

In This Issue

Page 2 • LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

VIE ÉTUDIANTE

Page 3 • Alumni Feature: From ink and glue to provocative ideas that withstand the ages

Page 3 • “Make Inclusivity an Open Conversation”: Interview with Alteri Productions Alteri

Page 4 • On-Campus Heroes: York University Security Services

EXPRESSIONS

Page 5 • The Art of Loving Stars

Page 5 • Start Romanticizing Your Life

Page 5 • If Healed

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Page 6 • The StraightPipes are Ontario's Hottest Auto Review Sensation

Page 7 • 20-Something Book Club: Critique de *The Death of Vivek Oji*

Page 7 • Chansons de Taylor Swift... De qui chante-t-elle ?

Page 8 & 9 • CENTER SPREAD:

The Pro Tem Team's Winter Wonderland

METROPOLIS

Page 10 • 3 Sustainable-Living Shops in the GTA

Page 11 • Paramedicine Questions Answered During the Pandemic

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Page 12 • A Workout Routine for Certified Couch Potatoes

Page 13 • Comment rendre Noël plus écologique

Page 13 • Tarot Reading for the Glendon Collective: Outlook for Exam Season

ISSUES AND IDEAS

Page 14 • Lorne Lipkus and Robert Whalen Are Canada's “Counterfeit Cops”

Page 15 • What Happened at Travis Scott's Astroworld Concert?

Page 16 • Where's the Snow? Climate Change and the Holidays

La prochaine date limite :
Vendredi 21 janvier 2022



“Make Inclusivity an Open Conversation”: Interview with Alteri Productions Alteri

Anna Noumtinis
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I had the pleasure of communicating with Co-Artistic Directors, Katie and Victoria, of Alteri Productions Alteri (APA for short). I asked them various questions about the newly-renamed Glendon theatre group. I'd like to share their responses with the rest of the Glendon community.

Many Glendonites may recall that the Glendon theatre group used to be called Cœur de Lion, in honour of the previous Glendon Mascot, King Richard I, known as Richard the Lionheart. Richard the Lionheart had been used as a mascot for the Glendon com-

munity and various clubs because he was a powerful bilingual figure. However, as we have presently come to know, he initiated hatred and violence during his rule. Due to the negative connotations of the moniker, the group had decided to change their name. I asked APA why they felt that a name change was necessary and important, to which Katie said, “Everything we stand for as a club, is the complete opposite of what Richard the Lionheart stood for.” When I asked Katie what she thinks this means for other problematic figures, she replied, “It is important to understand both sides of the story; just because someone has achieved so much it doesn't mean those achievements did not come at the expense of others.” I definitely agree with Katie; achievements are much more rewarding when

they have been earned without violence and cruelty, and no parties should be subject to violent acts to ensure the success of another.

We know why they felt it important to change their group's name, but why call it Alteri Productions Alteri? What does “Alteri” mean? The Co-Artistic Directors said they wanted a name that connects to the values of the Glendon community, and also represents their goals and values as a group. These humble ladies told me, “Our executive member, Sarah Weston, came up with the name of Alteri Productions Alteri. They got the idea from Glendon's motto, which is ‘Alteri Saeculo’ meaning for another generation and ‘Alteri’ is similar to ‘alternative’ which speaks volumes about the kind of theatre we strive to

Continued on **PAGE 3**

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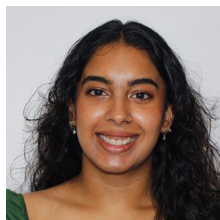
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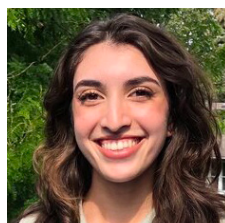
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Pro Tem est le journal étudiant du collège Glendon. Publié pour la première fois en 1962, c'est la plus ancienne publication de l'Université York.

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Coucou Glendon!

Je n'arrive pas à croire que c'est la dernière publication du semestre ! Je suis très fière de l'équipe Pro Tem, de nos chroniqueurs et chroniqueuses et de nos lecteurs et lectrices.

I'm super proud of this issue and am so excited for you to read it! Besides a fabulous winter photo spread that you can find mid-way through the paper, we have some exciting and interesting articles for you to read while taking a break from studying for your big exam.

We have two contributions from Pro Tem alumni, Carolyn Grisold ('02) and Heather Scoffield ('92). If you're interested to see how previous Pro Tem contributors and editors are doing today, make sure you take a look at their amazing pieces! Furthermore, we have a compelling interview with York campus security, environmentally-friendly ways to celebrate the winter holidays, and - my personal favourite - an interview with Glendon's renamed theatre club, Alteri Productions, about the importance of inclusivity on campus.

When Pro Tem returns in January of 2022, we will be weeks away from celebrating our 60th anniversary. Whether you are a Pro Tem alumnus or current Glendon student, you are more than welcome to contribute articles in celebration of Pro Tem's 60th year. Please subscribe to our newsletter at protemgl.com/pro-tem-news-letter-sign-up or follow us on Instagram @ [protemglendon](https://www.instagram.com/protemglendon) to hear more information about our upcoming 60th-anniversary event!

Jusqu'à l'année prochaine, je vous souhaite une saison d'examens réussie et sans stress, des vacances d'hiver incroyables avec vos amis et votre famille, et de merveilleuses vacances d'hiver.

À l'année prochaine!

Brianna Carrasco
Editor in Chief | Rédactrice en chef



Lisez les archives Pro Tem en ligne à l'adresse suivante : protem.journals.yorku.ca

Alumni Feature: From ink and glue to provocative ideas that withstand the ages

Heather Scoffield
Pro Tem Alumna '92

The goopy smell of ink, the flicker of fluorescent lights, the residue of glue sticks on everything. The slim profits, the stale doughnuts, the cigarette smoke. These were small newspapers in the 1970s, and this was my introduction to the world of journalism when I was just a kid. My parents – for reasons unknown – decided to buy a local weekly newspaper and run it themselves. I hated it.

There was no way the pre-university me would ever embrace playing perpetual chicken with deadlines, or the constant anxiety that goes along with public scrutiny, or the financial insecurity that has always been the precarious reality of community newspapers. Clearly, I changed my mind, and I have Pro Tem to thank for that. It didn't take long for me to capitulate.

Just a few weeks into my first year (1988!), I read a column in the paper about the conceit of altruism, and I was dismayed. A couple of days later, I ran into the author of that piece and I took him on. That author was Michael den Tandt, who later became a national columnist and a newspaper editor. He was provocative even back then, and he dared me to take my disdain for his piece and write it down. I quickly forgot all that ink and glue, and dove head-first into the world of ideas, politics and writing history in the present tense.

From a technical standpoint, journalism has undergone a revolution since those days of the late 1980s, when we still typeset the copy and the World Wide Web was still a decade away from newsrooms. Fundamentally, however, the journalism of today is still the sharp and provocative storytelling that it was back then. The challenge, then and now, is to engage the public and push them further. It's formidable, it's fascinating and most of the time, it's fun.

Pro Tem had let me make mistakes. My colleagues forgave me and each other if we missed deadlines or missed a story. If I had a shoddy argument or a weak narrative, my readers would be sure to take me on – but with respect and good humour. We indulged in each other and learned a lot along the way. The world beyond Glendon is not nearly so forgiving. The business

model for news has collapsed since then and the fraction of us journalists who remain have had to reinvent ourselves, contend with myriad social media platforms, and face the fact that we will always need to find new ways to communicate.

But most of the skill set is the same as what an enterprising young journalist will learn at Pro Tem, then and now: how to spot news that's of interest to your readers, how to draw out information from people and paper trails, how to tell that story in a way that's interesting, relevant, and balanced. The responsibility of student newspapering is no less than in the mainstream media.

Recently, I was taken back to my Pro Tem days when I read a book about the killing of 14 students at the Ecole Polytechnique on December 6, 1989. The book, *Because They Were Women*, by journalist Josee Boileau, examines how public pressure to define the Montreal Massacre as a one-off tragedy, caused by a sick man, undermined Quebec feminism. It stifled exposure of the systemic misogyny underlying the attack. At Pro Tem, we struggled with that pressure in real time -- writing hard, taking calls from students, taking a stand and then another stand, reporting on the fallout. It was an emotional time, when feminists clashed with conventional thinkers in class and on our pages, forging an eclectic



Photo par Heather Scoffield

record of a historical event that we, in hindsight, probably got mostly right. It was messy, but all worth it. The experience has stood me well – and that's an evergreen statement.

“Make Inclusivity an Open Conversation”: Interview with Alteri Productions Alteri (cont.)

create. With Alteri Production Alteri, we can guarantee you'll be seeing something a little different, a little alternative! That's the magic that comes from a group of passionate Glendon students working together!”

I love it! Alteri Productions Alteri is literally the perfect name to describe this group of creative, passionate, and inclusive people. Inclusivity is so important in every type of community, but especially in clubs and extracurricular groups. These are the spaces, activities and people you look to in order to make the bad days better, and to help you step back from the stress of life and school. I asked APA how exactly they promote inclusivity within their club and the wider Glendon community. APA said they try to include as many people as possible by hosting a lot of different events, such as Fridge Fest and a Haunted house event. This gives everyone a chance to shine, let the creativity flow, or even just enjoy the creative works of others. I truly believe Al-

teri Productions Alteri embodies the heart and soul of inclusivity, so I asked them for some tips; these will definitely be helpful for all the new clubs out there or for people interested in starting a club. “Language is so important, just by using gender-inclusive terms like folks instead of guys already shows you are creating a considerate and supportive space- a space where nobody has to question if they are truly accepted. They hear you and know they are accepted,” said the Co-Artistic Directors.

Victoria added, “Make [inclusivity] an open conversation and keep that conversation going.” If you have just started a club or are looking to start one, keep these things in mind: always use preferred pronouns and ensure that everyone is aware of the preferred pronouns of other members. Make sure you ask your members how the space can be made more inclusive, and check in later to see if they have noticed any improvements. If you are

looking for an inclusive group to be a part of and want to express your creativity, APA has many upcoming events and opportunities to take part in. Check out their instagram [@alteriproductions](#), where you can see their Linktr.ee with more information in their bio!

As many of you may know, Alteri Productions Alteri has released the cast list of their upcoming musical *Company*, so to end off this lovely interview, we talked a bit about how the stage might be looking a bit different than before since the return to on-campus activity is under strict guidelines. I was directed to the Mainstage Director, Lara del Castillo, for this question. Lara said “Productions are never easy, especially at the tail end of a global pandemic. We went from putting on a traditional staging of *Cabaret* in 2020, to an entirely virtual original piece called *The Tales We Told As The World Grew Cold* in 2021, and now we get to enjoy elements of both! There are

many things that have to change, and there were questions about if we'd be able to put on a show like this at all. Throughout the process, we've been learning and adapting through sheer determination - doing virtual auditions, virtual vocal rehearsals, and limiting seating for our eventual performances, which will be in-person. The directorial team is very optimistic, and we can't wait for people to see what we've been working on!”

I know I am excited to see what Alteri Productions Alteri has been working on! Make sure to keep an eye out for any updates on events hosted by APA, and how and when to buy tickets to the musical, *Company*.

I would like to give a super big thank you to Katie, Victoria and the Alteri Productions Alteri team for keeping me company (yes, pun intended) this week and answering all of my questions about their wonderful club.

On-Campus Heroes: York University Security Services

Ameer Shash
Contributor

They are one of the first to call during an on-campus emergency, and one of the last you want to find yourself in trouble with. York University's Campus Security Guards are highly-trained personnel that ensure the campus remains a safe place to study.

Despite an unoccupied campus during the 2020-2021 academic year, security worked on campus, developing new strategies and plans to enhance the nature of their work, as well as assist the greater community. Although security seemingly sits stationary in inconspicuous spots around your school, many may wonder what really happens during their shift. What happens in a day of the life of security personnel on York University campuses? In this article, I go behind the scenes of Glendon to give Glendonians a little taste of the security life.

York's Security Services is tucked in The Greenhouse at Glendon Campus, while their Keele Campus office is contained inside the William Small Centre. At both locations, their offices and services are available 24 hours a day. Security guards on-campus work 12-hour shifts, 14 days a month, alternating day and night shifts. I did some digging, and asked Lonnie Ratchford, Security Services Operations Manager, about some of the logistics of security patrols on campus.

The earliest known vehicle model that Campus Security have used for general service is the Ford Crown Victoria, which may be spotted at Glendon Campus. It is believed that these vehicles will be phased out and replaced with newer-model fleets in the near future. Sometime in 2020, Campus Security had upgraded to a more eco-friendly fleet - fifth-generation Toyota RAV4 hybrids. The vehicles - both marked as units YU-02 and YU-03 - travel across the Keele and Glendon campuses intermittently. This upgrade was made as part of security services' partnership for York's ongoing sustainability strategy program. I asked if the patrol vehicles have any lights mounted on them and Lonnie replied that "all of our RAV4 hybrids have safety lights for escorting of emergency vehicles and high visibility requirements. Our supervi-



Photo par Ameer Shash

sor's vehicle is equipped with both internal and external lights, for escorts, high visibility and command posts during the critical incident." Unbeknownst to most, while police officers use red-blue lights, security guards use amber-white lights. They are classified as a different category of law enforcement on private property.

I asked Ratchford if he could describe what kind of work goes into a regular patrol of Glendon, and he told me that York undertakes high visibility patrols Monday to Friday starting from 7 am to midnight. There are typically 11 to 14 patrols at Glendon campus during day shifts, and 14 or 15 patrols at night. A typical shift consists of two Security Officials and one Supervisor. At night, there are four Officials who also monitor the residences. Security Services use foot, vehicle, and bicycle patrols during their 12-hour shifts. During a given shift, security staff are also expected to respond to fire alarms, calls for help or complaints involving noise, or suspicious activity.

I wondered how security services have changed since the closing and reopening of York, due to the pandemic, and asked Ratchford how the routines of security officials have changed during the partial return to campus this fall. Ratchford responded that York Security Services has continued to maintain its full level of service with respect to frontline response. During the closure of Glendon residences, the security watch program moved from residences to the office and classroom buildings. Extra vigilance was placed on health, safety, and the protection of common spaces. I followed up by asking about the types of calls the security team has received since the pandemic began. Ratchford indicated that security has seen an increase in requests for mental health services and requests to access support for vulnerable persons. I then asked how often are assistive medical devices needed during a medical call. "Security is trained to use the

[life-saving tools and medical devices] as required. Security assesses the situation and is in contact with EMS at all times. Only during extreme situations would AEDs be used. Once the tools are used, they are taken out of service and checked or downloaded. Security will always respond to all calls with their Medkits, AED, and CO2," replied Ratchford.

My next question was relevant to how security plays an active ambassador role in maintaining health - both physical and mental - on campus. Ratchford responded "when an interaction cannot be avoided, our security staff use a community-centred approach, with training in mental health supports, and with a focus on building a positive culture of non-stigmatization, including mental health. The pandemic has

afforded us an opportunity to focus on our training modules and ensure that every member of the community safety team is trained and ready to be an ally to community members in need".

Well, there you have it, Glendonites; not only does our security team strive to protect campus and students, but they work to achieve the greater wellbeing of the Glendon community with their eco-friendly patrol vehicles and their extra training on mental health supports! I feel safe and proud to know the Glendon community lives under the watchful and caring eye of the security team.

Security services at York University remain available 24 hours a day at 416-736-5333. In an emergency, always call 9-1-1.

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The Art of Loving Stars

Chiara Zappulla
Contributor

"It's already dark," her friend said. He glanced up at the sky overhead. "I hate it when it gets dark."

It's beautiful, she thought to herself as she let her eyes melt into the sight of the stars strewn across the black sky. She always preferred the night to the day. The darkness cloaked her imperfections and the soft glow of the moon allowed her to see the world faintly. Only the parts that she wanted to see, of course. She allowed the parts of the world she hated to dissolve into the darkness of the night. The world was prettier that way.

Her friend could always read her mind as if she had spoken these thoughts aloud. "What's the reason?" He watched her, a smile playing at the corner of his lips.

"Why do you like the stars so much?"

"Who said I like them?" she asked, playing coy. Her eyes shone with the reflections of the stars in the sky. "I just think they're pretty."

A slight chuckle escaped his lips as they watched each other, her gaze unflinching and sure. Her eyes were a hundred hues of blue touched by the greyest of storm clouds. It wasn't just the colour of her eyes that he found so breathtaking—it was their depth. Her eyes were like windows, showing every passing emotion and uncertainty in their transparency. He often drowned in their intensity, finding himself lost in their swooping arcs of colour for hours. He couldn't help but admire her. It was an inevitability.

She didn't know when she had first fallen in love with the stars. She reached her hand toward the sky, but she knew that no matter how far she went, the stars would always be somewhere she couldn't reach.

"Come on, let's go," she muttered. Her eyes met his and she smiled softly. "I hate it when it gets dark too."



Liar, he thought to himself. As she turned to walk away, he found himself reaching toward her. But he knew that no matter how far he went, she would always be somewhere he couldn't reach. He had once told her that he loved the sun. She

had nodded like she agreed, but he knew she preferred the stars. Perhaps she was right.

It's a beautiful thing— to love something beyond your reach.

Start Romanticizing Your Life

Sonia Said
Contributor

I don't know if it's just me, but there has been something lately.

I don't know if it's the pressure of youth or the amount of work.

I don't know if it's supposed to teach me something or if it's just a passing moment of life.

But I know for sure that as students, whether we study for the next exam or if we try to find the balance between our studies and the rest of our lives, things can get easily stressful and pretty depressing.

I might have a solution. I can't promise that it will work for you. Nor can I assure you that it will solve all of your problems. But maybe you should give it a try. Maybe, just maybe, we should start romanticizing our lives.

Romanticizing is neither glorifying nor idealizing but simply acknowledging that what is, is. It might seem obvious but when we struggle, we tend to forget about what is. With all the pressure, it is difficult to look at the whole picture and we might miss what is just in front of us: beauty. When things get heavy, we often forget all of the beauty in our lives, and we overlook

positive things — things that bring us joy.

We often forget the fact that at all times, there are things that we could be grateful for. At all times, there are things that make us happy. And that is exactly what we need to remind ourselves of. Once our view is clearer, we can better focus on our goals, list our priorities, and find out what works for us currently and what doesn't.

This level of clarity seems to be necessary to accomplish goals and ensure we become the best version of ourselves. Sometimes, we need to detach ourselves from the struggles of today by looking at the beauty surrounding us and simply hoping that we will be able to see the beauty of tomorrow — because even when things get dark and gloomy, there is always, somewhere not too far, light and hope.



If Healed

c.p.grisold
Pro Tem Alumna '02

What does it mean to be saved?
What if you were drowning for twenty years,
Only to discover
You were always in the shallow end –
And if you put your foot down
You could have touched
The ground all along?

What happens then to those years
Of struggle and fear
Of drowning?

Vain in hindsight,
But at the time so important.

Which is more real – the fact or the fear?
What matters most –
The moment or the memory –
When the moment lasts an instant
But the memory goes on?
Which feelings do you trust?

What is the one thing in your life that,
If healed,
Would change everything?



TheStraightPipes are Ontario's Hottest Auto Review Sensation

Ameer Shash
Contributor

Multi-angled shots of a blue car cruising along an unknown rural stretch flashes across the screen, following a shot of Yuri Tereshyn and Jakub Wrobel standing adjacent to the latest car from Kia Motors, a rich-blue Kia K5 GT Line, previously known as the Kia Optima. Their signature introduction begins with, "I'm Jakub, I'm Yuri, and we're going for a drive." They look at the other, then enter the car, thus beginning their latest car review. This is the traditional method of how this YouTube duo have conducted all of their auto reviews.

Both Yuri and Jakub are Ontario-based auto reviewers, as well as the founders and sole cast members of their channel, TheStraightPipes. Their channel, which has amassed over one million subscribers on YouTube, contains reviews of the latest automobiles in the market. The pair have reviewed a wide array of automobiles from three-wheeled dirt bikes to Lamborghinis and Rolls Royces. Have the two always been fascinated with automobiles? What cars during their review tenure have made them tick? This past week, I had the pleasure of interviewing Yuri Tereshyn of TheStraightPipes to see if my spontaneous questions could "drive" him to frustration.

I began my interview by asking Yuri about when he and Jakub had first met, who answered, "Sometime in 2000 in Grade 9, but I'm not sure if we became 'friends friends' until we started snowboarding on high-school trips in Grade 11."

I followed up by asking Yuri what his initial career aspirations had been when he was in high-school. Yuri responded, "Always wanted to be a graphic designer because all of that Photoshop stuff came really easy to me, or a cameraman because of all the snowboard filming we used to do."

I then asked about his most memorable moment with his friend Jakub, on or off-camera. Yuri stated, "Too many moments to count, but driving the Porsche GT2RS on track was a highlight for sure, being guests on The Smoking Tire Podcast, and our whole last LA trip where we got to hang out with Micah and get a tour of LA by helicopter."

My next set of questions pertains more to the background of TheStraight-



Photo par TheStraightPipes

Pipes itself - when did his fascination with cars begin? He replied, "At Toronto's SARSstock when we stopped by my dad's friend's house on the way and I saw his blue IROC-Z28 Camaro. July 30, 2003." I asked when Jakub began to join him on TheStraightPipes, to which Yuri humbly said, "I actually joined Jakub, he started the channel in 2013 to film car exhausts and we filmed our first review in November of 2015 but didn't post it until the summer of 2016." I knew Yuri did camera reviews and had a small photography business set up before joining TheStraightPipes, and I was sure the events he had filmed helped to shape his photography skills today. I asked Yuri if he still used these skills to film or take photographs of some of the shots of the cars he and Jakub review. Yuri responded "We actually film everything we show in our videos ourselves. Watching a lot of YouTube tutorials for videos and especially working in the Toronto film industry for three to four years really made me feel confident in my ability to get some sweet footage."

Speaking of vehicle reviews, who chooses who gets to test-drive first? I asked Yuri if he and Jakub flip a coin or have some particular method of deciding the first test driver, to which Yuri replied, "We kind of choose who drives first based on what topics we want to talk about earlier in the video; if the car has a crazy new infotainment, I'll probably drive first, but if it has crazy new suspension, Jakub will probably drive. But we'll always alternate to make sure we both drive first in an equal amount of cars."

My next question was relevant to how they produce all of their videos so fast, to which Yuri responded, "We designed our whole format around our own filming and editing limitations, which conveniently ends up at two videos per week." I inquired about the worst car Yuri had ever reviewed, even if every car makes sense for someone to

own in some way. "I personally didn't really like the Honda HR-V because it was slow, aesthetically displeasing, and had weird tech."

I decided to instead ask Yuri if he could own a car that he's reviewed and not his Chrysler Prowler, what would it be and why? He pointed to the "Porsche 911 Speedster because it's the more expensive and fastest manual transmission car that we've driven."

TheStraightPipes have made a lot of kilometres in their journey through their YouTube career. I decided to ask him what future videos or collaborations we can expect from the channel. "Hopefully, Speed Academy can make my Civic really fast over the winter. Besides that, all of

our collaboration ideas are pretty much on hold until COVID-19 gets a little bit more sorted out," he mentioned. To end off my interview, I asked Yuri if there was anything he wanted TheStraightPipes' fans to know about him or any message that he had. Yuri said, "Huge thanks to everyone for watching and subscribing! Because of all of you, we have the best job ever and we couldn't be more thankful. Thanks, Ameer, for asking all these great questions! A lot of these questions like the one about memorable moments with Jakub really made me think back to all the adventures we had on this crazy journey so far!" Make sure to subscribe to TheStraightPipes to keep updated on their new content and future reviews!

20-Something Book Club: Critique de The Death of Vivek Oji

Brianna Carrasco
Editor in Chief

Novembre était le quatrième mois du club de lecture que j'ai nommé : The 20-Something Book Club. Dans un tel club, nous lisons des livres sur les personnages de 20 ans ! Le livre du mois était *The Death of Vivek Oji* d'Akwaeke Emezi, à l'occasion du mois de conscience de l'identité transgenre.

J'avais entendu tellement de bonnes choses sur l'auteur estimé Akwaeke Emezi, mais j'ai été vraiment épaté par le récit. Le livre est court — mais n'est certainement pas facile à lire — car

il examine la vie de Vivek Oji. Le livre se déroule au Nigeria, où Vivek vit avec son père nigérian et sa mère indienne. Ses meilleures amies sont les filles des amis de sa mère et de sa cousine, Osita, avec qui il entre en relation étroite. À un jeune âge comme adulte, Vivek connaît des pannes de courant désorientées, des comportements étranges et des disputes avec ses parents qui essaient de le soutenir. Les choses semblent s'améliorer pour Vivek, jusqu'à ce qu'un jour, il se retrouve assassiné sous la porte d'entrée de ses parents, sans aucune indication de qui aurait pu être l'assassin ni les causes.

L'histoire saute entre le passé et le présent, permettant ainsi aux lecteurs d'apprendre à aimer Vivek avec la terrible certitude qu'il mourra. Ce livre est une histoire percutante qui traite de nombreux thèmes importants ; tels que la transphobie, l'homophobie et la stigmatisation entourant les problèmes de santé mentale au Nigeria. Le livre examine la sexualité, la question du genre, les amitiés, les rela-

tions amoureuses, les problèmes familiaux et l'identité biraciale d'une manière approfondie, étonnante et honnête. Le livre est un conte riche de fiction littéraire avec un soupçon de mystère, car la mort déroutante de Vivek vous laisse deviner tout le roman.

J'ai volé ce livre dans environ deux jours, serrant le livre dans mes mains comme un lit, attendant de voir comment se déroulerait la courte vie de Vivek. Je suis tellement heureuse d'avoir lu ce récit unique. Je suis tellement à l'aise à lire des livres écrits par des auteurs américains qui se racontent des récits qui se déroulent aux États-Unis. Par conséquent, le cadre nigérian était rafraîchissant et nouveau. La façon dont ce récit se déroule est extrêmement émouvante.

Veillez lire *The Death of Vivek Oji*, c'était aussi merveilleux qu'incroyable et tous les autres adjectifs positifs auxquels vous pouvez en penser. Avant de lire, assurez-vous de rechercher les avertissements de déclenchement sur Google ! Vous pouvez également rejoindre le 20-Some-

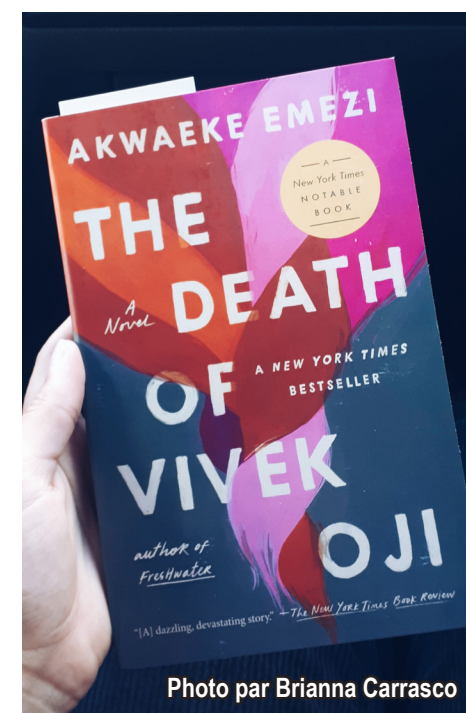


Photo par Brianna Carrasco

thing Book Club à Discord : <https://discord.com/invite/Nw4qzqWeHj>!

Chansons de Taylor Swift... De qui chante-t-elle ?

Rejean Ghanem
French Journalist

J'adore Taylor Swift. J'admire qu'elle soit suffisamment sensible à s'exprimer librement à tel point qu'elle en parle à des millions de personnes. Personnellement, je résonne avec ses chansons les plus récentes. Quelqu'un d'autre a-t-il *Lover* comme album numéro 1 ?

Quelque chose que j'aime chez Taylor, c'est qu'elle utilise beaucoup de symbolisme et de nombreux indices qui font allusion à des personnes auxquelles chaque chanson est dédiée. Jetons, donc, un coup d'œil à certaines de ses plus grandes chansons et à qui elle pourrait à un moment donné faire référence. Avis de non-responsabilité : toutes ces chansons ne sont pas confirmées.

1. *Back To December*. Taylor Lautner. Confirmé ! Au cours de la courte relation entre Taylor et Taylor Lautner lui a parlé de ses sentiments lors du mois de décembre et Swift voulait la liberté, alors elle l'a repoussé. Cependant, elle l'a regretté une fois qu'elle a réalisé que personne ne se compare vraiment à Lautner. Je respecte Swift, en effet, pour avoir sorti

cette chanson parce que la plupart des gens n'admettent pas leur faute.

2. *Red*. Jake Gyllenhaal. Pas confirmé. Celui-ci est assez connu. Bien que cela ne soit pas confirmé, Gyllenhaal n'aurait pas eu de temps pour Swift pendant la période où ils sont sortis ensemble. Alors quels sont les indices ? Le plus gros indice était son écharpe. Taylor avait une écharpe rayée lorsqu'elle sortait avec Jake qu'elle portait. Ceci est référencé tout au long de l'album. La chronologie correspond également. De plus, le titre de la chanson se chante avec des difficultés à surmonter. La sœur de Jake, Maggie, a confirmé la théorie du foulard. Assurez-vous d'écouter la version de Taylor de « *All To Well* » et d'écouter les paroles : « je pensais que l'amour était rouge, mais il est en fait doré ».

3. *Style*. Harry Styles. Confirmé ! Cette chanson parle d'un homme qui porte une chemise blanche et qui est très « à la mode »... ce n'est personne d'autre que Harry ! Il était connu pour être à la mode et pour porter des chemises blanches. Sans oublier que le nom de la chanson est son nom de famille. En 2015, Harry Styles a confirmé que cette chanson parlait de lui. Il a dit que « *Style* » est une excellente chanson et Taylor est une excellente compositrice. Il était honoré !

4. *Getaway Car*. Tom Hiddleston. Pas confirmé. Dans cette chanson, Swift chante le fait d'entrer en couple rapidement après une relation à long terme. Bien



que cela ne soit pas confirmé, il est bien connu qu'elle s'est rapidement rapprochée de Tom Hiddleston après avoir quitté Calvin Harris.

5. *It's Time To Go*. Karlie Kloss. Confirmé ! Les ruptures entre amis sont difficiles. Cette chanson parle de la fin d'une amitié de longue durée et de savoir quand il est temps de partir. Swift était amie avec le mannequin Victoria's Secret, Karlie Kloss. Elle a été surprise de répandre des rumeurs à son sujet avec Scooter Braun. Swift a elle-même confirmé que c'était

la pire fin d'une amitié et l'a écrit dans sa chanson.

6. *Champagne Problems*. Selena Gomez. Confirmé ! Swift a mentionné, après avoir sorti cette chanson, que toutes ses chansons ne la concernaient pas et que *Champagne Problems* concernait sa meilleure amie. Qui est sa meilleure amie ? Elle a dit Selena Gomez. Cette chanson a raconté la chute de la relation de Selena Gomez avec Bieber du point de vue de Gomez.

The Pro Tem Team's Winter Wonderland



Ariana Mah



Brianna Carrasco



Elton Campbell



Abigail Gillen





Shilpa Ahluwalia

3 Sustainable-Living Shops in the GTA

Brianna Carrasco
Editor in Chief

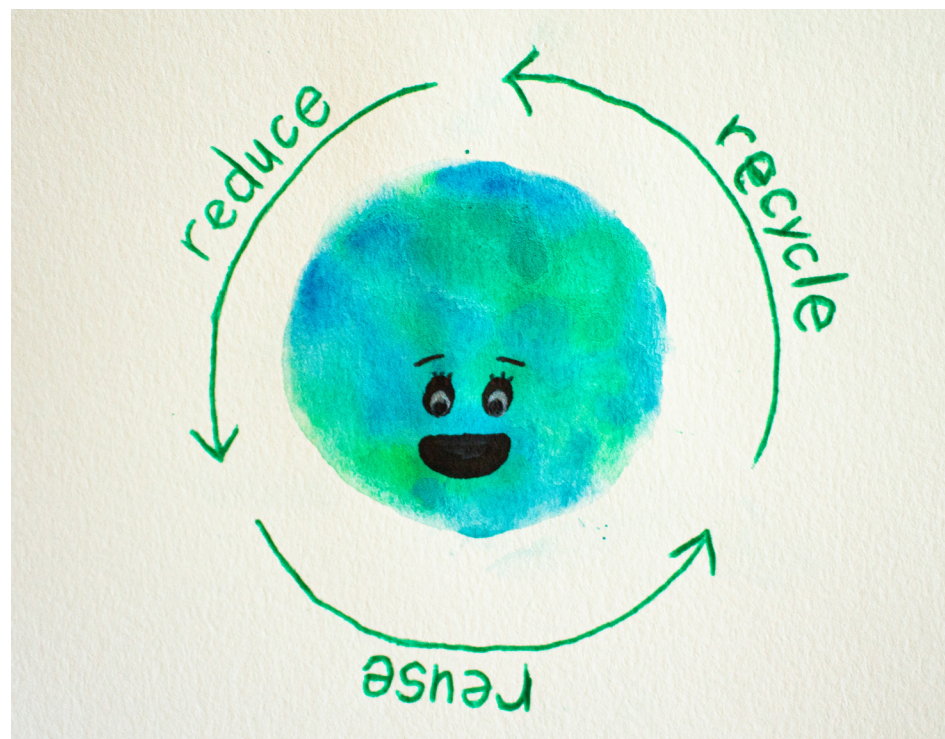
If you're giving gifts this holiday season, or simply want to splurge a little on yourself, here are three sustainable and eco-friendly shops in the GTA! These three shops emphasize the importance of buying sustainably-sourced products and minimizing as much waste as possible.

1. Token. Token Toronto is a sustainable gift shop. While I've only been to the location in Newmarket, there's also one in downtown Toronto. This shop bridges the gap between my witchy self and my desire for eco-friendly options. It sells anything from crystals and tarot cards to natural and zero-waste deodorant. If you're looking to start living a zero-waste lifestyle, this is the place for you; it's a one-stop shop for zero-waste beginners! They have reusable tote bags, water bottles, paper towels, takeout cutlery, straws, razors, bamboo toothbrushes, and anything else you can think of. It also has a unique refillable station. If you bring in your own container or purchase an empty one in-store, you can fill it up with shampoo, conditioner, soap, or body wash, and pay for it by the gram. This reduces the plastic waste of most hair care and body care packaging! You can find them on Instagram [@tokentoronto](https://www.instagram.com/tokentoronto).

2. Green and Frugal. The shop in Whitby is my go-to, but there are three other locations in the GTA. Green and Frugal is similar to Token, but much more simple - and much cheaper! Green and Frugal operate on a similar refillable system to Token, but they have many more options to refill your empty jars. If you bring in an empty container, you can buy powder deodorant, laundry detergent, shampoo, conditioner, body butter, toothpaste, and ingredients to make your own cleaning products, such as vinegar, baking soda, and castile soap. You can also bring your own empty jars to the store and get \$2 in return! They also carry a handful of zero-waste swaps. For example, I just picked up a natural dried loofah, sourced directly from the luffa plant. This is a better alternative to the usual plastic loofahs you find at the store that become plastic waste after a few weeks.

3. Lush. Lush is one of the front-runners of zero-waste, vegan, and natural products, but I have to put them on this list because I believe that some of their products are so underrated and not talked about enough! Lush is way more than just their bath bombs (which are amazing, by

the way). After thinking about ways I can reduce the plastic packaging of deodorant, I decided to try the Lush deodorant bar, which is simply a bar resembling bar soap that you rub on your underarms; it works wonders and has absolutely zero packaging! A few other zero-waste options at Lush are the massage bars, which is basically solid lotion that you rub over your body, thus reducing the plastic waste of most lotion and body butter containers. And personally, I prefer the Lush solid shampoo bars over liquid shampoo. What I always thought was so revolutionary about Lush was that if you bring back five of their black containers (empty, of course!), you get a free face mask! I wish more stores took that initiative to recycle packaging!



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Brianna Carrasco,
Editor in Chief | Editeur en Chef

A celebration event is also in the works! Stay tuned for details.

Paramedicine Questions Answered During the Pandemic

Ameer Shash
Contributor

Aside from healthcare workers in hospital settings, Toronto Paramedics remain on the front-line throughout the outbreak of COVID-19, among other illnesses and injuries patients sustain. During the infancy of the pandemic in Ontario, the Toronto Paramedics' 9-1-1 call centre was inundated with calls of presumptive-positive cases of COVID-19, igniting fear with every call that is responded to. Paramedics, however, continue to perform their duties well despite any fears. Beyond their routine training, paramedics learn from their experiences in every case they attend, which helps them to make informed decisions during those critical moments when seconds count. I had the opportunity to ask Kim McKinnon of Toronto Paramedic Services questions about community medicine and operations during the pandemic.

Community medicine and social engagement is something paramedics have been enthusiastic about. The Toronto Transit Commission has utilized three decommissioned buses for vaccine distributions in partnership with paramedics in communities with language-specific needs. To start off, I asked Kim McKinnon if Toronto Paramedic Services utilize or station

medics in identified areas based on the medics' language spoken. McKinnon answered, "No, they do not. If required, Toronto Paramedics can access translators through the City of Toronto's language line translators. This company provides Toronto Paramedic Services with translation services in over 240 languages." I then asked Kim McKinnon what refined training had Toronto Paramedic Service implemented to educate the public around disease prevention and/or health maintenance. McKinnon told me that the lead City agency in public information and education is Toronto Public Health, who have been providing significant public education through many channels. If you want to find out more about these channels, please see this link: <https://www.toronto.ca/home/covid-19/>.

I then proceeded to ask some more general questions about the paramedic occupation, as well as the overall functioning of the medical emergency system, and the typical shifts paramedics work. McKinnon stated that paramedics work 12-hour shifts, and they might work both day or night shifts. My next question surrounded where 9-1-1 calls go; were there physical buildings, and what is the average number of calls a day? McKinnon responded, "I can tell you that our Service responds to over 800 calls per day. I cannot share the location of our call-taking centres." I followed up on what factors are taken into consideration when prioritizing one call over another, to which McKinnon replied that, "Toronto Paramedic Services uses an accredited medical triage system to determine the sequence of call priority. This is similar to the triage system in any hospital emergency room. Patients with life-threatening emergencies



Photo par Ameer Shash

are seen first." I also wondered how, after a shift, paramedics are required to sanitize their uniforms, and if there were any special methods used to sanitize vehicles after each shift. Additionally, have city-owned facilities like the paramedic stations been retrofitted with devices or fixtures to mitigate the transmission of COVID-19? Kim McKinnon told me that the sanitization process has not changed significantly as infection prevention procedures had always been in place, even pre-pandemic.

Back to a more pandemic-specific question, I asked how prevalent calls for COVID-19-symptomatic patients have been from the beginning of March 2020 in comparison to October 2021? McKinnon stated that, "Calls to 9-1-1 reflect the presence of the disease in the community. If there is a high level of disease present, then the calls go up. If there is a lower presence of disease, the calls to treat symptomatic patients go down."

To wrap up the Q and A, I asked McKinnon to explain what Community Med-

icine was and how its delivery differs for residents of a downtown setting, in contrast to a quiet residential community. McKinnon responded, "Community Paramedicine is a program to assist vulnerable residents to proactively manage their health in their homes to ensure better health for the patient and less need to rely on the Emergency Room for their medical care." I also asked McKinnon to explain the priority call system, ranked Alpha, Bravo, Delta, Echo. Kim stated, "Toronto Paramedic Services uses a medically accredited system of call prioritization and is accredited by the International Academy of Emergency Dispatch which is considered the worldwide center of excellence for call dispatch prioritization."

There you have it, Glendon, a small peek into the inner workings of Toronto Paramedic Emergency Services, and an affirmation that whether we are in the midst of a global pandemic or not, paramedics are on the clock and always here to serve the city's medical emergency needs.



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A Workout Routine for Certified Couch Potatoes

Brianna Carrasco
Editor in Chief

I've never been a consistent exerciser. I did yoga for a bit in high school before I became too busy. And high school gym class was the worst — I hated every part of it.

But at the beginning of 2021, I decided that I wanted to get into shape. I enjoyed yoga when I did it before, so I wanted to get back into it. Yoga relaxed my body and mind, stretched out all the muscles that frequently tightened when I was stressed out, and also helped me practice endurance by staying in poses for long periods of time. I wanted to experience that again. I also wanted to build some strength in my body. After a few wrist injuries and a fracture when I was a kid, I grew up to have very weak arm and wrist strength, accompanied by occasional soreness and wrist pain. I wanted to work on strengthening my upper body and building muscle in my core and arms. Lastly, I wanted to incorporate more cardio workouts, because I had always hated cardio and wanted to see if I could make it more enjoyable.

Yoga With Adriene is the most famous yoga instructor on the internet, with over 10 million subscribers that she very well deserves. She has a different yoga video for every occasion, and her gentle voice and playful sense of humour make yoga feel less daunting. With the help of Adriene, it was surprisingly very easy for

me to get back into yoga.

Around the same time, I learned about two programs that were previously unknown to me: the Epic Heat challenge and the Couch to 5K challenge. Epic Heat is a free YouTube challenge by fitness instructor, Caroline Girvan, that consists of 50 thirty-minute videos that you do over the course of 10 weeks. Each video focuses on a different part of the body, starting with legs, then arms, then full-body, then it repeats. There are Tabata workouts, HIIT workouts, dumbbell workouts, and even a whole workout consisting of different types of burpees. I thought this was the perfect challenge, as a 30-minute workout seemed less daunting for a beginner.

I also learned of the Couch to 5K (C25K) challenge. This is a free app you can download on any device, which consists of a guided running plan that claims to turn a couch potato into a 5K runner. You're supposed to run three times a week for thirty minutes at a time for nine weeks. First, you start off by alternating running and walking, running more and more each week. During the final week, you're supposed to run for 30 minutes straight (5K).

I thoroughly enjoyed all of the exercises that I've been doing for the past few months. By alternating the exercises I do each day, I ensure that I'm never bored. I tend to do yoga on my rest days; sometimes I do a workout, and go for a run later that day. Other days, I do yoga in preparation for my run. This means that throughout the week, I'm getting a dose of strengthening exercises, cardio, and yoga without being too overwhelmed since all of these exercises only take thirty minutes or less.

When I finished both the Epic Heat and C25K challenges, I could definitely



Photo par pexels.com; Karl Solano

ly notice a change in my body. When starting the Epic Heat challenge, I was lifting 4lb weights in each hand (I told you, I had zero arm strength!). By the end of the challenge, I had made it to 6lb dumbbells — still nothing compared to seasoned strength trainers, but a big accomplishment for me! A marked difference was also in the fact that at the beginning of the nine-week C25K challenge, I hadn't run long-distance since high school. By the end of the challenge, I was running for 30 minutes straight quite comfortably! In general, I felt greater upper body strength, more muscle in my legs and glutes, more energy and happier mood, the ability to stretch even deeper in certain yoga postures, and an overall sense of accomplishment of having finished two challenges.

I definitely will continue to keep up this routine. I'm going to repeat Epic Heat, and challenge myself to squat deeper, lift heavier, and go faster. I'm going to continue training for a 5K run for the foreseeable future, but eventually, I might start the next challenge, the 5K to 10K challenge. As for yoga, I'm going to continue to keep it a part of my daily practice.

If you're thinking of starting to exercise more and don't know where to start, I recommend that you try at least one of these programs. As a certified couch potato, these were super easy for beginners yet challenging enough to see a difference by the end. They are also completely free and accessible for university students. I wish you all the best!

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Comment rendre Noël plus écologique

Brianna Carrasco
Editor in Chief

Avec les fêtes de fin d'année – qui s'approchent à grands pas et avec une envie accrue de rendre cette saison des fêtes un peu plus verte que la précédente – j'ai pensé que j'aimerais découvrir les alternatives de Noël qui ont généreraient moins de déchets et qui seraient globalement meilleures pour l'environnement ! Même si vous ne faites pas la fête pendant la période des Fêtes, vous pouvez utiliser ces conseils pour toute autre fête de cadeaux et de repas !

1. Économisez le papier d'emballage ! Je sais que chaque année, nous récupérons des sacs et des sacs de papier d'emballage déchiré juste pour les jeter à la poubelle. À l'avenir, essayez d'emballer vos cadeaux dans de jolis tissus, des foulards ou du matériel que les gens peuvent utiliser dans la maison ou porter eux-mêmes ! Vous pouvez également utiliser du papier journal ou du papier brun ordinaire qui peut être recyclé juste après l'ouverture. Si vous souhaitez utiliser votre papier d'emballage super pailleté et brillant (qui est générale-

ment en plastique et ne peut pas être recyclé), essayez de conserver les parties qui ne sont pas déchirées pour un autre cadeau !

2. Créez vos propres cartes et étiquettes ! Parfois, les cartes ne sont qu'un support pour de l'argent, ou que des données juste pour être polies. Pour ensuite être fourrées dans un tiroir à déchets au hasard pour les années à venir. Afin d'éviter un tel dégât, fabriquez vos propres cartes ou vos propres étiquettes pour offrir des cadeaux en carton ou en papier que vous recycleriez de toute façon. La jolie sensation dépareillée des cartes les fera ressortir et leur donnera un aspect plus rustique et unique. De plus, vous pouvez les décorer comme vous le souhaitez, selon votre goût !

3. Économisez vos décorations de Noël ! Il y a probablement des quantités infinies de décorations de Noël ou de vacances au fromage dans les friperies chaque année. Procurez-vous vos décorations de Noël, votre sapin de Noël et même des chandails de Noël laids vintage dans la friperie ! Tant de décorations de Noël et de vêtements sur le thème des fêtes sont gaspillés chaque année, il est important de les acheter d'occasion.

4. Achetez local ! Nous savons tous à quel point il est préférable de soutenir les petites entreprises par rapport à Amazon, mais je comprends l'attrait d'Amazon avec sa livraison rapide et facile. Peut-être

que cette année, vous pouvez vous mettre au défi de réduire de moitié vos achats sur Amazon et de magasiner local. Markets by Dream Day est une entreprise basée à Durham qui est présente dans presque tous les centres commerciaux de la région de Durham. C'est un magasin qui a un tas de tables et d'installations différentes d'artisans locaux indépendants. Je suis certaine qu'il y a d'autres magasins comme celui-ci, surtout au centre-ville de Toronto ! De plus, le Canada est l'un des principaux producteurs d'arbres de Noël, il est donc en fait plus durable d'acheter un vrai arbre de Noël aux agriculteurs locaux qui peut être composté, que d'acheter un nouvel arbre en plastique. Cependant, si vous avez déjà un arbre en plastique qui fonctionne très bien, continuez à l'utiliser jusqu'à ce qu'il ne soit plus utilisable !

5. Offrez des « cadeaux d'expérience » au lieu de cadeaux physiques. Vous pouvez offrir des billets pour le cinéma, le musée, un concert ou un match de sport. Vous pouvez même offrir des abonnements Netflix ou Spotify ou des cartes-cadeaux à des endroits comme l'épicerie, les stations-service ou les restaurants. Même payer pour des choses comme des abonnements à un gymnase, des cours de guitare ou des cours de yoga, ce qui est tellement sous-estimé, mais qui nous aide à sortir de la mentalité de consommateur et à apprécier les expériences de vie. En cas de doute, donnez de l'argent !



6. En parlant de l'état d'esprit des consommateurs, travaillez pour vous en sortir, surtout pendant la période des fêtes. Peut-être qu'un dîner-partage avec la famille ou des amis où les gens apportent leur propre nourriture au lieu de cadeaux peut vous aider à profiter de la compagnie de la saison des vacances plutôt que des choses. Essayez peut-être une recette plus végétale pour le dîner - même si cela se passe terriblement, vous aurez des amis et de la famille pour rire de l'incident ! Surtout, profitez des choses sur les vacances que l'argent - de belles expériences, des amis et une famille en bonne santé, et des films de Noël ringards !

Tarot Reading for the Glendon Collective: Outlook for Exam Season

Abigail Gillen
Bilingual Journalist

Nine of Wands: As we approach the end of the semester, it's no surprise that this card has jumped out. The Nine of Wands can signal exhaustion from work, a project that is nearly complete or simply feeling drained. This card can also signify the half-way point in a battle, such as a particularly challenging class. You might feel drained and as though you can't keep going to reach your goals, but this card is here to let you know you do have the strength to see it through. If your workload is heavy right now, it is important to remember that it is temporary and you'll reach the finish line quite soon.

Knight of Swords: The Knight of Swords is ambitious and focused on reaching their goals. This card signifies getting things done, focus, implementing an efficient approach, and making bold moves. With ambition, focus, and determination there is not much that can stop you from getting what you want. The Knight of Swords often pops up as a reminder that you are good at what you do and can accomplish tasks efficiently. If this does not resonate with you, it could mean that this card is inviting you to use the Knight's energy to inspire you to set lofty goals or go after something you want. You may be more likely to succeed than you think!

Eight of Pentacles: The Eight of Pentacles card represents developing skills, dedication, and demonstrating talent. This card could encourage you to take some time to really develop and improve your skills relating to whatever it is you're looking to pursue. Concerning academics, this card signifies that you may be impressing others with your natural talent in the field that you have chosen. More generally, this card is a reminder to always improve

your skills when you can and to stay curious, even if you don't "have" to learn anything once you complete your studies.

La force : Cette carte signifie que vous avez une certaine sensibilité et des émotions fortes que vous pourrez orienter vers l'atteinte des objectifs dans le cadre de vos études et de votre carrière. La force indique que vous avez le talent et la compétence, mais vous devrez rassembler votre courage pour faire un gros coup. Cela peut signifier aussi que si vous n'êtes pas satisfait.e de votre programme d'études, c'est peut-être le moment de faire le grand saut et d'explorer d'autres options pour trouver ce qui vous plaît vraiment.

Sept d'épée : Cette carte peut agir comme un avertissement. Le Sept d'épée fait référence à la jalousie et au sabotage, alors, faites attention à qui vous faites confiance, car tout le monde n'a pas toujours votre meilleur intérêt à cœur. Parfois, cette carte peut suggérer que vous devez utiliser une stratégie pour atteindre vos objectifs. Vous pouvez être l'étranger, d'autres peuvent avoir plus de ressources ou avoir une position établie par rapport à vous.



Photo par pexels.com; Alina Vilchenko

Reine de Bâton : La reine de bâton signifie que vous avez de l'énergie et des compétences nécessaires pour réaliser vos idées à l'école ou au travail. Cela peut également signifier que vous êtes un mentor aux autres ou que vous êtes considéré.e comme un modèle à émuler. Peu importe les détails, vous êtes une force dans votre discipline. Actuellement, vous avez l'énergie et la passion à diriger les autres dans une direction qui sont significatives et positives. Ça pourrait être le moment de progresser dans votre carrière ou dans vos études et de soutenir les gens qui vous entourent.

Lorne Lipkus and Robert Whalen Are Canada's "Counterfeit Cops"

Ameer Shash
Contributor

Consumer safety is a topic that many shoppers do not think about whilst going about their day. Collectively, there are currently hundreds of billions of dollars circulating on material goods. What percentage of those goods are counterfeit?

The numerical value is difficult to discern. Counterfeit goods are constantly being manufactured, circulated and bought — often without the knowledge of the consumer. In the end, the consumer is ripped off and their hard-earned money remains in the pockets of those who are, in essence, organized criminals. Underground markets domestically and abroad manufacture goods that seemingly look like the real deal, and technological advances have allowed counterfeiters to mimic the security features that are embedded in these products. As a result, shoppers experience a false sense of security and, consequently, they continue to wear their fake products.

To discuss this issue, I bring in Robert Whalen from K.I.R. radio: an organized crime specialist with experience in the field of policing in Ontario for more than 30 years, as well as Chair of the Canadian Anti-Counterfeiting Network (CACN). Also interviewed is Lorne Lipkus, a counterfeit goods expert who is a member of the CACN.

Ameer: A lot of people, especially these days, want to shop online. Within the context of a global pandemic, what sort of advantage are counterfeiters and scammers being given right now?

Robert: One of the main advantages I see is that you're not able to inspect goods before you purchase. Someone could set up a bandit website that looks very similar to a name brand. [A counterfeiter] can republish a slightly-altered internet link different from the original web addresses. Someone is able to use original photos of legitimate products and what then you get in the mail shipped later on is something that is not the original product, because they didn't have photos of their own.

Ameer: Many businesses and industrial operations have ceased operations for the time being, but does crime of this

nature ever come to a halt?

Robert: Actually, organized crime is taking a big surge. The pandemic is actually helping them. This is because police and law enforcement have to shift their focus elsewhere in regard to pandemic response.

Lorne: Economic crime, such as counterfeiting, does not command the same amount of law enforcement or customs resources as other crimes. However, consumers and legitimate manufacturers, wholesalers, retailers and others are being cheated by these criminals. We still need the police, customs and other government agencies to uphold Canadian laws to protect legitimate businesses and consumers.

Ameer: So, when counterfeit goods enter Canada through CBSA border crossings, why is it that border officers aren't able to identify the authenticity of products coming into Canada all the time?

Lorne: Most countries with counterfeiting problems around the world make efforts to train their border officers on how to identify the authenticity of products coming into their country. The majority of legitimate brands provide free training to law enforcement, customs officers, and others, and the situation is no different in Canada. The CACN supports increased training of border officers in Canada and its members and others are prepared to do so without charge. The reality is that only border officers are the first line of defense that we have to prevent illegal products from entering our country.

Ameer: I know that there are health implications regarding many counterfeit goods. What sort of chemicals are being put into some of these counterfeit products?

Lorne: I have been involved in many unsafe counterfeit products, including: shampoo (traces of E. Coli), perfume (sometimes using urine as a stabilizer), makeup (not hypoallergenic), toys and novelty items (toxic paints/chemicals and unsafe parts), stuffed plush toys (animal hair and droppings), memory cards (malware/spyware)... the list goes on!

Ameer: Have you ever walked into a shopping centre and seen someone sporting fake shoes or other counterfeited items?

Lorne: Yes, I have! I have seen many people wear or have counterfeits and I rarely say anything. However, I did so on one occasion during the holiday shopping season several years ago. I overheard a woman saying she wanted to buy a signed Johnny Bower Toronto Maple Leaf jersey. It was advertised as a game jersey signed by Johnny Bower. The price was less than



Photo par incoproip.com; Lorne Lipkus and Robert Whalen

\$100.00. She expressed her excitement, as her husband was about to purchase the jersey. The police officer I was with asked me to say something so I pulled the woman aside and told her why I thought it was counterfeit. She thanked me and she opted to not buy it. That was a feel-good moment for me.

Ameer: What is the normal fate of these products that are seized? Are they incinerated? I know that in a lot of under-developed countries, commodities like clothes are a huge need. Even though they are fake, it raises environmental and ethical concerns.

Robert: Yes, each time a product is seized, it can't be reused. We've tried to ask courts in one instance if we could give

seized products to those in need. We had to get permission from the brand holder and they unfortunately said that they cannot guarantee the shoes were not going to injure someone, citing the possibility of poor arch support or design. There is also the risk of there being nails or staples in the shoes, which can injure the consumer. We always try to team up with a recycler that is able to get the most use out of the remaining material of counterfeit goods.

As you learned, readers: counterfeit goods are harmful for your health, harmful for Canada's economic and industrial sector, and your own dignity. The social ramifications of acquiring counterfeit goods are debilitating, indeed.

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What Happened at Travis Scott's Astroworld Concert?

Rejean Ghanem
French Journalist

Trigger Warnings: Mentions of death, abuse, and violence.

On November 5th, 2021, Travis Scott held his Astroworld concert. For anyone who is not too familiar with Astroworld, it is essentially Scott's music festival held in Houston every year. Over 100,000 tickets were sold and the crowd was described as an ocean, the people like molecules. When the crowd shifted, you shifted with them. It was like the crowd was one entity in which individuals lost their bodily autonomy, unable to move or control what happened to them. People were pushing past each other, shoving others around, and squishing people against the gates. Prior to the concert, Scott had told his fans on Twitter to break into the concert. With low security and an atmosphere of negligence, a total of 10 people (as of November 17th) were killed as well as hundreds injured. One girl was shown with a bruise on her face in the shape of a shoe print. The two questions people are wondering are: how did this

happen, and why didn't Travis Scott stop the concert?

To answer the first question, I believe this happened due to Travis Scott's greed and impulsivity. Yes, I said it. If you look through his history, this is not the first time where Scott has encouraged absolute chaos at his concerts. However, this is the first time that his actions ended in death. In the past, dating back to 2014, Scott would post disturbing images of his fans knocked out, alone, and unconscious on the ground. In 2017, he pleaded guilty to inciting a riot at a show in Arkansas. His ex-manager claims that Scott "left him for dead" while he was having a seizure. He says Scott is the worst person he had ever worked with during his career, claiming that he regularly incited violence and thrives off of an angry mob mentality.

People have also noted that Kylie posted a photo of Scott singing with an ambulance in the background of a certain photograph. Yet, after seeing the ambulance in the crowd, she also did not do anything to alert security and help to stop the concert. Is it Kylie's fault that this happened? Definitely not. But we know that she was surrounded by security that could have at least tried to stop the concert and helped to save lives.

After the tragedy, many people posted other performers who were quick to notice their fans fainting or being assaulted at performances and did something to stop it from happening. Some of these per-



Photo par wireimage.com; Erika Goldring

formers include Harry Styles, Adele, Kurt Cobain, and A\$AP Rocky. If a performer can notice one person fainting in a crowd, why didn't Scott notice ten people dying and ambulances in his crowd? After all, he watched and sang as a person's dead body was crowdsurfed into an ambulance. This clip from his concert was referred to as creepy, disturbing, and inhumane. In fact, many people described Scott as "void of emotion" at that moment. Most people, people who cared about the well-being and safety of others, would react if a dead person was being carried away in front of them.

Personally, I am curious to see how this will affect Scott's career moving forward. Ideally, people would recognize he is negligent (to say the least) and not attend his concerts. However, we know that cancel culture doesn't really exist in a meaningful way, especially since every-

one who gets cancelled just ends up being excused after a few days. That being said, Scott will probably end up becoming like Chris Brown, who went from heart throb to domestic abuser after three charges of domestic abuse from Rihanna, Frank Ocean, and another unnamed ex-girlfriend. Now, Brown is just seen as a "controversial figure," paving a path that Scott will likely follow.

What I think we can take away from this ordeal is that we need to stop idolising celebrities. Celebrities are not perfect human beings that have our best intentions in mind. In fact, we must think of the things they had to do and people they may have had to step on in order to get to where they are today. This is not to say that we cannot admire celebrities — but mob mentality fuels violence, and there comes a time where we need to stop and think about who it is we look up to.

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Where's the Snow? Climate Change and the Holidays

Michael Aquilino
English Journalist

As Canadians have digested their savoury Thanksgiving turkeys and sweet Halloween treats, they are beginning to prepare for the famous “most wonderful time of the year” — the winter holiday season. With its picturesque snow-covered backdrops, Christmas is often romantically portrayed as a time of joy, happiness, and tremendous excitement. It is a time to spend with loved ones, listen to cheerful tunes, and cozy up to feel-good holiday movies. In addition, the winter season in Canada is anticipated to be a time of immense outdoor enjoyment. Canadians can play ice hockey (their national winter sport), take to the slopes on their skis, snowboards, and toboggans; and dust off their fishing rods as they hit the ice in the hopes of catching some swimming delicacies. Having hosted the Winter Olympic games on two occasions (Calgary 1988 and Vancouver 2010), Canadians are no strangers to the cold outdoors — rather, they happily welcome it. However, upon the advent (no pun intended) of pressing global climate crises, the persistence of these wintertime ideals is being markedly threatened.

Climate change has brought about a new era in human history: one of great uncertainty of what the future may hold. According to Scientific American, the warming of the planet, attributed in part to extensive carbon pollution, that has emerged as a consequence of burning fossil fuels (coal, oil, natural gas), has resulted in shortened winter seasons, making springtime arrive much earlier. Climate change has also precipitated a shift in snowfall patterns worldwide. Since 1930, an American study conducted by the EPA has found that annual total snowfall has decreased across the United States, with the overall depth of snow in North America also in decline. In light of global warming, the weather outside is no longer frightful because of great snowfalls, but rather, the lack of them.

Since snow only forms when the temperature drops below freezing, precipitation is more likely to fall in the form of rain than it is to fall as snow, and snow, along with being aesthetically pleasing, is a crucial environmental component that many people rely on. In the spring, many people in North America depend upon melted snow to provide water for their communities. As per the EPA, this dependency is especially apparent in the western United States, where snowmelt provides upwards of 75% of the water supply for millions of people. Moreover, reduced amounts of snow in places that are heavily reliant upon it can have drastic effects in other facets of everyday life: namely, the economy. Many communities, including those close to Glen-



don, count on heavy snowfall to sustain their local winter recreational industries. Ski resorts, for example, cannot function without adequate levels of snow — with lodging, tourism, and employment also suffering. Relying on snow for their survival, the EPA points out that numerous important plants (moss, fungi, various flowers, etc.) and animal populations (porcupines, small rodents, various birds, etc.), are also negatively affected, which in turn impacts entire ecosystems. It is truly remarkable just how significant snow — seemingly purposeless, and perhaps, bothersome at times — contributes to some of life's most essential aspects. As such, a decline or lack of snowfall is extremely devastating in many places.

In the years to come, many

people who are dreaming of a so-called “white-Christmas” may be left disappointed. A Government of Canada report has found that over the last four decades, the total number of days throughout the winter that experienced snowfall has decreased by 5-10% across the entire country. Additionally, a similar government-sanctioned report indicated that over a 62 year period (1955-2017), the City of Toronto had 34 “green Christmases,” that is, Christmases without snowfall, meaning that the city has had more green Christmases than white ones. If humanity does not soon change its ways by reducing its greenhouse gas emissions, then perhaps we should begin to look forward to more rain, or “clear Christmases” — if any Christmases at all.

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