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**A Q&A WITH KW'S MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT**

Liberal MP Bardish Chagger and Green MP Mike Morrice share their plans for Parliament.



**3, 2, 1, ACTION?**

UW students are asking for more guidance when it comes to producing video assignments. P10

**TIFF'S EVERY STORY FUND P9**

The fund is allocated toward increasing opportunities for equity-seeking groups.

**ATHLETE SPOTLIGHT P5**

Varun Kuo says he fell in love with baseball at a young age by accident.

**WATERLOO EYE INSTITUTE P7**

The centre will provide optometry services, spaces for clinical research and more.

# UW community marches in solidarity with sexual violence survivors. P3



MAIJA DEVI SCHADE





# COVID-19 found in wastewater of two UW residences

Nicole Howes  
Assistant News Editor

The University of Waterloo has reported COVID-19 being found in the wastewater of both Ron Eydt Village (REV) and Village 1 (V1) residences. This discovery comes from a pilot project put in place in late August to test wastewater at four student residences on campus for signs of the virus, however, there have been no confirmed cases of COVID-19 on campus as of Oct 1.

The pilot project takes samples throughout the week from UW residences to screen for COVID-19 in hopes of catching early signs of possible outbreaks. Researchers screen the wastewater samples to detect viral fragments of COVID-19 in stool, which indicates that an infected in-

dividual has been in the area.

While this may cause alarm for students, it is still undetermined how many cases could be linked to the positive sample. UW biology professor Mark Servos, the head of the project, explained: "The method is very specific, we know when we get a strong positive hit, we know for sure there's COVID-19 in that sample...but we do not know how to convert a positive into a number that reflects how many students are infected. When you get COVID-19 you shed at different rates...so it could be one person or many people."

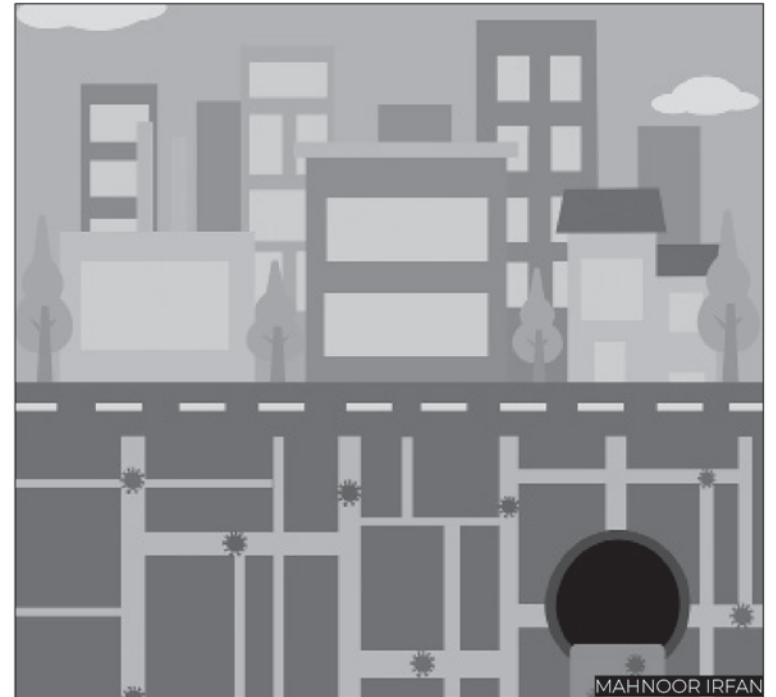
Servos is also Canada's research chair in water quality protection for UW and his lab has been looking at COVID-19 in municipal wastewater since last year. In March 2021, the Servos Lab was awarded \$1 million in provincial funding to test for COVID-19 in the wastewater of

over 10 regions in Ontario.

"We are getting positive hits here and there on campus which I don't think we should be terribly surprised with the thousands of people congregating...the university has been very transparent with the pilot project and has put up the information on the website right away," Servos added.

By getting an early notification of COVID-19 cases, UW hopes to prevent outbreaks at Waterloo residences such as the one in April 2021, which reported 27 COVID-19 cases linked to UW on-campus residences.

It is currently unknown how long this project will continue, and although UW will be returning to full in-person classes in January, the university has not updated or changed the residence mandates for the winter term.



MAHNOOR IRFAN

# Lower voter turnout as campuses feel the loss of special polling locations

Anicka Bakos  
Reporter

After suspending the Vote on Campus program, Elections Canada is reporting a five per cent decrease in voter turnout for the 2021 federal election. Although the voter turnout rate represents the general population, a lower youth voter turnout is also assumed.

According to the Elections Canada website, the Vote on Campus program began as a pilot project in the 2015 federal election. Temporary voting offices were opened in 39 post-secondary campuses across the country, allowing students to register and vote by special ballot as well as update their information on the list of electors.

In the 2019 federal election, the Vote on Campus program was expanded to 121 offices at 109

post-secondary campuses across 86 electoral districts.

According to a CBC article, the decision to suspend the Vote on Campus program was made in the fall of 2020, mainly due to challenges posed by the pandemic as well as uncertainty regarding whether students would be on campus for the foreseeable future.

The Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) is a non-partisan, not-for-profit organization that is advocating for the return of the Vote on Campus program. CASA is composed of student associations from across Canada, representing 275,000 undergraduate, graduate and polytechnic students.

According to CASA board member Marley Gillies, the cancellation of the Vote on Campus program made it more difficult for post-secondary students to vote.

"The cancellation of the Vote

on Campus program did create new barriers for students, a demographic that already faces many barriers while voting such as frequent address changes and riding confusion, as well as motivational barriers surrounding a lack of knowledge or interest in the electoral process," Gillies explained.

Gillies stressed that the student vote is important and that voting is one of the best ways students can make their voices heard.

"Recognizing that mail-in voting is an insufficient replacement for the Vote on Campus special ballot process, CASA will continue to tirelessly advocate for the return of the Vote on Campus program," Gillies said.

Gillies mentioned that ahead of the 2021 federal election, CASA ran a Get Out The Vote campaign to encourage students to vote.

"This is achieved by collecting, distributing, and promoting in-

formation directing students on how, when and where to vote," Gillies explained.

Gillies said that the 2021 Get Out The Vote campaign revolved almost entirely around addressing the barriers caused by the pandemic and encouraging students to make use of the mail-in voting system.

"Without Vote on Campus, many students were pushed toward voting at regular advance or election day polling stations, which required them to provide proof that they lived in the riding they reside in to attend school. Not having a government ID with their temporary address, students were forced into complex ID or vouching requirements that made the entire voting process needlessly complex and time consuming," Gillies said.

Gillies also noted that some of their members had complaints

regarding mail-in ballots arriving late, and they were unable to send them to Elections Canada in time for their vote to be counted. This ended up being a major barrier to voting in the 2021 federal election.

"To vote in their home riding, students could cast their ballots by mail or vote by special ballot at an Elections Canada office. If students wished to vote in the riding they live in during the school year, they could vote at advance polls or on election day, provided they could show proper identification," Gillies said.

Gillies encouraged post-secondary students who were concerned about voting accessibility to contact Elections Canada and to let them know that the Vote on Campus program needs to be reinstated to ensure that future federal elections make voting easier for post-secondary students.



# UW rallies in solidarity with sexual assault survivors

The march, organized by UW Solidarity, took place on Oct. 1

Alexandra Holyk  
Executive Editor

**CONTENT WARNING:** This article discusses sexual assault and sexual violence. If you've been affected by sexual violence and are in need of help, visit the Sexual Harassment and Assault Research Exchange to find a crisis centre near you. If you are impacted by this story, resources are available online on the Imprint website.

Students, staff, faculty and community members at the University of Waterloo rallied together in solidarity with sexual violence survivors during a march on Oct. 1.

The event, which saw more than 100 participants walk along Ring Road, was organized by UW Solidarity, a student-run collective created specifically for the march. UW knowledge integration students Sophia Richardson and Al-

len Lu said they wanted to show support for student survivors on university campuses including Western University, following allegations of more than 30 women being sexually assaulted during the university's orientation week.

"We believe that this is a huge issue that exists not just at Western University...but it [also exists] on university campuses everywhere," Richardson said. "Here at the University of Waterloo, we're stereotyped as this really academic, low-key type school that doesn't have any partying or that type of stuff going on, when the reality is that it is something...that we do have to deal with and want to publicly condone."

Richardson added that the goal of the march was "to change assault culture on campus, to create a safer environment for survivors of sexual assault and to condemn the action of the people who assault."

In February 2020, the Council of Ontario Universities reported

that 59 per cent of surveyed UW students had experienced sexual harassment. In September of that same year, Statistics Canada reported that around one in 10 students who identify as women were sexually assaulted in a post-secondary setting in 2019.

At UW, the Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Office (SVPRO) offers students, faculty, staff and visitors to campus various supports and resources if they have experienced, witnessed or been accused of sexual assault or sexual violence.

"Anyone who has a connection into the University of Waterloo, who's either directly experienced violence, supported someone who's experienced sexual violence, responded to someone who's made a disclosure, someone who's been a bystander, or folks who have caused harm can all connect with our office," said Meaghan Ross, the sexual violence

response coordinator at SVPRO.

"The other part of what we do is just lots of education," Ross continued. "Some of that looks like creating events for folks to engage and raise awareness, some of that looks like doing some training."

Ross added that SVPRO aims to be as accessible as possible, since students at Western University called for an increase in resources and supports for sexual violence survivors.

"We are really supportive of the fact that students' voices need to be centred in this conversation around sexual violence on campus," she said.

Richardson mentioned that although UW offers numerous resources for sexual assault survivors, if students aren't aware of those resources, this contributes to the culture of misinformation and sexual violence in the campus community.

"Although our march itself isn't calling for direct actions from the university, what we're calling for

is actions from the community of University of Waterloo students and faculty to really change their mindset and create a supportive culture force for sexual assault survivors," she said.

In addition to the march, community members were also invited to write "love letters" to survivors. Richardson said the letters will be shared on UW Solidarity's Instagram account as well as in a public space on campus.

Second-year psychology student Julia Gorbet said it was important for her to write a letter as a sexual assault survivor.

"I know how important any support can be for people who have been through sexual violence," she said.

Gabriel Lamonica-Sleczkowski, a second-year physics and astronomy student, also expressed his interest in supporting sexual assault survivors.

"While I am not a survivor...I have known many people who have been [sexually assaulted] and I just want to show my love and support as best as I possibly can," Lamonica-Sleczkowski said.

Seventy-two-year-old Catherine Hayes, a mature student in gender and social justice at UW, said she attended the march because she saw an advertisement for the event online and thought it would be a good opportunity to show her support.

"The situation in London [Ont.] was just totally terrible. And then you do hear other reports on campuses. I have a feeling that Waterloo has a little better handle on it than some. That said, I felt it was important and I was able to do it," Hayes said.

Although UW Solidarity was created specifically for the march, Richardson said more events and ideas are on the horizon.

"At the moment, this is the only goal we had with the account is to really use it as a platform to promote the event and get people out there and get people talking about it," she said. "We've had had conversations about it going forward to further the movement of supporting sexual assault survivors and changing the university culture itself."



MAIJA DEVI SCHADE



# A Q&A with elected MPs in the Waterloo Region

Charlie Dickson  
Reporter

Last month's federal election saw Liberal members of parliament elected in all but one riding in the Waterloo Region, with Green Party MP Mike Morrice elected in Kitchener Centre.

Morrice, along with Bardish Chagger, the Liberal MP for Waterloo, spoke to Imprint about themselves, their ideas and ideals and how they intend to make an impact in Ottawa. Here's how they responded:

**Imprint: What were your immediate thoughts after winning the election? How were you feeling?**

**Morrice:** It was so emotional. When I first learned what had gone on, my dad shared with me that the Canadian press had called it. We were out in McMullens, and although CBC hadn't made it official yet, when my dad told me that the Canadian press had called it, I was overwhelmed; I shared the news with my good friend and co-campaign manager Asha, and there's actually a picture in the Waterloo Record of when I shared it with her. She was crying, with her hand over her face, in joy. We were elated, exhausted; it was totally surreal.

**Chagger:** I'm really excited to continue representing the good people in the riding of Waterloo. [I was] really pleased to see the number of people that came out to vote, [and we're] always pushing to see even more people voting. I love this community, so to be able to represent it is truly an honour and a privilege, and I'm really grateful.

**I: What are the biggest issues in Kitchener Centre that can be addressed in Ottawa?**

**Morrice:** One of the main reasons why I ran federally was because I feel as though so many of the biggest challenges we face require much more action from Ottawa. On housing, for example, the federal government used to invest in building co-op housing back in the 80s. That's the kind of investing that I will be respectfully advocating for. When it comes to the various ways to address the high cost of rental, for example, introducing a vacancy tax, I am open to any policy that helps ensure that homes



COURTESY MIKE MORRICE AND BARDISH CHAGGER

are for people, ahead of commodities for investors to trade. You'll see on my blog there are 14 ideas I put forward, but I am open to other ideas, and listening to other MPs for ideas they might have, that would address the unaffordability of housing. On climate, looking at the subsidies — \$18 billion to fossil fuels last year alone — we could be re-allocating those subsidies toward retrofitting homes, incentives for electric vehicles, building high speed rail, the investments we need to ensure we follow the science on the climate crisis. Those are just some examples.

**I: How would you respond to critics who say that this previous election was unnecessary and inappropriate for the Liberal Party to call?**

**Chagger:** This is a conversation that has come up often. I think when it comes to the response of the COVID-19 pandemic, our government under the leadership of Justin Trudeau has taken an approach of ensuring that we were there for Canadians. We have committed to having Canadians' backs until we are through to the other side of this pandemic. But I really do believe Canadians deserve to have a say, and in this campaign, we saw each of the major parties put out a platform, each with a very different vision for the future, so I thought it was really important that Canadians get to decide how we move forward as a country. To me, I think voting is essential, with rights and freedoms come responsibilities, and

the responsibility to vote is one I take very seriously.

**I: How are you planning to represent the interests of Kitchener and solve these issues, especially since the Green Party has only two seats?**

**Morrice:** By working respectfully, and seeing other parliamentarians as potential collaborators, and not as enemies. Rather than spending time scoring political points, instead trying to actually listen and understand their perspectives, and bringing the priorities of my neighbors to them, to seek to make progress. I'll give you an example: in Guelph, they elected a Green member of provincial parliament in 2018, his name is Mike Schreiner. Mike got legislation through second reading around protecting water, called the Paris Galt Moraine Conservation Act. It seeks to protect groundwater for 800,000 people along the Grand River. He was able to secure unanimous support for the bill in its second reading, and when I asked him how he did it, he shared with me that as one lone Green MPP, by working respectfully, asking questions from a place of curiosity rather than judgment or shame, by trying to actually find common ground, he was able to get that done, and that's what I'll be looking to do as the MP for Kitchener Centre.

**I: What do you think your impact has been so far, both on the Waterloo Region and Canada at large, and how do you wish to**

**continue that going forward?**

**Chagger:** Since I took office in 2015 when I was first elected, I've really tried to create an office where Canadians are able to engage with us. Justin Trudeau says that diversity is one of our greatest strengths, and I believe that diversity is more than the shelves we occupy, the diversity of perspectives, experiences, regions, language, gender, the list goes on. It's all about how we engage with more people of these diverse backgrounds. I think one of the greatest impacts we've had as a region is helping to ensure that we advance legislation that works for more Canadians. When we committed to putting a price on pollution, it was Canadians, including the citizens climate lobby right here in the Waterloo region, who advocated for the price on pollution to be accompanied by the climate action incentive, to help encourage more Canadians cleaner, greener decisions, and so that they can keep more money in their pockets. On this issue and many others, I would say one of the best things I've been able to do is work with more Canadians, and that what I want to continue doing, is to make sure that the diversity of experiences and perspectives from right here in Waterloo are better heard, and that includes youth voices, and that's why I'm really happy that were having this time together.

**I: How do you plan to continue representing the interests of Waterloo and solve these issues, especially since the Liberal Party has a minority government?**

**Chagger:** We've been working with all parties. I think the thing that this campaign and this election has demonstrated is that Canadians do want the liberals to keep governing, and that the opposition has an important role to play, but they need to play that role in opposition. I think that Canadians have demonstrated that they agree with our visions for the future, so what I will do is continue having an open door, having conversations, engaging, and listening to a diversity of perspectives, and that's where I'll be available, including on campus.

**I: As you join the House of Commons, what would you like your impact to be on the federal government, parliament and Canadian society at large? Or in other words, what do you wish to be your legacy?**

**Morrice:** I hesitate around the word 'legacy', but in terms of the impact I want to have: I want to bring the voices of my neighbors to Ottawa, and specifically, the priorities they share. The unaffordability of housing, the gaps in health care, including mental health, dental, eye and long term care, and the reality of the climate crisis, to ensure that we have nieces and nephews, kids and grandkids who have a safe climate future. And I want to do it respectfully. I think it's really important that we have more parliamentarians focused on working together, in place of the hyper partisanship and divisiveness that so many of us are really tired of and concerned about.

## 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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## Student Athlete Spotlight: Varun Kuo

Anicka Bakos  
 Reporter

For fourth-year University of Waterloo mechanical engineering student Varun Kuo, playing baseball is what teamwork is all about.

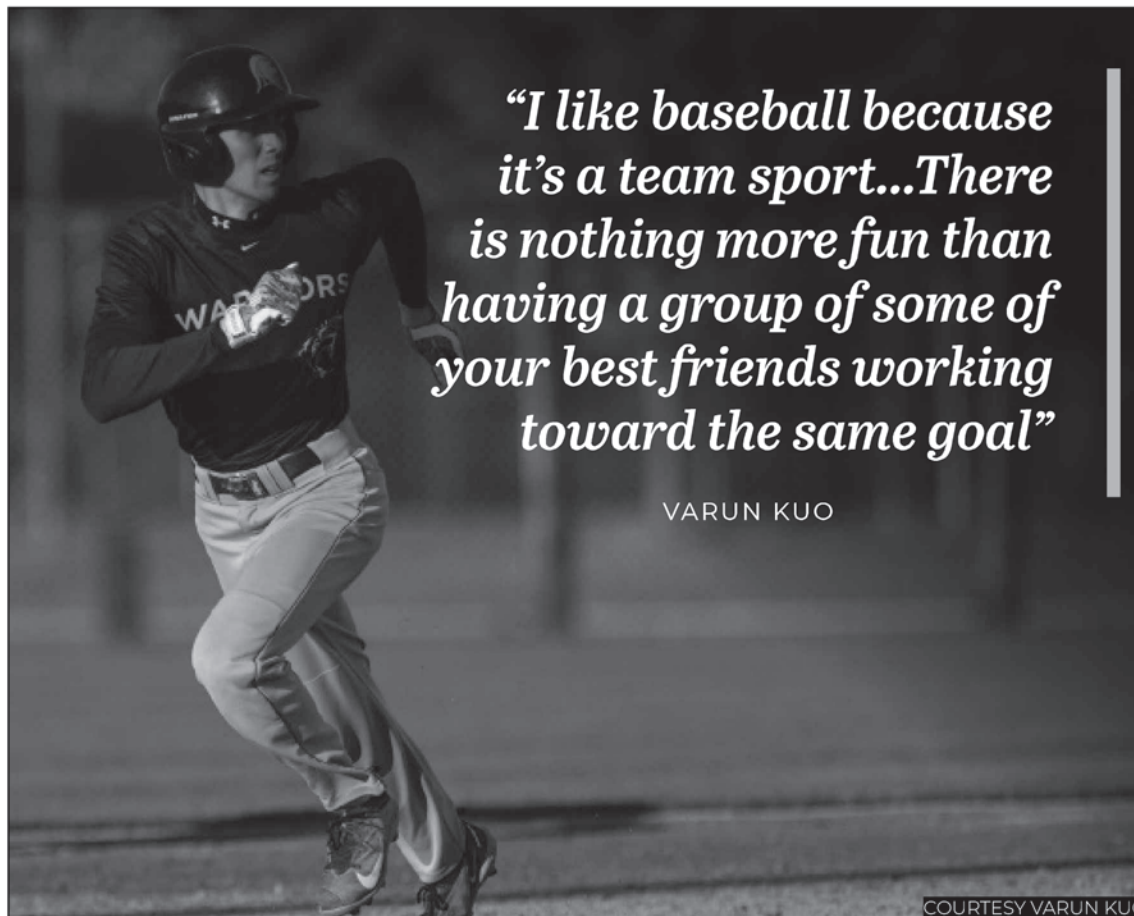
"I like baseball because it's a team sport. Baseball, to me, has a lot of thinking in between pitches to understand what to anticipate in any situation and from a team standpoint, there is nothing more fun than having a group of some of your best friends working toward the same goal," Kuo explained.

Born and raised in Mississauga, Ont., Kuo started playing tee-ball as a five-year-old, continuing on with competitive baseball for both the Mississauga North and the Ontario Blue Jays at the age of eight.

Kuo plays Shortstop, the position that's right in between second and third base.

Kuo said he became interested in baseball by accident.

When he was four years old, he was playing with the local Timbits soccer club but he said he didn't enjoy it at all. Then one day, his parents happened to leave the TV on the sports channel when the Blue Jays were playing. Kuo said he was fascinated by the way a ball moving at 95 mph could be hit by this round baseball bat, and from



*"I like baseball because it's a team sport...There is nothing more fun than having a group of some of your best friends working toward the same goal"*

VARUN KUO

COURTESY VARUN KUO

that point on, he just couldn't get enough of baseball.

"The next few months were full of me watching baseball games on TV while my parents frantically looked up all the rules to try and explain what was going on to me," Kuo recalled.

When he's in Waterloo, Kuo attends practices at UW's Columbia Icefield (CIF) baseball diamond every day of the week except for Mondays. His team usually plays four games on weekends — two on each day.

Currently on a co-op work term

in Mississauga, Kuo does his best to come out to some of the practices in Waterloo but sometimes opts to work out at the gym or play catch with his dad at the local parks instead.

During a school term, Kuo said he would typically get all his work

done during the week leaving his weekends free to play baseball.

"With online school it's so much easier to work ahead or catch up at any time that's convenient for me. I work super hard on weekdays, not going out or socializing much. I rely a lot on my friends in class to help keep me on track and get assignments done," Kuo explained.

In terms of physical training, Kuo said that mobility in the hips was very important.

"I make sure before every training session, practice or game that I am doing my hip and shoulder exercises because it'll help me perform at my best and really help prevent injury," Kuo said.

Kuo also mentioned that an important part of his training is getting enough sleep.

"Sleep is what allows me to train at the level I need to train at and lets my body recover afterwards. I try to avoid doing any work past 10 p.m. to make sure I get a good night's sleep. Obviously I can't always stick to this with assignment due dates but I try my best," Kuo said.

Kuo also said he enjoys playing a variety of other sports, including golf.

"I love baseball, yes. But I also really enjoy playing other sports because it doesn't necessarily have the same level of competitiveness that baseball has," Kuo said.

**imprint**

**THIS WEEK IN ATHLETICS**

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**ATHLETES OF THE WEEK**

EILEEN TUDORICA  
 FIELD HOCKEY

LIAM SUTHERLAND  
 BASEBALL





## University of Waterloo graduates recognized for seaweed inspired flame retardant

Hayley Austin  
Science Editor

When they realized that every common flame retardant contained toxic chemicals, two University of Waterloo graduates Anneke van Hauven and Elias Trouyet were inspired to create a revolutionary green and safe solution — a non-toxic flame retardant made out of seaweed.

What started out as a fourth-year engineering design project has grown into an incorporated business. Their innovation was awarded this August, as they were announced as runner-ups for the James Dyson Award, which recognizes young engineers and designers with problem-solving ideas.

Flame retardants are chemical compounds that prevent both the ignition and spread of fire on the materials they are applied to. They are required for many industrial and consumer products.



While flame retardants are an essential part of fire safety, most have long-term health impacts, as they are known to cause cases of infertility and cancer, as well as inhibit brain development in children. Flame retardants are also toxic to the environment. The largest market group of flame retardants is currently brominated flame retardants, which are considered not only toxic but also persistent and bioaccumulative, meaning they accumulate up the food chain as smaller prey are consumed by larger predators. When larger prey consumes many contaminated smaller prey, they are exposed to a higher concentration of the contaminant.

Van Hauven and Trouyet's solution uses a biopolymer made from seaweed, which is a natural flame retardant. Seaweed has a tightly packed cellular makeup, which makes it fireproof, and with the amount of seaweed in the world's oceans increasing due to an abundance of nitrogen caused by climate change, this is an ideal

sustainable design material. Van Hauven says, "there is already an abundance of seaweed and it's causing problems for locals in warmer climate areas, so the idea was to turn something that's a nuisance into something good."

This polymer is then embedded with nanoparticles that work to provide flame resistance by both delaying the combustion reaction and extinguishing the ignited material. To apply the polymer, textiles are dipped and submerged in the gel coating. Van Hauven and Trouyet formulated two different coating options, both of which surpass the industry standard flame retardancy level, with a burn rate that is 10 times better than the requirement, according to their profile on the James Dyson Award site.

For the first eight to twelve months, the project was purely research based, which van Hauven attributes to the restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic. In just the last four months, the team has been able to start testing their research, and they were pleasantly surprised by the almost immediate success. "Theoretically it is supposed to work, but sometimes research doesn't translate into reality," says van Hauven. In an interview with iHeartRadio, they also said they turned to their co-founder and asked, "are we doing this right?" because they, "were just shocked."

When compared to current flame retardants, this solution offers three major advantages. For one, it is non-toxic, which is beneficial for both consumers and the environment. The product is also likely to save consumers money in the long run, as a number of flame retardants are being banned by the government as regulations increase. When these flame retardants are banned, consumers are required to discontinue use of the flame retardant, which can result in money wasted on unused products. With a flame retardant that is non-toxic, this would be



COURTESY ALGOBIO

Burn test of AlgoBio flame retardant on cotton



COURTESY ALGOBIO

University of Waterloo graduates Anneke van Hauven (left) and Elias Trouyet (right), two co-founders of AlgoBio

much less of a concern. Lastly, the product is sustainable and made from renewable resources, which alleviates the negative impact that current flame retardants have on the environment.

Van Hauven and Trouyet have big plans for the future of AlgoBio. First, they will be re-examining the current technology, making sure to meet six important objectives outlined on their website, including good flame retardancy, being non-harmful to humans or the environment, having good physical properties, ability to be easily disposed of, and being cost effective and scalable. They believe these goals are achievable, and think that, with some slight

modifications, the product could be applied as an additive, instead of just a coating, for big industries like plastic and rubber. The pair is also interested in pursuing fire protection for firefighters. AlgoBio has also applied to Velocity and hopes to take on co-op students in the future.

When asked how AlgoBio could inspire other students who have big ideas and are questioning if they should pursue them, van Hauven said, "be sure you find something you love and really want to work on. Find something you believe would take off and get exposure to being an entrepreneur."

You can follow AlgoBio's journey via its website or LinkedIn.



# UW soon to be home to the Waterloo Eye Institute

Hayley Austin  
Science Editor

The University of Waterloo has an exciting venture on the horizon — the creation of Canada's leading eye and vision care centre of excellence to address the global vision crisis.

The two-story 67,000 square-foot Waterloo Eye Institute will combine existing and new facilities in order to provide optometry services, spaces for clinical research, and will also include an ambulatory surgical centre and telehealth centre.

The institute will offer the expansion of services in vision therapy, concussion, myopia and dry eye disease, which will also introduce students to patient contact within these services earlier in their programs, starting right in their first year. Along with the centre providing benefits for students, it will also work to serve the greater local community.

The Waterloo Region is one of the fastest growing communities in Ontario, with more than 600,000 residents, and the demand for eye and vision care services is only increasing.

The Institute will also aim to develop a world-leading ocular imaging facility, with a focus on eye-brain interactions. New imaging methodologies such as quantum technologies for imaging, which involves utilizing the electromagnetic field to image objects with a resolution beyond what would be possible in classic optics, will also be pursued.

Along with this method, retinal imaging and eye movement analysis may be used to detect and monitor eye and brain diseases like Parkinson's, Alzheimer's and genetic diseases. Research into these areas may benefit health care for Waterloo residents and Canadians overall.

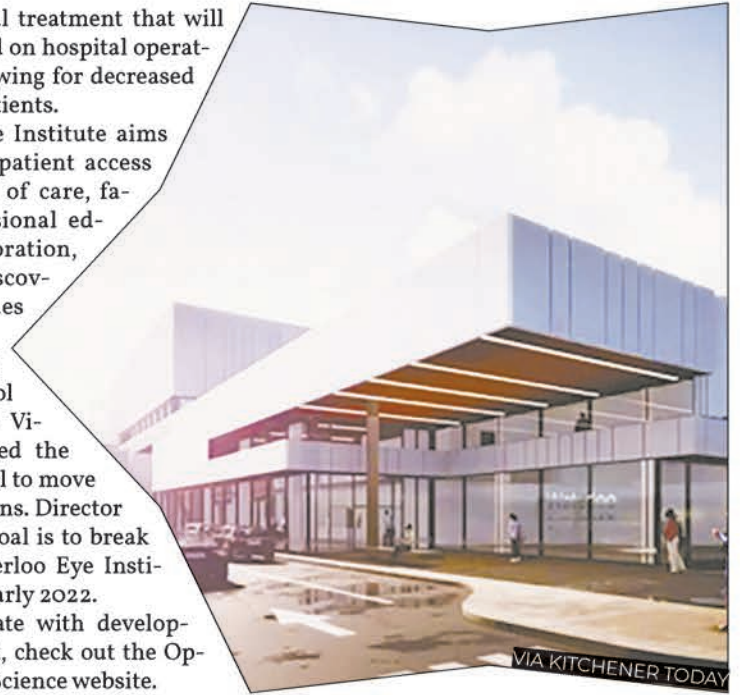
The ambulatory surgical centre will also provide ophthalmological services — medical conditions related to the eye — for

medical and surgical treatment that will alleviate the demand on hospital operating rooms, also allowing for decreased waiting times for patients.

The Waterloo Eye Institute aims to allow for better patient access to the highest level of care, facilitate interprofessional education and collaboration, and support the discovery of new techniques and treatments.

As of spring of this year, the School of Optometry and Vision Science received the university's approval to move forward with the plans. Director Stan Woo said the goal is to break ground on the Waterloo Eye Institute in late 2021 or early 2022.

To keep up to date with developments in the project, check out the Optometry and Vision Science website.



VIA KITCHENER TODAY

# The story behind the University of Waterloo's EV3 building

Felicia Daryonoputri  
Assistant Science Editor



COURTESY UW SOLAR

Breaking ground at the end of 2012, Environment 3 (EV3) was named the first LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Platinum-certified building in an Ontario campus.

Paul Parker, a faculty member at UW's Faculty of Environment since 1991 whose research revolves around sustainable buildings said, "LEED is set up as a system to encourage adding environmental and energy features [to] the building. It works as a checklist."

Parker is also cross-appointed between the School of Environment, Enterprise and Development (SEED) and the School of Geography and Environmental Management (GEM).

The LEED certification requirements vary between levels, from the lowest level (Certified) to the highest level (Platinum). These requirements revolve around environmental factors such as sustainable

site development, water efficiency, energy efficiency, materials selection, and indoor environmental quality.

Spanning across 57,000 square feet, the EV3 building was built as a bridge instead of a regular extension to refrain from putting any weight on the neighbouring building, Environment 2 (EV2), which was built in 1981.

"We are using our existing footprint rather than using more space, across more green space. And so that way, by going up, we could preserve the green space," Parker explained. "In fact, we improved the energy performance of [EV2] just by building [EV3], because the old external wall of [EV2] was always losing heat; now it's an internal wall to the atrium, so it doesn't lose heat anymore."

EV3's two-story living wall quickly became one of the most frequently visited spots on the UW campus, though it gained zero points under the LEED certification system since living walls had already been widely implemented worldwide. However, Parker believes the wall is still an important part of the space.

"It is a symbol," Parker said. "Why is it important? Because of the thousands of students who are coming through every year.

It's not merely a building; this is a building that thousands of students see and work in, and that becomes their new normal."

Other sustainable features in EV3 include solar panels, constructed wetlands and low-flush toilets. The building also has two skylit courtyards as well as daylight sensors on the ceilings that are used to maximize energy efficiency.

Parker noted that the construction of a LEED Platinum-certified building is a reflection of the university's commitment to a more sustainable campus and future. "The good news is that the university does realize that improving energy efficiency will reduce our costs. Of course, the challenge is to make the investment to make those changes."

"Looking to the future, I would say that we would want to go beyond LEED, we need to talk about zero carbon buildings," Parker added. "We have the technology to do so now and we have demonstrated it in the Evolv1 building."

Evolv1 is one of UW's newest buildings, located on the North Campus. It was built in 2018 and was named Canada's first zero-carbon building, generating more energy than it consumes. Evolv1 does not burn any natural gases due to its integrated solar panels and sustainable infrastructure.





## Spooky season in Waterloo Region

Erin Froud  
Assistant Arts and Life Editor

Octoberfest may be coming to a close on Oct. 12, but Halloween season is just beginning, along with many events to celebrate the spookiest time of year. As always, you can check out the University of Waterloo events page for interesting things to do on campus, and the region will be home to several fun events in the latter half of this month.

### Evil Dead the Musical

Oct. 28 to Nov. 7  
Alpine Club of Kitchener

A show from local community theatre M.A.V.I.S Productions, *Evil Dead, the Musical* is a classic horror-comedy-musical, combining elements from cult horror films *The Evil Dead*, *The Evil Dead 2* and *Army of Darkness*.

“When five college students go to an abandoned cabin in the woods they accidentally unleash an evil force that turns them all into demons. It’s all up to Ash (a housewares employee, turned demon-killing hero), and his trusty chainsaw to save the day,” the event’s Facebook page describes.

The description also notes that audiences should wear clothes they don’t mind getting a little messy, due to the inclusion of a “Splatter Zone” and a “Not-So-Splatter Zone” as the show lets the fake blood fly.

Tickets are \$32.84 each and are selling out quickly. MAVIS Productions has already added an extra four nights to the show’s run, so if you’re interested, get tickets soon.

### 2nd Annual Howl-O-Ween Walk and Family Fun Day

Oct. 30, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Galt Curling Club Parking Lot  
1610 Dunbar Rd.  
Cambridge, Ont.

Though it’s a little farther away, this event supports a good cause; all proceeds go to the Cambridge Humane Society’s shelter programs and services. Pet owners are encouraged to bring their animals, but all animal lovers, individuals and families are welcome. There will be various vendors, music, prizes, games, animals and a Beavertail Food Truck.

### Pumpkin patches

October is the perfect time to visit a pumpkin patch. Luckily, there are several in the Kitchener-Waterloo area.

### Shantz Family Farm

Mid-September to Nov. 1  
Open daily from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
1544 Bleams Rd.  
RR#2 Petersburg (near Mannheim)



SARAH MORASSUTTI

If you’d like to support a local farm and want to buy a pumpkin without additional activities, Shantz Family Farm offers a self-serve roadside stand that includes pumpkins, squash, gourds, and decorative corn in the fall, with bagged campfire wood and straw bales available year-round.

There is designated parking adjacent to the farm, by Mannheim Mennonite Church. The stand is cash-only.

### Good Family Farm

Mid-September to Oct. 31  
Open Monday to Saturday 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.;  
Sunday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
909 Bridge St. E.  
Waterloo, Ont.

Much like the Shantz Family Farm, the Good Family Farm currently operates as a roadside stand.

The Good Family Farm is great if you want many different kinds of pumpkin and squash for decorating or culinary purposes. The farm offers a wide variety of products and prides itself on satisfying the diverse needs and tastes of its customers. Additionally, if you need ideas on what to do with so many different kinds of squash, the farm offers recipes like spaghetti squash and pumpkin loaf on its website.

Good Family Farm accepts cash, debit or credit cards.

### Snyder’s Farm

Pumpkin patch, gift barn and bakery open weekends 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Snyder’s Family Farm  
936685 Blenheim Rd., Bright, Ont.

If you want to make a day of getting your pumpkins, Snyder’s farm is a more activities-based pumpkin patch. You can choose a pumpkin, check out some local vendors in the Gift Barn and grab a treat at their Bakery or Candy Barn. Additionally, if you’re willing to return at night and want something a little spookier, Snyder’s Family Farm also offers...

### Fear Farm

Friday through Sunday beginning at 7 p.m.  
Ends Oct. 31  
Snyder’s Farm

A general admission pass to the Fear Farm includes four haunted attractions: a haunted hayride, an outdoor “Hillbilly hike,” an outdoor corn maze (“The Stalking Dead”) and one indoor haunt house (“Hiller House”). Visitors additionally have access to the food areas — Double Decker Grilled Cheese, the Autumn Grill, a beer garden and the previously mentioned Candy Barn, Bakery, pumpkin patch and Gift Barn. Tickets are \$39.99.



# TIFF's Every Story Fund and the need for diversity in film

Nadia Khan  
Reporter

On Sept. 7, the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) launched Every Story, a fund that aims to promote diversity and inclusivity in the film industry. Every donation made to the Every Story Fund will be matched by TIFF's partner, NBC Universal, and will be allocated toward more opportunities for Black, Indigenous, people of colour, 2SLGBTQ+ and other equity-seeking creators.

Some of these new opportunities include expanding talent development to create space for more diverse voices, creating year-round mentorships for underrepresented filmmakers and providing free festival tickets through community partners.

The push for diversity in the Festival's 2021 lineup was also highlighted by the 76 films being created or co-created by cis women, trans women, non-binary and Two-Spirit filmmakers.

However, despite the creation of diversity initiatives like TIFF's and an increase in female-led flicks

in the past few years, the film industry continues to struggle with inclusivity behind the scenes. 91 per cent of Hollywood studio executives are male. According to the BBC, women constituted only eight per cent of the directors working on the top 250 U.S. domestic grossing movies in 2018, which is a decrease from 1998.

Gioia Myers, the advocacy director at UW's Women's Centre, noted how this glaring lack of female directors isn't due to a lack of talent or skill. "You could have women directing films that are on par with or even better than male directors but they may be overlooked because they're women," she explained.

Myers added that this omission can be identified while "looking at representation of women behind the camera and also looking at certain tropes that appear in film and TV and how those can perpetuate harmful stereotypes."

Variety notes that only 17.4 per cent and 13.9 per cent of Hollywood screenwriters are women and people of colour, respectively. Since screenwriting is dominated by white men, the cinematic stories that end up making it to the big screen often don't come from a racialized or gendered point of view and invalidates audience members belonging to minority groups.

a movie, if you notice that there's a character of colour or a woman and their character might be two-dimensional or riddled with stereotypes, you can start looking at that and into that director's other work and realize that 'Wow, this is a consistent problem with them, I don't think I want to support them anymore.'"

Sam Faulkner, external director of UW's Glow Centre, echoes this desire to support creators who are invested in good representation. "I think a big part of the media is by and for," they said. "You want a trans actor playing a trans character. They'll bring more to the role in a way that other queer people will connect to."

Faulkner also reinforced the need to veer away from damaging tropes on 2SLGBTQ+ characters. From killing off gay characters as part of the harmful "bury your gays" trope to refusing to explicitly mention if a character is queer, representation can stigmatize queer relationships by poorly representing lived experiences. "Through representation, you have the language for how you're feeling [but] if you don't see other people like you, you feel so isolated," Faulkner said.

Ultimately, Faulkner said they believe that programs like the Every Story Fund are for the better

*"You could have women directing films that are on par with or even better than male directors but they may be overlooked because they're women."*

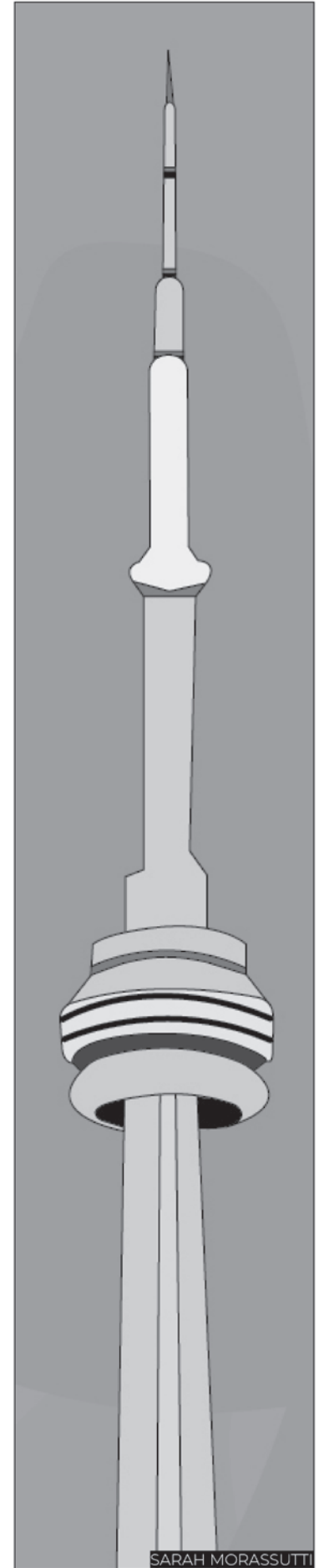
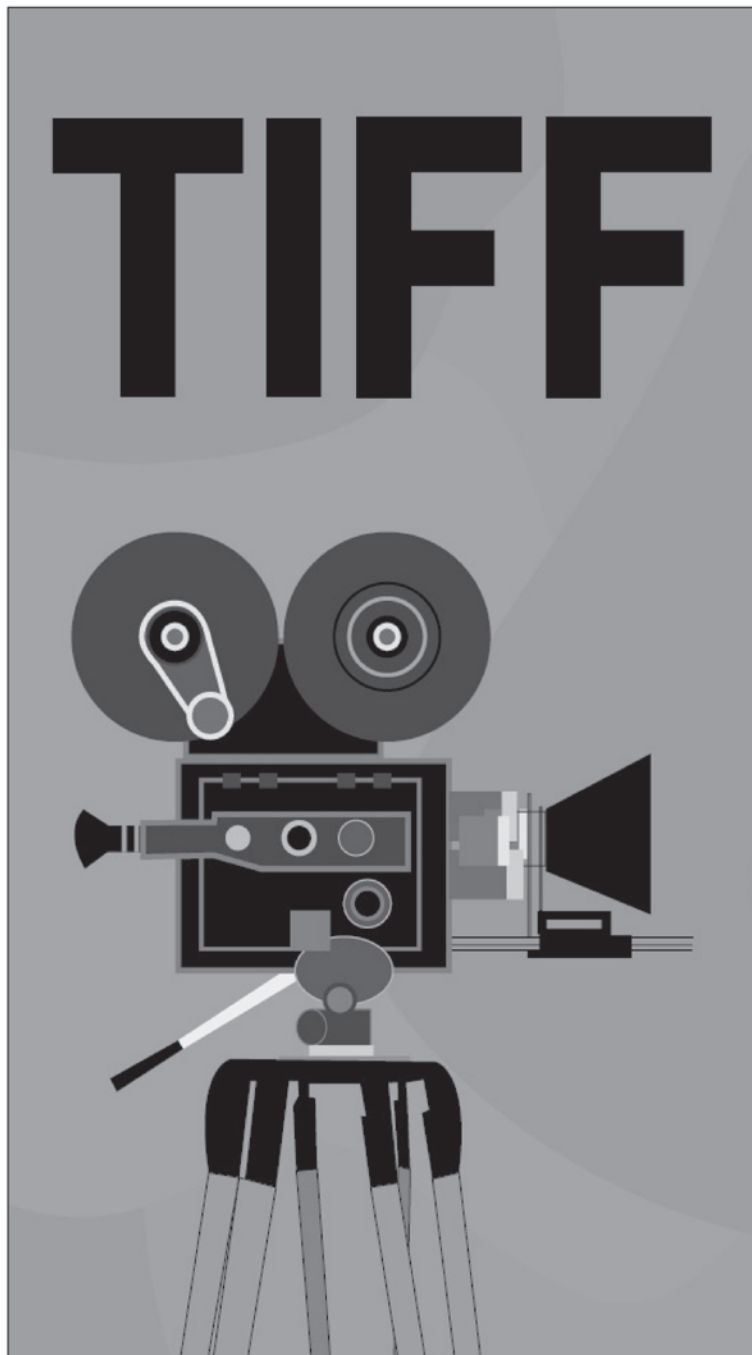
GIOIA MYERS, ADVOCACY DIRECTOR AT  
UW'S WOMEN'S CENTRE

Zoya Randhawa, the literature director at UW's Women's Centre, noted that increasing diversity in film begins not only with supporting more diverse filmmakers but also with "encouraging people who might not be in these identities to actually put effort into writing [diverse] characters."

Randhawa also highlighted the need for audience members to be conscious of who they are supporting. "When you go in to watch

when it comes to equitable storytelling and media. "It can be very easy to be cynical of the reasoning," they said. "But it seems like they have good intentions honestly, and if the money's going to people who need it then it's ultimately a lot more than performative action."

The Toronto International Film Festival did not immediately respond to *Imprint's* request for comment.



SARAH MORASSUTTI



# 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 opinion@uwimprint.ca. Find more opinions at uwimprint.ca.

## 3, 2, 1, action?

Students need more guidance when it comes to video assignments

In my three years and one month as an arts and business student at the University of Waterloo, I have had to complete at least five video assignments. However, I have very few video editing skills, and what I do know, I have picked up through trial and error while scrambling to complete these projects.

When I approach my professors for help, they typically do not offer much support. Instead, it seems as though they expect their students to have video-creation skills because we are of a generation that is "digitally native" — we are young and use technology frequently. We do not. As much as some of us may use our devices, we are not necessarily creating video in our free time, and even if we are, it is not necessarily in a format or style that translates well into academic settings.

I have nothing against video assignments as a concept. It is important for students to have opportunities to present their learning in different formats, and video editing skills are increasingly valuable in a world where technology drives many industries and many companies create video content.

Consistently, though, students are expected to meet high standards without having access to sufficient guidance.

Many professors who assign video-based work are unfamiliar with the technology we are required to use. Not only can they sometimes not support us with the execution of the project, but they are also sometimes unable to provide the level or quality of feedback necessary to improve our video skills.

Ultimately, instead of being an effective learning experience, these assignments become major stressors. They are often completed last-minute, with the aid of whatever quick tutorials I can find on YouTube, though these tutorials rarely provide enough information to help me master the technology.

In the business world, this problem exists too: many co-op job postings expect arts students to have advanced proficiency with video and graphic design software, even when they are not hiring for design-related roles.

A former supervisor of mine said without training in video or graphic editing, the quality of our work would never match what a professional designer could create. She also noted that it would take an untrained creator significantly longer to complete a video or design project, which is an inefficient use of time.

This is not to say that students should avoid developing video and design skills if they do not plan on being professional designers.



ALEXANDRA HOLYK

There absolutely should be a push to encourage students to advance their skills in many areas — as the saying goes, better a jack of all trades than a master of one.

Those students who are interested in design should absolutely pursue it, even if it is not through their university program. There are several clubs and organizations on campus that train students to use design software — *Imprint* is just one example — as well as countless online tutorials, many of which are free. Students can also take classes in digital arts communication at UW, or enrol in online courses from other universities.

But not every student will want to advance their design capabilities on their own, nor should they need to. If companies want high-quality video content, they should consider working with videographers, rather than expecting employees with other backgrounds to magically be good at creating videos.

Maybe the saying should be revised — better a competent jack at a few trades than a jack that tries every trade and can do none.

So if professors want to include video-based assignments in the curriculum, they should offer more guidance, including in-class instruction, help during office hours or other tutorial sessions and direction toward the resources and supports on campus for video creation. They should also be aware of best practices so they can offer specific feedback about the content and form of student submissions.

Additionally, if video is to become the norm, the Writing and Communication Centre (WCC) should offer more workshops and individual support sessions for this form of communication.

This is not an unusual request. Many of my classes require us to prepare PowerPoints and other presentations. Accordingly, my professors often include advice on how to prepare strong presentations in their course materials. Similarly, when one of my first-year courses had a speech as the final assignment, my professor spent half of a class explaining how to structure a speech and offered some advice about our body language and speaking style as well. The WCC has recently begun offering a workshop on the basics of podcasting because students are now being asked to turn in podcasts in some of their classes.

Importantly, the video support, from professors and other sources, needs to address both the technical aspect (how to use video software) and the communication aspect (how to present information effectively through video). Every medium requires a different approach to be successful — you wouldn't write a blog in the same way you would an academic report, nor would a speech be structured the same way as a social media caption, even if they all cover the same idea. Good video scripts are not just an academic paper that will be read aloud with images.

If students are given this support, there is no reason they cannot develop the necessary skills to do well on video assignments and understand how to create effective video content in their future roles. Without this support, however, we are being set up to fail, or at least flounder our way to completion.

Nicola Rose  
 Executive Editor





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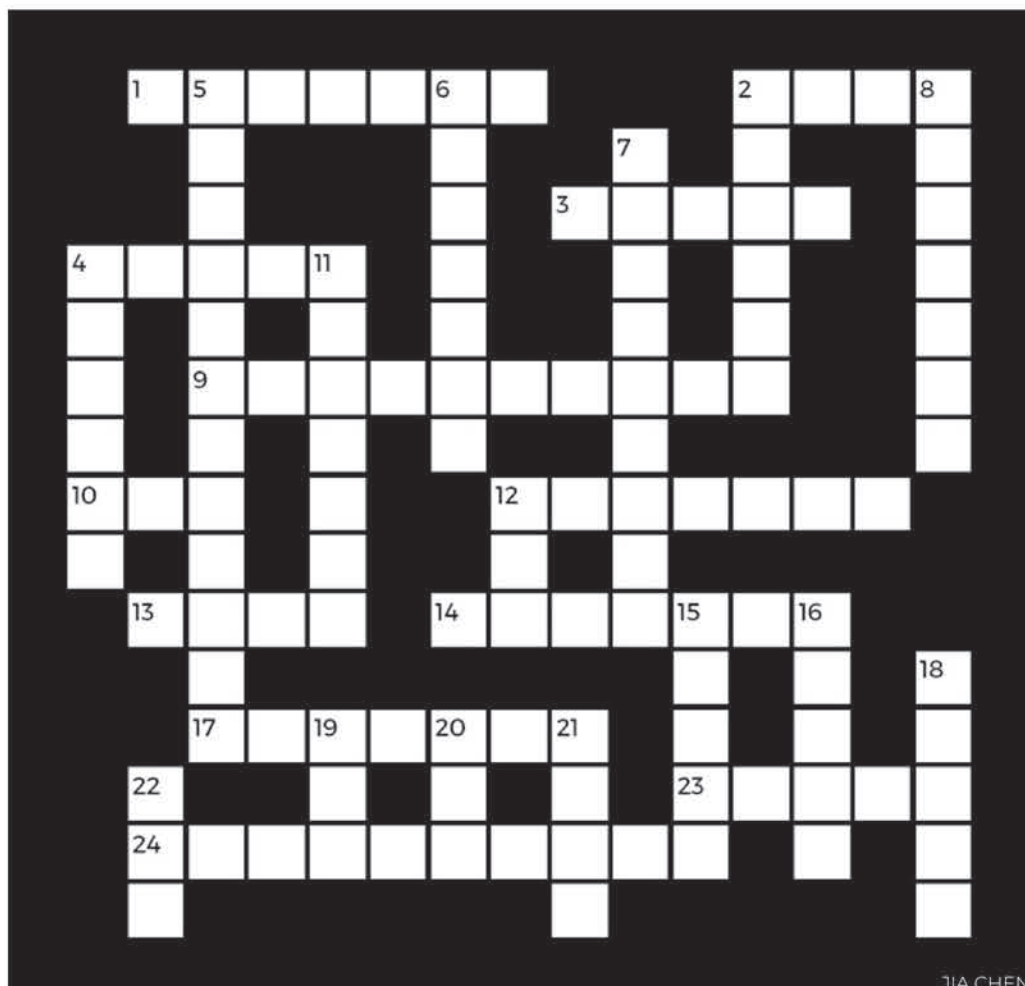
# distractions



WHY DID I GET A BAD PERFORMANCE EVALUATION AT THE CALENDAR FACTORY?

BECAUSE I TOOK A DAY OFF!

## Imprint crosswords | Self-care



JIA CHEN

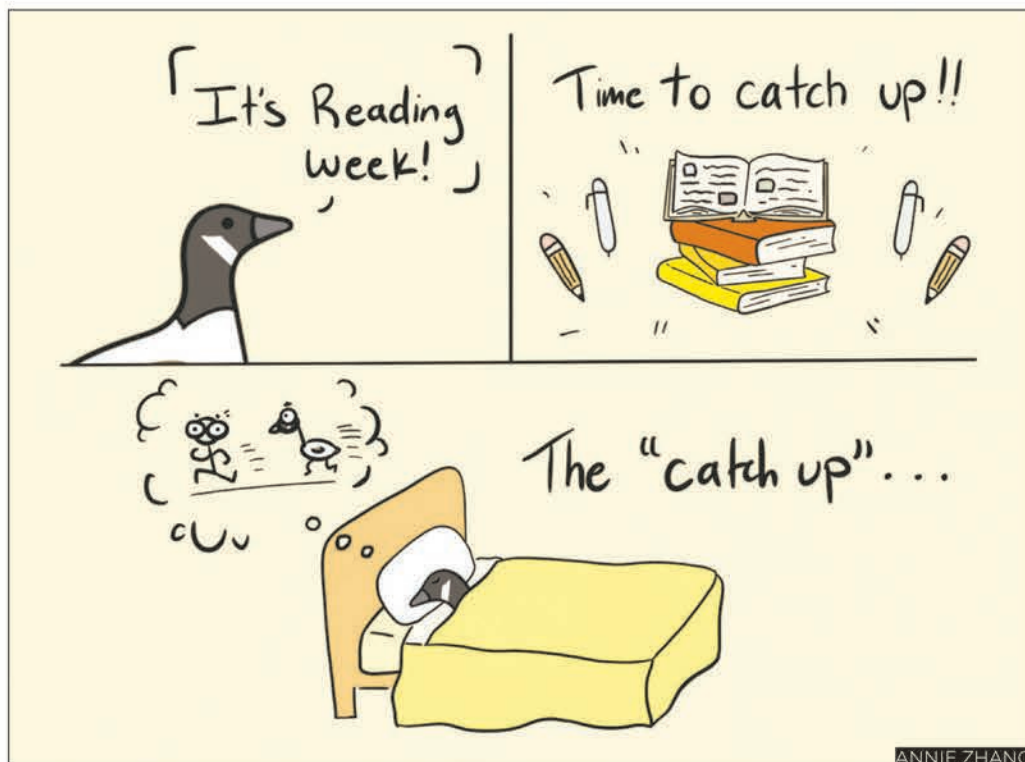
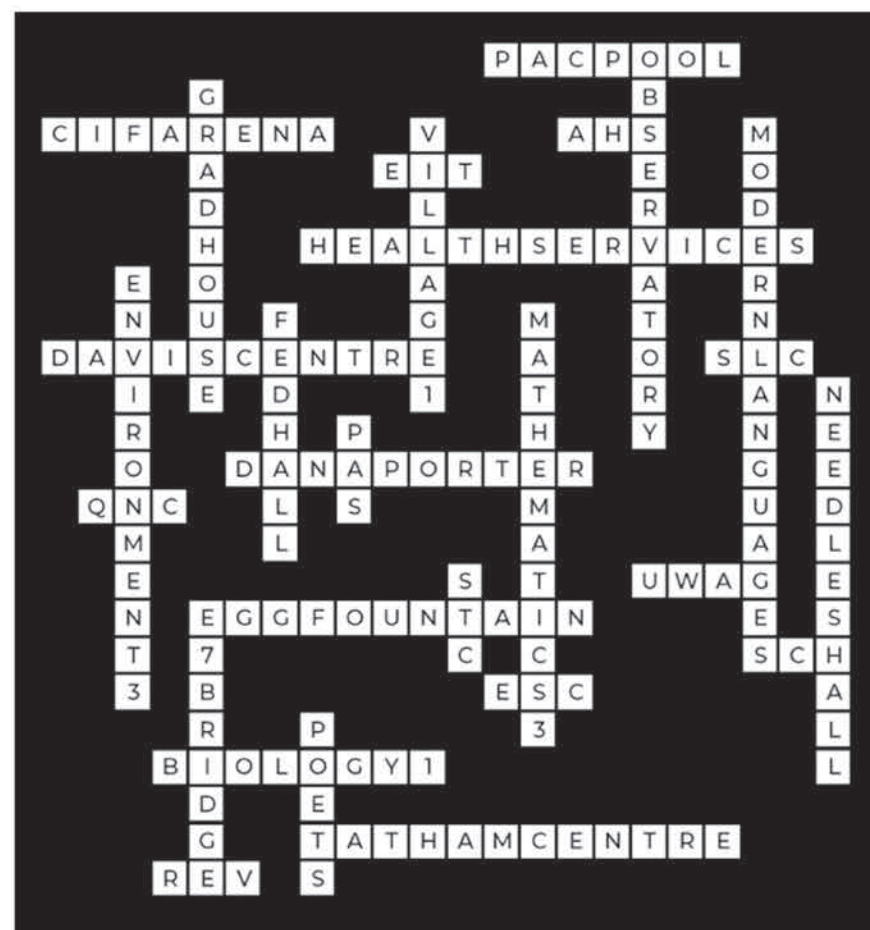
### Across

1. Sort by colour for best results
2. Required to recover
3. "Have a \_\_\_\_\_, have a Kit Kat"
4. I believe in you
9. Headspace \_\_\_\_\_ app
10. Eh; earth without it
12. Bujo is a type
13. "Outta my way!"
14. Rachel, Ross, Monica, Chandler, Joey, Phoebe
17. A warm up or a break
23. Fads include keto
24. Not to be crossed

### Down

2. Find your WHY
4. Treatment may come with cucumbers
5. "I don't chase, I attract. What belongs to me will simply find me."
6. Glow from the inside out
7. Thanksgiving purpose
8. Follows physical and couples
11. Gatorade is one option
12. Mason is most famous
15. Self-actualization is the summit
16. Wind down to prepare for
18. Some gardeners believe playing it helps their plants grow better
19. Don't walk
20. Would you like black, green, or white?
21. It grows on you
22. Some waters \_\_\_\_ and flow

### LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS



ANNIE ZHANG