

# The Griffins' Nest

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## The Road to Canada for Aspiring International Students

NEWS REPORT by Anthony Lu (11)

The Vancouver School Board's ("VSB") international student program gives international students the opportunity to study abroad in, according to the VSB, "excellent schools offering courses in academics, fine arts, technology, languages, and athletics."

Students can apply to study for one year – like **Chika Inagaki** (11), an international student from Japan. They can apply to study for many years, the end goal being to graduate with a grade 12 diploma, – like **David Li** (12), an international student from China. Or, they can even apply to study for just one summer. No matter their intentions, international students must go through a months long application process to get from their home country to Canada.

The first step is to find a school board to apply to. Inagaki browsed the web for school boards and emailed some that interested her before picking the VSB.

"It's been one of my dreams to study in North America ever since I started studying English! Vancouver is an amazing place to learn language education, which is what I'm passionate about. Vancouver is also famous for its safe environment and its beautiful nature so I wanted to come study here so badly!" she told The Nest in an interview.

Li said his mom searched around online for school boards and they ended up deciding on the VSB.

"I picked the VSB over other school boards primarily because of its safety. Also, the secondary schools under the VSB's administration have good academic reputations," he explained.

The next step is to apply. Contrary to local students, international students can, if applying for a school year, choose to start their school year in either September or February. Li applied to start school in September 2019. He started school with the VSB at the beginning of his 9th-grade year. Inagaki, however, applied to start school in February



TERESA CHEN

2022. She started school with the VSB in the middle of her 10th-grade year.

In their application to the VSB's international student program, students need to submit an application form, English versions of their original transcripts or school records from the past three years, an immunization record, a participation agreement, and a \$300 application fee. Li told The Nest that he also had to pick his top three VSB schools.

When applying to the VSB, applicants can choose to hire an agent to help them with the application process. Both Li and Inagaki applied to the VSB without agents.

"It was a pretty easy process to apply to the school board even though I did everything on my own," Inagaki commented.

Li didn't see the need for an agent. "[My mom and I] didn't think there would be a difference between us handing in our preferences or the agent handing in our preferences on our be-

half. Therefore, we did it ourselves," he elaborated.

After applying, students must wait for the VSB to review their application. According to the VSB, the main factors for selecting students are educational background and present academic standing, as well as the number of spots available. Because of the limited amount of spots, the VSB recommends applying early. The VSB then emails the student within 10 business days to let them know whether they have been accepted.

The international education section on the VSB's website indicates that accepted students must pay a \$16,000 tuition fee and a \$1,100 compulsory medical fee each school year. Students must pay these fees immediately after receiving their placement letter, either by certified cheque, money order, or bank transfer payable to the VSB.

Accepted students must also receive a study permit from the Canadian Embassy or Canadian Consulate in

their home country.

"I was asked to submit my financial and educational background. Then, we had to verify our information with the embassy to make sure everything was true," Li illustrated.

"You just prepare and send all the documents – including authentic documents, some essays to show the purpose of your stay, the document that proves your family income, Letter of Acceptance (LOA) from your school board, and more," Inagaki detailed. She voiced that the documents for the permit took her a month or two to prepare.

During this step, students can once again choose to apply with an agent. While Li did not apply with an agent, Inagaki did.

"If there's a little mistake on a document, they reject your request and it takes a while to be accepted and you can't start going to school despite having paid the tuition fee! Also, the protocols change quite often, so there's a good chance you won't be able to get a

study permit on time," she explained. Applying with an agent would help "make sure that [she'd] be accepted".

When asked how long the process took, both Li and Inagaki said that it took them around half a year. They were both pleasantly surprised by how fast the process was. Li remarked that it took his friends, who also wanted to study abroad, eight months. Inagaki mentioned that she too had heard that it would take longer.

Inagaki believes that in general, the application process was convenient – especially applying to the VSB.

"I was able to submit everything online and didn't have to go anywhere except for the time I recorded my fingerprints!" she exclaimed. But not everything was easy for her.

"I found it hard to apply for a study permit by myself."

On the other hand, Li found it to be a bit more challenging.

"I think the only hard thing at that time was language. I was not very good at English at the time and didn't trust machine translation," he explained.

The VSB recommends that students arrive in Vancouver at least half a month before their school year starts. After arriving in Vancouver, but before starting school, students must also register at the international education office.

According to Li, students must also take the VSB language proficiency exam, which he took in late August 2019. This exam is meant to determine an international student's English level and place them into an English class for the following school year.

Students must then attend an orientation and assessment, where they will select courses.

"We were sitting in a circle and briefly introduced ourselves. Ms. Gomes showed us around the school and introduced staff members we could find under several scenarios (mainly the international department and the counsellors)," Li revealed.

During their time in Vancouver, students must also find their own living accommodations, such as a homestay, or living with a relative or family friend. Parents of international students can email the international office at [intered@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:intered@vsb.bc.ca) for a list of homestay providers. Homestay providers are responsible for managing host family availability, fees, policies, and application procedures.

## Liz Truss Resigns as British Prime Minister



ROB PINNEY/GETTY IMAGES VIA NBC

NEWS REPORT by Dora Yuan (8)

When Boris Johnson resigned his position as British prime minister back in July, he set off a chain of events that would eventually lead to

a new record: the shortest-serving prime minister in the United Kingdom.

Liz Truss, the former foreign secretary during Johnson's premiership, was invited to form a government by Queen Elizabeth II on Sept. 6 after winning the Conservative leadership election. Her appointment came

at a critical time for the UK as the war in Ukraine continued and inflation reached its highest point in 40 years. But on Oct. 20, only 45 days after she entered into office, she announced she was stepping down.

Having been part of the Conservative Party since 1996, Liz Truss beat former Chancellor of the Exchequer Rishi Sunak by over 20,000 votes on Sept. 5. Leading this party guaranteed her the position of prime minister, as the head of the party with a majority of seats in the House of Commons.

As the leader of one of the most powerful countries in Europe, and being the third woman to hold this position in the UK, she received support from most political leaders in Europe.

However, the public response had been more negative from the start. Truss's personal ratings, as recorded by an Opinium poll in early October, dropped to negative 47, which is the worst rating ever recorded in an Opinium poll, according to *The Guardian*. The same poll recorded 64 per cent of respondents disapproving with the job she is doing, with only 16 per cent approving.

Such a low rating can be attributed to the drastic changes she made within her first month. Only days after becoming prime minister, Truss announced a "mini budget"— an economic plan that included major tax cuts, primarily towards the wealthy. In response, the British pound crashed to its low-

est point against the US dollar since 1985. Other sectors displayed distrust in the budget changes, with a spike in government borrowing, in addition to the UK pension funds becoming a "full-scale liquidation event", according to one Bank of England director.

Facing outrage from the public and protests in multiple cities, Truss made another drastic change, reversing most of the plans she had introduced regarding tax cuts. This caused her ratings to drop further, due to the lack of trust in the Tories' governing capability.

On Oct. 4, during the Conservative Party Conference, Truss's speech defending her actions was interrupted by a group of protestors in the audience, holding a large poster reading "Who Voted For This?" Outside, crowds of protestors rallied, expressing outrage at the mini budget.

Truss dismissed her Chancellor of the Exchequer, Kwasi Kwarteng, on Oct. 14 as she tried to contain the fallout from her mini-budget. As Chancellor, Kwateng was also responsible for the financial packages introduced in the Truss government.

Losing her grip on the Conservative MPs, Truss came under pressure as rebellions within her own party spiked, and at least three senior MPs chose to vote against her in a bill involving fracking. Multiple Tories resigned, including Truss's home secretary, Suella Braverman.

"I have had serious concerns

about this government's commitment to honouring manifesto commitments," explained Braverman in her resignation letter.

A YouGov poll, which surveyed 530 Conservative Party members, revealed on Oct. 18 that over half of Tories believed that Truss should step down. MPs claimed they "missed Boris Johnson", with 63 per cent of voters believing that he would be a good replacement. Only 38 per cent of the surveyed group believed Truss should remain as prime minister.

To many experts and politicians, it was no surprise when, on Oct. 20, Truss addressed the nation in a resignation speech outside her residence at 10 Downing Street.

"I came into office at a time of great economic and international instability," she stated, describing the political and economic chaos the country was in. "I was elected by the Conservative party with a mandate to change this."

"I recognise, though," she added later, "given the situation, I cannot deliver the mandate on which I was elected by the Conservative Party."

Truss is succeeded by Rishi Sunak, after Boris Johnson announced in a statement that he would not run for party leader, leaving Sunak to run unopposed for Conservative leader. Sunak was formally invited to be prime minister by King Charles III on Oct. 25, making him the first person of Asian descent to do so.

HAMBER AND STUDENT LIFE

The Griffins' Nest

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These articles are written by the Editorial Board, explaining their stance on a topic.

Changes to Hamber's Bell Schedule Leaves Students Confused

NEWS REPORT by Allison Lee (11)

Students were surprised at the beginning of the school year by slight changes to the bell schedule that they had grown used to last year.

While school days and first periods started at 8:40 a.m. last year, the day has shifted to start five minutes earlier at 8:35 a.m. The break between first period and second period is now 13 minutes long, extending it by four minutes from last year.

Classes also end a minute earlier than they used to, at 3:05 p.m. instead of 3:06 p.m. As a result of this, the break between third and fourth period is a minute shorter, with the fourth block starting at 1:44 p.m. instead of 1:45 p.m.

Many students reacted negatively to school days starting five minutes earlier, claiming that their morning routines are affected by this change.

"Even though it's only five minutes [earlier], I have to wake up a lot earlier and get ready a lot quicker," said Jaya Wood (10). Fatima McLeod (10) also believes that it was a big change, as she "has to wake up an extra twenty minutes earlier to get on an even earlier bus." Additionally, new students at Hamber and even some teachers feel unsure about this change.

"It's a bit too early," stated Jordan Tran (8), as his elementary school began at 9:00am. Ms. M. Lin (Modern Languages & Math), felt concerned for others because of this start time. "I find that it is okay most of the time, but if we're looking at specific working families or families with other [children in school], it is too early."



Students also found that the extension of the break between first and second period's length was unnecessary, especially since it is now several minutes longer than the break between third and fourth period. Riley Chew (9) stated that the change "doesn't affect me that much, just a bit weird that it's uneven." Mataya Gill (9) also thought that "it should be the same amount of time, but it doesn't really affect anything."

Several students, including Maya MacPhee-Kwan (11) questioned "why [the breaks] have to be at such random times". Nikhita Hollih (12) agreed, wondering why the second period can't simply start at 10:10, as she finds it difficult to remember how long each break is

and when class starts.

School ending at 3:05 p.m., a minute earlier compared to last year, also left students confused.

"I don't understand why they had to make the change because it seems kind of nitpicky [and] it doesn't really make a difference to anyone's schedule," Diya Iqbal (12) articulates.

"It's just 60 seconds, it doesn't really make a difference," Amelia Chong (11) pointed out.

However, the return of FIT periods was celebrated.

"If we didn't have it, I don't know how I'd make it through school. It's a mental break to collect yourself and see what [work] you have to do. It's relieving to

have that time," Sienna Lawrence (10) stated. Many students reported using the FIT periods to catch up on homework and study for upcoming tests.

"It's nice to have the self-studying time," said Tiffany Chui (11). Chong agreed, emphasizing that "Learning time management is really important, so letting us have that free time to do whatever we want is always good."

Something for the school to consider may be their decision to enforce students staying in either the cafeteria, a classroom, or the library.

Parissa Yee (11) expressed that she "[finds] that the caf is way too loud" and she "can't focus no matter how hard I try to zone out."

The Truth About Hamber's Crammed Classes this Year

NEWS REPORT by Ali Hekal (10) and Vicky Tan (10)

This issue has occurred before.

"I think this will happen more in the future, unless the funding gets better," stated Smith.

To help accommodate for the disproportionate ratio of students to classes, additional blocks have been added, such as Photography 9 and 10, Food Studies 9 and 10, Science 10, and Math 10. Although these blocks have alleviated a lot of the stress, Smith asserts, "I believe that schools should be funded better."

"I think other issues have come up because of the change when we went to semester from linear. A bigger issue for kids is that sometimes [they] get a semester that is pretty difficult as opposed to having a balance," said Smith.

If the provincial government funded schools better, it would allow a much more comfortable school year in terms of classes for students.

"Funding would provide more blocks, we wouldn't have such [a] crowded [space]," said Smith.

As of now, an effective amount of additional funding seems unlikely. Hamber's students will need to adjust themselves to a crowded school year.

Eric Hamber's classes are overflowing this year, leaving many students unable to secure their places in classes.

Because of this, Hamberites have been anxious regarding their lack of credits and counsellors have been working hastily to resolve issues in students' schedules.

This is not a novel predicament, nor an issue exclusive to Hamber; in previous years, classes have been incredibly cramped throughout the District. Through an interview with Mr. C. Smith (Counseling), light has been shone on the issue.

"There [have] been parents who kept kids home out of school during the pandemic. A lot of kids have come back," said Smith. As of the first semester of 2022, the severity of the pandemic has lessened. Therefore, an abundance of students have been returning to in-person classes at Hamber.

Along with that, travel bans have also been lifted in several countries.

"A lot of international students have returned after the pandemic," said Smith.

The sudden increase in students has made arranging classes challenging this year.

Another cause of crammed classes is due to reduced funding. Funding has decreased due to the provincial government changing how money is distributed to schools.

"Schools [at] one point were funded [on a] per kid basis. [...] Then they went to a per block funding. So now schools get funding by the number of blocks they have," Smith explains.

Because Hamber has fewer blocks this year compared to previous years, the funding has decreased. The increased number of students and decreased funding presents a problematic situation for the entire school to face.



Grad Committee Starts Up

NEWS REPORT by Arianna Tham (11)

With the 2022-2023 school year starting up, Grad Committee has begun their planning for this year's grad events and ceremonies. They are looking to deliver memorable and breath-taking events for Eric Hamber's graduates this year.

This year's Grad Committee members consist of Willow Song (12), Daniel Li (12), Alanna Rudolph (12), Tiffany Lien (12), Lauren Lee (12), and Emily Webb (12), the Grad Chair. Grad Committee organizes events for grade 12 students. They are fully responsible for planning prom and the graduation ceremony that many graduates look forward to in the spring. They also host fundraisers to raise money for prom and other grade 12 events that will either be exclusive to grads only or may be grade-wide.

The committee started off the year with the graduation sunset that became a renowned event from last year. They then began the planning of graduation hoodies while hosting grad spirit week and grad karaoke. Gradu-

ates can look forward to receiving their hoodies in a few weeks.

Grad Comm is preparing grad trivia, consisting of multiple groups who compete against each other, having the early 2000's as their theme. Grad Breakfast is another annual tradition that will be back as well and Grad Chair Webb can't wait for it.

As a new event for Grad Committee, Webb says they plan on selling bubble tea at the school.

"We haven't gotten approval for it starting up, but we were talking about trying to get bubble tea sales to the school, part-time and selling it at lunch, regularly or monthly."

"I feel like a lot of students would like that; it would be something everyone would enjoy, not just grade 12s."

Ms. C. Chang (Math) commented on this event, "In order for you guys to gain money from the fundraiser, you would have to mark up the price, and bubble tea is already so expensive. Make your own bubble tea!"

Plans for the class of 2023's graduation have not been formed yet, but will be in the coming months. In the past, Hamber's graduations have been grand, large-scale events.

Webb says, "My goal is to plan memorable activities for my grade and I am excited to organize everything. I want to get as many events in as possible, so people always have something to look forward to. I want to give everyone in grade 12 an event that they will remember and enjoy."

Planning for the Long-Awaited Reopening of Eric Hamber's School Store

NEWS REPORT by William Park (11)



The past two years at Hamber have been unprecedented for students and staff. With courses having been taught through two completely different systems due to COVID-19, Hamberites have needed to adapt to a rapidly changing school environment.

Now, as Hamber starts to return to normal, students and teachers have varying opinions on how COVID-19 has affected students' motivation and stress levels.

The first of Hamber's measures against COVID-19 was the quarter system, which was introduced in the 2020-2021 school year.

This system would distribute students' classes into four 10-week quarters, with students usually taking two courses per quarter. At the beginning of a quarter, one of the two classes would be taught completely online, typically through Microsoft Teams, while the other class would have in-person lessons either in the morning cohort (8:40 a.m. to 10:25 a.m.) or the afternoon cohort (1:18 p.m. to 3:03 p.m.). This system split each course into two separate cohorts in order to promote social distancing.

While some students found these changes beneficial, other students found them harmful.

"I felt like way less effort was needed for academic success in the quarter system," said Emily Vuong (11).

Marcus Tsang (12) found his classes stressful during the quarter system because of the lack of a social outlet.

"Academic pressure is tough, and I had no one to talk to," he said.

Along with students, teachers had their opinions on the quarter system.

"I found that students in the quarter system performed really well," shared Ms. R. Cooper (Social Studies). Co-



NEWS REPORT by Arabella Mew (10)

The Griff, Eric Hamber's school store, was once a convenient hub for students to purchase snacks and Hamber merchandise. However, after COVID-19 and the passing of Eric Hamber's beloved business teacher and school store's sponsor, Ms. T. Hayes (Business Ed.), it has since been closed. This year, Marketing 11 and E-Commerce 12 students are working to bring it back with the support of Ms. S. Schoenfelder (Business Ed.) and Mr. M. Albrecht (Business Ed.).

In the past, The Griff sold a variety of food, snacks, and drinks during lunch hours as an alternative to the cafeteria and vending machines. But this year, as student Priya Mann (12), explained, "We're working on taking a bit of a different approach and not just bringing back exactly what there was years ago."

Nicholas Mann (11) elaborated, "We're still in the early stages, so a lot more to come. We're doing surveys to see what [students] want us to sell, and how much [they] are willing to spend at the school store. In the past, students did want snacks, food, drinks, and all that. But right now might be different, and maybe they want an essentials store or even a clothing store."

Both students emphasized that they did want to get The Griff running as soon as possible, and explained that there was only a rough timeline as of the interview, with a tentative date of reopening around mid to late November.

When asked what the Marketing 11 and E-Commerce 12 students are currently working on in the planning process, Priya Mann said, "Everyone meets together and shares their opinions." Nicholas Mann added, "We still have quite a bit of work to do to get it up and running." He proceeded to state that the Griff may open once or twice as a trial run to see what works best, before opening for longer periods of time.

Priya Mann concluded, "We're hoping that it will allow students to get products that they don't have access to right now. There is still a lot of talk and ideation about how exactly we want to be presented. Very little is actually finalised and a lot will be changing throughout the week, so we just have to wait and see how everything works together." As Nicholas Mann said, "It's kind of a community thing if you think about it."

The Lasting Effects of COVID on Hamber Students

NEWS REPORT by William Park (11)

per believes that the focus on only two subjects and the down time that the quarter system allotted led students to go far in their work.

The second of Hamber's measures against COVID-19 was the semester system, which was implemented in the 2021-2022 school year. It split students' full year timetables into two semesters, with a maximum of four courses per semester. Similar to the quarter system, students and teachers had different opinions on certain changes made throughout the semester system.

Vuong observed that, "there was a lot of prerequisite information needed for the semester system courses not taught in the quarter system", which made her semester system courses more challenging.

Tsang, however, remarked that he achieved higher marks in his semester system courses compared to the quarter system.

"It was [a] positive [impact], because I had more time to study and I could actually ask people [for help]," he said.

Ms. N. Buonassisi (French) found that many students complained about homework being due the day after it was assigned since the semester system began. Both Buonassisi and Cooper also found the semester system to be more packed, with little preparation time available for teachers in between school days.

This school year, Hamber has continued with the semester system. Many at Hamber see the lingering effects of the pandemic on students.

"In terms of students' ability and how they do work, everyone's been adjusting well, going back to normal," stated Cooper.

Buonassisi also believes that "the majority of students are still extremely motivated and doing very well academically."

Angela Chen (11) even finds that her work ethic is better now because of learning through COVID. Moreover, Tsang and Vuong state that their academic motivation is just as strong as it was before COVID took place.

However, Hamber students' academic performance is not a full representation of how they are feeling.

"I would say there's more worry and anxiety in general, even for the kids that are succeeding academically," says Buonassisi. She thinks that younger students lack academic motivation, as their introduction to high school was drastically different than what it should have been.

According to Mr. C. Smith (Counseling), a significant increase in camp prices has prevented approximately 250 grade 8s, 22 peer counsellors, and 22 teachers from attending Camp Elphinstone this year.

Grade 8 camp in recent years has cost around \$54,000, meaning \$150 to \$175 per grade 8 student.

"We've mainly left the Thursday before Thanksgiving and stayed for one night before coming back on Friday," said Smith about previous years. Typically, the grade 8 students would take the ferry to Camp Elphinstone. For grade 8s that don't attend camp, there are classes planned for them in the library.

The activities at Camp Elphinstone consist of kayaking, archery, crafts, canoeing, among others. A highlight for many is the skit put on by the peer counsellors.

Smith says that the main purpose of the camp is to build community within the school.

Grade 8 camp has been a significant event in the Hamber community. "I remember having a lot of fun at grade 8 camp, especially when the grade 12 PCs told all of us eighth graders what their high school experiences were like," said Amy Tran (11).

"I think the teachers here are just tremendous as well. They're friendly, they're outgoing, they're welcoming [...] Hamber is just this phenomenal school, with an incredibly strong student population, and an incredibly rich set of teachers."

Francom refers to himself as an outdoorsy guy.

"When you see me in my suit and tie, my fancy clothes, this is about the nicest I ever look," he said. He's not a serious athlete, but he loves outdoor activities like hiking, camping, and cycling. He's fond of ultimate, and coached the ultimate team at John Oliver during his time there. Because of his love and understanding of nature, he takes the land acknowledgments at Hamber very seriously.

"I often think that the best thing to do is to take a little time to listen and learn, and then I will be able to see how I can help," Francom said of his future plans. He prefers to take the lead for school initiatives from students, saying that he often finds that students have powerful ideas, and taking the time to listen to them can provide great opportunities for learning and relationships. Although his schedule changes day-to-day, students can often find Francom wandering the halls, usually at lunch. He welcomes all students to say hi to him if they spot him, and looks forward to putting names to faces, and getting to know the clubs, community, and students at Hamber.

What is Happening to Grade 8 Camp This Year?



NEWS REPORT by Joanna Piddocke (8)

It is currently unknown if the grade 8 camp will happen this year. However, the camp has not occurred in its usual time frame.

There are currently social activities for the grade 8 students in replacement of camp for now, such as the PC vs Grade 8 challenge and the grade 8 indoor track meet.

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## HAMBER AND STUDENT LIFE

## A Guide to University Applications

NEWS REPORT by Alanna Rudolph (12)

This time next year, the class of 2023 will have started on their post-secondary paths. There are a variety of options out there, from a gap year to trades. The sheer amount of possibilities can be overwhelming and stressful, especially for students who don't know where to start. Here's a guide if you think university or college is the right path for you.

### Within British Columbia

The majority of post-secondary institutions in British Columbia accept applications through one common platform: Education Planner BC. Students can create an account and make one profile to apply to any number of schools. Some schools will require supplementary applications, such as essay writing or descriptions of extracurricular activities. Applications are open now, with

deadlines in January and early applications due in December. Each school will have a different timeline, and not every school offers early admissions, so be sure to do your research. Application fees also vary; for example, the University of British Columbia has a \$73 fee, while Simon Fraser University charges \$81.

After applying, students will need to send a transcript of their grades. BC Student Transcript Service is an online platform where transcripts can be viewed and sent for free to up to 25 post-secondary institutions. Students may need grades from their classes they're currently taking for their applications; many schools will ask for self-reported grades or for updated grades to be sent as they're released.

### Ontario and elsewhere in Canada

Outside of British Columbia, provinces or individual schools may have their own application platforms. BC

students commonly apply for Ontario post-secondary institutions, which are all done through Ontario Universities' Application Centre (OUAC).

As Canadians not attending an Ontario high school, Hamber students should use OUAC's 105 application. There is a base fee of \$156 for three program choices, and \$50 per additional choice. Students may apply for a maximum of three programs at a single school. Institutions may also require a supplemental fee, ranging from \$50-100 per school. Some programs also have an additional program fee.

After submitting the OUAC application, many schools also have their own platforms for students to provide supplemental applications. This could include written or interview questions, as well as uploading documents or reporting grades. For some programs, this might be optional, while for others it's mandatory.

Deadlines for applications are

around January. For early admissions, deadlines may be in November or December. Timelines will vary between schools and even between programs at the same school, so be sure to do your research well ahead of time.

### Outside Canada

Some students may be interested in studying in America or beyond. If so, know that application processes and timelines can be very different in various parts of the world. Make sure to research international student requirements, as they may be very different from Canadian ones.

Deadlines for American universities may be earlier or have passed already. American schools often have more focus on essay writing in their applications, and may require students to write standardized tests like the SAT or ACT. Plan ahead and account for any extra time or effort it will take to prepare these applications.

### Tips for applying

Start early! It's much easier to spend small chunks of time working over a longer period than to do it all in one go. This allows time to reflect and think deeply about your responses. Get friends and family to help you look over your application before you submit it. If you need references, ask them early and allow them enough time to create something thoughtful about you.

When trying to choose programs or schools to apply to, do your research. It's a great idea to ask current or past students what their experience at university was like. Consider tuition fees as well as living costs if you're planning on moving away from home. Different schools might offer financial aid or entrance scholarships, which can aid you in your decisions.

University applications can be very stressful, but don't forget to relax and enjoy your last year of high school. Good luck to the class of 2023!

## Meet Hamber's 2022-2023 Student Council

NEWS REPORT by Evin Jaaf (8) & Brooke Nichol (8)

As the school year progresses, Eric Hamber Student Council's Co-Presidents, Maya Kooner (12) and Wilson Liang (12), lead the council in their plans, including activities and events that they've already prepared for this year.

In the past, StuCo has organized events such as the Imposter Promenade, last year's school dance, spirit days, and other activities.

With lighter COVID-19 restrictions this year, they have more opportunities to create activities for the school. This year, StuCo will be running the Hamber Carnival near the end of the year. They'll be approaching it differently to years prior and are looking forward to seeing how it all plays out. Traditionally called the "Carfreeenival", the festival included closing Willow Street for carnival games, fun activities, and food trucks.

StuCo plans to have other events running this year.

"We have some trivia planned. We have a bunch of fun spirit days and weeks and events and more to come," Kooner explained. These events include the Canley Cup fundraiser and a potential school dance. The co-presidents are looking for-

ward to a successful year with the council, and are hoping to make this year fun and engaging for everyone.

Being a part of StuCo is a big responsibility. When asked about balancing student council along with school work and extra curriculums, Kooner and Liang both agree on the importance of self-care. Finding school-life balance is very important, especially in terms of mental health.

"I hope we live up to our own goals and accomplishments," said Liang.

"Us being co-presidents, rather than one president, also really helps with that stress as well because you kind of have a person to lean on and we have each other's support," remarked Kooner.

"We all feel overwhelmed sometimes. It just happens, and I also agree finding things you just like to do. They make you feel alive," Liang agreed.

Delegation and team work is also a huge part of the job. StuCo is run by students along with teacher and administrative support. This year, they're working along with Ms. N. Buonassisi (Languages), Ms. G. Lau (English), Ms. S. Lemmon (LLC), and Vice Principal Mr. D. Ambrose. These teacher and admin sponsors work with the students to make sure their ideas can come to life, and help tackle the hard work behind the scenes.



TEAGAN NICHOL

## HAMBER'S PEER COUNSELLORS: HELPING GRADE EIGHTS

NEWS REPORT by Jhitan Yan-Klassen (8)

Hamber's Peer Counsellors, also known as the PCs, are a group of Grade 12 students who are given the job of interacting with students and ensuring that the grade 8s feel more comfortable, welcomed, and safer in the school.

"The Peer Counsellors help make the school more cohesive [...] and bridge the gap between the grade

8 students and the grade 12s," said Peer Counsellor Sarah Rubidge (12).

"If [a student] needs to talk to someone, but doesn't necessarily want to go to the counsellors, they can come talk to us!"

One of the Peer Counsellors' most vital roles in the school community is mentoring and spending time with Hamber's youngest students, the grade 8s. Rubidge explained, "[We] talk to students about anything happening

in their lives and help students find clubs and sports that they really enjoy."

The PCs' recent initiatives include hosting the PC vs Grade 8 Challenge,

### Peer Counsellors bridge the gap between Gr.8s & 12s

where PCs and grade 8s compete in various sports events, and posting welcome videos for the Grade 8s. PCs can be found helping out all around the

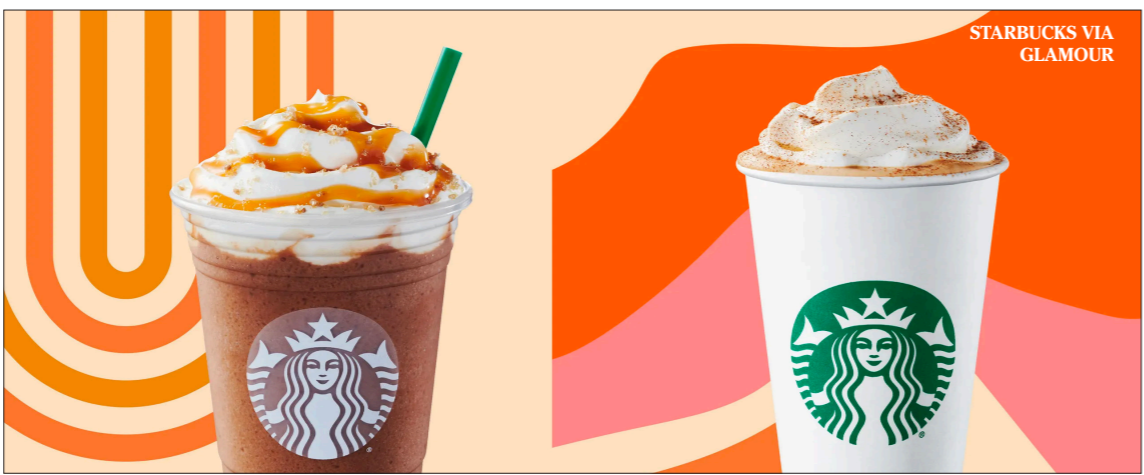
school, from applied skills classes, to special needs classes and skills blocks.

To become a PC, the applicants filled out an application form and had an interview with Mr. C. Smith (Counselling), who spoke with the applicants' teachers to ensure that they were a good fit for the role. Once the decision was made, a list of the Peer Counsellors was posted on Teams.

PCs find their role rewarding as well. As Owen Nicholson (12) said, "I think it's a lot of fun helping around the school and actually seeing people's attitudes and things change after you talk to them a couple of times and get to know them better."



CLIVE SMITH



STARBUCKS VIA GLAMOUR

## A COMPLETE REVIEW OF THE NEWEST STARBUCKS FALL MENU

REVIEW by Nigel Goto (11)

Starbucks is a massive coffee-house chain with widespread fame for its high-quality drinks. With this, it lies in a contemptuous spot within the competitive market of global drink chains, competing with other brands for the best drinks. Fortunately for Starbucks, the newly-unveiled fall menu has brought new featured beverages to their menus, raising the fated question: how good are these drinks?

### Pumpkin Spice Latte: 2.11/5

The Pumpkin Spice Latte, often referred to as the "PSL", bears a very compelling flavour. However popular the drink may be, it still failed to impress me. The pumpkin spice flavour undeniably portrays the excitement and warmth Starbucks tried to achieve, but this flavour is merely buried under the milk in the latte, failing to create a unique and outstanding taste with notable differences from its competitors.

### Pumpkin Cream Cold Brew: 3.86/5

The intricate work found within the Pumpkin Cream Cold Brew gives a shocking experience filled with multiple layers of excitement, and the smooth texture creates an easy-going experience within the drink.

However, the flavours it distributes are impressively varied. The pumpkin in this drink provides a sweet taste followed by the bitter aftertaste that follows in its wake. The smoothness and sweetness in this brew swirl in harmony as they build together to create a colourful explosion of flavour.

### Iced Brown Sugar Oat Milk Shaken Espresso: 3.99/5

This iced espresso contains a remarkably understated taste that allows the smooth texture to shine in its excellent simplicity. Hidden flavours add a unique and different colour to the espresso's spectrum, which flowers into a delightful experience. Unfortunately, these remarkable flavours all find themselves buried under an expansive liquid that only works to dull their impact on the drink.

### Iced Apple Crisp Oat Macchiato 4/5

This wonderful fall drink brings forth a flavour truly representative of the fall season. The Iced Macchiato provides an inviting sweetness, with a nice snapping aftertaste. However, the coffee in which the apple resides struggles to let its key flavour rise to the spotlight, leaving the taste rather mild. This power imbalance is only further accentuated by the spice powder that was tossed on top, creating spikes of excitement in an otherwise empty wasteland. While the Apple

Macchiato's core contained the seeds needed for a standout drink, the drink ended up lacking the cohesion needed.

### Iced Chai Tea latte 4.20/5

The Iced Chai Tea Latte possesses an insipid taste at its core, yet the latte's components amalgamate to create a lovely experience. The flavours combine into a fascinating complexity that provides a very understated experience. But while this latte presents an understated experience, the softness in its warmth brings together a refreshingly calm experience unique to the fall season.

### Apple Crisp Oat Macchiato 4.56/5

The Apple Crisp Oat Macchiato is indeed far superior to its iced equivalent, boasting a colourful experience that truly represents the fall season. The sweet warmth of the Macchiato gives the experience an enveloping hug, compressing happiness to a near-palpable softness. The Macchiato's flavour carries a flowing wave of peaceful sincerity, while showing its complexities at the same time. Inside its calming sweetness lies a slight punch of tangy spice rooted deep within the apple, adding another layer to the complex latticework of flavouring. With the comforting tranquility the Macchiato presents, Starbucks has crafted a drink that has fully succeeded in representing the fall atmosphere in a drink.

## Butterfingers: Viral-Ish Foods, Gone Kind of Wrong

REVIEW by Julia Ling (12)

Over the last few years, TikTok and Instagram have churned out many different trends. There have been many butter-centric dishes spread over "For You" pages recently, so I tried some of them, so you don't have



JULIA LING

### BUTTER BOARD

Rating: 4/5

The viral butter board trend is a love-it-or-hate-it party snack idea originally created by @justine\_snacks on Instagram. To make it, I spread salted butter with a palette knife onto a wooden board, and to minimize mess, I first stuck some parchment paper onto the board with another speck of butter.

I made a sweet half and a savoury half: For the sweet half, I drizzled honey and sprinkled some finely chopped strawberries on top. For the savoury half, I put some raw garlic and parsley for colour.

Disclaimer: The garlic was meant to be roasted, but time constraints made that impossible. Understandably, most of my scattered reviews mentioned that the garlic was too strong. Other reviews stated that while tasty, the flavour profiles of the butter were not very complex. Given the chance to make it again, I definitely would devote more time and effort into the toppings. I would also try using unsalted butter as the base.

to! I tried butter boards, inspired by multiple different videos; Crispy Parmesan Crusted Potatoes by @foodwithhardt on Instagram; and a loaf of bread shaped into a pumpkin, design inspired by @breadbyelise on Instagram. Don't worry: I served the food with lots of fruit to cleanse the palate.



JULIA LING

### PARMESAN POTATOES

Rating: 4.2/5

The recipe for these potatoes, originally shared by @foodwithhardt on Instagram, was technically a one-dish recipe. Melted salted butter, combined with parmesan cheese, pepper, garlic powder, and onion powder, were mixed together in a pan into a paste. I then halved and scored some baby potatoes, laid them face down, brushed and dusted them with more butter and cheese, and baked them.

The pan I used was too small for the recipe's measurements, so the supposed paste at the bottom of the pan was more of a soup. Too far in, I baked the potatoes anyway, and they ended up somewhat deep fried. There was enough buttery seasoning left in the pan that I could rebake it with another layer of potatoes without topping up.

Despite these issues, the dish was fundamentally cheesy potatoes drowned in butter: in other words, it was a hit! Anonymous reviews ranged from "fav <3" to "tasty but normal", truly eloquent descriptions.

To preface this review and explain some circumstances: I planned a pseudo-dinner party for some of my friends to review the dishes. Some of their comments are included, and the star rating is by them as well. My lovely mother helped me with a lot of the setup, out of her own goodwill.



JULIA LING

### PUMPKIN BREAD

Rating: 4.8/5

For this recipe, my wonderful mother first made the dough from a tried and true "tastes like bread from the keg" recipe by Chef UK on food.com called "5 Minute Artisan Bread".

To make the pumpkin shape designed by @breadbyelise on Instagram, I first dipped baking twine into canola oil. Then, I crossed the twine over the central "top" and "bottom" of the lump of bread dough and divided it into eight sections, so that the twine was snug to the dough, but not cutting into it. During the baking process, the bread rose and swelled around the twine and became pumpkin shaped. I used (washed) pear tree leaves from my backyard for leaves, as well as a partial cinnamon stick as the stem.

The decorative pumpkin shape was called a "cool shape", "perfect for Thanksgiving feasts", and "very cute". However, there were still a couple of criticisms. A reviewer noted that it was "good bread, but nothing really makes it spectacular".



QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY

"I want to study computer science at U of T or UBC because I've always been interested in technology and I hope to invent something that'll change the world," Li revealed.

Nishil Vankamamidi (12) is looking forward to a career in astronautics and engineering.

"I have a love for astronomy and physics. I plan on working at NASA and SpaceX for rocket designs," he said.

Janelle Sobredo (12) wants to major in kinesiology.

"I've always played sports, so being in the sports industry would be cool, like as a team nurse," she said.

Other students plan on following a career path that is not related to STEM, one of them being Julia Hayash (12).

"I'm applying to Yale and NYU for business because my family is in the Cannabis industry, and I want to start my own cannabis company," she lamented.

Samuel See (12) is inspired by cars.

"I like cars a lot, I have worked on cars at my house many times, that's why I want a career related to automotive," he said.

It is also important for an individual to decide if having a gap year after high school is a good option for them. 95 per cent of the interviewees are not planning on taking a gap year. Mr. M.

## Fall Season Sports



DAVID ZHANG

NEWS REPORT by River Cheng (8)

Students are excited to cheer on Hamber's volleyball, cross country, girls' field hockey, aquatics, and boys' soccer teams as they kickstart their fall season.

"The sports this year should be exciting! There is lots of stuff going on!" says Gigi El-Hommosani (9), who is hoping to catch one of the soccer games this fall.

However, COVID-19 has led students to be a little more hesitant in joining some of the sports, especially since this year is the first regular athletics year since COVID began.

Despite that, there are about 200 students involved in the fall athletics this year according to Mr. I. Schmbi

(Athletics Director). Schmbi told

The Nest that the number of students involved is, "a really big improvement considering Hamber hasn't been able to run a football team for the past two years." He thinks it is amazing to have so many grade 8s involved in the sport.

Schmbi says that most of the teams are working towards the Sea to Sky competitions. This includes boys' volleyball and girls' volleyball at the senior level, girls' field hockey at the senior level, cross country, and aquatics.

Since the big zone meets are coming up, many students are hoping to watch their friends play. There is expected to be a big turnout to cheer on the teams since spectators are allowed to watch the games this year.

"I hope that the fall sports teams do well this year and win all their games!" says Kierra Chiu (8).

## HAMBERITES' GUIDE TO EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

NEWS REPORT by Katja Radovic-Jonsson (11)

Hamber is home to many exchange students from all over the world who have come to the school to study as they explore a new part of the world.

There are many programs globally that allow students to participate in a student exchange to Vancouver, but the VSB doesn't offer any outgoing student exchange programs. However, there are still plenty of opportunities available for Hamberites looking to study abroad.

One company who coordinates student exchange programs for Canadian high school students is YES Canada. YES offers a multitude of exchange programs ranging from one to ten months in over 20 countries worldwide,

with both home-stay and dorm-stay accommodation options. For most destinations, previous knowledge of the local language is not necessary, and YES provides a basic language course at the beginning of the student's trip if desired at an extra cost. YES allocates a program coordinator to each student to guide them along their pre-departure orientation. Each student's trip with YES is tailored to their own needs, so no two experiences are alike.

Another option for Hamberites looking to study abroad is ASSE Canada. Operating in 31 countries across the globe, ASSE offers a more traditional

Lam (Science) agrees that a gap year can change the academic rhythm.

"I don't think I would recommend it to most students. I think for most people, you're going through high school and you're in that rhythm of school and a lot of people have found it challenging to go back to school after not taking school for a while," Lam said.

While very few Hamber grads consider taking a gap year, some teachers think that taking a gap year is a great tool to fulfill different purposes that one may have. Ms. B. Panesar (English) strongly encourages students to take a gap year.

"I definitely do agree that students should take a gap year. In the UK, many students take a gap year to travel and gain work experience. I think it adds to the student's maturity level. They know what life is all about and they know what they want out of life more than just going straight to university and not knowing where they want to go or what they want to do," she stated.

Mr. A. Stevens (Science) has advice for those planning to take a gap year.

"I suggest volunteering and doing anything related to what you want to go to school for. You can get a job and save up for school or you can start a business or travel."



KATJA RADOVIC-JONSSON

David Eby will be BC's Next Premier, John Horgan to Step Down

NEWS REPORT by Stephen Kosar (12)

David Eby will be the next Premier of British Columbia, after winning the New Democratic Party ("NDP") leadership race by default.

Eby, a former civil rights activist and BC cabinet minister, was Executive Director of the British Columbia Civil Liberties Association between 2008 and 2012, before going into politics.

In 2011, Eby ran as the NDP candidate in the riding of Vancouver-Point Grey, against newly sworn-in Premier Christy Clark of the BC Liberals. He lost by 595 votes to Clark. In 2013, Eby ran against Clark again, this time winning the riding, despite Clark winning the premiership again.

When the NDP won the 2017 British Columbia election, Eby was named by newly elected Premier John Horgan as attorney-general, and later, minister of housing.

As attorney-general, he tackled issues such as money laundering in casinos and fixing the notoriously broken ICBC.

On Jun. 28 this year, Premier Horgan announced he would be stepping down as premier and party leader of the NDP, citing a possible lack of energy to govern effectively.

"I have come to the conclusion I could not give six more years," he said at a press conference.

"I am proud to say I'm cancer-free. While I have a lot of energy, I must acknowledge this may not be the case two years from now," referring to his throat cancer diagnosis from November last year.

When the NDP leadership race began in July, many possible candidates for party leader dropped out, supporting Eby. Notably, the popular jobs minister



THE GEORGIA STRAIT

ister Ravi Kahlon declined to run, citing personal reasons.

Endorsing Eby, he told Global News, "He's compassionate, he's thoughtful, and he's delivered big things for this province already."

With many thinking Eby would run unopposed, it was a big surprise when climate activist Anjali Appadurai announced her candidacy. Seen as an "outsider" candidate, she previously ran as the Vancouver-Granville NDP candidate in the 2021 federal election.

After her announcement, Eby told the Vancouver Sun that he was "frustrated" that Appadurai entered the race.

"I'm frustrated because obviously, she appears to be the only other candidate, which means, assuming I'm successful, it delays moving into the office by several months, and I see some profound challenges that need some urgent responses," he stated.

Eby later apologized for his statement in a tweet.

"I'm not dismissive of Anjali's campaign. Just the opposite - the race is healthier because she's put herself forward as a candidate and I take her campaign seriously. I'm also very keen things to get to work for BCers, and am sorry I expressed that urgency poorly to the Sun," the tweet read.

After aggressive campaigning with both candidates signing up thousands

Eby will officially become premier on Nov. 18

of members to vote in the leadership election, the NDP began investigating alleged violations of the Elections Act by Appadurai's campaign.

In one incident, a member of Appadurai's team offered to pay for individuals' \$10 membership fee during an Instagram live event.



BC GOVERNMENT FLICKR VIA THE TYEE

When responding to claims of impropriety, Appadurai said her friend mispoke, and took down the video afterwards.

In another incident, Dogwood, a BC organization, was accused of improperly aiding Appadurai's campaign by using its emailing list to sign up new NDP members.

Organizations are banned from making "political contributions" in the Elections Act. On Sept. 16, Elections BC also opened an investigation into Appadurai's campaign. On Sept. 19, the NDP chief electoral officer Elizabeth Cull stated in a leaked report that the Anjali Appadurai campaign should be disqualified from the leadership race.

That night, the NDP executive body disqualified Appadurai from the race, which made Eby the leader of the NDP and premier-designate as the only candidate. After Appadurai's disqualification, Eby sent out an email to her supporters to let them know that they are welcome to stay in the party, and that he looks forward to working for everyone in the province. In his first speech as NDP leader, Eby set out a plan for his first 100 days in office. "At the end of those 100 days you will have seen announcements, activity from government, focused on delivering results for British Columbians that set out the groundwork for how, in the next two years, we are going to deliver significant change for British Columbians," Eby stated. Eby will officially become premier on Nov. 18 when John Horgan steps down.

Amtrak Reopens Vancouver-Seattle Train

NEWS REPORT by Alexandra Chow (11)

The COVID-19 pandemic has halted a variety of services, from in-person medical treatment to international transportation. After a two and a half year hiatus, Amtrak Cascades has reopened their passenger train between Vancouver and Seattle, travelling for the first time since the pandemic began, on Sept. 26.

Previously, the Vancouver-Seattle route had over 190,000 annual travellers, with 61,000 people travelling from Vancouver to Portland annually. Since the direct route from Vancouver to Portland has not yet been resumed, travelling that route in one day is not currently possible. It is unknown if the direct route from Vancouver to Portland will resume operation.

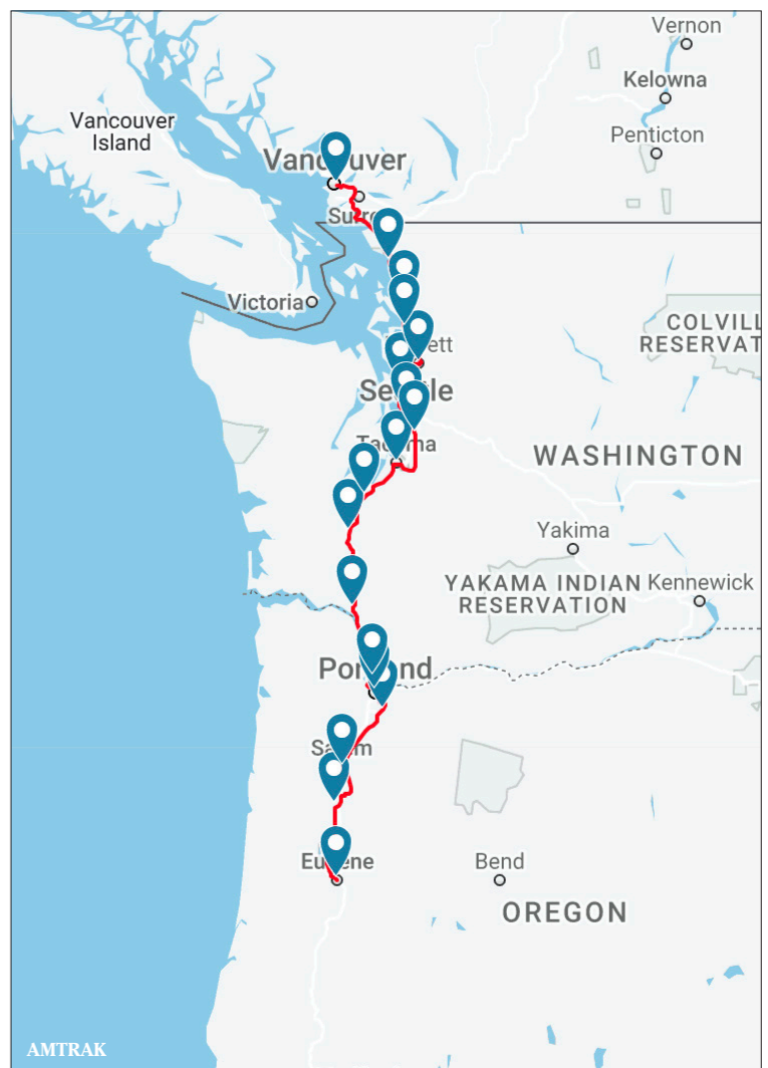
the Vancouver-Seattle route had over 190,000 annual travellers

Amtrak Cascades currently offers one trip south and one trip north each day. The company has plans to increase the number to two, as it was prior to the pandemic, once they have enough staff. The northbound train leaves Seattle's King Station at 7:45 a.m. and arrives at Vancouver's Pacific Central Station at 11:45 a.m. The southbound train leaves Vancouver at 5:45 p.m. and arrives in Seattle at 10:10 p.m. Both trains have five stops along the 230 km long route: Bellingham, Mount Vernon, Stanwood, Everett, and Edmonds. A

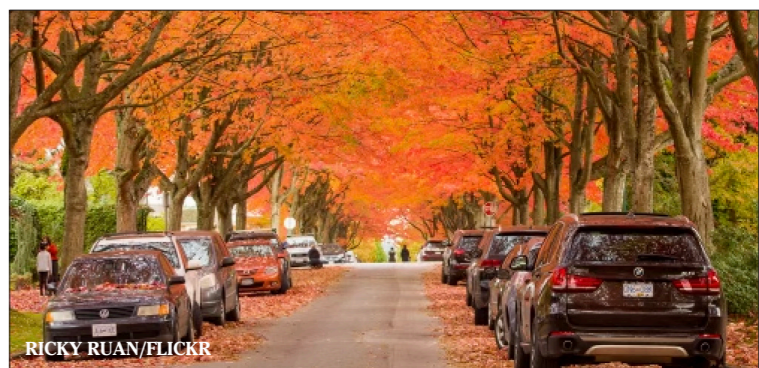
one-way ticket starts at \$34 USD (about \$47 CAD).

The amenities on the Amtrak Cascades trains include WiFi, reclining seats, no middle seat, electrical outlets, checked baggage, and a bistro car for food and drinks.

Amtrak has plans to add a complete fleet of eight train sets to the Cascades operations in 2025 to 2026. This will include 48 passenger rail cars, two locomotives, and one spare cab.



Best Fall Activities in Vancouver 2022



NEWS REPORT by Izzy Jang (11)

Known as pumpkin spice latte season and for its Instagrammable aesthetic, fall is appreciated by all kinds of people. As leaves come off the trees, many Hamberites find themselves enjoying the autumn season outside, or hanging out with friends to celebrate the spookier side of fall.

Aika Nimmervoll (11) revels in the beauty of Vancouver's fall season. "You can take aesthetic photos of the leaves falling and it just gives positive vibes," she said. She enjoys going to Vancouver's many parks, finding that "if times get really stressful, going for a walk helps get [her] mind off of it."

Jayden Chiu (10) takes pleasure in autumn nature on his days off from school. "I go biking since I don't have as much time on normal weekends." Chiu enjoys the scenery Vancouver offers, often going to Steveston and Stanley Park.

Nicholas Mann (11) has some recommendations on where to go on walks. "I like walking near the Seawall or on the Arbutus Greenway with my friends and family," he said. He is passionate about these trails, saying that the scenery is beautiful, though sometimes he finds the bikes annoying. Many Hamberites like going to

cafés to try out new autumn drinks.

"I like going to Starbucks because of their creative fall drinks. It's fun to go with friends to try the new drinks. My go-to fall drink at the moment is the pumpkin spice frappuccino," Nimmervoll stated.

Parissa Yip (11) shares a similar opinion, claiming that warm drinks are always nice because they prevent her from getting cold while simultaneously keeping her awake.

Mary DeLeon (11) loves staying at home during the fall season. "As the weather gets colder, I often find myself wrapped in a blanket, reading," she said. Even though DeLeon loves to read all year long, she finds it even more comforting in the fall.

"I just find that it's a good break away from my school work instead of just scrolling on my phone," she added.

With Halloween coming up, many Hamberites also have plans to meet up with friends. Marcus Tsang (12) says, "I'm planning on going to Burnaby's Pumpkins After Dark with my friends. It should be fun!"

Arianna Tham (11) also has plans to catch up with friends for Halloween. "We're going to the Haunted Corn Maze at Maan Farms in Abbotsford. I can't wait because I haven't seen these friends in a long time," she said.



THE CANADIAN PRESS VIA THE KELOWNA DAILY COURIER

As a part of the party's rebranding, BC Liberals propose BC United for the party's new name

NEWS REPORT by Teagan Nichol (10)

In late September, the BC Liberal Party announced a proposed name change and party rebranding. After considering 2,000 suggestions submitted over a three-month long membership consultation period, the party has settled on the name BC United. At the end of this year, party members will vote on the new name.

The name change symbolizes a rebranding and renewal of the party and attempts to clarify the party goals and commitments.

"BC United expresses a long-standing commitment to unity across a broad party of members," said Caroline Elliott, the party's vice-president, in an interview with The Daily Hive. The party says the name change aims to emphasize the party's disconnect from the federal Liberal Party led by Justin Trudeau.

Elliott also emphasized the deliberate lack of the word "party" in the new name choice, stating, "We went with [BC United] opposed to the BC United Party as we think it better reflects a renewed, refreshed approach to politics."

"I think sometimes our political people need reminding that the vast majority of British Columbians don't belong to a political party," she said.

The name change was a part of the leadership campaign promises of the leader of the party, Kevin Falcon. If ratified, the change will be no small project, inducing a rebranding of all the party's social media accounts, their website, signs, and the legal process of a name change for it to be eligible for upcoming elections.

The party has promised to carry out this name change in the most responsible and strategic way possible, to protect its party's members and BC's voters. The party will receive the right to have the current name on the ballots if the NDP calls an election before the

scheduled one in 2024.

"We owe it to members, recognizing we're not the governing party and don't control the election timing. The NDP has broken the fixed election timing before, and there's no doubt they will do so again if it's in their interests... we will ensure that flexibility is there so we're not tying our own hands," said Elliott in her interview.

Elliott promises the modernization of the party will go beyond the name change. To show for this modernization, she cited the win of the Surrey-South byelection by Elenore Sturko, a well-known LGBTQTS+ advocate and a RCMP spokesperson.

"We're under no illusions. We know that renewal is way more than a potential name change, and meaningful renewal I believe is already underway. It's way more than a name change," said Elliott.

The voting process for the approval of the name change will be announced in coming weeks.

2022 VANCOUVER ASIAN FILM FESTIVAL

NEWS REPORT by Aubrey Brandt (8)

The 2022 Vancouver Asian Film Festival (VAFF) started yesterday. The festival's 26th year kicks off with four days of in-theater events, followed by six days of on-demand programs. The festival will end with a live performance and an awards ceremony on Nov. 12.

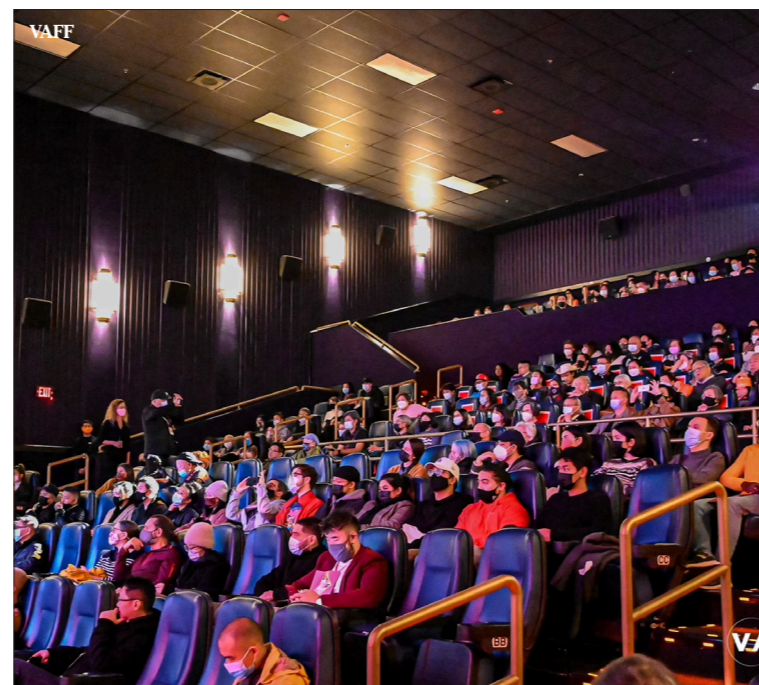
The festival highlights the talents of both emerging and established Asian Canadian and Asian American writers, producers, and directors, who will show their latest works. This year, the VAFF will be under the theme of "Representation" and will tell the stories and struggles of Asian Canadians and Asian North-Americans.

The VAFF opened with the spotlight film "Stay the Night," starring Andrea Bang, an actress best known for her portrayal of Janet Kim in the TV show "Kim's Convenience".

Festival organizers say there is a wide range of events happening. "Our 11-day hybrid film festival has something for everyone; from animation films like Demigod: The Legend Begins to industry panels featuring writer/director Kathleen S. Jayme of 'The Grizzlies Truth'," Susan Hanson, the festival director, said in a press release.

The festival will include films made all around the world, including films made in Taiwan, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, the USA, and Canada.

"We look forward to welcoming audiences to VAFF26 this year to celebrate the power of Asian filmmaking," Hanson stated.



KAYLA ISOMURA/ THE TYEE

Sim City: Vancouver's 2022 Municipal Election

NEWS REPORT by Sara Maya Budhiraja (10) & Mackenzie Chung (10)

After a heated race and hours of voting, Vancouver and the other 161 municipalities in BC have made a crucial decision about who will lead their municipal governments. The 2022 Vancouver municipal election covered the nine seats on the school board, six of the seven seats on the park board, and relegated other parties to complete minorities on all levels of municipal government.

A former member of Vancouver's Non-Partisan Association, and 2018

mayoral candidate, Ken Sim's political career began during 2018's municipal election, finishing as the runner up to former mayor Kennedy Stewart.

Four years later, Sim handily beat the mayoral incumbent, Stewart, by a margin upwards of 36,000 votes, and every candidate endorsed by Sim and his party won the seat they were running for. As for Sim, the ABC party leader received 85,732 votes for the city's mayor, which tops former mayor Gregor Robertson's past record number of votes for a single candidate.

Sim's campaigning period did not go without its own set of controversies,

however, as the Vancouver Police Union ("VPU") broke tradition of not endorsing mayoral candidates to express their support for Sim's platform. On Oct. 5, VPU President Ralph Kaisers said in a statement, "Electing Ken Sim and an ABC majority will ensure that police and other frontline responders will have the resources they need to protect and serve Vancouverites."

Many felt that the statement was an inappropriate move on the VPU's end, with experts such as Robert Gordon, a criminology professor at Simon Fraser University, expressing their opinions that police stay out of politics.

"Electing Ken Sim and an ABC majority will ensure that police and other frontline responders will have the resources they need to protect and serve Vancouverites."

According to their party's platform, the ABC Party is a "modern, inclusive and centrist party, with supporters from across the political spectrum, working to make Vancouver a safer, more affordable, and liveable city." One of the party's main goals is safety, with

living within the city continues to skyrocket. "It became more of a foregone conclusion that there was unfinished business in terms of righting the ship of our city to making this place a more affordable, livable, vibrant city for all of us."

CANADA

# Hurricane Fiona Devastates Eastern Canada

NEWS REPORT by *Sophia Jeon* (10) & *Taylor Ingram* (10)

Hurricane Fiona devastated Eastern Canada and portions of the Caribbean from Sept. 14 to Sept. 24, leaving millions without power and destroying critical infrastructure.

Originating in West Africa, the storm started out as a tropical wave before developing into a hurricane that reached category four out of five on the Saffir-Simpson hurricane wind scale.

The Saffir-Simpson wind scale rates a hurricane's maximum sustained wind speed with numbers from 1-5 and estimates possible property damage. Hurricanes rated category three or higher are major hurricanes that can cause devastating wind damage and high death rates.

In Canada, Hurricane Fiona touched four provinces - Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland, and Quebec. The cyclone's wind speeds reached 177 km/h in Newfoundland, according to Environment Canada's Hurricane Centre. The greatest effects were felt in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, where 415,000 of its residents, 80 per cent of its population, lost power, according to Nova Scotia Power.

Fiona destroyed power lines and left millions in the dark. Many Canadians lost light for two weeks in P.E.I. and five days in less coastal areas. After the storm, residents lost access to water services, and roads became permanently destroyed due to water surges.

Waves peaked as high as 16 metres over eastern sections of the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Parts of Nova Scotia saw nearly 200 mm of rain, according to data from Environment Canada.

The hurricane also clogged drains and sewers with debris which resulted in severe floods. Properties surged with water and hundreds of people were displaced.

Due to ongoing supply chain issues and inflation, recoveries were challenging and dozens had to seek refuge in shelters.

Moreover, natural habitats were disrupted and much of the marine life ex-

perienced drastic changes in water temperature and tidal strength. Winds tore up sea beds, home to seabirds and other migratory birds. Marine creatures were swept away to shorelines and displaced from their habitat by currents and water surges.

In response to the widespread damage, the federal government coordinated recovery funds totalling \$300 million over two years to help people impacted by the storm. The funds supports the rebuilding of local communities and businesses, repairing and rebuilding of infrastructure, fishing wharves, and ensuring the safety of navigation and protection of wildlife.

The Government of Canada provides financial assistance to the provincial government through the Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements ("DFAA"). With DFAA, the government covers up to 90 per cent of eligible provincial expenses following the disaster.

On Oct. 3, the Canadian Red Cross distributed funds on behalf of the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to people displaced and evacuated. Funding includes \$1,000 per household that has been displaced from principal residence, and an additional \$500,000 available for distribution to impacted communities based on needs assessment.

Since Fiona, Canadian Armed Forces members have been deployed in Eastern Canada to remove debris, assist in the restoration of transportation links and power grid, and wellness checks in affected communities.

Organizations throughout Canada have donated money to help support community organizations in affected areas. TD Bank donated a total of \$250,000 to the Red Cross, with other companies such as RBC Bank and Toyota also supporting cleanup efforts.



TED FRICHARD/REUTERS VIA PBS



SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS VIA THE CHILLIWACK PROGRESS

# Federal Government Announces Review of the Cannabis Act, a Year After Promised

NEWS REPORT by *Dora Yuan* (8) & *Vania Qiu* (8)

When the *Cannabis Act* came into effect on Oct. 17, 2018, part of the agreement was for a formal review three years later. A year after the deadline, talks of a review and report from Health Canada have only just begun. Health Canada did not provide reasons for the delay.

In 2018, following a speech by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Canada became the second country in the world to legalize marijuana. This legislation became officially known as the *Cannabis Act*.

When the bill passed, the Liberal Party pledged a follow-up review of the act from Health Canada. This will be followed by a report to the federal government, and will cover how effective and impactful the act has been. The *Cannabis Act* requires that the review cover the health and consumption habits of young people, the impact of cannabis on Indigenous people and communities, and the impact of the cultivation of cannabis plants in housing complexes.

The federal government pledged that the *Cannabis Act* would solve three problems: deter criminal activity and profits related to cannabis, reduce the strain on the justice system, and ensure that public health is protected through

controlled production. All of these promises—whether they are fulfilled or not, will be the bulk of Health Canada's review.

In the 2021 Canadian Cannabis Survey by Statistics Canada, 25 per cent of respondents reported using cannabis in the 12 months preceding the survey. In the same survey in 2017, 22 per cent of respondents reported using cannabis in the 12 months preceding the survey.

However, with the rising cannabis consumption comes a large decrease in criminal convictions related to cannabis in youth. A study made by UBC Northern Medical Program Professor Russ Callaghan found that police-reported criminal incidents in youth have decreased by 55 per cent to 65 per cent.

Dr. Callaghan is also looking into the public health effects of the *Cannabis Act*, but his research is still in development. He says that many concerns related to legalized cannabis have "not yet materialized."

"From the perspective of a criminologist, legalization has been successful with respect to reducing the criminalization of people for cannabis offences," said Akwasi Owusu-Bempah, an assistant sociology professor at the University of Toronto. However, Owusu-Bempah also sees that most people with cannabis-related criminal records pre-legalization are those of colour. He wishes for more records to be cleared.



CHRIS WATTIE/REUTERS VIA MACLEAN'S

CANADA

# MASS STABBING IN SASKATCHEWAN

NEWS REPORT by *Cara Rudolph* (9)

10 people were killed and 18 were injured during a mass stabbing spree in Saskatchewan on Sunday, Sept. 4. Early that morning, a report of a stabbing on James Smith Cree Nation was sent to Saskatchewan police, followed by multiple more reports of stabbings at different places around the community, resulting in 13 crime scenes.

According to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the suspects were two brothers, Damien and Myles Sanderson. The suspects were identified less than three hours after the first report of the stabbings. However, later police stated that, while Damien was involved in the planning, he didn't take part in the killings.

According to *CTV News*, RCMP were brought to James Smith Cree Nation and were already searching for the brothers on Saturday, due to a report that Damien Sanderson had stolen a vehicle. The police found the vehicle outside of a residence, and searched the home with consent from the homeowner, asking for the identities of all the men inside.

The RCMP realized that Damien had been inside of the residence but had given them a fake name, and hadn't noticed because they were referencing a photo of Damien from 2014. Later

on, police also determined that the two brothers had been selling drugs the same day.

Myles Sanderson also had a criminal history and had been previously detained. He was on statutory release, which meant that he had been released to serve the last third of his sentence. Police confirmed that he had stopped meeting with his parole officer in May, which was a breach of his parole conditions.

On Sunday morning after the stabbings were reported and the suspects were confirmed in an update sent soon after the first reports, a dangerous persons alert was issued in James Smith Cree Nation, warning communities of the stabbings and asking them to seek shelter. The alert was spread to the entire province of Saskatchewan after more investigation confirmed that the brothers were travelling in a vehicle. Later that morning, requests were sent to Alberta and Manitoba to extend the dangerous persons alert, which was then issued.

On the same day, an alert was sent to Regina after authorities received reports of people spotting the suspect's vehicle.

The next morning, police found a dead body on James Smith Cree Nation. The body showed signs of fatal injuries, and was later identified to be Damien Sanderson, but Rhonda Blackmore, Assistant Commissioner of the



AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

10 people were killed and 18 were injured during a mass stabbing spree in Saskatchewan on Sunday, Sept. 4.

ROBERT BUMSTED/ASSOCIATED PRESS VIA THE GUARDIAN



RCMP, said that the injuries were not believed to be self-inflicted.

Myles Sanderson died on Sept. 7 after he was arrested. The RCMP described him as going into medical distress. Later, on Thursday, Sept. 8, the RCMP announced that evidence

suggested Myles Sanderson had murdered his brother, Damien Sanderson, bringing the number of people killed by him to 11.

The motives behind the stabbings and the victims are still unknown and are likely to remain unknown.

# The Second Annual Day for Truth and Reconciliation

NEWS REPORT by *Reya Khanna* (11)

Sept. 30, 2022, marks the second annual day for Truth and Reconciliation. It is recognized as a federal statutory holiday to commemorate and celebrate Indigenous peoples. After being first declared Orange Shirt Day in 2021, it has been renamed to Truth and Reconciliation Day, but continues to hold the same meaning of honouring and re-membering Indigenous communities.

The symbolism of the colour orange, which is prominently seen throughout the Truth and Reconciliation movements, stems from Phyllis Webstad, a residential school survivor who was stripped of her orange shirt upon arrival to an institution. The orange shirt is now a symbol of solidarity and recognition for the cultural genocide Indigenous peoples experienced across generations.

On Sept. 30, the Indigenous Art Collective hosted "Remember Me", a National Day for Truth and Reconciliation ceremony at Parliament Hill. A variety of activities were available, including a welcoming ceremony and a round dance with Akwesasne's Native North American Traveling College. Residential school survivors led a walk to LeBreton Flats Park where attendees placed Indigenous children's footwear as a symbol of recognition for the children who never made it home from residential schools.

On Sept. 29, students throughout wore orange shirts to school to stand in solidarity with Indigenous peoples and to show their support for the Truth and Reconciliation movements.

British Columbia did not declare the day as a statutory provincial holiday. The lack of this declaration caused outrage for some of British Columbia's First Nations. Some felt that the inability to name Truth and Reconciliation Day as a statutory holiday showed a lack of care and does not allow them to have a day to reflect and heal.

"The B.C. government should elevate the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation from observance to a statutory holiday as an important commitment to continuing to walk down a path toward reconciliation," said Cheryl Casimer of the First Nations Summit, a BC Indigenous advocacy group representing over 60 per cent of First Nations in BC, in an interview with *Global News*.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said that "reconciliation is not the responsibility of Indigenous Peoples – it is our responsibility of all Canadians. It is our responsibility to continue to listen and to learn."

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission's call to action number 80 "call[s] upon the federal government, in collaboration with Aboriginal peoples, to establish, as a statutory holiday, a National Day for Truth and Reconciliation to honour Survivors, their families, and communities, and ensure that public commemoration of the history and legacy of residential schools remains a vital component of the reconciliation process."



SEAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS VIA THE TORONTO STAR



CBC NEWS

# INVESTIGATION OF RCMP OFFICERS AFTER NOVA SCOTIA MASS SHOOTING

NEWS REPORT by *Vania Qiu* (8)

On Apr. 18 and 19, 2020, Gabriel Wortman opened fire in 16 locations in Nova Scotia. Over the course of his 13-hour rampage, 22 people were killed and three more were injured before Wortman was gunned down by the RCMP.

Soon after the mass shooting, multiple RCMP officers present on the day of the shooting were accused of mishandling a 2017 murder. Greg Wiley is one of them.

In the summer of 2017, Susie Butlin reported Ernest Ross Duggan to RCMP for sexual harassment and assault. Wiley was assigned to her case. After a lack of evidence, Wiley simply suggested for Butlin to block Duggan on Facebook.

Days later, the RCMP received a phone call from Duggan's wife, April Duggan, who reported that Duggan was "going to kill" Butlin. She presumed that he was going to buy weapons.

Const. Stuart Beselt and Const. Rodney MacDonald—both of whom would be present at the 2020 mass shooting scene—were called to help.

The two found an intoxicated Duggan who claimed that he would "never hurt anyone". Soon after the two officers left to speak with April Duggan and Susie Butlin, Ernest Ross Duggan was arrested for impaired driving.

On Sept. 14, 2017, Butlin complained to RCMP about how poorly her case was handled. Three days later, Butlin was found dead in her home. Ernest Ross Duggan later pleaded guilty to second-degree murder.

Butlin's original case report was submitted as a redacted form, because it was "unilaterally decided as irrelevant to the work of the commission."

However, lawyers found it difficult to work on the RCMP case without knowing the officers who were involved, so RCMP decided to release a full report with all the names.

In 2010, seven years before Butlin's case, Wiley was assigned to search the property of Gabriel Wortman for weapons of illegal possession after he threatened to kill his parents. When Lisa Banfield, Wortman's former partner, testified for the mass shooting case in July 2020, she informed investigators that Wiley approached their door asking about said weapons and was shown antique guns during that ten-minute house visit instead.

Sergeant Cordell Poirier, who first took charge of the weapon-complaint case, appointed Wiley the job of inspecting Wortman's home. Poirier had expected to receive a report on Wiley's findings but never did. In Poirier's own report, he noted Wiley as a "friend" of Wortman's.

In a 2021 interview, Wiley told investigators that he and Wortman had brief "chinwags," which is an informal word to describe a friendly chat, during the house visit and that he had visited the 2020 mass shooter around 15 times in the "ballpark" over the years, but had not suspected anything.

Wiley and Wortman's amiability ranged from quick driveway conversations to indoor visits. Wiley stated that he believed Wortman would be a good source of information about the violence around the neighbourhood.

Current investigators find Wiley suspicious as he was one of the people who knew Wortman the best in a time of uncertainty and doubt. However, when Wiley reported onto the mass shooting scene on April 19, he recalled being "stunned."

Two of the three officers involved in both cases have been interviewed. Wiley testified on Sept. 6, 2022—the testimony was not broadcasted.

CANADA

Rogers' Summer Outage—The Future of Telecommunications in Canada

ANALYSIS by Salena Sharma (9)

Ten million Rogers Communications customers awoke on July 8 to find their internet and cell service down.

This event was due to a network system update from Rogers that did not go as planned.

According to Ron McKenzie, the Chief Technology and Information Officer at Rogers, the five initial stages had no errors in their systems.

This made it difficult to reboot the system, as it could not be contained in a specific location.

The outage lasted for over 15 hours, obstructing the daily lives of the millions of Rogers customers.

Rogers had a similar outage on Apr. 19 in 2021, but it was not as far-reaching as July's outage.

Numerous systems were down due to the outage on July 8, making it difficult for Canadians to complete many of their daily tasks.

In response to the outage, Rogers is working on splitting networks so that if one network is down, there is another alternative.

Additionally, they are working with competitors to establish a backup alternative in case the other two fail.

Rogers' networks will be wired and the other will be wireless, so if one were to shut down, the other network could be replaced.

PIERRE POILIEVRE IS THE NEW LEADER OF THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY

NEWS REPORT by Stephen Kosar (12)

Pierre Poilievre won the Conservative Party of Canada's leadership race on Sept. 10, becoming Leader of the Conservative Party and leader of the Official Opposition.

Poilievre won on the first ballot, winning 68 per cent of the vote.

According to CBC News, Poilievre won at least a plurality of vote in 330 out



PATRICK MORRELL/CBC

work can assist in a matter of seconds.

In July, employees at Rogers didn't suspect the outage to be due to an error in the code right away; they believed it was a cyberattack.

Canadians were frustrated as most were trying to contact Rogers about the outage, but no response came for a while.

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competitors like Bell and Telus, Rogers was unable to transfer calls under their networks during the outage.

Rogers plans to spend \$10 billion on strengthening its networks over the next three years.

...Rogers and Shaw announced a merger that will create the second-largest cellular and cable operator in Canada

nadians, Staffieri stated to the House of Commons.

Rogers is still expected to spend \$26 billion on a merger with Shaw.

On Mar. 15, 2021, Rogers and Shaw announced a merger that will create the second-largest cellular and cable opera-

tor in Canada and will aid in the investment of 5G networks as stated by Shaw and Rogers.

Staffieri is confident about this merger despite the outage.

For customers of Shaw concerned about what this merger may look like, an article by Ben Klass for the Policy Options Politics writes that customers of Shaw would not necessarily be affect-

ed by this merger as Rogers will only be taking over Shaw's former markets.

In a statement released by Rogers, Shaw will be bought from Rogers for \$26 billion. \$20 billion of that money comes from buying Class A and B shares of Shaw, which costs \$40.50 per

44 per cent of voters willing to vote for him. Charest was viewed as the best candidate by only 18 per cent of respondents.

In Poilievre's first caucus speech as leader of the opposition, he emphasized his commitment to help the working class.

Since becoming leader, Poilievre has announced his shadow cabinet, which includes former leadership race opponents Leslyn Lewis and Scott Aitchison.

Polling between Prime Minister Trudeau and the leader of the opposition is currently neck and neck.

“...It is our job to transform that hurt into hope.”

Poilievre's election came as no surprise to Conservative Party members.

CANADA

CANADIAN INFLATION HITS 8.1 PER CENT, FORTY YEAR PEAK

NEWS REPORT by Gina Hallensleben (11)

Canada hit a 40 year peak inflation rate of 8.1 per cent in June, much higher than the 2 per cent target that the Bank of Canada aims for.

Following the 80s, the inflation rate was relatively steady until the beginning of this year, when life began to pick up again post-pandemic.

Industries were unprepared for the shift back to normal life and demand quickly began to exceed supply.

Canadians have experienced the effects of inflation in the past year through the growing prices of gas and many basic food items.

Grocery prices have been rising at the fastest pace since 1982, and are up 10.8 per cent this year according to Statistics Canada.

Some Canadians have also been forced to turn to debt to keep up with paying bills and covering living expenses.

Bivalent Vaccines Now for Canadians



EVERT LINDQUIST/VICTORIA NEWS

NEWS REPORT by Zakaria Tucker (8)

While Canadians' vaccine protection wanes, a fall Omicron-fuelled spike in COVID-19 infections and deaths is threatening to overwhelm an exhausted health care system.

Despite BA.1 no longer being dominant, experts are recommending Canadians get whichever bivalent is offered to them first.

Health Canada's Chief Medical Adviser, Dr. Supriya Sharma explains. Half of the vaccines' mRNA, which tells human cells to make specific proteins that activate an immune response.

Approved Sept. 1 for adults 18 and older, Moderna's bivalent booster targets the no longer dominant original Omicron strain, known as BA.1.

Pfizer's bivalent booster, which targets the now dominant BA.4 and BA.5

of 2022, credit card debt rose to its highest level since 2019.

"Overall consumer debt is on the rise," said Rebecca Oakes, vice-president of advanced analytics at Equifax Canada to CBC News.

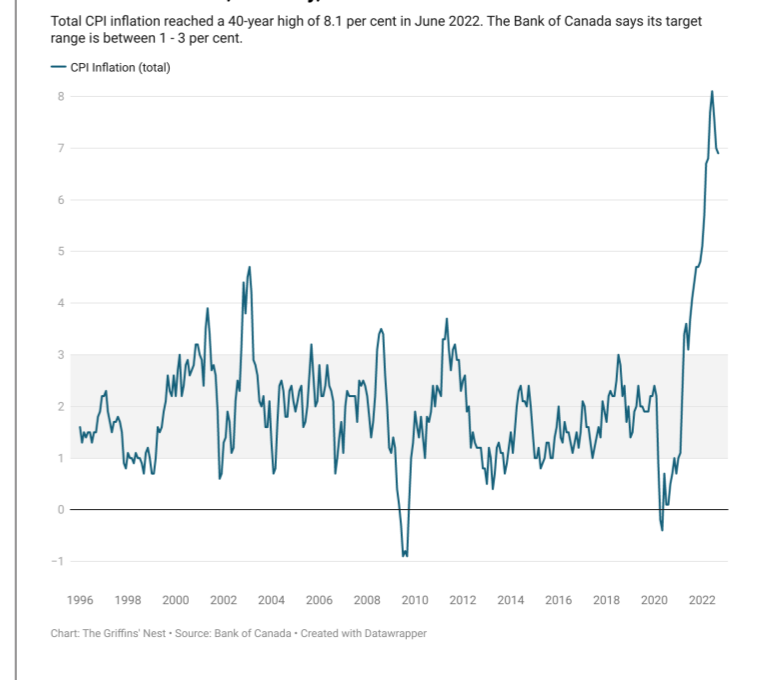
Since June, the inflation rate has slowly begun to decelerate.

The increase of gasoline prices in September was 8.9 per cent, much lower than the previous 22.1 per cent increase in August.

In the effort to solve the current inflation crisis, the Bank of Canada has raised their policy interest rate six times since March.

The federal government is also implementing policies and directives to help combat inflation.

Total CPI Inflation, Monthly, 1996 to Present



Total CPI Inflation reached a 40-year high of 8.1 per cent in June 2022. The Bank of Canada says its target range is between 1 - 3 per cent.

Theresa Tam, are urging Canadians to get these new shots.

"I am concerned. From what I'm hearing from the experts...the coming months will be critical when it comes to COVID-19 infection and all the consequences this can have for people and health-care workers who are already quite tired," said federal Health Minister Jean-Yves Duclos.

Deputy federal chief Public Health Officer Dr. Howard Njoo said that he believes Canada has ordered enough bivalent shots to go around.

BC has received 1.4 million of the 10.5 million in Canada. British Columbians aged 18 and older or part of a vulnerable population will be offered a bivalent vaccine this fall.

"I see [Charles III]'s reign starting off on a really positive note, because Rishi Sunak has been sworn in now as the first Asian person with roots in India as prime minister of the UK.

Generally, experts recommend getting a booster three to six months after a COVID infection or vaccination to maximize its efficacy.

Leading this effort is BioNTech, a partner with Pfizer in making COVID vaccines.

"I'm fully convinced that now, even more than ever before, that mRNA can be broadly transformational."

With cases of Omicron subvariants rising, health officials, including Canada's Chief Public Health Officer, Dr.

Long Live the King? Hamber Students and Teachers Look Ahead



NEWS REPORT by Austin Witter (11) & Hinson Chan (11)

The 2017 future history film King Charles III imagines a recently crowned, somewhat headstrong Charles using his kingly powers to block a proposed bill in Parliament.

It is unclear what sort of monarch the longtime heir apparent will be.

I think the monarchy gives stability. I think it gives continuity," she said, acknowledging that "right now there's a lot of conversation around colonialism, and decolonization," and "if Canada thinks it needs to move away, then that's up to Canadians."

Overall, the students had positive impressions of King Charles. Vargas said that he seemed like a "pretty good person", while Bui added that he came across as "an okay person."

Nevertheless, some expressed stronger views. Ethan Soo (11) was pessimistic about the future of the monarchy.

"I just liked Diana so much more, and she had to go through so much, it was not fair on her." Since then, however, her impression of Charles has grown more favourable.

"Charles has sort of redeemed himself in my mind, because he did speak up against global warming, and his environmental stance...I think it takes guts to do that [...], and it's coming from an honest place", she said.

Views differed on whether the monarchy is still relevant to us today.

"I see [Charles III]'s reign starting off on a really positive note, because Rishi Sunak has been sworn in now as the first Asian person with roots in India as prime minister of the UK.

As for the Elizabeth/Charles transition, Ms. Panesar doesn't think it's a fair comparison.

"Our wonderful Queen Elizabeth II was there for 70 long years, I grew up with her, she's like one of the family," she said.

With the change in leadership, many former colonies of Britain are re-evaluating their relationship with the throne.

"No, I don't think so," said Vargas when asked about separating from the monarchy.

"I feel like most of Canada doesn't really care about [the] monarchy," said Jessica Bui (9).

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## EDITORIAL

## BRING BACK THE HONOURS PROGRAM

## EDITORIAL

ABC Vancouver and its new trustees: Alfred Chien, Preeti Faridkot, Victoria Jung, Christopher Richardson, and Josh Zhang must stay true to one of their only campaign promises, and return honours programs to Vancouver schools.

The ABC Vancouver party now has a majority on the Vancouver School Board. In a campaign promise made in a Sept. 13 press release, ABC candidates pledged to reinstate the previously scrapped honours program into Vancouver schools.

At the time of their demise, the only remaining honours programs in the district were the math and science honours programs at Eric Hamber and Magee.

In a statement made to *CBC News*, the VSB cited 'inclusive education' as their justification for the removal of honours programs.

"By phasing out these courses, all students will have access to an inclusive model of education, and all students will be able to participate in the curriculum fulsomely," the statement read.

The VSB did not provide *CBC News* with any supporting evidence towards the correlation or causation between accelerated classes and educational inequity.

In the previously mentioned statement, the VSB referenced AP or advanced placement courses as an alternative for students seeking more challenging coursework.

AP classes are courses created and regulated by the American College Board, who on their website, describe the program: "AP gives students the chance to tackle college-level work while they're still in high school—whether they're learning online or in the classroom. And through taking AP Exams, students can earn college credit and placement."

However, in the past, AP classes have been in the natural line of succession for honours students, and many classes either highly recommended or required a prerequisite in the equivalent honours class.

For example, AP Chemistry 12 continues on from Chemistry 11 Enriched, a class a part of the honours program at Hamber. And in order to complete AP Physics C, you must have completed AP Physics 1 or Physics 12, which requires acceleration beyond the general science stream.

It is obvious that with six new trustees, five of which are a part of the ABC majority, the VSB's educational philosophy may now shift.

"Our children are all different. We should be pursuing policies that promote more individuality, not less," Josh Zhang, a then-candidate for ABC Vancouver, stated in the Sept. 13 press release. "Restoring honours programs will help the VSB provide world-class education." If the new board is sincere in their pursuit of individuality in education, the return of honours programs should be expected and demanded.

Although in a *CBC* article, honours programs were described as 'streaming' by Treena Goolieff, the former president of the Vancouver Secondary Teachers' Association, honours programs resemble the concept of 'setting' more.

As explained by Evidence for Learning, an online teaching and learning toolkit, streaming is an education concept of grouping students of similar abilities into a distinct cohort for all or most of their classes. Whereas setting describes grouping students into classes based on their ability in that particular subject.

Streaming may have a bad reputation of extenuating inequity, however, students are not being streamed in the honours system, they're being set in specific classes based on interest and ability.

According to the Gifted Children's Association of BC (GCABC), a local non-profit advocacy group, honours programs are one of the few ways that gifted students can find a beneficial academic environment that suits their distinct needs. In their official response to the VSB's announcement that they would phase out

honours programs and in the resulting article in *The Globe and Mail*, they stated, "They often struggle for years in the public school system before their parents find an educational model that works for their child."

"Honours and Advanced Placement classes (AP classes) are not created especially for gifted students but are often the only high school alternative for meeting the social and cognitive needs of Gifted students." The GCABC wholeheartedly rejected the view put forward by UBC Professor Dr. Jennifer Katz in the *Globe* article that the idea that gifted children struggle in regular classes is a "part of racism and systemic racism."

In a July 2, 2022 *Globe* editorial they state, "More importantly, cutting off opportunities for some students doesn't mean there is greater equity for the broader group." The editorial concludes with, "Equity and excellence can co-exist."

ABC Vancouver may understand this, however, they may not understand the difficulties in the practicality of their plan.

A former long-time Vision trustee, Allan Wong, told the *Globe* in an Oct. 8 article, that ending honours isn't a board decision, but an administrative one.

However, the chair of the District Parent Advisory Council, Vic Khanna, told the *Globe* he wished ABC Vancouver outlined their action plan for reinstating the honours program, a program DPAC supports.

"Any school-based program is an operational matter. ... So a strong answer would be 'We will take back control of honours programs and make it a district policy'. Then you know something's going to happen." Khanna said in an interview.

When the honours programs were newly cancelled, a delegation of Hamber students attended a school board meeting. During the June 14, 2021 meeting, trustees at the time appeared to be uninformed of the issue.

The Editorial Board calls on the new Vancouver Board of Education to reinstate honours programs in the district.

## INTERNATIONAL

## Pound Hits 37 Year Low; Financial Uncertainty

NEWS REPORT by Justin Chuk (10)

On Sept. 26, the United Kingdom saw its most dramatic currency crisis in recent history. The pound plummeted to its lowest level against the dollar, falling to \$1.03 USD — a level not seen in 37 years.

Though the present crisis has been driven by a combination of factors, including Brexit, ex-prime minister Liz Truss's recent package of tax cuts has been a major contributor in sending the economy into disarray.

Right after Truss was invited to form a government, her administration introduced the UK's biggest tax cuts in 50 years, estimated at about 45 billion pounds in savings over five years. It proposed tax cuts for the UK's highest earners, and announced a rollback of corporate tax hikes and a cost increase for national insurance, both intended to go into effect next year. Her plan also slashed the stamp tax, a duty on land sales in England and Northern Ireland, in a bid to increase home purchases.

The UK is already being confronted with inflation, peaking at 11 per cent in October according to the Bank of England, and a slow economic recovery from the still-ongoing pandemic.

To add to all of this, energy prices in the country are set to increase by as much as 80 per cent, Britain's energy regulator Ofgem in an Aug. 26 announcement, as a result of a sanction on gas supplies from Russia into Europe.

Investors saw the tax cuts as so irrational that they rushed to sell off British assets, thereby driving down the value of Sterling.

The announcement of Truss's new plan triggered a sell-off in government bonds so severe that the Bank of England had to step in and buy back 65 billion pounds worth of bonds to keep the pension scheme of the country afloat.

"To achieve this, the Bank will carry out temporary purchases of long-dated UK government bonds from 28 September. The purpose of these purchases will be to restore orderly market conditions. The purchases will be carried out on whatever scale is necessary to effect this outcome," stated a Sept. 28 Bank of England news release.

FRANK AUGSTEIN/  
ASSOCIATED PRESS



## QUEEN ELIZABETH II: DEATH, FUNERAL, AND LEGACY

NEWS REPORT by Kaitlyn Lee (8)

Queen Elizabeth II died on Sept. 8 at Balmoral Castle in Scotland. She was 96 at the time of her passing.

Elizabeth was the Queen of the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth realms from 1952 to 2022, making her the longest reigning British monarch in history. Throughout her life, Queen Elizabeth II was the monarch of 32 countries. At the time of her death, she was the monarch of 15.

She was the patron of over 500 organizations in her lifetime and modernized the British monarchy. On her 21st birthday in 1947, she said, "I declare before you all that my whole life, whether it be long or short, shall be devoted to your service and the service of our great imperial family to which we all belong."

On the morning of Sept. 8, Buckingham Palace released an unusual statement saying doctors were "concerned" for her health, and that she was under medical supervision. The royal family was then seen rushing to Balmoral throughout the day.

At 6:30 p.m. GMT, her death was announced over the news, on Twitter, and through an official statement af-

fixed to the Buckingham Palace gates. According to her official death certificate, Queen Elizabeth II died of old age.

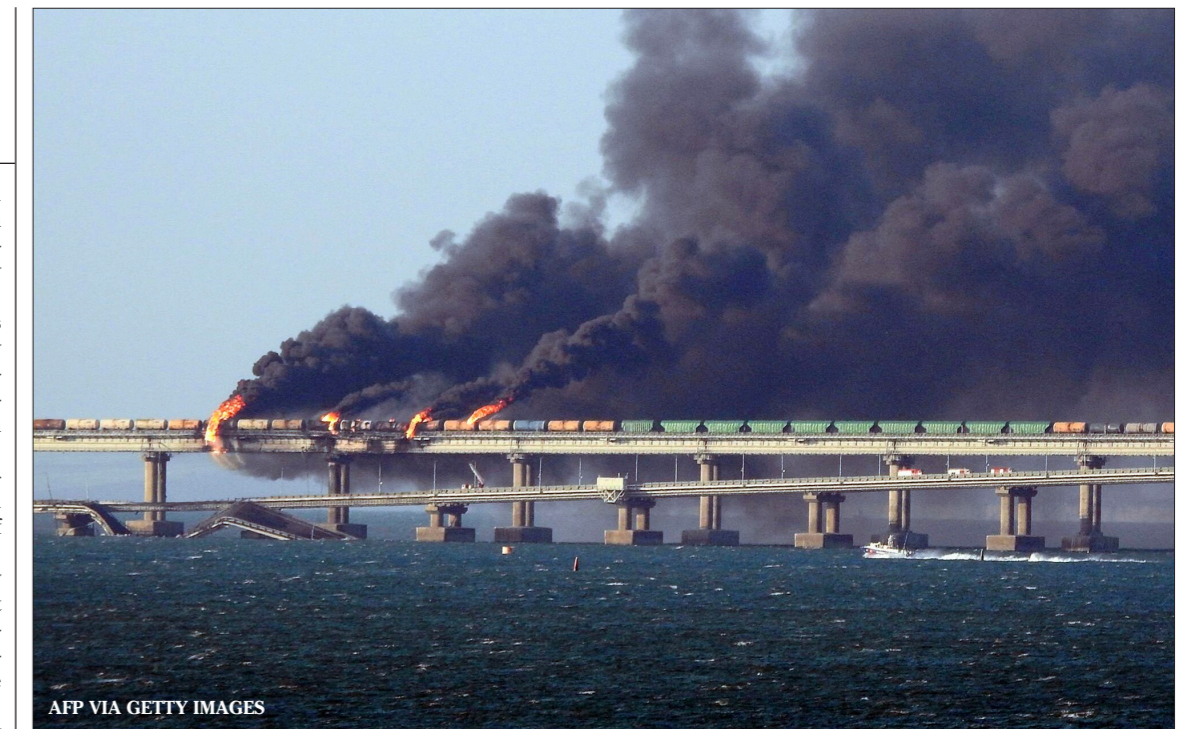
After her death, her body was brought to Edinburgh for ceremonial events before being flown to London, where she was transported to Westminster Hall to lie-in-state from Sept. 14 to 19.

Her funeral took place on Sept. 19, 2022 at Westminster Abbey. Most of the royal family attended the funeral, with Prince George and Princess Charlotte being the queen's only great-grandchildren to attend. Liz Truss, the then British prime minister, in addition to six former prime ministers, attended.

About 500 heads of state and foreign dignitaries were thought to be there, including Canadian Prime Minister Trudeau. All global monarchs were invited.

The queen was buried at Windsor Castle, at the King George VI memorial chapel, an annex within St. George's Chapel, beside her parents and her late husband, Prince Philip.

Upon the queen's death, her son Charles, became King Charles III. In his first televised statement, he stated that his mother's death was "a moment of the greatest sadness for me and all members of my family... I know her loss will be deeply felt



## Update on the War in Ukraine

NEWS REPORT by Alanna Rudolph (12)

Eight months after Russia invaded Ukraine on Feb. 24, the conflict has continued and impacts are being felt across the globe. Here are the latest developments from the past few months.

From Sept. 23 to 27, Russia held referendums in four occupied regions of Ukraine, Luhansk, Donetsk, Kherson and Zaporizhzhia, with the goal of annexation. These four regions made up about 15 per cent of Ukrainian territory. Ukrainian officials reported that people were coerced into voting in the referendums, with armed groups going to homes and employment being threatened if employees did not participate. The United Nations, Western allies, and Ukraine all denounced the votes as illegitimate. On Sept. 28, Russia annexed all four areas.

According to *Reuters*, Ukraine has made several advances into Russian-occupied territory over the past month. The Ukrainian armed forces have reportedly pushed approximately 30 kilometres into Russian-held lands.

They also reportedly recaptured the town of Lyman and have nearing the major city of Kherson. In response to these victories, Russian President Vladimir Putin declared a partial mobilization of Russia's forces, calling up reservists and beginning a partial draft.

On Oct. 8, parts of the only bridge connecting Crimea to Russia exploded and collapsed when a truck exploded and lit multiple fuel cisterns. Kerch Strait Bridge was 19 kilometres long and held both symbolic and strategic value as it was built after Crimea was annexed by Russia in 2014 and provides supply lines for military and citizens. At least three people were killed in the blast, according to Russian investigators. *The New York Times* corroborated between intelligence provided by an Ukrainian senior official and Russian claims that Ukraine was behind the attack. However, Ukraine has not admitted responsibility.

On Oct. 25, in a closed door United Nations Security Council meeting, the issue of dirty bombs was discussed. Russia claimed Ukraine was planning to use a dirty bomb. Dirty bombs are made up of regular explosives as well as radioactive materials, possibly sourced from hospital equipment. While the

initial danger is from the explosion rather than radiation, dirty bombs can force people to evacuate and render large areas uninhabitable for decades.

Western allies have dismissed these allegations as blatantly false. NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg tweeted on Oct. 24, "#NATO allies reject this allegation... We must remain steadfast in our support for Ukraine."

On Oct. 29, Russia backed out of a deal to allow Ukraine to export grain from its Black Sea ports. The deal was brokered by the UN and Turkey in July and has allowed millions of tonnes of grain to be exported since then, relieving global food supply chain issues. Russia cited an alleged drone attack by Ukraine against a Russian fleet in the Black Sea as the cause for this.

In a statement, Russia's Foreign Affairs Ministry said that it "cannot guarantee the safety of civilian dry cargo ships participating in the Black Sea initiative, and suspends its implementation from today for an indefinite period."

Currently, people in Ukraine's capital Kyiv and another city Kharkiv, are dealing with long power cuts.

Ukrainian authorities warned citizens to expect no power for periods of over four hours at a time due to Russian attacks of energy infrastructure. President Volodymyr Zelensky stated in a tweet on Oct. 18, that about a third of the country's electric power stations have now been destroyed by air attacks.

throughout the country, the realms and the Commonwealth, and by countless people around the world."

The royal family received sympathy from Commonwealth leaders, with Prime Minister Trudeau giving a speech in Vancouver shortly after Elizabeth's death, saying "she was our queen for almost half of Canada's existence and she had an obvious, deep and abiding love and affection for Canadians."

Not everyone was in mourning for the queen's death, however. The police arrested anti-monarchy protesters at royal events in England and Scotland. A woman was arrested for holding up an anti-monarchy sign at St. Giles' Cathedral in Edinburgh. In Oxford, England, a man was arrested for shouting "Who elected him?"

as the document formally proclaiming Charles as king was being read.

In Australia, hundreds of people marched in anti-monarchy protests. In South Africa, a political party called the Economic Freedom Fighters said in a statement, "we do not mourn the death of Elizabeth, because to us her death is a reminder of a very tragic period in this country and Africa's history."

Many people have been vocal about how destructive they feel British colonialism was and the role the monarchy has played.

Priya Satia, a history professor at Stanford University who specializes in the British Empire told *TIME* magazine, "I think Elizabeth II's rule prevented a reckoning and allowed for a sense of continuity and continued de-

nial about the extent of change in the last 70 years." She continued, "decolonization was supposed to force the acknowledgment of wrong. That never came because it was always masked by the continuity of the queen."

Anna Arabindan-Kesson, a professor at Princeton University in the study of Black diasporic art, had similar views as Satia. Arabindan-Kesson told *TIME*, "the monarchy, in general, is an incredibly spectacular symbol of the huge social and economic inequalities of modern Britain."

Satia and Arabindan-Kesson both expressed to *TIME* that they are hopeful that there continues to be more conversation about monarchy's legacy and that the future of monarchy is more open about its history.



INTERNATIONAL

# NASA'S NEW ARTEMIS PROGRAM PLANS TO BREAK NEW GROUND WITH LONG TERM BASECAMP ON THE MOON



NEWS REPORT by Helena Flach (8) & Maggie Perreault (8)

NASA's Artemis I is scheduled to launch in 10 days, being the first flight of NASA's superheavy rocket ship called the Space Launch System (SLS), and a key step of a three-year program to establish a long-term human presence on the moon.

### the actual flight to the moon...2025

Artemis I will be an unmanned flight around the moon and back on the SLS. The Artemis Program will be the first time humans will go to the moon since the last Apollo mission, half a century ago.

and first person of colour to the moon, and will prepare humans to stay on another planet while gathering data about the moon itself.

A test flight with the crew, orbiting the moon but not landing. This is planned to happen in the spring of 2024. The last step outlined is Artemis III, which will be the actual flight to the moon, occurring no earlier than 2025.



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# NASA's DART test successfully collides with Dimorphos, strengthening Earth's defense against threatening asteroids

NEWS REPORT by Teagan Nichol (10)

Over the past two decades, scientists around the world have been

developing a system to protect Earth from dangerous asteroids and comets. On Sept. 26, NASA's Double Asteroid Redirection Test (DART) proved to be a manifestation of these efforts, when the projectile successfully collided

with the asteroid Dimorphos. DART is the first mission developed by NASA's Planetary Defense Coordination office. The success of this mission shows a coordination of global efforts to protect the Earth

# Nicole Mann, First Indigenous Woman to fly on SpaceX to ISS

NEWS REPORT by Michelle Park (12)

On Oct. 5, Nicole Mann became the first Indigenous woman in space. According to NASA, Mann is the commander of the SpaceX Crew-5 mission, launching to the ISS in the SpaceX Crew Dragon spacecraft.

the International Space Station, where they will join a long list of other astronauts who work there full-time for the next roughly 22 years, NASA reports.



against hazardous asteroids. Dimorphos, a small, non-threatening asteroid, orbiting a larger asteroid Didymos, was selected to be the target in this test.

Even though this may seem small, Thomas Zurbuchen, associate administrator for the Science Mission Directorate at NASA's Washington headquarters, stresses its significance, saying in a media release on NASA's website on Sept. 26, "Now we know we

### "DART's success provides a significant addition to the essential toolbox we must have to protect the Earth"

lision with Dimorphos and transfer its kinetic energy and momentum to the asteroid. The DART is a small cube device measuring only a fraction of this asteroid's mass, weighing in at 550 kilograms, whereas Dimorphos is five billion kilograms.

can aim a spacecraft with the precision needed to impact even a small body in space. Just a small change in its speed is all we need to make a significant difference in the path in which an asteroid travels.

According to NASA's website, in 2003, astronomer Petr Pravec was observing the asteroid Didymos when he noticed a pattern around the asteroid resembling a small moon. Dimorphos, previously referred to as Didymos B, was approximately 160 meters in diameter. It was identified as the perfect target for the DART, because of its orbit around Didymos and its proximity to Earth in 2022.

"DART's success provides a significant addition to the essential toolbox we must have to protect Earth from a devastating impact by an asteroid," said Lindley Johnson, NASA's Planetary Defense Officer, in the media release. "This demonstrates we are no longer powerless to prevent this type of natural disaster. Coupled with enhanced capabilities to accelerate finding the remaining hazardous asteroid population by our next Planetary Defense mission, the Near-Earth Object (NEO) Surveyor, a DART successor could provide what we need to save the day."

After ten months of flying over 6.8 million miles, the DART successfully collided with Dimorphos. Since then, a team of scientists have been observing the impact on Dimorphos' orbit around Didymos. According to NASA's Jet Propulsion Lab's website, scientists have observed that the impact slowed Dimorphos' orbit around Didymos by 32 minutes to 11 hour and 23 minutes.

NASA reports that the Planetary Defense Coordination Office will continue to adapt and develop the DART to improve our capabilities to detect and protect - Earth against potentially threatening asteroids.

INTERNATIONAL

# Meloni Wins the 2022 Italian Election

NEWS REPORT by Simone Hamilton (12)



Giorgia Meloni and the Fratelli d'Italia, known in English as the Brothers of Italy, won the 2022 Italian general election on Sept. 25. Meloni and the Brothers of Italy claimed a majority of the vote and now lead a right-wing coalition with ally parties the League, Forza Italia, and the Moderates.

Fratelli d'Italia won a plurality, with 26 per cent of the vote, and the coalition overall holding 44 per cent. As the leader of the coalition, Meloni was the poised candidate to ascend to the role of prime minister of Italy. The allies attended meetings with President Sergio Mattarella on Oct. 21 to discuss the new government.

The President must mandate any new government, and he offered Meloni the mandate to form a government after deliberation on Oct. 21. According to a spokesperson for the president's office, Meloni accepted the mandate unconditionally.

Giorgia Meloni is the first female prime minister in Italy's history. However, she has also been accredited with being the farthest right candidate since Mussolini by many western media sources, including Reuters, The Washington Post, and the BBC.

Since the start of the election, Meloni and her party have drawn international controversy over their conservative ideology and political roots.

"Yes to the natural family, no to LGBT lobbies!", she exclaimed at a rally in Spain for the Vox party, in June 2022. The Vox party is a nationalist-conservative party in Spain.

In the same speech, she said 'no' to 'Islamist violence', and called for secure borders and a stop to massive migration.

Dr. Gianluca Passarelli, professor of political science at Sapienza University, told the BBC, "Meloni is not a danger to democracy, but a danger to the European Union."

Dr. Passarelli goes on to explain that he believes Meloni wants a 'Europe of nations' and, in undermining European Union solidarity on key issues, she could indirectly benefit leaders like Putin. In Meloni's first speech to parliament on Oct. 25, she commented on the European Union. "We do not conceive of the European Union as an elitist club with first-class and second-class members, or worse, as a joint stock company run by a board of directors with the sole task of keeping the accounts in order."

Dr. Passarelli explained in his interview with BBC, that Fratelli d'Italia is not a fascist party, but there are wings within the party that have been linked to neo-fascism. In the past, there have been right-winged parties in Italy that have historical connections to post-WWII neo-fascism, with the Italian Social Movement or MSI being the most prominent example, which was founded by Mussolini's

supporters. The Fratelli d'Italia share the symbol of the MSI in their logo, the tri-coloured flame. This may be a nod to Meloni's youth, as she joined the youth wing of the MSI at 15, and later became the president of the student branch of the National Alliance, the successor of the MSI. Despite this, Meloni passionately rejects the links between fascism and her party. In a video message released on Aug. 10, Meloni said that the political right in Italy had "handed fascism over to history for decades now", and stated that the right had unambiguously condemned anti-Jewish policy and democratic suppression. In 1996, at age 19, while campaigning for the National Alliance party, Meloni told French reporters, "Mussolini was a good politician, in that everything he did, he did for Italy."

# FLOODS DEVASTATE PAKISTAN

NEWS REPORT by Declan Chong (8)

told TIME magazine. Rehman also warns that countries like Pakistan are suffering from climate-caused disasters, not through faults of their own. According to the Global Change Data Lab, Pakistan has emitted 0.3 per cent of cumulative, historical, global carbon emissions.

been without global warming," Noah Diffenbaugh, senior fellow from Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment, told Stanford News, referencing his 2019 research on climate inequality. "At the same time, the majority of rich countries are richer than they would have been."

Pakistani floods has claimed the lives of almost 2,000 since Jun. 14, the United Nations reports. The floods have caused the largest number of flooding fatalities since the 2020 floods in South Asia, and has been called the worst floods in the history of Pakistan. Pakistan proclaimed a state of emergency on Aug. 25.

Thirty-three million people have been affected, according to the UN Floods Response Plan. Approximately 7.9 million people were displaced from their homes by the flooding, putting almost 600,000 in relief camps.

The flooding is estimated to cost the Pakistani government approximately \$30 billion USD in total economic losses and damages, the World Bank says. The United Nations have appealed for \$816 million USD worth of aid to avoid a second wave of loss through disease and starvation. The World Bank estimates that reconstruction and rehabilitation costs will exceed \$16.3 billion USD.

The World Health Organization stated in a press brief on Oct. 4 that approximately 10 per cent of all healthcare facilities in Pakistan have been damaged.

Almost 80 per cent of crops in the Sindh province were destroyed according to a Aug. 29 report from the UN Food and Agriculture Organization. The Sindh province is a main producer of cotton, a key crop in Pakistan's agricultural sector, as reported by Aljazeera.

The floods are widely attributed to climate change. "If you're not understanding that [climate change] is right here, right now, or that actions need to be taken post-haste, then you're really sleepwalking into annihilation," Pakistan's Climate Minister, Sherry Rehman,



PERVEZ MASHI/ASSOCIATED PRESS VIA THE LOS ANGELES TIME

# China's Housing Bubble has burst. Here's why.

NEWS REPORT by Justin Chuk (10)

Homebuyers in at least 100 cities have threatened to stop their mortgage payments since late June as construction on many pre-sold properties has not resumed, according to Reuters.

Citizens have taken it to the streets in an attempt to get the government's attention. The mortgage protest became a rare act of public disobedience in China which has gained more momentum as the crisis continues, shaking the foundations of the Chinese economy, Reuters reports.

According to Reuters, film and photography from the protests have been wiped from social media through censorship, keeping them from the public eye. Nevertheless, the protests have continued.

New projects dropped by 45 per cent in July 2022, property investments by 12 per cent, and the value of home sales by 29 per cent, compared to last year, The Economist reports.

The housing market is the most important sector in the Chinese economy, accounting for 23.6 per cent of China's GDP, as estimated by an October 2021 Goldman Sachs paper. By some estimates, as reported by The Economist, 70 per cent of household wealth is currently in the sector.

In August 2020, the Chinese government introduced the "three red lines", which are financial regulatory guidelines restricting developer's ratios of net debt to equity, liabilities to assets of under 70 per cent and a cash to short-term debt of at least 1. As reported by The Economist, this crackdown on the real estate industry alongside the country's zero-COVID policy are the two immediate causes that triggered the housing crisis.

The Guardian reports Evergrande as the former second biggest property developer in China. According to the Congressional Research Service for the United States Congress, approximately 60 per cent of the firm's assets are un-built and unsold properties. Using previously-financed deals as collateral for new loans, this practice allowed the firm to accumulate debt and become substantially leveraged—with over \$300 billion USD in liabilities by the end of 2020.

Developers need to sell homes long before they are built to generate enough liquidity to repay loans in order to continue this cycle. Last year Evergrande pre-sold 90 per cent of homes, as reported by The Economist. However, without access to bonds and loans, as banks cut their exposure to the property sector, and with a decline in sales, the debt-fueled real estate bubble was bound to burst.

According to The Economist, Evergrande defaulted in December 2021 after months of scrambling to raise cash to repay creditors, suppliers and investors. The Chinese government has intervened to take a leading role in guiding the company through a restructuring of its debt. According to ANZ Bank China at least 18 other property firms have defaulted in 2022.





## INTERNATIONAL

## Iran Protests over the death of Mahsa Amini

NEWS REPORT by Bianca Takenaka (11)

Widespread protests have occurred throughout Iran after Mahsa Amini, a young Iranian woman was killed by the morality police on Sept. 16 for wearing her hijab improperly. She was 22 years old at the time of her death.

The morality police, officially Iran's "Guidance Patrol," imposes religious laws upon the Iranian population, including the dress code, behaviour, and the mix of gender interactions in public. Punishments for broken religious laws may come in various forms, scaling from a vocal warning to torture. *CTV News* reports that since the election of extremist President Ebrahim Raisi last year, morality police have heightened their aggression in Iran.

According to the *BBC*, as a former judiciary chief, Mr. Raisi was one of the four judges who sat on the "Death Committee" that sentenced prisoners to death after religious rulings by the Supreme Leader. The U.S. has imposed sanctions on Raisi for alleged human rights violations, as reported by the *BBC*.

During a family trip to Tehran, the police arrested and detained Amini on Sept. 13 in accordance with the Iranian Penal Code.



GETTY PHOTOS VIA ALJAZEERA

**"women who appear in public without a proper hijab should be imprisoned from ten days to two months or pay a fine"**

Article 638, Book 5 of the code states: "women who appear in public without a proper hijab should be im-

prisoned from ten days to two months or pay a fine".

"There are reports that Ms. Amini

was beaten on the head with a baton and her head was banged against the vehicle, by so-called "morality police,"

stated Ravina Shamdasani, a spokesperson for the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).

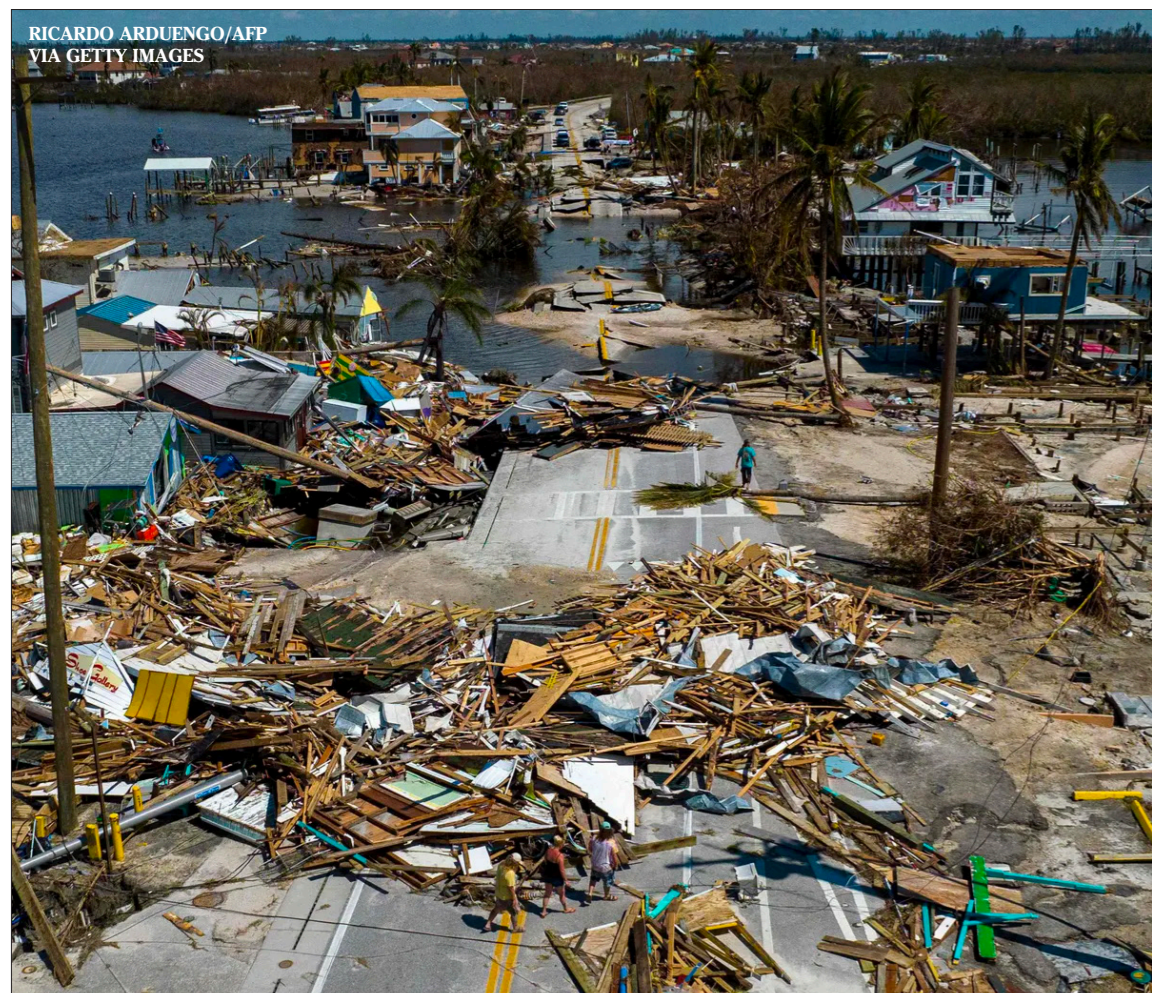
"She fell into a coma shortly after collapsing at Vozara Detention Centre. Ms. Amini, who also goes by the Kurdish name Jhina, died three days later."

Iranian authorities say that Amini died of natural causes and that she suffered prior health conditions which led her to a heart attack. However, family members have claimed that she had no health issues prior to her death and that the government is trying to cover up the reality of what occurred.

Her cousin, Erfan Mortezaei, said in an interview with *Sky News* that there have been efforts by Iran to silence Amini's family from speaking out.

The protests began after Amini's burial by security officials in her hometown, Saqqez, around 460 kilometres west of Tehran. Protesting men and women, notably female youth, banded together in solidarity chanting "Death to the Dictator" in Farsi, referring to the Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, on the streets.

In the seventh week of protests, the Human Rights Activists News Agency (HRANA) has declared that there have been over 14,000 protest related arrests and 283 protest related deaths, including those of 44 minors, spread out across 129 Iranian towns and cities as of Oct. 30.



houses destroyed and roads flooded in late September

## HURRICANE IAN STRIKES FLORIDA, WIDESPREAD DAMAGE

NEWS REPORT by Katie Hoo (11)

Hurricane Ian made landfall in southwest Florida on Sept. 28. With winds over 240 km/hr, it was labeled as a Category 4 hurricane, being one of the strongest hurricanes in the US on record.

The deadly storm initially reached Cuba on Sept. 26, and was recorded as a Category 3 hurricane at the time, taking out the island's power grid.

When Ian reached Florida, homes were obliterated in its path. An evacuation was issued in 12 counties to protect

the citizens in the area.

Many communities had hospitals and clinics shut down, a lack of medication from the quick evacuation, and carbon monoxide poisoning due to unsafe usages of generators. The death toll from Ian has reached over 110, with Floridians over 60 being impacted the most.

Hurricane Ian made a significant impact on the environment and land as well. Jennifer Hecker, executive director of the Coastal & Heartland National Estuary Partnership, noted to *The Washington Post*, that there was "[a]n incredible extent of physical debris. There are thousands and thousands of boats and cars. Chemical debris, bacterial nutrients."

The large amount of debris scattered across Florida due to damages to buildings and land will require a major clean up. Asphalt roads make up a significant part of the clean up due to their difficulty.

"Having to deal with this is a real headache. It is very hard to clean up because the asphalt breaks up into pieces," said former director of the Florida Park Service, Eric Draper, to *The Washington Post*.

Responding to the storm have included providing evacuees with medicines, mental health support, emergency funds for health clinics, hygiene supplies, tetanus vaccinations, relief kits, and clean water. Supplement Nutrition Assistance



Program (SNAP) benefits were provided to over 773,500 households at risk of being impacted by the hurricane. As the storm's path was foreseen, zones that were predicted to be damaged prepared citizens to evacuate.

The costs towards recovery and rebuilding the community are estimated by CoreLogic, a research firm, to be

### Hurricane Ian would be Florida's second most expensive storm

upwards of \$47 billion USD. In comparison, Hurricane Andrew cost an estimated \$55.7 billion USD and Hurricane Katrina cost \$163 billion USD, adjusted for inflation. According to these estimates, Hurricane Ian would be Florida's second most expensive storm ever.

NASA has revealed data of how warm waters in the Gulf of Mexico likely

contributed to how powerful Hurricane Ian grew. On Florida's southwest coast, the sea surface was particularly warmer and allowed the storm to pull out more energy. As a storm loses moisture and energy as it travels inland, it weakens. However in this case, Ian was able to sustain itself for longer because of how much energy it was able to pick up from the ocean.

The waters were only two to three degrees warmer than average for the time of year and it made a big difference. Climate scientist at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, Karthik Balaguru, told *ABC News* those few degrees are just more fuel for the storm.

According to Balaguru's recent research in the Geophysical Research Letters, climate change doesn't necessarily cause more hurricanes, but it does make them stronger. Heating of the ocean is difficult, therefore a few degrees warmer is all it took to strengthen and make the storm last longer. Warmer waters caused more rainfall, worsening flooding.

## Federer's Last Match

NEWS REPORT by Bianca Takenaka (11)

Considered one of tennis' "Greatest of All Time", Swiss player Roger Federer retired from the sport on Sept. 23.

Federer played his last dance on the opening day of the Laver Cup, ending an incomparable career that spanned for 25 years and included 20 Grand Slam titles.

Prior to the Laver Cup, Federer had announced a celebration to mark his final match, saying that he wanted the atmosphere of his closing to "be fun and not funeral". As a result, there was a celebratory atmosphere in the 17,500-capacity O2 stadium in London.

Federer concluded his days as a professional athlete with a loss in doubles beside his long-time rival and friend Rafael Nadal, against Frances Tiafoe and Jack Sock.

Federer and Nadal, also nicknamed as "Fedal" to fans, almost won the match. Despite Federer not having competed in over a year due to a knee injury, the veteran pair had a match point at 9-8 in the decider, but Tiafoe and Sock took it and ended the match at 4-6, 7-6 (7-2), 11-9. The defeat came in as his 1,750th competitive match.

The presence of several tennis legends in the O2, including Rod Laver, the Australian former tennis star whom the tournament is titled after, added to the excitement.

Tennis's current world number ones, Spain's 19-year-old Carlos Alcaraz



and Poland's 21-year-old Iga Swiatek, were not present at the event, but tweeted their admiration for the Swiss player as they observed his last match on television. "Wow... Thanks RF," tweeted Alcaraz, along with a heartbroken emoji. Swiatek posted, with a picture of Federer on her television and her cat by her side, "I have practice in the morning but sleep needs to wait tonight. One last time @rogerfederer".

Federer cried as he embraced Nadal and other players after the match, including stars such as Novak Djokovic

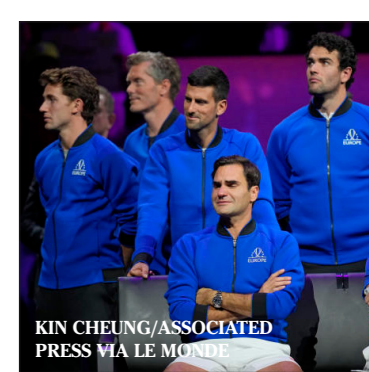
and Andy Murray, and then took in the applause from the thousands of fans who chanted his name. Nadal struggled to hold back tears. The 36-year-old Spaniard cried as he held Federer's hand.

"When Roger leaves the Tour, an important part of my life is leaving too because [of] all the moments that he [has] been next [to] or in front [of] me in important moments of my life," Nadal exclaimed.

The Swiss player also gave a bitter-sweet speech of gratitude that night.

"Being with the guys and having family and friends, I didn't feel the stress so much even if I felt something would go during the match," Federer stated, "I am so glad I made it through, and the match was great. I couldn't be happier".

He continued, "Thank you everybody. I've had so many people cheer me on and you guys here tonight mean the world. This is not the end-end, you know, life goes on. I'm healthy, I'm happy, everything's great, and this is just a moment in time".



KIN CHEUNG/ASSOCIATED PRESS VIA LE MONDE

## Explosion Leads to Rupture of Nord Stream Pipeline

News Report by Amy Zhou (10)

As the international battle over gas resources continues, an explosion in the Nord Stream Pipeline - the largest natural gas transportation medium linking Russia to Europe - puts the greater Europe off-guard.

Nord Stream Pipeline 1 has efficiently transported gas from Russia to Europe since opening in 2011, sending 170 cubic metres of gas from Russia to Germany daily. Since the commencement of the invasion of Ukraine and the imposition of economic sanctions, Russia has steadily reduced its gas deliveries. In June, it cut down to 40 cubic metres of gas delivery daily. In July, it reduced supply again to 20 cubic metres daily after closing for 10 days. Russia closed the pipeline completely in late August, citing equipment problems, and delivery has been fully stopped since then.

Nord Stream Pipeline 2 was built with construction finishing in September 2021. It promised a doubling in annual capacity of natural gas to 110 billion cubic metres. However, it hasn't begun operations, as Germany has yet to certify it due to Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Varying levels of leakages have been detected in Nord Stream 1 and Nord Stream 2 through pressure inconsistencies since September. Both pipelines were filled with gas at the time, although neither was flowing.

Investigations by seismologists in Denmark reveal that they detected tremors up to 2.3 on the Richter scale. However, these tremors did not resemble earthquakes.



DMITRY LOVETSKY/ ASSOCIATED PRESS VIA EURONEWS

In addition, drone footage has revealed the disappearance of a 50-metre long section in Nord Stream Pipeline 1.

The European Union (EU) as well as Danish investigators have labelled it as sabotage. These leaks have caused "extensive damage" to international waters, stated Danish officials. The pipelines are primarily in the economic zones of Sweden and Denmark.

Due to the coincidental timing of the explosion with the Russian-Ukraine War, Moscow has made accusations of the involvement of the United States in this sabotage as an indirect measure of economic sanctioning, however Washington has denied this.

The EU and US have also suspected Russia of reducing transmission in an attempt to put pressure on the EU's economic system.

In addition to the economic impacts of this explosion on neighbouring countries, this also likely resulted in the biggest burst of greenhouse gas and methane emitted for a disaster on record - five times the former record at the 2015 Aliso Canyon Disaster in California, and could be as much as one third of Denmark's annual greenhouse gas emissions, according to head of the Danish Energy Agency Kristoffer Böttzauw. The Danish government estimates that 778 million cubic metres of gas was leaked.

With no estimated date of restoration, the European Commission is currently planning a "last resort measure" proposal for developing a "maximum dynamic price" on all gas trades at the Title Transfer Facility. According to Eurostat, in 2021, the EU consumed nearly 16 million terajoules of natural gas. 45 per cent of it was imported gas from Russia, according to Natural Gas Intelligence data.



## AFTER 3 YEARS, WELCOME STADIA TO THE GOOGLE GRAVEYARD

NEWS REPORT by Oliver Izen (11) & Max Von Dehn (11)

Platformed as the "future of gaming", without the limitations of physical consoles and games, Google's cloud gaming service Stadia has announced its closure after only three years.

Burdened with problems from day one, Google will be refunding every customer for all Stadia software and hardware purchases.

Stadia was announced in 2018, based on the idea that having to own a console to play a game was outdated. Stadia's early advertisements showed their vision of playing games on your TV, Android phone, or Chrome browser. Google had grand ambitions for the platform, creating game studios in Montreal and Los Angeles to make Stadia-exclusive titles.

The prospect of playing big games without the cost of purchasing a \$500 console was appealing to much of the gaming community, with many predicting that Stadia would quickly take hold of the gaming market.

When Stadia was first announced, Phil Harrison, head of Stadia, made many promises. He claimed the platform would be more powerful than both Xbox and PlayStation, while containing revolutionary features like "State Share", which would allow players to jump in and play what they see in videos or screenshots taken by another player.

However, following the November 2019 launch, the cracks started to

show. When it was first launched, the only way to access Stadia was through purchasing the "Founders Edition Bundle" for \$130 USD. Although Google planned to later release a free option in 2020, the initial barrier to entry was met with heavy criticism.

In a review for *The Verge*, Sean Hollister explained that the launch version was underwhelming and expensive for the quality. "There's no reason anyone should buy into Stadia right now," he stated.

One of the major issues with Stadia was their business model. Unlike a traditional subscription service like the Xbox Game Pass, where users have access to an entire library for a single subscription fee, Stadia was free to access for anyone, but required users to purchase individual games. This model was unpopular as users did not like being locked into their purchases, and preferred other platforms which allowed more freedom to try out different games.

A review by Erik Kian in *Forbes* outlines this conundrum for customers: "Compare this to Xbox Game Pass which costs \$10/month but has dozens and dozens of games included as part of the subscription. If that were the case with Stadia, I think more people would be purchasing it."

Additionally, Google wanted Stadia to feature several major AAA games on launch. According to a *Bloomberg* interview with people with knowledge on the deals, who prefer to remain anonymous, publishers such as Ubisoft and Take-Two were being paid "tens of mil-

ions of dollars" for each port of their games onto Stadia. This put Google in a deep financial deficit before Stadia even released.

Google had planned for Stadia to include third-party games alongside their library of third-party games. They hired hundreds of developers and opened studios in both Montreal and Los Angeles.

However when Stadia launched, it did not contain any in-house games. This left Stadia's opening day game roster under 80, while most other services contained well over 100 games. No first-party games ever did make it out the door, as Google announced it was shutting down its game development in Feb. 2021.

On Sept. 29 this year, Google announced that Stadia would be permanently closing in Jan. 2023. This was due to, in large part, Stadia missing their sales and monthly player count goals by hundreds of thousands, according to sources close to the issue interviewed by *Bloomberg*. However, Stadia's struggles did not end when its closure was announced. Google neglected to inform both their own and independent developers of the closure beforehand, leaving them to find out alongside the public. This left many workers uncertain about the future of their jobs.

The final nail in the coffin for Stadia came when Google announced they would be refunding all hardware and game purchases, an unfortunate drawback of their cloud based subscription model.

OPINION



# Has House of the Dragon Missed the Mark?

OPINION by Mia Boguslavsky (11)

The HBO show *House of the Dragon* premiered on Aug. 21, to a world of *Game of Thrones* fans with sky high expectations. Has it been able to meet them?

Set two centuries before the events of *Game of Thrones*, *House of the Dragon* goes into depth about a war within one of the most significant families in the kingdom, the Targaryans. While the story takes place in the same location geographically, it cannot be more different from the *Game of Thrones* we know and love.

*Game of Thrones* incorporates action and drama to create an interesting and captivating narrative, with moments of quiet conversations that are as powerful as the greatest battle, and fight scenes that are so mesmerizing that it is hard to look away despite the horror. However, this is all lacking in the *House of the Dragon*. There is very little fighting, despite it being a war, and though violence is not the objective of the story, it does feel like all the characters do is sit around and wait. This is especially noticed in the first four episodes, which spent the entire

Even without the shadow of *Game of Thrones*, *House of the Dragon* falls short in many areas. The cinematography is all over the place, with strange angles that aren't cohesive with the scene, quick cuts from one location to another with no transition, and a strange habit of turning the camera away from the person who is talking. Also, for a series with a budget of \$20 million per episode, the visual effects are subpar. Though slightly improving in the latter half of the season, the CGI (computer generated images) of the dragons is awkward and displeasing to look at, with strange, flat faces. The effects of fire are also very two dimensional and unrealistic.

Perhaps the biggest fumble of the series was the time skip that occurs after the fifth episode, where nearly the whole cast was replaced. The actors that play Rhaenyra Targaryan and Alicent Hightower were replaced and aged up accordingly, yet Matt Smith, who plays Daemon Targaryan and several others were kept the same. It was bizarre to see half of the cast suddenly age 15 years, with Daemon Targaryan staying the same.

It would have made significantly more sense to begin the series after the time skip, as very little relevant events had happened prior, and by incorporating a more intricate way of telling the story, the audience could have been given all the important information. The time skip also makes it hard to root for a particular character, as many of them got replaced, and even though they were meant to be simply older versions of the others, they were so different it was like watching a whole other character.

So, is it possible to say that *House of the Dragon* has lived up to the hype created around the show? It turns out, that depends who you ask. Despite the shortcomings of several production factors, the show has a rating of 8.6 on IMDb and 84 per cent on Rotten Tomatoes, a fairly respectable score. Whether you enjoy *House of the Dragon* strongly depends on your standards and expectations, and as a person who loved *Game of Thrones* and watched it several times, I was disappointed.

However, in *House of the Dragon*, there are only three or so major character congregations, and the entire show revolves around them. While this is typical of a TV show, to capture an event so complicated and interconnected as the fight for the Targaryan throne in their home of Dragonstone, us viewers would have benefited from another point of view in order to get another perspective to deepen the story and how it affects other characters.

# FIRE AND BLOOD: A REVIEW OF HOUSE OF THE DRAGON

OPINION by Ellis Jackson (12)

The music swells. The door opens. An aged King Viserys Targaryen slowly limps through the hall before almost collapsing. Then, with his brother's assistance, he takes his place on the Iron Throne. This memorable scene in *House of the Dragon*, the riveting and spectacular prequel to the iconic *Game of Thrones*, is symbolic of the quality of the series as a whole. Beautiful performances from Paddy Considine, Matt Smith, Olivia Cooke, and Emma D'Arcy. Astonishing production values garnered from the series' gargantuan \$200 million budget. A soundtrack bearing the typical style and quality of Ramin Djawadi, who previously composed the soundtrack for *Game of Thrones*. Writing with all the drama and cleverness of the original series.

*House of the Dragon* is the blockbuster prequel series to *Game of Thrones*. After a controversial final season, many had feared the franchise was dead for good. However, *House of the Dragon* has clearly resurrected the franchise, with HBO stating that each episode has averaged around 29 million viewers. It follows House Targaryen as it begins its descent into a bloody civil war known as the Dance of the Dragons, and the series has a whopping nine of the beasts featured in the first season.

One of the most noteworthy qualities about *House of the Dragon* is its stellar writing. True to George R. R. Martin's style, the dialogue features terms and phrases typical to his writing, such as "mine own" and "mummer's farce". The writing is rich and clever, though it does not yet live up to the high standards set by *Game of Thrones*.

So far, the show has not shied away from the bloodier elements of the world of Westeros, with impromptu caesarian sections, stillbirths, and violence. *House of the Dragon* has so far placed a strong emphasis on the patriarchal culture of the world, with the driving force of the story being a woman selected as heir to the Iron Throne. The mature, serious themes of the show harken back to the greatest moments of *Thrones*.

The visuals and score for the series have been top-notch. Ramin Djawadi's soundtrack is entrancing, and recalls many of the themes and motifs of the original while also possessing its own distinctive feel and sound. Beautiful cinematography and wondrous special effects and production design give *House of the Dragon* a superb fantasy feel.

When it comes to the world of television, I think it's safe to say that *House of the Dragon* has proven itself the true heir to the throne.



# Sexy Samhain: Inside the Sexy Halloween costume industry

OPINION by Elle Glen (9)

Halloween, which dates back to the ancient Celtic festival, Samhain, that marked the return of ghosts and spirits to earth, has become a commercialized holiday that contributes to the hypersexualization of women through the mass production of now widely appropriated "sexy costumes." Sexy costumes are pushed upon women due to societal beauty standards, disempowering women and girls by limiting their value to their appearance.

A study conducted by professors Lauri Hyers and Erin Hipple of West Chester University that looked at the

evolution of Halloween costumes and how they impact women found that out of the 1600 Halloween costumes they studied, 90% of the women's costumes were sexualized. If you don't believe me, search for "schoolboy costume" on Google. You'll get results of boys wearing ties and smiles. In comparison, if you search for "schoolgirl costume", the results are very different. Sadly, it doesn't surprise me that big corporations managed to sexualize knee socks.

The fact that these types of costumes are often sexualized reinforces the idea that society does not take women in these professions seriously. I would argue that these costumes can even be seen as a product of the way society treats women in the workforce

as a whole. A prime example of occupational sexism in Halloween costumes is the police costumes at Spirit Halloween. The costumes directed at men all resemble actual cops, but the costumes intended for women do not in any way. With names like "Officer Pat You Down" and "Lieutenant Misbehave", these costumes provide depictions that only add to the gender inequality in police forces.

Introducing the sexy vaccine worker, "ready to vaccinate you with desire." As of October 2021, an estimated 15,500 healthcare workers have died from COVID-19 worldwide, according to the World Health Organization. The fact that even these brave people who carried us through the pandemic

are being sexualized shows that these corporations have crossed a line. After enduring a global pandemic where front-line workers risked their lives to save ours, this is how we repay and immortalize them? Sadly, even a walk through Spirit Halloween sets feminism backwards, and that is already a line too far crossed.

In comparison, male-oriented costumes have an emphasis on power and agency rather than the wearer's body and are created with function, durability and comfort in mind. Branding for many boys costumes often show outward masculinity in the form of fake muscles, further pushing masculine ideals on young boys.

The costume industry profits off of a woman's right to express her own sexual freedom and robs women of the choice to express their sexuality when dressing up. The sexualization of women's costumes is so rampant that there aren't many options to choose from. Dressing in a sexual manner is a choice society makes for women.

Although Halloween contributes to the sexualization of women, the root problem here is the societal normalization of the hyper-sexualization of women. Sexualization and infantilization are at the foundation of sexism in modern western culture and forces women to fit themselves into society's small definition of beauty.

The stark contrast between men's and women's costumes is mainly due to stereotypes and is a product of gender-targeted marketing. This reinforces gender roles and limits the aspirations of children and adults alike because of the gender roles of their role models. According to a study done by Adie Nelson from the University of Waterloo on gender and children's Halloween costumes, boys are four times more likely to dress up as superheroes than girls. Beside the fact that only 12 per cent of superhero protagonists are female, this is because of the difference in stereotype-based expectations of men and women. While men are expected to be

strong and assertive of their masculinity, women are expected to be pretty, domestic and dependent on the men in their lives. This idea of "passive femininity" is being pushed onto girls from a young age, and although we now live in a world where we are aware of these blatant stereotypes, they are still a burden that all of us carry.

Halloween further reflects these stereotypes back on children and adults. Costumes for women and girls objectify and infantilize them. Another example would be the classic princess costumes that many young girls wear for Halloween. These costumes cement the idea that women are "helpless". In contrast, boys are usually superheroes or occupational costumes, like a doctor, which reflect the aspiration of economic success. For girls who share the same ambitions, their options are "fairy or princess". At the local Spirit Halloween, the only girls' costume that remotely resembles an occupation is the "Sassy Sergeant". Costumes intended for older girls show hints of sexualization as well, which is a contributing factor to low self-esteem in girls. According to a 2007 study by the APA, viewing sexualization in the media and in the world around them, "influences girls' development, self-esteem, friendships, and intimate relationships, ideas about femininity, body image, as well

## a woman's right to express her own sexual freedom

as educational aspirations and future career success." The forcing of these stereotypes on children has externally negative effects, as the gender roles are internalized and restrict the aspirations of many girls, due to the sexualization of their role models.

HAMBERGER

SATIRICAL REVIEW by Noah Yu (12)

# MEET THE NEST

Eric Hamber's own Griffins' Nest is in better shape than ever! With a new and improved editorial board, the team behind Volume 12 will be sure to keep Hamber's community informed about the world around us in an impartial manner. One may wonder, "who's on this new editorial board?" And although I, the Griffin's Best, don't know the board well either, it is with great pleasure and honour that I introduce the team to the public.

Editor-in-Chief **Stephen Kosar** (12) is an aggressive admirer of Elon Musk and his wealth. Like Musk, he spends his days golfing, attending high-class parties, and jet-skiing on his private yachts. For leisure, he basks in pools of gold and money which he spends on loud factories that contribute to global warming. In fact, he is so rich that he sends a private actor to school every day to pretend to be him and do his bidding. Nobody has ever seen the true Kosar.

Managing Editor **Simone Hamilton** (12) is the most successful person alive. She's the one who keeps the Nest on track while Kosar is busy doing his rich people activities. As an avid

fan of laws, she aspires to become an even more successful lawyer than she already is. In fact, Hamilton has lawed so much, she has convicted over 100 Hamber students of jaywalking within the past year. Furthermore, Hamilton is responsible for proving Jeffery Dahmer guilty of murder back in 1992.

Editor **Adelaide Guan** (10), known professionally as Eminem, is "the real (Slim) Shady all [the] other Slim Shadys are just imitating." Born in 1972 to a working-class family, she was bullied throughout her childhood. However, despite her trials and struggles, she faced her fears and grew up to become one of America's most successful hip-hop artists of all time. Guan has won various prestigious awards, including multiple Grammys, an Academy Award, and an Emmy for her inspirational rapping.

Editor **Alanna Rudolph** (12) is probably possessed by Taylor Swift. Prior to her possession, she was a typical die-hard fan who would chant Swift's catchy melodies unceasingly. But ever since the release of her new album, *Midnights*, Rudolph has been convulsing violently as if experienc-

ing a seizure and growling the lyrics in a deep demonic voice. She's been listening to *Midnights* on loop for the past week now. No doubt her Spotify Wrapped will reek of pure Swift juice. I'm worried for her.

Editor **Katja Radovic-Jonsson** (11) is good at existing. She resembles a normal human with arms. Most of her arms have a hand with five fingers on them, and at the tips of her fingers are fingernails. With her arms, she throws, punches, and pokes things. If lucky, one can occasionally spot her grabbing objects and people. Her hair is hair-length and hair-coloured, and inside her hair is a brain that thinks. She has at least one leg for transportation. Radovic-Jonsson enjoys wearing clothes.

Design-and-Layout Editor **Teresa Chen** (12) is so hard-working and intense that she doesn't sleep. Being a designer for Hamber's yearbook and student council, C.E.O. of Safeway supermarket, and a pilot for the Canadian Armed Forces, she certainly has a lot on her plate. Recently, Chen became so stressed that she grew another set of arms on her torso, allow-

ing her to accomplish twice as much as Radovic-Jonsson within the same timeframe.

Editor **Max von Dehn** (11) is my best friend. Although I've only ever had one proper conversation with him, in which we conversed about Australian psychedelic rock bands and Australian igneous rocks, I can already confirm that he is the friendliest person ever. He seems like the kind of person who would politely inform someone when they have something stuck in their teeth (Von Dehn is my supervising editor for this article which is why I must say these flattering things).

Last, but certainly not least, Editor **Ellis Jackson** (12) is well-known for his controversial ethical stances. For instance, he is a strong supporter of housing inflation, government corruption, and animal cruelty. When asked about his thoughts on puppy mills, he stated "...I couldn't care less," "they deserve to die," and "I actually ran one down in Surrey." Although he holds these strong opinions, Jackson is loved and admired by students, teachers, and custodians alike in the Hamber community.



Left to right: Stephen Kosar, Alanna Rudolph, Ellis Jackson, Simone Hamilton, Adelaide Guan, Katja Radovic-Jonsson, Teresa Chen, and Max von Dehn show off their bright smiles on PJ day.

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Each row and column must have an equal number of X's and O's. No more than two of the same symbol can touch. No two rows or columns are the same. (retrieved from puzzle-binairo.com)

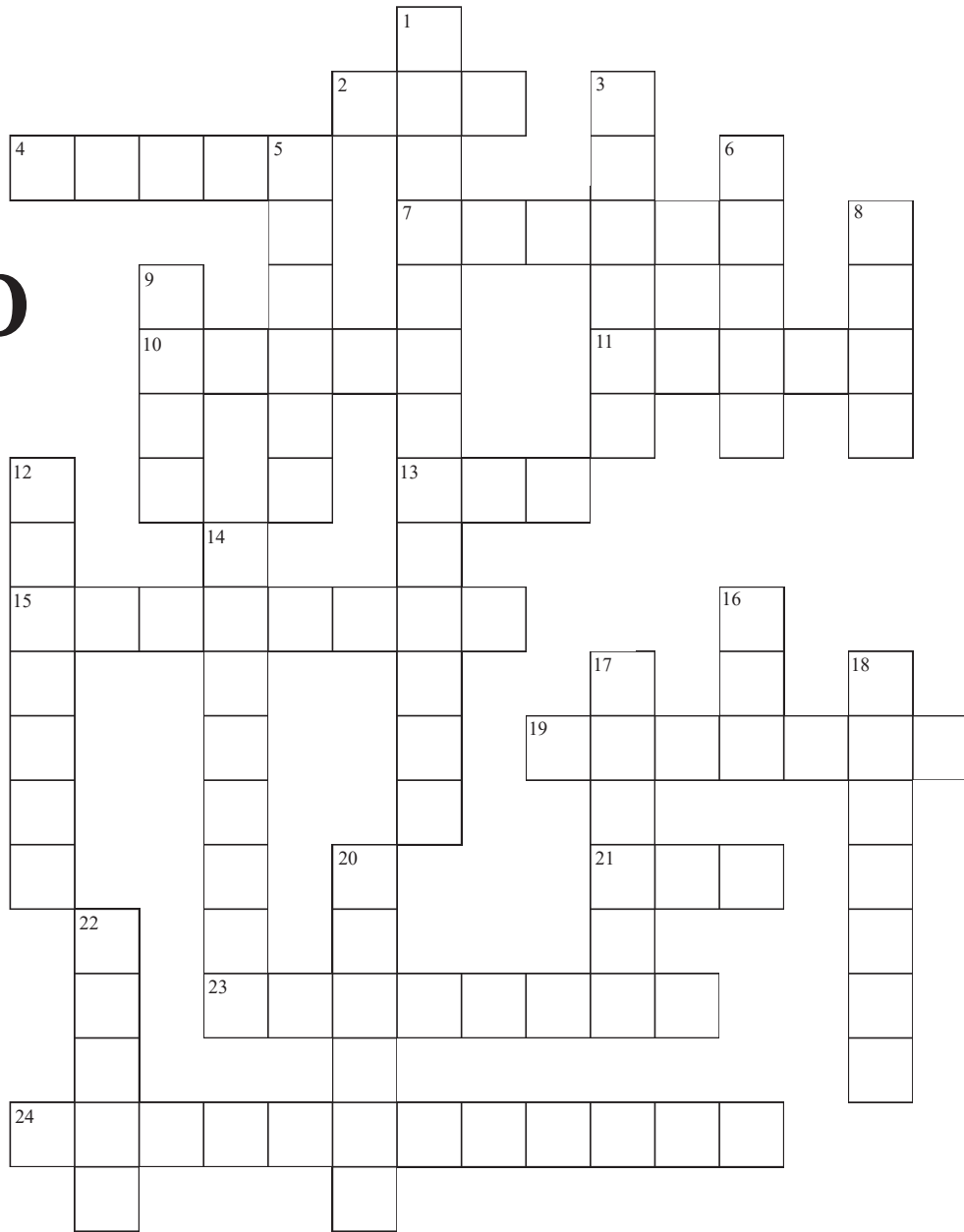
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Fill each row, column, and box (3x3) with the numbers 1-9. Each number can only be used once in any given row, column or box. (retrieved from sudoku.com)

HAMBERGER

CROSSWORD CORNER

PUZZLE by Jotti Parmar (12) & Sefa Remedios (12)



Across

- 2. Yang counterpart
- 4. Hurricane that impacted parts of Eastern Canada
- 7. Any angle over 90 degrees
- 10. Bow homophone
- 11. "it takes two to \_\_\_\_!"
- 13. Affirmative gesture
- 15. Most popular drink in our vending machine
- 19. Yellow condiment
- 21. Golfer's goal
- 23. Was imprisoned in a tower for around 18 years
- 24. Inability to be visible

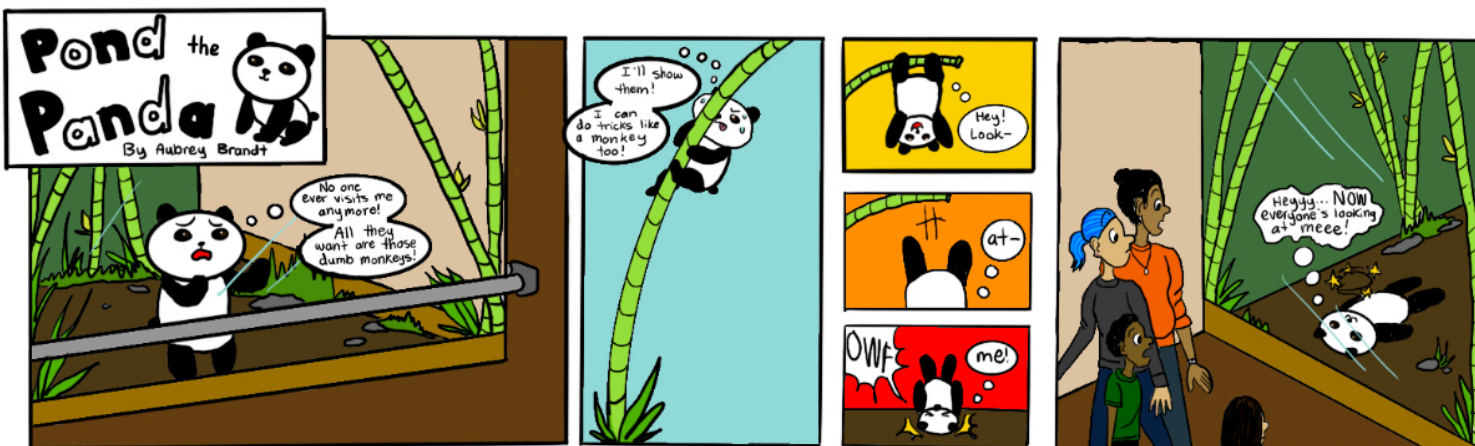
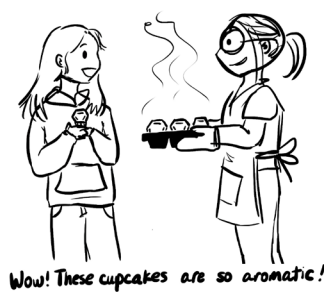
Down

- 1. Power house of the cell
- 3. "Welcome to Hamber! Have you seen the \_\_\_\_ floor pool?"
- 5. "What goes around comes \_\_\_\_."
- 6. Stranger Things S4 villain
- 8. "If the \_\_\_\_ fits."
- 9. Popular taxi alternative
- 12. Last name of our new vice principal
- 14. Hamber's current school system
- 16. 50 minute period every Tuesday and Thursday
- 17. Mixture of red and blue
- 18. Cross between a lion and eagle
- 20. Mid-length pants
- 22. Cheeky smiles

COMIC by Maggie Perrault (8) & Brooke Nichol (8)



COMIC by Julia Ling (12)



COMIC by Aubrey Brandt (8)

ASK THE NEST

**Q:** I'm incredibly nervous about applying to university. I'm afraid that I won't get into the schools I want to, and to make matters worse, there's a lot of pressure from my family to get into a good school. What should I do?

-Worried and Wondering

**A:** Dear Worried and Wondering, Try making either a spreadsheet or calendar, where you can keep track of important dates for application deadlines, what you need to send each school, and other important information. Make sure you go to all of the information sessions of the universities you're interested in as well! Recruiters will be happy to answer any and all questions you have, and will help with the overwhelming process of applying to university. And remember to evaluate your own wants and expectations against what your family wants. University might not be for everybody, and that's OK!

-The Nest

**Q:** I came home from school yesterday, wanting to flop onto my bed and read my new book, but when I got home, my little brother had ripped it to shreds for his "psychology class" where they were learning about "um, uh, don't worry about it." In my upset, he accidentally fell out the window onto the soft bushes below. Now he's harassing me about how I "assaulted him without reason" and "[am] going to be taken to court". When asked about his lawyer, he said "as a slay believer in representing myself truthfully, I will indeed represent myself." His favourite lawyer is She-Hulk. Should I worry about being brought to court, and would this be criminal or civil court? I'd say civil because he destroyed my book, but he's carrying on about criminal just because "no, of course I didn't see the trip wire right in front of the window, you're [REDACTED] crazy!" I'm irked at being called crazy by my little brother. I feel like that is condescending and misogynistic. What should I do?

-Eggsistential Crisis

**A:** From a legal standpoint, your brother won't be able to bring you to criminal court. This being said, he could go to the police. If he does that, make sure to hire a good lawyer ASAP, and know that you don't have to tell the cops anything except your name and address. If he chooses to go the civil court route instead, you have very good odds of never making it to court, especially if he wants to represent himself. However, I think your best course of action is to sit down with your brother and calmly talk to him about this before it gets out of hand and clogs up our justice system. Try hiring a mediator if you're worried about the conversation getting out of hand.

-The Nest



Seeking advice? Reach out to The Nest anonymously via the form on our website <https://www.ehnewspaper.ca>

If your question wasn't answered, please write to us again: you may be featured in issues to come or on our Instagram!