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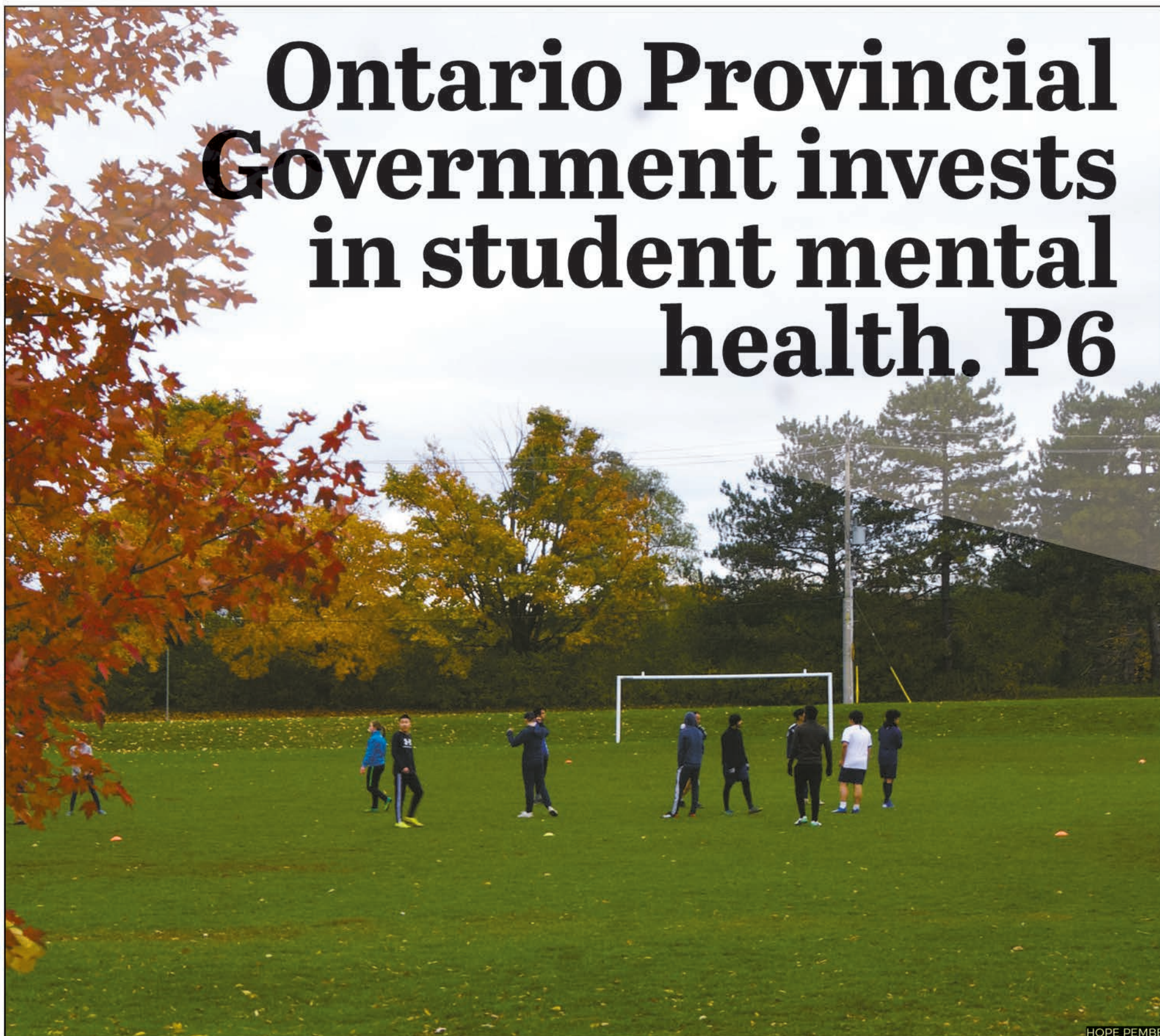
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WRPS releases police escalation data

Neha Lakshman Mandenganam
Assistant News Editor

Waterloo Regional Police Chief Bryan Larkin says the region should not shy away from uncomfortable conversations about how we police our communities.

Waterloo Regional Police have released use of force statistics with race-bias data included, for the first time ever.

The statistics show 244 instances during which a police officer drew a gun, a taser, a baton, or other means of physical force while responding to a call for service.

Black people in Waterloo Region are over-represented in police use-of-force incidents.

Despite making up only three per cent of the region's population, incidents where the



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subject was perceived as Black accounted for 16 per cent of all means of force incidents by the Waterloo Regional Police.



CANDICE CHENG

In 66 per cent of all instances when means of force was used, the subject was perceived as white.

White people make up 80 percent of the Waterloo region's population.

These findings are common, and they demonstrate the need for the serious conversations being held about police brutality and the policing of our communities.

The recent shift to more openly address racial biases in policing is long overdue, but has gained serious attention in the summer of 2020, following the murder of George Floyd by Minneapolis police in May of this year.

However, the shift is losing its momentum as city councillors back down from pledges to defund Waterloo's police department. Chief of Police Bryan Larkin of the Waterloo region has contrary beliefs.

He welcomes the increased attention towards the police service, but warns about drawing conclusions from a small set of numbers.

Police Briefs

The Waterloo Regional Police are looking for two suspects involved in a robbery in the area of Kingsway Drive and Cedarwoods Crescent in Kitchener.

A call was received on November 1, 2020, around 3 p.m. A pedestrian crossing Kingsway Drive when a vehicle drove past them aggressively and the pedestrian and the driver and the passenger of the vehicle got into an argument. The driver and passenger then pulled out a knife and took the victim's groceries. The first suspect has been described as a White male, six-feet, four-inches tall with a large build and several tattoos on his face. The male was last seen wearing a t-shirt and faded jeans. The second suspect has been described as a Black male and was last seen wearing a black baseball hat, black hoody and black pants. The suspects' vehicle was described as a small blue car, possibly a Hyundai or Honda, with a new, blue Ontario licence plate. Anyone with information is asked to call police at 519-570-9777 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477.

A vehicle fled from the police while they were attempting a traffic stop in the area of Rankin Street in Waterloo on October 31, 2020, at approximately 8:10 p.m.

The pursuit of the vehicle was ended after a short distance due to public safety concerns.

The investigation is ongoing.

Anyone who may have been in the area at the time, or has information relating to the incident, is encouraged to call police at 519-570-9777 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477.

A 43-year-old Kitchener male was charged with uttering threats to cause death on October 30, 2020.

The Waterloo Regional Police received a report of a male uttering threats to several individuals on Rankin Street in Waterloo around 7:55 pm.

As the police arrived, the male barricaded himself and members of the Emergency Response Team negotiated for five hours before they could proceed to arrest the male.

A hate-motivated graffiti was found at the front entrance of an elementary school in the area of Chesapeake Drive and New Bedford Drive in Waterloo. On October 29, 2020, the Waterloo Regional Police received a report and found during investigation that door handles were secured with tape. The investigation is ongoing.

Anyone with information is encouraged to call police at 519-570-9777 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477.

Waterloo Regional Police continue to investigate a report of a sexual assault that occurred during October 2020, at a place of worship on Snyder's Road East, west of Trusler Road in Petersburg.

The investigation remains ongoing by the Waterloo Regional Police Service's Special Victims Unit.

Anyone with information relating to this incident or incidents of similar nature, or any other potential victims, are asked to contact Police at 519-570-9777 or call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477.

A series of fires have occurred in Waterloo over the past month.

On October 3, 2020, at approximately 2:55 a.m., a fire was reported in the area of Erb Street West.

On October 10, 2020, at approximately midnight, a fire was reported in the area of Amos Avenue.

On October 15, 2020, at approximately midnight, a fire was reported in the area of Regina Street.

On October 20, 2020, at approximately 9 a.m., a fire was reported on Columbia Street West.

On October 26, 2020, at approximately 6:50 a.m., a fire was reported on Lester Street. On October 27, 2020, at approximately 2:10 p.m., a fire was reported on Northfield Drive.

The investigation is ongoing.

The Waterloo Regional Police are working with the Waterloo Fire Department and the Ontario Office of the Fire Marshal.

Anyone with information regarding these fires is encouraged to call police at 519-570-9777 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477.

UW's planned divestment of fossil fuels pushed back until 2021

Genevra Mae Villar
News Editor

The University of Waterloo's Board of Governors delayed their decision to divest from fossil fuels to 2021 as they continue to consider the proposal from over 2,100 members of the UW community delivered on Oct. 27, 2020.

The board is expected to record their decision next meeting in early February 2021. For the time being, UW's finance and investment committee are investigating further into divestment.

The letter, signed by 431 faculty and staff members at UW, called for divestment from fossil fuel and investment in establishing an environmentally-sound future for the university.

A similar petition was signed by over 1,700 students.

The 2,100+ signees asked the Board of Governors to immediately begin a process for divesting UW's endowment and pension plans completely from fossil fuels (oil, gas, and coal) and transitioning toward a carbon-neutral portfolio.

In addition to the ethical argument surrounding divestment there is an economic

argument, as the financial returns on fossil fuels in the past two years have plummeted.

The fossil fuel sector is in financial trouble, which is worsening as the COVID-19 pandemic continues.

Even before the pandemic, a study estimated that the University's investment in fossil fuel had lost at least \$20 million between 2011 and 2015.

Olaf Weber, an advocate for divestment, professor, and the university's research chair in sustainable finance, said he hadn't been expecting an early decision as the Board of Governors have to follow their decision-making processes.

"What I was missing, however, was a clear commitment that we have to stop financing climate change because climate change will have a negative impact on the future of our students," Weber said.

"With many universities in Canada already declared to divest, the Board and the committee should explain why they do not address such an important issue such as climate change with everything they can.

This is not the behavior I expect from a university that wants to be the most innovative in Canada, that conducts climate-related research, and wants to become carbon neutral."



Canadian schools and universities justify ties with China's Confucius Institute

Rohit Kaushik
Reporter

Universities, school boards across Canada defend ties with China's Confucius Institutes

Canadian schools and universities with ties to China's Confucius Institutes say they see no reason to reassess those partnerships, despite a lack of clarity over the influence the Chinese-government-backed education organization has in some Vancouver-area schools.

An examination of documents obtained through Freedom of Information requests found the Confucius Institute has helped some schools in the district purchase supplies, such as laptops, for Mandarin classes that are part of the curriculum.

The examination also found that assess-

ments of the programs requested feedback on attitudes toward the Confucius Institute in the community.

The documents, which included emails, a board meeting agenda, and the full text of agreements signed with Confucius headquarters, contain details of payments for the district's Mandarin bilingual programs at Walton Elementary School, Scott Creek Middle School, and five local high schools. In 2017, more than 3,500 children attended Confucius courses in Coquitlam.

Over the past decade, critics have objected against Confucius Institutes in Canada providing paid trips to China for staff, and questioned whether China is using the organization to influence Canadian affairs.

McMaster University closed its Confucius Institute in 2013 over practices that appeared to prohibit teachers hired in China and sent abroad to teach.

The Toronto District School Board ended its Confucius Institute program in 2014, and New Brunswick will follow suit by 2022. The British Columbia Institute of Technology closed down its program last year.

Agreements at Saint Mary's University

and the University of Waterloo's Renison University College are up for renewal this year, with decisions pending.

The Canadian Association of University Teachers in 2014 encouraged its members to sever ties with the Confucius Institute.



COURTESY UW

Renison's decision to renew the contract is still pending.

Haudenosaunee Six Nations land defenders continue occupation of 1492 Land Back Lane

Jansher Saeed
Editorial Assistant

The Haudenosaunee and Ontario Provincial Police have spent more than 100 days at odds in a construction zone in Haldimand County.

October 26 marked 100 days since Haudenosaunee Six Nations land defenders first occupied McKenzie Meadows construction site in Caledonia, referred to by protestors as 1492 Land Back Lane. The day before marked 236 years since the Haldimand Treaty was signed, giving 10 kilometres on either side of the Grand River from its mouth (in current day Dundalk, Ont.) to the shore of Lake Erie to the Haudenosaunee for their help fighting in the American Revolutionary War.

Protestors contend that the planned development infringes on Indigenous sovereignty as the site is located on unceded Indigenous land near the Six Nations of the Grand River reserve.

"The proposed development is on the doorstep of the Six Nations of the Grand River reserve. We want to preserve our ability to be a united Haudenosaunee community, and that ability is threatened by the development of 1400 homes at Sixth Line and Highway 6," Skyler Williams, a spokesper-

son for 1492 Land Back Lane land defenders said.

Located near Brantford, Ontario, The Six Nations of the Grand River reserve is Canada's largest reserve at 190 square kilometres. The reserve represents only five per cent of the land promised to the Six Nations by the 1784 Haldimand Treaty, territory known as the Haldimand Tract that includes the University of Waterloo, and its Waterloo, Kitchener and Cambridge campuses.

The land the University of Waterloo is situated on is part of the traditional territories of the Anishnaabeg and the Neutral peoples, who are now a part of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy.

Demonstrations to support 1492 Land Back Lane were held on Bridgeport Bridge in Kitchener on October 16. Protestors hung banners with slogans that read "1492 Land Back Lane," "no consent, no construction," and "no cops on stolen land."

Callum Batten, a member of the solidarity group, said the decision to hang banners there was intentional.

"We chose that spot mostly because of the implications of it also being connected to the Grand River that connects to Six Nations," Batten said.

Occupation of McKenzie Meadows by a group of Six Nations land defenders began after Foxgate Developments, a joint construction project, started to build 218 de-

tached homes and townhouses in the area.

The land defenders set up barricades and renamed the site 1492 Land Back Lane, referring to their well-documented claim to the Haudenosaunee territory. According to Six Nations land defenders, the Canadian government unlawfully sold the land to a private party in 1853.

On July 30, Foxgate Developments was granted an Ontario Superior Court injunction over the occupied territory, which called for an end to the occupation.

On August 5, Ontario Provincial Police raided the camp, making nine arrests while protestors responded with group blockades on Argyle Street in Caledonia, the Highway 6 bypass, and Sixth Line, along with a nearby rail line. Since then, Haldimand OPP Constable Rod LeClair said a total of 21 people have been arrested in connection with the occupation of McKenzie Meadows as OPP work to enforce a series of injunctions and ultimatums sanctioned by Superior Court Justice R. John Harper.

"I have made numerous attempts to de-escalate the police and explain how their presence causes ongoing harm and stress because of their violence towards our people. Our community's actions protect our lives and safety. Police continue to threaten arrest, and it's up to us to keep ourselves safe from these oppressive police tactics.

Police have no place in dealing with land

disputes," Williams said.

According to LeClair, The OPP ensures their role is limited to providing public safety and has nothing to do with playing a part in the land disputes.

"Court injunctions are orders from the court. They are delivered, read and served by the Court Sheriff. The OPP is required to assist with enforcement of court injunctions/orders when requested by the courts to do so," Constable LeClair said.

Supporters and allies have defended the Haudenosaunee protestors with rallies outside a Brantford courthouse and a march in front of the OPP members at the Argyle Street blockade, which drew in nearly 100 supporters on October 25.

In solidarity with the land defenders, Matt Green, MP for Hamilton Centre, has pledged \$1492 to the 1492 Land Back Lane Legal Defence Fund. Green calls on others to support the Six Nations land defenders.

"As settlers on this land, we have an obligation to uphold our treaty commitments. This means doing our part to push back against the systemic oppression Indigenous Peoples face. It means giving up the privileges we gain at the expense of Indigenous Peoples.

The Land Defenders at 1492 Land Back Lane estimate they'll need \$500,000 for their civil and criminal defence. Let's get them to that goal," Green said.

New COVID-19 cases in KW

Saihaj Dadhra
Reporter

On Oct. 21, 2020 the Region of Waterloo Public Health department reported 16 new cases and 8 new hospitalizations for COVID-19 in the Waterloo Region.

According to CBC, there are 11 active outbreaks in the region, seven of which have occurred in retirement and long-term care homes.

One outbreak is connected to an off-campus study group between students living both on and off campus at Wilfrid Laurier University.

The outbreak has been linked to 19 cases.

11 new cases are linked to an outbreak at a place of worship.

Since March, Waterloo region has performed over 160 000 tests. 2021 of them have resulted in confirmed cases of COVID-19.

90 per cent of the cases have recovered.

As of Nov. 2, 2020, there are 123 active COVID-19 cases in Waterloo Region.



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



sports & health



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Advanced medical imaging testing in Canadian trials for COVID-19 detection

KA Imaging has created a dual energy X-ray to detect early signs of COVID-19.

Suji Udayakumar
Reporter

KA Imaging, a UW spin-off company, has developed Reveal 35C – a dual-energy X-ray detector that has the potential to be used for the early detection of COVID-19.

The 25-employee company was founded in 2015 by UW graduates Amol Karnick (BAsc '95), Sina Ghanbarzadeh (MAsc '14) and Karim S. Karim (BAsc '99, PhD '03). Reveal 35C is one of their successful developments in innovative X-ray imaging, and it was recently approved by Health Canada and the United States Food and Drugs Administration for advanced medical imaging.

With researchers from the University of Toronto and the University Health Network (UHN), KA Imaging is conducting a study for the early detection of COVID-19 in Canadian patients.

Given that the virus causes a respiratory infection that can progress into pneumonia, the researchers hope to compare images obtained from the novel imaging technologies, dual-energy X-ray,

and thoracic tomograms with CT scan images.

They aim to use this data to build an artificial intelligence model for automatic image interpretation

for COVID-19 manifestation in the lungs.

“What we propose is an innovative, multimodal, deep-learning architecture for COVID-19, with a

promise to gain higher accuracy of diagnosing COVID-19 than methods based on one single image type,” Dr. Rogalla, the principal investigator of the study, said.

Reveal 35C is unique in its ability to differentiate between bone and soft tissue in a single exposure.

This means that the detector can deliver digital radiography, bone and tissue images in one shot. The images produced are sharp and free of motion artifacts, which greatly increases diagnostic sensitivity. As a triage tool, Reveal 35C is both inexpensive and portable. The importance of diagnostic accuracy and portability during the pandemic is recognized by the researchers.

“Unlike other dual energy solutions or CT machines, Reveal is portable so it can be taken to the patient, minimizing the risk of spread of COVID-19 infection,” Dr. Karim, chief technology officer of KA imaging, said.

Currently, the study is in the recruitment phase over the next six months with a goal of 600 participants with suspected pulmonary infection.

The researchers and company officials are hopeful that with the use of a triage tool for the detection of COVID-19, KA Imaging can play a part in reducing and preventing the spread COVID-19.

“Unlike other dual energy solutions or CT machines, Reveal is portable so it can be taken to the patient, minimizing the risk of spread of COVID-19 infection.”

DR. KARIM, CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER OF KA IMAGING



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University of Waterloo students thank provincial government for investing in student mental health

Julie Daugavietis
Sports & Health editor

On October 6th, the provincial government of Ontario announced that they will be increasing funding for

post-secondary mental health supports by 20 per cent in the 2020-2021 school year.

This makes for a total of \$19.25 million, \$3.25 million more than the previous year.

Ross Romano, minister of colleges and universities, cites the COVID-19 pandemic as a key reason for increasing funds.

"Having mental health supports in place when students need them most is a key part helping students succeed, especially during this very difficult COVID period," he said.

However, the global pandemic is not the only reason for increased mental health support.

Over the last several years, the mental health needs of post-secondary students in Ontario have increased dramatically.

The most recent National College Health Assessment survey of the Canadian student population (2019) revealed that 52 per cent of students reported feeling depressed, compared to 46 per cent in 2016, and that 69 per cent experienced heightened anxiety.

At UW, these statistics are magnified, with 48 per cent of students having experienced depression that impacted their ability to function, and 16 per cent having seriously considered suicide in the past year.

Megan Town, WUSA VP of Education, made clear WUSA's gratitude for the provincial government's response after WUSA identified mental health as a key concern for UW students.

"Year-over-year we see our students struggle with their mental wellbeing... Thank you for hearing our concerns and

increasing investment in students' mental health," Town said.

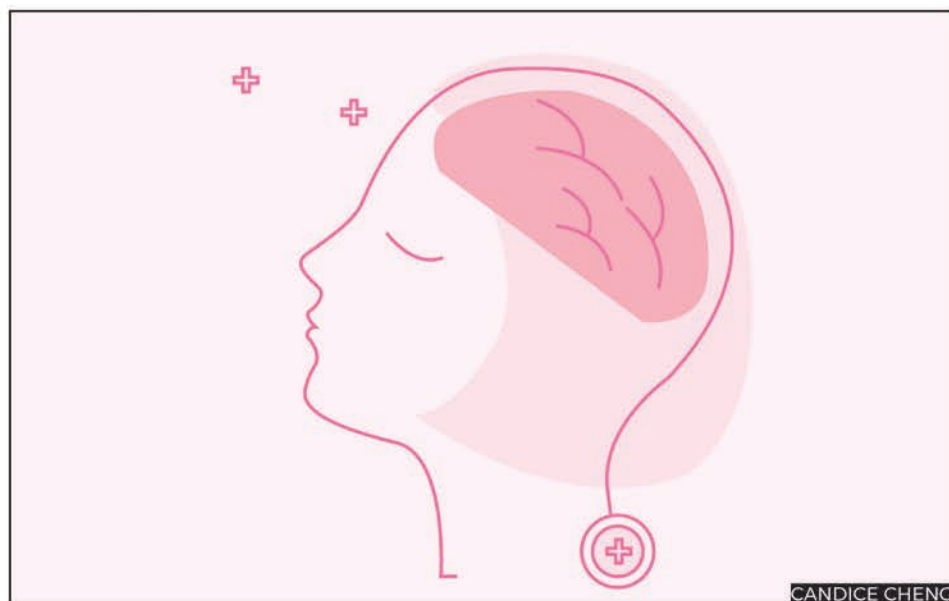
The investment will go toward a variety of initiatives supporting mental health including: Good2Talk — a 24/7 mental health helpline service, Centre for Innovation in Campus Mental Health — a knowledge exchange hub providing resources and access to expertise for the post-secondary sector, and a Mental Health Worker grant for campuses to hire campus-based mental health workers.

Additionally, \$6 million will be allocated toward a Mental Health Services grant for individual institutions to determine and deliver programs and services tailored to the needs of their student population.

"This announcement gives us the confidence that the government is listening," Town said.

"As a result, on behalf of over 34,000 students, we express our sincerest thanks for this investment."

A complete list of the mental health resources available to UW students can be found on the UW Campus Wellness website at uwaterloo.ca/campus-wellness/counseling-services as well as other resources for those who are struggling.



Varsity esports are competitive: what does it take to get a spot on the team?

Shaza Syed
Reporter

As esports begins to gain recognition globally, a group of local students are vying to bring the win home as the first team representing UW on a national and international level.

Greg Mittler, coordinator of club sports and camps at UW, believes students are "excited to be acknowledged for the skill set that they have and show it off in a way they haven't been able to before."

The esports team from Waterloo has been competing since August, 2020 for three different titles, with gamers at both the undergraduate and graduate levels participating.

"We've got Rocket League, League of Legends and Overwatch. So, those are three separate games and then we just have a va-

riety of our undergrad and grad students trying out for all those three titles." Mittler explained.

Teams are able to compete in various tournaments, and are playing for the opportunity to win scholarships at the provincial collegiate level.

This system provides a rare opportunity for newcomers to interact with upper level gamers and gain experience.

"Getting opportunities to network with people in the pro scene or amateur scene — based on what they've been in the collegiate — because that's essentially one of the first steps to move your way up" Steven Quach, esports student manager for athletics, said.

However, this team is making an impact beyond the gaming scene by helping students stay connected in a time of physical distancing.

With the COVID-19 pandemic moving

most activities to a virtual setting, esports is giving students a chance to foster new friendships.

"Especially with what's going on right now, I find that gaming is one of the only activities people can do — with almost no compromise — going to an entirely online environment," Nikolas Drakulovic, UW's esports club co-president, explained.

"If we compare [esports] with any of the other varsity teams we have, it's building lifelong friendships, hopefully, while commuting, doing something that you love," Mittler added.

The process of forming an esports team at UW has been underway for years and Mittler believes this team represents some of the finest talent found within North America.

The tryouts to compete in UW's esports team ended mid-September, and teams began competing in October.





UW students had a trick or two up their sleeves this Halloween

From dressing up as their favourite characters and experimenting with makeup to (not) creating quite the scare in their kitchens and binging on traditional movies, UW students made the most of the season!

Nicola Rose
Reporter

While the pandemic might have raged on, it wasn't enough to keep UW students from celebrating the spookiest season of the year. Students at UW found creative ways to celebrate Halloween that let them enjoy the holiday, without breaking any health and safety restrictions.

Many students kept up the age-old tradition of dressing up for Halloween. Third-year Honours Arts student Robyn Clarke had a small celebration with her roommates, and took fun photos of their costumes. "I dressed up as Lola Bunny from the 1996 movie *Space Jam*," Clarke said. "It was a hit."

Clarke acknowledged how difficult it can be to try and celebrate amidst the restrictions. "It's sad to think about how normally we'd head to a big event at one of the bars here, or a bigger house party, to show off our costumes. But I'm grateful I was able to do anything at all, because I love Halloween," Clarke said.

Second-year Honours Arts student Natalie Anglin also felt that her Halloween plans were impacted by the pandemic. "I probably would've gone out if I could have," Anglin said. Nevertheless, Anglin and her roommates shared a fun night in costume.

"I dressed up as *Where's Waldo*," Anglin said. "My friend made me dress up. It was not my choice," she emphasized.

Some students didn't go all-out, but still found a way to incorporate Halloween items into their everyday wear.

"I didn't dress up, but I did put

makeup on," third-year Honours Physics student Matthew Bilopavlovic said. Bilopavlovic's roommate, third-year Honours Arts and Business Student Erin Froud wore devil ears.

In addition to dressing up, many UW students enjoyed traditional

fall-themed treats. "I made a lot of pumpkin puree because I love baking and definitely plan on using it to make cakes and other treats," Bilopavlovic said. "We [my roommates and I] also ate pizza and a lot of candy while watching Halloween movies."

Junk food and Halloween movies were both popular in 2020. "My favourite part of the night was going to grab some late-night food in our costumes. It was pretty funny to walk into a fast food place all dressed up," Clarke said.

Third-year Science Psychol-

ogy student Zofia Washington watched a horror movie and spent time with her social bubble. "I celebrated by getting sushi and watching a scary movie with my girlfriend," Washington said.

"I had fun," she continued. "It was nice to spend a cozy night in, watching a good movie with someone whose company I enjoy. I wouldn't necessarily call it exciting, but it was a very nice Halloween and exactly what I needed after a long week of midterms."

Anglin's social bubble planned to watch a movie, but never got around to it. "We ate junk food, and we were going to watch a movie, but we ended up just talking," Anglin said.

Overall, despite the restrictions, UW students throughout the city enjoyed Halloween and found a way to make the night special.

"Halloween is all about the allure of the supernatural and the unknown, dressing up like someone else and escaping our real lives for one night. I think that a lot of students feel a strong need for that while struggling with physical and social isolation, the pandemic, and online school. But you don't need to go to a big party to get that experience," Washington said.

"I think it was a good time. I feel like we made it work," Bilopavlovic said.

"It definitely wasn't my favourite Halloween, but it was nice," Froud agreed.

From mini costume parties to horror movie marathons with candy, many Halloween activities made their way into people's plans.

As the holiday season continues, hopefully these stories about Halloween inspire you to find creative ways to celebrate without taking any unnecessary risks.



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Halloween may not have been the same this year but students still celebrated the event in their own ways to try and bring holiday spirit to Waterloo.

What's up at THEMUSEUM in the next couple of weeks

Witness the beauty in Islamic Art until Dec. 18

Yelda Safi
Reporter

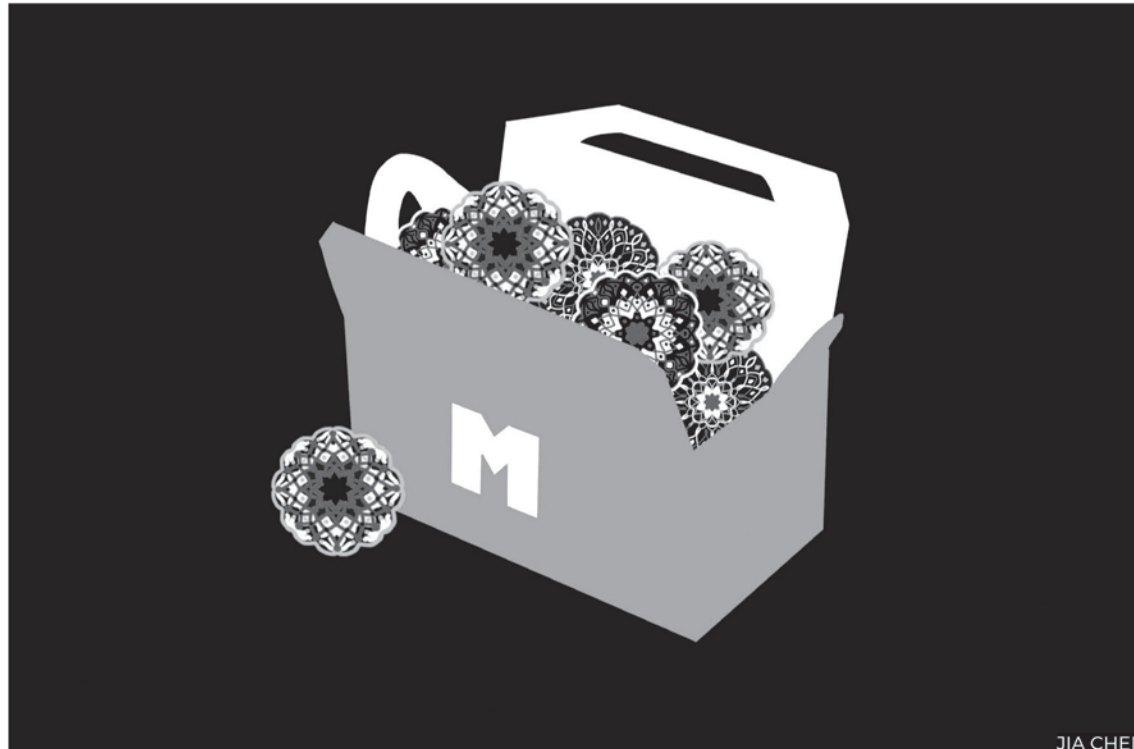
The art traditions of the Islamic faith are largely underappreciated and overlooked in our society.

THEMUSEUM and the Coalition of Muslim Women of Kitchener-Waterloo (CMW) have teamed up once again to showcase the vibrant and diverse Islamic art forms to the public.

Co-organized by Ati Zar, a Waterloo-based artist and member of CMW, "Beauty in Islamic Art" marks the 4th annual Islamic Art Exhibition at THEMUSEUM.

"Islamic art is a complex overlap of local cultures of a vast number of countries, at its widest geographical coverage from China to Al-Andalus in Europe," Zar explained.

"The Beauty in Islamic Art Ex-



JIA CHEN

hibition celebrates the multi-faceted art of Islamic lands through a variety of artworks by Canadian Muslim artists."

The exhibition presents the works of Ontario-born artists Iman Alkarimi, Riyadh Matwq, Haneen Dalla-Ali, Mélika Hashemi, Behnaz Fatemi, Sana Faheemuddin, and Atefeh Zarabadi.

Opened on Sept. 18, the exhibition is running until Dec. 18, 2020. The event was generously funded by the Ontario Arts Council.

THEMUSEUM is located in Downtown Kitchener and is open Fridays from 10am to 1pm and on weekends from 10am-4pm. General admissions can be booked on their website via EventBrite.

"Beauty in Islamic Art" is a unique opportunity to observe the distinct and intricate art forms and to learn about the vast cultural diversity and values present in Islamic art.

Have you been impacted by the pandemic? Do you want to share your story? Give a platform to your story via The Youth Council

THEYOUTH COUNCIL

PHOTO COURTESY THEMUSEUM

Sharanya Karkera
Arts & Life Editor

Nothing brings people together like a crisis.

I've heard this saying before, but the past couple of months have given me the chance to witness it.

Holistically, we might be going through the same thing, however, the pandemic has been a different

experience for each of us. No matter how it has impacted us, we each have a story to tell.

The Youth Council at THEMUSEUM is seeking participants — ages 4 to 24 — to share their experiences with COVID-19 and the impact the pandemic has had on their lives to create a documentary-style exhibition.

By providing a platform to Canadian youth who have been either directly or indirectly affected

by COVID-19, participants will have the opportunity to archive their stories and experiences to create a deeper understanding of how different lives in the community compare and contrast in the face of adversity.

"It's such a privilege to be working with people who have solid conviction and a vision for what they'd like our group to look like — to make sure we listen, understand and vocalize the issues

that are affecting youth, like ourselves," Namrata, Co-Chair of The Youth Council, said.

The Youth Council, made possible by the Astley Foundation, consists of a group of young people aged 13-17 who are passionate about their community and attend school in the Waterloo Region.

It is a leadership program that provides the opportunity to amplify a diverse group of young voices as they address world issues

and empower each other by working together as a unified team.

If you or someone you know would like to share their experience living through the pandemic and are between the ages of 4 and 24, email The Youth Council at THEMUSEUMYouthCouncil@gmail.com or reach out to them on Instagram at @TheYouthCouncil.TheMuseum.

Participants must register before Nov. 18.



WRITE FOR SCIENCE AND TECH

Got an interesting science or tech story you want to write about? Email science@uwimprint.ca

Virtual Walk and Run for Rare promotes conservation of Waterloo's land by raising over \$40,000

Sarah Hammond
Reporter

From Sept. 1 to Sept. 27, supporters from around Canada participated in Waterloo's 'Walk & Run for rare'. This event raised over \$41,000 to support the conservation of land in Waterloo-Wellington Region.

"All funds support the 'Turn the Map Green' campaign — rare's grassroots effort to ensure the protection of highly sensitive community greenspace. Every \$2 protects one square meter of land, which means over 20,500 square meters of land has now been protected, intact in perpetuity, thanks to this event," Laura Klein, Gosling Engagement Coordinator for rare Charitable Research Reserve, said.

This year the event was virtual due to

COVID-19 guidelines. This allowed people to participate from anywhere in Canada, at any time over the one-month period. Participants logged their kilometres online, whether walking, running, or cycling, and raised over \$41,000 collectively. The top fundraiser raised over \$3,000 on their own.

"In terms of what was different because the event was virtual — we had people who opted to participate in a month-long challenge, instead of the one-day event, so that was a nice option this year because it was virtual," Klein said.

"We also sent out weekly scavenger hunts which was a new perk for participants who were virtually involved."

The reserve encompasses 24 different habitats, trees over 250 years old, and six pre-settlement landscapes. These areas are rich with flora and fauna, untouched by human interference, and considered at risk

globally. These landscapes have growth of which there is less than 0.1 per cent found existing elsewhere.

Animals found in these regions include Great Horned Owls, Blue-Spotted Salamanders, Pileated Woodpeckers, Bald Eagles, and Osprey. All these species are at danger of completely disappearing from the area without protection from the many factors that threaten their habitats.

The rare Charitable Research Reserve takes care of over 1,000 acres of highly sensitive lands in the Waterloo-Wellington Region. While the research sites and sensitive lands are protected, locals can still enjoy the wonders of the forests through eight kilometres of trails, community gardens and interpretive events.

To help conserve Waterloo's lands at any time of the year, rare's Turn the Map Green effort allows donors to symbolically adopt

their favourite part of rare for \$2 per square meter. Whether that is the Wetlands, Crabapple Field or Hogsback, the money will help save and protect the habitats of the animals native to that region. The Research Reserve preserves the land through ecological restoration and environmental programs.

Though focused on conservation, research and education, rare also works to equally value Indigenous ways of knowing, by engaging in reconciliation with the Indigenous Peoples of Turtle Island.

It is important to remember that even during this time of crisis for humans, the homes of these animals and the hundred-year-old trees remain vulnerable and need protection. The rare Charitable Research Reserve continues to find new ways to attack the problem, as shown by the wildly successful online fundraiser this year.

Three-peat victory: U of T Engineering team wins AutoDrive Challenge, year three

Shaza Syed
Reporter

By transforming an electric car into a self-driving one, a University of Toronto engineering team — aUToronto — brought home the win for the AutoDrive challenge for the third year, in a row.

"All of us take pride in the work that we have done at aUToronto," Jingxing "Joe" Qian, Team Lead for aUToronto, said. "The competition results clearly reflect the high calibre and dedication of the team."

The aUToronto team, composed of engineering students at the University of Toronto, not only earned the most points for this competition but also the most cumulative points for any team over the past three years of the competition.

"aUToronto has been focused on putting together a top-notch self-driving car for three years now," Keenan Burnett, aUToron-

to's Team Lead for the first two years of the AutoDrive Challenge, said. "This win is the result of hundreds of hours of work by our team."

The scenario of the competition changes every year, but the goal remains the same: to convert an electric vehicle into an autonomous one.

"The goal of this year's challenge was to simulate an autonomous ride-sharing scenario," Qian said, "that means the car needed to arrive at a sequence of pre-determined address points and perform pseudo-pick-up and drop-off behaviours."

The self-driving car designed by the aUToronto team — dubbed "Zeus" — included improvements in path-planning, perception abilities, and GPS-free localization.

Due to this year's virtual competition format, reaching the final product was not an easy feat and required coordinating a team of over 50 members, working remotely.

"We are located in many different plac-

es around the world, so team building and organization becomes extremely important," Qian said. "We have weekly meetings online where sub-team leads present their updates to the rest of the team, and we have also been planning virtual paper talks and knowledge sharing sessions."

The competition was also judged remotely, with scores based on reports and presentation, including analysis about the conceptual design, computer simulations, and overall social responsibility of the project.

The second-place prize was awarded to Texas A&M, with Virginia Tech following in third place. Other schools that competed included the University of Waterloo, Michigan Tech, and Kettering University.

The competition has been scheduled for its fourth year in Ann Arbor, Michigan in 2021.

Moving forward, the aUToronto team is looking beyond the upcoming AutoDrive challenge and into the real world.

"We've always said we do not want to design a system that is specific towards this competition," said Qian. "Our goal is to achieve full autonomy under many different scenarios."



COURTESY UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

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Next scheduled post-mortem meeting:
 Virtual due to Covid-19

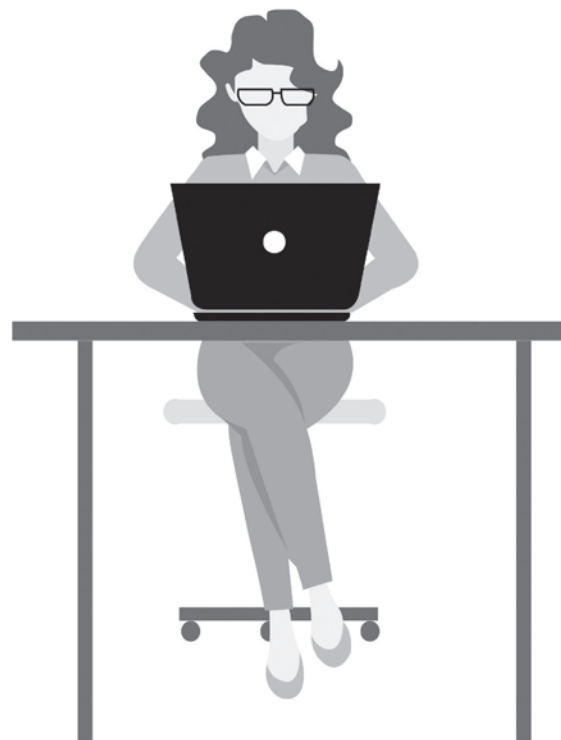
Next scheduled board of directors meeting:
 Virtual due to Covid-19

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 I chose co-op at UW



I believe the co-operative education system at the University of Waterloo is unparalleled, which is the primary reason I chose this school.

Co-op is a form of higher education that combines academic study with full-time, professional work. At UW, students enrolled in co-op are placed in one of several different sequences, which involve alternating between school terms, and four or eight-month long work terms.

UW's strong reputation in STEM fields helps the university stand out when it comes to co-op recruitment. Despite co-op's prominence in the field of mathematical education as a recruitment centre for many corporations and startups, co-op programs like UW's are not something many other universities can offer. This ensures that there will be an abundance of job openings available to students every time they are looking for work. Having a large job pool to choose from allows students to freely explore different fields that relate to their degree without having to overcommit. Co-op not only gives students real-world work experience, but also aids in networking: students on co-op are often able to connect with professionals in enterprises in their desired fields. Many students at UW even return to a company they previously worked at upon graduation.

Another benefit to co-op comes from

the opportunity to earn money, which presents the possibility for many students to be financially self-sufficient. In fact, co-op encourages this.

Moreover, with the availability of numerous job openings that students can apply to across North America, and around the world, co-op at UW presents opportunities for students to travel and become culturally aware of other parts of the world. Personally, co-op has let me travel across Ontario, which has helped me figure out which cities I like, and subsequently which cities I might like to settle down in.

Most importantly, co-op forces students to apply to as many as five hundred jobs per term – something that opens their minds to the endless varieties of jobs in the world. The co-op application process taught me to segregate positions in companies I would like to work at. The process also helped me learn about the different kinds of corporations and startups in North America. Through co-op, I gained insight into the work cultures in different companies, and I learned how to adjust my work ethic to benefit a company in the most effective way.

Additionally, since co-op mandates interviews of some form before students are employed, many students end up with as many as twelve interviews. Co-op interview experience demystifies the process of a professional interview and accustoms students to the mindset they need to have during a job interview.

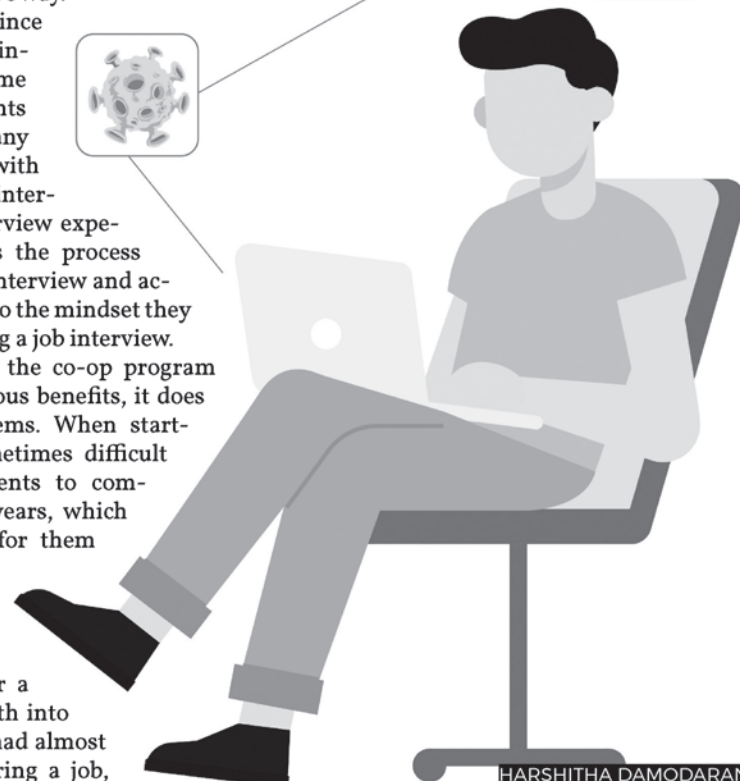
However, while the co-op program at UW has numerous benefits, it does have some problems. When starting out, it is sometimes difficult for younger students to compete with upper-years, which makes it harder for them to secure a co-op job. When I was looking for my first co-op job, I kept searching for a job until one month into the co-op term. I had almost given up on securing a job,

and had returned back home to India to look for a co-op, when I finally got ranked for a position and had to fly back into Canada.

However, as students progress through their degree, they become familiar with the process and gain more experience as well, making them more likely to receive offers.

Many things can influence whether one secures a co-op. This includes changing resume layout and reorganizing content, or approaching interviews with a different mindset. Co-op at UW is truly one of my best educational experiences and in the end, the opportunities are worth every job rejection students might get.

Rohit Kaushik
 Computer Science



HARSHITHA DAMODARAN

campus bulletin

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND TOWN

Submit your 30-word announcement or upcoming event to
ads@uwimprint.ca for free.

upcoming events

November 2020

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

Friday, November 6

KW Chamber Music Society presents Beethoven String Quartets at 8 p.m. Also performing on Sunday, November 8 at 3 p.m. For more info/tickets - www.ticketscene.ca/kwcms.

Friday, November 27

Virtual 2020 Tree of Bright Stars memorial event presented by Bereaved Families of Ontario-Midwestern Region is now being organized. RSVP by November 16. Personalized ornaments will be available as well. For more info call 519-603-0196 or admin@bfomidwest.org.

ongoing

WEDNESDAYS

September to November at 12:30 p.m.
Conrad Grebel University College presents Noon Hour Concerts @ Home. Enjoy weekly noon hour recitals by professional musicians from the comfort of home. Free / no registration required. grebel.ca/music/events.

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, jaim@bfomidwest.org or 519-603-0196.

service directory

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IMPRINT JOBS - FALL TERM 2020 - UW WORK STUDY

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.

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.

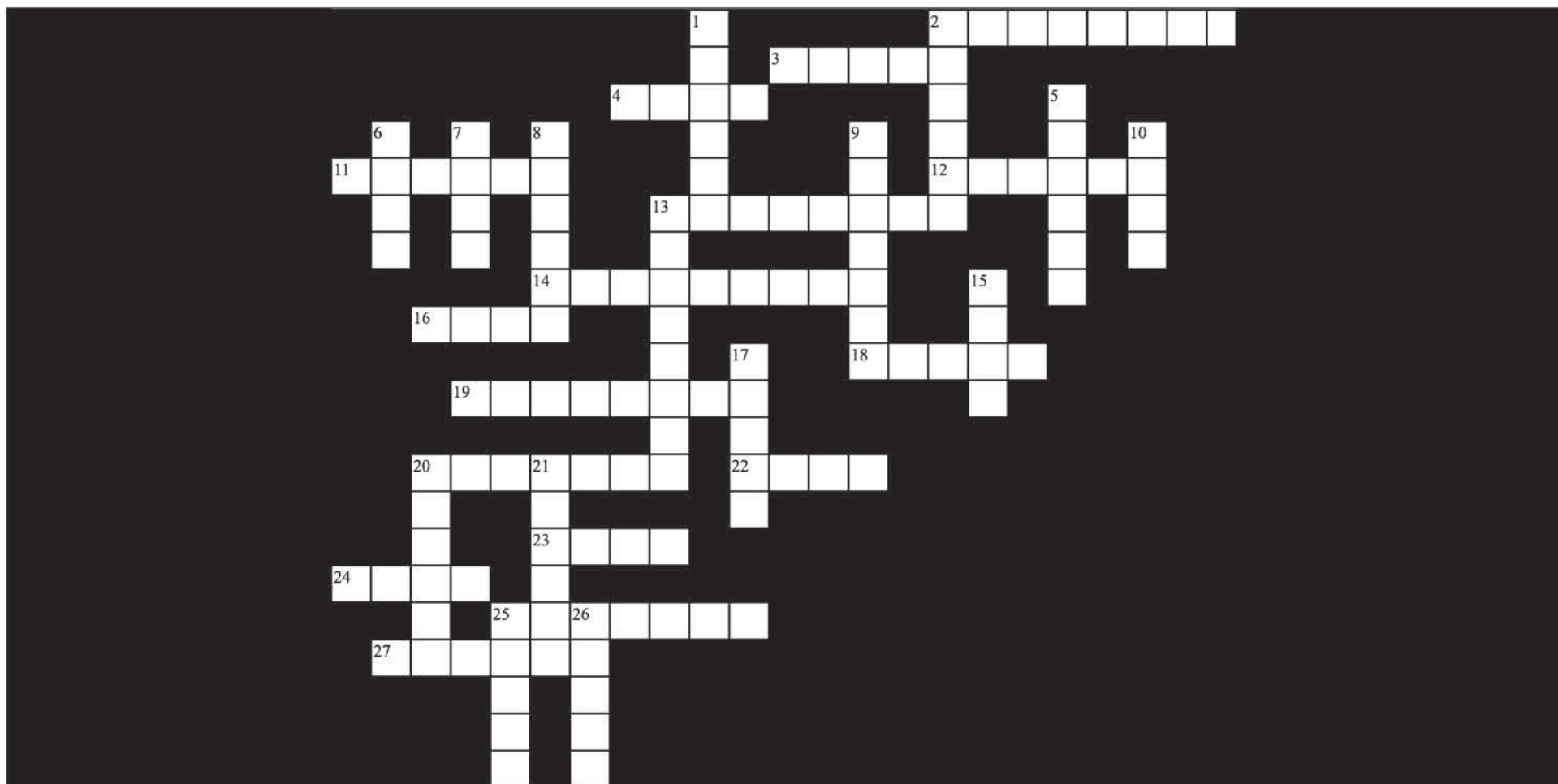
distractions



Q : WHO WON THE SKELETON BEAUTY CONTEST?

A : NO BODY

Trek through time



Across

- 2. Identify, as a problem
- 3. Make a choice on Tinder
- 4. Character voiced by Beyoncé in 2019's 'The Lion King'
- 11. Hello Kitty company
- 12. Shakespearean prince of Denmark
- 13. Scribblings or drawings, often humorous or indecent, found on public buildings
- 14. Copy, emulate
- 16. Main part of a novel
- 18. Name on a chocolate cup
- 19. Familiar name for a person, stemming from a word in old Norse
- 20. Monkey, or man, or ape, eg

- 22. Birds associated with wisdom
- 23. French name meaning 'born again'
- 24. ___ Ruth, baseball player
- 26. Put in a heap
- 27. Alternative to Firefox
- 10. Link letters
- 13. Drink with a lightning bolt logo
- 15. Hershey's foiled confection
- 17. Shish ___
- 20. The fear of or aversion to something
- 21. Planet named after the Roman god of war
- 25. Mrs. Doubtfire, for one
- 26. About 1 in 8 Americans eat this food on any given day, per a Department of Agriculture study

Down

- 1. Give a shout
- 2. City of ancient Greece with an oracle
- 5. Length x width x height
- 6. Trek to Mecca
- 7. Stumble (over)
- 8. Tolkien's small, hairy-footed person
- 9. Worn for comfort, a banana skin could be dangerous

