

# the reflector

FREE  
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The best movies we saw  
at Calgary Film  
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An inside look at how  
MRU aims to be a  
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## COUGARS HOCKEY



MRU Cougars Men's hockey team to replicate last season's success? (Pg. 13)

## Calgary artist brings graphic novels alive at MRU

*In October, MRU is offering an out-of-the-box new course in comics and graphic novels for those in Continuing Education*

**Lexi Wright**

Contributor

Beginning in October, Mount Royal University's Continuing Education Program will be offering a certificate course on Comic and Graphic Novels.

The course is taught by artist and professor, Brian Batista, who says it's nothing Mount Royal University, or even Calgary, has ever experienced before.

"In this comic book course, what we're really trying to do is plant a creative seed, to show students that their creativity

can grow. The umbrella of this course will help fuel all types of learners," said Batista.

Batista currently teaches cartooning at the Alberta College of Art and Design (ACAD), as well as a comic book program for the Urban Society for Aboriginal Youth (USAY). He also has a strong background in animation where he was the head instructor of a program called the Aboriginal Youth Animation Project run by the

Quickdraw Animation Society.

"The USAY program is a heritage program where we want to teach how to have a voice for language and culture through comic books and graphic novels," said Batista.

"We have an Aboriginal elder come up with the story and then the whole comic book is produced in English and Blackfoot. I'm acting like Stan Lee, I'm basically the editor."

Unlike the cartooning course

Batista teaches at ACAD, the course at Mount Royal University is much more inclusive for comic books and graphic novels and will cover everything from the conception of an idea to the script, to the finished cover page and even how to publish a comic.

"There's a lot of art history in this course because history is important to how comic books were distributed. I start in the pre-history of comic books because if you know your history and how ideas came to be developed, you can pay homage to that and it can help you formulate new thoughts," said Batista.

In addition to his many years of experience as an artist, Batista also teaches fine art courses from his Calgary studio, Atelier Artista.

"I run my art school in the daytime and the Continuing Education courses are offered at night. I think I work more than a doctor: I'm up at 6 a.m., start drawing at 7 a.m. and finish around 11 p.m. because in order to get one good drawing, you need to make 10," said Batista.

Unique to Batista's style as an artist is his passion for

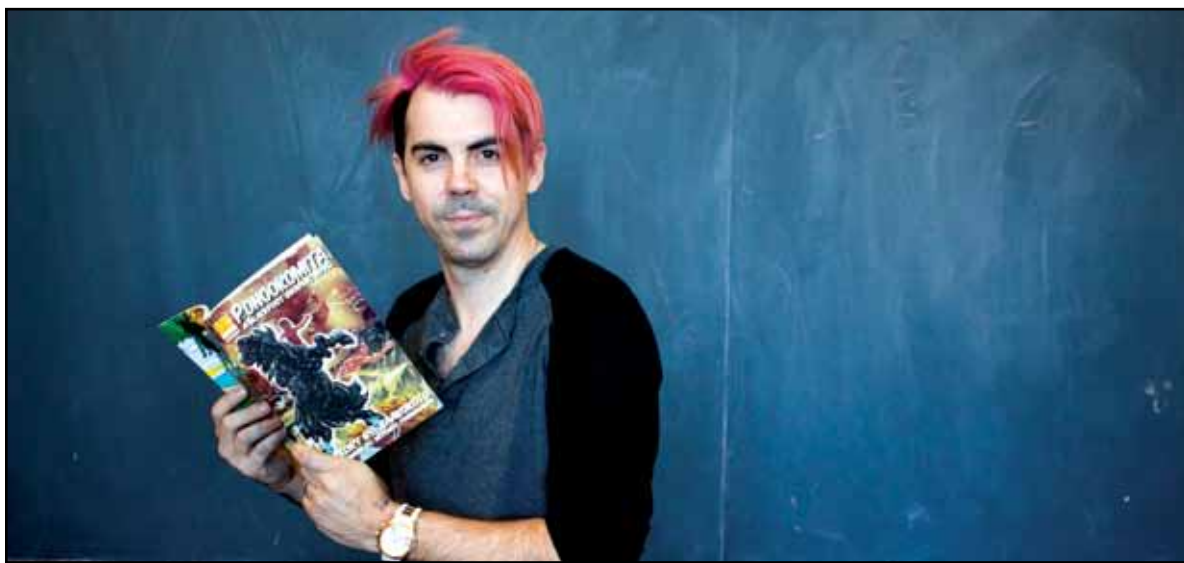
traditional art mediums. He still teaches hand coloring and hand inking because learning that way makes you think differently than learning with digital tools.

"In digital mediums, you sit down and you can do anything in the whole world and then you get writer's block immediately, but if you're limited by what your hand can stroke, then all of a sudden you have to become creatively innovative. Limitations are what make people creative."

Being able to teach his dream course is not only an exciting opportunity, but Batista hopes his students will come out with the beginnings of a comic book that they are immensely proud of.

"You could go on Wikipedia and do as much research as you wanted on creating comics, but it's much nicer to have things curated in front of you, almost like an art show. This course is not to learn about comic books, it's "you're going to make one."

To find out more about the program, visit Continuing Education at [mtroyal.ca/ProgramsCourses](http://mtroyal.ca/ProgramsCourses).



Artist Brian Batista will be teaching a new Continuing Education course at Mount Royal University focused on comics and graphic novels. Photo by Lexi Wright

## The campus is always greener on the other side

*How Mount Royal University is continuing to build a sustainable, environmentally friendly campus*

**Gregory Balanko-Dickson**

Contributor

There's a lot of planning that goes on behind the scenes at Mount Royal University to make the campus eco-friendly. Students might not realize the effort, and the intention, that goes into sustainability at MRU.

Currently in Alberta, there are a lot of tax rebates that can be used to make a "greener" campus.

"You could just replace a burnt light bulb with a new light, but we're looking for a more strategic approach," said Owen Zarazun, director of building operations.

MRU's Facilities Management team is looking to leverage

opportunities like this to the benefit of the students, and the environment. Through these efforts, "we're going to save energy, we're going to save capital, and we're going to save the environment," said Zarazun.

However, going green doesn't have to be that complicated. Students can get involved in simple ways by changing some habits. It can be as easy as turning off a light when leaving the room, recycling your waste, or shutting down your computer when you're done using it.

Another way to decrease the carbon footprint of Mount

Royal is to teach others to adopt similar habits. Educating others and increasing awareness about the impact of small actions taken on a daily basis is a definite way to lead the way towards an eco-friendly campus.

Zarazun says "it's that awareness and that education" that will help MRU to be clean and green.

There are some new projects on the horizon at Mount Royal to continue the trend of growing sustainability. The Department of Facilities Management team plans to install a Combined Heat & Power (CHP) plant.

This will take the heat from the combustion of the plant that is used to create power and re-direct that heat to keep the buildings warm.

The only thing that stands in the way of a greener campus is "money" according to Diana Fletcher, instructor and chair of the Sustainability Committee at Mount Royal. The environment is "always at the bottom of the list."

There's three main components to sustainability of our environment: social, economic and environmental.

However, "most people care

about money, the economic part, and after that the people, or the social part, and then last but not least is the environment," said Fletcher.

Fletcher and the Sustainability Committee are hoping to change this by spreading the word about the importance of the environment to students.

Some actions that have been taken by Fletcher and her team are the microgreens workshop, which took place at the Sustainability Fair on campus, on Sept. 26 and 27. There is

**Continued on Pg. 3**



# Canada needs 100-million people to solve our most pressing issues says Doug Saunders

## Saunders argues in new book for a higher Canadian population

**Anna Junker**  
News Editor

In his book, author and international-affairs columnist for The Globe and Mail, Doug Saunders, discusses his vision for Canada having a large, strong and healthy population of 100-million.

He believes by tripling the population, it would be the best way for Canada to reconcile with Indigenous people and regional divides along with building equality while ensuring economic and ecological sustainability.

Here is a highlight of when Saunders spoke with student journalists at Mount Royal University on Sept. 21 to discuss his new book.

Saunders explained his interest in Canada's population took place when he actually wasn't living in the country.

"One of the things that quickly becomes an interesting question is, why don't we have so many people here? Why do we have a fairly sparse population spread across a large landmass?" said

Saunders.

"You realize that Canada's cities all suffer from low population density and the consequences of that have big ecological and human development problems."

Saunders explains he's written a lot of essays on the topic before, exploring what the ideal population of Canada would be and exploring our country's history in why there are so few people living here.

"I think that's a big part of what I'm trying to do in *Maximum Canada* is retell Canada's history through the lens of population, which surprisingly rarely gets done," said Saunders.

"You tend to think we're a country of immigration whereas in fact, during decades of our history more people have left the country than come in as immigrants. We were very good at driving people away."

Saunders said the idea of Canada as a nation of immigrants only came about fairly recently - in 1967.

"The idea that Canadians were anything other than British subjects was extremely controversial. Even the idea that there were two types of people - English people and French people - was really taboo."

Part of Saunders argument is that Canada had a very restrictive set of policies for those coming in, with the emphasis being on rural and resource orientated people rather than entrepreneurial and urban. He says Canada's policies explicitly did not want people who wanted to start businesses.

"The idea that Canada restricted immigration just to white people or just to British people until the post-war decades is a bit limited because we did not even allow most British people," said Saunders.

"If you were British and you had an education or trade skill or you were urban and entrepreneurial, you were rejected."

This is in part how Canada is where it is today, with a smaller population and those who were business-orientated being sent to the United States, says Saunders.

However, Saunders says that immigration is not the key to growing our population. Our current population needs to be producing more children.

"The average Canadian family has 1.6 children and you need 2.1 for your population to stay

stable and any more than 2.1 to have your population grow," said Saunders.

"The only reason that Canada's population grows, and it grows pretty slowly, is immigration, which we have at fairly modest levels."

He adds that even with the most aggressive population growth scenarios which would have Canada's population be at 100-million by the end of the century, they would not rely on large-scale immigration.

"If we had immigration that we had on the level in the beginning of the 20th century, we'd have two-million immigrants every year coming in to Canada."

Saunders says we need to have a mindset in Canada as if we were going to triple the population by 2100, even if we don't actually do so.

"The things we would need to set up Canada and invest in Canada for tripling the population are the same things we need to be doing for the status quo scenario anyway."

Saunders argues aiming for this mindset is especially important as the current population, especially the baby boomers, age and by having a population growth, it would help ease the eventual burden on government.

### Continued from Pg. 2

also a native plant garden and a greenhouse which was built on the third floor of the Lincoln Park building.

The Sustainability Committee made this possible with the help of the "TD Friends of the Environment Fund," which has donated about forty thousand

dollars to the committee for projects like these.

If you're looking to get involved with the sustainability committee, contact Diana Fletcher at dfletcher@mtroyal.ca to help keep the conversation going.



Owen Zarazun, director of building operations at Mount Royal University, gives a behind the scenes glimpse of MRU's power plant, which has recently been upgraded with a computerized interface. Photo by Gregory Balanko-Dickson

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the  
**reflector**

**Reflector Publications  
Society of Calgary**

**2017 Annual General Meeting**  
**Tuesday, October 31, 2017, at 12:00 noon**  
**Reflector Office, Z002 (basement) Wyckham House**

**Members of the Reflector Publications Society will be presented audited financial statements for review and approval, will be asked to appoint auditors for the next year, and will be asked to elect two (2) students at large who will sit as directors on the Reflector board of directors. For information on Student at Large nominations, contact The Reflector at 403-440-6268.**

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**for more information and details**

# Healthy in a Jar

## Rainbow Salad Jar



**SERVES:**  
4 – 2 cup  
(500 mL) jars



**PREP TIME:**  
20-25 minutes including  
pulse cooking time

### INGREDIENTS

#### Salad

- 1 cup (250 mL) ..... dried split yellow peas, rinsed
- 1 – 14 oz (398 mL) ..... can lentils, drained and rinsed
- 1 cup (250 mL) ..... sliced green or red seedless grapes
- 1 cup (250 mL) ..... grated carrot
- 1 cup (250 mL) ..... diced sweet yellow or red pepper

#### Topping

- 1-2 ..... green onions, finely sliced
- ¼ cup (60 mL) ..... dried cranberries, optional
- ¼ cup (60 mL) ..... pecan pieces, toasted, optional

#### Dressing

- ¼ cup (60 mL) ..... apple cider vinegar
- ¼ cup (60 mL) ..... canola oil, cold pressed if available
- 2 Tbsp (30 mL) ..... liquid honey
- 2 tsp (10 mL) ..... Dijon mustard
- 2 cloves ..... garlic, finely minced

Nutrients per serving (1 jar)  
431 Calories, 15 g Fat, 1 g Saturated Fat, 0 mg Cholesterol,  
60 g Carbohydrate, 7 g Fibre, 23 g Sugar, 17 g Protein,  
201 mg Sodium, 938 mg Potassium, 239 mcg Folate, 4 mg Iron.



**PULSES** are the dry, edible seeds of legumes. This includes beans, lentils, chickpeas, and peas like split yellows – all grown in Alberta.



### Directions

In a covered saucepan, simmer split peas in 2 cups (500 mL) water until moisture is absorbed and peas are tender, but not mushy, about 20-25 minutes. Rinse and cool. Yields 2 cups (500 mL) cooked.

Meanwhile, whisk together dressing.

Evenly divide salad ingredients and layer in each of the four jars. Top with green onion and sprinkle pecans and cranberries, if desired. Pour an equal amount of dressing over each jar, seal and refrigerate until ready to go.

**Alberta Pulses – full of potential!**  
For more great recipes visit [pulse.ab.ca](http://pulse.ab.ca)

  
**ALBERTA PULSE  
GROWERS**



## iPhone reveal: Features of the future

*Will you be getting the iPhone 8 or will you be holding out for the iPhone X?*

**Nathan Woolridge**

Staff Writer

"I think it's clear, seven ate nine," said popular talk show host Ellen Degeneres about Apple's unveiling of the iPhone 8 and the iPhone X, which seemed to forget about an iPhone 9.

The tech giant released its designs for the iPhone X on Sept. 12, 2017 at a massive Apple convention. The unveiling came not long before the release of the iPhone 8, which is available now.

According to CNN, the newest member to the smartphone family, the iPhone 8 is a cheaper, more scaled back version of what the X will be. It does have some similar features that will be in the X. The iPhone 8 will be one of the first phones with wireless charging; to charge the phone will require a special surface and the glass back of the iPhone. It is available in three colours: grey, gold and silver.

The iPhone 8 will also be more advanced in taking photos, giving people a reason to take better selfies. Inside the phone is an improved camera sensor. The phone also contains new camera modes: expanded Portrait Mode and the ability to change lighting effects after you take the shot.

On Apple's website they stated, "Our vision has always been to create an iPhone that is entirely screen. One so immersive the device itself disappears into the experience. And so intelligent it can respond to a tap, your voice and even a glance. With iPhone X, that vision is now a reality. Say hello to the future."

The iPhone X will have the same features, but with a large stride forward introduces a phone with no home button and facial recognition to get into your phone. Getting rid of the home button allows for extra screen without having to increase the overall size of the fun. The technology will be able to learn more and more about your face each time you use it. The phone features a small light to be able to recognize your face in the dark.

USA Today reported that not everyone is excited about the facial recognition, stating that "Georgetown Law found that face recognition has been less accurate on African Americans, women and

young people."

People have also been worried about companies like Apple storing too much information about users. USA Today wrote that "Senator Al Franken (D-Minn.) sent a letter to Apple CEO Tim Cook asking him to explain how consumers will be protected by the technology and whether or not law enforcement will be able to access the Face ID database."

A few things definitely seem to be unclear about the application of face recognition. It's a big concern every time new technology is released, but with facial recognition being relatively new, consumers and other parties are raising concerns about the use of the data collected from the process.

A new application called Animoji has also been developed to recognize facial movements and incorporate that into everyone's beloved emojis, allowing different emojis to recognize your facial expressions and mouth movements.

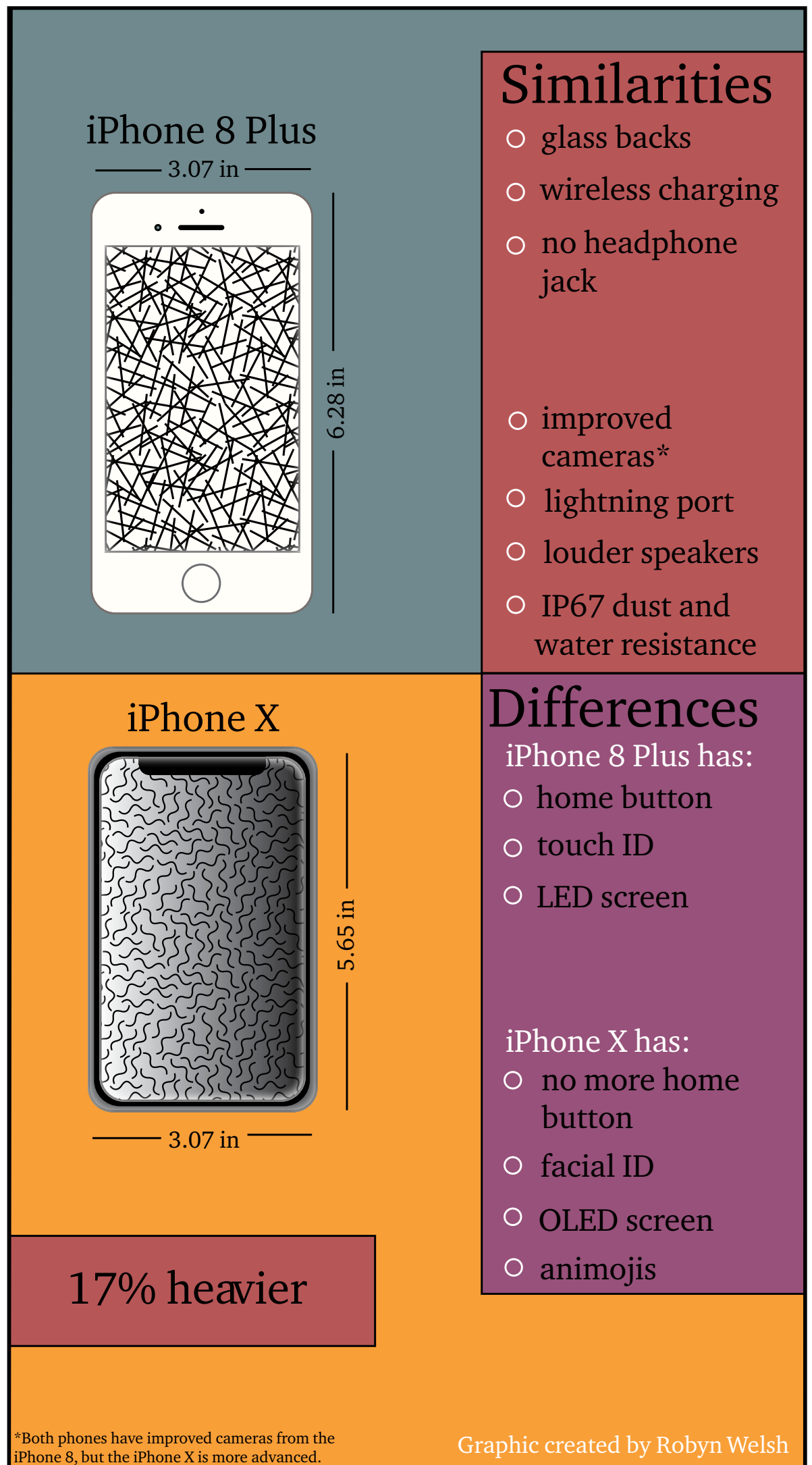
Users will be excited to hear that Apple insists that iPhone X battery life will be improved upon older models. The iPhone X charging mat will also be able to charge a number of other Apple products.

Apple claims that the glass on both the front and back of the phone is, "The most durable glass ever in a smartphone."

Without the iPhone X in hand, it's hard to compare it to other competitive phones. According to Business Insider. Looking past that, iPhone X will be a whopping \$1000 and its new features are still "catching up with premium Android phones." The same goes for the iPhone 8, which will be providing wireless charging, and will definitely enhance the smartphone industry.

While concerns have been raised about the iPhone X, there's no denying both phones have interesting new features that will surely keep people coming back for more.

The iPhone 8 is currently available on the market since Sept. 22, 2017. The iPhone X will follow a few months after with a release date of Nov. 3, 2017.



# Sex column: Undress and de-stress

*Spend more time having sex and less time being stressed*

**Shelby Dechant**

Contributor

Asking university students if they're stressed is like asking if water is wet. I know you're stressed. With the arrival of October comes the start of midterms. Whether you have exams to study for, projects to hand in, or presentations to prep, you're probably starting to feel your stress levels rise.

Since your first day of university you have probably been getting advice on how to deal with this stress. A few common ways students combat stress is through exercise, getting a good night's rest, meditation, or talking to someone. These are all helpful tools. But according to doctors literally everywhere there is a steamier approach to reducing stress.

Dr. Laura Berman, a Women's Health magazine advisor says that the oxytocin released during sex helps fight anxiety and depression. It activates parts of the brain that creates feelings

of intimacy and relaxation, according to a 2014 article from Women's Health on the hidden benefits of sex. Many other doctors and studies back-up Dr. Berman's explanation. The medical community seems to agree that a sexy session between the sheets may just help you walk into that 9 a.m. exam a little more mellow.

For those in relationships this should be great news. An excuse to take a study break with your partner to get it on ... because stress can kill you! For those of us not in relationships it's still great news. Having sex may not be as easy and on demand as it is for couples, but luckily there are some handy tools you can use to find your "de-stressing buddy". Apps like Tinder and Bumble are a great place to start. Apps like these may have a bad reputation but when your health is on the line you need something convenient and to the point. By

downloading the infamous apps, you have access to tons of people in your area potentially looking for the same thing. On your hunt to lower your stress levels you may even find a potential boyfriend or girlfriend; win-win.

If you're not a fan of dating apps (Tinder nightmares are a real thing), there are plenty of other ways to meet a companion who can help you take the edge off. Double up on your de-stressing and head to the gym. Honestly, I don't frequent the gym so I don't know how one actually meets a fellow gym goer. They may have their own language, truly I'm just guessing, but there are many stories of people meeting at the gym. I think it has something to do with all the endorphins and sweat in the air, it gets people going.

If, like me, the gym isn't your scene, don't worry. Head to the library, find a seat near a cutie and flash them a smile. A little

across the room flirting is always my go-to. They will either think you're crazy or cute so it's worth a shot. And if all else fails just be brave and approach that nice guy in your psych class, or talk the girl in the Tim Horton's line, you never know unless you try.

So, there you go. Instead of calling your mom at 3 a.m. on a Tuesday because you're stressed about a paper, call your de-stressing buddy. Have some sex, it's good for your health.



Sex can help you de-stress, so close your laptop and pick up a condom. Photo by Shelby Dechant

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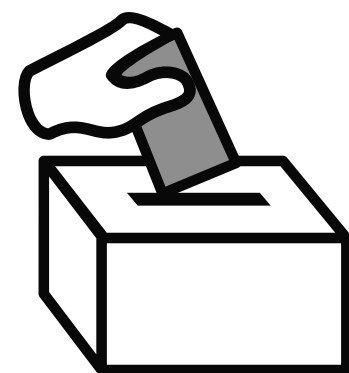
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# YYC food joints

## Study friendly spots for students

**Rosemary De Souza**

Contributor

Ever get tired of the same study area you have in school? Or maybe some of you are used to studying at home? The New York Times reported in 2010 that “alternating the room where a person studies improves retention.” In other words, changing the environments where you study may just help you learn better.

The Guardian also reported in 2013 that one factor identified to be influential to children’s learning was “having different types of learning areas.” So before we get into that tense mid-semester time-of-year, let’s take a look at some places we can go to relax, eat breakfast or lunch, and spend some time in while studying for the toughest of classes.

### Café Koi

Located on First Street and 10th Avenue S.W., Café Koi boasts a diverse menu with an added mix of several vegetarian, vegan, and gluten-free options for guests. The café that has been rated with four stars on Yelp and is fairly inexpensive with menu options costing anywhere between \$9 to \$20.

On Mondays, however, all vegetarian and vegan entrées are \$2 off while vegetarian and vegan appetizers are off by \$1. So what better way to start the week than with some of their Asian-style dishes of pan-seared dumplings, yam wedges with garlic coconut and miso dips, or even their vegan noodles cooked in a “szechwan chili-fire sauce.”

### Vendome

“WE ARE MORE THAN JUST A COFFEE SHOP” — the enlarged, golden, Georgia font is placed against the white background of the café’s website as the site boasts the European-inspired atmosphere found within the restaurant’s walls, located on Ninth Street and Second Avenue N.W.

This café serves everything from breakfast paninis, eggs benedicts, soups, salads, and hot meals. Their Filipino chicken adobo, Thai noodle salad bowl and meatballs, tuna poke bowl, and Middle Eastern lamb kawarma shows diverse influences in Vendome’s culinary artistry.

Regardless of their reputation to serve customers at the “highest quality,” Vendome has an average price rate from both Zomato and Yelp with a customer rating of 4.5

stars and four stars, respectively.

### Wise & Wright

This health-focused casual dining concept seems to be getting Calgary’s attention as the restaurant now has 3,800 Instagram followers after opening their doors in the summer of last year.

The restaurant that is located in The Core, on Stephen Avenue, not only caters to gluten-free goers, vegans, and vegetarians but to “meat enthusiasts” as well.

Whether it is their smoked salmon with turmeric cream cheese, Moroccan chicken on a flatbread with walnut arugula pesto, roasted shallots, feta cheese and curry oil. Or their ahi poke tuna salad with mango, cherry tomatoes, cumin spiced cucumbers, miso ginger vinaigrette and avocado, Wise & Wright commits to serving fresh ingredients and “whole natural meats and recipes” to their guests.

Wise & Wright’s menu option prices range from \$6 to \$14 on their current 2017 summer menu.

### Alforno

Ever crave a butternut squash orecchiette? How about a pappardelle ragu? A quattro formaggio? Which, by the way, is just fancy for four cheese. Alforno — located on Second Avenue and Fourth Street S.W. — is nothing less than your classic fine dining Italian restaurant with menu options that put complexity and flavour together.

The restaurant, café and bakery hybrid is owned by Teatro Group — the restaurant group that owns Vendome.

Their pizza selections range with combinations of prosciutto crudo with portobello, bacon with gorgonzola and a balsamic fig jam, or caramelized onions with roasted mushrooms, smothered with pecorino romano and fior di latte cheese.

That sounds way too good already!

Their coffee menu is no less from their flavour combinations with 12 different selections on their menu online plus a lavish list of their liquor selection that ranges from sparkling, white, red and rosé wine, brown liquor, bottled beer, cocktails, vodka, gin, rum, tequila and liqueurs — Baileys, Grand Marnier, amaretto, plus so much more.



Wise & Wright is known for their simple take on healthy food. The restaurant is located on Stephen Avenue, in the heart of downtown Calgary. Photo by Rosemary DeSouza

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# Iniskim Centre builds community

*The on campus resource, mainly for Indigenous students, invites others to participate*

**Mariam Taiwo**

Contributor



**Tori McMillan is the Aboriginal Education Program administrator at the Iniskim Centre. Photo by Mariam Taiwo**

Hidden on the second floor of main street, just across from B hallway, The Iniskim Centre is a support and resource centre for all Mount Royal University students on campus, but primarily it's services are geared towards self-identified Indigenous students.

The centre promotes community and wants students

to have a sense of belonging. The Iniskim Centre provides a calm and quiet place of refuge for students to meet other people and build friendships, eat and smudge (pray) together.

The Iniskim Centre opened its doors in the fall of 2006. That year, the centre worked together with community partners, especially a handful of elders,

to build the centre in a way that would help Indigenous students.

The elders came up with the name of the centre. The word "Iniskim" is very powerful in Blackfoot culture, which is the dominant Indigenous culture in the area. The word Iniskim means "Buffalo Calling Stone" and has special meaning to the Blackfoot people.

The centre has a lot of programs that it offers to students. One of the most important programs that the Iniskim Centre provides is the Aboriginal Education program. "The AEP was created from community, realizing that students that are leaving Grade 12 and coming into post secondary are experiencing culture shock," says Tori McMillan, the AEP administrator.

The Iniskim Centre also provides other important services to students such as scholarships, daycare, counselling, wellness, tutoring, childcare, housing, recreation, spirituality services and so much more. They also have student learning services in the centre open to their students.

The Iniskim Centre is a place where Indigenous students, as well as other students, can come and share their frustrations, worries, struggles and even things that make them happy.

"Sometimes, students come in to share the good news that they did well on a test, something frustrating that happened to them on the transit or an interaction with a teacher or student," says McMillan.

The centre provides them some perspective to their situation so they can see that other people are also learning, growing and developing in similar ways. As long as there is a sense of respect underneath, they can work through things like language difficulties and updated notions of misconceptions together.

McMillan says that one of the greatest gifts that the elders have given to them is the ability to share knowledge. Students can feel free to come in and use the centre's resources, as well as learn more about Indigenous cultures and spirituality.

McMillan says another key component of holism in the

Iniskim Centre is that they want student to be able to address their mental, physical, spiritual and emotional issues.

McMillan finds that a lot of students are wary when they come to post secondary because they don't know if they can be spiritual in a secular school.

"Yeah, it is your right, we will provide a space and teachings for you," McMillan tells them.

"Students often tell us how much it helps to balance their souls and be prepared for the work they do," he adds.

"We definitely want to break down any notions that unless you're native, you can't go down that hallway, students need to know that it's for everybody."

The number one message that McMillan wants students to know about the Iniskim Centre is that it doesn't matter if you're Indigenous or not, the centre is building community for everyone, not just among themselves. There are lessons and teachings that everyone can learn from each other in such a multicultural school like Mount Royal University.

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# Highlights from the Calgary International Film Festival

## Some of the best flicks we saw at Calgary Film

For almost two weeks, film fans everywhere united at Eau Claire Market and the Globe to take part in the Calgary International Film Festival. It was almost as if the holiday season came early, with Calgary's movie theatre maniacs being treated to countless exceptional films. Ranging from documentaries about rats and a feature length surrealist, satire on art installations. With so many movies to choose from, we obviously didn't get around to seeing all 200, but here is a short selection of some of the flicks you should definitely check out if you get the chance.

### **Sweet Virginia** Review by Colin Macgillivray

At first glance, sophomore director Jamie M. Dagg's neo-noir, anti-western *Sweet Virginia* bares some striking resemblances to a classic Coen brothers film. The plot itself almost conducts itself like a reverse *Fargo*, with a disenfranchised wife hiring a hitman to take out her own husband. Christopher Abbott's character, the aforementioned ruthless rage-filled hitman, definitely shares some qualities with *No Country for Old Men*'s Anton Chigurh. Hell, the screenplay was even written by Benjamin and Paul China, two brothers. Everything about *Sweet Virginia* screams "cheap Coen brothers ripoff." Luckily, it's not.

Set in a small town somewhere in Alaska, the film follows Sam (played by Jon Bernthal), an ex rodeo champion and manager of a dingy motel that seems to attract some suspect characters. One of those sorry individuals is Elwood, played exceptionally by the criminally underrated Christopher Abbott, who commits a triple murder

in the first scene of the film. A surprisingly atmospheric and haunting vibe follows from there, as Sam and Elwood's lives are slowly drawn together, culminating in an incredibly tense third act.

*Sweet Virginia* is exactly what you want an independent film to be. Stellar acting from all involved, some beautiful cinematography, and a premise that unfolds in a very unique way, albeit it being not the most original story. There are times where the film dives into cliché ridden territory, such as when it introduces that Sam had a daughter who died. The film then shoehorns in a character who acts as Sam's "daughter", something that felt forced and completely unnecessary. Nonetheless, *Sweet Virginia* is a haunting, witty, and enjoyable experience throughout.

### **My Friend Dahmer** Review by Alec Warkentin

There's generally an urgency among filmmakers to pepper movies featuring serial killing with unfortunate and largely unnecessary tropes (ghastly and gruesome murders, a bloodthirsty psychopath running amok), but *My Friend Dahmer* gratefully forgoes the telltale Hollywood sheen, opting instead to focus on something truly fearful: an adolescence of dysfunction and loneliness.

Keeping true to its source material (a graphic novel penned first in 2002 by Dahmer-classmate John "Derf" Backderf), the film features the young murderer-to-be (played by Ross Lynch) in a stark light of sincerity. His family life is in utter disarray, he doesn't fit in at his small-town Ohio school, and his affinity for picking up and

dissolving roadkill in the shed in his backyard doesn't quite win him any points with the locals.

Out of a sense of quasi-desperation, he begins "spazzing out" in classes and public settings, much to the enjoyment of the rest of the kids in his age-group. This results in him sinking even further into a toxic co-dependency between humiliation and acceptance. He begins drinking heavily to cope with his personal life crumbling with his homicidal urges towards the active Dr. York (played by a bearded Vincent Kartheiser) — whom Dahmer watches pass from behind bushes on his near-daily runs.

One of the more terrifying things about both the film and the novel is how easy it is to sympathize with the young man who would eventually go on to kill 17 people, and Meyers masterfully executes a sense of kinship with Dahmer through the interpersonal relationships he forms and his ever-prominent restraint. When the mostly-apathetic Dahmer finally breaks down falling to the floor and crying out after his mother and younger brother split, the viewers find themselves laying on the ground experiencing abandon, as well.

While the ending may be the lynchpin to some viewers, it is a fitting and necessary reminder that even serial killers once began without blood on their hands.

### **Call Me by Your Name** Review by Colin Macgillivray

Occasionally a film will come along that will be remembered for the breakout performances of its main players. A movie that allows its actors to, well, actually act. With no restrictions

and a flawlessly written script by James Ivory, *Call Me by Your Name* is a beautiful film that will be entirely remembered for the beauty of the performances.

The coming-of-age drama follows a 17 year-old Italian-American boy named Elio and the passionate relationship that develops between him and Oliver, an academic who is interning at Elio's parents gorgeous summer villa in Italy. The two bond over the beautiful landscape, their Jewish heritage, and their sexuality. They develop an incredible bond over the film's two-hour run time. Both Armie Hammer, who plays the charismatic and carefree Oliver, and newcomer Timothée Chalamet, who plays the introverted Elio, deserve incredible praise for their on-screen chemistry, their believability, and their performances as a whole. Chalamet in particular, is an incredible talent, so don't be surprised if his name is all over

this year's award season.

Although Hammer and Chalamet do dominate most of the screen-time, the rest of the supporting cast shines as well. Michael Stuhlbarg's portrayal of Elio's father is a perfect mix of brilliant comedic timing and moral adjudicator, while Esther Garrel, another fairly unknown actress, proves to be an incredible talent as Marzia, Elio's on-again, off-again girlfriend.

There was a considerable amount of hype surrounding *Call Me by Your Name* since it premiered at the Sundance Film Festival back in January, and sometimes that is a death sentence for a lot of films. They usually don't live up to the initial high praise. Thankfully, it delivers with career defining performances from the two leads, some beautiful visuals, and an incredible score by Sufjan Stevens.



Look out for the countless films that were featured at the Calgary International Film Festival during their feature releases later this year. Photo by Kennedy Enns

## OUT'N ABOUT

### **Heritage Park Ghost Tours:**

If you love historical tales and paranormal activity, Heritage park is the place to be from Oct. 5 to Oct. 18. Grab a nice warm cup of hot cocoa and adventure through the historical village for some spooky stories.

### **Jerry Seinfeld:**

One of the most successful comedians of all time comes to Calgary for a two day stint on Oct. 13 and 14. With his relatable, everyday life comedy routines, Jerry Seinfeld will be a treat for any comedy fan.

### **Fluid Fest:**

From Oct. 18 to 28, Calgary's downtown core will be filled with dance and movement performances where renowned performance artists will show their chops for adoring audiences.

### **Wordfest:**

More than 70 authors will gather on Oct. 9 to Oct. 15 for all things word-related at one of Canada's biggest literary festivals. From the Literary Death Match to Between the Pages, Wordfest is the place to be for book lovers.

# What's the word on Wordfest?

*What to expect at one of Canada's biggest literary festivals*

**Sabrina Harmata**

Contributor

Wordfest, a not-for-profit organization, holds one of the biggest literary festivals in Canada every year in Calgary. The festival aims to promote intellectual discussions around literature written by both well-known and new authors. This definitely makes it easier for all the bookworms out there to find new and interesting things to read, especially since the books being discussed come from a wide variety of genres. This

includes non-fiction, poetry, comics and fiction. Having the festival encompass many genres of literature ensures people of all ages will find what they are looking for; even children will be able to enjoy the festival, as a number of children's literature authors will be attending as well.

This annual festival takes place from Oct. 9 to Oct. 15, the same week as our new fall reading week. Coincidence? Probably, but at least you have somewhere to go to stay updated on all the current trends in academic and creative literature; instead of sitting at home and ignoring all the homework piling up on your desk. Going to a literary festival is a perfect way to keep your

brain sharp during a week full of Netflix binging, so take a break from watching Friends for the twelfth time, and find some new literature to obsess over before school consumes all your free time.

From Memorial Park Library, to the Central Library, to Arts Commons, the festival will be featuring over 80 authors from places all over the world, such as Calgary, Toronto, Washington, Montreal, Dublin, and even New Zealand. Authors include Denise Chong, the current writer in residence at University of Calgary, Ruth Ware, author of *The Lying Game*, and Zoe Whittall, author of Indigo's Number One Book of the Year in 2016, *The Best Kind of People*. They will be discussing their

masterpieces at length, so book time off work now, because you know you won't be able to forgive yourself if you miss it. Many of the authors are giving more than one talk, so if you miss them the first time, or if one of their events is too expensive, you can always catch them later on in the festival.

For those of you worried about cost, some of the events at the festival are free, or even as low as five dollars. Other events are a bit pricier, ranging from \$10 to \$50, but they also have the option of buying a festival pass for \$150, which will get you into any event throughout the festival, provided the cost of that event is less than \$24.

To a struggling university student, this seems like a lot

of money, but the knowledge you'll gain about reading and writing will be totally worth it. Trust me. Maybe you'll even use this newfound intelligence in class. You'll never know what could happen if you don't go check it out, and you wouldn't want to regret that for the rest of your life, so it's probably best to just go.

On top of the yearly festival, Wordfest also has many interesting events during the rest of the year. One of these such events is a talk with Rupi Kaur on her book, *the sun and her flowers*, on October 17. So for those of you still contemplating about going, why don't you do yourselves a favour and just do it.



With over 85 authors taking the main stage, Calgary's Wordfest looks to be one of their biggest events to date. Graphics courtesy of Wordfest

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# American Vandal isn't a one stroke show

*Netflix's mockumentary series takes a long, hard look at phallic graffiti*

**Paul McAleer**

Contributor

"Who drew the dicks?" This is the central question in Netflix's newest breakout series, *American Vandal*. It's a ridiculous concept, but the show doesn't acknowledge it, keeping a straight face throughout its eight-episode run.

The show is a mockumentary, poking fun at true crime with surgical precision. Instead of murder, the show deals in dicks—a lot of them.

Without giving too much away, *American Vandal* is an absolutely essential watch for fans of the documentary genre. It doesn't matter if you fancy *Making a Murderer* or BBC's *Planet Earth*, the style and tone of this phallic-obsessed Netflix series will pull you in and never let you go.

The story starts off with news footage of a vandalized high school faculty parking lot. With hulking penises graffitied to 27 cars, the scene is chaos, featuring a mix of amusement from students and utter disbelief from the victims.

In addition to your standard news footage with dry voices and talking head interviews at the forefront, more colourful Snapchat, Instagram and Facebook footage is also shown. Social media plays a large role in the investigation throughout the show.

It isn't long before the documentary establishes its culprit, Dylan Maxwell, played by Jimmy Tatro of YouTube fame. Tatro's character wants to become a YouTube prank star, pulling off dimwitted stunts such as tipping a Porta Potty and farting in children's faces.

We all know someone like Dylan in high school. Everyone thinks he vandalized the cars, and he gets expelled from school as a consequence. He pleads innocent, but no one believes him.

The only people that consider other suspects are the documentary makers Peter Maldonado, played by Tyler Alvarez, and Sam Eklund, played by Griffin Gluck. If these actors sound unfamiliar, it's a good thing, because it will help you believe *American Vandal* is real, if only for the runtime of an episode.

As the plot progresses,

the documentary presents more questions than answers, building suspense and frustration with each failed accusation. Why is our dick-drawing culprit so elusive? Because the truth is complicated and *American Vandal* proves hunting for it brings consequences.

Without giving any major plot elements away, certain conclusions and "evidence" points to culprits other than Dylan, who at this point has become a lovable idiot. The show is full of humour, but it's the serious elements that are truly captivating.

*American Vandal* is actually the name of the documentary the fictional characters are producing, so we are learning things with them in real time, and drawing our own conclusions. A bunch of students are wrongly accused with evidence that would shatter any high school student's self-esteem.

Sam and Peter's relentless pursuit to catch the person behind the penises hurts innocent people. It even hurts the documentary makers themselves, including the shocking reveal Sam pleasures himself using *American Apparel* catalogues.

The rabbit hole goes deep, but catching the real culprit was never the intention of the show. *American Vandal* proves that the truth is what we make of it. Our minds connect the dots even if the conclusions are based on circumstantial evidence.

Accepting someone's version of the truth is dangerous, but we do it all the time, especially in journalism.

Reporters have the power to frame facts and organize information. We can be selective of the truth, both at a conscious and subconscious level. It's so easy to take content at face value without thinking about how it's presented to us.

In a world where truth is as meaningless as it has ever been thanks to manipulative leaders, we need to question every bit of content we consume at a critical level.

With each suspect, *American Vandal* presents enough information for the viewer to

believe they've caught the real criminal until other evidence proves otherwise. The show even addresses its own faults and the harm it caused in the conclusion.

Other documentaries don't apologize for bending the truth to create suspense. Other documentaries don't revolve around penises, but *American Vandal* knows what makes other documentaries successful and what drags them down.

Whether they are about dicks or murderers, we will never look at other documentaries the same after *American Vandal*.



With eight episodes, *American Vandal*'s dick jokes luckily don't overstay their welcome. Photo courtesy of Netflix

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## I Tell a Fly

Benjamin  
Clementine  
Behind/Virgin EMI  
**Score: B+**



After winning the 2015 Mercury Prize for best album of the year, Benjamin Clementine is back with his album, *I Tell a Fly*. Compared to his acclaimed debut, this album seems like a step back, but it's still more interesting than the majority of music right now. Clementine is a talented composer, vocalist and poet. Although he favours piano-driven songs, the new album features Victorian-era strings, creating a mixture of

beautiful, unsettling moments throughout its eleven tracks. Every song is unstable and unpredictable: it's impossible to tell where Clementine is going to take his listener next. *I Tell a Fly* is an experience, but it's hard to say if it's enjoyable or emotional. His debut album was full of tear-inducing moments, but the vocal performance of this release falls short of its potential.

-Paul McAleer



## Wonderful Wonderful

The Killers  
Island Records  
**Score: C**

14 years removed from "Mr. Brightside," 11 from *Sam's Town* and five from the release of their last effort *Battleborn*, *Wonderful Wonderful* comes on the heels of several solo and side projects of varying success that kept the four original members occupied through the hiatus. And for the most part, it seems like after the half decade off, the group may have struggled to find their footing again.

Wonderful Wonderful

is not a fundamentally flawed album, but it struggles to find its place all the way through. Lead single "The Man" seems to strut confidently, and "Rut" recaptures a glimpse of the magic that a Killer's track used to uniformly contain. Much of the rest of the album, however, fails to handle the momentum. "Run for Cover" feels shoehorned in as a the standard political (but not TOO political) song, and "Tyson vs. Douglas", though flourishing

at moments, cannot properly contain the ambitious themes it sets out to cover.

*Wonderful Wonderful*, though still holding value in the odd track that carries glimpses of the old magic, fails to capture the overall anthemic value that catapulted The Killers to the upper echelon of rock and roll.

-Nathan Kunz

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## If Blue Could Be Happiness

Florist  
Double Double  
Wammy Records  
**Score: A**



Florist's latest album *If Blue Could Be Happiness* is a meditation on the aforementioned color and a perfectly tranquil and atmospheric folk pop record. Bringing to mind Joni Mitchell's album with a similar focus, *Blue*, Florist's newest record also focuses on the topics of love, loss and depression. A step in the right direction, Florist has grown since their debut album release last year *The Birds Sang Outside*. *If Blue Could Be Happiness* sounds more polished

and you can hear the maturity in singer Emily Sprague's voice as she mourns while still looking towards the future. While people fade from her memory, colors remain strikingly beautiful and that narrative carries her throughout the album.

Overall, Florist crafted a beautiful and melancholy folk album and it's exactly the album you should put on to calm you down as classes get more stressful heading towards reading break.

-Kennedy Enns

WORRIERS  
SURVIVAL POP

## Survival Pop

Worriers  
Side One Dummy  
Records  
**Score: B-**

Worriers latest album *Survival Pop* may be a paint-by-numbers pop punk release but that doesn't make it any less enjoyable to listen to. Lead singer Lauren Denitzio draws from their life experiences growing up queer and learning to handle their own mental health and has created an uplifting album for these hard times. While the

instrumentals throughout are plain, the sheer amount of energy drives this record forward. Standouts from the album include "What We're Up Against" and "Gaslighter" and with *Survival Pop* Worriers created an enthusiastic, though at times generic, sophomore release.

-Kennedy Enns



# sports

Sports Editor  
Dan Khavkin  
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## Can the men carry over success?

*MRU's most prominent club looking to improve coming off a fantastic 2016/2017 season*

**Dan Khavkin**

Sports Editor

Mount Royal University Men's hockey teams have just wrapped up pre-season and are gearing up for the start of the 2017/2018 season.

Last season's squad put up a record of 15-11-2 with a very rough ending to the regular season, finishing with a six game losing skid heading into the playoffs.

MRU faced-off the against the Manitoba Bisons in a gritty best-of-three series hosted by the Cougars, and won the first round of the Canada West playoffs with a 2-1 series victory.

Waiting for the Cougars were the top dogs of Canada West, the Saskatchewan Huskies who swept MRU 2-0. The Huskies took their talents all the way to finals but lost to now back-to-back University Cup winners, University of New Brunswick Varsity Reds.

The Cougars peaked at 5th place nationally in the Canadian Interuniversity Sports (CIS), holding a stellar 11-5 record heading into December. It was a tough stretch after December where the Cougars saw mid-season woes, going 4-6-2 in the last stretch of the season.

Canada West pantheon and Captain Cougar Matt Brown finished off his legendary university career last season, putting up 21 points in 22 games.

Brown is the CIS' all-time leading goal getter when he left university hockey and signed a contract with the East Coast Hockey League's (ECHL) Colorado Eagles who are under the Colorado Avalanche farm system. He put up four points in twelve games and played a game in the playoffs before getting injured.

Cam MacIse also took his talents to Colorado after falling just short of a point-per-game

season, netting 27 points in 28 games. His impactful playoff performance helped lift his team to win the Kelly Cup playoffs, tallying six points in twelve playoff games.

In his second CIS season, Connor Rankin lead the Canada West conference in the point category, tallying 35 points in 26 games earning him a spot in the first all-star team.

Jamal Watson put up a decent 23 points inside his first 26 CIS games, earning him a spot in the all-rookie team for Canada West. Fun fact about Watson, he played in his first ever playoff series last season, as he never got the opportunity in juniors whilst playing in the Western Hockey League (WHL).

Cam Lanigan played most of the season as backup to 2015/2016 Canada West all-rookie goalie Colin Cooper, but Lanigan got the nod in all playoff games.

Cooper posted an 11-7-1 record with Lanigan seeing only six games, going 2-3-1 and rookie Wyatt Hoflin put up a 2-1-1 record.

The men had pre-season action in late September, winning one of three games against University of Calgary Dinos and the U of S Huskies.

Dinos picked up both wins against the Cougars with 7-4 and 4-1 games while the Huskies were the lone win for the boys in blue, seeing a 3-2 win for MRU.

Riley Lindgren highlights this season's recruiting class and will be looking to add firepower on offence; something the Cougars will need with losses such as Brown and MacIse.

Former Swift Current Bronco of the WHL put up 167 points in 259 games, splitting duties between Lethbridge and Brandon during his time in



**Mount Royal Cougars unit discussing during a stoppage of play during the 2017 Crowchild Classic on Feb. 2, the Cougars will look for another deep playoff run after losing key assets last season. Photo by: Dan Khavkin**

junior.

Other newly acquired talents include:

Defenseman Austin Adamson put up 27 points in 58 games for Vernon Vipers in the British Columbia Hockey League (BCHL), also having 134 games in the WHL under his belt for Red Deer and Saskatoon.

Kord Pankewicz, who split duties between the WHL's Lethbridge Hurricanes and Alberta Junior Hockey League's (AJHL) Brooks Bandits last season, totalling 28 points in 31 games.

Offensive defenseman Shane Poulsen racked up an impressive 101 points inside 188 games in the BCHL, looking to bring his puck moving ability to last years top-ranked powerplay in Canada West.

Calgary native and defenseman Allan Macpherson is coming off his own career year, putting up 31 points in 55

games for the Calgary Canucks of the AJHL.

Bradley Kennedy spent most of his junior career in the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League (QMJHL), putting up 143 points in a 232 game career on the east coast, playing for the Maritime Junior Hockey League's Weeks Crushers; he put up 41 points in 21 games.

Junior nomad Clive Rozdeba played in B.C., Alberta, and Saskatchewan before settling in MRU coming off a 36-point season in Saskatchewan's Junior Hockey League (SJHL).

Saskatoon native Josh Bly spent most of time in junior in the SJHL, racking up an over point-per-game career with 102 points in 99 games before getting recruited by MRU.

Mitch Lipton is coming off his best career year in junior, putting up a 78 point campaign for the Whitecourt Wolverines of the AJHL.

Kelowna, B.C. native Hunter Zandee spent the majority of his junior career in the BCHL, totaling 46 points 140 games.

This recruiting class will help to further improve a developing and growing squad which contains one fifth-year senior and five fourth-year players.

MRU's offence was scary good last season putting up 99 goals. Letting in 2.8 pucks a game is still a concern on the defensive end.

In order to compete with conference powerhouses such as the Huskies and the University of Alberta Golden Bears who actually beat Saskatchewan in the Canada West playoffs, team defence will have to improve and hopefully the injury bug won't be affecting the team this season.

Watch for MRU to finish in the top-half of the standing and again, will make a deep playoff push this year.

# #S

**1,914** career points for Czech hockey legend Jaromir Jagr who is currently second on the NHL all-time points list.

**9** NHL teams that will have had Jaromir Jagr's number on the back of their jersey.

**\$205 mil.** Oklahoma City Thunder's and reigning MVP Russell Westbrook five year contract extension making him the highest paid in NBA history

**288** career home runs with the Toronto Blue Jays' Jose Bautista who's time with the club is over at the end of the season.

# Will the Flames have another burnout season?

## *The Calgary Flames begin with series of upset losses*

**Nathan Woolridge**

Staff Writer

Our beloved Calgary Flames did not start the season on a flashy note — the squad lost both opening split-squad games against rival Edmonton Oilers on Sep 18, 2017.

### **Shaky start to season**

In Calgary, the Flames lost 5-4 and the second split squad in Edmonton dropped their game 5-2.

Newly acquired goaltender Mike Smith allowed in four goals in his home debut while the other new goaltender Eddie Lack, who is expected to back-up for Smith, allowed three of the goals in his Flames debut.

TSN reported that Flames coach Glen Gulutzan was not quick to blame goaltender Smith. “I’m not going to judge ...

it’s really early,” Gulutzan said. “It’s a little different for goalies. They see three practices, and if you think of all of their skates in the summer, it’s pretty tough for them when guys are playing shinny hockey ... so it’s good to get them minutes.”

Calgary matched up against the Canucks dropping that decision 5-2, allowing four unanswered goals to a surging Vancouver squad.

On Sept. 22, the Flames picked up their first unofficial win of the season, beating Smith’s former Arizona Coyotes squad 4-2.

Two days later, the Winnipeg Jets hosted the Flames handing them a 5-2 loss.

But, it is still early in the preseason. As the team plays a few more games, maybe there will be more insight on how they will perform in the regular season.

The Flames and Oilers will

meet again for the regular season opener in Edmonton on Oct. 4.

### **Gaudreau having some issues?**

Many people seem to be highly praising the elite Johnny Gaudreau, who at the beginning gave some hope and promise to the team, but lately he has been outscored and outperformed by his teammates.

Gaudreau scored a mere 18 goals while dishing out 43 assists last season.

Monahan and two-way forward Mikael Backlund outshined the goal total with 27 and 22 respectively.

Other players, even defenders, almost had as many goals as Gaudreau; such as captain Mark Giordano who had 12 marks and Dougie Hamilton with 13.

It seems that Gaudreau has not reached his full potential that we

know he has.

The kid is very fast and quick with his hands. What seems to be holding him back is his fancy stickhandling and inability to get the puck up the ice with far too many turnarounds in the neutral zone.

It was evident last season that he has a tough time deciding between passing the puck when the shot is available, and vice-versa.

### **2017-2018 season**

The team really needs to find their groove early on in the season and start winning games. For the most part, the team is similar to the team we saw last year; who made playoffs.

But, they did get knocked out of the first round without winning a game. Hopefully they turn that series loss into motivation.

With the recent acquisition of the second all-time leading scorer in NHL history of the aged wonder Jaromir Jagr, the Flames will now be adding an asset on the offensive end.

Jagr is a prolific scorer and his experience will certainly rub off on the youngsters such as Johnny Hockey and Monahan.

Former 1998/1999 League MVP played for the Pittsburgh Penguins winning the Cup with them twice and was a five-time scoring champion in his time with the Steel City.

Czech olympian also has a gold medal to his name in the 1998 Nagano games and a bronze at the 2006 games in Turin. Jagr has also suited up for the Washington Capitals, New York Rangers, Philadelphia Flyers, Dallas Stars, Boston Bruins, New Jersey Devils and the Florida Panthers.

# Why Trump and sports shouldn't mix

## *US President adding salt to wound in politics, and in sports*

**Sajan Jabbar**

Staff Writer

Sports teams across all North American platform have been protesting what 45th President of the United States, Donald Trump has been stating over the past two weeks. “Get that son of a b\*tch off the field right now, he’s fired,” Trump recently exclaimed during a rally for Alabama Senate candidate Luther Strange about how the NFL players have recently been taking a knee or sitting during the national anthem in protest against police brutality and social injustice.

Trump states that team owners should fire the players who allegedly “disrespect the flag.”

This whole controversy started back in the summer of 2016 when former-San Francisco 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick sat during the playing of the American anthem, the “Star Spangled Banner.”

“I am not going to stand up to show pride in a flag for a country that oppresses black people and people of colour. To me, this is bigger than football and it would be selfish on my part to look the

other way. There are bodies in the street and people getting paid leave and getting away with murder,” the still-jobless quarterback stated at the start of his movement back in the preseason of 2016.

The original protest had Kap sit down on the bench during the duration of the anthem but after having a conversation with Nate Boyer, who served in the US military before playing in the NFL.

Boyer wrote an open letter to Kap explaining that taking a knee would be a more appropriate approach as that is what takes place when a folded US flag is presented to the family of a soldier killed in combat.

Now a year later, with Kaepernick still unsigned to an NFL team, he saw his awareness around the sports world as many athletes took a knee to support what he had been protesting.

This is not the first time Trump has gotten himself involved with the NFL in a negative way.

Between 1983 and 1985, Trump was team owner and partial league owner of the United States Football League (USFL), a pro football league

under the NFL. During his tenure with the USFL, he sued the NFL for monopolistic practices.

Defending NBA champions Golden State Warriors are also attached to the controversy with Trump recently declined them from the White House.

In professional sports, it is common for teams who win the championship of their respective league to get invited from the President to meet them in the White House.

Superstars Stephen Curry and Kevin Durant of the Warriors have expressed their feelings and disbelief about going to the White House, in which Trump responded in a tweet saying that they were not invited in the first place.

“Going to the White House is considered a great honor for a championship team. Stephen Curry is hesitating, therefore invitation is withdrawn!” the President stated publicly on his active Twitter account.

This has caused many star players in the NBA to join with the NFL, the two largest leagues contributing to this protest. Superstar LeBron James and hall-of-famer Kareem Abdul-

Jabbar have also voiced their displeasure to what Trump is stating.

“Discrimination is not going to make us safer, and it’s not going to make America great,” Abdul-Jabbar said in an interview with CBS where he praised what Kaepernick is standing for.

Players in the NFL who are taking a knee in protest are also receiving a lot of backlash coming their way as well, which has led to lower NFL ratings and attendance.

What the public doesn’t seem to understand is that the league is nearly 70 per cent Black and all the owners are white.

This doesn’t mean the owners are racist, however, this leads the players to answer to either the carrot or the stick.

NFL contracts don’t have certain guarantees like other major sport leagues do, so players risk a lot more than just playing time if they decide to join in the act. They risk their jobs.

Some owners however, have expressed they have their players backs by joining in another form of protest, the act of linking arms on the field.

This trend started with Jacksonville Jaguars owner Shahid Khan, who supported Trump’s inauguration stated, “we can and should be united in the effort to become better as people and a nation.”

Many fans have made the decision to boycott NFL games with Trump’s approval, refusing to watch the games in the audience and on television. Fans have also been very vocal during the games by booing the kneeling players during the national anthem.

Trump has stated many times that this controversy is only about players disrespecting the flag by kneeling during the national anthem, but many fans and players comprehend that there is a racial inspiration with Trump and his supporters, as the division between races hasn’t seen this much tension in decades.

No matter the case, this controversy has separated Donald Trump from the world of sports in the United States and has now created a divide among athletes.



# Your Students' Association





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# CHRIS DAVIS

## YOUR VOICE MATTERS

WARD 8

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**1. Sensible Transportation Planning**

I commit to ending the slapdash and rushed building of new transportation projects. New projects must form part of a comprehensive transportation plan that includes improved cross-town linkages, be accompanied by meaningful consultations with communities and stakeholders, including Mount Royal University students, and provide good value for the tax dollars being spent.

**2. Standing Up for Small Businesses**

I commit to reducing small business taxes, cutting the red tape and burdensome regulations which hurt small business productivity, and ensuring that city infrastructure projects minimize their impact on small business operations.

**3. Restoring Fiscal Responsibility**

I commit to holding the line on taxes for families, cutting wasteful spending at City Hall, and ensuring we get good value for our tax dollars by instituting better budgeting and project management for large-scale infrastructure projects.

**4. Less Telling, More Listening**

I commit to holding regular consultation sessions with my constituents, pushing for a wholesale reform of the City's approach to community and stakeholder engagement, and dramatically reducing the number of closed-door meetings at City Hall.

**In this election, we have the chance to bring a fresh, new perspective to City Hall.**

***On October 16th, let's make sure that Your Voice Matters -  
Vote for Chris Davis in Ward 8.***