

Photo by Hannah Hiebert

This Week at BU:

@KULL_ZII POETRY
page 4

A selection of poems by The Quill's very own Charles Adamu

TikTok Pulling Music
page 2

Learn more about TikTok pulling music by Universal artists amid licensing fight

RATING BU STUDY SPOTS
page 6

Do you agree with our rankings?

BU PROFESSORS ON STRIKE?
page 3

What students need to know about ongoing BUFA negotiations

UPCOMING EVENTS
page 7

See what's going on the next couple weeks, both on-campus and in the community!

**Editor-in-Chief**

Lily Hodgson
eic.thequill@gmail.com

Assistant Editor-in-Chief

Charles Adamu

General Manager

Elinor Murray
gm@thequill.ca

Web Content Coordinator

Michael Chiekezie

Advertising

gm@thequill.ca

Contributors

Charles Adamu, Hannah Hiebert, Lily Hodgson, Alicia Maki, Mehak Oberoi

The Quill is published weekly by The Quill, Inc., and is printed by The Killarney Guide in Killarney, MB.

NOTE: Editorials, letters, and viewpoint articles do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Quill staff, The Quill, Inc., or the faculty, staff, or administration of Brandon University.

The Quill is a member of Canadian University Press (CUP), one of the world's largest student organizations, with a membership of over 70 student newspapers in Canada. Advertisers wishing to buy space in both this newspaper and other CUP-affiliated newspapers should contact our multi-market ad representative:

FREE Media

11629 105th Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5H 0L9
Phone: 780-421-1000
advertising@free-media.ca

For online advertising inquiries, please contact:

Rouge Media Group
250 The Esplanade, The Keep
Toronto, ON M5A 1J2
Phone: 416-360-8120

Local advertisers can also contact us directly:

The Quill
270 18th Street
Brandon University
Brandon, MB R7A 6A9
Office: 204-727-9667
Fax: 204-571-0029

On the front page - On Tuesday, January 30th, The first Lunchtime Student Concert Series of the semester took place in the Music Library. BU School of Music students displayed their talents in a wide variety of performances. The next Lunchtime Student Concert will occur on Tuesday, February 27th, beginning at 12:40 pm.

The Quill will be hosting a **Pyjama Party Board Game Night** event on Thursday, February 29th at 7-10pm! It will take place on the third floor of the Knowles-Douglas Centre, in the Elephant Room and the Quill office. Bring your favourite games and your friends. Karaoke, snacks, hot chocolate, and free t-shirts and stickers will be available! Follow our Instagram (@buthequill) for updates and more information.

TIKTOK PULLING MUSIC BY UNIVERSAL ARTISTS AMID LICENSING FIGHT

Licensing Agreement between Universal Music Group and TikTok expired Wednesday

By Hannah Hiebert, Junior Reporter

Social Media platform TikTok began pulling music by artists with Universal Music Group on Thursday amid a fight over licensing rights, according to a report by The New York Times.

This means that music by Universal artists was removed from TikTok's music library and music by Universal Artists on existing Videos was muted, as reported by The Times. Artists signed to Universal Music Group include big names such as Taylor Swift, Drake, Bad Bunny, and Billie Eilish.

In a Tuesday letter addressed to artists and songwriters, Universal Music Group stated that it had been pressing TikTok on three primary issues: "Appropriate compensation for our artists and songwriters, protecting human artists from the harmful effects of AI, and online safety for TikTok's users" (Universal Music Group, 2024).

TikTok pushed back against claims by Universal Music Group saying that it has reached "artist-

first" agreements with every other label and publisher.

"Clearly, Universal's self-serving actions are not in the best interest of artists, songwriters, and fans", TikTok stated.

TikTok pulling music by artists signed through UMG concerns many. The way that music gains viral fame now is often through the social media platform and it rewards behaviour and features beyond just creating good music. It paves the way for new or underground artists to be recognized by TikTok users through the use and promotion of their music. Alex Gumuchian, the Vancouver rapper known as Bbno\$, recalls how he saw the move as an opportunity back in 2019, when his single "La La La" grew in popularity through TikTok creators using the song in their videos. Additionally, he said it's a reminder of how much TikTok has come to dominate the music industry and artists' lives.

Additional Information provided by: CBC News

BUFA NEGOTIATIONS UPDATE - WHAT STUDENTS NEED TO KNOW

By Mehak Oberoi, Junior Reporter

“The things we’re working on, the things we’re fighting for are things that allow us to deliver good classes and good services to students, and to do it in a way where we’re able to do it well. Where we’re not worried about having enough time to prepare, or in class thinking ‘oh my god, how am I going to balance my budget this month’ while we’re in class. Faculty who are well-treated, who can do their jobs well and who are respected in their jobs will benefit the students, directly and indirectly.”

If you’re a BU student, there’s a high chance that in the past month, you’ve heard rumors about an upcoming strike. Campus has been rife with rumors about the ongoing negotiations, many of which were proved to be, as I learned in an interview with BUFA vice-president Dr. Jon-Tomas Godin, to be false. As a representative of BUFA, Dr. Godin spoke with The Quill on February 2 about the current negotiations, including BUFA’s demands and whether a strike is imminent.

BUFA, or the Brandon University Faculty Association, is an organization that represents the needs of all Brandon University Faculty, which includes professors as well as other members, such as those part of departments like the library and student services. For current negotiations, a letter of intent to start bargaining was sent on February 7, 2023, marking a full year since negotiations began this month. Current negotiations are being made by BUFA on, as per representative Dr. Godin, “improving the language around EDID and around indigenisation, in our collective agreement, improving the language we have on workload and what’s on everybody’s mind when people are negotiating, which of course is compensation.” Unlike the last two rounds of bargaining (2015, 2019), this round stands out. “BUFA basically started those rounds of bargaining by saying ‘we don’t want to go on strike’. The big difference in the conversation this time around has been that we didn’t start the conversation by saying that. We knew this was going to be a difficult round of bargaining, and we didn’t want to eliminate options from the get-go,” Dr. Godin states.

There have been a lot of rumors about an upcoming strike. What can you tell us about that?

Dr. Godin: “We have not called a strike vote. There is no strike. We are in negotiations. We know there are some concerns, and people have been talking about a potential strike, and we haven’t ruled out the possibility of a strike either. We’re in that weird situation where we might, we might not. And there are a few issues involved.”

What are the demands being made by BUFA?

On improving the language around EDID and indigenisation, Dr. Godin reported, “we have proposed two brand new articles to put into our collective agreement—one on EDID, one on indigenization, and the employer’s response to those articles, the union feels they set us back. In particular on the indigenisation article, we proposed some forward thinking language that would protect

indigenous faculty members. Protect their time, protect them, give them some agency, give them some mentorship, make sure they have the resources they need and also protect the time of faculty members whose job is dedicated to serving indigenous students and make sure it can’t be taken away.” However, as he continued on to say, “the university came back and simply didn’t accept any of that language.”

Furthermore, faculty’s demands are two-pronged when it comes to compensation. Firstly would be to match salary increases to rising inflation. Secondly would be to reevaluate the pension cap set by the university, which for more recent professors leaves an unsustainable future for their retirement plans.

In relation to progress achieved by BUFA, they report to be happy on the continuing change to a fairer workload for professors. “One of the big issues in workload is that we want to move faculty to a standard 15 credit hours, which we are well on our way to doing,” Dr. Godin reports. In the future, BUFA also hopes to improve per-course-salary for sessional faculty instructors. The purpose of this would be to better attract the instructors that are necessary for the continued running of the university.

What can students expect from a possible future strike?

On this, Dr. Godin reiterates, “a strike is a last resort. We will use every means we can to get a good collective agreement because the reality is, strikes have impacts on the people who are on strike too.” He continues on to elaborate, “If a strike were to occur, we would do everything we could that’s within our power to mitigate impacts on students, to resolve the strike as quickly as we can, and if at all possible to try to not have one in the first place.” As with the last strike, students can likely expect for both parties to agree to an essential services agreement, which makes sure students in need are not suddenly deprived of necessary resources such as counseling. BUFA faculty hope to minimize disruption to the term schedule as much as possible. It is important to note, as stated by Dr. Godin, that should a strike occur, it will likely begin by early March.

Historically, universities have run on a collegial governance system. Over the last several decades, there has been a significant shift to administration holding majority power over decisions regarding students and faculty, with faculty representation continuing to be lost. Faculty, however, as I discussed with Dr. Godin are the foundation of what a university is, and the people that best understand student needs. They are our direct contact to the student life at any university, and highly qualified to specialized caliber that is now demanding more respect for its knowledge here at Brandon University. After the PSSA reduced BUFA’s ability to bargain for compensation, forcing their hands to 4 year long deals in the last collective agreement, the current negotiation is BUFA’s effort in catching up to the lost representation and compensation, especially as the university rebuilds differently post-pandemic.





The Brandon University Geology Club will be holding a bake sale in the Knowles-Douglas Mingling Area on February 7th and 8th. The event is cash only, and all funds raised will go towards the Geology Club's Toronto trip in March.

Poems by Charles Adamu (@kull_zii)

Sons and Daughters

And so, we...the sons and daughters
Gather in the garden...at the back of the now crooked house.
A fine red wine whilst we dine.
Drinking and reminiscing
A fire built in the middle.
A subtle reminder of when things were simple.
A time when our problems were dirty dishes and a pile of laundry.
A time when we would gather under the full moon and be told the stories.

Tears on our cheeks.
As growth and memories meet.
A string of nostalgia and alcohol in the mix.
Oh, mothers and fathers...
We...the sons and daughters very well miss...
...miss the simpler times...
...the better times...
...the much...much better times.

Life is an Emotion

The light in your eyes
Kept aflame by the fuel in your heart.
A candle
A lone candle
Flickering and unstable
Two messages:
I will give you light...but be careful.
Show you the way...but might burn you.

The light in your eyes replaced by that candle.
Wavering like an emotion
Perhaps it's just an emotion.
But also, it's a drop of water...
...till it's an ocean.
And so, I insist your heartbeat's heartbeat takes caution.
To prevent a quiet explosion
Whilst listening to life's notion
And then you begin to feel it all
The love, the hate, the jealousy...
...each and every emotion
And you realize...that life...life is an emotion.

RECIPE OF THE WEEK - MICROWAVE APPLE CRISP

Ingredients:

4 medium sliced apples
1/4 cup sugar
1 tablespoon all-purpose flour
2 teaspoons lemon juice
1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon

Topping

2/3 cups old-fashioned oats
1/2 cup brown sugar
1/4 cup all-purpose flour
1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
3 tablespoons cold butter

Instructions:

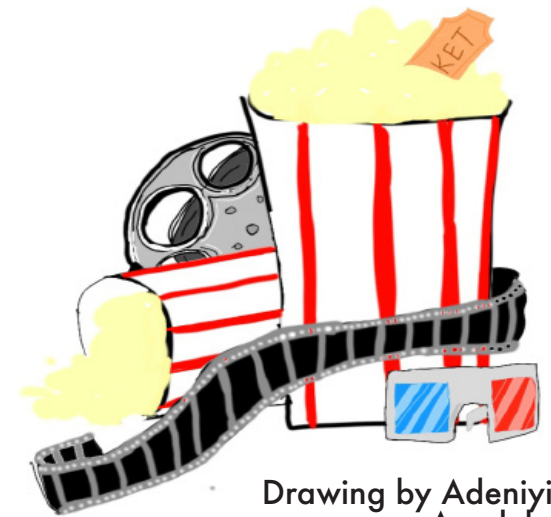
To a microwave-safe 9-inch deep bowl, add the apples, sugar, flour, lemon juice, and cinnamon, and toss to combine.
in a separate bowl mix first four topping ingredients. Add in chunks of butter until crumbly, sprinkle over the filling.

Cover with wax paper and cook on high power in the microwave for about 5-7 minutes, until the apples are tender.

THIS WEEKEND AT THE EVANS THEATRE: PAST LIVES (2023)

Nora and Hae Sung, two childhood friends, are reunited in New York for one fateful week as they confront notions of destiny, love, and the choices that make a life.

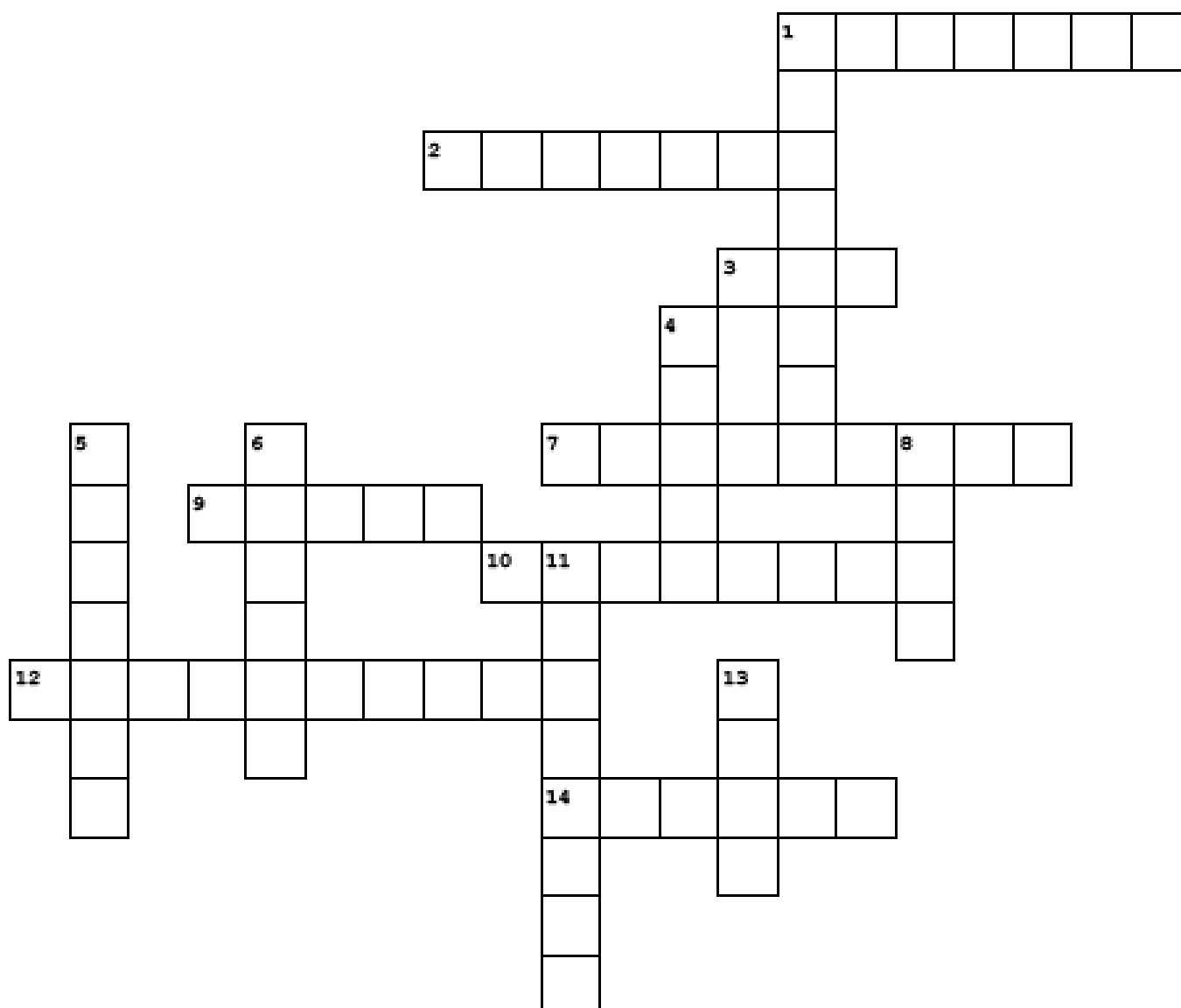
Showings on February 9, 10, and 11 at 7:30 PM.



Drawing by Adeniyi Ayodele

Puzzle by Alicia Maki

crossword



Across

1. soap used to clean hair
2. a chemical used to remove nail polish
3. the first color in the rainbow
7. what animal did not see his shadow on February 2
9. a rectangular material used to build walls
10. Greek god of water
12. used to magnify and see thin sections on slides
14. a sharp plant

Down

1. provides the main structure and support for our bodies
4. a circular map of the world
5. decorations that fill in the holes of crocs
6. what Chinese zodiac is this year
8. sanitizer kills 99.9% of bacteria (2 words)
11. when the sky is all grey
13. a colony of them live in a hill

STUDY SPOTS AT BU - RATED

We've hit that part of the semester again where courses start to get serious. First tests and assignments are popping up left and right, so I thought I would share some of the spots to do schoolwork at BU and rank them based on how helpful I think they are. When considering the ratings for these study spots, I looked at their comfort, noise level, space, nearby resources, atmosphere, and unique features.

The Music Lounge: overall, the music lounge is one of the nicest places at Brandon University for students. There is a kitchenette, comfortable couches, plug ins, and lots of space. However, with the dim lighting and couches, sometimes its easier to relax than study or complete assignments. And, be warned, you will be serenaded by the distant sounds of music students practicing and performing. 7/10.

Library: As the designated study spot for students, the library has the most space and the best nearby resources with the skills center, study rooms, and librarians. There are comfortable places to sit, good sources of natural lighting, and lots of silence... almost too much silence. Obviously, the library is one of the best spaces for completing schoolwork as it's designed for this purpose. 9/10.

Music Library: I will admit, I have spent very little time in this study spot, but it does have a lot of plants, a considerable amount of space, and it's not as mainstream as the main library. The few times I have been to the Music Library, though, it has been incredibly warm. 8/10.

Clark Hall Second Floor Hallway: Clark Hall does not have a lot of space for students to complete schoolwork, and the second-floor hallway that faces the courtyard is the largest area for students in the building. There is very little space, lots of noise from students moving from class to class,

and the windows lack privacy and make the hallway hot when the sun shines in. There are a lot of plants, though, and this study spot is nice during the quieter times at university, such as the morning and evening. 6/10.

McKenzie Building Main Area: I don't know if this space has another name, but I'm referring to the assortment of couches right outside of the library. This space has a good amount of natural light, comfort, and space. However, it is very busy, often loud, and the sun will blind you through the windows at certain times of the day. 6/10.

Brodie Building Benches: The benches lining the hallways in the Brodie Building have a great view and a lot of space, but they are extremely uncomfortable. If you bring a cushion to sit on, this spot to do schoolwork is okay. Even with a cushion, though, the noise and smell of the place are not great, as students will be passing by to go to or from classes and certain studies use chemicals that make the smell of the building less than desirable. 5/10.

McMaster Foyer: This spot is comfortable and has a considerable amount of space, but the noise from students passing through can be distracting. Plus, most of the couches are waiting spaces for the Ancillary Office, so they are often occupied. 4/10.

BUSU Student Lounge: The BUSU student lounge, located beside Baileys, has a fair amount of space and comfort, plus there are microwaves. The printers are also located in this room, so you can print any assignments right away. The printers and microwaves do make noise, but for the most part the space is quiet. The lounge is closed for special events from time to time. 8/10.

John Knowles Building Mingling Area: Right outside of Baileys, the

few couches set up in this space are a decent place for relaxing or meeting friends, but a horrible place for studying. With the noise of students passing through combined with the limited space, I would not recommend this spot as a first (or even tenth) choice for completing schoolwork. Plus, this space is often used for events and the couches are taken away. 2/10.

Random Couches and Seating Areas: Throughout the university there are a variety of couches and seating areas. All of these areas are located in hallways and are subject to the noise of students passing by, but most are in smaller parts of the university that don't see a lot of traffic. If you can find a nice seat in a corner of the university, these spaces can be great for completing schoolwork. However, their atmospheres vary from place to place and day to day. 5/10.

The Downstairs Cafeteria: Located below Harvest Hall is a massive cafeteria-esq space with lots of tables and chairs for eating or studying. This space is usually quiet and empty, but sitting in the plastic chairs for long periods of time can be uncomfortable. It also has a strange atmosphere, and there has been a lot of renovation near the area recently. 6/10.

The above list is not a complete list of the areas to do schoolwork on campus, as I'm sure I've missed many of the smaller study spots throughout the university and I did not include the Education or Health Studies buildings. Also keep in mind that these ratings are my opinion and not everyone will agree. I encourage you to look at the descriptions over the number out of 10 to see if you think the study space will work for you. Despite the missing locations, I hope this list helps you find a good place to hunker down and study or complete assignments for the rest of the term!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Until February 18th, Thursdays - Saturdays 1-4pm

Nostalgiacore Exhibit

An art exhibit at the Glen P. Sutherland Gallery of Art, featuring works from several professors.

Thursday, February 8th, 5:30 - 7:30pm

"Uncharitable" Film Screening

Head to the Evans Theatre for a free screening of the documentary "Uncharitable," about the charitable sector.

Friday, February 9th, 6pm

Bobcats Volleyball vs. Thompson Rivers U

Women's game starts at 6, men's at 7:45

Saturday, February 10th, 3pm

Westman Honour Bands and BU Symphonic Band Concert

At the Western Manitoba Centennial Auditorium. \$5 for students.

Saturday, February 10, 5pm

Bobcats Volleyball vs Thompson Rivers U

Women's game starts at 5, men's at 6:45

Saturday, February 10, 7pm

B-Queer Drag Bingo

Play some Bingo in the Mingling Area, hosted by The House of Hex! There will be 5 rounds of Bingo, with prizes from Smitten and Bailey's! Free, and all ages are welcome.

Tuesday, February 13th, 7pm

Pro Series - Symphonic Serenade, A Celebration of Love, Faune, and Nymphs

Daniel Tselyakov, piano; Sarah Hall, voice; Nancy Hennen, flute. In the Lorne Watson Recital Hall. Free for students.

Thursday, February 15th, 5 - 8pm

Black Mental Health and Black Excellence

Presentations from Akech Mayuom and Sheika Henry, snacks, and games in the Mingling Area and Bailey's.

Friday, February 16th, 7:30pm

Graduate Choral Conducting Recital

Conducted by Marla Fontaine, at the First Presbyterian Church. Free for students.

Friday, February 16th, 8pm

Dane Neufeld Guitar Performance

Email eic.thequill@gmail.com to have your event featured in the next issue!

Assisted by: Kendra Martinussen, saxophone; Dylan Pilcher, trumpet Tyleen Haywood, bass; Esteban Seunarine, drumset; Anil Ramgotra, drumset Student Credit Recital. Lorne Watson Recital Hall, free admission.

Tuesday, February 27th, 12:30pm

Understanding Systemic Racism in Policing and the Failed Promise of Body Cameras

A presentation by BU's Dr. Christopher Schneider in Clark Hall 212.

Every Monday at 7-8:30pm

Varsity Christian Fellowship Meetings

Come for snacks, worship, fellowship, and bible study! In the School of Music student lounge.

Every Wednesday at 1pm

Scrabble Club at the Downtown Public Library

Every Wednesday at 7pm

Jam Nights at Section 6 Brewery

Every Saturday at 11am

Chess Club at the Downtown Public Library

All ages and skill levels welcome!

PARK AVE.

2506 SOUTHERN AVE.

26TH STREET

25TH ANNIVERSARY

REGENT CUSTOM CRESTING & FRAMING

PHONE: 204-571-5400
E-MAIL: INFO@REGENTCC.CA
WEBSITE: WWW.REGENTCC.CA

Got something you want to sell? Looking for something to buy?

Students get **FREE** classified ads with The Quill!

Contact us at eic.thequill@gmail.com



**CLASSIFIEDS/
ADVERTISEMENTS**

WRITERS NEEDED!

The Quill is looking for writers, photographers, and artists for upcoming issues.

Contact us at eic.thequill@gmail.com

YOUR AD HERE!

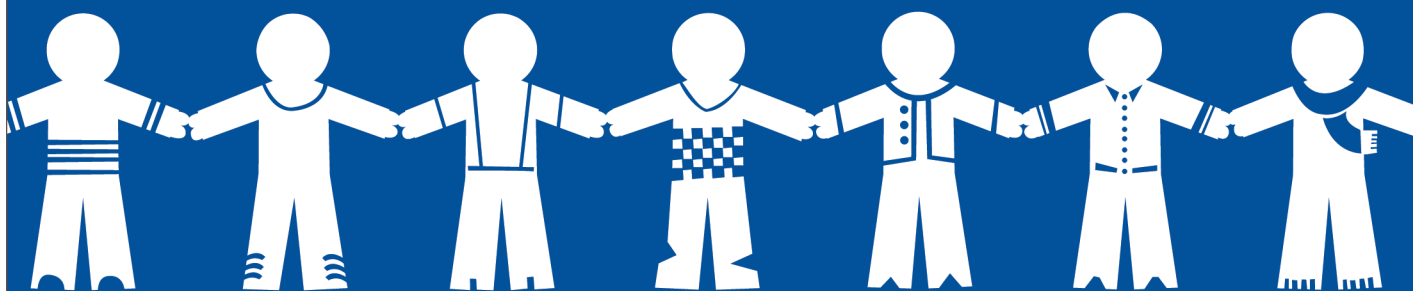
YOUR AD HERE!

HERE, YOU WON'T JUST MAKE CONNECTIONS. YOU'LL BUILD RELATIONSHIPS

Looking to be part of a dynamic, professional and approachable team? BDO is all about building long-term relationships and we're continually fostering new ones. After all, our entire reputation is built on our people.

Visit BDO.ca/careers for more details.

BDO. MORE THAN YOU THINK.



Assurance | Accounting | Tax | Advisory
www.bdo.ca

BDO Canada LLP, a Canadian limited liability partnership, is a member of BDO International Limited, a UK company limited by guarantee, and forms part of the international BDO network of independent member firms. BDO is the brand name for the BDO network and for each of the BDO Member Firms.

