus politics seem so irrelevant. For most student clubs and levy organizations, a "Sink or Swim" mentality has taken over. I find that my questions for next year at Glendon match the ones I have for next season of Game of Thrones: Will everyone band together to fight against the incoming threat of the Night King? It certainly seems like the only viable way for everyone to survive. But have relationships between student clubs become so tarnished that no one can work together?

If one thing's for certain, I think we might all predict that everything will change for next year and next season. It's not possible to know who will survive the winter.

But I hope that the good will win in the end.



Just Breathe

Konya Bangura Contributor

The semester is coming to an end and for many of us, despite our efforts, we cannot manage the pressure of deadlines. Why? Fear of failure. Fear is, and always will be, present in our waking life since risk is associated with anything or whoever we cross. Sometimes we forget this simple fact in life and become very blind by those villainous emotions and thoughts. As a result, depression and anxiety can be a symptom that emerges. If you are suffering from such mental illness, I'm here to say, keep your head up; there's a light a end of the tunnel so take a moment and just breathe. Don't allow your anxiety and depression to trick you into thinking that doing that simple task is advanced microbiology, since it's really not.

When I'm surrounded by my family and relatives, sometimes we turn on the news. News about people being murdered, natural disasters, the spread of diseases, political and social corruption, can introduce feelings of fear and insecurities. I have relatives who imme-

diately attack this negativity; they encourage us by not being afraid. As they would say: "It's stupid to be afraid. Risk is involved in everything we do, if we spend our time listening to negativity, we won't be able to do anything in life." This is absolutely true! It has taught me that fear is not only limited to one area of life, rather, it's present in finances, health, politics, relationships, etc. To put it simply: fear is present in anything we are doing. Faith is that magic wand that make fear absent in anything we do. Bid-bo-bid-do, faith gives you a chance to achieve your goals whether big or small. Don't allow fear to deceive you into backing down. Be bold and be yourself to grab hold of chance and achieving your goal! You can get through the semester, remember: just breathe.

Draped in Red Flags

Anonymous

In my last relationship, I ignored the glaring red flags I saw in my partner. After each one would reveal itself and after each subsequent argument, my partner would insist that he wanted a fresh start; a clean slate. He wanted to walk out of the room like it never happened, preventing me from bringing the same issues up again. I ignored, and eventually forgot, about the red flags, becoming oblivious to the pattern of his controlling and angry behaviour.

At first, I believed his negative actions stemmed from personal insecurities; I wanted to be there for him. So when he would make what I now see as being controlling requests of me, I would cooperate. He said his exes didn't want to fight for their relationship and he wanted someone who would fight for them. I didn't ask why anyone needed to be fighting in a relationship so he wouldn't doubt that I would fight for us, unlike his "bat-shit crazy" exes. I didn't want to lose him, so I strived to fulfill his controlling requests. I distanced myself from friends he didn't approve of and curated my social media following as per his wishes.

Just before hitting the 6-month mark, I realized I was no longer considering myself in my decisions. I was constantly thinking of his reactions to my actions and whether he would approve or get angry with me. It was difficult for me to remember my own thought processes, uninterrupted by his behaviour. He became the central focus of my life and during arguments, even when I was upset with him for being too angry or controlling, I would try to get over it as quickly as possible for his sake, avoiding annoying him with my malcontent once again.

It all ended with an inadmissible contradiction—and it wasn't the first time. He would set boundaries for me in terms of who I needed to unfollow, which conversations I needed to delete from my phone, and which topics to avoid when talking to male friends. I found, however, that he did not apply the same stringent regulations to himself.

When I finally ended the relationship, he threatened to kill himself. He did everything in his power to try to



get a reaction out of me so I would go back to him. He insisted he was starting therapy and was a changed man (in four days, mind you). I didn't buy it.

My sadness came in waves. I missed the companionship and it was easy to conceal the bad memories with the good. It is still difficult even though I am always reminded of how he hurt me and my constant doubts about him during the relationship. I miss the companionship and familiarity. It's disheartening when someone is incapable of loving you the way you love them, especially when their understanding of love is manipulation, guilt tripping, and controlling behaviour.

I rushed into things with him and avoided all the red flags my friends warned me about because I wanted a relationship. I wanted good morning texts and Valentine's day gifts and security. But then again, I can get the texts, gifts, and emotional security from people who won't try to make themselves the sole pillar of my life, who will respect my individuality, and who will not deceive me; people who won't disregard my concerns by framing my arguments in ways that attack them. It is so difficult for women to leave these relationships, and so easy to become addicted to the intense highs make up for the devastating lows. It is difficult to find someone new-it's easier to just If you find yourself in a situation like this, please reach out to your family and friends. Tell them the entire situation without leaving out details you think might paint a bad picture of your partner. Listen and internalize what they have to say. Often, your view of your relationship might be distorted by your partner's lens. They might blame you for certain things or not allow you to be angry at other things, causing you to leave out certain important details when relaying the story to others.

Women are unfortunately very vulnerable to these kinds of controlling men. It is difficult to recognize such a relationship in the beginning stages, but there are certain common red flags which may occur in the early stages. Below are some signs that your partner may be trying to control or manipulate you to surrender to their unreasonable demands.

1. They get upset when you prioritize friends or family over them. They believe the most important relationship in your life should be your relationship with them. I am not saying your relationship is not important, however, you should not have to cancel plans with friends in order to satisfy your partner.

2. They speak poorly of their previous partners. A man who calls his ex girlfriend a "bitch" is likely to do the same to you if you break up with him.

When men say their exes were "crazy," it is always good to ask if there was something he did to make them "crazy." Particularly if he says things like she accused him of cheating or hitting him, try to get the full story.

- 3. They make you feel like you have no say in the relationship. Ask yourself: are you always doing the activities he prefers? Are you always going out to eat his favourite foods? Maybe once in a while he does try something new with you, but for the majority it is him who decides what the two of you do together.
- 4. They will try to convince you of things that you know are untrue. They may tell you that you said or did certain things that you know you did not.
- 5. They always want updates when you're out, or they make you feel guilty for not talking to them for long periods of time. If you are worrying about them being upset at you when you're out, it's not a good sign.

These are just a few points that may be worrying. However, the most telling piece of evidence that they aren't right for you is how you feel. If you find yourself constantly having to brush away doubts about your partner, and coming up with excuses for them in your mind, they may be burdening you with more issues than you can handle.

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John Kemp's Kitchen: A More Interesting Fruit Salad

John Kemp Health and Wellness Editor

Once again, we've come to the end of the school year at Glendon and, despite the still somewhat unpredictable weather, the hazy lazy days of summer are fast approaching. Now over the past few years, we've seen some pretty remarkable summer temperatures, getting as high as over forty degrees. How, then, are we to refresh ourselves in this blistering heat? In a past issue, I shared with you all a recipe for sparkling rosemary limeade; one of my favourite summer refreshments. However, we do need to eat over the summer, and what better midsummer snack than a fruit salad?

Now I realise that fruit salad isn't the most gastronomically complex thing in the world, but I think it's important to consider that it has far more potential than we give it credit for. Oftentimes, the fruit salad we are subjected to (yes, it's that bad) at complementary hotel breakfasts and at restaurants such as the likes of Sunset Grill (who have a delightful eggs benedict—don't get me wrong) are somewhat lackadaisical mixtures of honeydew melon, cantaloupe, watermelon, and maybe a grape or two if you're lucky. These fruits are, of course, all well and fine as individual ingredients. However, when you have three fruits whose fla-

vour profiles consist mostly of

water and maybe that grape on the off-chance, you don't have a whole lot going on flavour-wise. So why not jazz things up a little and add a little pizazz to the drab fruit salad of yesteryear? This summer, give my recipe for fruit salad a shot—you'll appreciate the fruits of your labour.

John's Fruit Salad

Ingredients:

- 1 ½ cups quartered strawberries
- 1 ½ cups julienned mango (Try to get the alphonso mangoes from South Asia at Indian grocery stores. They only come in once a year but they're worlds better than the Mexican ones)
- ½ cup pomegranate seeds (try cutting it in half and slapping the back with a wooden spoon to get them out—works for me every time)
- 1 ½ cups diced pineapple
- 4 large leaves of mint, chiffonade
- 1 can mandarin orange segments, liquid removed
- 1 cup sliced kiwi
- 1/4 cup honey
- 3 tbsp. fresh lime juice

Method:

- 1. In a small bowl, combine the honey and lime juice and whisk thoroughly with a fork until combined. Set aside.
- 2. In a large mixing bowl, combine the assorted fruits. Toss with honey-lime mixture and allow to chill, covered, for at least 2 hours to allow the dressing to impregnate the fruit.

I Am Mentally Sound

Elton Campbell Contributor

On Bell Let's Talk Day in 2018 I received numerous messages from various individuals who usually ostracize me with regards to mental health, contacting me and pretending to be concerned. In 2019, during Bell Let's Talk Day, I made sure to turn my phone off. I did not want to be an object that people use for a day so they could feel like a caring individual. In Jamaica, where I grew up, "mental illness" does not exist-you are either considered sane or mad, and frankly, no one wants to be associated with a mad person. Mental disorders exist in Canada, but it would seem as if it is only recognized if a person is diagnosed by a qualified professional. Currently, I do not have a documented mental disorder and as such, "I am mentally sound."

I have been mentally sound as far as I can remember. During infancy, I used to bump my head violently in concrete walls and massacre a few inanimate objects around me whenever my parents would invalidate my feelings and order me to obey their commands. Usually, I was reprimanded because in Jamaican culture my behaviour was considered excessively rude, even though a lot of the time I was an obedient and well-behaved child. I have memories of them saying, "yaw gwaan suh, caw yuh cyaan hurt we an yaw try dweet" ("you are acting this way because you are trying to hurt us, but you cannot"). Afterwards, I would be beaten by them for "trying to hurt them" because they believed that "I am mentally sound."

I remember my mother taking me to a doctor's office for him to counsel me about my villainous and destructive behavior. I cannot remember this man's face or the sound of his voice. but I can still recall his heroic words: "Why are you doing this? Stop it! If you continue you will damage your brain and die." My mother then reiterated what he said and that was it. Round of applause as I never bumped my head deliberately into a wall ever again. Super Doctor flying away in a rain of cash with his white cape dancing in the wind of narcissism. This proved that I was indeed an unruly child with no issues because "I am mentally sound."

As I transitioned from infancy to adulthood, I became even more mentally sound. I upgraded to thumping the concrete walls. Many times, I would slap or punch myself in the face. I reigned havoc on many valuable items I owned; ripping them to shreds, breaking them, or punching their screens out. I have found myself on the ship of life walking the plank and falling into the sea of despair countless times. Then riddled by the shark's mouth: "you are in this predicament because you are agnostic. Pray and God will help you," "you are too negative," "you are making me sad. Please stop embarrassing yourself," "everyone has depression. People choose to be depressed because they refuse to have gratitude." The most painful was, "you are trying to hurt me," expressed on the phone by one of the same individuals who said it while I was an infant. Immediately, I broke my phone; threw my laptop and kicked over a standing lamp and started to punch myself in the face because "I am mentally sound."

"I am mentally sound" to the point that I do not practice "self-harm" by cutting myself. Instead, I frequently practice "self-care" by laying in bed wrapped up in anxiety and depression for days while involuntarily going on a fast that I hope will bolt me beyond the finishing line. My passion is like a free-spirited whale that lurks in the depths of the darkest blue or on the surface of the shimmering turquoise horizon. "I am mentally sound."

In Canada, now and then a few "mentally stable" people hallucinate and think that I am unwell and beg me to waste the precious time of a hardworking mental health practitioner. Realizing how my excessive "self-care" is negatively affecting my courses, I tried desperately to secure academic accommodation. Seemingly, I need to be diagnosed with at least one of the listed mental health disorders to be qualified for that option. I chuckled as I looked at this list intensively because most Jamaicans would call me "mad" for acknowledging its existence. I am not diagnosed with any of these mental health disorders. "I am mentally sound."

The Importance of Responsible Media Consumption

Kaya Harris-Read Chief of Operations

The past decade or so has seen an increased awareness in consumers. More and more, packages have labels such as 'fair trade', 'organic', and 'non-GMO.' The double-edged-sword of capitalism is that it is very unlikely for a company to do the "right thing" unless there is consumer pressure to do so. This increased awareness, and consequent increased pressure on companies, has brought some positive changes. I don't think that it matters if a company is behaving ethically to increase profits and improve PR—the outcome is the same. We're seeing fast food places ethically sourcing their meat, stores doing away with plastic bags entirely, and cafes serving fair trade coffee, just to list a few. This goes to show that the voice of the consumer is important and can create change. So, how does this come into play with regards to our consumption of media?

In this article, when I talk about media, I'm focusing on artistic media as there is a tendency to treat movies, TV, books, and music differently than other types of media such as news broadcasting and advertisements. What I mean by this is that even if you're not a serious news reader, it's still likely that you care where your information is coming from. If it's a newspaper, the political preference of that paper matters, and will have an influence on your choice to read articles from that particular source. If you're more serious about reading the news, you might have particular journalists that you tend to trust more than others. It's not only the media that matters and where it's coming from is equally important. Artistic media tends to have a separation between the piece of media and its creators. Consumers direct pressure towards the piece of media itself, rather than its creators. This is the equivalent of being indifferent to human rights violations in the production of fast fashion clothing because you enjoy the final product.

This raises the debate of whether an artist and their work should be considered independent of each oth-



er. This is referred to as "death of the author," which stipulates that once an artist releases their work, they are no longer in control of it or have any authority over it, meaning that their work stands as its own entity. There are arguments for and against this, with both sides claiming some validity. The problem I have with this notion is that it takes the responsibility away from the artist, and it effectively undermines responsible consumption of media. A common question that comes up when discussing being a conscious consumer of media is whether it is the job of the consumer to be aware of the potentially problematic source of the art they enjoy. The answer to this is no, it's not the consumer's job to be conscientious. However, as outlined by an artilce that appeared in Stanford Business in 2009: Social Pressures Affect Corporate Strategy and Performance, social pressure plays a huge part in defining corporate performance, causing corporations to be more socially responsible. This means that when consumers are indifferent to issues associated with a particular product, the issues remain unsolved.

This conscientiousness is important because it is so often the case that an artist's harmful actions and

views have little to no consequence over the success of their work, which is especially problematic when the money they make from their work empowers them and their capacity for problematic behaviour. For example, Orson Scott Card's harmful political views did not have a significant impact on his work. Although there was an increased awareness by the time the movie adaptation of Ender's Game came out in 2013, and there was a threat to boycott it, Card had already made his money when he sold the film rights for \$1.5 million in 1996. And while this can be largely attributed to the time in which his books were published in-LGBT rights have come a long way since the 80's and 90's-his works continue to be sold in bookstores today. In no way am I insinuating that his books should be discontinued from circulation or banned, rather, I am illustrating why I personally choose not to purchase or consume these particular pieces of media, despite enjoying his writing when I was younger.

This brings us to what I consider one of the main reasons people want to make this separation: good old nostalgia. When we're young, there isn't the same pressure to be responsible for our media consumption. We're free

to read a book and not consider whether the purchase of that book is giving money to someone who holds harmful ideologies, or think about what the author is doing with their platform. In the case of Card, this involved speaking out against the legalization of same sex marriage, and funding anti-gay groups. Again, I'm not saying that people should stop reading Card's books—simply be conscious about how you consume media. For example, you might decide to the book second-hand or get it from the library, rather than purchasing a new copy, so that the profits don't go to the author.

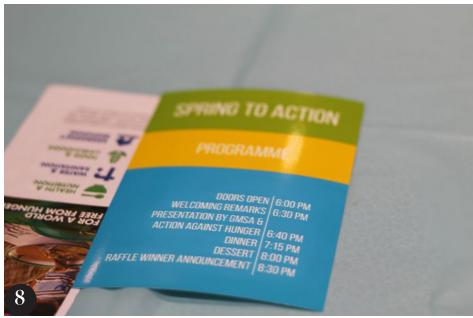
I can't dictate to people how they should consume their favourite types of media. I can't force anyone to be aware and conscious of these types of things. I just think that it is important to recognize that whenever you spend money, your dollar acts essentially as a vote. When we go out and buy fair trade coffee, we are voting for fair trade. We are indicating to that company that this is important to us, and it encourages the continuation of this global consciousness. To not have this same mentality with our consumption of media is to relinquish the power we have to hold those who profit from this media accountable.

Glendon's Muslim Students' Association and Action Against Hunger











l'Association des étudiants musulmans à Glendon et l'Action contre la faim











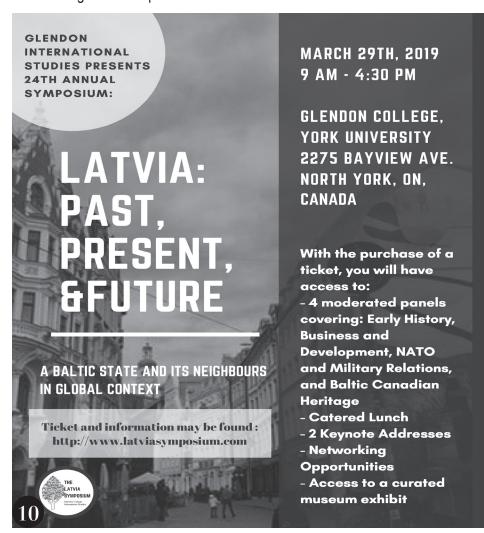
La scène francophone par Franc'Open Mic

Franc'Open Mic

Le jeudi 28 mars, Franc'Open Mic animera une scène ouverte francophone située à Rivoli, au 332 rue Queen Ouest, afin de célébrer la semaine de la francophonie. Les inscriptions pour ceux et celles qui sont intéressés commenceront à 19 h 30 et le spectacle commencera à 20 h. Franc'Open Mic est une organisation qui travaille fort

à rassembler la communauté francophone de Toronto avec l'aide de la musique, l'improvisation, le slam et plusieurs autres formes d'art. Au cours du spectacle, chaque artiste aura 10 minutes ou deux actes. Tous les niveaux de talent seront acceptés pourvu que les performances soient en français. Venez, jouez, appréciez le talent et célébrez la langue française avec une communauté accueillante. Vous ne le regretterez pas!

Pour plus d'informations, visitez Franc'Open Mic sur Facebook et Instagram. Consultez également notre site web : www.francopenmic.com.





Spring 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

Betty: They Say I'm Different Art Gallery of Ontario, Mar 27, 29–30

An Evening with Anderson Cooper *Roy Thomson Hall, Mar 30*

HideSeek

1305 Dundas St West, Every Sat & Sun until June 2

Aperitivo in Maschera

Casa Loma, Mar 30

Obsessive Pop Tendencies

Buddies in Bad Times, Mar 30

La Traviata

Al Green Theatre, Miles Nadal JCC, Mar 31

Career & Education

FutureMakers Talks: Navigating the Experience Era

RBC WaterPark Place Auditorium, Mar 27

Getting on in the Gig Economy: Tools & Tales from the Future of Work

Gladstone Hotel, Mar 27

Investing 101

Riverdale Branch, Toronto Public Library, Mar 27

Community and Environment

One of a Kind 2019 Spring Show Enercare Centre, Mar 27–31

Earth Hour Show & Tell

Akin St. Clair, Mar 30

Side Hustle Sunday

Make Lemonade, Mar 31

Old Book and Paper Show Artscape Wychwood Barns, Mar 31

Food and Drink

2019 March: Wine and Paint Toronto *LucSculpture School Studies, Mar* 29

Tsujiri Patisserie Grand Opening 596 Yonge St, Mar 30

Music and Entertainment

Butterbeer Crawl

Various locations, Mar 30

Broods: Don't Feed the Pop Monster

Phoenix Concert Theatre, April 12

Jai Wolf: The Cure to Loneliness

The Velvet Underground, April 19

Chemi Lhamo and The Chinese-Tibetan Conspiracies of Toronto

Gulsvert Dela Cruz Metropolis Editor

University of Toronto, Scarborough Campus' (UTSC) new President-elect, Chemi Lhamo, has been at the centre of an ongoing controversy involving freedom of speech and Chinese influence in Canadian universities. A 22-year old Tibetan-Canadian, Lhamo publicly advocates Tibetan independence from the People's Republic of China. Though not in her campaign platform, she has come under attack from Chinese students who have bombarded her Instagram profile with criticisms—anything from simply reiterating that Tibet is a part of China (followed by a string of Chinese flag emojis) to labelling her a "racist," a "separatist," and a series of expletives. Plenty of these comments were written in Chinese. Up to the point when this article was written on March 16, 2019, disrespectful comments are still being posted, either against her, China, Tibet, or other commenters.

An individual named Kennedy L. wrote up a petition to remove Lhamo as the President-elect. The website notes that Chinese students "strongly disagree with Lhamo's political statements and her participation in political campaigns that were clearly against Chinese history, Chinese laws and Chinese students' rights." It also states their firm belief in the One-China policy and Chinese sovereignty, "as most governments in the world recognized (Wikipedia) and would not tolerate any attempt to impinge upon China's sovereignty and territorial integrity."

Among their concerns or complaints include: Lhamo's political belief for a Tibet that is free from the People's Republic of China—a belief which she publicly espouses on her Instagram account; posting pictures of her making obscene hand gestures toward China; making statements indicating her support for an independent Taiwan; and approaching Chinese students to support her in her campaign without informing them of her political beliefs regarding Tibet.

Interestingly, this petition also stated that Lhamo allegedly used Mandarin when conversing with the students, when in fact she does not speak Mandarin. This petition successfully garnered more than 11,000 signatures, though it is now closed.

Lhamo's platform runs on student representation and engagement, and she has advocated for free, universal education, expansion of the Global Citizenship project, and a career fair for senior year students. She decided to use the skills she gained and learned from her Tibetan community to help engage students on campus. Though she believes in a Tibet that is free from the People's Republic of China-a belief which she publicly espouses on her Instagram account—she did not make this position a part of her political campaign at UTSC. Writer Meera Ulysses commented that Lhamo's views on Tibet were never even really a platform during her election campaign. "The fact of the matter is that Lhamo was not elected to mediate relations between China and Tibet or to facilitate discussions on the question of Tibetan autonomy. She was elected to preside over student issues at UTSC."

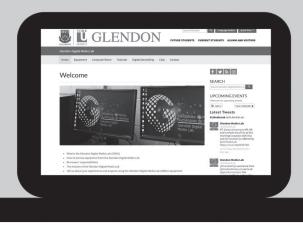
This story runs parallel to a development at McMaster university, where Chinese students interrupted a speech on the poor treatment and internment of Uyghur Muslims in Western China. There have been allegations that the Chinese government was involved in these events. While the Chinese Embassy and Consulate General in Ottawa support the "just and patriotic actions of Chinese students," they have officially denied any involvement in their activities.

Investigations are currently being made by Toronto Police to see if the thousands of comments (among around 15,000 comments in various languages) directed at Lhamo on her Instagram posts constitute criminal threats.



LABORATOIRE DE MÉDIAS NUMÉRIQUES DE GLENDON

CRÉER VOTRE RÉCITS NUMÉRIQUE



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LABORATOIRE DE MÉDIAS NUMÉRIQUES

YH B217

Why Affirmative Action is Right

Umu Jalloh Contributor

Let it be known that an overwhelming feeling of outrage is what has driven me to write about affirmative action. I am outraged by all the critics who have devoted their lives to ending affirmative action. I have struggled to come to terms with how these critics, some of whom have never experienced racial profiling a single day in their lives, are audacious enough to put down the policy that aims to prevent systemic discrimination in our public and private institutions.

To be fair, I don't believe the name "affirmative action" does any good to its purpose. For someone who has never heard of Affirmative Action, the name might sound more authoritative than it is. There will always be people in society who will choose to oppose something because it doesn't "sound right." So, please allow me to educate you on reasons why affirmative action should be left the way it is and why you should care about efforts to dismantle its related policies.

Affirmative action is a shield for visible and non-visible minorities to protect themselves from unlawful prosecution or discrimination from the state. You take away that shield, and we minorities have no army to fight for our best interests. Affirmative action can take shape through four different models: compensatory, diversity, discrimination-blocking, and integrative. The popular model of affirmative action in Canada is discrimination-blocking. Canadians can't stand the thought of discrimination taking place in any of our institutions or places of employment. Our approach: "Kill the virus before it spreads".



So, if we're so great at kicking the enemy of affirmative action out before it gets to kick us back, then we don't have anything to worry about concerning affirmative action "eh"? Couldn't we survive without it since we have the 1982 Charter of Rights and Freedoms—a document that explicitly says, "as long as you're a Canadian citizen, you're entitled to these rights"? Translated from legalese, it says: "If you've been a victim of a racial attack, verbal or nonverbal discrimination, by the government or any representative of the government, call us at 1-800-BLOCK-**DISCRIMINATION.**"

What's wrong, then? Why is there an opposition to a policy that protects society's most vulnerable groups? The answer for me is simple: ignorance. Those opposed to affirmative action choose to ignore the fact that Indigenous peoples, people with disabilities, visible minorities, and members of the LGBTQ community are being denied jobs that they otherwise qualify for. Immigration Canada markets this country as the "land of opportunity," yet opponents of affirmative action choose to ignore the fact that we have immi-

grant lawyers, doctors, professors, and varied professionals working minimum wage jobs in our production facilities.

You don't need to google this; ask around and you'll discover immigrant families with a similar story line: "We came here with the impression that we were going to continue working in our fields but after going through job applications we were told we needed Canadian experience in our field". What is this so-called Canadian experience? What makes it superior to the experiences you get from working in any other country in the world? Making the argument that different countries have different work and education institutions that may not meet the standard required here in Canada only highlights global inequality.

Opponents of affirmative action choose to ignore the fact that only one percent of Canadian government jobs are reserved for Indigenous peoples and visible minorities. Instead, they bring up the cliche argument that "affirmative action in the workplace should be based on selecting the best qualified candidates." The argument itself is plausible, but if you put it in

other words, it basically implies that visible minorities are only getting jobs over qualified candidates because they are visible minorities. Let's dissect this a little further. If this claim is true, then there is nothing wrong with compensating a discriminated person with a job offer based on the fact that they have been denied jobs for which they qualified in the past. Affirmative action does not encourage favoritism, it encourages fairness.

Affirmative action is right when discrimination says "we need Canadian experience in this field" and there isn't a single employer in the field in guestion willing to hire an otherwise qualified candidate with no "Canadian experience." Affirmative action is right when children from single-parent homes are subject to more Children's Aid Society involvement. Affirmative action is right when a transgender person is asked to use the washroom the owner of a business or restaurant thinks they should use. Affirmative action is right as long as discrimination exists in our institutions.



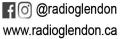
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It's Not About the Mental Healthcare— It's the Inaccessibility of the University Itself

Krysta Veneruz *Media Officer*

After the regrettable suicide of a student on University of Toronto Campus this past Sunday night, about which the university has yet to make a statement, numerous University of Toronto students have spoken out the past few days in a calling for better mental health services and transparency across the board.

According to page 20 of the University of Toronto 2018-2019 budget, initiatives for access and diversity was allotted 3.5 million dollars. So why is the system clearly still failing its student body? It's not about more mental health funding, we need to actually be looking at the factors as to why the need for mental health supports has increased so significantly over the past few years to actually address the issues at hand, rather than patch-fix them.

Like most of us know, University of Toronto is the most competitive school in Canada, where students often need first-year averages 90+ to be accepted into their desired major. Coupled with the enormous academic transition we have in Ontario from high school to University, this can be hard to achieve. Nonetheless, University of Toronto is stereotyped for a high international student population—but this isn't a stereotype, nearly 22% of students at U of T are international students (2017-2018 budget report), and many already possess undergraduate degrees. This makes high achievement for Canadian students even more of a challenge, as the first-year students are only competing to fit on the bell curve and not be weeded out.

What's also notable is the questionable covering-up of the first-year acceptance rate versus drop-out rate. Many professors actually admit that students will have a difficult time fitting on the bell curve when the program is designed to only keep 800 students for second-year after 1200 are accepted. My question is—how is this system



acceptable when it causes a ridiculous amount of unnecessary stress for students and it gives them artificial grades that do not actually represent their intelligences?

Let's not forget about the extreme lack of funding that Ontario students have, with recently diminished OSAP and sky-high rent rates in Toronto (where the average one-bedroom has now soared to \$2200+ according to BlogTO), making University of Toronto students face a far-too-challenging re-

ality for any 18-year-old to handle. You might say "Why choose U of T then?" And for a response, you need to realize that these students are there to find success They're reaching for top-funded programs—the most varied science programs in the country; they chose a career path where only U of T offers that specialized program; they're dreaming of graduate school and they have the work ethic to get there.

Even if one works exceptionally hard, everyone has a breaking point,

and with these added stress factors at the University of Toronto, that breaking point comes too quickly. It's important to remember that students are not money-making objects (if anything they have the least of it), they're human, and we're forgetting to treat them that way. We don't need more investment in mental health counselling, we need investment into making university an accessible place for the demographic of the people there.

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The Student Free Press (cont.)

These publications also provide students much of the experience and skills necessary in the journalism industry. Becky Fong is a former staff writer for the University of Toronto's student newspaper The Varsity who used her experience to launch her career into journalism, eventually working at TVO, CTV and The Canadian Press. During her time in the paper, she wrote about everything from funding for student programs to varsity sports. She also covered school politics and its intersection with provincial politics during the years Bob Rae was Premier of Ontario. Some of the team at The Varsity also went on to great careers in journalism. Naomi Klein is the author behind best-selling books such as No Logo and This Changes Everything. Similarly, free-

lance journalist Clive Thompson used his experience working at

The Varsity to write for publications including The New York Times Magazine and WIRED.

"I believe that student journalism is a great place for students to work on becoming better writers, editors and critical thinkers," Becky says. "All of those skills helped me become a journalist. In a very competitive industry, I had the experience and the skills that I developed through years of writing on various topics, working in a newsroom and learning how to identify and then tell a good story."

The Conservative government's Student Choice Initiative and the potential funding cut for student newspapers is a very natural position by this government to challenge funding for student papers. This is because traditionally, university students are a group that is seen to lean left of center. "Being a student journalist means that it's your job to challenge the status quo and those in positions of power," Becky says. "Many journalists start their careers in uni-

versity covering issues like access to affordable education and housing, fair wage policies, and racism and discrimination experienced by students."

Sarah Ariza-Verreault—Pro Tem's current Editor in Chief-urges students to read their schools' papers to support their fellow students and inform themselves on school-related investigations and global issues. To her, Pro Tem is important because it gives students an outlet to express themselves and the ability to criticize what's happening at their school, whether it's the administration or the student council. Sarah says, "By cutting off funding and stifling these students' voices, [Ford] is cutting out these outlets for students." Student newspapers provide coverage of issues and topics that are often overlooked by many established media outlets.

At a time when the university press is at risk, there are many things students can do to support the student newspapers they depend on for coverage of their school's politics. Students can show their support by choosing to pay the fees. Students can also continue reading and submitting articles to contribute to these publications.

The free press is an integral part of democracy, and so it is important that students protect a safe and independent forum. Student journalism not only provides an opportunity for budding journalists to improve their skills and work on their craft, but it also provides a safe space for people to discuss current events regardless of what their career path is. It is vital that we preserve the student press so students can share their opinions on the administration and the government. To maintain this important forum, student newspapers must have access to stable, ongoing funding.

Did Legalizing Marijuana Make Things Better or Worse for Canadians?

Massud Issa Contributor

Since legalization kicked in on October 17, 2018, marijuana use has become more openly accepted. In Canada, people who have had an affinity for marijuana can now smoke or consume the drug in its various forms without judicial consequence. The Trudeau government even went as far as to announce their pledge to pardon minor convictions stemming from marijuana-related charges. On the other hand, though legal in Canada, usage of the drug has created problems for Canada Border Services officers, inciting uproar from travellers at the border. Dispensaries have received a great deal of backlash for their close proximity to schools. Not to mention, the overarching problematic scheme set in place to determine what differentiates possession from intent to distribute. The million-dollar question is: has this new legislation, designed to alleviate the difficulties of possession and usage, spurred a multitude of problems in the hopes of solving just one?

The Liberal government proposed this idea as a part of their agenda. Spearheaded by Minister of Public Safety Roger Goodale, the new legislation was intended to legalize an outdated and over-criminalizing societal norm, something lobbyists say has been long past due. It's no secret that the correctional system has consistently reflected a disproportionate ratio of individuals from racialized or lower socioeconomic backgrounds, especially with regards to marijuana-related convictions. With an overwhelming wave of global and national support for the drug to be legal and after years of studies have proven the drug's useful applications and less detrimental effects compared to other forms of legal substances, the answer was quite easy and fit well with this government's platform.

People who have used marijuana for purposes such as anxiety, depression, sleep-apnea, and an endless list of assuaged conditions, are hailing



this move as "life-saving" stating that "they feel like a weight has been lifted off their shoulders." The burden carried by many marijuana users is simply that the use of cannabis makes life easier and in turn helps them to be more productive. One student mentioned "marijuana for me is literally the difference between a good performance and the ability to do well and the letting everything get to me and overthink it all". A subcategory of the Canadian populace. students, herald the move as a step in the right direction, removing barriers to entry, and eliminating invisible glass ceilings that the rest of society doesn't see but they feel every single day. For these people and many others, the benefits far outweigh the potential difficulties that come from this long-awaited move at the national level.

However, there are those that hold a much different point of view. As the new legislation has made it easier for individual use, there have been serious ramifications for other parts of society. In order to freely buy the drug, one needs to have stores from which to buy. In Toronto, the argument against upcoming dispensaries was centred around their location of choice. The first location was initially planned to be 450 metres away from a nearby Scarborough school. It turned out that this wasn't an isolated situation and that the next chain of locations considered following suit, whether by chance or for economic reasons. However, the Beer Store shares a similar predicament,

hosting locations as close to 100 metres from schools. Children gaining access is certainly a concern, and since being raised, the previous Ontario Liberal government put in motion a strategy to better accommodate parents.

What has yet to be remedied is the current immigration issue. When crossing the border, officers ask a number of incriminating, loaded, and leading questions, all of which travellers are prescribed to answer truthfully. Officers ask, "Have you had marijuana within the last 48 hours? Are you planning on using marijuana in the states, even in a marijuana-legal state? Have you been pardoned for a marijuana-related conviction?" Immigration professionals have cited that many of their clients are turned away from the border when being honest with any of these questions and answering yes, even though they have committed no crime and show little or no past transgression.

The opposite isn't any better, as Immigration Consultant Jui Lung Wu points out that, "even if you answer no, they will question your answer and may send you home from the border." The border has become a "death trap" for people who have had any contact with marijuana. Free-range policy for border security and law enforcement has shown negative effects on travellers. Worst of all, to be turned around from the border means to be denied entry—an event that appears on an individual's travel history and only leads to future difficulties when crossing the border.

Lastly, even pardoned individuals with regard to marijuana convictions are being held for longer prosecution times without exact reason. "The best reason we've ever heard from a border officer is that the migrant poses a threat to break controlled substance acts in the U.S. due to a propensity to do it once before—a far cry from being considered a valid reason at all" says Jui Lung Wu. Overall, the problem seems to be getting worse at the border and policy intervention is heavily needed.

So, where do we stand at the end of the day? Legalization helps users but affects both users and society at large in so many other ways. Mental and physical health improves, and an outdated, over-criminalizing law that targets racialized and low socioeconomic individuals is reformed. But on the flip side, society must contend with new dispensaries and where they should be established as well as with border woes. The question remains: is the legalization of marijuana a good or bad thing for society? My take is that it's like two sides of a coin: one cannot exist without the other. The problem solved does create other problems, but over time, pivotal policy discussions and more appropriate resolutions will prove that the decision to legalize marijuana is one of greater benefit than detriment. Can we get there? Only time will tell.

Nightmare

Ayla Sljivar Expressions Editor

I met with a woman I have never seen before.

Draped in loose, textured fabric She holds up a picture that I find familiar

It is a picture of me. Or who I once was.

I am smiling in this photo. For once.

Lady Spring

Anike Morrison Contributor

The winter air hits the mercury differently than Lady Spring's breath does. Whereas the spring air, in its florid, sunny attire, sashays through the streets and into my open nostrils, the ice-mantled, brisk breath of Winter hits my face, prompting an unpleasant and automatic recoil.

What am I smiling at?
That, I could not answer.
It's funny how,
Even a photo couldn't jog my memory.

And isn't a photo supposed to be worth a thousand words?

Only one word comes to mind when I look at this photo:

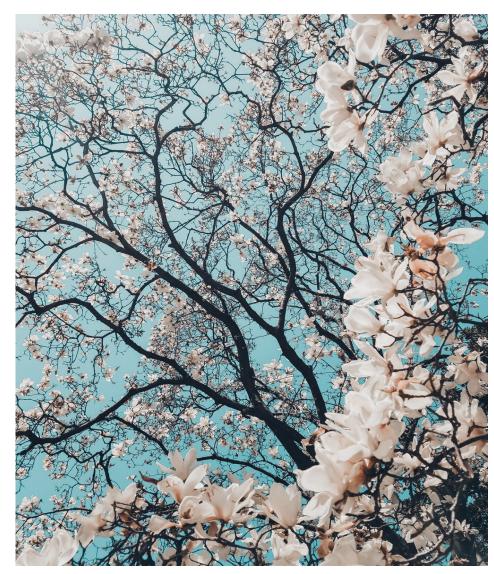
Dread.

The dread that,

This smile will disappear soon.

And I will be left with a permanent scowl. Oh, what a happy life.

Winter smells like carbon monoxide, but spring provides lots of material for the searching snout of a dog or pup. Lady Spring is a novice lover, and a flirt, and her sighs are perfumed with rose water. Winter air blows quickly over dirt, pollution and salt, like a squeamish germaphobe trying to avoid touching dirt for too long. Lady Spring's sun-warmed breath rises above the melting frost with understated joy.





Paul

Gabriella Giordan Rédactrice adjointe français

Une rue montréalaise, cinq heures de l'après-midi. Des voitures roulaient à toute allure et des piétons marchaient à la hâte pour rentrer chez eux. Un chien, en promenade avec sa vieille maîtresse Amélie, fut emporté par sa curiosité au moment où un oiseau se pointa sur la rue, en essayant d'attraper ledit oiseau. Les voitures accélérèrent. Mort.

À cet instant, tout bascula dans la tête d'Amélie. Tout était flou. Les voitures s'arrêtèrent autour du chien. Alarmés à la vue désolante du chien écrasé, les passants s'approchèrent d'Amélie. Elle entendait leurs voix, mais de manière très incohérente, comme s'ils étaient très loin d'elle, alors qu'ils étaient à ses côtés, essayant de la tirer de son choc et de son incompréhension.

Elle n'osait pas regarder le cadavre, fixant plutôt son regard dans le grand vide qui s'offrait sous ses yeux et qui commençait à se former aussi dans son cœur. Elle s'aperçut à peine qu'on lui parlait, qu'on emportait son chien, qu'on l'emmenait ailleurs. Elle s'aperçut à peine qu'elle était sur le point de perdre conscience. La vieille dame reprit conscience quelques heures plus tard à l'Hôpital général de Montréal. Quand elle ouvrit les yeux, elle aperçut un jeune homme qui semblait soulagé de son réveil. Ses yeux étaient d'un bleu électrique.

Il la fixa droit dans les yeux et lui demanda :

- Comment s'appelait-il?
- Paul.
- Un drôle de nom pour un chien.
 - C'était le nom de mon fils.

Le médecin se tut. La dame avait répondu sans cligner des yeux, sans émotion.

Amélie resta en observation pendant la nuit et on la laissa partir le lendemain à midi, avec la nouvelle qu'on lui ramènerait ce qu'il restait de son chien pour qu'elle puisse l'enterrer. Les jours suivants s'écoulaient très lentement. Elle passa les cinq prochaines années dans l'obscurité, ne sortant presque jamais de chez elle, à part pour aller acheter le minimum nécessaire pour ne pas mourir de faim. Elle devint de plus en plus grise et tourmentée par la tristesse qu'elle éprouvait. De temps en temps, elle regardait par la fenêtre pour voir si les deux tombes, celle de

son mari et de Paul, étaient toujours là. Et elles l'étaient. Ils étaient là.

Un jour, on cogna à sa porte. Amélie, qui vivait seule depuis désormais vingt-six ans, ne fit d'abord aucun mouvement pour aller ouvrir la porte. On cogna plus fort, avec plus d'insistance. Finalement, anxieuse et paniquée, mais tout de même curieuse, Amélie se leva pour ouvrir la porte.

Elle vit un grand homme robuste, aux cheveux presque gris, dont le visage commençait à être ridé malgré le fait qu'il n'avait qu'environ quarante ans. Ses grands yeux d'un bleu électrique lui semblèrent tout d'un coup très familiers, mais aucun des deux ne disait un mot.

Après quelques minutes de silence, il parla.

- C'est moi, maman.

C'était Paul. Il était revenu, sans être jamais vraiment parti.