



Animals, witches, and even the Grim Reaper made appearances at Brandon University's first Halloween Hike. Roughly fifty people dressed in their Halloween best made their way around the BU Healthy Living Centre to raise money for the HLC. By 2:00 pm, approximately \$3,000 was raised, primarily by members of the community. Photo credit Carissa Taylor. §

WE TALK ABOUT HER A LOT...

... but just what, exactly, does Dr. Deborah Poff do?

ALEX MURRAY, ASSISTANT EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

A FEW WEEKS AGO, I found out by chance that many students at our University do not know who Dr. Deborah Poff is. If they did happen to know, they certainly didn't know what her job is as the President of BU.

And that is completely fine with her.

According to the President, students should be focused on gaining life experience and focusing on their education, not on who the administration is and what they are doing. This is the first point in a student's life where they have a lot of reflective time and have the capacity to choose the meaning behind their life. In

her opinion, students at BU should be learning the values that will define them later on in life. They are here to learn, that is all.

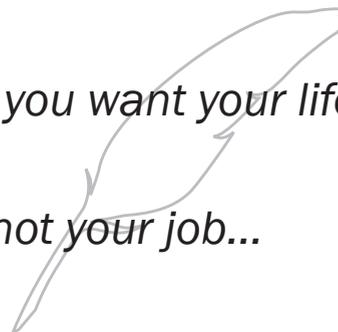
As President of the University, it is Dr. Poff's job to organize and head the administration. This includes making sure the

government keeps giving us money, fundraising, and organizing new directives

for Brandon University. She is driven to provide more student support and make this institution strong. In her words, "It's a grunt job, but the students come first."

What do you want your life to mean?

You are not your job...



school.

Right now Dr. Poff is focused on her greatest work. Plans are underway to create Mature Student Housing near campus at the site of Fleming School. It will have forty-two three-bedroom units with an on-site childcare facility. This will provide students with young children a place to live in the housing desert that is Brandon. There will be another year to secure funding and finish the designs before they start building. §

Do you have comments about our illustrious president? Does this satisfy your curiosity about her job at BU? Post your comments online at TheQuill.ca!

It is a thankless task keeping the gears running in the clock that is our

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The Quill

BREAKFAST WITH THE MAYOR

Mayor talks zoning, downtown revitalization, and student development

ROLAND LIWANAG

BRANDON CITY MAYOR Shari Decter Hirst held a breakfast meeting with local residents on Monday, October 28th at the Western Manitoba Regional Library in the Town Centre on Rosser Avenue.

Among the issues raised included how the city government decides on the zoning of new condominium developments which have sprouted all over the city. The mayor explained that this was spurred by a shortage of housing, a clear sign of the city's rapidly growing population.

Immigrant issues were also tackled, including language issues and money leaving the city due to immigrants sending much of their income back to family members in their home countries.

Also discussed was the ways in which the city is revitalizing the business activity in the downtown area. They also drew the mayor's attention to the condition of the bridges on both 8th and 18th Streets. Vandalism was also a hot topic.

The mayor then outlined some of the

projects that will spur the growth of the city dramatically. Major developments are already in the pipeline. Brandon University will also be benefitting from these projects. Planned projects include a strip mall and additional student residences, which will be primarily focused on married stu-

dents with families. One such structure will be located at 23rd Street and Victoria Avenue, where the former Fleming School is located. Construction is expected to commence this spring. §



Her Worship Mayor Shari Decter Hirst and other meeting attendees. Photo credit Roland Liwanag.

SERC 101: HAVING "THE TALK" WITH YOUR KIDS

What to do when your child starts asking those questions

AMANDA VAN WEERT, SERC

Q: MY DAUGHTER IS THREE and has been asking questions lately about body parts and sexuality. I'm feeling pretty uncomfortable about this. What does she need to know?

A: First of all, please know that these are completely normal questions for a child to be asking. Second, good for you for getting the info you need!

It's important to remember that when we talk to kids about sexuality, we are aiming for lots and lots of little talks, rather than one big talk. This avoids information overload, and lets them take a pace that is comfortable for them.

The next step is using proper terminology. This is extremely important in terms of teaching kids to be comfortable with their bodies. Using slang terms can create an atmosphere of secrecy and taboo around the subject. Also, make sure she knows that everyone's body is their private property, especially when it comes to genitalia and erogenous zones, including the mouth, penis, vagina, anus, and breasts. This goes for men and women and everyone in between.

Another important tidbit for you to know is that kids at this age often touch their genitals simply because it feels good. It is not really a sexual act for young children. This is completely normal kid behaviour, even though it can be uncomfortable for us adults. Just tell them that the touch-

ing is to be done in a private place.

For more information on talking with kids about sexuality, get in touch with us by visiting our website at www.serc.mb.ca, or visiting our office at 161 8th Street. Be sure to like us on Facebook too. §

Questions about sexuality? Send them to thefactsoflife@serc.mb.ca.

Information provided by the Sexuality Education Resource Centre. Please visit

serc.mb.ca to get more information.

The information provided in this article is not intended as medical advice. Should you have any specific medical questions, please contact your health care provider.

SERC 101 is now online at TheQuill.ca! IF you have questions or comments, or think you need to find an old question, check out the archives!

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THE GREENS AND STUDENTS

Talking to David Neufeld about Green Party student policy

ALEX MURRAY, ASSISTANT EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

THE QUILL SPOKE with Green Party Candidate David Neufeld on what he has to offer the students living in the Brandon/Souris area and the message he wants to send.

Engagement is what concerns Mr. Neufeld the most. "I want to inspire the students to vote and communicate with me. Researching the issues that concern them and having them join this dialogue is my goal."

Mr. Neufeld went on to say that adequate funding for postsecondary education is necessary to make university and college education accessible for all potential students. Right now, he believes

the money we receive is inadequate and should be increased immediately. More funding would also allow for more professors to be hired and more programs to be made available for the students of Brandon.

David Neufeld does not want to stop there. He would love to work with BU and ACC to provide entry-level positions in entrepreneurship roles. Jobs such as these would be in service to a "second" or "next" economy that is based more on renewable resources and low carbon use than our current model. Policies that encourage these sort of jobs would be designed to keep students in Westman and specifically Brandon. In this way we could retain graduates of BU and ACC.

Mr. Neufeld would lastly be interested in increasing the amount of money the federal government provides for municipalities to fund low income housing. Brandon's shortage of affordable housing has been a problem for years and this Green candidate believes that not only can this be done, but also it can be done in an environmentally-friendly manner. Apartments, condos and houses that are built with solar and geothermal heating and better insulation would serve our environment in a way that reflects Canada's growing need for renewable resources.

Apathy will be the challenge for students in this election. The most important thing to do is to vote. So get out there and take part in some democracy. §



Mr. David Neufeld, Green candidate for Brandon-Souris.

ALICE MUNRO TRIBUTE

New Nobel laureate honoured at BU

ROLAND LIWANAG

ALICE MUNRO, AWARD-WINNING author and recipient of this year's Nobel Prize for Literature, was honoured last Friday, October 25th, at the BU Library Gathering Area in a tribute presented by the BU Hawkweed Literary Forum.

She was cited for the use of contemporary and fiction short stories as her medium. There are now 110 Nobel laureates in literature and only thirteen are women. Munro holds the distinction as being the first Canadian woman ever to receive the award, though she has been a perennial contender. She finally bagged the coveted award when she was chosen on October 10th, by the Nobel Foundation, an organization maintained by Swedish-based Nobel Media AB.

Munro was born and raised in Ontario. She is a colleague and long-time friend of Margaret Atwood. At age 82, she is still actively writing for The New Yorker.

Those who attended the event read portions of her works. Among them were Dr. Reinhold Kramer, Chair of the Department of English and Creative Writing of Brandon University, Her Worship Mayor Shari Decter Hirst of the city of Brandon, Lesley Glendinning, doctoral candidate in English at the University of Manitoba, and Dale Lakevold, assistant professor and program coordinator of the Creative Writing Department of Brandon University.

Dr. Di Brandt, award-winning author, Professor Emerita of the Department of English and Creative Writ-

TOM MULCAIR VISITS BRANDON

The NDP leader stops in to chat with Brandonites

ALEX MURRAY, ASSISTANT EDITOR IN CHIEF

FIRST, WE HAD Justin Trudeau. Then came Elizabeth May. Last week, the leader of the NDP, Tom Mulcair, came to town. Alas, he did not have time to stop in at BU. In fact it was lucky he came to Brandon at all, with the events of the Senate scandal ever-erupting on Parliament Hill.

His stop included a tour of the Behlen Industries Compound with Brandon Souris NDP candidate Cory Szczepanski. They spoke of the mistakes of the Harper government and their drive to get rid of the Senate. The NDP is firmly against the Senate, as it is not democratically elected, and they believe the Canadian public will be better served with no Senate at all.

The Quill was able to grab a few moments with Cory Szczepanski to ask him some questions about his campaign. He says he can relate to student issues as he considers himself a young person. Cory wants to fight for Westman as our Member of Parliament, and according to him, to do

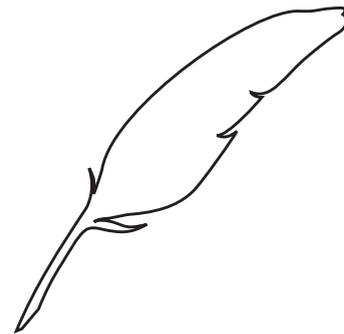
so he needs you to get out and vote – and it does not matter for whom. "If I had the phone numbers of everyone in Brandon, I would be texting them, telling them all to participate." He went on to say that he hopes there will be a debate held at the Brandon University as there has been in



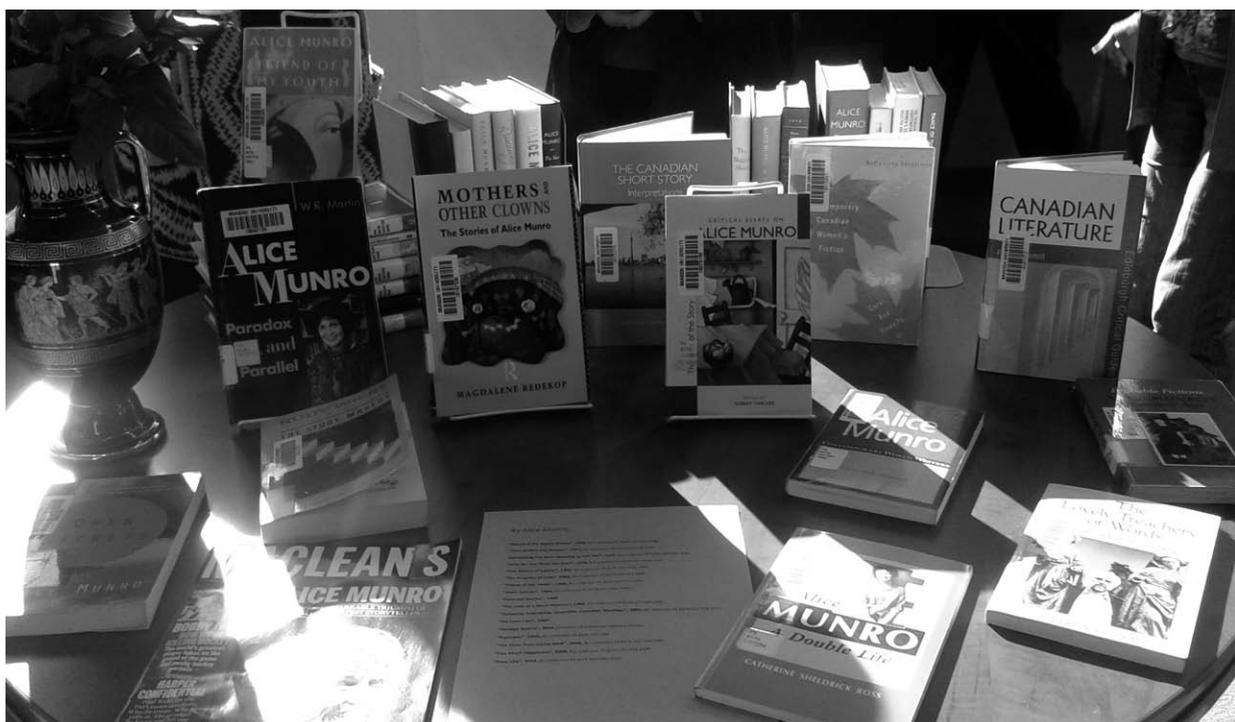
Thomas Mulcair and Cory Szczepanski speak to media. Photo credit Alex Murray.

the past, as he wants to show the students of Brandon that he takes their wishes seriously and draw attention to some of the issues facing students, like student retention, cost of living, and the abysmal state of housing in Brandon.

According to BUSU, they are looking into holding this debate soon and will be trying to have it in the Mingling area sometimes soon. Here's hoping they move quickly: the by-election is fast approaching. §



ing at Brandon University and coordinator of the BU Hawkweed Literary Forum, was the master of ceremonies during the event. §



A selection of Alice Munro's written works on display. Photo credit Roland Liwanag.

PROFILE: DONNA FORSYTH

Wherein we focus on Education, which is arguably the reason we're all here

CARISSA TAYLOR, SENIOR REPORTER

IN OUR NEXT PROFILE of a BU faculty member, The Quill talks to Donna Forsyth, a professor in the Faculty of Education. She received her B.A. in English and history and her B.Ed. from the University of Saskatchewan. She received a graduate diploma and a M.Ed. from Brandon University.

The Quill: What kind of work experience did you have prior to BU?

Donna Forsyth: I started as a classroom teacher in Northern Manitoba. That was a really a wonderful experience. Then I worked as a regional coordinator for a language development program through Manitoba Education and Training. That was fabulous because it allowed me to work with students who had been identified as having severe language learning disabilities.

I worked very closely with a speech language clinician as well. Our area went right from southern Manitoba up as far as Russell, the Westman region. We'd work with school teams on developing programming for kids. There was everything from kids with elected mutism to kids on the

autism spectrum.

I did that for about eight years and then I was a consultant with the Department of Education for language arts and curriculum implementation. Then I was a staff development consultant for the Brandon School Division, then I came here.

I did not come from academia, I came from public education. It was really interesting to work at all those different levels. It was a natural progression for me to go from staff development work to working with pre-service teachers. In my staff development work, I worked with in-service teachers on implementing curricula or new policies or new approaches, so it was a good segue to start working with pre-service teachers. I think I have the best job in the world. The students who end up in education I find really are committed and sincere and want to make a difference for kids.

TQ: What is your research about?

DF: My passion is still literacy development in children and adolescents. The latest research project I'm involved in was a SSHRC grant, and it's a partnership grant with the University of Toronto and the University of Saskatchewan. It deals with assessing and supporting young children's oral language and written language development through play.

The twist on it is infusing and studying play-based learning through different cultural lenses, and particularly in rural and northern communities and schools. In language development and in literacy development, how we assess development is through a certain kind of lens. Sometimes, kids who come from different backgrounds don't do very well on those assessments. So it's a different way of looking at it.

That ties in to the work I'm doing here, with the Aboriginal Curriculum Initiatives Centre. This was another SSHRC project that Dr. Helen Armstrong started. I became involved in the project as a collaborator for probably the last three years of the project. My piece in it was building cultural identity and literacy through Aboriginal literature. My research was done with students at Sioux Valley High School. What that research showed is that cultural relevance is very important. It's seeing yourself as not being invisible in school and in the literature that you read and the stories you hear. You have to see yourself somewhere and feel like you're part of everything.

I'm also involved in the VOICE project, which is Vital Outcomes Indicators for Community Engagement for Children and Youth. That's a huge project, and Dr. Karen Rempel is the co-investigator on that. There are community success pathways, and each community has decided what

they should focus on and what they think are success indicators within their own communities. The awareness of their culture comes out as one of the success indicators that they want to see in their kids.

Through the Aboriginal Curriculum and Initiatives Centre we are helping others build libraries and help our students here to infuse Aboriginal culture and literature through the curriculum. It's not just for classrooms where there are

Aboriginal children, we all need to know the role, in our country, that Aboriginal people played and play.

The other project that I'm passionate about is the professional development school project. That is where I teach one of my courses, Student Literacy Intervention, at Betty Gibson School. We meet there Tuesdays and Thursdays as a class. We have course work and then my students go and work with the kids and I'm able to sit in with them and see what's happening and give them advice. Then we come back together and we debrief.

I think that kind of hands-on work makes a difference to our pre-service teachers. It's one thing to study in a textbook about how to administer certain literacy assessments or how to work with kids who are having trouble with a particular aspect of literacy, or even to see it on a DVD, but it's another to sit there with them and see their reaction and what they still need.

TQ: Has there been data collected on the relationship between culturally relevant material and the success or completion rates of students? I would assume they're probably interrelated.

DF: Absolutely. So now we have to look at how to incorporate the material successfully.

TQ: I'd imagine that would be hard when classrooms are very diverse.

DF: Yes, how do you make it so that all of your kids feel like they belong there, like they fit, like they have just as much to offer as everyone else? That piece of learning is huge. Our students become disen-



Donna Forsyth of the Education Department. Photo credit Carissa Taylor.

gaged quite early in school, earlier than people might think. Certainly by middle years, the disengagement is there. We need to come in and approach things in a different way. A lot of it is just an awareness and knowing what we can use, what we can do, and how we can go about it.

TQ: It's probably quite difficult for teachers to adjust with all of the recent immigration in Brandon.

DF: Wow, there has been a huge change. I think the teachers are doing really well, and they want to do their very best for those kids. That's one thing I feel good about this centre. We now have teachers coming in and looking at books, and saying that they could order some for their school. We're really happy we have this resource here, not even just for our pre-service teachers but also for our in-service teachers.

TQ: Any final comments?

DF: What I'm very interested in is building even stronger relationships between the university and the community in education. There is wonderful stuff going on, and we need to all contribute to what is happening. I think in the past, there may have been a distance between the university and schools, but that is changing and we are really working together. §

Is there a particular member of the BU faculty or staff that you'd like us to interview? Comment on this article with your ideas and suggestions for who we should interview next at TheQuill.ca!

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THE WOES OF THE PUBLIC WASHROOM

Nobody likes public washrooms ... and there's nothing we dislike more than bad toilet paper!

HOLLY KALYNIUK

AFTER STROLLING into any washroom (in this reporter's case, the women's washrooms) on campus, it doesn't take long for one to notice jagged scraps of toilet paper heaped below dispensers in nearly every stall.

Upon tugging lightly on a roll, it isn't hard to understand their origin. Far from plush, Brandon University's toilet paper ranked below satisfactory on the ply-scale to begin with—like most public loos—and appears to have lost a few layers since the beginning of the school year.

"It's the worst [toilet paper] ever!" remarked BU student Katelyn Lee*. "I thought it was bad [already], but it does seem worse this year."

While some students haven't noticed a difference, other lavatory-goers on campus have encountered similar problems.

"It's always been awful," noted Sarah Garrison*, another irate student. "It's like you have to use half the roll for comfort.... I've noticed it keeps being crappy, or crappier if it has gotten thinner. I think for the thousands of dollars we pay to go to

school, they could at least do us the courtesy of making our bathroom visits more comfortable!"

An easy method of reducing costs for any organization is reducing toilet paper ply in public bathrooms, and Brandon University appears to have followed suit. However, is it worth it?

"I actually have noticed it's like the thinnest toilet paper I've ever used," stated student Torrie Sport*. "I feel like I have to use a lot of it." Lee similarly observed an increase in the volume of toilet paper she uses, saying, "plus it's impossible to pull it out half the time: so much ends up on the floor and is wasted."

If this much paper is being discarded in vain attempts to acquire a suitable amount, and massive quantities are being used to compensate for a low ply count, how much toilet paper is BU really saving?

While toilet paper ply is hardly an issue to discourage student enrolment or rightly make any sort of on-campus ripples at all, it isn't the only bathroom blunder for the university this year. Unresolved as of yet (as far as we know!), issues revolving

around the availability of a trans/neutal gender bathroom at the Healthy Living Centre arose earlier in the school year.

The Quill did not receive any replies from BU management for comment before publication. §

* Names have been changed to provide some potty privacy!



BUSINESS DRAGON: SNEEZE



BY: DAKOTA BICKLMEIER

VIEWING STUDENTS' ART

Get out there and get cultured

SHELBY STEELE

THE GLEN P. SUTHERLAND Gallery of Art holds art shows throughout the school year. Each term there are around three shows for public viewing. Last week, the gallery displayed various pieces of BU students' art, as well as faculty pieces.

There are drawing studios for visual arts and Aboriginal arts students. The gallery has the look and feel of a typical art gallery, which gave it a professional vibe. The paintings and drawings were beautiful to gaze upon and it is certainly worth pondering the meaning of each piece. The talented artists of BU are definitely shown through this gallery, and it is a great way to start sharing their skills and gain experience for a future in fine arts.

This show held a variety of different forms, such as paintings, abstract work, pen on paper, and charcoal drawings. Each piece was done very creatively with a significant meaning behind it. The gallery is fairly small, but there is certainly enough to look at to spend a good amount of time there.

Last week's art show displayed some sexual content, and a caution was posted for any parents bringing in young children or anyone uncomfortable with this type of content. Future shows may also contain sexual content.

The next art show will take place at the end of November and with this particular show the art work will be available for purchase. §

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JOB PROSPECTS FOR YOUTH LESS GRIM

Maybe we're not all doomed!

JANE LYTUVYNNENKO, CUP OTTAWA BUREAU CHIEF

OTTAWA (CUP) — The notion of today's youth being the "lost generation" is being challenged by a new report from TD Economics. Published October 22nd, the study focused on the skill mismatch and labour shortages in the market over the last 10 years. It found the picture is not as grim as it has been painted.

"The notion of a severe labour market skills mismatch has topped the headlines," reads the report. "With data in hand, we debunk the notion that Canada is facing an imminent skills crisis. At the same time, there is some evidence of mismatch across certain occupations and provinces, but the sparse, non-time series data prevent us from saying whether the situation today is worse than in years past.

The report looked at three key areas: the Canadian labour market over the past 10 years, whether there's a skills mismatch and what should be done about it. It honed in on areas where there are commonly perceived skills shortages or surpluses, including the trades and arts degrees.

"Some have been labelling the current youth generation as the lost generation," said Sonya Gulati, senior economist at the TD Bank Group who co-authored the report. "For us, while we determined the unemployment rate is higher, part of the reason for that is where we are in the economic cycle."

According to StatsCan, in 2012 the youth unemployment rate was 14.5 per cent compared to 6 per cent for workers aged 25 and up. However, the rate is historically low for those aged 15 to 24 not only in Canada but across the globe.

"Occupations widely thought to be in shortage have recorded considerably lower unemployment rates than their counterparts in the surplus camp," reads the TD Economics report. "Still, vacancy rates outside of some pockets (e.g., trades) are not significantly higher than the national average. They also have not accelerated over the past few years."

Gulati explained one of such examples is graduates with arts degrees.

"What we found in terms of the arts degrees is typically people graduated with a lower labour market outcome in terms of salary and it usually takes them a longer time to get a position, but overtime that difference between specific fields begins to narrow," she said.

The TD Economics report gives a number of recommendations for governments, employers and potential employees. It says job training is not happening at the same rate as it used to be. While the Conservative government's newly introduced Canada Jobs Grant is a step in the right according to Gulati, more can be done to improve Canada's job market.

"[Employers can] provide incentive to a worker for taking on the job training," she says. "For instance you may get a tax break if you seek training above and beyond what you already have. You can give employers incentives to make sure the skills workers have are aligned with what the needs of the general labor market are."

Students need to look for prospects before they enter a field of study to make sure they can get employment after graduation. Despite prospects not being as bleak as predicted, both Canada and its citizens should take steps to safeguard their employment. §

CURSE THOSE CUSSING KIDS

Fudge it, just let children swear already

ELLIOT CHAN, THE OTHER PRESS (DC)

NEW WESTMINSTER (CUP) — Profanity is a rite of passage. No matter how innocently we begin, at one point or another we all end up saying those socially frowned upon words. Sure, I believe in a more sophisticated form of language — the kind I dress up in for my grandma or bring into a job interview — but those words lack substance. They feel fake, forced, and pretentious. Like educated grunts from the time of cavemen, swearing brings human interaction back to the ground level. When used properly, it can express honest emotions without any blurred lines. The pent-up rage we feel can often lead to physical violence, if not for the ability to curse. The freedom to swear allows us to be verbally confident — and that shouldn't be limited

to adults.

In 2010, a Sociolinguistics Symposium study showed that children are swearing earlier than ever, escalating at around ages three to four. The fingers were quick to point at television, music, and vulgar parents, but perhaps the problem isn't the parents or the children; perhaps the problem is culture. Children are intelligent and they are quick to understand irrational rules, such as the "Do as I say, not as I do" rule. Swearing doesn't hurt anybody after all; once they realize this they abuse it, especially out of parental earshot.

We often associate swearing with anger and hostility, but often we swear when we are excited. "This food is goddamn delicious," or "This is the best fucking song ever." Perhaps we could do without the "goddamn" and the "fuck," but then it would be a completely different reaction.

ONT. TUITION & FEES UP FOR CHANGE?

Ministry suggests changes to tuition billing, deferral fees in Ontario

ANQI SHEN, CUP ONTARIO BUREAU CHIEF

HAMILTON (CUP) — A new proposal by the Ministry of Colleges, Training and Universities suggests new tuition billing, flat fee and ancillary fee policies could be in place by 2015.

The proposed changes would clarify what universities and colleges can charge under ancillary fees and make tuition billing available on a per-term basis. The proposal would lift the current moratorium on flat fees while imposing an 80 per cent threshold.

Both CFS-Ontario and OUSA responded to the proposal, citing some welcome changes but continuing to push for altogether eliminating deferral fees and flat fees.

CFS-Ontario chairperson Alastair Wood said, in addition, that more universities should waive interest charges for students who rely on Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP).

At York University, for example, students who don't receive OSAP on time are not charged interest for September, January and/or May.

Deferral fees in Ontario range from \$0 at York, Queen's, U of Windsor and Wilfrid Laurier to \$100 at Algoma for students deferring 50 per cent of their tuition.

On the issue of ancillary fees, the Ministry's proposal clarified that students should not be charged for credential completion or graduation.

OUSA commended the Ministry's direction but also added that students paying for e-learning materials for evaluation purposes should receive a rebate of "no less than 20 per cent" that should already be covered in tuition.

Flat fees have come under scrutiny be-

cause students taking less than a 100 per cent course load can be charged for taking a full course load.

The University of Toronto, one of nine Ontario universities imposing a flat-fee, started doing so in 2009. It's the only university in the province to charge students taking only 60 per cent of a course load the same tuition as students taking a full course load.

Munib Sajjad, president of the University of Toronto Students Union representing 46,000 undergraduates at two campuses, said he believes the Ministry is making progress but more work needs to be done.

"Our main concern is that it should be a 100 per cent cap on flat fees and that imposing any kind of threshold would make education even more unaffordable. There are many students who take less of a course load to handle other financial responsibilities."

Sajjad said the UTSU also opposes "penalizing students for circumstances beyond their control" by charging deferral fees to students who rely on the OSAP to pay tuition.

"It's not a fair thing to do just because the university feels they need to get the money on time," Sajjad said.

In addition to late fees or deferral fees, students are charged interest on their unpaid balances. At U of T, the rate is 19.5 per cent annually, which resulted in \$1.8M in revenue for the university last year.

Currently, tuition in Ontario is set to increase by 3 per cent each year under the new tuition framework. According to OUSA, Ontario students also pay some of the highest ancillary fees in Canada. §

CHECK OUT THEQUILL.CA!

Inhibiting the ability to express emotion is more crippling than a few innocuous words.

Once censorship is removed, swearing becomes the norm and not an urge to be defiant. Without risk, there is no adrenaline, and children will begin to use swear words selectively the way intelligent adults do. For parents, omitting the taboo will also cancel out the hypocrisy of telling a child not to swear. Communicating with children like they're adults is not a hindering act; it's one of respect, showing that the child is just as smart or has the capacity to be as smart as we are.

In an article published by the Association of Psychological Science, a study showed that swearing takes up an insignificant 0.3 per cent to 0.7 per cent of our

daily speech. Profanity is universal and can be found in virtually every language. Although North American culture still uses it to separate high-class from the low-class, there is no proof that people with greater wealth are swearing any less than those in poverty.

Of course we can give our children those swearing training wheels — words like "fudge," "darn," and "shoot" — but no matter how you sugarcoat their potty talk, you are not saving them from the inevitable. I'm sorry to say it, Mom and Dad, but your sweet, innocent child is going to cuss and they'll use those words to talk back to you one day, the same way I did with my parents. The earlier we let our children swear, the less of a problem it becomes. §

ADDING TO THE BY-ELECTION SLATE

Thought you'd decided your vote for November 25th? Think again!

KATIE DRIEDGER, SENIOR REPORTER

FRANK GODON IS BACK in the Brandon-Souris by-election race as a candidate for the Libertarian Party of Canada.

Godon collected 150 signatures in support of his nomination and filed his application on Monday, October 29th. He received confirmation of his candidacy from Elections Canada on the evening of Tuesday, October 30th, six days before the November 4th deadline.

The former US Marine and current Boissevain resident was previously a Liberal nominee in the by-election, but withdrew his nomination on September 20th in order to focus on family matters and because he felt his then opponent Rolf Dinsdale was the "better candidate".

In an interview with the Brandon Sun, Godon stated that he was a Libertarian before his nomination as the Liberal candidate. "People say I'm just jumping from party to party, no, I was [a] Libertarian going for a Liberal position," he said. "I'm ... going back to my core beliefs and working

with the Libertarian party here."

The Libertarian Party of Canada operates on three main principles: less government, lower taxes, and more freedom. The party believes that government in Canada needs a significant reduction in size and power, as libertarians also believe that the lone reason for government should be to provide a framework that protects the rights of the individual.

Godon has identified veterans' issues as a key point, as he is a disabled veteran of the US Marine Corps and the son of a 89-year-old disabled World War II veteran and former prisoner of war. The Veterans' Affairs office in Brandon is scheduled to close in February 2014, leaving the lone active office in the province located in Winnipeg.

Godon will compete against Conservative candidate Larry Maguire, Green candidate David Neufeld, Liberal candidate Rolf Dinsdale, and NDP candidate Cory Szczepanski in the by-election on Tuesday, November 25th. §

BRANDON CITY GROWTH STRATEGY

Thinking about the next 50 years

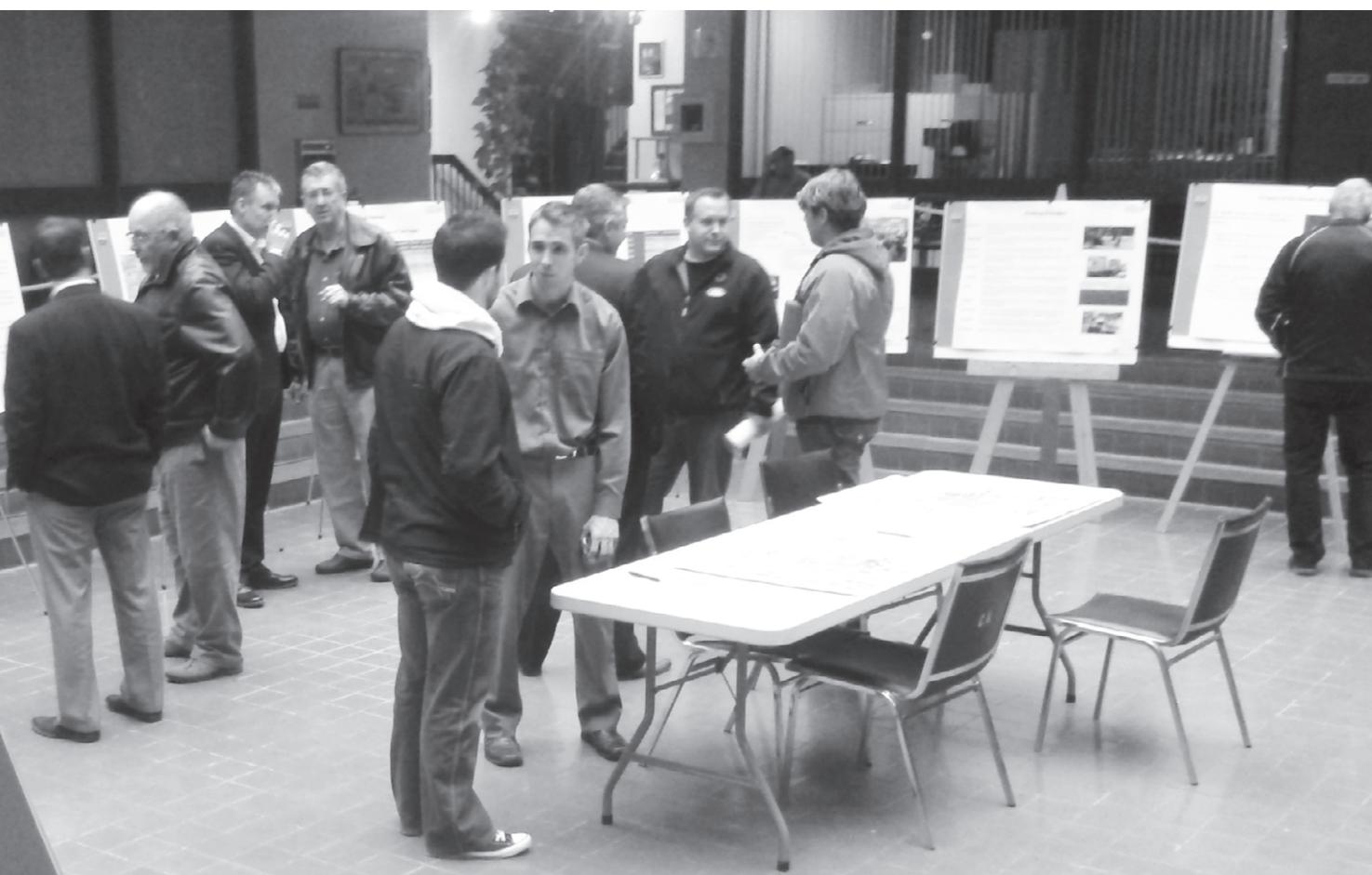
ROLAND LIWANAG

ON OCTOBER 29TH, the city of Brandon outlined their growth strategy for the next fifty years. The presentation was held at the Brandon City Hall Foyer.

The strategy is an initiative of the Brandon and Area Planning District (BAPD) which has examined growth opportunities and challenges for Brandon over the next 50 years. Ryan Nickel, the city's Com-

munity Planner under the Department of Planning and Building Safety, hosted the event. He is also the Project Manager of the development plan.

Mr. Nickel stated that the growth strategy does not involve the city of Brandon alone but actually encompasses two other adjacent municipalities: Cornwallis and Elton. The strategy looks at both municipalities working as a group with the city of Brandon in looking for growth opportunities within and around the city.



Talking about city growth and development on October 29th. Photo credit Roland Liwanag.

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He also announced that there are two areas in particular where the city is working on according to a secondary plan, detailing the specific ways in which the locations can actually develop. These are the North Hill area and the area south west of Brandon. He admits that planning is

tricky because it is often market-driven and development-focused. For instance, he said that an area might not appear viable for development for years, but then a developer purchases it and development proceeds rapidly. The genius behind planning is how to best predict directions and trends of growth.

The growth strategy is available at the Brandon city website. §

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ASK MISS Q

Q:

Dear Miss Q,

I'm going on a date. With someone I actually like. What do I do? Where do we go? Help!

Sincerely,
Aaaaaaaaaah

A:

Dear Aaaaaaaaaah,

First of all, congrats on scheduling the date in the first place! Starting a relationship is tough stuff, so kudos to you for giving it a go.

The simplest suggestion I can make is to do something that the two of you both enjoy. It doesn't have to be a romantic candlelight dinner! It could be a night of movies, or video games – or maybe hanging out in a coffee shop and chatting, or window shopping. Go to a concert, or a play! Wander around a conservatory, play catch, go skateboarding. Doing what you love with someone you like is a great recipe for romance. Don't overthink it!

My best,
Miss Q

Do you have a question for Miss Q? Email it to us at missq@thequill.ca.

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