

In This Issue

Meet the 2020-2021 team! • Page 2

Vie étudiante

Business As Usual: The educational cost of the pandemic is on our shoulders • Page 1, 3

Homesick • Page 3

Expressions

Try Change • Page 4

Arts & Entertainment

Why Everyone Involved in the Making of "Among Us" is a Certified Genius • Page 4, 5

Review: Season 1 of Canada's Drag Race • Page 5

Metropole

The End of Conflict • Page 6

The City's Underprivileged are Misrepresented, a Comment on the Toronto Community Housing Corporation • Page 7

Santé et bien être

The Beautiful Game: Canada's time to shine • Page 8

Conseils pour bien réussir en ligne ce semestre • Page 9

Issues & Ideas

Review & Opinion: *Displacing Blackness* by Ted Rutland • Page 10

La Prochaine Date Limite :
le 2 octobre 2020

 protemglendon

 protemGL

www.protemgl.com



Business as Usual: The educational cost of the pandemic is on our shoulders

Kamilia Grove
Contributor

In a pandemic where nothing feels certain, technology has guaranteed students the ability to continue their education — but not without intensifying pre-existing challenges and adding new ones. At the beginning of February, I was an eager student abroad in Copenhagen, Denmark. I joined my host university's symphony orchestra, travelled in and outside of Denmark, and made friends from all over the world. By mid-March, I found myself quarantined in an apartment in the GTA where the only piece of furniture was a stool.

My family did not want me to be isolated in the family home after I had travelled from Denmark to Canada through Germany, and so, I stayed at an empty townhouse they had planned

to rent out in the future. For two weeks, my only connection — besides phone calls and the occasional family member in the window — was the limited amount of data on my phone, because the apartment did not have WiFi. I could not work on my classes for two weeks, which I worried about, unaware that studying from home would be a massive challenge for me.

As a university student who has hardly ever had to study from her family home, and never while her family was home, for months on end I seriously questioned whether I would be able to complete my credits. I was so overwhelmed, all the time. To say the pandemic affected my studies is an understatement. I had to quickly adapt to working in an environment that was not conducive to my success; the house was loud, I grew stir-crazy, and my fam-

ily did not understand what I needed. Daily, my concentration was disrupted by their constant knocking at my door — some days it was difficult to study at all! The day before my paper worth 100% of my European master's level class was due, my mother wanted to blast music in the attic (right above my bedroom) to draw out the squirrels who had made a home for themselves there. Luckily, I won that battle.

Studying from home through my semester 'abroad' and two summer school semesters required me to learn to negotiate, prioritize myself, and change my study habits. Despite this and the emotional challenges of leaving my exchange, these semesters somehow produced the best grades of my university career. A huge part of my success can be attributed to how

Continued on **PAGE 3**

Notre équipe

Editor in Chief | Rédactrice en chef
Eden Minichiello
editor@protemglendon.com

Chief of Operations | Chef des opérations
Natalie El-Rifai
operations@protemglendon.com

English Editor | Rédacteur anglais adjoint
Adam Kozak
englisheditor@protemglendon.com

French Editor | Rédactrice française adjointe
Beatrice Bouaré
frencheditor@protemglendon.com

Photographer | Photographe
Ruhama Varatharajan
photography@protemglendon.com

Layout Editor | Maquettier
Elton Campbell
design@protemglendon.com

Section Editors | Chroniqueurs

Campus Life | Vie étudiante
Anna Noumtinis

Issues & Ideas | Actualité et opinions
Ariana Mah

Metropolis | Métropole
Kitty Yin

Arts and Entertainment & Expressions |
Arts et divertissement & Expressions
Brianna Carrasco

Health & Wellness | Santé et bien-être
Josée Philips

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 York.

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.

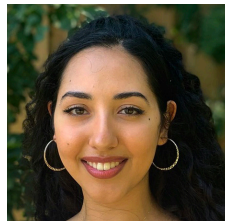
Feel free to respond to what you read in the pages of Pro Tem! / N'hésitez pas à réagir à ce que vous avez lu dans Pro Tem!

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

Be sure to follow us on Facebook for reminders about upcoming deadlines and events: @ProtemGL



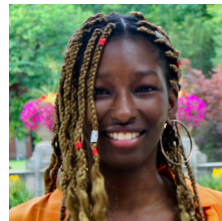
Eden Minichiello
Editor in Chief



Natalie El-Rifai
Chief of Operations



Adam Kozak
Assistant English Editor



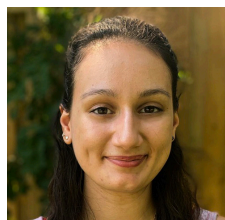
Beatrice Bouaré
Assistant French Editor



Elton Campbell
Layout Designer



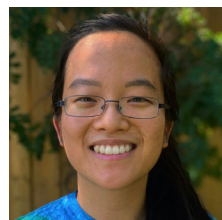
Ruhama Varatharajan
Photographer



Anna Noumtinis
Campus Life



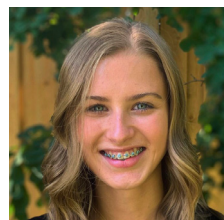
Ariana Mah
Issues and Ideas



Kitty Yin
Metropolis



Brianna Carrasco
Arts and Entertainment &
Expressions



Josée Philips
Health and Wellness

Welcome back, Pro Tem readers!

Hello! My name is Eden, and I am honoured to introduce myself as Pro Tem's new Editor in Chief. I am overjoyed to write to all of you today to announce our first issue of the 2020-2021 academic year. To be completely candid with you, I was unsure of what Pro Tem would be able to accomplish this year amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, and my hopes for publishing a cohesive, bi-weekly paper were low. However, thanks to the hard work of the Pro Tem Executive team, a group of extremely bright and resolute individuals, and the unwavering support of our contributors, here we are today, publishing our first issue. I am very excited to be leading such a fantastic team in the operation of Glendon's bilingual newspaper for its 59th year.

Vous remarquerez que nous avons apporté de nombreux changements aux opérations de Pro Tem en raison de la pandémie COVID-19. Pour ce semestre (au moins), Pro Tem n'imprimera ni distribuera de copies physiques de nos publications bihebdomadaires. Au lieu de cela, nous publierons un « e-paper », qui est disponible sous forme de PDF, et qui pourra être envoyé directement à votre boîte de réception. Si vous voulez recevoir nos publications bihebdomadaires, veuillez vous abonner à la liste de diffusion sur notre site web. En raison de COVID-19, nous n'organiserons pas notre fête de lancement en collaboration avec Lunik. Cependant, nous avons plusieurs projets pour faire participer notre communauté, alors restez à l'écoute.

Above all, our aim this semester is to continue Pro Tem's tradition of providing a platform for students to raise their voices and express their thoughts. I hope to take the paper in a direction that highlights the warmth and intimacy of the Glendon community this year. It is in times like these that I believe compassion and connection are of the utmost meaning and importance.

Je me réjouis de lire vos contributions ce semestre !

À bientôt,

Eden Minichiello
Editor in Chief



Homesick

Eden Minichiello
Editor in Chief

As a student entering my fourth, maybe-final-but-probably-not, year here at Glendon, I've found myself struck with a very sudden sense of what can be described as nothing else but homesickness. I spent my summer isolated and detached from the idea of returning to campus, professors, and friends, knowing that it would be much safer to be learning from home, and being okay with that. But now, as the weather begins to cool and the days grow shorter, my logical practicality is being pushed out of place by a sense of nostalgia that springs from my heart and wells up in my throat. The kind of reminiscing that reminds you of everything about home; not just the best parts, the annoying-but-charming and downright-ugly

parts too.

My mind's eye is caught in a daydream of Frost library in the fall, sitting among the bookshelves, studying for midterms while the leaves change. Then I laugh at the thought of it in the wintertime - so serendipitously beautiful, watching the snow fall outside the big windows, all while groaning about how bloody hot it is and how hard it is to focus with a century-old HVAC system. I feel my spine thanking the good Lord above that I'll be in the comfort of my own chair instead of the tiny, grade school desk-chair hybrids, hopelessly angled to ensure every notebook and pen will slide right off their surface. Yet, their charming awfulness pulls at a string in my soul. My heart wrenches just a little knowing I'll be napping on my couch instead of Lunik's. I'm relieved that I won't be spending entire paychecks on Timmie's drinks — and I won't be putting on pounds eating their pastries either — but a small part of me

wishes I was.

I've found my many safe spaces at Glendon, some of which I'll keep hidden in my heart forever with a jealous desire to make them only mine. I thought learning from home would be a shy girl's wet dream - no pressure to leave the comfortable confines of my room, or to do any dreadful socializing - but it's turning out to feel more like a white lie. As a sentimental introvert who takes her time to settle into new environments, I am mourning what would have been my first year fully out of my shell at my quaint little university campus. My hope for this semester, though physically distant and remote, is that the warmth we're all missing from our favourite places and beloved community would be replaced by the glow of kindness and compassion that transcends space and withstands the test of time. So learn and love with intention, reach out to those you care for, and try to be a little extra human this year.



Business as Usual: The educational cost of the pandemic is on our shoulders (cont.)

accommodating the University of Copenhagen (my host institution) was to my pandemic stress and my initial remote learning challenges.

Remote learning has completely transformed school for nearly every student; it has and will continue to present challenges, but also opportunities if students have the resources and ability to seize them. Fundamentally, it deprives students of certain educational tools and requires us to adopt new strategies. My two and a half semesters of remote learning have taught me that achieving good grades with a full course load via Zoom is nearly impossible without being highly organized, keeping procrastination to a minimum, and being able to compartmentalize external stressors.

Demanding students perform at the same level as in pre-pandemic times, without room for error, is simply unrealistic, naïve, and unfair. Many have not had the opportunity to develop the necessary organizational skills, while others cannot access the same stress-relieving social activities such as sports, clubs, and spending quality time with friends. Refusing to accommodate students struggling to navigate online school during a pandemic particularly neglects students from low socio-economic statuses who may not have their own devices, those coping with family and mental health issues while being forced to stay at home, and students facing general pandemic fear and anxiety (whether it be about the global situation or a personal one).

The extent of the pandemic's effect on a student's education is dependent on the quality of their new study environment, how accommodating their institution is, and whether or not they have had the opportunity to develop crucial organizational skills. Not adapting teaching methods, class syllabi, assignments, and university due date policies puts the hefty cost of

pandemic learning on students. Instead, institutions should be accommodating to the multitude of challenges students are facing. Students need understanding and compassion as they adapt to learning in new ways and places while dealing with external stressors such as family issues, financial struggles, working a part-time (or full-time) job, mental health, and pandemic related

stress. Not accommodating students properly is a failure on the part of educational institutions; it shifts the immense pressure of the consequences of COVID-19 onto students who face the potential of lasting consequences with regards to their success.

PUBLIER DANS

ÉCRIRE POUR

≡ L'EXPRESS
VIVRE EN FRANÇAIS AU GRAND TORONTO

x *pro tem*
NOTRE VOIX NOTRE HISTOIRE

LES ÉTUDIANTS DE L'UNIVERSITÉ YORK ONT
L'OCCASION DE SE FAIRE PUBLIER DANS
L'EXPRESS DE TORONTO

LES ÉTUDIANTS DE YORK, ENVOYEZ VOS ARTICLES
EN FRANÇAIS À
EDITOR@PROTEMGLENDON.COM

Try Change

Sonia Said
Contributor

Try change.

I am not just saying that,

I mean it.

I was reluctant to change but there were too many times. Too many times, I gave a hand to someone and he took the time to trample my heart, consciously. Too many times, I spent time with people and trusted them naively.

And too many times makes us change.

I was always reluctant to change. I wanted things to be planned, to follow a “logical” (sometimes even chronological) order. Until the day I suddenly moved from Strasbourg to Toronto. I had to repeat 12th grade (for no reason), I spent a year at home because university was too expensive, COVID-19 hit, and I had to undergo a biopsy.

Sometimes life throws at us unexpected events.

And that’s how you learn that life is about that: life is all about embracing the unknown, hugging the possibility of something different with sometimes unidentified outcomes.

Look at the situation right now,
Even though everyone is complaining about wearing masks, we are still able to talk.
Even though everyone is complaining that these times are difficult, we are still breathing.
I am not saying that it is easy; I don’t like wearing a mask everyday but I do,
Because I want to live a little more.

See, it’s all about perspective: once you change your mindset, the change becomes natural. Tolerating the situation we are in is part of the deal, but accepting the situation, being the change, is reaching another level.

Accepting the situation means looking at the negative and the positive; taking into account that nothing is ever black or white: it’s always grey. Grey symbolizes balance, neutrality, but also loss. Thus, once you shift to the grey, it means that you have accepted some kind

of loss. I think that is the right time to explore other colors; they are here so we can enjoy our journey on earth.

It is okay if our environment is in continuous change, accept the loss but just don’t stay in the darkness, be proud of yourself for your strength in difficult times,

Embrace the moment you live in,

share your story,

be a part of others’ journeys, and

enjoy as much as you can.

Soon enough you will like change, you will be grateful for it because it brings something new, exciting, and valuable to our everyday. It brings new possibilities, better options, and it leads to growth. Change makes us evolve and understand, it develops us and the world we live in. I am sure that the current situation has a lot to teach us. And among other things, it shows us that we are not doing things right...

We have a lot to improve, modify, stop, and change.



Arts and Entertainment

Why Everyone Involved in the Making of “Among Us” is a Certified Genius

Adam Kozak
Assistant English Editor

Ahhh, Werewolf. Truly a summer camp and elementary school classic. No pens, paper, dice, or cards necessary. All you needed was the willingness to lie to all of your

friends and accuse them of murder (or an overactive and morbid imagination, if you were the “game master”). Hours and hours of glorious time spent screaming about how Kevin was the werewolf because Lily was dead now and she suspected him, and about how Ashley’s been reeeaaally quiet this time around.

For anyone who didn’t find the above paragraph overwhelmingly nostalgic, Werewolf is a party game wherein the players take on the roles of townspeople with various jobs in the town. Some are hunters, some are seers, some are doctors... and some are werewolves who feast on human flesh under the moonlit sky. The townspeople’s goal is to find out who the

Continued on **PAGE 5**



Why Everyone Involved in the Making of “Among Us” is a Certified Genius (cont.)

werewolf or werewolves are and drive them out of town, and they do so by arguing about and voting on who they think the werewolf is. The werewolves’ goal is to eliminate all the townspeople and they do so by... well, you recall my comment about the feasting and the moonlit sky. Figuratively speaking, of course... at least in every version of the game I’ve ever played.

From my experience, this game is pretty popular around the world. Most people from other countries and cultures that I’ve spoken with know the general rules of Werewolf, or at least a version of it (other people know it as Mafia). Unfortunately, this game is difficult to play during the era of COVID-19, as it pretty much requires that all players be within close proximity of one another, and the game isn’t as much fun if there are less than 8 players.

But InnerSloth, those magnificent computer nerds, have an answer for those of us who miss the feverish shouting matches Werewolf inevitably provokes

an ambrosia of chaos, pandemonium, and trust issues for social deduction game addicts. That answer, my friends, is Among Us.

The story of Among Us is an almost rags-to-riches tale in the video game world. The first version of the game released on iOS and Android in June 2018 to little public reception, with around 30 to 50 active players at most for almost two years. The game didn’t support online multiplayer, and it only featured one map on launch. Nevertheless, the development team stuck to their guns, and continued to provide development support for the game, updating it as often as once a week at times. Everything seemed quiet for a long time... until its popularity skyrocketed on popular game streaming platform, Twitch. Over the past few weeks, popular streamers have been picking up the game and streaming it extensively, which has caused an immense increase in the number of followers the game has on Twitch, which is 1.2 million at

time of writing. The Steam version of the game, which was released later in 2018, has now gone from an average number of about 500 players in May this year to a whopping 72,000 in the last 30 days.

So why is it that this indie game that launched back in 2018, with the graphics of an early-2000s era Newgrounds flash game, has suddenly become one of the most popular games on Twitch and Steam? My guess is that a combination of factors came together to create the perfect environment for this game’s runaway success. First of all, the persistence of the developers was instrumental in ensuring that the game would survive long enough to ascend to greatness. Updating the game regularly and adding online multiplayer functionality, more maps for people to play on, and releasing it on Steam put the game in a good position to succeed in the indie scene. I think it struggled initially because it was too similar to Werewolf — why pay for a PC version of a game you can just play

with your friends whenever?

But then along came COVID-19, shutting all of us in our houses for fear of being infected and spreading the disease. Suddenly, we CAN’T just head over to our friend’s place and yell at them. Now we need to do so remotely, and Among Us allows us to do just that. Furthermore, the game’s design itself is absolutely brilliant: the inclusion of tasks that every crew member has to do keeps everyone moving around the map, scrambling to do their jobs before they die (and after, too). The game involves a lot of exciting social interaction that all of us have been missing for far too long. It’s the perfect game to get together and play for hours at a time with your pals (who you will hate by the end of a session, by the by).

With Among Us 2 in development, I am waiting with baited breath to see what new ideas InnerSloth brings to the Zoom meeting table.

Review: Season 1 of Canada’s Drag Race

Brianna Carrasco
Arts and Entertainment & Expressions

Rupaul’s Drag Race has been my favourite show for many years now. I have always shamelessly loved reality TV. Combine this with art, fashion, musical theatre, LGBTQ+ culture, and of course, the over-the-top dramatic cat-fights that usually come with reality TV, and Drag Race is basically the perfect show for me.

So, when I found out that Canada’s Drag Race would begin early July, I was ecstatic! With so much uncertainty and hopelessness in our world, I was excited to have one hour of escapism per week wherein my family and I could watch our own Canadian queens from our living room. Not to mention that seasoned queen Brooke Lynn Hytes, from season 11 of Rupaul’s Drag Race, would be one of three judges on the show!

The premise of *Canada’s Drag Race* is simple and almost the same as its American counterpart. 12 Canadian drag queens compete to be Canada’s First Drag Superstar. Every week there’s a mini-challenge to get the queens warmed-up. The

mini-challenge then leads into a main challenge, which can consist of anything from recording a diss-track, to a Miss Universe-esque pageant, to even making a cohesive outfit out of garbage. After showcasing a themed outfit on the runway, the judges pick a winner of the week, and the bottom two queens are required to “lip sync for their life.” The winner of the lip sync gets to remain in the competition, and the loser is eliminated.

Since many of the shows on our television screens are America-centered, it was refreshing to see a show that was over-the-top Canadian. Mini-challenges included a photoshoot on a replica of the Rocky Mountains, or auditioning for a morning talk show while speaking in both English and French. Runway themes paid homage to iconic Canadian-isms like “Celine Dion” or “Canadian Tuck-shedo.”

It was even exciting to see how different queens represented different parts of Canada. Two queens, Kiara and Rita Baga, showed the campy, cabaret-style drag of Montreal. Ilona Verley frequently showcased her Indigenous First Nations heritage in her drag style. The queens from Toronto also displayed their unique cultures, with Anastarzia Anaquway discussing her Bahamian background, and Priyanka creating outfits inspired by her Indo-Guyanese heritage. It was lovely to see how these queens showed Canada’s cultural diversity to the world.



There were so many iconic moments throughout the season: Jimbo’s infamous runway looks that were always misinterpreted by the judges, Lemon’s scarily-accurate impression of Jojo Siwa during the Snatch Game challenge, Priyanka and Kiara’s lip sync performance to Celine Dion’s “I Drove All Night” — there are too many more to count! All the ups and downs of the season eventually led to the crowning of the winner of the competition on September 3rd. Priyanka, a favourite amongst viewers and in the Toronto drag scene, became the first Indo-Caribbean winner of the whole *Drag Race* franchise. I’ve personally seen Priyanka live and she is such a personality and an amazing performer! It’s so special how fans of the original Drag Race around the world might tune

into Canada’s Drag Race and get a look into Canada’s drag scene and our LGBTQ+ community. The show is also important in bringing awareness to the drag queens in our own community. By attending their outdoor, socially-distant patio performances in Toronto, buying their merch, or following them on social media, we can show these queer, Canadian artists/entertainers that their work matters.

I’m so excited for the next season of *Canada’s Drag Race*! Until then, reigning queen Priyanka is an excellent representation of queer people of colour in Canada and I can’t wait to see what she does with her fully-merited fame!

The End of Conflict

Kitty Yin
Metropolis Editor

Toronto as a city is ever-growing and adaptive; like its population, it is constantly changing and evolving. As thrilled and grateful as I feel to have been a part of Toronto's colourful social and cultural scene, I can't help but feel some dismay at the thought of events and outdoor activities that were missed this summer. Trying to keep my head and spirits up despite the circumstances has been, and remains, one of the most emotionally challenging things I've had to overcome.

As a socially anxious extrovert, social life has been a paradox for me no matter the circumstances — in past school years I would wake up in the morning with a habitual dread of having to speak in front of my peers in class, yet simultaneously feel excited at the thought of immersing myself in the social landscape that exists outside my bedroom door. One would be inclined to believe that the summer, ie. peak event season, would bring with it social satiation, for then I would be in a context in which my verbal participation does not play an integral part in my academic success. But this was not the case; another form of the same anxiety would still be there.

This summer has been confusing in many ways, and I'm certain its side effects have been unique for everyone. I have been responding to withdrawal from face-to-face social interaction by, against my best interests, longing for the usual underlying nervousness. I find a sort of familiarity, and even comfort in it, which are feelings needed now more than ever. I miss feeling that sharp knot forming in my chest before talking to a stranger, at the same time truly wanting to know them. I miss standing in line and dreading the inevitable confrontation with the person who is forcing a smile, sitting behind the glass. The dread would increase in correlation with the length of the line. But the longer the line, the more gratifying my exhale would be, after accomplishing whichever social exchange with said customer service representative.

How to put to rest this constant contradiction? Anxiety cannot be definitively resolved. But it can be assuaged. I have been attempting to satisfy the desire to attend events by calling, texting, skyping... the usual. This has nearly filled that gap, which normally would be filled by in-person communication and social exchange. But no amount of Netflix parties or break-

out rooms can match the buzzing thrill that spreads from head to toe when hearing a roaring, riled up crowd upon walking into a packed concert stadium.

But enough pessimism. The world may be in turmoil and wallowing in self-hatred, but I believe that this, right now, is a formative moment. At the end of it all, we will either have become divided and paranoid, or stronger than ever. Either way, we will never be the same. If socially awkward extroverts can use this period in time to try to find peace, then so can everyone else.



Vendredi le 2 octobre, 18h30 via Zoom, bring your own snacks

Ensemble musical de Glendon / Glendon Music Ensemble

Meet
&
Greet

Ensemble musical de Glendon / Glendon Music Ensemble

De la musique, des jeux, des défis, de l'information + encore plus!

The City's Underprivileged are Misrepresented, a Comment on the Toronto Community Housing Corporation

Ameer Shash
Contributor



For low-income residents, preconceptions seem to be what propagate negative stereotypes about their communities. The media has defamed neighbourhoods such as Jane and Finch by portraying them as hotspots for criminal activity. As a result, viewers and readers come to associate low-income communities with danger and poverty. Despite engaging community-level activism and youth-oriented programs in an attempt to rescind its tainted image, Jane and Finch (among other neighbourhoods) continues to be submerged in controversy and viewed in fear by outsiders. This statistically-induced fear traumatises marginalized individuals and subjects them to discrimination from a young age. In turn, the pre-established negative image is sustained, haunting them into their adult years. In this article, I will discuss the unfortunate realities of living in Toronto Community Housing Corporation (TCHC) housing complexes, and how the TCHC continues to fail its residents.

Violence in housing complexes for the underprivileged is a problem that can be, quite literally, too close for comfort. In the past two years, both guests and tenants have been victims of assault on government housing property. The Toronto Community Housing Corporation (TCHC) claims that they have “very little control over who comes into [their] buildings”, but I disagree. How can this be true, when the TCHC boasts the power to arrest? In a behind-the-scenes video posted by TCHC’s Special Constable team, a neighbourhood Special Constable is heard saying “we have all the same powers on our property as the Toronto Police...[and] we’re more than capable [of making arrests]”. If this is the case, it begs the question: why is Toronto Community Housing not taking measures to reduce crime on its properties?

Entire families can be jeopardized by this prejudice and environment of criminality. Many social services and programs

have policies that forbid those who have any criminal record from participating. If a member of a family living in a government housing complex owned by the TCHC has been charged with a criminal offence, an eviction is warranted for all members of the household. TCHC says that they “have the authority to develop their own policies and procedures on how they deal with prospective tenants who have previously been evicted for criminal activity”. An entire family, due to the actions of one individual, may suffer eviction from their home. The consequence of being labelled a “criminal” household means having to either move constantly from unit to unit, or attempt to find privately-operated accommodation, which can be expensive. These stresses and costs mean less opportunity to invest in important areas for the family, such as education or healthcare.

In addition, residents of low-income communities are socially isolated and can be endangered due to familial relation to a criminal. The family of an individual who has crime ties has no privacy, and is socially marginalized and segregated. Moreover, family members of criminals may be victimized for leverage and used as a bargaining chip by a hostile third party. For instance, take the abduction of 14-year-old Shammah Jolayemi. Shammah is a youth who was on his way to school when he was abducted by an unknown party in retribution for a drug-deal conducted by his step-brother.

“More than one-third of Toronto’s shootings and homicides” take place in TCHC complexes. Gun violence has risen sharply in recent years, creating a number of problems for our healthcare system, as well as depleting other resources such as

social services. Gun violence has contributed to a significant increase in hospital admissions, which means patients in urgent need of medical care may not receive what they need, when they need it, as victims of gun-violence are monopolizing hospital beds.

Furthermore, members of underprivileged communities battle mental health challenges with little external support due to the TCHC’s failure to address mental health. According to statistics, nearly a quarter of Toronto Community Housing tenants (23%) live with mental illness. What is the government housing agency doing to ensure that its residents can access the mental healthcare they need? In an episode of CTV’s W5 — an investigation watchdog program — it was found that a number of tenants suffered from mental health challenges. Among the numerous tenants documented was a man called ‘Dirty George’, who lived in a building at 200 Wellesley St. in Toronto’s Sherbourne community. George, who suffered from mental illness and could not care for himself, lived alone in deplorable conditions, and was described to have been “left to rot in a pile of human filth”. The host of W5, Victor Malarek, had said that “W5 obtained internal security documents that paint a frightening picture of what has gone on in Toronto Community Housing buildings over the past three years, [including] 88 attempted murders and 39 murders [in 2010]. In fact, if Toronto Community Housing were its own city, it would have the highest murder rate in all of Canada”. It has also been found that “children in low-income, urban settings are exposed to violent crime rates that exceed the national average by 4 to 10 times, [and] fewer than 20% of children who need

mental health care actually receive any services”. This means that if there is inadequate support for youth in disadvantaged communities, they may be unable to develop academically or join the workforce due to mental and emotional trauma. The future academic and professional success of an individual depends on their psychological well-being, which is rooted in childhood.

Mental health is a growing concern that affects all people. Like in George’s case, a tenant with mental health struggles may not have the capacity to maintain the cleanliness or functionality of their unit. The adequacy of mental health support systems is called into question when tenants known to be psychologically unwell put themselves in danger. In W5, a woman residing in a west-end TCHC property said you have to be either “intelligent enough or articulate enough to make your needs known”, otherwise you are “gone”.

In conclusion, systemic barriers manifest as real, personal problems for residents of low-income communities. The twisted truth behind the inadequacy of the Toronto Community Housing Corporation is the existence of underlying systemic injustices surrounding race, class, mental health, policing, and criminality. Marginalized and underprivileged individuals are unfortunately caught in a vicious cycle of crime, mental illness, and poverty, and are not being provided the resources they need to escape it. Not only the TCHC, but the entire government of Toronto must step in and enact justice for these individuals, their families, and their communities.

The Beautiful Game: Canada's time to shine

Michael Aquilino
Contributor

Football, fútbol, fußball, futebol, calcio. These five words essentially translate into the same thing: soccer. Break it down to its most basic of forms and get, simply, a game played with two feet and a ball. But no matter how straightforward it is at its base, this sport is as complex and divine as any other. Every country with borders that lie within planet Earth has felt a connection, albeit, some greater than others, to o jogo bonito — the beautiful game.

Soccer is a game of passion, creativity and freedom. While other sports may have the ability to showcase similar traits, soccer conjoins them in a way that sparks unity. When an important match is airing, whether at a bar, in a living room or at the pitch itself, the electricity within the space is truly gratifying. Soccer has the power to

unite entire towns, cities and countries. In areas where soccer is popular, nearly everyone tunes in to follow their team. Soccer is more than just a game. For many, it's a way of life. The 11 players on the field not only represent their team, but the people who support them.

Soccer's impact on everyday life is especially apparent during major international tournaments. The UEFA European Championship (Europe) and the CONMEBOL Copa América (South America) are two great examples of internationally contested soccer tournaments, both of which ignite a fire of excitement within many communities. Hosted on a quadrennial basis, these tournaments will undoubtedly be the centre of attention. Whether England is playing Germany or Brazil is taking on Argentina, the games always grasp hold of people's curiosity. Spectators are sure to be glued to their screens while a match is under-way, with hope that their team will eventually be crowned champions.

However, while these smaller continental tournaments may rock a nation, nothing can compare to the tropical storm of the FIFA World Cup. This tournament, which is also held every four years, it is

on a level of its own. 32 nations from every corner of the globe, vying for the same prize. Soccer fans (which, around the time of the World Cup, seems to be everybody in sight) are filled with a sort of crazed, yet totally lucid sense of passion and animosity towards others. A typical afternoon in Corso Italia (St. Clair Avenue West, Toronto), post Italian victory, is sure to be filled with hundreds of flags flying, car horns honking and people cheering in harmony (though the same definitely cannot be said for an Italian loss). The World Cup unites, but has also divided many people during its tenure, creating an atmosphere of both happiness and, oftentimes, sorrow. Regardless of the result of a match, one thing remains true: the joy felt while being with friends, family and even utter strangers, while all supporting the same cause, is quite frankly unrivalled.

While many Canadians may already love and enjoy the game, they are often found cheering for teams other than, well, Canada itself. Canada fields multiple national soccer teams, both men's and women's, yet not one seems to garner as much attention or support as other nations do. In all fairness, Canada has not had a

very successful past, having only qualified for the men's World Cup once in 1986 in Mexico, then being eliminated in the group stages. However, Canada has prevailed on some occasions, winning the CONCACAF Gold Cup (North America's continental championship) twice, the first time in 1985, and a more recent win in 2000.

A lack of development and exposure of youth to the sport may be one of the reasons that Canada continues to come up short. Nonetheless, not all hope is lost. North America's Major League Soccer (MLS) has gained immense prominence in recent years, with three Canadian teams participating: Toronto, Vancouver and Montreal. The establishment of the all-Canadian Premier League in 2017 has also played a role in helping to foster a new generation of Canadian soccer players. There is certainly a bright future for the sport in Canada, with the 2026 FIFA World Cup to be hosted here, in collaboration with the United States and Mexico. Billions of people worldwide have already been exposed to the beautiful game; it's time to finally get the ball rolling, literally, in the north.



Photo par Michael Aquilino

Conseils pour bien réussir en ligne ce semestre

Alyssa Winder

Contributor

L'année 2020 est remplie d'incertitude. En raison de la pandémie COVID-19, un monde basé sur l'interaction sociale, s'est très vite transformé en appels zoom, en courriels, en manque d'opportunités et en un montant innombrables d'événements annulés. En mars 2020, les étudiants sont tout d'un coup passés de cours magistraux organisés sur le campus aux cours en ligne en quelques jours. Avec une transition si brusque, les étudiants et les professeurs ont été laissés dans un état de stress. Maintenant que le semestre d'automne est offert en ligne, j'entends plusieurs dire qu'ils ne savent pas comment ils vont réussir en ligne. Bien que l'université en ligne ne soit pas la méthode d'apprentissage préférée de tout le monde, il existe encore de nombreuses façons d'améliorer virtuellement vos performances académiques.

Faire un horaire et un calendrier

Comment est-il possible de se souvenir des multiples dates importantes si vous n'avez pas d'horaire ? Vous pouvez marquer des événements tels que les dates d'échéance, les appels zoom, les rendez-vous, les jours de travail et les dates académiques importantes. Vous pouvez également créer un guide pour la façon dont vous voulez employer votre temps avec vos heures de cours et les diverses choses qui se passent dans votre vie quotidienne.

Trouver un endroit calme

Étudier efficacement à la maison est parfois un défi, surtout si vous avez un chien qui aboie constamment, ou le son de la télévision en arrière-plan. Malgré les nombreuses distractions qu'il pourrait y avoir, il est possible de se trouver un espace dédié exclusivement pour les études. Assurez-vous que votre espace ait un bureau puis une chaise confortable. Aussi, vous pouvez utiliser une musique apaisante sans paroles, et un casque antibruit. Il est aussi possible, dépendant des restrictions de votre région, d'aller à la bibliothèque ou à un café, sans oublier, certainement de porter un masque et de se désinfecter les mains.

Imprimer les lectures

Avoir les yeux collés à l'écran pour des heures consécutives peut être difficile pour



Photo par Alyssa Winder

la tête et les yeux. Au lieu de lire sur l'ordinateur, imprimez vos lectures à faire et lisez-les dans un endroit confortable avec un café au lait aux citrouilles et aux épices. Consulter régulièrement vos e-mails Comme nous sommes dans l'ère digitale, toute la communication se fait à travers les e-mails, SMS ou messages sur les réseaux sociaux. Vos professeurs enverront certainement des courriels concernant les mises à jour des cours, les dates d'échéance et les notes. N'oubliez pas de vérifier constamment vos e-mails tout au long de la journée.

Se réveiller tôt

De nombreux étudiants sont souvent coupables de faire la grasse matinée, par contre se réveiller tôt vous aidera à accomplir des travaux davantage au cours de la journée.

Prendre du temps pour soi-même

Le temps consacré au bien être personnel est certainement la partie la plus importante de la journée. Que ce soit pour regarder un bon film ou lever le pinceau pour faire de l'art, il est important de prendre du temps pour les choses que vous aimez faire. Cela vous aidera à vous sentir organisé et vous rendra heureux.

Bien que ce soit une année particulière—pour ne pas dire hors-norme, nous pouvons toujours atteindre nos objectifs. N'oubliez pas de prendre soin de vous et de vous protéger. Portez un masque et pratiquez la distanciation sociale. Apprenez-en davantage sur vous-même et acquérez de nouvelles connaissances qui vous guideront pour le reste de votre vie.

pro tem

LE JOURNAL BILINGUE DE GLENDON

LES DATES-LIMITES POUR CE SEMESTRE

- LE 18 SEPTEMBRE
- LE 2 OCTOBRE
- LE 16 OCTOBRE
- LE 30 OCTOBRE
- LE 13 NOVEMBRE

ENVOYEZ VOS ARTICLES À
EDITOR@PROTEMGLENDON.COM

f protemGL

📷 protemglendon

Review & Opinion: *Displacing Blackness* by Ted Rutland

Ameer Shash
Contributor

It was in September of 2019, during the second year of my undergraduate degree, when I learned of a book named “Displacing Blackness: Planning, Power, and Race in Twentieth-Century Halifax” by Ted Rutland. This book paints a bleak tableau of middle-aged men working in deplorable conditions for minimum wage, and being removed from their homes. The book struck a chord in me that rings in my ears to this day. Recently, the Black Lives Matter movement and the killing of George Floyd has garnered such global media attention that I decided to dive deeper into the novel.

In the text, Rutland explains that people who identify as black in Halifax are subject to oppression in the forms of failed urban planning and poor political structure characterized fragmentally as subjugation. Rutland explains that unwarranted involvement of developers and builders, and their lack of consultation with impoverished, often black, residents, caused these residents to be displaced from their homes. This was disguised as ‘urban renewal’. The homes in which these people once lived were sold to the highest bidder, and they were displaced. These conditions ultimately led black Haligonians to live in isolation, which can cause mental illness, a possible reason why there is a high rate of illness in this community. Rutland argues additionally that moving families from the “slums” to other parts of the city severs the ties of extended families. This, too, affects mental health because family is of paramount importance in building and maintaining healthy interpersonal relationships. How can Halifax “protect the ‘physical and moral health of city residents’”, when its poorly-designed social and physical infrastructures are doing the complete opposite? Rutland’s main argument throughout the novel is that British Colonialism has contributed to the oppression of black Haligonians, because the British forcibly acquired the land and Halifax’s approach to urban planning has affected black people disproportionately.

Another example of a marginalized community subject to social and systemic issues is Toronto’s Regent Park. This low-income area that houses residents living in Toronto Community Housing (TCH) has merited plans by politicians and developers to “revitalize” the neighbourhood.

They plan to carry this out by demolishing low-rise government housing complexes and building condominiums in their place, ultimately displacing residents, who will be moved to other low-income areas similar to Regent Park. There, they will await the inevitable continuation of the cycle of gentrification, and ultimately the day they are displaced once again. These residents consist predominantly of immigrants, the elderly and the most vulnerable populations in our city, who find neighbourhoods like these “the ideal community for low-income families in housing hardship”.

Rutland equates the lack of consultation with these residents to “political exclusion”. Given these community members’ exclusion from politics, I can theorize that policymakers characterize the people who live in slums as persons with “immoral behaviour, [as well as] high rates of illness”. As such, policymakers believe that these people should not be included in political conversation, because they are deemed unfit to make informed decisions. Beyond the book, I want to draw from some of my own experiences in the education system here in Ontario. I, for one, have been subject to similar discrimination by Toronto’s school board when it came to making academic decisions such as choosing courses for secondary school. “Are you sure you can do well academically?”, my guidance counselor would ask, whenever I consulted her on my choices. I disagree with anyone who demeans one’s intellect and skills simply because of their skin colour. Black Haligonians in recent years have been recognized by our government, namely the Bank of Canada, for their advocacy and relentless work ethic to bring economic growth and social reform. Viola Desmond was one of these advocates — a Halifax-born black woman who contested racial segregation at a movie theatre. Desmond’s advocacy led to her commemoration on a new version of Canada’s ten-dollar bill to continue the “legacy and the ongoing pursuit of human rights and social justice in Canada”.

To speak more on the book, construction personnel, who were a part of the development project, were injured and construction was seen as an “effective act of war”. The government’s and developers’ lack of consideration for these workers caused inadvertent conflict between black and non-black communities, as well as between politicians. It is inappropriate to disregard critical and valuable feedback in improving community safety and working conditions.

Toronto today is not much different from Halifax back then: low-income communities are faced with similar circum-



stances of “uneven development”. Today, marginalized communities endure even more social and systemic issues, such as gun-related violence, and poorly funded education and recreation. Education and recreation are essential to the health of communities, because they ensure kids engage in meaningful and healthy activities instead of partaking in illicit activity outside of school. When it comes to conversation around these social and systemic issues, the victims in the situation, marginalized communities, are largely left out. We must ask ourselves, is this not akin to how politicians disregarded concerns around decent living conditions for these black Haligonians?

As one who identifies as a black Canadian and the son of immigrants, many systemic barriers have presented themselves over the years to my family and I. I have been subject to racially-charged accusations by clients at work. These accusations went along the lines of, “Why is he working that job? Not sure if he can be trusted with those assets”. This statement alludes to the prejudiced notion that black people cannot be trusted with valuable items, because they are portrayed in the media as thieves. In addition, during hiring processes, employers have always seemed disinterested upon first impression at interviews. It seemed like they were disappointed due to the fact that the voice they heard over the phone doesn’t match my physical appearance. Another example is that it was difficult for my parents to achieve university-level education, because their degrees are considered invalid by Canada’s academic standards. A lack of education, caused either by poorly funded education or by Canada considering edu-

cation from other countries invalid, means having to resort to precarious and menial work, for example, working as a custodian, taxi driver, or fast-food worker to support an entire family. These struggles that come with being racialized in Canada, and that are magnified for immigrants, seem to be universal. My and my family’s experiences have been quite akin to those of black Haligonians.

My personal thoughts on Rutland’s book are mixed. Rutland gives a well-detailed description of the main issues surrounding the housing crisis in Halifax as it relates to Black Haligonians. He also gives background information and context, and critiques ongoing issues with cited works from other publications to reinforce his ideas and stance. While reading, I observed Rutland providing solutions to public housing problems and gentrification, which I felt enhanced the quality of the work. One thing I wish Rutland did more of is compare the systemic problems of other cities with those of Halifax. I feel this would be helpful, because other readers could make better sense of the severity of what black Haligonians go through. On a last note, Rutland quite accurately describes what life can be like for low-income and racialized communities, despite being white.

Halifax, as well as other municipalities in Canada, continue to displace our most vulnerable and under-represented populations. However, residents-turned-activists are vocal in bringing about justice and awareness for underrepresented communities. Communities afflicted with such adversities must continue advocating and liaising with their local politicians to ensure their voices are echoed loudly in city halls.