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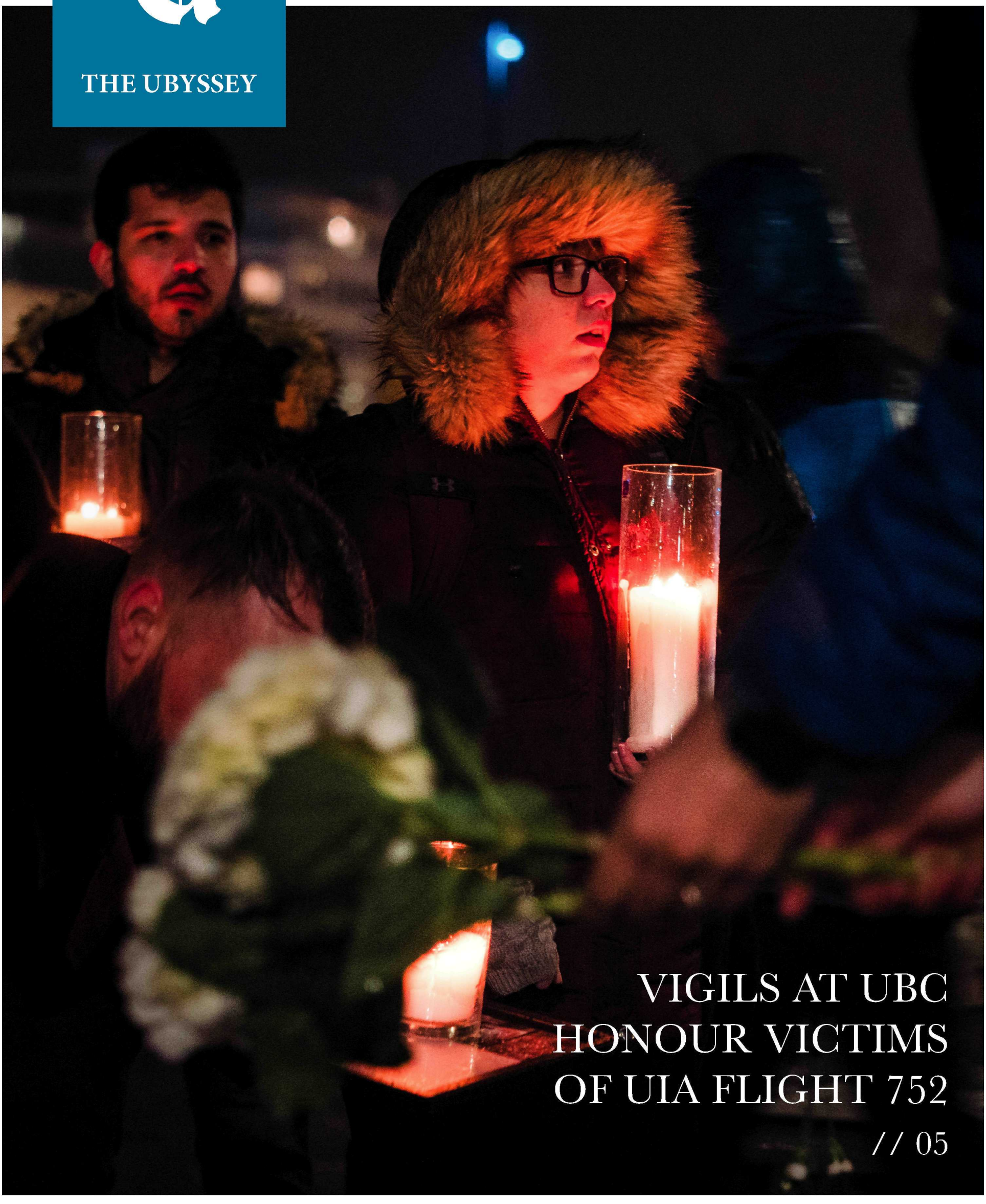

VIGILS AT UBC HONOUR VICTIMS OF UIA FLIGHT 752

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EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15

PHIL LIND INITIATIVE PRESENTS: CLAUDIA RANKINE

6 P.M. @ FREDERIC WOOD THEATRE

In the first instalment of the annual Phil Lind Speaker Series, Claudia Rankine opens the conversation on the initiative's theme of "Thinking While Black."

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16

BEATY NOCTURNAL BOOK LAUNCH

5 TO 8:30 P.M.

Join Collections Curation Ildiko Szabo and English Professor Emerita Margery Fee for the release of their new books, *Kingfisher* and *Polar Bear*. The Beaty's website says the event "is going to be epic!" Take their word for it.

ON THE COVER

COVER BY

Saman Shariati

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THE UBYSSEY

JANUARY 14, 2019 | VOLUME CI | ISSUE XVII

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LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We would like to acknowledge that this paper and the land on which we study and work is the traditional, occupied, unceded territory of the Coast Salish peoples, including the territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sḵwx̱wú7mesh (Squamish), Stó:lō and Səl̓ilwətaɁ/Sel̓ilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

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#NASH82

Over the weekend, *The Ubyssey* put on the eighty-second iteration of the largest annual national student journalism conference, NASH82.

Between January 9 and 12, over 250 students and professional journalists gathered in downtown Vancouver to share knowledge, trade stories and make connections. This event took place after eight months of planning by Coordinating Editor Alex Nguyen and Senior Staff Writers Thea Udwadia and Charlotte Alden.

With the theme "Empower," attendees engaged in over 50 workshops, panels and roundtables that sought to amplify student journalists' ability and responsibility when reporting on difficult and emerging issues like hate groups, the climate crisis, decolonization, poverty and more. At the same time, many sessions also tackled systemic issues that exist within journalism at large, such as the lack of diversity and shrinking budgets.

Beyond this programming, NASH82 also hosted the gala for the annual John H. MacDonald (JHM) awards for excellence in student journalism, which were coordinated and judged independently from *The Ubyssey*.

Out of seven nominations we received in December, the paper took home four JHM awards. Here is what we won.

THE ARTS AND CULTURE WRITING AWARD

"The AMS permanent art collection's tumultuous history comes with a $4 million price tag — and you own it" by senior staff writer Marissa Birnie.

THE CWA AWARD FOR LABOUR REPORTING

"The unseen labour of racialized faculty" by former web news editor Zak Vescera.

PHOTO OF THE YEAR

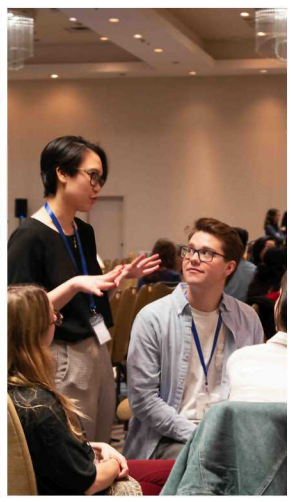
"Wet'suwet'en anti-pipeline camp march" by photo editor Elizabeth Wang.

PRIZE FOR DIGITAL STORYTELLING

"Playing probabilities: How data helped break a 35-year national championship drought" by former sports editor Lucy Fox and former video editor Marina McDuff.

In short, it has been tremendously inspiring to be recognized amongst so many amazing student publications across Canada and we are very honoured to have been the home for the celebration of student journalism this year.

PHOTOS BY ELIZABETH WANG, ZUBAIR HIRJI, SALOMON MICKO BENRIMOH, DIEGO LOZANO, DIANA HONG



SUSTAINABLE OPTIONS //

JINGYU HU

The cracking mugs were brought to Mugshare's attention in November 2019.

Mugshare recalls bamboo mugs after reports of burn hazards

Taman Mohamed
Contributor

Mugshare has issued a recall on its bamboo mugs after users reported cracking and burning incidents.

The cracking mugs were brought to Mugshare's attention in November 2019. Mugshare Co-founder Melanie Chanona said the program quickly responded by recalling the mugs and has paused operations for the time being.

According to a report from CTV News, Health Canada confirmed that Mugshare received one report of a minor burn injury.

The program, which provides alternatives to single-use coffee cups got its start from the student-led initiative Common Energy.

Cafe-goers at partner locations such as Blue Chip Cafe in the Nest could pay a $2 deposit to purchase a mug and return it later in the day to receive their deposit back.

Chanona said the program is still in its "pilot phase," and explained that these plant-based reusable mugs,"are subject to ... a lot more wear and tear" than single-use cups. To add to this, existing cracks in the Mugshare mugs can be difficult to see making them a minor burn hazard.

On their Instagram page, Mugshare posted a photo explaining how the mugs can become burn hazards.

"Due to physical properties of the material, adding hot liquid to the mug can cause the crack to expand and hot water to pour out rapidly. Please be careful whenever you're making hot drinks to protect your hands!" reads the Instagram post from November 15.

In another Instagram post made on November 29, the program announced they would be halting operations to find a more durable mug. Mugshare is asking anyone with a bamboo mug to either return it to a partner location or dispose of it. "We want to prioritize the safety of [our] users ... and go that extra mile to make sure [the mugs] are operating as safely as possible," said Chanona.

She also explained that Mugshare is "working with different suppliers" to find a mug that "can stand up to the high impact that a reusable mug requires."

While the exact timeline for the program relaunch is unknown as of now, Chanona is hoping to bring the Mugshare program back by spring 2020.

TRANSIT //

RapidBus arrives at UBC Vancouver campus

Andrew Ha
Senior Staff Writer

Metro Vancouver commuters have a new transit option starting this month: taking one of the four new RapidBus express bus routes.

TransLink launched the RapidBus routes on January 6. The buses serve Surrey, Coquitlam and both SFU and UBC campuses. UBC students can now take the R4, which travels along 41st Avenue between Joyce-Collingwood station and UBC — effectively replacing the old 43 route.

RapidBus routes offer increased frequency, fewer stops, dedicated bus lanes, all-door boarding and new bus stop signs with live arrival times.

"RapidBus is a crucial part of improving the region's bus service through the Mayors' Vision," said TransLink CEO Kevin Desmond in a press release. "These RapidBus routes will benefit eight communities and bring our customers a more reliable bus service that they deserve."

Second-year biochemistry student Rayyan Saiyed said the R4 has simplified his commute from Surrey. He previously took the 99, but he enjoys being able to transfer to a bus at Joyce-Collingwood instead of Commercial-Broadway.

"It's much more convenient because for me, I don't have to go all the way to Commercial," he said.

ELIZABETH WANG

TransLink launched the RapidBus routes on January 6. The buses serve Surrey, Coquitlam and both SFU and UBC campuses.

Saiyed said that the R4 is less busy than the 99 — after timing his bus rides, the R4 took "30 to 40 minutes" compared to "40 to 50 minutes" on the 99.

Annabelle Wang, a second-year economics and computer science student, has also started taking the R4. This semester, she began transferring from the Canada Line to the R4 at Oakridge-41st station rather than switching to the 49 at Langara-49th station.

She said that the new bus is fast in the early morning, but less so during peak periods. For capacity, she said it's unlikely to get a seat unless you board near the first stop.

"The problem I had one morning was that I stood in the rain ... and I waited around 10–12 minutes for it," said Wang. TransLink promises RapidBus arrivals every 10 minutes or better during peak times and at least every 15 minutes otherwise.

Along with the RapidBus fleet carrying new green livery, TransLink has added digital bus stop signs that list upcoming arrival times. While both Saiyed and Wang appreciate this, they both wish for another aesthetic improvement: painted lines that mark where passengers should line up.

"Everybody's like, 'I want a seat so I want to be where the doors open.' So if [TransLink draws] little lines or something, it's probably easier," Wang said. "It's not hard. It's just paint."

CAMPUS ARCHITECTURE //

Dragon Skin wood installation provides outdoor shelter on campus

ELIZABETH WANG

Dragon Skin is the third iteration of a collaborative project between UBC's SEEDS Sustainability Program, the School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture (SALA) and the Centre for Advanced Wood Processing (CAWP).

Emily Kwong
Contributor

A new canopy-shaped wood installation has arrived on UBC campus as an outdoor rain shelter.

Named Dragon Skin in reference to its scale-like shingles, the installation is the third iteration of a collaborative project between UBC's SEEDS Sustainability Program, the School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture (SALA) and the Centre for Advanced Wood Processing (CAWP).

UBC Associate Professor Dr. AnnaLisa Meyboom led a group comprised of student and industry participants in a workshop to build the installation. The design for the structure was created beforehand and participants were guided through the process of construction, which involved robotic fabrication.

Through this hands-on process, students learned how to use highly accurate machines to cut materials and consider its architectural tolerance, assembly and staging on site.

"Those are really good questions for students to think about, but [you] only get to think about them when you actually build very complex structures," said Meyboom, explaining the goal behind the workshop. "And normally only very advanced [graduate] students get to experience that."

This is the third time that SEEDS and SALA have collaborated on the construction of on-campus wood installations. As a program created to advance UBC's sustainability initiatives, SEEDS's role in the project is to facilitate partnerships between campus personnel, faculty and students to ensure that the installation works with campus goals.

(Wood has been used as the construction material of the installations as it is a sustainable material.) With the capabilities of new technology, architects can also experiment with new ways of using wood. The installation makes use of robotics to create a double curved surface, which deviates from the straight and flat forms that wood is generally known for.

Reflecting on the first few iterations of the project, Meyboom noticed that while people looked at the installations, they weren't engaging with it. Subsequent iterations, including this one, were carried out with the goal of increasing public interactions with the installation.

SEEDS talked to campus architects, faculty and students to figure out what kind of structures the public wanted in their campus space. They learned that there was a desire to have more rain cover, which they brought to the attention of the workshop designers to see how the project could meet those needs.

The result was Dragon Skin, a shingled canopy that keeps water gliding off its sides with enough space for people to take shelter underneath it.

Aside from functional purposes, SEEDS Program and Policy Planner David Gill explained the larger goal of the project was to increase collaboration between industry professionals and students.

"By giving these students and industry participants the exposure and skills and familiarity with [advanced digital design and fabrication], the idea is that they can then take it back to their project and their design so that this can hopefully have a much bigger impact beyond the scale of just this small installation."

IN MEMORIAM //

UBC community remembers Zeynab and Mohammad Asadi Lari

ELIZABETH WANG

Hosted on the second floor of the Nest by the Thaqalayn Muslim Association UBC, the vigil drew over 50 friends and community members who packed in to pay tribute.

Henry Anderson
News Editor

On January 9, UBC students and community members gathered to remember former UBC students Mohammad and Zeynab Asadi Lari. The siblings died aboard the Ukrainian International Airlines (UIA) Flight 752 in Iran, which was shot down shortly after takeoff from Tehran on January 8.

Hosted on the second floor of the Nest by the Thaqalayn Muslim Association UBC (TMA UBC), the vigil drew over 50 friends and community members who packed in to pay tribute.

Mohammad graduated from UBC in 2018 with an honours bachelor degree in cellular, anatomical and physiological sciences. Upon graduation, he moved to Ontario to begin a MD/PhD program at the University of Toronto (U of T).

Over the course of his degree, he oversaw the growth of STEM Fellowship — a science education and outreach non-profit — from a high school science club to a national organization with over 300 executives and ambassadors. He was also instrumental in founding TMA UBC and was involved in a number of other leadership efforts around campus.

In 2018, Mohammad was recognized as one of the UBC Student Leadership Conference's Faces of Today for his work with STEM Fellowship.

"He wanted to make a lasting impact on the global level, in areas of policy, in areas of accessibility to education, social change, having a more just economy, as well as certain philosophical affiliations and growth of those," said Soheil Nasseri, a close friend and collaborator of Mohammad's, after the event.

"... Every single day of his life was busy. From the second he woke up [to] the second he slept, he worked tirelessly to accomplish the goals that he had set."

Zeynab studied biology at UBC for two years from 2016 to 2018 and transferred to U of T to remain close to her brother. She would have graduated in May 2020 and was hoping to return to UBC for medical school.

"She wanted to follow in her parents' footsteps and become a doctor and she actually did her MCAT exam this past summer," said her friend Armita Payombarnia, a fourth-year biology student.

Zeynab, Payombarnia and a third friend who also spoke at the event, Parnian Hosseini, were in the same program together and remained close after Zeynab moved to Toronto.

"[Zeynab would say], 'At the end of day, when we're adults, we're all actually going to end up together,'" said Payombarnia. "She couldn't stop talking about how much she's looking forward to applying to med school, not for U of T, but also for UBC so we could all be together again."

PRAYER AND REMEMBRANCE

The event began with a communal recitation of *Surah Fajr* from the Quran.

"It specifically relates to one's past relationship with God once they pass away," said TMA UBC Outreach Coordinator Parsa Shani, "and it describes the ideal situation where when you pass away, not only is God pleased with you for the life you've led, but you're pleased in God for how you've been treated by him." A UBC graduate and close friend of Mohammad's, Shani organized and moderated the vigil.

After the prayers, six friends spoke in memory of the Asadi Laris. ELIZABETH WANG

A TMA member also sang the *Surah Ya-sin*, an 83-verse chapter of the Quran that "is believed to help with spiritual uplifting of those that have passed," explained Shani.

After the prayers, six friends spoke in memory of the Asadi Laris. Mohammad was remembered as a leader who was committed to his work and studies, yet always found time for friends and community.

"No matter what the decision was, I knew if I didn't know what to do, I could reach out and day or night he'd get back to me," said Shani during the vigil.

"Mohammad was too good to be true in every aspect of his life," said Nasseri after the event. "It is tough to explain how incredibly powerful his character was, the immense amount of fundamental impact he had on those around him and the way he empowered everyone by showing them through his actions and not [only] his words."

Zeynab's friends remembered her for her relentless positivity despite the challenges of university.

"She was just one of those people that you immediately knew ... there's something about her that you want in your life," said Payombarnia. "... She was always so joyous and so cheerful, even during the hardest times of our lives, even when we would come out of a midterm and we were pretty sure we failed."

After these remarks, TMA UBC played Mohammad's 2019 TEDx Talk, "Empowering Youth to Think Global but Act Local," where he told the story of STEM Fellowship's founding.

Attendees were invited to enjoy refreshments and mingle after the formal program ended. The room remained full for another 45 minutes as people continued to mourn and celebrate Zeynab and Mohammad.

UIA FLIGHT 752 //

Four UBC community members named among Iran crash victims

COURTESY PARSA SHANAI/ ARMAN ABTAHI/CBC NEWS/ FACEBOOK

Emma Livingstone
News Editor

UBC has confirmed that three former UBC students and one postdoctoral research fellow were among those who were killed during the Ukrainian International Airlines (UIA) Flight 752 in Iran.

Zeynab Asadi Lari, Mohammad Asadi Lari and Niloofar Razzaghi were all former students. Dr. Mehran Abtahi was a postdoctoral research fellow at the university.

Zeynab enrolled in the bachelor of science (BSc) program in 2016 as a biology major, and Mohammad graduated from UBC in 2018 with a BSc in cellular, anatomical and physiological sciences with honours.

Razzaghi graduated with a BSc in mathematics in 2010 and a bachelor of education in 2018. Her husband Ardalan Ebnoddin-Hamidi and their 15-year-old son Kamyar Ebnoddin-Hamidi were also among the victims of the crash.

Abtahi joined the department of civil engineering this past October as a postdoctoral research fellow and was also on UIA Flight 752 when it crashed.

On January 9, the university lowered the flags on both the Vancouver and Okanagan campuses in memory of all the victims of the UIA Flight 752 crash.

The plane crashed shortly after takeoff early January 8, killing all 176 passengers and crew. Amongst them were 63 Canadians, many of whom were students or faculty members from universities around Canada.

On January 11, Iranian officials admitted to "unintentionally" shooting down the passenger plane, after originally denying suggestions they were to blame, according to a BBC report.

In a statement released on January 8, UBC President Santa Ono gave a short tribute to the former students and researcher as well as recognized the present difficult time for Iranian students, staff and faculty.

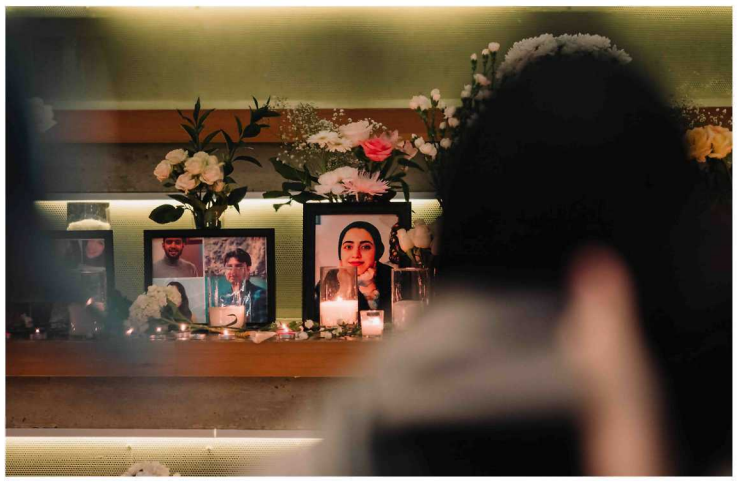
"On behalf of the UBC community, I wish to express my deepest condolences to their family, friends and loved ones," reads the statement.

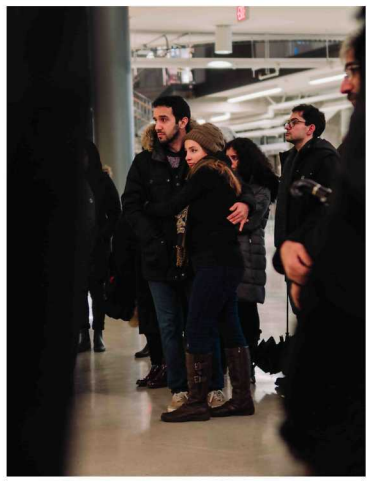
"This is a challenging time for UBC's Iranian students, faculty and staff and we understand developments internationally and domestically in Iran are a cause of deep concern for them."

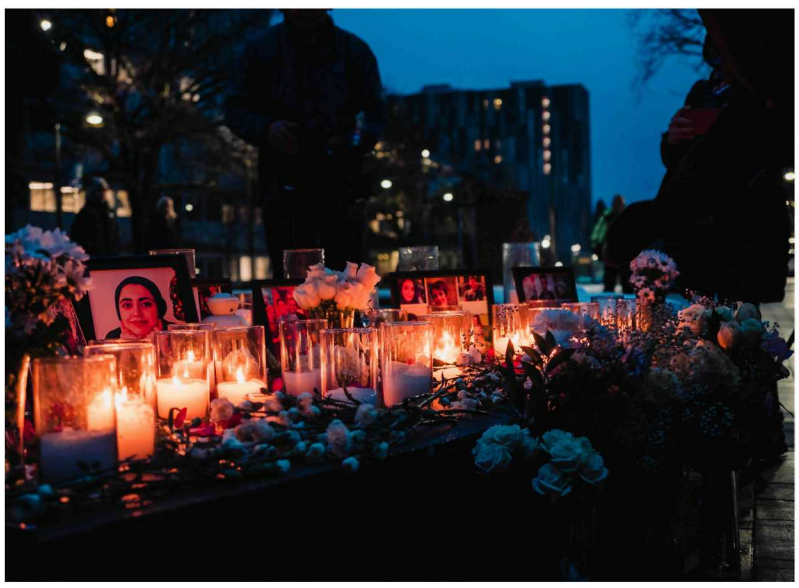
HONOURING THE VICTIMS OF UIA FLIGHT 752

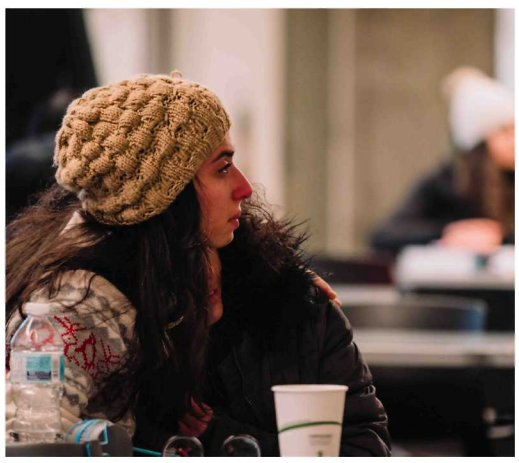
On January 9 and 10, hundreds of students and community members joined two vigils commemorating those who lost their lives in the UIA Flight 752 crash, including four connected to UBC. At the first vigil, students packed into a room in the Nest for a vigil commemorating former UBC students and siblings Zeynab Asadi Lari and Mohammad Asadi Lari. This photo essay focuses on the candlelight vigil that was held at the Martha Piper Fountain to pay tribute to all four UBC community members who lost their lives in the crash.

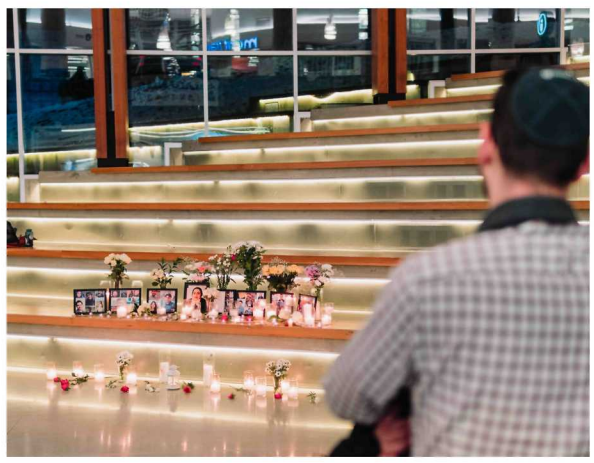
PHOTOS BY SAMAN SHARIATI
WORDS BY ELIZABETH WANG

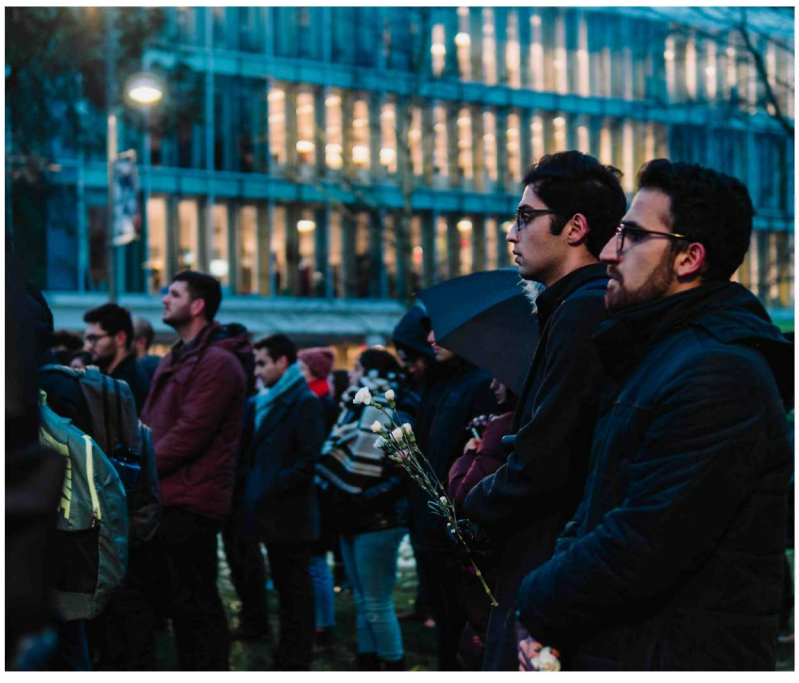


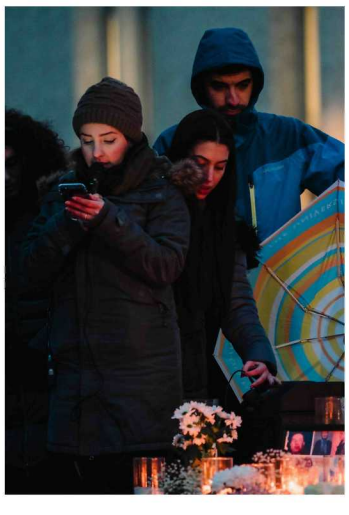












ART //

Transits and Returns: Does context make art?

Moe Kirkpatrick
Senior Staff Writer

So you walk into the Vancouver Art Gallery and see a dinner table. What?

It's all laid out for dinner too. There's a blue velvet tablecloth and beaded napkins, handmade ceramic dishes with wooden spoons. Chandeliers! And the wallpaper: pigs and machetes, fish and coconuts, all on a light green background.

It's beautiful. But why is a dining table in an art gallery? No one is here to eat. What does a table mean in a gallery setting?

"Hākari as guests" by BC Collective (Cora-Allan Wickliffe and Daniel Twiss) and Louisa Afoa is just one piece in the Vancouver Art Gallery's recent exhibit, *Transits and Returns*, that questions the relationship between context and art.

This third iteration of *Transits and Returns* showcases the works of 21 Indigenous artists from around the Pacific, ranging from local First Nations to Alutiiq territory in the North, Māori lands in the South and the many mainland and island Nations in between. Two prior showings were held in Brisbane and Auckland. The works explore themes of movement, territory, kinship and representation.

What does that mean for context? And what does that mean for the art? It's simple.

When I was nine, there was this Dairy Queen I would walk to with my friends. It was not a special Dairy Queen. I simply loved it because I loved my friends. However, after I left for university and came back, it was not the same place. It felt smaller, dingier. My leaving and returning — my transits and returns — changed the place itself, or at least my perception of it.

Of course, *Transits and Returns* is about a lot more than a nostalgic look back at a random DQ. It is ambitious and moving, with a broad range of artworks.

There are multicoloured woven sculptures embroidered with fish scales and bright fabrics draped over almost-human shapes. There is a table, tapestries, a neon sign and a whole wall of t-shirts. There is a beaded family crest and an animation of the story behind it. There's an entire office workstation set up — desk, Mac and all — where you listen to voicemails left on the phone. There's a coyote skull dressed with beaded moccasins and a dollar on the floor next to it.

That last part isn't a joke. The dollar is there.

On first glance, I wasn't sure if someone had dropped it or if it was actually part of the installation. But, sure enough, it was listed as a material on the placard for "I Bind You Nancy" by Natalie Ball: one American dollar bill.

The more I think about it, the more ingenious it gets. Using American currency distinguishes it from being someone's dropped cash, both in Vancouver and Australia. The only trip-up was me; because I was raised in the United States, I have a different ingrained context of what currencies the people around me might be carrying. The contexts I brought to the gallery changed how I interacted with the artwork.

"The Way" by Chantal Fraser. COURTESY LOUIS LIM/VAG

That's the thing about *Transits and Returns* — there are a lot of contexts at play. More noticeably, not all of them are explained. There is a reason for the lack of explanation, which is not mentioned in the exhibition, but was brought up by one of the curators: politics of refusal.

The politics of refusal is a concept developed by Kahnawà:ke Mohawk Political Anthropologist Audra Simpson. Roughly, it refers to a refusal from Indigenous peoples to provide context, explanation or justification for their culture or history, because of course, who is always societally pressured to do so? Indigenous people. By refusing, the labour of historical context is placed on the onlooker, instead of upon those who normally have to perform it.

Was going to *Transits and Returns* comfortable? Not always.

Was it understandable? Not always — and that's okay.

After the tour, I went into a small, dark room in the back corner of the exhibition, where a three-channel animated video had just ended. (Later, I would find out this was Ahilapalapa Rands's "Lift Off.") There were no benches, so I stood and waited for them to repeat. One channel showed the Kumu Hula — the master teacher of Hula — drumming, while the other two played a panoramic photo of the Mauna Kea Observatories beginning to bounce along to the beat until they eventually explode.

At first glance, it felt almost absurd.

The Kumu Hula was hand-drawn, while the Mauna Kea Observatories were photo-edited. The wall next to the door was covered in shimmering blue- and-silver tinsel that looked like waves. There was a sense of solemnity and irreverence I didn't quite know how to parse. But the longer I stood there in the dark, the more I understood.

Sometimes, you don't need to know the intimate details of someone else's experiences to understand. You just have to make space for them and listen.

Transits and Returns *will be at the Vancouver Art Gallery until February 23, 2020.*

"Qvùtix" by Bracken Hanuse Corlett. COURTESY CARL WARNER/ VAG

E-BOYS AND E-GIRLS //

Smash tourneys and chariot racing: What does it take to make E-Week happen?

A handsome model showing off a 2018 Engineering shirt. ELIZABETH WANG

Jingyu Hu
Contributor

For a long time, E-Week has been one of the most impressive events of the winter session. Besides having entertaining activities, E-Week serves as a week-long competition among the engineering faculties and clubs. But before all the fun starts, months and months of work go in to making sure the week goes perfectly.

The week features many different kinds of events. Traditional events, such as the outdoor barbecue and chariot racing, have been an integral part of the activities for more than 60 years, tracing their roots back to the 1960s. With games like fEUSball or finding fallacies only engineering students could spot in films, E-Week proves to be a great opportunity to showcase engineering spirit as well as faculty pride.

But before students can show off all that pride, much has to be planned. For organizers, E-Week is a year-long project of hard work.

"E-Week planning starts at the beginning of the summer," said Gillian Chiu, the VP Spirit of the Engineering Undergraduate Society (EUS), who oversees all the E-Week events.

Usually, for most events, the planning process begins in August and goes right up to the week before E-Week officially starts. Big events — such as the Engineer's Ball, the finale and so-called gala of E-Week — take even longer, where the EUS has been in the planning process for the ball since March.

All that planning is not just a one-person-job.

"We have a lot of involvement from the executive team. So all seven executives commit a lot of time throughout the actual week to run every single event," said Chiu.

A clear organizational structure with specific task assignment facilitates the overall workflow for planning. Together with Chiu, there are two additional directors within the EUS team who are dedicated to event planning.

The faculty departments are also a crucial part of the process. A major part of E-Week is the competition between 14 teams.

"Every single department or club has at least one representative [where] they have to attend meetings held by myself and my director," said Chiu. "Then they relay all of the other information to their student body and then they also have to coordinate their teams."

Since teams are predetermined by the departments or clubs for some events, every department has the autonomy to prepare its part before the week starts.

"It's up to them to organize who's participating in one event," said Chiu.

The procedure of the competitive events shifts some of the pressure away from the EUS team in terms of preparation. Although the organization process involves a lot of people, thanks to the representatives, the organizers have reliable people to retain their focus and keep other work going.

Not only does the planning of E-Week takes a lot of work, the actual facilitation of the events does as well with over a hundred volunteers participating. The incentives behind the active participation reside with the games's procedure: to reward volunteers. The competition gives points for teams whose volunteers help with the events. For new event, like the Super Smash Bros. tournament, there are creative ways of winning participation points.

"We're also getting some teams to bring in televisions and then they get extra points for bringing them in and taking them out," said Chiu.

After all that planning, the week creates good opportunities for students to get to know each other better.

"It's definitely a bonding week ... it's a good opportunity for people to get to know each other within their departments. Some departments have really strong bonds and it takes a bit longer for those to form because they're massive," said Chiu.

"So it's become a nice way to create a nice sense of community within departments and also within the faculty as a whole."

TALK SERIES //

2020 Phil Lind Initiative to discuss Blackness and racial violence

Much of the talk series happens at the Chan Centre. COURTESY DON ERHARDT/ CHAN CENTRE

Amrita Aggarwal
Contributor

What is Blackness? The Phil Lind Initiative, a speaker series taking place from January to April 2020, will deconstruct this question by addressing the theme of "Thinking While Black."

Dr. Phanuel Antwi, one of the organizers of the series this year, talked about the process behind selecting the theme.

"This year, we formed a committee of over 10 professors from various departments such as English, political science, journalism, social justice, School of Public Policy — and together we decided that we wanted to focus on race," he said.

"Through conversations as a group, we decided to focus on one contained idea that can be explored over a period of four months and ended up choosing Blackness ... Once the focus was agreed upon, we contacted scholars in the US who've previously worked on the issue of racial violence as it pertains to Blackness."

The committee then assembled a line up that includes prominent American scholars, writers and intellectuals such as Claudia Rankine, Ta-Nehisi Coates, Roxane Gay, Ibram X. Kendi and Jesmyn Ward.

Antwi also recounted an experience from when he and his friend first came to Vancouver. They needed afro picks for their hair and went to over five Shoppers Drug Marts to find one. Yet they couldn't find a single store that could accommodate them.

"It is these simple insignificant moments that seem so disconnected from the larger social structure that form the fabric of disconnected racial violence," he said.

Through the series, the organizers and the speakers wish to highlight the breadth of thought in Blackness.

"Through the series, we want the students, faculty, and community members to rethink the ways the world is organized and the way the world understands Blackness," said Antwi.

"We want the audience to pause and think about 'thinking while Black.' Meditate on what it means for them to walk while Black, talk while Black and to breathe while Black. We hope that when the audience is listening to the speakers, they also think about how what the speakers are saying is applicable in Canada."

Quoting Denise Ferreira da Silva, Antwi reiterates, "The problem isn't that we are different. Acknowledging that we are different doesn't mean we are trying to posit one race over the other. Difference doesn't have to mean separability. Focusing on Blackness doesn't mean we're separating from others, it just means we are acknowledging our differences."

Still the question remains, with racism and prejudice so entrenched in our society, can we really rethink ourselves? Antwi believes we can.

"But it isn't going to be easy," he cautioned.

"But rethinking the ways we live in the world, the ways we organize the world and the ways in which we are organized by the world liberates us to live otherwise."

PLAY //

Preview: UBC Theatre's *The Changeling* not shying away from tackling sexual violence

Sarah Zhao
Senior Staff Writer

This piece contains material that may be triggering to some, including mentions of sexual assault and violence.

Almost four hundred years after it was first performed, *The Changeling* and its themes remain relevant. The deep familiarity of the play is perhaps a sad reflection on society today.

The well-known tragedy from the English Renaissance was written in the early 17th century by Thomas Middleton and William Rowley. It tells the story of Beatrice-Joanna, a young woman trying to survive within the walls of a society that boxes women in. She's surrounded on all sides by the men in her life, from her father to her fiancé to her lover and to the servant who is in love with her.

"A big part of this play is exploring what does a young woman do when everything is against her, and when the walls are closing in on her?" said Bonnie Duff, the UBC Theatre student who plays Beatrice.

"It's a play that exposes a lot of the worst [of society] and in many ways that are still a little too familiar," said director and master's of fine arts student Luciana Silvestre Fernandes. "This is not a play of flawless heroes and heroines. This is a play of deliciously flawed, fucked up, trapped humans, trying to survive."

The violence and trauma that the characters, particularly Beatrice, encounter hits close to home for many. As a classical tragedy, there are murder and betrayal, but there's also sexual assault. Unlike many other productions of the play, Fernandes is addressing that violence head on.

"The first three times I read [the play], it gave me nightmares. And that's really why I'm doing it — this play has stuck with me," she said. "It has haunted me for a decade."

The classical interpretation often makes her blood boil, she said. Fernandes made a conscious choice to centre her production around Beatrice and to make it clear, in no uncertain terms, that Beatrice's flaws and her own manipulations do not make her assault justified.

"Imperfect victims are still victims. She is flawed as can be, she makes really bad choices — one thing doesn't cancel the other."

A WORLD OF NIGHTMARES

The production team used that nightmarish feeling to create the world that Beatrice inhabits.

"For me, the show is more about blood and violence. Like the whole world is against Beatrice. So from our designs [we're] trying to express the violence, both mentally and emotionally," said Charlotte Di Chang, the show's costume designer.

Di Chang created costumes that combine Jacobean style with current high fashion to dress a world of beautiful people who have to think constantly about their reputations. Their tightly controlled, structured appearance on the outside traps the flawed human within.

A part of the set for *The Changeling*. ELIZABETH WANG

The set also works with the verticality of the Telus Studio Theatre, and its inherent power and presence, to create a haunting, nightmare space. Set designer Luis Bellassi worked closely with Fernandes and Di Chang to create a visually cohesive space.

Most of the costumes are a striking red against the blues and purples of the set, colours that Bellassi deliberately chose to ensure that the red — and the blood and violence the colour evokes — stands out to the audience.

WORKING WITH VIOLENCE

Working in a production with so much violence is a difficult experience for all the actors and they've trained to develop a process of shedding their character after they leave the theatre.

After portraying De Flores, the servant in love with Beatrice who kills for her and then sexually assaults her, Kyle Preston Oliver makes sure to slip in earbuds after rehearsals and do ballet to come back to himself. For Duff, however, Beatrice's experiences aren't something she can leave behind.

"[Beatrice's] narrative and those experiences are to a certain degree things that are deeply, deeply familiar to me as a young woman playing a young woman," she said.

In the end, however, Duff sees *The Changeling* as more than the trauma it portrays. The characters all undergo their own transformations from the first impressions at the beginning of the story and their humanity keeps them from fitting into neat boxes.

"[Beatrice is] a young woman protagonist who doesn't fit into the archetypes of the [virgin] or the seductress or the perfect victim or the perpetrator," said Duff.

As director, Fernandes doesn't want to impose a message onto the audience. Instead, she's looking to start a conversation.

"[I want to] initiate conversation about power and coercion, about women's rights, about what ways those walls [are] still familiar. What are the things that are structurally still echoing in our worlds, that prevent us from being our free, full selves and that force us into the worst that we can be?"

'Where the Heart Is' is a new, biweekly series from the Features section intended to complement the ongoing 'Places to Go' series. From this new series, the reader will be shown around someone's hometown as the author recounts a fun story, lesson learned or other memory. This series is also intended to showcase communities of all sizes — tell me about your block in Delhi, tell me about your apartment complex in Toronto, tell me about your sparsely populated municipality. For more information or to submit a piece, reach out to *features@ubyssey.ca*.

Where the Heart Is:
The Great, White North

Words by Pawan Minhas
Illustration by Lua Presidio

It snows a lot in Fort McMurray. Better than measuring in inches, feet or metres, folks will tell you how much time it took to clear off their cars that morning. If you've been around town for a while, you'd know to wake up a while before your shift to turn on your truck so you're not freezing your fingers off on your way to work. Another thing you'd know after spending some time in town is what a Canadian 'cultural mosaic' really looks like. For the past few years, Fort McMurray (nicknamed 'Fort Mac') was found to be one of the most diverse places in the country and that's a point of pride for many McMurrayites.

But it wasn't always that way.

The Minhas's time in Fort Mac started back in 2002 when my parents packed our bags, threw three jackets apiece onto myself and my sister and hopped on the next Greyhound headed north. Taking the leap from Richmond, replete with siblings and parents, to an unknown province is something I'm still amazed my parents could do. It wasn't until I went to university that I realized how single-minded my parents have been — if it benefited their kids, it was worth doing.

Fort Mac wasn't the most welcoming, starting with the weather. After living in the Lower Mainland for a few years, my Punjab-born-and-bred parents thought they'd gotten used to Canadian weather, a belief which kept through 'til the first northern snowfall.

The dead of winter in Fort Mac averages -20°C but can drop as low as -40° and the windchill is liable to cut through all the layers you can throw on. When asked how they got the courage to step outside those days, my mum always shrugs it off and says something like "My kids needed to get to school" or "I can't miss work." Fretting for their kids's futures worked in lieu of an insulated coat.

With my parents working, my sister in Grade Four and me entering kindergarten, we started carving out a niche for the Minhas family to occupy. Though as much as we changed the city, it changed us, too, in turn.

The first thing I learned about as I got older was how names changed in that town. Mohanjit, Balbir and Manpreet became Mo, Bell and Mannie. With a name like Pawan (pronounced Puh-vuhn), I didn't have easy access to an anglicized name, so I resorted to letting any bastardization of pronunciation stand — Pah-wan, Po-wan, Pe-win and Pau-vin. Within a few short months, we'd changed a core part of ourselves to fit Fort Mac better. No one had asked us to do so but back then, we all thought of it in terms of 'living for tomorrow.'

The mentality of "suffer today, succeed tomorrow" worked for a while. My parents were able to borrow and barter their way into a house and my sister and I got individual savings accounts while still in grade school. On the bank book — a ledger of deposits and withdrawals for a particular account — there's a field that asks what the account is to be used for. In heavy scrawl, my mum wrote "For *they're* education," because she couldn't think of a future where her kids wouldn't find school and employment in this new, frigid world called Canada.

It wasn't 'til I was older that I started seeing the effects of cultural isolation on my parents. Back in the Lower Mainland, my parents had an entire community to stand with, parents and siblings aplenty in the surrounding townships. Now in Fort Mac, they had precious few Indian people to relate to, even fewer from Punjab.

After a few years of guard work, my dad was taken on as security for the private airport run by one of the oil companies based in town. The pay was good but there was a caveat: the shift was six days working and living in the camp up north, and three days off, living at home in Fort Mac. This was how most oil site jobs were, with employees living at the expansive camps 250 kilometres north of Fort Mac, closer to the oil sands production facilities that paid for the city's existence.

Ten days later, my dad was on his way farther north than he'd ever dreamed of, further from the family he was working so hard to support.

If Fort Mac was hard living for an ESL-Punjabi, the oil camps were an outright ordeal. My dad wasn't able to come home and speak his language with his kids and wife anymore. Up north, it was all English, all the time, so he learned to converse in it. The camp cafeterias were only interested in getting the majority fed and the majority enjoyed beef and pork, not the vegetarian curries he had known. He learned to stomach it. Fort Mac had the benefit of dense forests all around to stop any strong winds, but up north, the airfield was wide open for kilometres around, allowing icy gusts to cut through the security guard on patrol. He learned to layer and layer and layer.

Things are different now. The city has attracted a more diverse crowd in recent years, exemplifying the Canadian 'cultural mosaic.' My parents have changed, too. They're older and dealing with the labour-induced pains and more slips and stumbles every year. Finally, the city's physical landscape has changed too. There are burnt trees and previously occupied lots sitting empty, their owners having split town in the exodus following the fire and not interested in returning to a city past its heyday.

But every September or October, like clockwork, the snow drifts down.

Regardless of how many skidding cars, slipping parents and other casualties it causes, the snow comes down as hard as it wants. Cursing the sky and its newly-emptied clouds, folks drag their snowblowers and steel-tipped shovels out from the shed and get to work on clearing the sidewalks before the ticket-happy peace officer rolls around. You remind yourself to wake up at 6 a.m. instead of 7 so the car has time to warm up and the engine doesn't squeal on your commute because, regardless of if you're a born-and-bred lifer or come from far away, you've got to get to work. Regardless of it all, Fort Mac trudges on.

LOVE //

Mind Your Mind: Understanding relationship values and common core values

Daphnée Lévesque
Mindfulness Columnist

I met my partner a few months ago at a job interview. We ended up working as summer camp programmers and spent our days hanging out at the water park, playing icebreaker games and teaching kids how to put on a reasonable amount of sunscreen.

We've been seeing each other for some time now and the other day, we sat down to talk about our values. But before I jump in, let's look at the definition of values.

WHAT ARE VALUES?

According to Steven C. Hayes's 2005 book *Get Out of Your Mind and Into Your Life: The new Acceptance and Commitment Therapy*, values are essentially "chosen life directions" or "intentional qualities that join together a string of moments into a meaningful path." In other words, living according to your values should be "vitalizing, uplifting and empowering." Values are something you do, not something you have.

They entail responsibility and are an intimate part of you. They guide your actions and reflect your moral standards. They are not about obtaining or 'winning' positive outcomes or sneakily getting what you want. When you live by your values, you've already won, no matter the outcome. It's all about the journey and not the final destination. For me, living according to my values is an act of what Hayes calls self-fidelity, and it helps bring meaning into my life.

On the other hand, goals are "things you can obtain while walking a valued path. They are concrete achievable events, situations or objects."

ROMANTIC RELATIONSHIPS AND VALUES

I have my own set of values, but I also have values that are specific to my romantic relationship. My partner and I found a list of approximately 60 values and compiled a list of values that resonated with both of us. The great thing about sitting down with your partner and discussing values is that not only will you be on the same page, but it's also an opportunity to talk about what living according to your values looks like for both of you.

Take for example, the value of respect. Most people value respecting others and being shown respect in return. But what does that look like? For me, I feel respected when my partner validates my emotions and uses active listening skills. This means that I appreciate it when my partner does not give me unsolicited advice.

Everyone has different sets of values, but ours included.

Play: My partner and I tease each other a lot and we value laughing at our flaws. One thing that is important to me is learning how to not take life so seriously. This can look like dedicating more time to games, silly activities and humour.

Self-compassion: My partner and I value being self-aware and self-compassionate. We all make mistakes and acknowledge that we will, at some point, have conflicts or arguments. We want to give ourselves permission to fail and permission not to beat ourselves up afterwards.

Boundaries and safety: My boyfriend and I value being aware of each other's triggers, using safe words and being responsible when it comes to communicating our limits. We are also mindful that boundaries evolve and change over time.

Commitment: My partner and I are realistic and conscious that we may not end up together happily ever after. But each day we ask ourselves, "Can you commit to tomorrow?" That way, there is less pressure, and this allows our relationship to grow. We try to accept the unknown.

Teamwork: My partner and I support each other's goals and decisions, even if we may not agree with them. We can share our thoughts without fearing judgment from the other person.

Humility: We want to let go of expectations and the idea of a 'perfect relationship.' We value being kind, having the best intentions and feeling grateful for the life we have.

Values are something you do, not something you have. FILE STEPHANIE WU

I enjoyed taking the time to discuss my values with my boyfriend, because it made me feel closer to him and we are now on the same page. We have been together for a relatively short time, but our connection has strengthened and this is in part due to our common core values.

There are so many values, so I invite you to pause and ask yourself, "How do I want to live the rest of myself?" Being caring, loving, trusting, respectful, loyalty, equal, honest, courageous, vulnerable, fair. that's the wonderful thing about values. We get to choose them.

The authors of this column are not mental health professionals. If you need additional support, please contact Student Health Services, Sexual Assault Support Centre and/or the Wellness Centre. In case of an emergency, call 911.

ALCOHOL //

An investigation into the beer can floating in the Martha Piper Fountain

That last thought bums me out a little.

ELIZABETH WANG

Isa Isa
Contributor

I'm walking past the Martha Piper Fountain as it is an integral component to my daily routine and to my shock and horror someone or something has desecrated our holy fountain. An empty beer can, crushed flat, floats deceivingly in its serene waters.

It's like a crime scene and I've taken it upon myself to solve it. If I were a physics student, I would calculate the force required to crush the beer can; if I were a chemistry student I would test the water for DNA evidence; but as an arts student, my skills lie in pure speculation and filling up word counts.

Time of discovery: 7:13 a.m. Reported by: A student, me.

Evidence: Beer is probably of the cheap variety, though I don't know for sure since I don't drink because that would be illegal and I am a morally upright citizen. The can is crushed, almost entirely folded in half.

Suspects?

Was it a drunk freshman? A frat bro? A component of some kid's initiation to some club? Maybe there was a pool party that I wasn't invited to :(?

That last thought bums me out a little.

Who could it be? Who could have done this?

Was it the birb?

Are we not all, in some ways, crushed beer cans floating in the algae covered fountain that is life. Is birb our uncaring creator?

Maybe it's a sign from the universe.

Just as how the dead remain silent, empty beer cans cannot answer my questions, no matter how pressing.

FREEZING COLD //

How to survive the UBC snow

While it might only be cold for a week, here are some tips.

FILE RYAN NEALE

Campbell Speedy
Staff Writer

January has arrived and at UBC that means it's time for two things: class and snow. Wait, did you read that correctly? Snow? In Vancouver? As horrifying as that may be, we've already seen some winter weather in the past week. Luckily, the snow hasn't stuck too much yet, but there's more to potentially come in our future. Here's how to survive the, like, centimetre of snow we might get.

STAY INSIDE

Whatever you do, make sure you do it INDOORS. Overall, it's completely unnecessary to leave your residence/apartment/house, so why take the risk? Uber Eats is getting paid to go outside and deliver to you. You, on the other hand, are not. For all the poor first years who have to leave their residence after exams, seek new shelter immediately.

INVEST IN SOME WINTER CLOTHES

If for some reason you have to go outside, make sure you are properly geared up. The ideal clothing would be a parka or a Canada Goose jacket, but a coat and toque will probably suffice. Make sure to bring a radio in case of emergencies.

BURN YOUR NOTES FOR WARMTH

For the unfortunate students who get caught out in the cold, survival must become your number one priority. This means using your lecture notes to start a fire, even though it's finals season. It's better to fail your exams than to fail at living.

Hopefully with these tips you can survive UBC's winter relatively unscathed. Good luck and stay warm.

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP //

The Dingbat: Why you should elect me, someone with no administrative experience, as BoG chair

First, a little about myself.

FILE JOSHUA MEDICOFF

Pawan Minhas
Features Editor

Dear Board of Governors AKA future coworkers,

Greetings and sanitations, my name is Pawan Minhas and I am penning this letter so as to indicate my interest in being elected the newest chair of the Board of Governors (BoG), following the departure of current-Chair Michael Korenberg. Given I'm a stranger to you all, I've decided to make myself familiar. Thus, I've had this cover letter published by the local newspaper, so I can properly introduce myself to the plebeians I'll be helping to govern and I've also included fun information — presented in parentheticals — to resemble the university textbooks you all enjoy (Did you notice?: I am considerate and have a keen eye for the details).

First, a little about myself — I am 21 years old and a fourth-year political science student and, as I have a fun bonus fact: I really need this job! I've got some outstanding debts with people you don't want to know, let alone owe, so there's a bit of a time crunch for you guys to elect me. But speaking of electing, why don't we talk about some aspects of my candidacy! (Political science fact: States can't prosecute those outside of their borders, but the *Yakuza* have no jurisdiction or concerns about extradition treaties.)

WHY WOULD WE ELECT YOU?

Let's start with my occupational history. When I was just 14, I was handling accounts and expenditures well into the three figures range, spending time with young minds eager to have their voices heard and be directed to the duotangs in aisle 3. I'll never forget my time at Staples.

I'm also no stranger to executive work. Mr. Korenberg may be on the board for HSBC but while he was helping manage the seventh-largest bank in the world, I was doing what they call 'grassroots organizing.' In my third year, I was the model Parliament chair for the Political Science Students' Association — of course, the simulation didn't quite happen that year because no one applied to participate, moderate or be on my planning team. But I'd say that's about as grassroots you can get, for a position tasked with leading a multi-billion dollar university and investment trust. (Please note: how'd ya like them apples, Mikey?)

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP

As chair of the Board of Governors, I'd be responsible for building bridges between sometimes-adversarial groups like the Faculty Association (FA), student representatives, the university administration and hack news writers. Here's my plan to show all of those groups that they can trust me. FA — give 'em all three chili peppers on RateMyProf. Student representatives — solve climate, freeze tuition hikes for the foreseeable future. UBC admin — okay, maybe that last thing isn't as doable as I thought. The Ubyssey — guarantee every contributor, staff and editor a job at the illustrious and totally existing Vancouver StarMetro.

In closing, I think you'll find that once ol' MK is gone and I've stepped in, things will be looking up — including the chair's salary (Fact alert!: That was a funny joke).

Now, if you'll excuse me, I have a pressing meeting to attend — someone's yelling in Japanese and they're trying to kick down my door.

The Dingbat is The Ubyssey's humour column. You can submit completed pieces or pitches to blog@ubyssey.ca.

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COLOURFUL CANNABINOIDS //

Study sheds new light on cannabis metabolism

Vibhuti Wadhwa
Contributor

Livingston believes the findings could be expanded to analyze the role of cannabis in medicinal and industrial domains. FILE STEVEN DURFEE

A UBC study has shed new light on the metabolic processes that occur in the flowers of the cannabis plant, which are consumed for the psychoactive and medicinal properties of their specialized metabolites.

"Cannabis is in the news all the time these days and used in many medicinal and recreational products available in our society today, so it's important to figure out how the cannabis plant is making the products (i.e. cannabinoid metabolites and terpenes) in the first place," said Sam Livingston, a PhD candidate in botany and co-lead author of the study.

Cannabinoids are substances like CBD and THC that interact with specialized receptors in the brain.

Livingston explained that although there had been some studies in the past that used visible light to examine the glandular trichomes — hair-like structures that secrete products involved with plant metabolism — of cannabis, those studies had a difficult time gleaning information about the plant at the cellular and tissue level.

As a result, there were no preconceived expectations for the research. Co-lead author Dr. Teagen Quilichini was the one who devised the idea of using UV light to examine the composition of the plant.

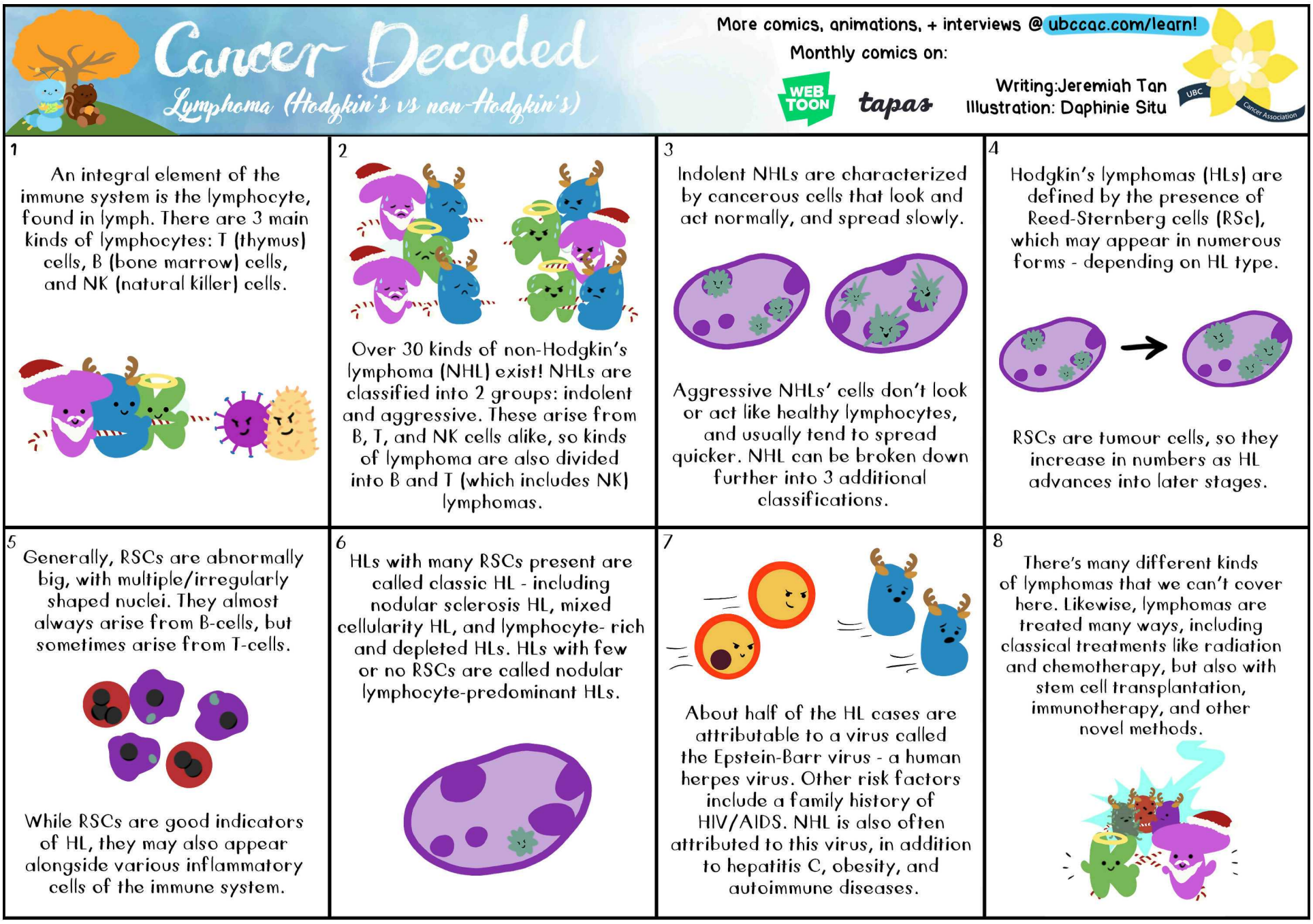
The team developed a specialized imaging technique that took advantage of glandular trichome intrinsic autofluorescence — a property of the trichomes that causes them to emit light when exposed to certain other kinds of light. Using that technique, the researchers were able to demonstrate that the stalked glandular trichomes in cannabis flowers possessed blue autofluorescence correlated with high cannabinoid levels.

The next step of the study is to examine the cannabis plant's ability to store cannabinoid metabolites, as those products are technically toxic to the plant. As a result, there has to be some biological mechanism to ensure that these cells that are constantly pumping these products within themselves continue to do so efficiently and doesn't result in cell death.

Although the research was focused on examining the cannabis plant from a purely biological perspective, Livingston believes the findings could be expanded to analyze the role of cannabis in medicinal and industrial domains.

Once researchers are able to deduce the composition methodology of the plant — how the metabolites are produced and stored — they may be able to practice selective breeding when wanting to create a specific strain of cannabis.

"Part of our work is to find out which trichomes make rich cannabinoids and terpenes," said Livingston. "It's possible that this could be scaled up to a more medicinal or industrial approach."



OFF THE PITCH //

Former T-Bird football player's four-year ban upheld

Salomon Micko Benrimoh
Sports Editor

Former UBC Thunderbirds defensive back Malcom Lee has had his four-year ban from competition upheld after failing a drug test in the Spring in the days leading up to the Canadian Football League (CFL) draft. Lee had failed the test after testing positive for trace amounts of Selective Androgen Receptor Modulator (SARM) LGD-4033, also known as Ligandrol.

Lee played for the Thunderbirds football team from 2015 to 2018, winning a Vanier Cup Championship in his rookie season. Lee left the Thunderbirds with a year of U Sports eligibility left in order to enter the 2019 CFL draft.

Originally projected as a second-round pick and one of the top defensive backs in the draft, Lee dropped down to the fifth and was selected with the 46th overall pick by the Calgary Stampeders.

Fellow UBC defensive back Stavros Katsantonis also tested positive for the same SARM but elected to remove himself from May's draft and accept a one-year ban from competition in order to be eligible for the 2020 CFL draft.

Both Katsantonis and Lee were later given four-year bans by the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES) from competing in any league signed with the Canadian Anti-Doping Program.

However, both players will still be able to sign with CFL teams since the league's policy on drug violations only calls for a one-year ban.

After going ahead with the draft and asking for a B sample to be tested, Lee found was granted a hearing with the CCES.

The CCES upheld the four-year ban and issued a final report shedding some more light on the situation in December 2019. The report states that while Lee had been compliant with the commission, he had "failed to establish on the evidence that a reduction in sanction is warranted."

The report also explains the way Lee said the Ligandrol got into his system. While training in Bakersfield, California, Lee consumed a supplement called "Extra Fire" by a brand called NuEdge.

The supplement had been purchased by a teammate over the counter and Lee understood it to be an all-natural supplement.

The report asserts that Lee looked at both the Global Dro and CCES websites to see if there were any listed banned substances in the NuEdge supplement but could not find any.

Approximately 76 days elapsed from when Lee said he last took the NuEdge supplement to when he failed the urine test, something that was disputed in the report by the CCES. The report includes a statement from Christiane Ayotte, director of the Institut Nationale de la Recherche Scientifique Doping Control Lab.

Ayotte questions how so much time was able to pass and there still be trace amounts of Ligandrol in Lee's system, stating

Lee still has a chance to sign a CFL contract with Calgary once he is eligible in March.

FILE SALOMON MICKO BENRIMOH

"it is highly unlikely that its consumption at the dose reported and under the timespan proposed is the source of the adverse analytical finding."

Lee is not alone in testing positive for Ligandrol, as recent years have seen a number of high-profile cases across a multitude of different sports. Former NBA Defensive Player of the Year Joakim Noah was issued a 20-game ban for testing positive for Ligandrol in 2017 while Australian swimmer Shayna Jack was pulled out of the 2019 Aquatics World Championships after testing positive as well.

Canadian sprint canoer Laurence Vincent-Lapointe also tested positive in the summer of 2019. All three athletes said that they had not knowingly ingested Ligandrol.

While Lee will have to wait until at least March to sign with the Stampeders, he has played a season of arena football with the San Diego Strike Force of the Indoor Football League.

BROKEN RECORDS //

Huband, Hanson make Canada West history against Trinity Western

Both coaches now have the most wins in Canada West history.

COURTESY BOB FRID/UBC ATHLETICS

Salomon Micko Benrimoh
Sports Editor

This past weekend saw a truly special occurrence grace the court of War Memorial Gym not once, but twice.

Both women's basketball head coach Deb Huband and men's head coach Kevin Hanson became the winningest coaches in Canada West History.

Hanson claimed the crown on Thursday night. His 314th regular season win pushing past former University of Alberta Golden Bears coach Don Horwood.

Huband is a few more ahead, her 338th regular season victory leaping her over former University of Victoria Vikes long-time coach Kathy Shields.

Both occasions came with wins over the visiting Trinity Western University Spartans.

Thursday's men's game was a tightly contested game, with the Thunderbirds and Spartans trading the lead going into the final minutes of the game.

The T-Birds took advantage of a staggering 52 free throw attempts to eventually take the game 109–102 and give coach Hanson his Canada West record-breaking win.

Saturday saw the Thunderbirds take care of the Spartans a bit more easily, taking the home win 124–94 and improving to 11–3 in Canada West play.

Meanwhile, Huband's squad dominated the Spartans all weekend.

Friday's game, which was also the annual Shoot for the Cure game in support of the Canadian Cancer Society, saw the T-Birds down the Vikes 95–58 led by a 24-point performance from veteran guard Jessica Hanson.

Saturday's record-breaking game had the Thunderbirds dismantle the Spartans 100–57, improving to a 10–4 Canada West record on the season and securing fourth place in the conference ahead of the University of the Fraser Valley Cascades. Both teams will now prepare for a home-and-away Legends Cup series against rivals Victoria this weekend.

THIN ICE //

Preview: T-Birds will need to find offensive spark to electrify this year's Winter Classic showdown

FILE SALOMON MICKO BENRIMOH

The numbers don't lie, the Thunderbirds men's hockey team will need to find some hidden offence if they want to pull off the upset and beat the Manitoba Bison in front of thousands of their peers.

Brendan Smith
Senior Sports Writer

Heading into Winter Classic, offensive woes continue to plague the UBC men's hockey team.

About this time last year, the head coach for the UBC squad Sven Butchensön said his team needed "to find some offence."

These comments came after the T-Birds were swept by the Mount Royal University Cougars and outscored 11-3 over two games. A year later, this still holds true in describing the current UBC men's hockey team going into the second half of the Canada West season.

At the start there was a lot of optimism that this season would be different.

The team featured a proven goaltender in Rylan Toth, veteran leadership core and the infusion of new recruits created depth at multiple positions on the roster.

Throughout the first half of the season, however, the team appears to remain lost in that search for offensive output.

Up until this past weekend, the team ranked near the bottom of the conference in scoring with not a single player in the top 20 list for total points in Canada West.

Coupled with injury trouble, these continued issues with scoring have contributed to the fact that, before this past weekend, the team was tied for the second-lowest win percentage in all of U Sports.

Granted injuries should not be discounted when evaluating the performance of this team. The return of forward Matt Revel was especially uplifting but it is hard to ignore that in their first game of 2020, with nearly a full lineup, the T-Birds were held scoreless.

Other numbers are much more troubling, UBC has scored two goals or less in ten games so far this season and is winless in those games. This includes a 5–0 shutout to the University of Alberta Golden Bears on opening weekend and an upsetting 2–1 loss to the lowly University of Regina Cougars.

And while factors beside scoring may also be at play, it should be noted that UBC has performed well on defence.

For what it's worth, the T-Birds have allowed about the same number of goals as teams above them in the standings.

Goaltender Rylan Toth, despite facing more rubber than highway road kill, has been one of the top goalies in the conference.

In many ways, the strength on defence is not that surprising because when you watch them play it does not take long to realize that the makeup of the team is more suited to this style.

For one thing, most of the skaters are tall and physical on the forecheck, which does help wear down the opposition.

But in games where the T-Birds have fallen behind early, abandoning the physical play in favour of erasing a deficit has put them at a disadvantage.

In fact, in the games where the T-Birds were trailing or tied after the first period, the team has won twice and lost the other eleven games.

But before making it sound like this team cannot perform offensively, what makes this team so frustratingly unpredictable is that they actually are capable of producing offensively and when they do, the outcome is almost always positive.

In the seven games where UBC scored first, they have lost only once in regulation, and all of their wins this season have come when they scored three or more goals.

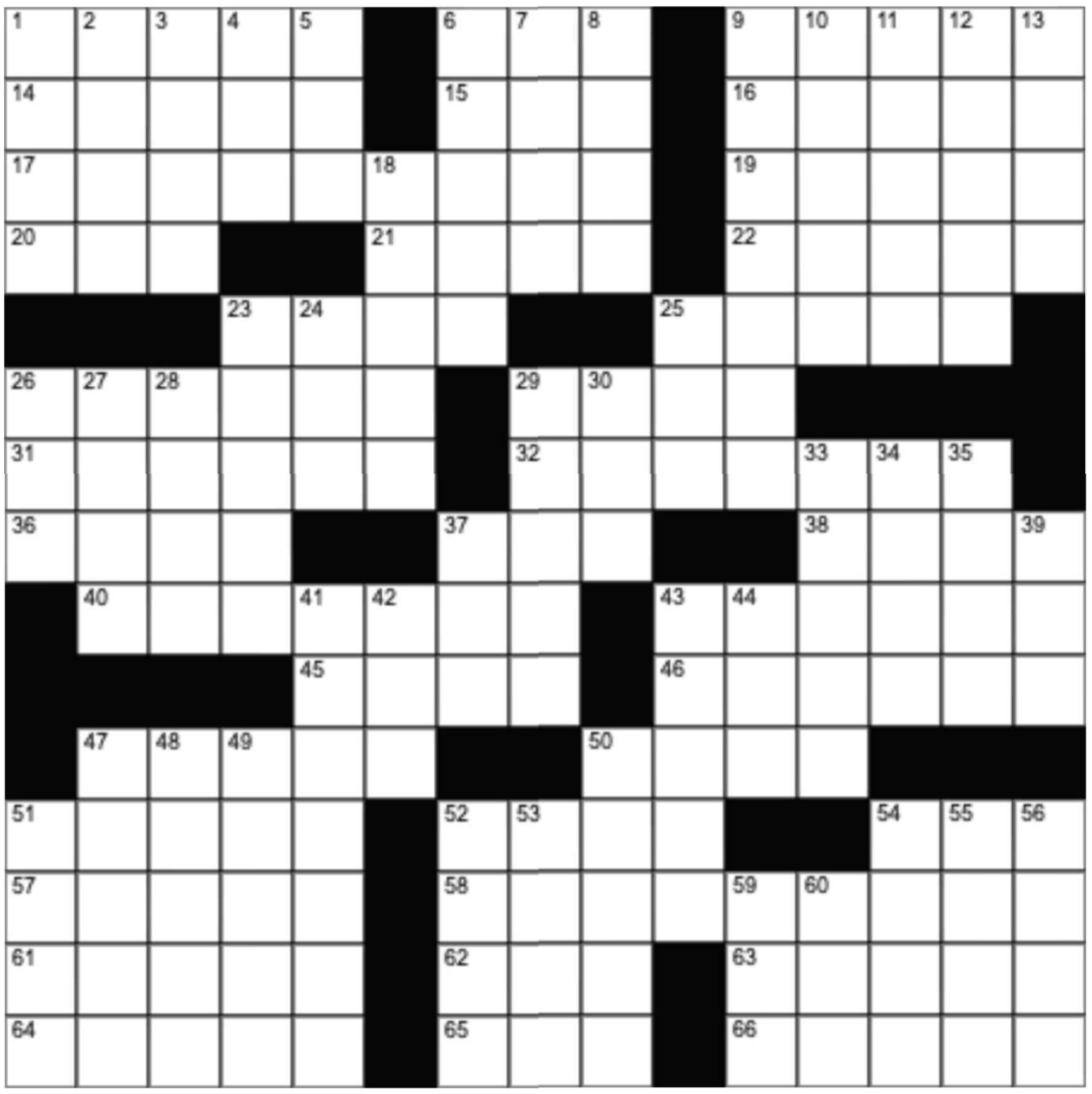
Just last November, the T-Birds blitzed the University of Lethbridge Pronghorns, outscoring them 12–1 over two games, which provided a glimpse into their offensive potency that was thought to be a sign of things to come.

But since that series, goal scoring has become scarce and will remain a storyline as long as it limits the success of this team.

Now with the Winter Classic days away, and thousands of students, alumni and fans eagerly anticipating the festivities and anxiously waiting to see their team put on a show, the time is right to change this narrative. Winter Classic is on Friday at 6 p.m.

FILE SALOMON MICKO BENRIMOH

Rylan Toth has been impressive despite the team's losing record.



COURTESY BESTCROSSWORDS.COM

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1.Hollowed pumpkin
6.Albanian coin
9.Chairs
14.Different
15.Bump off
16.Radii neighbors
17.Written history of a person's life
19.Rapture
20.The Racer's Edge
21.Wall St. debuts
22.Reposes
23.Member of the Conservative Party
25.Bee stuff
26.Assent
29.Gorillas, chimpanzees and orang-utans
31.Inclined
32.Extraordinary occurrence
36.Yorkshire river
37.Lose firmness
38.Bern's river
40.Kitchen gadgets
43.To meet the expense of
45.How sweet ___!
46.Stylish
47.Puccini classic
50.Tolstoy and Gorcey
51.Jeweler's glass
52.Use scissors
54.Genetic letters
57.Composer Bruckner
58.Canis Minor
61.Company emblems
62.Rhine whine
63.Emulate Cicero
64.Preceding, poetically
65.Itsy-bitsy
66.Check recipient

DOWN

1.Tasks
2.Busy
3.Hew
4.Small cask
5.Bobby of hockey
6.Impudent (slang)
7.Bounce back
8.Lock openers
9.Secretly
10.Actress Barkin
11.Licoricelike flavor
12.Delicious
13.Cong. meeting
18.Ventilated
23.Native American tent
24.Lyric poem
25.The Beatles' "And I Love ___"
26.Simile center
27.A good one gets you there in a hurry
28.Heart
29.Collect
30.Hog
33.Sidewalk eateries
34.Neighbor of Cambodia
35.Slips up
37.Hindu title
39.Dreyer's partner in ice cream
41.Official permit
42.Basque separatist organisation
43.Masterful
44.Not to
47.Like a ___ bricks
48.Money spent
49.Trail of a wild animal
50.Supple
51.In ___ land
52.Deli side
53.Pleasing
54.WWII turning point
55.Brief letter, paper money
56."A Death in the Family" author James
59.Chop off
60.Bullpen stat

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COURTESY KRAZYDAD.COM

did you know that . . .

The first investment made by Chinese government outside of the country was in a pulp mill in Castlegar, BC in the early 1980s.

— Pawan M.

Send your best facts to visuals@ubyssey.ca to be featured in next week's issue!

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