

VOLUME 43 ISSUE No. 6 September 16, 2020

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THREE FINED FOR HOUSE PARTY

More than 100 people gathered at a house party on Hickory Street West. Did the punishment fit the crime?



MEXICAN INDEPENDANCE DAY

The history behind the historic day that brought Mexican sovereignty. P7.

VIRAL MATH P2

CEMC virtual math had 10 million views.

Learn to adapt and embrace

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Learn to adapt and embrace the semester.

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CANCELLED P9

Four years of preperation down the drain.



news

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Over 10 million page views amassed by CEMC in the 2019/2020 school year

Saihaj Dadhra Reporter

The Centre for Education in Mathematics and Computing (CEMC) founded in 1963 when the first mathematics contest in Ontario was created by a group of secondary school teachers and was officially founded in 1995. Today, the CEMC has over 40 faculty and staff with hundreds of volunteers and is "the largest organization of its kind in Canada," according to its website.

The CEMC website, which offers free math and computer science lessons for grades seven through 12, reached 10 million page views this school year, with approximately one-third of the views occurring during April. Comparatively, the website only had three million page views last year.

As schools turned to virtual learning due to the pandemic, "all of a sudden teachers and students and parents were trying to figure out how to work together to do education outside of the classroom," Professor Ian VanderBurgh, Director of the CEMC, told CBC. "There's been a ton of views and most of that is in Canada, but an interesting amount internationally too."

Sukhnit Kandola, a first-year student in Biological Chemistry at the University of Toronto, was taking grade 12 Calculus and Vectors when schools closed in March. "My calculus teacher referred CEMC to me. I used it fairly often, usually after every couple of lessons or so. The website was intuitive and easy to navigate through. They provided instructional modules with supportive examples and multiple practice activities with step-by-step solutions. I was finally understanding mathematical concepts with ease. In fact, my calculus test scores jumped by 15 per cent after discovering CEMC."

The CEMC website also provides students with interactive learning activities, while providing feedback. Professor VanderBurgh told CBC that this may have contributed to the increased time spent on the website.

Throughout the summer months, the upward trend of the CEMC's website has continued. Professor VanderBurgh told CBC

that web traffic on the site has been two to three times higher than it was last summer.

"It appears people are still out there using it, whether it be teachers thinking about the year ahead, maybe it's parents helping kids reinforce some things to get ready for the fall," Professor VanderBurgh told CBC.

Vikram, a first-year student in the Computer Science program used the CEMC this past summer to access the MTHEL 199 preparatory course. "All the content was very concise and clear," Vikram said.

Atiya Aziz, a Mathematics and Business Administration student, also used the CEMC for the MTHEL 199 course and said she used the website quite frequently and found it useful. "I loved how there were alternative formats to learn the content because personally I learn better when I hear someone explain it to me, and that was offered by the resource as well as plain notes."

Access to courseware is available yearround. The CEMC courseware and CEMC at Home program are both listed as resources by the Government of Ontario website for students to use at home during this time of virtual learning.

"I think first and foremost the CEMC really exists to support education and that is always how and why we make our decisions, however, I do know because we have had IO million page views and 265 000 students do our competitions each year and one million students see our questions-of-the week, that people see the University of Waterloo as a resource and that is invaluable in itself," Professor VanderBurgh said.

"It is important to show strength as a university and make connections early on with students," Professor VanderBurgh said. He also said that if the university works hard to build good relationships with teachers and create a resource that they can use and trust, it will create positive relationships between students and the University of Waterloo."

Professor VanderBurgh also mentioned the CEMC's visits to schools, prior to the pandemic, also helped in developing positive relationships between students and the university. "At a time when math and computer science are such important disciplines having those contacts are very important."

Remote frosh week for incoming students

Saihaj Dadhra Reporter

Frosh Week marks an eventful beginning — the welcoming of incoming first-year students as they commence their university life. Many students had hoped for an exhilarating week filled with fun, partying, and dancing.

With COVID-19 still at large, and with the province's strict measures on social gatherings, UW's Fall 2020 Orientation or Frosh Week is being held remotely. For the incoming class of 2020, that marks another major event turned virtual.

Traditionally, Frosh Weeks has always provided an opportunity for incoming students to meet new people and bond with those who will be embarking on the same academic journey.

Jessica Yang, a first-year Biomedical Engineering student at UW, expressed her concern over making friends this year. She feels that in absence of in-person interactions, it

will be rather challenging.

"I am a pretty sociable person and I get a lot of my daily energy from talking with my friends and interacting with them," Yang

"Meeting in real life would be a lot more fun, so we've found that quite difficult for us"

Frosh Week activities typically include multiple icebreakers — group activities designed in a way so you get connected with people from a variety of diverse backgrounds – along with theatrical shows and concerts.

"I am quite disappointed that I won't get the same experience and I don't get that sort of interaction," Yang said.

Student organizations all across Canada have been embracing the new normal of an online Frosh Week and have been working towards enhancing the Frosh 2020 virtual experience.

At UW, while there won't be any carnival with a Ferris wheel and cotton candy this year, Waterloo Undergraduate Student Association's (WUSA) Welcome Week includes

a week of virtual events which kicked off this week. The events are a mix of informative, educational, and fun, being held via multiple online platforms such as Zoom, Instagram Live, and YouTube Live.

Some of these events and activities include Anti-Racism 101 with RAISE, Keep Your Stress in Check, Virtual Scavenger Hunt, Virtual Jeopardy and even a TikTok Dance Tutorial. WUSA's Welcome Week classic Sex Toy Bingo will also be returning virtually this Fall featuring Kyne from Canada's Drag Race. Additionally, faculty-specific virtual events for Frosh Week are also held.

Math faculty students were still able to

receive their traditional pink ties through a virtual Earn Your Pink Tie event. Engineering students received their hardhats through the Earn Your Hardhats event — a tradition all incoming first-years engineering students have been a part of before. This year engineering students were challenged to exhibit their creativity through a roller-coaster and redstone building challenge on Minecraft, the interactive sandbox game.

While there may be no echoes from chants of the "Water, Water, Water, loo loo loo," stomps from a dance floor, or swarms of enthusiastic teens in bright colours, Fall 2020's virtual Frosh Week will be remembered as the first-ever of its kind.







UW and **WLU** students throw massive house party

Neha Lakshman Reporter

ore than 100 students gathered on Hickory Street West on Monday, Sept. 7, breaking social distancing

A student who attended the partv. who wishes to remain anonomus expressed regret.

"I made a severe and continuous lapse in my judgement, it was a mistake attending the party. I didn't think the cops would show up. Really puts things into perspective," the student said.

By-law officers charged three people under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act. A fine of \$880 per person was imposed on the tenants Shayne Turner, director of municipal enforcement services said.

The charges were levied as the Region of Waterloo Public Health officials report five new cases of COVID-19 on Tuesday, Sept. 8.

Rohit Kaushik, a third-year Computer Science student at UW, believes that the fine imposed on the tenants was fair.

"\$880 is a lot of money to spend on a party and put others' lives at risk, hopefully we learn from this incident and follow health guidelines for our own safety," Kaushik

Waterloo Regional Police Services were on the scene to break up the party at 10 p.m. and students were reprimanded by acting medical officers for breaking social distancing guidelines.

More than 100 students dispersed from the scene.

'We continue to encourage students and all residents to stay home and not gather in large groups to help stop the spread of COVID-19. Waterloo Regional Po-

lice Service (WRPS) thanks those students who are abiding by the health guidelines, and we urge all students to do so," Constable André Johnson said.

The WRPS continues to enforce social distancing guidelines as cases increase in the Waterloo re-

This increase comes as students flood the region to either start or continue their education.

"This pandemic isn't over, and your actions matter. One night is not worth risking your health, the health of your family, friends or community," Johnson said.

Disease outbreaks in recent months have been linked to large gatherings where the rules of social distancing have not been followed.

The WRPS and Region of Waterloo Public Health continue to urge people to follow public health guidelines and take responsibility for their actions if they fail to do

This pandemic isn't over, and your actions matter. One night is not worth risking your health, the health of your family, friends or community.

CONSTABLE ANDRÉ JOHNSON



Waterloo Regional Police Services charged a fine of \$880 per person on the tenants.



Students of UW and WLU hosted a party with over 100 people.

Adapt to online learning

Prioritize your mental health this fall and successfully navigate virtual classes

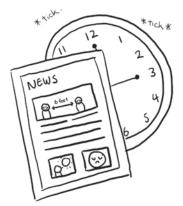
Itman Hassan Reporter

The transition to online classes amidst this global pandemic brings many worries and concerns on how these sudden changes will impact student - particularly for students with limited access to resources for online learning at home or students struggling with mental health. Therefore, it is critical, for both students and institutions, to find ways for studentsto adapt and make the most out of this situation by encouraging resilience and promoting mental wellness.



In this digital age, social media brings many positives, such as connecting people all over the world to all sorts of information

right at one's fingertip that is important for being aware of significant events. Yet at the same time, news that often includes fear



mongering or misinformation can also be very damaging and exacerbate anxiety.

In an interview with Dr. Scott Leatherdale, whose focus is on Primary Prevention activities, they emphasize the importance of media literacy in order to be mindful of social media consumption.

"It is not always in our best interest to be following the news constantly with large events like COVID...If you want to keep up to date... Give yourself some limits on how much you're willing to spend daily reading the news and figure out what is going on," Leatherdale said.

The pandemic was a break for millions of people from this face-paced world and the unhealthy amount of pressure that comes with it. This situation can be reframed as a unique opportunity for students to think about their own interests, hobbies, and where they want to go in life. Considering most students are just entering or settling into adulthood, many can use this time to build foundational coping skills and support systems to better react to adversities.

"I think students should focus on following basic behaviour change principles in your lifestyle change... For example, research from smoking cessation, when people quit smoking the best thing from a behaviour standpoint is to replace smoking behaviour with behaviour that is more positive, to kind of fill that void," Dr. Leatherdale said.

Although this may be difficult at first, adopting effective behaviour change mod-





els can help students replace counterproductive behaviours with healthier routines. For instance, replacing the unhealthy use of social media and instead of engaging with friends or family or passions. These are all examples of behaviours that are critical to mental wellness and can help students destress from school, work, or other sources of anxiety.

In order to overcome the adversities that the pandemic may bring for students, it is crucial for students and staff to be understanding, as everyone adjusts to an online Fall term.

During these times it is important to find ways to adapt to this new normal by either talking with friends, exercising, or taking up new hobbies. Know that you are not alone and help is available if needed. You are more resilient than you think.

Mental health resources

Student Support Resources: Campus Wellness

https://uwaterloo.ca/campus-wellness/counselling-services

Good2talk: Campus wellness

https://uwaterloo.ca/campus-wellness/services/good2talk

Here247

https://here247.ca/

UW Police

519-888-4567 ext. 22222

For emergency services on campus 24/7.

Counselling Services

519-888-4567 ext. 32655

Offers appointments for emergencies. Currently providing services by phone and video

Health Services: Student Medical Clinic

519-888-4096

Open for all medical services, with modified or alternative service delivery. All appointments will be addressed via phone or video if possible.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.

IMPRINT ACKNOWLEDGES THAT THE UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO IS SITUATED ON THE TRADITIONAL TERRITORIES OF THE ATTAWANDARON (NEUTRAL), ANISHNAABEG, AND HAUDENOSAUNEE PEOPLES. THE UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO IS SITUATED ON THE HALDIMAND TRACT, LAND PROMISED TO SIX NATIONS, WHICH INCLUDES SIX MILES ON EACH SIDE OF THE GRAND RIVER. THEREFORE, IMPRINT RECOGNIZES AND RESPECTS THIS LAND THAT IT IS SITUATED UPON.



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The fight for Dark Mode on LEARN

Can Atacan Reporter

ith most classes going online due to the COVID-19 pandemic, students are using LEARN more than ever. But LEARN's background is bright white — with no built-in dark mode feature to ease eye strain.

"Students will be spending most of their class time for at least two entire semesters on LEARN and should be provided with this option, especially when they can turn to it on nearly every other site, app or service they use," said Hamza Tariq, a 4th-year undergraduate student.

D2L, the software company that manages LEARN, is reluctant in introducing dark mode.

"[Dark Mode] is not currently on the roadmap outside of our Pulse app," said a D2L representative.

Tariq wrote an email letter in June addressing Feridun Hamdullahpur, President of UW, and Abbie Simpson, president of the Waterloo Undergraduate Student Association (WUSA). In the email, Tariq urged Hamdullahpur and Simpson to urge D2L, the software company that manages LEARN, to adopt a dark mode feature for LEARN.

D2L has been asked to provide a dark mode feature to LEARN for years, but with no result.

"The feeling I got from the entire thing is that online learning support people at UWaterloo have received this request before and they have passed it on to D2L. But it seems that D2L isn't really making this a priority at all," Tariq said.

When Tariq reached out to D2L about the issue, D2L suggested using browser extensions to create a dark mode. Dark mode browser extensions do not format LEARN very well, as some parts of the screen remain white and some words get lost in the dark.

"The [navigation bar] remains white and some text is hard to read. Anywhere we have black text blends into the dark mode background," said a customer service

representative for LEARN, who tested a dark mode extension on LEARN.

"This can lead to a student missing important study content while using an external extension to do so, while an in-built D2L Dark Mode option would not have such problems and be a more seamless experience," Tariq said.

Dark mode may not be everyone's preference, but it is a good option for those who need it. It can be beneficial for people with conditions such as photophobia, which is high sensitivity to light, or keratoconus, a similar condition which results in blurred vision and light sensitivity, caused by the cornea in the eye bulging out like a cone, instead of having its normal dome-like shape. Keratoconus usually begins to affect people in their teenage years and in their early 20s — the age range that most students at the university are in.

Even for people without these conditions, looking at a bright computer screen can have negative effects. The blue light emitted from computer screens is known WATERLOO

DARK MODE

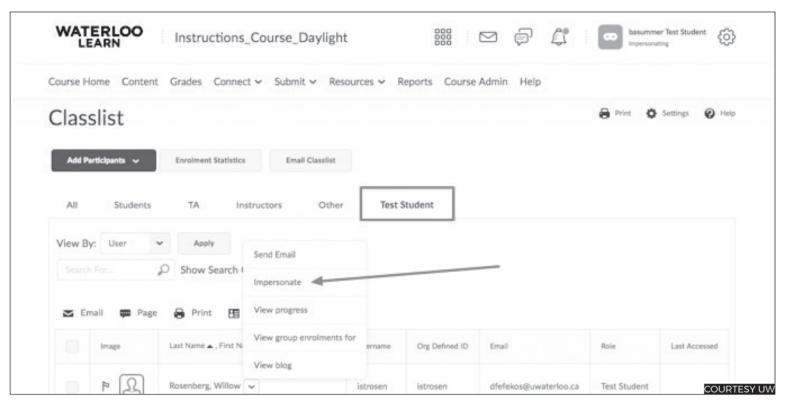
to throw off the body's circadian rhythm, which controls a person's sleep cycle.

Studies from Harvard and the University of Toronto have shown that blue light can suppress the release of melatonin, the hormone responsible for sleepiness. This could be a problem for students who use LEARN at night, as it could shift their circadian rhythm and cause sleep problems.

Students can still take action to minimize the effects of LEARN's bright white screen by limiting their screen time at night, especially before bedtime. It is also important to take regular breaks

away from the computer. Many devices also contain a 'night mode', which provides warmer colours or light instead of the usual blue light.

But as far as a built-in dark mode feature on LEARN is concerned, it seems that we will have



Learn provider D2L refuses to implement a dark mode despite students request for an easier online learning experience.

COVID-19 starter pack: a brief guide on what to do when you are confused

Ramal Rana and Felicia Daryonoputri Science editor and Assistant Science editor

■all 2020 is here and many of us are planning to move back to campus, or are already here. Moving during times like these can be challenging, which is why we are providing a compilation of useful information that can be used to stay safe, healthy, and happy.

Moving back to campus

Moving in itself is stressful, but moving in the middle of a pandemic requires more work to keep yourself and those around you

This is why it is important to make sure that we have everything ready before movein day. Based on public health guidelines, students travelling to campus will be required to self-isolate. However, residence spaces cannot be used for self-isolation incoming students are required to organize their own accommodations. Luckily there are plenty of accommodations with student rates across the region.

For students travelling from outside of Canada, here is a checklist to ensure that your travels run smoothly. When entering Canada, students will be required to prepare a quarantine plan which will be shared with the Canadian Border Service Agency (CBSA), and those who are not following it will face penalties. It is also important to review travel restrictions and check if you are eligible to travel, as it varies between countries. For further immigration services, you can book a one-on-one meeting with UW's immigration counselling via the Student Success Office or submit an online inquiry.

What to do when you are back.

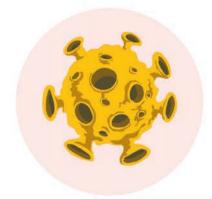
After completing your period of self-isolation and settling down, you may be looking for things to do on campus. Operations continue to open up as the fall term progresses, including academic buildings, study spaces, and other student services. Most of the buildings have modified operating hours, designated entrances, and impose strict health and safety guidelines. UW Food Services is also opening, and upto-date information regarding that can be easily accessed on their Instagram page (@ uwaterloofood).

Campus Wellness remains open for the fall but has been modified to accommodate the current situation. All health service appointments will initially be addressed virtually through phone or video.

"Many of the services in Health Services and Counselling Services that are usually in person are being delivered on-line; either telephone calls, or confidential video conferencing," said Walter Mittelstaedt, Director of Campus Wellness

Those deemed to require in-person care will be permitted to book an appointment and will be required to go through a COVID-19 pre-screening. Counselling services will also be provided virtually, including all booked appointments.

Health Services is offering some services in person... all visitors will first have complete a COVID-19 screening as they enter the building," Said Mittelstaedt.



HARSHITA DAMODARAN

Symptoms and what to do when you have

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the most common symptoms of COVID 19 are fever, chills, cough, difficulty breathing, and fatigue amongst many others that can be found on their website, where they provide constant updates about the virus. If you think you have been exposed to the virus, feel free to complete the COVID-19 self-assessment provided by the government of

"Children have been more commonly reported to have abdominal symptoms, and skin changes or rashes," said Dr. Clark Baldwin from Campus Wellness.

Certain symptoms can be life-threatening. Watch out for anyone experiencing severe trouble breathing, confusion, pressure or tightness on the chest, loss of consciousness, or has bluish lips or face. If you or anyone you know feel this way, call 911

"If anyone is having difficulty breathing or experiencing other severe symptoms, they should call 911 immediately, and advise them of the symptoms and travel history," said Dr. Baldwin

There are four different assessment and testing centres in the Waterloo region. Complete information regarding operating hours and registration can be found on their website. According to the Region of Waterloo, if in need of urgent care, call 911 or visit a hospital emergency department and inform them of your travel history and

symptoms.

What to do to stay healthy

As the great Dutch philosopher Desiderius Erasmus once said, "prevention is better than cure." Here are some tips on how to stay healthy while in isolation.

Everyone hates chores, but according to the World Health Organization (WHO), right now is not the best time to skip them. Using a simple rag to clean commonly touched surfaces may go a long way in preventing the growth of the virus in your home. However, that is not to say that other chores should be missed. Cleaning commonly touched surfaces is just the little extra that should be done to keep you and your family relatively safe.

The most popular method around to stay healthy with or without a pandemic is to regularly wash your hands. Our hands are cesspools of germs, and they are the first point of contact between anything you are doing and your body. If you are out shopping, your hands touch the items you want to buy, which have probably been touched by many unknown people before you decided to pick it up. So, make sure you wash your hands often.

For fear of sounding like a broken record, if your health permits, wear a mask. Wearing a mask will protect the main access and exit point of the virus - your lungs. If you



are sick, the easiest way to spread it is by coughing on innocent bystanders. A mask prevents droplets from flying out and infecting others around you. While ideally at this point you should be self-isolating, you will likely need care and infecting the person taking care of you is never good. Even when you are not sick, wearing a mask ensures that the virus does not have easy access to you through your mouth, and if you happen to touch your face with unwashed hands you will only touch the mask.

The need to be safe and healthy right now is shared, and while waiting for the pandemic to be over, one crucial way to strengthen your immunity is to stay physically fit, consume nutritious foods, and avoid smoking. An article published by Harvard Medical school states that regular exercise may improve your immunity, which will naturally improve your defences against COVID-19.

"Tell me what you eat and I will tell you what you are," as Anthelme Brillat-Savarin wrote in his book The Physiology of Taste, is now more commonly referred to "You are what you eat." If you eat nutritious meals full of health, you will be healthier. Do not forget to wash your hands before and after partaking in any meal.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, there are over 7000 chemicals in cigarette smoke which harm the body's immune system, which defends the body from diseases and infection. A weakened immune system will be much less effective at protecting your body.

We all know that physical health is not the only kind that has been compromised with the oncoming of this pandemic. Keep your mental health in check by avoiding stressful news and staying positive. Once the rain subsides, a rainbow emerges. Think of this as a prolonged storm, with a vibrant rainbow just waiting once it all ends. However, you may need professional help. These days have been quite difficult. UW Health Services is operational and ready to help

"Students can call in to Counselling or Health Services to discuss their unique circumstances and receive support for ongoing coping. In addition to seeking the support of Campus Wellness services, we know that some individuals are also seeking support in their home communities," said Mittelstaedt.

According to Saul Mcleod, a psychology teaching assistant and published researcher for the University of Manchester, Division of Neuroscience & Experimental Psychology, stress and anxiety also alter the effectiveness of your immune system. An excess amount of either one inhibits your body's ability to defend itself. This is why stressed people are sick more often. One way to keep your mental health in check is by keeping yourself busy doing things that make you feel good - like catching up on a hobby, or learning a new skill.

To summarize; keep your home clean, wash your hands, wear a mask, stay active, and stay positive. Common symptoms of COVID-19 to look out for include, fever, chills, cough, difficulty breathing, and fatigue. Visit the CDC website to stay informed. If you have just returned to Canada, self-isolate and follow a quarantine plan. Many of the campus services are operational with certain modifications to accommodate public health guidelines, for more information visit UW's COVID-19 page. We hope you have a safe and healthy fall term.

arts & life

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Random Historical Tidbits: Mexican Independence Day

COLUMN

Eduardo Matzumiya

xactly 210 years ago today, my home country took its first steps on the road toward becoming its own sovereign

It is a time of great celebration for the Mexican people, but should also be a time of reflection — an opportunity for us to look back on our history, the sacrifices that were made to achieve it, and peralready existing system of social segregation, fueled by the notion that those with, "pure Spanish blood" were inherently better than the rest of the population.

Furthermore, Napoleon's French occupation of Spain in 1808 had completely destabilized the existing political structure, leaving Spanish territories in limbo as their colonizers focused on own plans for revolution. A number of them would end in failure as opposing factions who still supported the monarchy worked to denounce, capture, and eventually execute anyone who supported seceding from Spain.

It is within this turbulent climate that news arrived late at night on Sept. 15, 1810 to the small town of Dolores, about 200 miles northeast of the Mexican capital. Here, Miguel Hidalgo, a local priest learned the worst had happened — the conspiracy had been discovered, military forces had arrested the governor of neighbouring Querétaro and his wife, and more were on their way to capture him and the rest of his co-conspir-

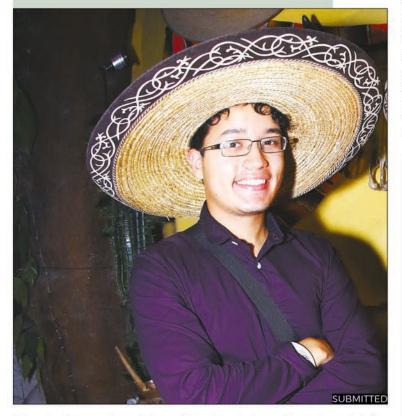
While they had originally planned to mobilize on Oct. 1, the situation changed drastically they were out of time, and had to act as soon as possible.

Hidalgoon, along with his military heads, Ignacio Allende and Juan Aldama - rang the church bells and rallied the townsfolk, where they would take up arms and rise up against years of overbearing Spanish rule in the early morning of September 16, 1810.

This historic moment - of which there is little written record - would go down in history as the beginning of an II-year conflict, all in the name of establishing the Mexican people's right to govern themselves. Approximately half a million Mexicans died, including Hidalgo and many of his allies, whom our history books now honour as national heroes, bordering on legend.

Two centuries later, and the ringing of bells has become a landmark event during festivities across the nation. And though this year our ability to gather and celebrate in the way we're so used to is terribly hindered, perhaps you'll still be able to hear the bells ringing.

Mexico is far from perfect, and perhaps you disagree with the very concept of patriotism, but that sense of unity and collective identity is the very thing our heroes fought to defend, and maybe that's what we need right now.



Eduardo Matzumiya celebrated Mexican Independence Day with his family in Mexico last year.

haps most importantly, its legacy.

The early 1800's were a time of great political and social unrest for Mexico - back then known as New Spain. European-born settlers had taken almost complete control of the local gold and silver mining industry, leaving everyone else (native and mixed race peoples alike) with little to no means to sustain themselves. This economic divide further exacerbated an

fighting for their own freedom. The, "patriotic Creolle" movement had been silently growing amongst the greater Mexican populace, questioning the need for European rule. Many saw this as the chance they had been waiting for to finally establish their own national identity away from the

Many separatists groups formed across the country, each with their



"Name this clever goose" competition at OrganizeUW.org/Goose



Vishal Lilman reporter

losure of non-essential businesses, social distancing and self-isolation, no large crowds - these are some of the rules and policies put in place when Ontario and the rest of the world was put into lockdown due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

For a "wild college student" like myself who loves to party, especially during the summer, this was a situation where I really needed to look deep to see the silver-lining. Although clubs, gyms, restaurants, and venues got cancelled, music (thankfully) was still open for business and enjoyment. Below are some of my most played tracks during the quarantine that kept me sane and positive:

1. Glow Drake ft. Kanye West

I am a huge Drake fan. I can write a whole separate list of songs that I listened to: 'Toosie Slide', 'Pain 1993', and 'Time Flies' from his quarantine-released mixtape Dark Lane Demo Tapes; 'Popstar' and 'Greece' from his DJ Khaled collab; and his hot and fresh new single 'Laugh Now, Cry Later' from his upcoming album Certified Lover

Like the UPS driver, Drizzy always delivers and never disappoints. So as a Drake fan, why did I choose a song that sounds like

Kanye ft. Drake? Just like almost everyone, I wanted to use quarantine to improve myself, stay in shape, clear my skin, and "glow up." The song's lyrics, "You better watch out for me, I'm about to glow," sung softly by Drake and Kanye, was not only a mantra and an affirmation to recite and stay motivated, but the song's softness and upbeat melody were a reminder to not rush things into perfection and to take my time and enjoy the process of bettering myself.

2. Blinding Lights The Weeknd

FYI - I was here before TikTok. The Weeknd has always been a hit or miss for me. I ,either really like his song ,or I can't listen to it. 'Blinding Lights' is one of those songs I can listen to on repeat when driving, then watch the live performance when I get home. I love everything about this song - the 80's vibe, the music video, the catchy lyrics.

Songs like this that are upbeat, fast, and tuneful are what makes times like these bearable and fun. These songs change the mood instantly. But it is true without question, the TikTok dance challenges are a factor in what made this song successful and trending on the charts for such a long period of time, and why it was one of my most listened to songs. My favourite ones have to be the TikToks involving peoples' parents ,as they are trying their hardest to keep up with the movements (although some actually slay it).

3. Stuck With You Ariana Grande ft. Justin Bieber

Ariana Grande and Justin Bieber made a slow pop song, and they didn't miss. With harmony, the beat and the synthesis ,this song is one of the best songs 2020 has to offer thus far. Other than that, I honestly don't know why I like this song so much. The lyrics just rub it ,in my face, that I am single and lonely in a time where I don't need to be reminded about my being single and lonely. And it's the music video of Grade 12s slow dancing with their prom date for me. The silver-lining, however, is that I am truly grateful I had a senior year to remember, and I had a great time at my prom (the food was meh). If you gave Grade 12 me a choice, I would take prom with bland food over cancelled prom any day of the week. I guess this one is also on here for the hopeless romantics (such as yours truly) that sings along with this song to manifest a significant oth-

4. Rockstar DaBaby ft. Roddy Ricch

If Summer 2020 could be represented by one song and one song only, this has to be it. DaBaby and Roddy Ricch went inside the booth, and left with a bop. As soon as I hear

that, "I pull up" you know the volume is getting raised to the max.

This was definitely a great addition to my workout playlist. What I really respect and bump on repeat is the BLM remix to 'Rockstar' DaBaby ,released amid the George Floyd protests, as well as the controversial BET Awards performance to the remix that made a loud and clear statement. It's one thing for a celebrity to post and preach on social media, but to actually do something productive and authentic by raising awareness through their craft despite management and their "brand" or "personal image" is truly remarkable, respectable and cre-

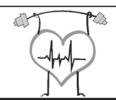
5. We Outside Viking **Ding Dong**

Since Caribana and all of its festivities were cancelled this year, you know I had to do it up with soca from time to time. The vibes in this song are immaculate. I enjoy the upbeat ,yet calm tempo, the catchy lyrics, and the memories that come to mind. When listening, I reminisce about pulling up to a fete with my friends, with pre-game in my system, ready to have a good time and make some memories.

Although that vision could not be a reality this summer, Viking Ding Dong himself remixed this song to endorse staying home and washing your hands, and called it 'We

You should definitely check it out.

sports & health



WRITE FOR SPORTS

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Lucerne Winter Universiade January 2021 cancelled

Julie Daugavietis Sports Editor

The Lucerne 2021 Winter Universiade will not take place from January 21 to 31, 2021 as originally planned.

USPORTS announced their support on August 31 for the decision to postpone the 2021 International University Sports Federation (FISU) Winter Universiade due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Citing issues with international travel and competition, USPORTS ultimately deemed the Universiade unsafe to take place in January 2021.

"Canada is fully behind FISU's tough but necessary announcement to delay the 2021 Winter Universiade," U SPORTS Chief Sport Officer, Lisette Johnson-Stapley, said., "This was the right decision for the health and safety of all student-athletes, coaches and mission staff. We look forward to Canada's participation in future FISU events."

The Winter Universiade, also known as the FISU World University Games, is the largest winter multisport event, right behind the Winter Olympic Games, and takes place in the similar fashion as the Olympics, with biannual alternating seasons.

The Winter Universiade was scheduled to take place in Central Switzerland and Lenzerheide in January, 2021, with students aged between 17 to 25- from more than 540 universities in 50 countries- expected to attend. A total of over 2500 individuals would normally participate.



The Winter Universiade was scheduled to take place in Central Switzerland and Lenzerheide in January, 2021.

"After more than four years of preparation, it is a painful decision, but in the end an easy one," Guido Graf, President of the Organising Committee and Cantonal Councillor of Lucerne, said. "The health of all the participants has always been the top priority in our evaluations."

The competition, as well as the unity it fosters between nations, is seen as a deep loss for all parties. "We are deeply sorry for this decision, but we are convinced it is the only right decision in the current situation," FISU president, Oleg Matytsin, said. "The Winter Universiade is a world sports event. In addition to the sporting competition, the exchange between nations is enormously important to us, as an element that brings people together. The current situation would have made this scenario impossible," Matytsin said.

All varsity sporting activities were cancelled by USPORTS for the fall term, also due to COVID-19. While USPORTS supports the postponement of the Universiade in the upcoming term, they have not yet announced a decision about whether USPORTS sanctioned activities during winter will be taking place.

U SPORTS remains in touch with FISU and the Lucerne 2021 Local Organizing Committee on the ongoing status of the Winter Games. Whether it will still take place at all, or be cancelled entirely, remains unclear.



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Executive Editor: Victoria Gray
editor@uwimprint.ca
Advertising & Production Manager: Laurie Tigert-Dumas
ads@uwimprint.ca
Editorial Assistant: Vacant
Sales Associate: Vacant
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Next scheduled post-mortem meeting: Virtual due to Covid-19

Next scheduled board of directors meeting: Virtual due to Covid-19

opinion

HAVE YOUR SAY

Submit your letter to the editor or your community editorial to editor@uwimprint.ca. Find more opinions at uwimprint.ca.

Why digital design in a global pandemic matters

ne angry tweet from the trending #youtube thread in response to the changes to the Youtube comment sections was "The world went mad downhill as soon as YouTube moved their comment section", and I couldn't agree more.

On July 1st, the comment section was moved to a collapsible tab below the Up Next section that promotes other videos on the platform. I and many others found this change to be incredibly jarring, but why? Is this actually bad design? I don't think so, in fact, I think it's good design. Good design drives behavior or provokes an emotion from the user. While the emotion it provokes is mostly rage, this design has been incredibly effective in driving the behavior of keeping people on the site and watching ads. Emphasizing the Up Next section primes the user. They are exposed to a new video before the one they are watching has

ended. This makes them more likely to remember it and watch it when their video ends. Thus keeping the user on the page watching videos, watching ads, and making Youtube money.

If this isn't a bad design then why do so many people hate it? Sure it's inconvenient but I think it's more than that. Comment sections are inherently social. Are they sometimes filled with spam, trolls, and hate? 100%. However, comment sections are also an opportunity to share a cultural experience. For example, when I watch a music video I like to read the comments to see if people like a new song as much as I do. It's like going to a concert, you don't directly interact with everyone in the crowd but if the crowd is super hype, you feel hype too. We are social creatures, we feed off each other's energy which informs the experience of the content being consumed. This is incredibly important in the context of the global pandemic. People are feeling incredibly isolated and have to rely on technology to fill some of the social voids this creates. When Youtube made the choice to prioritize user retention over social experience they made their product worse at filling that void. People are less likely to engage with comments if they are three clicks deep in the app. This makes the metaphorical crowd of the video just slightly quieter, making people feel slightly more isolated and making 2020 go slightly more downhill.

Margaret Brewster, 3B Scystems Design Engineering

How co-op cycle changes are beneficial to the UW community

W has updated their work term hiring process starting Fall 2020. Prior to this, the hiring process consisted of two rounds—main and continuous—spanning the entire duration of a term during which a student was applying followed by a direct offer period. The main round involved applying to a maximum of fifty job postings over the course of two weeks, after which interviews took place. The continuous round consisted of weekly cycles of applying and interviews, the results of which were announced every Thursday.

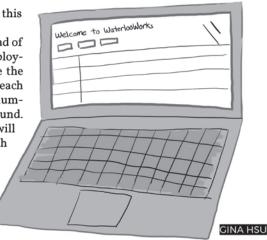
Now, the idea of main and continuous rounds has been abandoned. The process now consists of six cycles that span roughly 12 weeks, followed by a direct offer period. In these cycles, students can initially apply to 50 jobs, with increments of 50 in every new cycle. An extra employment cycle has also been added before the reading week to help bring about matches quicker. Cycles three to six are considered to be the "continuous round," where jobs are posted daily and are only live for two business days.

I believe that these changes were made in order to facilitate the hiring process for students during current times of economic downfall. I see several advantages to this new process.

Firstly, having multiple cycles, instead of a single main round, encourages employers to post jobs more frequently since the number of applications they receive in each cycle is significantly less than the number they would get from the main round. Moreover, this means that employers will have fewer applications to sift through in each cycle which gives them more time to carefully consider each application they receive. This ultimately helps students in giving them more postings to choose from (150 in the first month instead

of 100) and a fair chance at being interviewed. Interview results for the first two cycles are out before reading week. For many students, knowing they have secured a co-op going into their reading week is a huge relief. This takes off a lot of pressure and stress, allowing students to focus more on their academics without worrying about interviews and applications.

Overall, I think these changes, while not necessary, enhance the hiring process positively in response to the COVID-19 pan-



demic. It's really great to see the university helping people's mental health one cycle at a time during these turbulent times.

> Rohit Kaushik, 3A Computer Science

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September 2020

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Savour in Stratford — Saturday morning Market from 7 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Rotary Complex, and more, www. visitstratford.com.

Tuesday, Sepember 22

KW Chamber Music Society presents Penderecki Quartet performing "Beethoven's Razumovsky" at First United Church in Waterloo at 8 p.m. Also playing on September 23. Masks and social distancing will be in effect. No refreshments; washrooms will be open. Tickets can be purchased at ticketscene.ca.

volunteering

Your student newspaper, Imprint, is looking for volunteers for Fall term. Email editor@uwimprint.ca for more informa-

Bereaved Families of Ontario - Midwestern Region, The Family Centre, 65 Hanson Ave., Suite 1042, Kitchener. We currently have a number of exciting volunteer opportunities. For more info, jaime@ bfomidwest.org or 519-603-0196.

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IMPRINT JOBS - FALL TERM 2020 - UW WORK STUDY

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Sept 14 start; Monday to Friday, part-time; \$14.00/hour. Enthusiastic attitude about writing and Imprint in general. Experience in transcribing, interviewing, research and the ability to plan and write full articles quickly and without assistance.

For further information on job description or applying for this job, please email cover letter/ resume/portfolio samples to editor@uwimprint.ca or drop in to the office, SLC0137.

Position available upon funding.

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Sept 14 start; Monday to Friday, part-time; \$14.00/hour. Highly organized with excellent verbal and written skills, along with group management. Assisting the Executive Editor and Advertising and Production Manager with recruiting, Imprint training workshops, volunteer team spirit, appreciation, etc.

For further information on job description or applying for this job, please email cover letter and resume to editor@uwimprint.ca or drop in to the office, SLC0137.

Position available upon funding.

BOARD ASSISTANT

Sept 14 start ; Monday to Friday, 10 hours/week ; \$14.00/ hour.

Assisting the Executive Editor, Advertising and Production Manager and the Board of Directors with ongoing projects such as databases, committee participation, website upkeep for Board minutes, research and other jobs as required.

For further information on job description or applying for this job, please email cover letter and resume to ads@uwimprint.ca or drop in to the office, SLC0137.

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Sept 14 start; Monday to Friday, part-time; \$14.00/hour. Assisting the Executive Editor to ensure daily postings are completed for Imprint's social media channels. Connect with readers ; develop content ; multi-task assignments from various departments and use social media analytical tools to measure key metrics for editorial and adver-

For further information on job description or applying for this job, please email cover letter/ resume/portfolio samples to editor@uwimprint.ca or drop in to the office, SLC0137. Position available upon funding.

tising.

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distractions



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BY TIMI BERD



