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WEARING A MASK PROPERLY

The do's and don'ts of staying safe and wearing masks during the pandemic.



UW PLAZA VIOLATIONS

Mizu restaurant is accused of having the most infractions in the Waterloo region. P4

LETTERS TO A STRANGER P6-7

During these strange times, take a moment to unwind and take care of yourself.

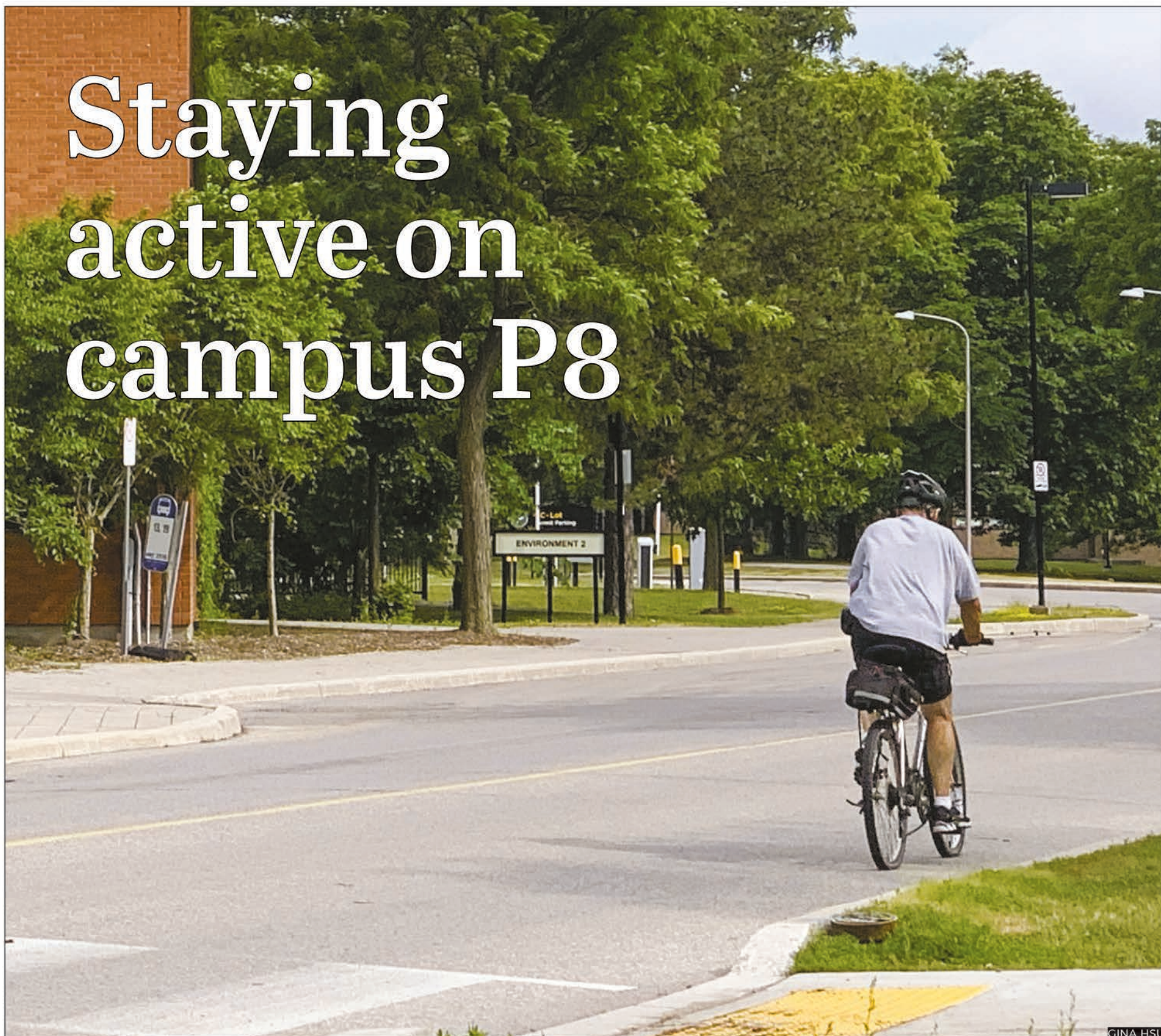
GSA 2020 P3

What did the Graduate Student Association accomplish this year.

STUDYING DURING COVID P10

What does university mean when tuition costs continue to rise despite online learning.

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Kitchener-Waterloo is not answering the call to fight racism

Felicia Daryonoputri
Assistant Science Editor

There have been numerous reports regarding racist incidents in the KW region in the weeks following the Black Lives Matter solidarity march that happened on June 3.

The KW government decided to organize a virtual anti-racism town hall on July 30 through 31.

"We are choosing to be optimistic in terms of how the event is going to go, so we're happy, at least there is this one step forward, but I think there've also been very direct requests and recommendations put forward that they can choose to follow up on," Lang Ncube, a representative of The African Caribbean Black Network Waterloo Region, said in an interview prior to the town hall.

The public was given the opportunity to sign up to speak at the virtual town hall through the engage UW website.

The delegates at the events were asked three questions and were given 10 minutes to answer them:

1. How has racism impacted you personally within the Region of Waterloo?
2. What sectors do you believe need to be represented in the advisory committee, and
3. What areas should the Region of Waterloo address immediately?

"They received a lot of applicants that it had to spill over to the second day, but it turns out that over half the people that were registered on the first day didn't even show up," Ncube said.

"When they're allowing everyone to speak, they're also opening-up the event for harm. Which did happen — the very last speaker at the event pretty much gaslighted all of the people at the prior presentations

and invalidated all of the experiences that were just being shared."

Another criticism of the town hall is that it was not focused on the next steps, but rather the re-telling of traumas.

"It really doesn't make sense to then have to, once again, have to retell all the stories of racist incidents, have to then recall the trauma that comes with it," Ncube said.

"Because now you have to relive your trauma, and the people listening, they also are living that trauma through you."

The Region of Waterloo has yet to respond to the calls to action and recommendations put up by The African, Caribbean, and Black Network Waterloo Region which included defunding the Waterloo Regional Police Service by a minimum of \$293 million.

This money will be reallocated to social programs such as community-led health and service initiatives.

Another recommendation that has yet to be addressed is the vocalization against the racist incidents that have been happening around the KW Region, including the anti-semitic posters at downtown Kitchener, the vandalism of Chinese characters, and many more.

"Up until today, there hasn't been any vocalization of that support," Ncube said.

"Because whenever we experience racism, whenever we're disenfranchised, all of that is very public and it's very visible. However, when it comes to actually denounce all those actions, you can't then say 'no, I'd like to do this privately.'"

The Region of Waterloo committed to forming an advisory committee to address the racism that has been happening in the area.

"If we're going to be engaging in this type of work, transparency is important," Ncube said, regarding this committee.

Police Briefs

A child was struck by a vehicle and sustained serious injuries.

On September 4 at 11 a.m., Emergency Services responded to a report of a motor collision on Margaret Ave. N., near Washington Ave., in Waterloo. A vehicle hit a child. The child was transported to an out-of-region hospital with serious injuries. Roads were closed for several hours while police investigated. The investigation is ongoing. Anyone who witnessed the collision is asked to contact police at 519-570-9777 ext. 8856.

On September 5 at midnight, Waterloo Regional Police responded to a disturbance in the area of Pearl Pl. and Scott St. in Kitchener. A male was arrested and charged with several offences, including assault with a weapon and possession of a weapon for a dangerous purpose. A victim was transported to hospital with non-life-threatening injuries as a result of the incident. Police seized a firearm and ammunition.

A man in a facemask sexually assaulted a woman.

On September 6 at 8 a.m., the woman was waking on King St. N. and Hickory

St. W. in Waterloo when a male suspect approached and sexually assaulted her. She was not injured. The suspect is described as a white male, 5'6" tall with a medium build. The suspect was last seen wearing a black jacket with the hood up, a black facemask and black track pants. Members of Waterloo Regional Police Service's Special Victims Unit continue to investigate. Anyone with information is asked to call police at 519-570-9777 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477.

Waterloo Regional Police arrested two men in connection to the fatal shooting of Irshad Sabriye, 20.

On November 26, 2019, at approximately 2:11 a.m., Sabriye, was killed on the on-ramp near Courtland Avenue and Highway 7/8. At 4 a.m., police responded to a report of a vehicle fire on Connaught St. in Kitchener. Police located a black, four-door, 2019 Nissan Sentra fully engulfed in flames. The investigation revealed that the homicide and vehicle fire were related.

Abdullah Haredo, 24, from Kitchener, has been charged with manslaughter and arson. Mohamad Alzarzour, 20, from Kitchener has been charged with accessory after the fact to

murder and arson.

Throughout the 10-month extensive investigation, members with the WRPS's major crime unit, general detectives, forensic identification unit, cybercrime unit, criminal intelligence branch and the drugs and firearms unit completed several search warrants at residences in the area of Vanier Dr. in Kitchener and Albert St. in Waterloo.

As a result of the completed warrants, police seized two loaded handguns with ammunition and prohibited magazines, 14 grams of suspected cocaine, 21 grams of suspected fentanyl, prescription pills, digital scales, drug press and packaging, Canadian currency, a motor vehicle seized as offence-related property

Hamzah Jama, 20, from Cambridge and Anwar Sabrie, 21, from Waterloo have been arrested and are jointly charged with the following offences: possession for the purpose of trafficking – schedule I (fentanyl), two counts of unauthorized possession of a restricted firearm, two counts of possession of a restricted firearm with ammunition, two counts of careless storage of firearm, two counts of possession of firearm knowing its possession is unauthorized,

unauthorized possession of a prohibited device. Arrest warrants have been issued for Abdullahi Mohamed, 20, from Waterloo, and Endret Grainca, 19, from Kitchener in relation to firearm and drug offences. Police encourage both males to seek legal counsel and turn themselves in. Alzour and Haredo are the only individuals currently charged in relation to the homicide of Sabriye; however, police believe there are others who may have been involved in the fatal shooting. This is an active and ongoing investigation. Anyone with information is asked to call police at 519-570-9777 ext. 8191 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477. Anonymous tips can also be submitted online at www.waterloocrimestoppers.com.

A man was arrested for selling a car that doesn't exist.

On September 4, Waterloo Regional Police arrested a 32-year-old Kitchener male, as a result of a search warrant at a Cambridge residence, in connection to an online scam involving the fraudulent sale of a vehicle. The male has been charged with several fraud-related offences.

The Grad Student Association: A year in review



The 2020 Grad Student Association (GSA) team strives to improve the graduate student experience for students at UW.

Naima N. Samuel
CEO and President of GSA

This past year the GSA has worked tirelessly to tackle unprecedented external pressures while striving to improve the graduate student experience. Here are some highlights of the GSA's efforts:

GSA core services: new GRT UPass agreement with once-a-year refund option; expansion of the health plan to include the EmpowerMe service at no cost; new legal service program; renovations of all spaces in the Graduate House and the addition of a ground patio.

Community building: "Pint of Politics" events; faculty nights; social events at Grad House including events focused on integrating satellite campuses and international themed events.

Advocacy: access to resources during COVID-19; term extensions; funding support; signature commitments from UW; equity strategy; faculty-level advocacy; endorsing unionization of graduate workers.

Funding contribution: \$75,000 for thesis completion awards and international student support; over \$20,000 to support social and academic graduate student initiatives; \$2,000 to support equity groups; \$1,000 to support research on sexual violence.

Internal governance: hired ex-

ecutive manager and hospitality manager, revamped GSA website and social media channels; risk management framework, director's handbook, four short-term research contracts; amalgamation of political positions from 16 to four; created three-year Strategic Plan.

"The year was marked with many victories amid multiple challenges. Through the coordinated efforts of our board, council and the executive team, we navigated the Student Choice Initiative in 2019 and the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, and not only sustained our operations but improved overall service delivery and support for graduate

students. We also saw an increase in engagement through our communication channels, as well as volunteer and paid opportunities with the GSA," Samuel said.

Our advocacy efforts in recent months have been focused on supporting graduate students through the pandemic.

We launched a petition to call on the University to reduce spring term tuition and are continuing conversations to ensure financial support is provided to graduate students.

David Billedeau, the GSA vice president and I diligently collaborated with the university administration to ensure that graduate

students had access to resources they needed and were informed of our efforts.

I am very grateful to all our campus partners for their efforts, particularly Jeff Casello, associate vice president, graduate studies and postdoc affairs and, Chris Read, associate provost, students, whose commitment to improving the graduate student experience enabled us to increase support for graduate students during the pandemic.

In the past few months, my team and I also worked to create a multi-prong strategy to address equity issues impacting graduate students. We held several meetings with

stakeholders and equity-seeking groups to ensure the GSA is actively involved in all discussions. We will start wider consultations with our BIPOC members in the coming term to set a direction to go forward.

A major undertaking of the GSA this past year was the development of a multi-year strategic plan, which I facilitated over the past seven months. The three-year Strategic Plan was developed and approved by the Board and implemented in fall 2020. I am very pleased with the outcome and hopeful that the Strategic Plan will help further improve the GSA's efforts in the future.

It's an honor to have served the graduate students for two and a half years. I am thankful to God for the strength to endure as I led the GSA during these unprecedented times. By serving with excellence and dedication, I believe we have set the stage for the GSA to become a national leader in providing graduate student support.

I am very excited to see the incoming president, David Billedeau, continue to climb the momentum and take the GSA to the next level.

"If you are passionate about making a meaningful impact for the graduate student community like I am, I encourage you to get involved with the GSA - your contribution can make a difference for all graduate students," Samuel said.

To find out more, read the GSA's 2019-2020 Annual Report and Strategic Plan.



PHOTOS COURTESY GSA

Restaurants near UW pose serious health code violations

Vidyut Chuwalewala
News Editor

Restaurants at the Campus Court Plaza and University Shops Plaza near UW have been riddled with health code violations and inspection issues, some of them even receiving court summons which could result in fines of up to \$25,000.

Health code violations in the area aren't

new, with four restaurants having their food seized and destroyed in September 2019. In the past 30 days, five restaurants have had critical food safety violations issued.

Court Summons are extremely rare in the food industry, but two restaurants in the area received court summons following multiple poor inspection results in January 2020.

A website run by the Region of Waterloo Public Health department highlights results

of all health inspections carried out in the region, including results for restaurants, salons, hotels, and other service providers of the region.

"You can't inspect your way to food safety," Keith Warriner, a food science professor at the University of Guelph, told CBC news. He added that higher fines and punishments should be levied on the offender, along with inspectors threatening to close their restaurant if they continue to offend.

Inspection reports claim that there are three more restaurants in University Shops Plaza that have had poor inspection records in August, with each receiving at least three violations - including a poor valuation on the safety of their food.

"What often happens is that one feeds off the others, it's just like people saying 'Well, look, they're getting away with this, why shouldn't we do the same?'" Warriner elaborated.

Warriner said that levying harsh penalties and preventing consumers from going to these restaurants are two measures that could help change health and hygiene at restaurants.

Mizu Restaurant at the University Shops Plaza has had the most offences in Waterloo region, with over 20 infractions in five inspections since October 2019. Mizu has been linked to food contamination and one point cited with "not protected against the entry and harbouring of pests," and three times for storing food on the floor. Mizu is

just one of five restaurants that have faced serious health infractions in the past year, having had its food destroyed by officials at one point.

Warriner added that being informed about health code violations and knowing the right information is extremely important to prevent consumers from going to restaurants like these. This will only be possible if Waterloo has as good a program as Toronto's DineSafe in place.

DineSafe requires restaurants in Toronto to display a coloured sticker — red, yellow, or green — near the entrance, depending on the business's last inspection result.

DineSafe was put in place by help from Jim Chan, who was previously a Toronto Health Inspector. This program led to a substantial rise in restaurant compliance. The compliance rate was around 78 per cent when the program was first launched in 2001.

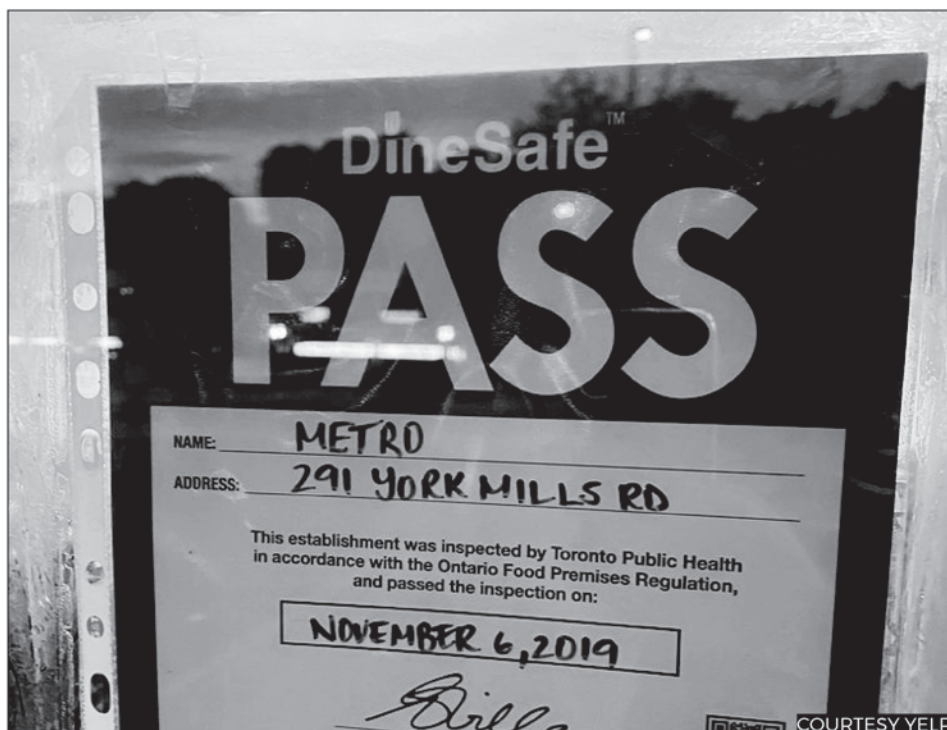
"Two or three years later, it went up to 85 per cent and now it's around 90 to 92 per cent compliance," Chan told CBC news.

Chan thought that the website run by the Region of Waterloo's Public Health department can help provide the same information, but it is an imperfect system.

"If you don't have a smartphone or tablet with you, how are you going to search it? They're not going to spend two, three hours looking into a website, before they even go for lunch or dinner." Chan added to CBC news.



COURTESY CBC



Above: Mizu Restaurant has received the most infractions since October 2019. Below: Toronto implements the DineSafe program where business' must display a red, yellow, or green sticker depending on their inspection results.

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.

UW INDIGENOUS STUDENT ASSOCIATION





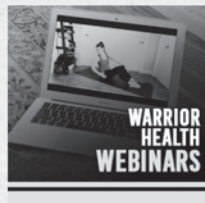
ATHLETICS AND RECREATION



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HEALTHY WARRIORS AT HOME

FREE PROGRAMS AVAILABLE FOR STUDENTS!



GOWARRIORSGO.CA/ONLINEREC

IN PERSON PROGRAMMING

GOWARRIORSGO.CA/REGISTRATION

- » Intramurals (Register: Sept 1-14)
- » Fitness Classes
- » Clubs



FACILITIES UPDATES

We are making our best efforts for a phased reopening with the health and safety of our students at the forefront.

Wondering what is open or what facilities we have to offer?

- » Overview of facilities www.gowarriorsgo.ca/facilities
- » Updates on openings www.gowarriorsgo.ca/covid19

ESPORTS

REC LEAGUE TITLES

Registration Dates: September 1-14

- » League of Legends
- » Overwatch
- » Rocket League
- » Hearthstone
- » FIFA20
- » NHL20
- » NBA2K
- » Madden20
- » Smash Melee
- » Smash Ultimate
- » Catan

REC TOURNAMENT

October 3, November 7, November 28

- » Hearthstone
- » Clash Royale
- » Catan

COMPETITIVE TEAMS

Tryout dates: September 11-13

- » League of Legends
- » Overwatch
- » Rocket League



Want to stay up to date with Rec programs, events, job opportunities, tips and tricks on how to stay well, facility information and more? Visit www.gowarriorsgo.ca/warriorsinsider to sign up for our *NEW* newsletter.

GOWARRIORSGO.CA



#GOBLACKGOGOLD

arts & life

Letters to a stranger

To You,

I'd read a while back about survivor's guilt. A feeling usually felt by people who feel guilty for surviving a traumatic event when others did not. Every time I read a headline about things going wrong in the world, I feel a subdued sense of guilt for being directly unaffected by it. For narrowly missing so many disasters. For not being able to understand the plight of all those affected, but pretending to imagine being able to. But what follows that guilt is an overwhelming sense of gratitude. Gratitude for the things I've overlooked and taken for granted. Gratitude for the privilege I have. When I talk to most people about this, they are quick to defend the things I deem a privilege—a stable roof above my head, fresh air, a world-class education, supportive parents, friends I trust. I know that a lot of people think of this as the default setting, a given in most cases. But at times, this gratefulness also brings along a sense of wonder and amazement for the little things in life, that if I sit down to list, to a lot. We've been taught there's strength in numbers, there's power in many. So tell me, won't the many small things that make you happy add up to something more that can make you feel grateful?

In a war, doesn't winning the smaller battles ultimately lead to victory? Then why isn't it easier to count the battles we survived? Lion King has this beautiful, beautiful line, "The past can hurt. But the way I see it, you can either run from it or learn from it." Do you remember your last battle, and how getting through it seemed almost too difficult? You almost believed it would never end, but it did, didn't it? You learnt from it; it made you stronger. Each sunrise sees you stronger than the previous day's sunset; you got through the night. Why believe you won't again?

When I was a little girl, my grandpa used to extend two clenched palms and asked me to pick one. One of them had candy, the other one was empty. If I chose the empty one, he'd laugh and close my eyes, and when I'd open them, there was only one palm to pick. Just like that, I'd get another chance. If I chose the other one, I'd get the candy. Either way, I'd end up happy with a sweet taste in my mouth. I like to think life could be that simple. You get second chances. You need to vehemently believe with all your heart. You need to persevere.

As the leaves turn to red and orange, and the days get shorter and colder, find the little things that make you feel alive. When you step out of the house and see a white cloud of escaping breath, stop and notice it. It's proof that you're alive. Proof that your body and heart is warm. Proof that not everything in that moment is cold. If seeing is believing, believe it when you see the air go up towards the sky. The warmth is inside you, you don't have to go looking for it anywhere. In your universe, you are the sun, you don't need anyone else's light to shine. Everyone needs you to survive. You are the most important. I hope you believe in that. When the dust settles down, I hope you stand tall.

Yours,
Someone who believes.

"You are the most important. I hope you believe in that. When the dust settles down, I hope you stand tall."

“You’re not alone.”

To whomever is reading this letter,

This year may seem harder than usual, but believe me when I say you’re already successful, even before this term begins. I think a majority of people won’t be particularly fond of this year, and that is not their fault. After all, this year has been filled with unpleasant news every month. But this is a letter from me to you with a very long warm hug, just to give you some hope and to say that I am so very proud of you! Even though your path has become uncertain and twisted, I know you fought your battles and stood up strong with more courage than ever, even if you don’t believe so. This letter is about completely giving you credit for the amazing, amazing person you are, with the purest heart and the most loving nature. Being surrounded with the most heartbreaking form of atrocities, you managed to pull yourself together and provide support and hope to your friends and family. Your parents are so proud of you. You can brighten everyone’s day with that radiant smile of yours. You’re like a cup of hot chocolate with marshmallows on a cold dreadful snowy night. I know things will always work out for you because you make sure to do everything in your power to get what you want, and that will be so helpful in the coming months when you feel low or left out. You never hesitate to take the extra step (or the last slice of pizza) and to me, it just reflects how giving and caring you are. Osho once said, “This too shall pass.” I know times are tough and it feels insane not knowing how this year, your year, will turn out. But I can assure you the rest of this year, your year, is going to be full of hope, adventures, new friends, and just a little bit of studies! I want you to remember you’re not alone. I will be with you every step of the way because you are worth it. Whatever you choose to put your heart and soul into is worth it. Taking time out for yourself is worth it. You need to know that there are so many people in the world who love you deeply, and I am one of them. Always remember that when you feel low, when you’re about to give up, or just when you need a pick-me-up. I have faith in you, I hope you can have faith in yourself.

Yours,
The person you need me to be.

Dear Stranger,

Hi there! The last few months have got me dwelling on random thoughts that have given me a fresh perspective to things –a thought process that I still have trouble describing. Still, I suppose I do know one thing for sure. All of us have a tendency to anticipate, to find comfort amidst the unknown, calm within the chaos, to sometimes plan, re-plan and modify opportunities. These choices that lay ahead of us ease us into the upcoming and sadly inevitable ‘change.’ Take for example 2020—a new decade, a time for many students to graduate, many to venture into the ‘real’ world, many to step out of their comfort-zones in a quest to fulfill their passion. A time for new places to be added to the wishlist, new items to be added to the bucket list. However, a couple months in, it was more than clear that hopes were going to be shattered, rays of light were going to go unnoticed, and nightmares were going to turn into reality. One of which included being constrained to stay within four walls—a last resort for the social beings we are.

As you’re reading this, you may relate to at least one thing I’ve listed above. The roller-coaster you had to unwittingly get on without even having fastened your seatbelt properly must be running through your mind. We may not know each other, but I know this ride seems long and you’re unsure of it ever coming to a halt. I know that instead of making the most of this enthralling roller coaster ride, you’re busy overthinking it. I want you to know you’re not alone. That such is life—a series of highs and lows, a questionable and sometimes unfair concoction of the supposed good and evil.

And the best thing you can do is think of it one day at a time. Focus on this moment and be fully present. Only then will you enjoy the beauty around you, feel the love of those who care for you, who are silently thinking about you and praying for your well-being. Feel the adrenaline rush on your way up, the sinking feeling in your stomach on the way down, the knot on the loops. I can assure you when you look back at the path you’ve covered, you will be proud of yourself.

Sometimes you may feel alone, but that’s okay—it will help you appreciate the people who have stuck by you and strengthen your relationships. I know you might doubt this sometimes, but you are amazing. You do matter. And it’s all going to be the best of what it can be, really really soon. For now, the sun may be setting over the horizon, but remember that when it rises again tomorrow, it will bring you a fresh chance to fulfil your dreams—hold on to that sense of hope. The stars will shine on you, and you will find your light grow astronomically. Someday, you will marvel at it too.

You do you.

Yours,
A fellow hopeful human.

“I have faith in you, I hope you can find faith in yourself.”

sports & health



WRITE FOR SPORTS
Want to go to UW games for *Imprint*?
You'll be able to talk to players, coaches, and fans!
For more info, email sports@uwimprint.ca.

Exercising on UW campus: what you need to know to stay safe

Julie Daugavietis
Science Editor

Many students have moved back to Waterloo this fall and are adjusting to the new normal.

While UW's Physical Activity Complex (PAC) and Columbia Ice Field (CIF) might have formerly been a staple in keeping active at university, new safety guidelines and restrictions may put a damper on old routines.

Fortunately, UW Athletics has adapted its services accordingly to allow students to continue exercising in a safe manner. Here is all you need to know before heading to PAC or CIF for a workout:

Follow COVID-19 guidelines:

You must follow the following guidelines at all times while using the facilities; make sure you are able to comply with the guidelines before registering, as well as before entering the facility.

You must ensure that: you do not have an active case of COVID-19, you do not have any COVID-19 symptoms and feel well, you have not traveled outside of Canada within the last 14 days, you will maintain a two metre distance from others at all times.

Registering for your workout:

For all activities within CIF and the pool at PAC, advanced registration is required. Registration is easy, online, and completely free. All you need to do is visit the UW Athletics and Recreation Facility Access Res-

ervation website and select a date and time that is available for your chosen activity that works for you. Each activity that you select will have a 45 minute time slot, with 15 minutes afterward for transition and cleaning.

Before getting to your chosen facility:

Make sure you are prepared. CIF change rooms are inaccessible during this time, and there will be limited washroom access. It may be easier to change at home, or if this is not possible for you, make sure to allot time for a potential wait for the washroom.

Additionally, you must remember to bring your Watcard, as a Watcard with tap functionality is required to enter the buildings. This is necessary in order to track who is coming in and out of the building, monitoring social distancing, and maintaining clean and sanitized spaces. If you do not bring your Watcard, you will not be able to enter the building.

Once you arrive:

When entering any building, you must be wearing a mask that covers your mouth and nose. Also remember to follow the other safety guidelines as above, such as maintaining your distance from others.

When reserving your workout spot, you will have received a confirmation email showing important information on how to enter and exit the building, along with other guidelines that you need to be aware of in the facilities. It may be helpful to carry a copy of this email on your phone, in case you forget which entrance or exit to use and how to navigate the facility safely.

Once your workout is complete:

Reservation slots are moderated and staggered in order to keep participants at a safe distance while using facilities, so make sure you exit the building within 15 minutes after your scheduled activity is complete. As with entering, make sure you use the correct designated doors for exiting.

As long as you follow protocols, you can still enjoy your workout at UW's athletic facilities. You can view frequently asked

questions about facility reopening as well as facility cleaning procedures on the UW athletics website.

Alternately, if you are unable to exercise in the facilities in person, you can get active with Healthy Warriors at Home (<https://athletics.uwaterloo.ca/sports/2020/5/5/physical-activity-and-nutrition.aspx>) to exercise without leaving your home.

Whichever way you choose to remain active, make sure to also remain safe.



COURTESY WATERLOO CHRONICLE

CIF and PAC remain open with new guidelines and rules for working out.



WARRIOR RECREATION BINGO!

September 8 - 30, 2020

Get active and healthy this September!
Focus on movement, sleep, hydration and nutrition.

WIN!

GREAT PRIZES FROM:



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DID YOU RECEIVE A WELLNESS BOX FROM WUSA?

Snap a picture of the Warriors sticker from your WUSA Box and share it on social media for your chance to win a

\$250 Best Buy gift card or \$100 truLOCAL box!



The do's and don'ts of face masks

Abby Zinman
Reporter

Just a year ago, if you would have asked me how to put on a face mask, I would have given you a confused look. However, as a result of these unfortunate times, a mask has been added to the list of things I need whenever I leave my house, alongside my wallet, keys, and phone. In order to protect yourself and others from COVID-19, it is essential to understand why, how, and when we should use masks.

DO: Wear a mask in public spaces and when coming close to those not in your “bubble.”

Since COVID-19 was declared as a pandemic in March, there have been hundreds of studies proving the effectiveness of wearing masks. One study, conducted by Christopher Leffler and Joseph Lykins from Virginia Commonwealth University, Edsel Ing from university of Toronto, Craig McKeown from University of Miami Miller, Andrzej Grybowski from University of Warmia, and Mazury and Matthew C. Hogan - scientists from the US and Canada - found that, after looking closely at 196 countries, the countries with regulations and laws encouraging citizens to wear masks had significantly decreased death rates.

While it may seem like an extra person wearing a mask won't make a difference to

your country's COVID-19 rates, it absolutely will.

DON'T: Complain about how uncomfortable your mask is.

You know what's more irritating than wearing a mask? Getting COVID-19 and spreading it to your family, friends, and acquaintances. Just ask anyone who has been wearing a mask since March — or any surgeon — you can, and will, get used to it. Try different kinds of masks to discover the type you find most comfortable, and hold your comments about how “annoying” it is to wear a mask.

DO: Get creative by making your own masks!

DIY masks? Count me in! All you need for this craft is fabric and elastic. Reusable masks are better for the environment, and you can customize your mask based on your personality and interests. If you aren't the crafty type, try ordering some masks online that speak to your style. They are cheap, effective, and trendy!

DON'T: Wear your mask incorrectly.

This just in: when your mask does not cover your mouth and nose, it is easier for your air particles to find their way out! And, please, don't even think about cutting out holes for your nose and mouth so that you can “breathe more easily” — if your mask feels too breezy, it needs some adjustments.

Remember: masks on until COVID is gone. Stay safe and stay healthy, Warriors!



ROHIT KAUSHIK

Wear masks in public spaces and when coming close to those not in your “bubble.”

Write for science and tech

Email science@uwimprint.ca

imprint

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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.

What does university mean in 2020?

The COVID-19 pandemic has created a socio-industrial Fourth Turning. Like The First World War, people will look back and refer to the pandemic as before and the after. And like The First World War many institutions that existed before will become forever changed after, if not obsolete.

Education is not immune to this, nor should it be. The U.N. Secretary-General has referred to the educational challenges during the pandemic as a "generational catastrophe."

Universities, have come under attack, as students and their families continue to advocate for reduced tuition, while universities maintain, if not increase costs for students. This is not a surprise: the cost of a university education has doubled even after inflation from 1989 to 2016.

The increasing cost of education begs the question, for what purpose? Addressing this question begins with reflecting on the cultural attitudes toward education, and provoking questions about their validity.

Higher education is an investment of time and money. From my perspective, the investment is justified in three ways: economic return, consumption, and intellectual growth.

The first is that it is almost an economic necessity in today's climate. SNHU says, someone with a bachelor's degree makes an average of \$1 million more than someone without over the course of their lifetime. Corollaries to this increased income include those with post-secondary educations living longer and happier.

In this system, having post-secondary education is a pre-requisite for professional success and a pathway to socioeconomic mobility.

This model doesn't seem efficient. Although 60 per cent of people with bachelor's degrees find identity and purpose in their work, 38 per cent don't and only 27 per cent work in fields related to their education.

Attending university doesn't make you more likely to enjoy your work; rather, the socially-constricted career pathways created by viewing universities as degree-mills has made it that those with a university degree have many more job opportunities. Educated people are viewed as better thinkers.

Employers use higher education as a signifier of competence and ability. Yet, through a study involving students at the London School of Economics and eclectic British secondary schools, prominent intelligence-researcher, James Flynn, found that university pupils were no better at applying fundamental, abstract concepts of economics, physical and social sciences, and logic

to common, real-world scenarios than the high school students. Even more, those at the top of their class performed no better than those at the bottom.

These facts beg us to meditate on three questions about the education itself: what is wrong with what students are learning, how students are learning, and particularly in light of COVID, how students are tested? We need to question why university is a pre-requisite for careers when they don't align skill-wise with the topics learned.

Some professions, like medicine, require degrees, why are others, like some business, dependent on a university degree when these jobs require extensive on-the-job education that is unrelated to people's academic backgrounds, like investment banking Excel training? By normalizing higher education we end up with a zero-sum game. And as shown by Flynn's work, the circuitous path through higher education does not result in better critical thinkers for employers, although it does present a larger barrier for those of lower socioeconomic standing.

With increasingly competitive admission standards for university, there are already qualifiers for employers to use as signalers of competence and discipline amongst high school students. However, there is a common rebuttal to this proposition: "high-school students aren't mature enough."

There's an overemphasis, and overrated understanding of how much going to university has in maturity, which leads me to my next point: consumption.

To employers, college provides a buffer for teenagers to mature before pivoting into the workforce. For students and their families, it's a period of independence, and fun, or consumption. Popular media has continued to misrepresent undergrad as the best time of one's life

There's no doubt that students mature throughout undergrad, or that it is fun.

However, that isn't to say that students wouldn't mature faster if they were to take time to travel or enter the workforce immediately. In many ways, seeing university as the "glory days" enforces it as a unique opportunity for students to go wild, which extends adolescence. I know many people who balance their studies with professional aspirations and social lives, I know just as many, if not more who go out four nights a week and sleep in until noon every day.

This isn't to shame anyone. Social life is a large and important part of personal development, the nature of its representation in media is unrealistic and unproductive.

Oddly enough, economic and consumption investment norms are the most common motivations for students to pursue

higher education, but they aren't aligned with the ethos behind the founding of universities: pursuit of knowledge and intellectual growth.

This has caused a reality where the use of university is misaligned with its ethos; rather than intellectual incubators, universities are high-stress environments where aspirational echo chambers cloud people's life ambitions and detract from the pursuit of knowledge. By focusing so much on employability, there is less focus on learning. Employers use grades as a proxy for intelligence and drive. This a terrible metric for competence, and fundamentally corrupts the learning experience.

As per Goodhart's Law, "when a measure becomes a target, it ceases to be a good measure." The overemphasis on grades in contemporary advanced learning centers results in testing and student learning that does not emphasize strong conceptual understanding, pushing students instead to do the least amount possible to achieve the highest grade. I first wondered, and subtly hoped, that this observation was unique to my own experience and some of my friends, some of whom said they "had learned nothing" as they collected their Bachelor's degrees and shipped off to medical schools and law schools alike.

As Richard Arum found in research for his book *Academically Adrift*, 45 per cent of students demonstrate no improvement in critical thinking, complex reasoning, and writing in their first two years of university. By the end of the degree 36 per cent don't improve at all. With the average degree costing roughly \$26,000 in tuition in Canada, the intellectual returns are dismal at best and non-existent at worst.

As the real-time educational experiment of distanced learning continues, tuition costs continue to increase. The Financial Times said this will likely decrease enrollment and force Universities to rlower tuition. Although needed, this isn't enough.

Higher education does satisfy its appeals of economic investment, consumption and intellectual growth. Yet, the investment methodology is more vaguely heuristic and dysfunctional than focused and efficient.

The objective of a meticulous educational structure is to ease the resistances in the pursuit of knowledge. It's clear that we need to re-assess our perceptions and organizations of higher education. COVID makes it non-negotiable. The time for change is now, and it starts with a conversation.

Conor Truax
 Systems Design Engineering 3B

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upcoming events

AUGUST 2020

For all of UpTown Waterloo Fall activities visit www.uptownwaterloo.com.
Savour in Stratford — Saturday morning Market from 7 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Rotary Complex, and more, www.visitstratford.com.

SEPTEMBER 2020

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

Tuesday, September 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 information.

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.

Become a Meals On Wheels volunteer! Call 519-772-8787 or www.communitysupportconnections.org/volunteer/apply.

help needed

NOT JUST TOURISTS — We are a humanitarian organization that pack medical supplies and bring them to developing countries. We are in need of volunteers, donors and travelers. For more information, please visit www.notjusttourists.com.

IMPRINT JOBS - FALL TERM 2020 - UW WORK STUDY

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

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, SLCO137.

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, SLCO137.

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, SLCO137.

Position available upon funding.

SOCIAL MEDIA ASSISTANT

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 advertising.

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, SLCO137. Position available upon funding.

AVAILABLE UW WORK STUDY POSITION REQUIREMENTS

You must be a full-time student and OSAP eligible. Candidates must first apply to Student Award and Financial Aid Office for approval. If approved, candidates are required to bring Declaration of Student's Eligibility/Hiring Form to Imprint interview.

VOLUNTEERING

NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED
Section Editors for News, Opinion, Arts, Sports, Science, Distractions.
Other positions available. Apply to editor@uwimprint.ca.

distractions



Q: WHY DID THE CHICKEN CROSS THE ROAD?

A: BECAUSE THE CHICKEN BEHIND IT DIDN'T KNOW HOW TO SOCIALLY DISTANCE PROPERLY.

Sudoku

EASY

4								
	3	6		7		4	2	
5				6	4	9	7	
	5	7	6					
2	9	3	4		1	6	5	7
				7	1	3		
	6	2	8	1				9
	4	8		5		7	1	
								3

HARD

4								
	3	6		7		4	2	
5				6	4	9	7	
	5	7	6					
2	9	3	4		1	6	5	7
					7	1	3	
	6	2	8	1				9
	4	8		5		7	1	
								3

COURTESY WEBSUDOKU



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