

## Number of companies listed as Indigenous jumps 40 per cent

Registry of businesses eligible for contracting program swells as critics deem criteria too broad

**BILL CURRY**  
**KRISTY KIRKUP** OTTAWA

The number of businesses eligible for a federal program that prioritizes Indigenous companies when awarding contracts jumped more than 40 per cent over the past year, a rapid increase to a program that some community leaders say has overly broad criteria and is vulnerable to abuse. More than 800 new registrants enrolled in the Indigenous Business Directory, a database of companies eligible to participate in Ottawa's procurement strategy for expanding the Indigenous economy. That jump, from 1,900 to 2,700 companies as of

April, coincided with a federal plan, announced three years ago, that by this year, a minimum of 5 per cent of the total value of federal contracts should be awarded to Indigenous businesses. The value of government contracts awarded under the program, known as the Procurement Strategy for Indigenous Business, has risen to \$862-million in the 2022-23 fiscal year, up from \$170-million five years prior. Karine Vétvutanapibil, a spokesperson for Indigenous Services Canada, said the growth in new registrants in the directory is partly because of efforts by Ottawa and Indigenous organizations to promote the existence of the strategy and its benefits.

The Liberal government is pledging to review its approach to such contracting incentives amid concerns from some Indigenous groups. In reports and interviews, they have outlined a series of issues related to a lack of oversight and scrutiny when it comes to which companies are eligible and whether the strategy's requirements to employ Indigenous workers are actually enforced. The spending and registrations are increasing at a time when parliamentarians are taking a more critical look at the program, which was used to hire some of the contractors who worked on ArriveCan, the COVID-era app for international travellers that faced criticism over its ballooning cost. ■ PROGRAM, A7

### SECRET CANADA

## Ottawa slow to address crisis of immigrant record access, watchdog says

**TOM CARDOSO**

The federal information watchdog says Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada has made "insufficient progress" in improving immigrants' access to information about their applications, and that failure is now affecting operations at the Canada Border Services Agency. For more than a decade, prospective immigrants have relied on access to information requests to learn about the status of their applications. Over time, the volume of requests has grown into a crisis within the department, as documented in a Globe and Mail investigation last year. Information Commissioner Caroline Maynard wrote about the deluge of access requests to IRCC in a special report in 2021. Back then, the department responded by saying it had a plan in place to address the increase.

But in a new report tabled in Parliament on Tuesday, Ms. Maynard writes that IRCC's efforts haven't led to a decrease in access requests. In fact, frustrated applicants have turned to another federal body that deals with immigration, which is now seeing its own surge in requests: the Canada Border Services Agency. ■ WATCHDOG, A7

## Israel captures main aid route into Gaza as Rafah invasion intensifies

**MARK MacKINNON**  
SENIOR INTERNATIONAL  
CORRESPONDENT  
JERUSALEM

### THE GLOBE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

The Israeli military took control of the Rafah border crossing between the Gaza Strip and Egypt, the main corridor for humanitarian aid going into Gaza, as Israel's invasion of Rafah, the last Gazan city beyond its control, gathered pace on Tuesday.

Tamara Alrifai, a spokeswoman for UNRWA, the main United Nations aid agency operating in Gaza, told The Globe and Mail Tuesday that the Rafah crossing was closed and almost no aid was reaching the strip, where 2.3 million people were already living in dire humanitarian conditions.

Footage posted online, filmed from the perspective of someone aboard an Israeli tank, showed the armoured vehicle arriving at the border crossing in the south of the strip after driving over a red "I love Gaza" sign as gunfire rattled nearby. Two Israeli soldiers then lowered the Palestinian flags that had flown over the facility and raised blue-and-white Star of David flags in their place.

The aid cutoff comes days after World Food Programme director Cindy McCain said that the northern Gaza Strip was experiencing a "full-blown famine," which she said was spreading to the south of the densely populated coastal enclave. On Tuesday, the WFP said it had enough food in its stocks to supply the centre and south of Gaza to cover needs for between one and four days if border crossings were not reopened. ■ RAFAH, A6

### [ EUROPE ]

## PUTIN SWORN IN FOR FIFTH TERM

After crushing opponents and waging war on Ukraine, Russian President embarks on another six years as leader in elaborate Kremlin ceremony ■ A6



Russian President Vladimir Putin attends an inauguration ceremony in Moscow on Tuesday. The longest-serving Kremlin leader since Joseph Stalin, Mr. Putin's new term doesn't expire until 2030. ALEXANDER ZEMLIANICHENKO/VIA REUTERS

## Italian military takes up arms against disease-carrying boars over threat to prosciutto, sausage industries

**ERIC REGULY**  
EUROPEAN BUREAU CHIEF  
ROME

Canada has raccoons tearing into backyard garbage bins. In Italy, the uninvited guests are wild boars; they are everywhere. The animals - *cinghiali* in Italian - are considered a public nuisance. Prolific breeders with binge-eating habits, the boars are infiltrating cities, where they gorge on food scraps. They can disrupt traffic and terrorize children, pedestrians and bikers. The

adult males can weigh 100 kilograms or more. Running into one with a bike or even a car can be like hitting a brick wall. In February, a driver in southern Italy was killed when she crashed into a van that stopped suddenly after ramming into a boar. To the list of dangers, add African swine fever. The boars can spread the viral disease with alacrity, killing otherwise healthy farm pigs, though swine fever is harmless to humans. An outbreak in Italy has triggered panic among the producers of prosciutto - cured ham - and sausages. On Monday, the government of Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni re-

sponded to the outbreak by ordering the Italian military to take up arms and kill as many of the animals as it can. As many as 1.5 million boars are thought to be running wild in Italy, having infiltrated every part of the country, and their numbers are expanding. The government's goal is to eliminate 80 per cent of them over five years. Rome fears that the €8-billion prosciutto and sausage industry - prosciutto, like Parmigiano Reggiano cheese, is a global symbol of Italian cuisine as well as a lucrative export - could get wiped out unless the fever is eradicated. ■ BOARS, A6



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■ A5

JASON FRANSON/  
THE GLOBE AND MAIL

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### MOMENT IN TIME

MAY 8, 1906



BC ARCHIVES/THE CANADIAN PRESS

## BILL MINER ROBS TRAIN AT DUCKS, B.C.

A paltry \$15.50 was the take on this day in 1906 when Bill Miner and two accomplices robbed a Canadian Pacific Railway train at Ducks (now Monte Creek), B.C., just east of Kamloops. Miner had spent the past four decades robbing trains and stagecoaches across the American West. Not even repeated prison terms could deter him from his life of crime. In the early 20th century, Miner slipped into Southern British Columbia and assumed the alter-identity of George Edwards, a gentlemanly cattle buyer and rancher. It was the perfect cover for Miner, by then in his 60s. Little did

anyone realize that Miner was behind a train robbery near Mission, B.C., in September, 1904. All that was known was that the heist was well executed and the silver-haired bandit was polite, almost apologetic. When Miner and his gang struck again at Ducks in May, 1906, luck was not on their side. Not only was the train not carrying the rumoured gold and cash, but the robbers lost their horses and tried to escape on foot. This time, Miner was captured and sentenced to time in the B.C. penitentiary. Somehow, he managed to escape and returned to the United States to resume his wayward ways. **BILL WAISER**

### COLUMNISTS

LISA KERR

OPINION

FIRST PERSON

KONRAD YAKABUSKI

OPINION



Overriding the Charter on criminal justice would be a dangerous experiment ■ A11

Erin Horrocks-Pope's young stepdaughter has become a magical mentor to her ■ A13

Privatization could offer a solution to the growing capital needs of Canada's airports ■ B1

### CORRECTIONS

A Saturday Report on Business article about taxes on the wealthy incorrectly said that wealth-tax advocate Dan Hoyer and his partner own a condominium and a multimillion-dollar home in Toronto. They do not own the latter.

A Tuesday Politics headline and story about Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's 2018 trip to India incorrectly said his plane was kept in the air until he agreed to a meeting to discuss Sikh activists in Canada. Mr. Trudeau and his defence minister were told before they travelled to Punjab that the meeting was a condition of their clearance to land there.

## CBC boss says broadcaster won't move ahead with mass job cuts or merge with Radio-Canada

MARIE WOOLF OTTAWA

CBC boss Catherine Tait says the public broadcaster will not press ahead with the 800 job cuts it warned of last year because its financial outlook has improved after the federal budget provided an additional \$42-million in funding.

She also would not rule out granting executive bonuses this year – a decision she said would be made at a board meeting next month.

Speaking to the Commons heritage committee, the chief executive officer and president of CBC/Radio-Canada said the public broadcaster is not yet "out of the woods" financially.

To compete with digital giants, she said, the broadcaster is looking at sharing some resources between CBC and Radio-Canada, such as equipment, production and distribution. However, she said there would be no merger of CBC and Radio-Canada, including of their content.

Ms. Tait prompted an outcry in December when, on the day the broadcaster announced 800 job cuts to address a \$125-million shortfall, she told its newscast that it was too early to say if executive bonuses would be cut.

Ms. Tait told the committee Tuesday that the estimated shortfall of \$125-million has now been reduced to about \$20-million for the fiscal year, partly because of the \$42-million cash injection by the federal government in the budget. She said there is now no need for "significant jobs cuts re-

lating to balancing our books."

She added that about 500 jobs are naturally reduced each year at the corporation through staff who retire and leave the broadcaster.

Facing questions from the Conservatives, Ms. Tait did not rule out executive bonuses, saying that the decision would be made at next month's board meeting, after reviewing financial data from the fiscal year that ended at the end of March.

Speaking to the Commons heritage committee, Catherine Tait said the public broadcaster is not yet 'out of the woods' financially.

She said performance pay was part of employees' remuneration packages and also helped motivate CBC staff.

Ms. Tait's bonus, unlike that of most staff, would have to be approved by the government, she said.

In an interview with The Globe and Mail in December, Heritage Minister Pascale St-Onge said Ms. Tait "needs to be transparent" about whether she is going to give out the bonuses or not.

Ms. Tait told the committee the corporation is not "tone-deaf" and has heard the criticism, saying it had asked an outside remuneration consultant to examine other models for

performance pay.

She was asked about a Conservative threat to defund the CBC while protecting French services. She denied that she is considering saving the CBC by linking it to Radio-Canada more closely.

Marco Dubé, chief transformation officer and executive vice-president, people and culture, said combining the programming of CBC and Radio-Canada was not being looked at, but aligning resources, such as technology, could be an option.

He said it would be too early to say what the public broadcaster's board would be looking at this fall, but said there are ways that CBC and Radio-Canada could work more closely and share resources.

Ms. Tait said the CBC and other Canadian media organizations are facing stiff competition from digital giants such as Netflix and Amazon, which face fewer regulations.

She said the CBC is focusing on its digital audience, including on CBC Gem, saying more and more Canadians are shifting to watching online.

"The future is digital. We are moving to an entirely digital world," she said, adding that in English Canada "the shift to digital is already well on its way."

In the new year, Ms. St-Onge will begin looking for a replacement for Ms. Tait, who has been at the helm of CBC since 2018. Former heritage minister Pablo Rodriguez extended Ms. Tait's contract earlier this year for an extra 18 months until January, 2025.



[ ROYALS ]

## A visit from Her Majesty

Ten-year-olds Precious, second from right, and Joanne, wait to see Queen Camilla during her trip Tuesday to Moreland Primary School, to open a new Coronation Library in London

JUSTIN TALLIS/ASSOCIATED PRESS

# New criminal offence is too broad: experts

Foreign-interference legislation must be amended as it could stifle legitimate protest, civil-liberties group says

**MARIEKE WALSH**  
SENIOR POLITICAL REPORTER  
OTTAWA

A new criminal offence introduced by the federal government in its foreign-interference legislation that would protect the country's "essential infrastructure" is overly broad and could stifle legitimate protest, constitutional and civil liberties experts warn.

The 103-page foreign-interference omnibus bill, tabled on Monday, includes a new unrelated offence under the sabotage provisions of the Criminal Code. It is aimed at protecting a wide array of essential infrastructure that can either be privately or publicly owned from conduct that endangers Canadian defence or security, or risks the health or safety of the public.

The Canadian Civil Liberties Association said on Tuesday that the bill needs to be amended be-

cause it could dissuade people from participating in legitimate protests. The group's director of fundamental freedoms, Anaïs Bussièrès-McNicoll, said she can't rule out that such a bill could have been used against the 2022 anti-vaccine mandate convoy protests, had it already been law at the time.

Asked repeatedly whether the new offence could have been used to prevent past railway, pipeline and border blockades, Justice Minister Arif Virani declined to say Tuesday, adding he wouldn't "reverse the clock" to look at past cases. "What we're trying to ensure is that protest is empowered, but protest is within the confines of the law and when there's an intent to endanger, that's when it crosses the line and could potentially result in sabotage," Mr. Virani said. He added that the government is including an additional safeguard by requiring the relevant attorney-general (either provincial or federal) to sign off on a decision to proceed with a sabotage prosecution.

Under the new bill, anyone who interferes with access to essential infrastructure or causes it to be "lost, inoperable, unsafe or unfit for use" with the intent to "endanger the safety, security or

defence of Canada" or "cause a serious risk to the health or safety of the public or any segment of the public" could face up to 10 years in jail. It identifies eight categories of infrastructure that are "essential to the health, safety, security or economic well-being" of Canadians. Included in those infrastructure categories are transportation, information and communication technology, water and waste water, energy and utilities, food supply and food services, health care, financial, and government operations.

Other protected categories of infrastructure can be added later by cabinet, the bill says. It also says the offence won't apply to people "participating in advocacy, protest or dissent" when they do not intend to cause harm. However, the CCLA cautioned on Tuesday that the broad wording means legitimate protest could be caught up in the new legislation.

Mr. Virani's office confirmed that the new offence is not linked to foreign interference but was included to respond to the evolving nature of the threats to Canada.

Ms. Bussièrès-McNicoll said her association wants the government to tighten the wording of the new offence to make sure that law enforcement cannot infer in-

tent based on the circumstances of a protest. She also said the CCLA is concerned by how broadly the government is defining what counts as "essential infrastructure."

"We believe that the way it's currently worded is overly broad and could stifle legitimate protests," she said.

Human-rights lawyer Paul Champ said the sabotage provisions are unrelated to foreign interference and should not be in the bill. The government is "speaking out of both sides of their mouth, saying on the one hand they cherish the right to protest, but then at the same time condemn protests that they deem 'unacceptable.'"

"In my opinion, these new 'sabotage of infrastructure' offences are unnecessary and an overreach," Mr. Champ said.

Constitutional law professor Errol Mendes said the government should provide more clarity and precision around the new offence, especially whether economic effects will count as a security risk under the new offence. That was a key argument made by cabinet ministers to justify using the Emergencies Act to shut down the 2022 convoy protests.

Another way that the new of-

fence could have been applied to those protests is through the provision barring conduct at an essential infrastructure site that poses a serious risk to the health or safety of the public or any segment of the public, he said. Given the incessant honking from protesters in Ottawa, Prof. Mendes said the activity could fit into the offence's provisions for a risk to a segment of the population.

Josh Dehaas of the Canadian Constitution Foundation said he's not concerned that the bill could shut down lawful protests but said he's suspicious of the government's motives in creating the new offence at the same time that it is defending the use of the Emergencies Act in court.

"They're now planning to create new criminal provisions to ban interference with 'financial infrastructure' and 'transportation infrastructure' that's almost certainly already illegal under the Criminal Code," Mr. Dehaas said.

Based on the timing, he said he wonders whether this is an attempt to "justify in the court of public opinion their illegal use of the Emergencies Act to suspend rights by claiming they didn't have the legal tools necessary to stop the illegal activity associated with the convoy."

# India's concerns not addressed, diplomat says

**FRÉDÉRIK-XAVIER DUHAMEL**  
MIKE HAGER

India's top diplomat in Canada told a forum on foreign relations Tuesday that this country's failure to address India's concerns about threats to its national security has led to consequences.

High Commissioner Sanjay Kumar Verma was speaking in Montreal at a gathering of business leaders on the same day as three Indian nationals appeared in court on charges of killing a Sikh separatist leader in B.C. The RCMP said last week their investigation continues into whether the killing may have ties to authorities in India.

Mr. Kumar Verma said Tuesday that in bilateral relations, "we expect both countries to understand each other's perspectives, each other's concerns, respect the cultural diversity,"

"Unfortunately, we're having issues — and this is nothing new — decades-old issues which have resurfaced, re-emerged, and we're having unfortunate crimes," Mr. Kumar Verma said.

These issues relate to India's territorial integrity, which "is a big red line for us," he said.

Hardeep Singh Nijjar was gunned down in the parking lot of the Sikh gurdwara in Surrey, B.C., where he was a spiritual leader. Mr. Nijjar had been a key organizer for Sikhs for Justice, a group advocating for a separate Sikh homeland carved out of India's Punjab called Khalistan.

Months later, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau stood in the House of Commons and suggested Indian agents may have been involved in Mr. Nijjar's death.

Sikhs for Justice has been organizing a symbolic referendum on the creation of Khalistan. Hundreds of thousands of Sikhs have cast ballots in the non-binding referendum held over several years in Canada, the United States, Britain and Australia.

India's government classified Mr. Nijjar as a terrorist in 2021, but his supporters see him as a human-rights activist exercising his right to free speech.

Karan Brar, 23, Kamalpreet Singh, 22, and 28-year-old Karanpreet Singh were arrested without incident last Friday in Edmonton and charged with murdering Mr. Nijjar. They were also charged with plotting the death for at least a month from Edmonton. The trio made their first appearance before a judge at Surrey Provincial Court via a video call from the pretrial jail across the street. They all elected to be tried in English and all agreed to adjourn their cases



Members of B.C.'s Sikh community gather Tuesday in front of the courthouse in Surrey. Three Indian nationals appeared in court on charges of killing Sikh separatist leader Hardeep Singh Nijjar. CHUCK CHIANG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

until May 21.

In the meantime, they are under standard orders to refrain from contacting their alleged victims and witnesses to the alleged murder. Those they are prohibited from contacting include Mr. Nijjar's widow and two sons, at least two men who said they saw the killing and chased the assassins and two other men.

Richard Fowler, who represents Mr. Brar, said the amount of evidence that will have to be disclosed to the defence from the Crown prosecutor will be substantial given the complexity of the allegations.

"There will be vast amount of disclosure, megabytes, terrabytes," he said outside the courtroom after the brief hearing.

Jay Michi said he was notified by Legal Aid BC on Friday that Karanpreet Singh needed a qualified lawyer and, given the nature of the case, Mr. Michi seized the opportunity.

"The last six homicides I did nobody came, other than one or two victim's family members. This one, a billion and a half people are going to be tuning in," he said outside court in apparent reference to the importance of the case in India.

All three co-accused appeared in orange jail sweatsuits. Mr. Brar spent moments hunched over with his arms crossed while a dishevelled Karanpreet Singh bowed his head and nodded as a Punjabi interpreter confirmed the timing of his next hearing.

Outside court, dozens of Sikh demonstrators lined the walkway to the main entrance, holding signs venerating a man they consider a *shaheed*, or martyr, and oth-

ers denouncing India's alleged involvement in the death.

The Globe and Mail has reported India had been pressing Canada for years to take action against Sikhs in Canada that India considered terrorists.

In his speech on Tuesday, Mr. Kumar Verma referred to perceived threats from this country.

"My concern is national security threats emanating from the land of Canada," Mr. Kumar Verma said, without naming specific threats or actors. "These threats are largely emanating from the Canadian citizens."

"Indians will decide what will happen to India," he added.

During the Q&A, Mr. Kumar Verma also said that Canada needs to work on its reputation for how it treats Indian international students.

When these students are duped by unethical educational outlets, "that creates quite a sensation," back in India, he said.

In recent years, bringing Indian students to Canada has become a lucrative business for some institutions, but lack of support has been linked to large numbers of deaths by suicide or overdose among this population, he said. "There was a time when we were sending one body bag of an Indian international student every 10 days," Mr. Kumar Verma said. "As an ambassador, you can imagine what I would feel in my heart."

Despite continuing challenges, Mr. Kumar Verma said India and Canada enjoy good, growing trade relations and are working to resolve issues through diplomatic channels.

## INDIA VOTES IN THIRD PHASE OF NATIONAL ELECTIONS AS MODI ESCALATES HIS RHETORIC AGAINST MUSLIMS

NEW DELHI Millions of Indian voters across 93 constituencies were casting ballots on Tuesday as Prime Minister Narendra Modi mounted an increasingly shrill election campaign, ramping up polarizing rhetoric in incendiary speeches that have targeted the Muslim minority.

In recent campaign rallies, Mr. Modi has called Muslims "infiltrators" and said they "have too many children," referring to a Hindu nationalist trope that Muslims produce more children with the aim of outnumbering Hindus in India. He has also accused the rival Indian National Congress party of scheming to "loot" wealth from the country's Hindus and redistribute it among Muslims, who comprise 14 per cent of India's more than 1.4 billion people.

Tuesday's polling in the third round of multiphase national elections has crucial seats up for grabs in states including Karnataka, Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh. Most polls predict a win for Mr. Modi and his Bharatiya Janata Party, which is up against a broad opposition alliance led by the Congress and powerful regional parties. The staggered election will run until June 1 and votes will be counted on June 4.

Mr. Modi, who voted in western Ahmedabad city on Tuesday, had kicked off his campaign with a focus on economic progress, promising he would make India a developed country by 2047. But in recent weeks, he and the ruling BJP have doubled down heavily on their Hindu nationalism platform, with Mr. Modi employing some of his most divisive rhetoric in his decade in power.

Analysts say the change in tone comes as the BJP aims to clinch a supermajority or two-thirds of the 543 seats up for grabs in India's lower Parliament by consolidating votes among the majority Hindu population, who make up 80 per cent.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Security guard shot outside Drake's Toronto home

Police say it is too early to comment on motive, but they are aware of rapper's feud with fellow artist Kendrick Lamar

OLIVER MOORE  
JOSH O'KANE

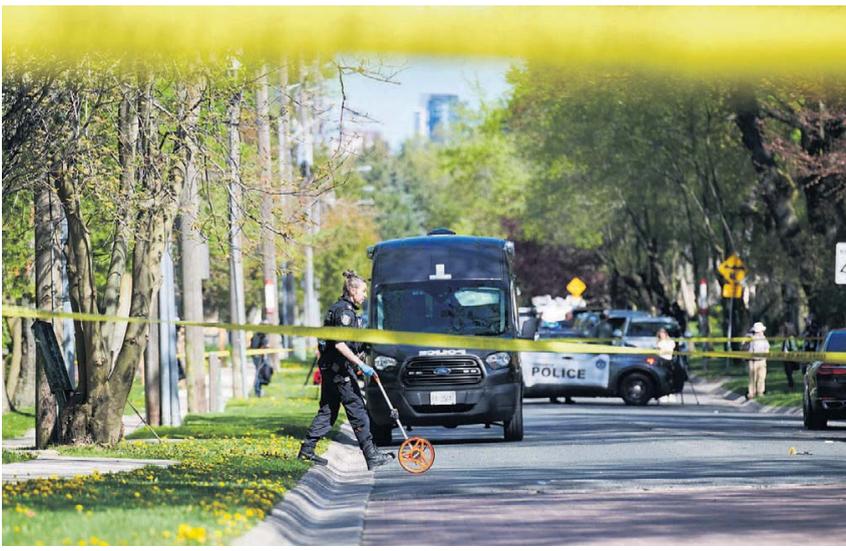
A security guard standing watch outside the Toronto mansion of superstar rapper Drake has been seriously injured after gunfire shattered the calm of one of the city's most posh neighbourhoods.

Police declined to say whether Drake, the stage name of Aubrey Graham, was home during the shooting Tuesday, which happened shortly after 2 a.m.

Hours later, police cruisers and multiple layers of caution tape kept media and a handful of curious onlookers away from the musician's 50,000-square-foot house in the Bridle Path part of North York. A number of small markers of the type police use to flag evidence were scattered around the front of the house, though there was no obvious damage to vehicles parked in the street, including a black stretch limousine.

Drake's house has featured specifically in a continuing feud with fellow rapper Kendrick Lamar, with the latter's fans drawing attention to it. Mr. Lamar's fans have referred to the property in various insulting ways, including renaming the house on Google as being "Owned by Kendrick."

Asked the extent to which the rap beef was figuring in the inves-



Police survey the scene of a shooting outside Drake's house on Tuesday. Inspector Paul Krawczyk said police have video of the incident, which sent a guard to the hospital. SAMMY KOGAN/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

tigation, Inspector Paul Krawczyk said he was aware of the disagreement.

"But it is so early in the investigation that we don't have a motive at this time," he said. "And so I cannot comment further on that."

A publicist representing Drake, who has also owned properties in Southern California, declined to comment.

Drake, 37, who both sings and raps, has played a leading role in refashioning pop music, helping cement hip hop's presence in the genre and becoming Billboard's highest-charting artist of the 2010s. He first gained a public pro-

file as an actor on the TV show *Degrassi: The Next Generation*.

The feud between him and Mr. Lamar is one of hip hop's biggest in decades and has heated up in recent days, with thousands, if not millions, of fans fuelling the flames online. Across a slew of singles in the past week alone, the two rappers have exchanged serious, unproven allegations, ranging from domestic assault to the fathoming of a secret child to the use of the weight-loss drug Ozempic.

In a late-morning briefing, Insp. Krawczyk said investigators were in contact with the rapper's

team and that they were co-operating. He said police had video of the shooting, which sent the guard to hospital, but he offered no information about the number of shots, the number of suspects or the vehicle in which they fled. The victim's name and age were not provided.

"You can expect to see an increased presence in this neighbourhood for the next little while, but it's no different than any other shooting," Insp. Krawczyk said.

The location of Drake's house is easily found online. It has appeared regularly on social media, including in his own posts.

The property also got attention when he was criticized for tearing down a striking mid-century home and for successfully petitioning city hall to allow him to install fences twice what is normally allowed under the bylaws, a nod to his security concerns.

At Toronto's Sunnybrook Hospital, which is not far from Drake's home, a volunteer on-site said Tuesday that the security guard was in the critical-care ward, but a nurse said media weren't allowed in the area. The volunteer said she had taken a police officer to the ward earlier in the day.

Prior to their feud, Drake and Mr. Lamar did a handful of collaborations in the early 2010s before undertaking different strategies to ascend to music's highest echelons.

Mr. Lamar is widely recognized as one of the most skillful technicians in recent rap history, and has received global acclaim for nuanced portrayals of the Black American experience. He won a Pulitzer Prize for his 2017 album *DAMN*.

These two different tacks have fomented years of arguments among rap fans. It turned into an increasingly direct and personal feud this spring, with the release of a pair of albums by artists Future and Metro Boomin, both of which featured songs that insulted Drake — including *Like That*, a single featuring Mr. Lamar.

The ensuing weeks have seen Drake, Mr. Lamar and a rotating cast of others escalate the dispute in song.

With a report from  
The Canadian Press

## Drug-price regulator's interactions with government, industry must change: report

CARLY WEEKS  
HEALTH REPORTER

A long-awaited report into several high-profile resignations at Canada's drug-price regulator is calling for changes to how members of the government interact with the quasi-judicial body as well as the pharmaceutical industry.

The House of Commons health committee report, made public this week, has 10 recommendations stemming from a string of events that seem to have indefinitely sidelined Ottawa's attempts at drug-price reform.

The controversy began in November, 2022, as the Patented Medicine Prices Review Board was in the middle of public consultation on new guidelines that were necessary to implement a series of regulatory changes designed to rein in the escalating cost of prescription drugs — changes the pharmaceutical industry publicly opposed. That November, then-federal health minister Jean-Yves Duclos asked the PMPRB to suspend the consultation process, stating in a letter the board hadn't fulfilled its requirement to brief him.

Around the same time, Innovative Medicines Canada, an industry group representing the pharmaceutical industry, made a similar request for the consultation to be suspended.

The step by Mr. Duclos was highly unusual and, according to e-mail exchanges and other documents later released at House health committee hearings, prompted three members of the PMPRB to resign.

Douglas Clark, former executive director of the board and one of those who resigned after Mr. Duclos's letter, told the committee last year that he had personally tried to reach out to the minister's staff to arrange a briefing on several occasions, only to have requests unanswered or not followed up on. Last year, he told the committee Mr. Duclos's letter caused "grave concern," particularly since suspending the process was "precisely what the industry had

called for."

Some of the other recommendations in the newly published House of Commons report include a call for the government to spell out the mandate of the PMPRB; for members of the board to review its internal operating rules to avoid any misunderstandings; and for Ottawa to review how it enacts drug-price regulatory reforms.

Matthew Herder, a former PMPRB board member who also resigned last year in the fallout from Mr. Duclos's letter, said in an interview that the report is a disappointment. Most of the 42-page document summarizes the events that led up to the resignations and what witnesses told committee members without weighing in on the merits of the evidence, Mr. Herder said.

"I think it is a huge letdown," he said. "I'm highly skeptical anything will come of it."

He highlighted that some of the recommendations seem to suggest the problems originated with the communication processes at the PMPRB, despite evidence and testimony pointing to a troubling pattern of industry influence and interference from the federal health minister, Mr. Herder said.

The office of current Health Minister Mark Holland said in an e-mail that it's reviewing the committee's recommendations and will provide a government response in due course.

Since the consultation report was suspended in late 2022, the PMPRB reforms have still not been enacted.

Steven Staples, the national director of policy and advocacy for the Canadian Health Coalition, said the lack of pricing reforms is a major concern, given the rising cost of prescription drugs.

The federal government has tabled new pharmacare legislation that would cover the cost of some diabetes medications and contraceptives, and that will be essential to helping control the cost of some drugs, Mr. Staples said.

The House of Commons health committee report, made public this week, has 10 recommendations.

ANDREA WOO VANCOUVER

## Ottawa agrees to claw back B.C. decriminalization

Ottawa has approved British Columbia's request to once again prohibit possession of illicit drugs in public spaces, in a significant policy reversal of the province's drug-decriminalization pilot project.

Ya'ara Saks, federal Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, announced the development on Tuesday on Parliament Hill. The change is effective immediately.

"We always said from the get-go, we would be monitoring, we would be assessing as we go along — and also be flexible," Ms. Saks told reporters. "This is the first time this has been done in Canada. There are a lot of lessons to be learned."

The three-year pilot project began on Jan. 31, 2023, as part of an effort to turn the tide on a toxic drug crisis that has killed thousands. It permitted British Columbians 18 and older to carry up to a cumulative total of 2.5 grams of illicit opioids, crack and powder cocaine, methamphetamine and MDMA without criminal penalties, and police were not to seize the drugs. The production, trafficking and exportation of these drugs remain illegal. Police will now have the discretion to tell drug users to leave an area, to arrest them or to seize their drugs.

Mayors, hospitals and opposition critics had called for the province to reverse course, citing increased public drug use and disorder. The B.C. government had said it was hopeful decriminalization would lessen the stigma of addiction and shift drug users away from the criminal justice system, encouraging them to seek help.

Data provided to Health Canada in February showed that visits to overdose prevention sites and use of drug-checking services continued to trend upward in the first year of decriminalization, while uptake of medications for opioid-use disorder (such as methadone and Suboxone) did not change. The number of possession offences decreased by 77 per cent compared to the previous four-year average, and the number of possession drug seizures under the 2.5-gram threshold decreased by 96 per cent over the same period.

Vancouver Police Deputy Chief Fiona Wilson, who is also president of the British Columbia Association of Chiefs of Police, testified at the House of Commons health committee that officers don't believe arresting drug users will save their lives or solve the drug crisis. But, she said, decriminalization went ahead without adequate guardrails against public consumption. Ms. Saks said Tuesday that "health supports need to be readily available in a timely manner" for those seeking help, suggesting B.C. did not have

sufficient supports in place.

"That being said, B.C. has committed and continues to grow and scale out their health services and we're supportive of that," she said.

The decriminalization pilot launched with few exceptions, including possession on K-12 school premises and childcare facilities, and expanded in the fall of 2023 to include playgrounds, splash pads, wading pools and skate parks.

Tuesday's change, made through amendments to B.C.'s exemption from the federal Controlled Drugs and Substances Act, means that possession of small amounts of illicit drugs will again be illegal in all public places. Possession in private residences or other places where someone is legally sheltering remains decriminalized, as it does at overdose prevention and drug-checking sites.

B.C. Public Safety Minister Mike Farnworth said Tuesday while addiction should be treated as a health matter, not a criminal justice one, "that doesn't mean that anything goes."

"Parks and beaches have to be safe and welcoming for families, the doorways of small businesses have to be free for customers, and hospitals have to be places where people can work and get care safely," he said. Mr. Farnworth said he would be sending a letter to police that day to inform them that the changes are in effect and that further guidance would be provided in coming days.

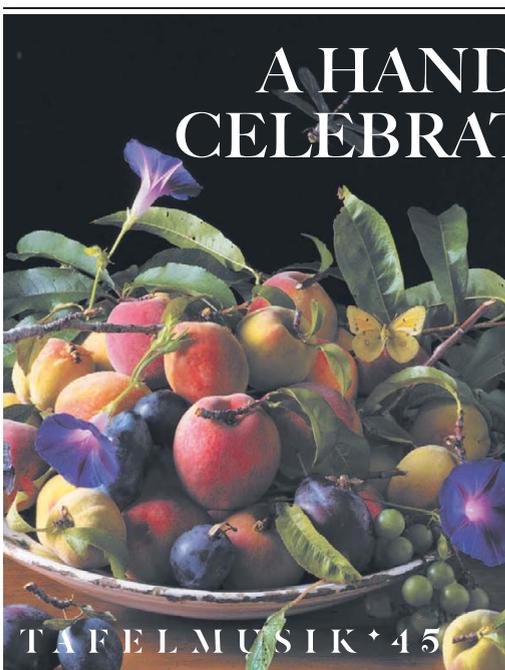
The B.C. government had attempted last fall to introduce legislation to prohibit illicit drug use in public spaces including parks and beaches. The Harm Reduction Nurses Association successfully challenged the bill. A B.C. Supreme Court judge agreed that it could cause "irreparable harm" by driving drug users into the shadows, and granted a temporary injunction pending a broader constitutional challenge expected this summer.

That matter remains before the courts, Mr. Farnworth said.

Corey Ranger, president of the nurses' association, said his group was concerned and frustrated by Ottawa's approval, which it viewed as an improper circumvention of the court order that will jeopardize the health and safety of the province's most marginalized. "There is no evidence to support this decision," said Mr. Ranger, calling for Ottawa to reconsider. "We know what criminalizing drug use does, we know this will lead to irreparable harm, and we know that oftentimes irreparable harm means death."

Also on Tuesday, the BC Coroners Service announced that another 192 people had died from illicit drugs in March. At least 14,629 people have died since 2016, the year the province declared a public health emergency in response to rapidly escalating overdoses and deaths.

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TAFELMUSIK 45

# Hockey fans gear up for all-Canadian NHL playoff series

Edmonton, Vancouver aren't traditional rivals, but fans are preparing for the emotional rigour of a second-round series

JANA G. PRUDEN  
ALANNA SMITH

Long before he was known as "Super-fan Magoo," Blair Gladue lived with his grandparents in a log house in Calling Lake, Alta., with a tiny television that got only one channel.

On Saturday nights, his grandfather would show him in front of the TV for the only show that mattered: *Hockey Night in Canada*.

"I've lived and breathed the Oilers all my life," Mr. Gladue said. He got his nickname during the playoff run that took the Edmonton team to the Stanley Cup finals in 2006, and is a fixture with his elaborate outfits, drum and enthusiastic energy.

"As an Edmonton Oilers fan - during the playoffs especially - when you're in the crowd or you're out in the streets, you're family. It doesn't matter who you are, where you come from, you're family. It brings people together, and that is most important thing."

On Wednesday, the Edmonton Oilers and the Vancouver Canucks meet for the first game in the second round of the Stanley Cup playoffs, the last two teams with a shot to end Canada's 31-year trophy drought.

For fans such as Mr. Gladue, it's go time: "I'm feeling excited, anxious, nervous, all of the emotions right now," he said, wearing an Oilers hoodie, a beaded Oilers medallion and an Oilers Turtle Island logo hat.

"This is the third year in a row we've made the second round ... so this year, we're going to get over that second-round hump, and we will win the Stanley Cup. Hopefully."

In Vancouver, meanwhile, longtime Canucks fan Paul Robles was also steeling himself for the emotional rigour of the playoff run.

A fan since he was 8, Mr. Robles has had his hopes crushed in the finals. His team, one of the oldest in the NHL to have never won the cup, was defeated by the New York Islanders in 1982, the New York Rangers in 1994 and the Boston Bruins in 2011.

"I've been waiting so long," he said. "I'm saving a spot on my arm to get a Canuck



A woman takes a selfie on Sunday among figures from the Yue Minjun sculpture *A-maze-ing Laughter*, adorned with Canucks jerseys, in Vancouver. The team will face the Edmonton Oilers in the semi-finals of the Western Conference playoffs. CHRIS HELGREN/REUTERS

tattoo when we win."

Mr. Robles said he plans to wear his vintage Flying V jersey for puck drop on Wednesday. He'll put it on again if they win, but ditch it if they don't.

"I like watching the games with my son," he said. "Usually, when there's a big goal, we get up and just act like a bunch of idiots jumping up and down, screaming and we're hugging each other. It's a good time for father-son bonding."

But, no matter which team wins, he said the outcome will be the same: "This time, I hope it will be tears of joy instead of tears of sadness."

The Oilers are the top team in the NHL for jersey sales, and at ICE District Authentics, jerseys were flying out the door in advance of the second-round series. (Oversized chains, and cutoff overalls have also been very popular.)

Beader Jolene Chretien said she'd barely

finished some new pairs of Oilers-themed earrings and posted them on Facebook, when they were immediately scooped up by fans looking for playoff bling.

"I love Oilers, I'm a huge supporter, and I thought it would bring them good luck," said Ms. Chretien, who said she brings her support of the team to her creations through smudging and ceremony.

"The energy you put into it when you're doing this is huge. So while I'm beading I'm just visualizing this is a good-luck charm, they're going to win."

Franco Camminatore, general manager of the 1st RND sports bar in downtown Edmonton, said every one of the bar's 50 TVs would be tuned to the game.

"Even if you're just a casual fan, you like being part of the group, being part of the energy that it brings," he said.

"Everyone loves seeing someone win, especially if they're from your hometown."

It's such a big part of Edmonton's identity."

Though Edmonton and Vancouver aren't traditionally rivals, the playoffs do have a way of bringing out the competition. While the provinces' premiers engaged in a light-hearted bet, one restaurant in British Columbia found itself embroiled uncomfortably in the contest.

A letterboard sign in support of the Oilers outside the Boston Pizza in Penticton, B.C., sparked a minor social-media frenzy among Canucks fans, who argued the restaurant should support the home team - despite the chain actually having originated in Edmonton. Some Vancouver faithful even called for a boycott.

Boston Pizza bowed to pressure and realigned its support for the Canucks. But local media, on Tuesday, reported another significant sign change. There are now both team logos, and the key question: "Who will bring the cup home."

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# Stormy Daniels details first meeting with Trump

Jurors appeared riveted as she offered an at times graphic account of encounter the former U.S. president has denied

MICHAEL R. SISAK  
JENNIFER PELTZ  
ERIC TUCKER  
JAKE OFFENHARTZ NEW YORK

With Donald Trump sitting just feet away, Stormy Daniels testified Tuesday at the former president's hush-money trial about a sexual encounter the porn actor says they had in 2006 that resulted in her being paid to keep silent during the presidential race 10 years later.

Jurors appeared riveted as Ms. Daniels offered a detailed and at times graphic account of the encounter Mr. Trump has denied. Mr. Trump stared straight ahead when Ms. Daniels entered the courtroom, later whispering to his lawyers and shaking his head as she testified.

The testimony was by far the most-awaited spectacle in a trial that has toggled between tabloidesque elements and dry record-keeping details. A courtroom appearance by a porn actor who says she had an intimate encounter with a former American president added to the long list of historic firsts in a landmark case laden with claims of sex, payoffs and cover-ups and unfolding as the presumptive Republican nominee makes another bid for the White House.

Ms. Daniels veered into salacious details despite the repeated objections of defence lawyers, who demanded a mistrial over what they said were prejudicial and irrelevant comments.

The judge rejected the request and said defence lawyers should have raised more objections during the testimony. The Trump team later in the day used its opportunity to question Ms. Daniels to paint her as motivated by personal animus and profiting off her claims against Mr. Trump.

"Am I correct that you hate President Trump?" defence lawyer Susan Necheles asked Ms. Daniels.

"Yes," she acknowledged.

Ms. Daniels's statements are central to the case because in the final weeks of Mr. Trump's 2016 Republican presidential campaign, his then-lawyer and personal fixer, Michael Cohen, paid her US\$130,000 to keep quiet about what she says was an awkward and unexpected sexual encounter with Mr. Trump in July, 2006, at a celebrity golf outing in Lake Tahoe. Mr. Trump has pleaded not guilty.

Led by a prosecutor's questioning, Ms. Daniels described how an initial meeting at a golf tournament, where they discussed the adult film industry, progressed to a "brief" sexual encounter that she said Mr. Trump initiated after inviting her to dinner and back to his hotel suite.

In 2011, several years after she and Mr. Trump were last in touch, she said she learned from her agent that the story of her encounter with Mr. Trump had made its way to a magazine.

She said she agreed to an interview for US\$15,000 because "I'd rather make the money than somebody make money off of me, and at least I could control the narrative." The story never ran, but later that year, she was alarmed when an item turned up on a website.

Perhaps seeking to pre-empt defence claims that she was in urgent need of a massive payout, Ms. Daniels testified that she was in the best financial shape of her life when she authorized her manager to shop her story during the 2016 presidential campaign.

She said she had no intent of approaching Mr. Cohen or Mr. Trump to have them pay her.

"My motivation wasn't money," she said. "It was to get the story out."

Ms. Daniels is expected to return to the witness stand Thursday, when the trial resumes.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Boars

FROM A1

Cornell University's College of Veterinary Medicine, in upstate New York, recently said that the hemorrhagic (bleeding) disease "had killed more than half of the world's pigs since 2007." The school said that a Cornell study, done with Uganda's Makerere University, "confirms that a species of tick is responsible for maintaining and spreading infections" among domestic pigs in Uganda.

The tick, known formally as *Ornithodoros moubata*, at first infected African warthogs and later killed domestic pigs brought in from Europe. The infected pigs pass the disease to each other through direct contact or indirectly through contaminated pork in their food (pigs are omnivores and some farmers use pork in the feed). In crowded, industrial-farming conditions, the disease can spread quickly. One study in South Korea found that farm pigs usually died four to nine days after infection.

The disease was first detected in mainland Italy only two years ago (it was found on the island of Sardinia in 1978 but contained there). The culling of pig herds began shortly thereafter. In September, 2023, alone, some 34,000 pigs were slaughtered in the Lombardy region of northern Italy, around Milan. The rising number of boars has triggered fears that millions of Italy's estimated 8.7 million farm pigs could get infected. There is no cure and no vaccine for the disease.

The European Food Safety Authority says African swine fever "has serious socio-economic consequences for affected countries. In recent years, it has spread across Europe and worldwide. ... Areas affected by ASF suffer significant financial losses due to the loss of animals."

Some foreign buyers of prosciutto have already banned imports. Canada last month halted the sale of the product from certain areas of Emilia-Romagna in northern Italy.

So far, the disease in Italy has been largely limited to the northern part of the country but its spread appears inevitable. Fausto Venturi, a farmer in the central Italian region of Umbria, says wild boars have become ubiquitous in his area and some are monstrous. "Two or three years ago, hunters killed one here that was more than 200 kilos," he told The Globe and Mail.

Besides being a swine fever threat, they are voracious eaters, munching on everything from cereal crops to small animals. "The only way to control them is to kill them with hunting rifles or bring in wolves," Mr. Venturi said. "The wolves will eat the small boars."



Israel says entering Gaza and defeating the four battalions of Hamas fighters it says are based there is essential to its plans of destroying the Islamist militia and rescuing Israeli hostages. AMIR COHEN/REUTERS

## Rafah: Canada's Foreign Minister says the Israeli military invasion 'is completely unacceptable'

FROM A1

The Rafah crossing has been the main entry point for humanitarian aid since early in the conflict. The Kerem Shalom crossing to southern Israel has been closed since Sunday, when Hamas rockets hit a nearby Israeli military staging ground, killing four soldiers. On Tuesday, only the Erez crossing, at the north of the strip, was open, though only a trickle of aid has entered from there so far.

"Erez will simply not be enough," said James Elder, a spokesperson for the United Nations Children's Fund. "If Rafah gate closes for an extended period, it's hard to see how famine in Gaza can be averted."

Foreign Minister Mélanie Joly also warned against the humanitarian consequences of military action in Rafah.

"An invasion of Rafah, which would endanger the lives of women and children and innocent civilians, is completely unacceptable," she told reporters in Ottawa. "We need a ceasefire now. We need to make sure that hostages be released. We need to make sure humanitarian aid goes into Gaza. The violence must stop. Hamas must lay down its weapons."

More than a million people have gathered in and around Rafah - which had a prewar population of about 200,000 people - after Israel declared it a safe zone earlier in the war. Many of those displaced people had been living in tents for months, with limited access to food, medication and sanitation.

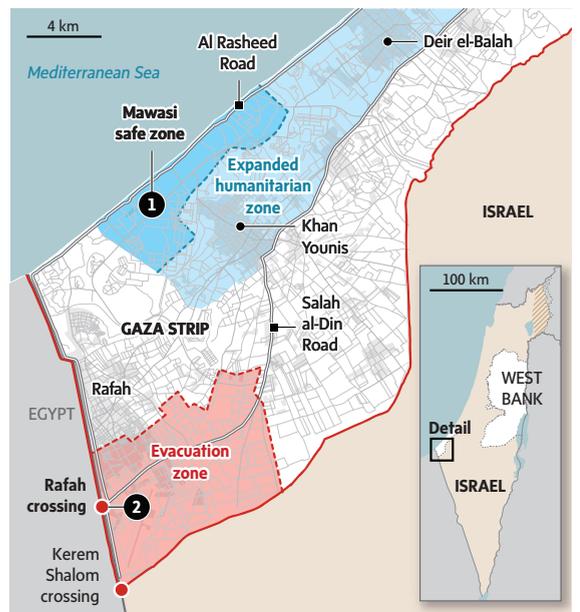
The Palestinian Ministry of Health says more than 34,000 people have been killed in seven months of fighting in Gaza.

Israel says entering Gaza and defeating the four battalions of Hamas fighters it says are based there is essential to its twin war aims of destroying the Islamist militia and rescuing the hostages Hamas been holding since its Oct. 7 attack on southern Israel. A battalion is usually comprised of about 1,000 fighters, and Hamas has vowed to combat the Israeli push into Rafah.

The Oct. 7 assault saw Hamas kill more than 1,100 Israelis and foreigners, and take more than 200 others back to Gaza as prisoners. Israel believes that many of the more than 100 hostages Hamas is still holding have since died in captivity.

The invasion of Rafah came despite Hamas's acceptance on Monday of a Qatari- and Egyptian-brokered ceasefire deal that reportedly would see the group release 33 of its hostages in the first stage of a three-phase truce. The proposal would have eventually seen all the hostages released in exchange for an end to the war and the withdrawal of Israeli troops from Gaza.

On Tuesday, families of some of the hostages took part in a protest outside Israel's military headquarters in Tel Aviv, calling on



1 May 6: Israel Defence Forces tell 100,000 civilians in eastern Rafah to evacuate to Mawasi safe zone.

UN says around 450,000 displaced Palestinians are sheltering in Mawasi, in squalid conditions with few sanitation facilities.

2 May 7: Israeli tanks close Rafah crossing, vital aid route into Gaza Strip.

THE GLOBE AND MAIL, SOURCE: GRAPHIC NEWS

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government to accept the ceasefire offer. "What separates us and our loved ones was and remains a commitment to end the war. We say to Netanyahu and the government - end the war, bring them back and save lives!" the protesters said in a statement.

Many Israelis and Palestinians believe that Mr. Netanyahu is against a ceasefire for political reasons, since it would likely lead to the collapse of his coalition government, which includes cabinet members from the country's far right.

Mr. Netanyahu's office has dismissed the terms Hamas agreed to as "a proposal" that was far from meeting Israel's demands. Israel nonetheless sent a team to Cairo on Tuesday to continue negotiations, and delegates from Qatar and Hamas were also in the city, as was the United States' CIA director, William Burns.

An Israeli government official told foreign journalists that Israel wasn't interested in a deal that left Hamas intact as a military force.

"We're always open to a diplomatic resolution to try and get our people out of the hands of Hamas. But I must tell you that this operation in Rafah is designed to destroy the last four battalions of Hamas," said Avi Hyman, a spokesperson of Israel's National Public Diplomacy Directorate, referring to the Rafah incursion. "This deadly terrorist organization must be defeated, this country will be protected and Hamas will be completely annihilated."

Defence Minister Yoav Gallant, however, seemed to indicate that the Rafah operation could be halted if Hamas began releasing hostages. "The operation in Rafah will not stop until Hamas is eliminated, or until the first hostage returns to Israel," he told troops during a visit to a staging ground near Gaza.

Israel's decision to go ahead with the assault despite Hamas's acceptance of ceasefire terms was condemned by neighbouring Jordan, which has had a peace treaty and close security co-operation with Israel since 1994.

"Instead of giving negotiations on hostage release and ceasefire a chance, Israeli government occupied Rafah crossing and closed it to humanitarian aid to starved Gazans," Foreign Minister Ayman Safadi wrote Tuesday on social media. He called on the United Nations Security Council to act. "Netanyahu must face real consequences."

Resident Amer al-Joub said panic had fallen over Rafah since Monday, when Israel dropped leaflets warning people to leave the eastern part of the city. The spread of fear accelerated on Tuesday, he said, after the closing of the crossing to Egypt.

"Closing the crossing and not allowing aid to enter will have disastrous results for Palestinian society," said Mr. al-Joub, a 58-year-old employee of the Palestinian Authority who has been out of his job since Hamas seized control of Gaza in 2007. "People are trying to survive and escape from the death. They leave everything and run away."

## PUTIN BEGINS FIFTH TERM AS PRESIDENT, MORE IN CONTROL OF RUSSIA THAN EVER

Russian President Vladimir Putin began his fifth term at a glittering Kremlin inauguration Tuesday, embarking on another six years as the country's leader after destroying his political opponents, launching a devastating war in Ukraine and concentrating all power in his hands.

At the ceremony in the gilded Grand Kremlin Palace, Mr. Putin placed his hand on the Russian constitution and vowed to de-

fend it as a crowd of hand-picked dignitaries looked on.

"We are a united and great people and together we will overcome all obstacles, realize all our plans, together we will win," Mr. Putin said after being sworn in.

Since succeeding president Boris Yeltsin in the waning hours of 1999, Mr. Putin has transformed Russia from a country emerging from economic collapse to a pariah state that

threatens global security. Following the 2022 invasion of Ukraine that has become Europe's biggest conflict since the Second World War, Russia has been heavily sanctioned by the West.

Already in office for nearly a quarter-century and the longest-serving Kremlin leader since Joseph Stalin, Mr. Putin's new term doesn't expire until 2030, when he will be constitutionally eligible to run again.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Program: Ottawa's database includes people who aren't Indigenous, group head says

FROM A1

One of the ArriveCan contractors that has been suspended from federal work, Dalian Enterprises, identifies as an "aboriginally owned" company and has frequently availed itself of the program. Dalian, which provides technology staffing and other services, regularly partners with a larger non-Indigenous company, Coradix Technology Consulting, in joint ventures to win contracts through the PSIB. The two companies share an Ottawa office.

David Yeo, Dalian's founder, has said his company has only two employees. Mr. Yeo is a great-grandson of David Franklin, a former chief of Alderville First Nation, a community about 120 kilometres northeast of Toronto.

The Globe reported this week that Indigenous Services Canada, which is responsible for oversight of the program, has, since 2016, launched four after-the-fact audits of companies that benefit from the PSIB. Statistics prior to that were not immediately available.

Indigenous organizations have said that while joint ventures between Indigenous and non-Indigenous companies can help smaller Indigenous companies, they also merit closer attention because the arrangements can be abused through the use of shell companies that take away opportunities from legitimate Indigenous companies.

To participate in the PSIB, businesses must be registered on the Indigenous Business Directory, which is maintained by the federal government. Ottawa sets the eligibility terms for companies seeking to join the directory, terms that include Indian registration, and citizenship or membership in specific Indigenous organizations.



President of the Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, Natan Obed, seen in March, says the current standards for the Indigenous Business Directory are 'far too inclusive.' JUSTIN TANG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

One option is being a member of an affiliate of the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples. Affiliates of CAP are generally provincially based such as the Ontario Coalition of Indigenous Peoples. The CAP says it represents the interests of Métis, status and non-status Indians, and southern Inuit – or other recognized Indigenous organizations in Canada.

But the head of Canada's national Inuit organization says Ottawa should impose more stringent restrictions and that criteria should be limited to groups that are rights holders under the Constitution.

Natan Obed, president of the Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, says the current standards for the directory are "far too inclusive."

"We are now living in an era where there are tremendous

opportunities to be had for qualifying as a First Nations, Inuit and Métis business," Mr. Obed told The Globe and Mail in an interview. "There are many actors in this country who want to take advantage of that."

When speaking about the criteria being too broad, Mr. Obed pointed to inclusion of members of the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples and other Indigenous organizations.

The federal government's requirements are the subject of debate among Indigenous organizations.

Indigenous Services Minister Patty Hajdu said earlier this year that defining who is Indigenous is "really complicated," and said the government is considering transferring control of the directory to an arm's length

Indigenous organization.

There is a push from five national Indigenous economic organizations to take over the stewardship of the directory through an arm's-length First Nations Procurement Organization. The project was announced in February with the support of the Assembly of First Nations.

Shannin Metatawabin, the chief executive of the National Aboriginal Capital Corporations Association, which is one of the five organizations, said it is better placed, in his view, to assess indigeneity and should be supported by the federal government.

"We can ensure that the citizenship is clear," he said.

Mr. Metatawabin said the government's database includes people who are not Indigenous. "There's organizations in Can-

ada that accept self-identification as a mechanism of building membership, and in turn the Government of Canada accepts those organizations on their business registry," he said. "Right now, the whole system is flawed."

Jennifer Kozelj, a spokesperson for Ms. Hajdu, said the government is reforming the procurement strategy by placing Indigenous voices at the forefront of the process.

"This is important work and it needs to be led by Indigenous people themselves. That means governments need to get out of the business of deciding who's Indigenous and who's not. This colonial mindset has hurt Indigenous People for generations," she said. "Our goal is to support Indigenous organizations as they lead a robust and reliable strategy that is fair to all."

Elmer St. Pierre, the national chief of the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples, pushed back at the criticism that its members should not be eligible for the Indigenous Business Directory.

Over the years, the Congress has at times been excluded from federal government meetings with Indigenous organizations. In reports to Parliament, the Congress has said its members include Section 35 rights holders, as well as non-status people who have been denied their Section 35 rights as a result of colonial policies such as the Indian Act.

Mr. St. Pierre said his organization believes the directory is a "vital tool to help Indigenous businesses grow and thrive along with our communities and people." He also said that Mr. Obed's organization "does not have the liberty or authority to decide which Indigenous businesses are included."

With reports from Tom Cardoso

# Watchdog: CBSA saw a 130% boost in requests between 2020 and 2023, report says

FROM A1

"[There] is no doubt in my mind that CBSA is being adversely affected by the 'status quo' that continues to prevail at IRCC," she writes, "and more specifically, the lack of progress on providing applicants with an alternative method of obtaining information related to their file."

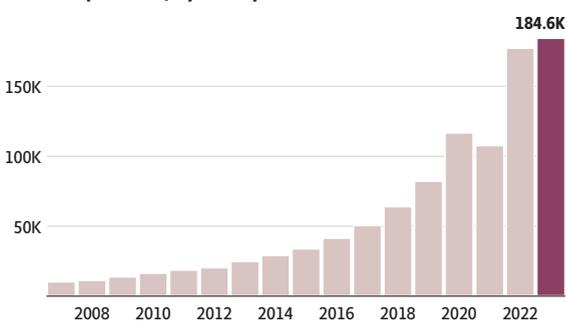
"Clearly, the status quo is unsustainable," she says.

According to the report, access requests to IRCC and CBSA have more than doubled since the fiscal year ending March, 2018. The CBSA has seen a 130-per-cent increase between 2020 and 2023, and IRCC received more than 180,000 requests in both 2022-23 and 2023-24. The Office of the Information Commissioner, which oversees federal access disputes, has also had to redirect its resources to handle a corresponding substantial increase in complaints regarding the two institutions.

While she commends IRCC and CBSA's efforts to increase the efficiency of their access teams, those measures aren't enough to stem the tide, and amount to "treating the symptoms" instead of "curing the illness," Ms. Maynard says in the report.

"It's frustrating, because I think they do know how to fix it," Ms. Maynard said in an interview.

Access requests received by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada, by fiscal year-end



THE GLOBE AND MAIL, SOURCE: IMMIGRATION, REFUGEES AND CITIZENSHIP CANADA

IRCC's operations division, responsible for processing immigration applications, "are not doing their part in fixing the root cause," she said.

"Three years ago, we told them, 'You have to find a different way to provide that information. You have to fix your system, you have to increase the amount of information that's provided to new applicants.' They said they would do it. But, as you can see in the report, it's now three years later and it still hasn't been fixed."

In an e-mailed statement Tuesday, IRCC spokesperson Isabelle Dubois said the department has a

"number of initiatives" under way to address the high volume of access requests it receives, and that those changes are "meant to address the root causes of the increase in access to information requests and complaints."

Access to information laws are intended to promote transparency by allowing documents to be requested from public institutions. The laws require institutions to disclose the requested information, with limited exceptions.

Prospective immigrants make heavy use of access to information requests during their application process.

IRCC communicates with applicants infrequently at best, and its refusal letters don't go into much detail about why an application was rejected. Left with few other ways to divine why a case has stalled or an application has been turned down, applicants, lawyers and consultants have been unintentionally incentivized by the government to file access to information requests for their case files.

In response, the number of immigration-related access requests has exploded. In the fiscal year ending March, 2023, access requests to IRCC accounted for 78 per cent of all federal requests. When combined with CBSA, access requests to the two institutions accounted for six out of every seven access requests to the federal government.

Andrew Koltun, an Ontario-based lawyer at Koltun Law who specializes in immigration and access to information, said that lawyers and immigration consultants have taken to filing identical requests to both CBSA and IRCC in their efforts to get information for their clients as quickly as possible. Both institutions have access to the same immigration case file system.

"It's become a practice," he said. "We all know to do it now."

Mr. Koltun says that IRCC has spent considerable resources

building status trackers for immigration applications, but those tools don't give applicants access to a case officer's notes – often the crucial piece of information applicants are seeking.

For years, the department has said it is working on a new, integrated system that will provide applicants with much more information. But that new platform is behind schedule and likely still years away, Mr. Koltun said.

"I think IRCC is resisting the solution to the problem," he said, "which is full, pro-active disclosure of the officer's notes."

For Ms. Maynard, the requests pouring into IRCC and CBSA aren't a good use of the access to information system. "I want access requests to be used for valuable information – this is why the access system was put in place," she said.

"Imagine if we had to use access requests to access our tax information – it's ridiculous. Government is talking about being more efficient, providing digital services to Canadians. This is a very easy one to fix – and it's been three years and we haven't seen the fix."

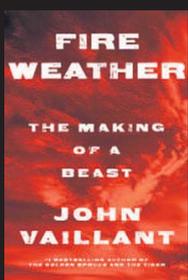
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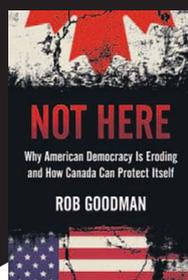
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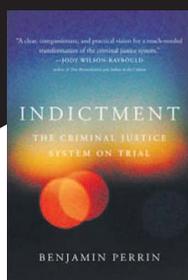


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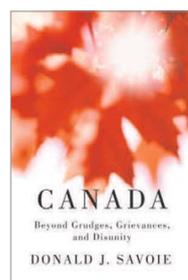
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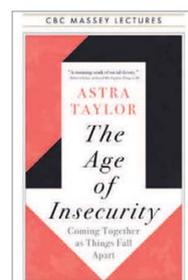
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#ShaughnessyCohen



# Russia's 'double-tap' air strikes increase danger on the job for Ukraine's firefighters

Conventions of war forbid targeting the same buildings when first responders are on the scene. But in Kharkiv, that's become all too common

ANNA VLASENKO KHARKIV, UKRAINE  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY OLGA IVASHCHENKO

Firefighters are always among the first to arrive at a shelled location in Ukraine, along with medics and police. But in Kharkiv, they have also become targets of Russian attacks.

Similar to a tactic used by terrorist bombers, a "double-tap" attack involves hitting the same target a second time, leaving just enough time for first responders to be on-site and vulnerable.

Yevhen Vasylenko, the spokesperson for Kharkiv's emergency service, says that on April 4 the service lost three firefighters as a result of such a strike.

When the first drone attack happened at 1:10 a.m. that April morning, two groups of rescuers arrived. Forty-five minutes later, they heard the call "air" – a warning to leave the area and hide – but it was too late. Within minutes, there was a second explosion.

Mr. Vasylenko still remembers the cries of desperation of his colleagues that day. Firefighters are like a family, he says. They cook together, share holidays and spend a lot of time with each other. So when they lost three from one unit, it was a big tragedy.

Mr. Vasylenko says the Iranian-made Shahed drone targeted a programmed location.

"When we have a fire and are working on a spot with other rescue workers, we are not army staff, so we can conclude that the enemy strikes us deliberately," he said.

In March, a first-person view drone, which allows the operator to see its target and surroundings, dropped a grenade next to a fire truck on the border with Russia, in the town of Vovchansk. Mr. Vasylenko believes that attack was also intentional. "You can't mistake our fire truck with other cars – it's too red and too big."

Double-tap strikes are forbidden by international conventions, but they were often used by the Russian air force in Syria, where Moscow intervened on the side of dictator Bashar al-Assad in that country's civil war.

They are "doubly illegal because first responders are protected under international law. You shouldn't target them, but you shouldn't target civilians in the first place either," said Julia Grignon, a law professor at Laval University.

Before Russia's full-scale invasion, firefighters usually dealt with household fires and gas explosions. Nowadays, they're frequently tasked with

rescuing people from under the rubble of destroyed buildings, looking for human remains and clearing debris. In addition to their regular uniforms, they now wear 10 to 15 kilograms of body armour. "It's difficult, but we need to save people," Mr. Vasylenko said.

Turgut Abbasov's fire station is located in North Saltivka, the most heavily shelled district in Kharkiv in 2022. His team was responsible for putting out localized fires after the shelling. "We had situations when seven or eight apartments were on fire at the same time. It's not one or two, and you don't have water and electricity in the building, but you have to go inside and stop the fire," Mr. Abbasov said.

He showed The Globe and Mail windows covered with sandbags and black canvas in his room at the fire station. "It's protection from possible shelling. We had one at 7:15 on Jan. 23," he said. "That day I woke up early in the morning. And when the air alarm started, I gave the order to go to the shelter to the whole team." He heard one explosion, about 1.5 kilometres away, then a second. An X-32 or X-22 missile exploded some 20 metres from the station. The radius of destruction of such weapons can be as much as a kilometre wide. There are only civilian buildings near the station. It was a miracle that no one on the team was injured.

Jan. 23 saw one of the biggest missile attacks on the city so far in the war. Eleven people were killed, including one child, and 103 were injured, said Serhii Bolvinov, the chief police investigator for the Kharkiv region. "They started deliberately shelling the same locations twice that day, understanding that there will be medics and rescuers there."

Mr. Bolvinov says that when Russian commanders give the same coordinates for a second attack, there's no other goal than to kill a larger number of people – making it an intentional violation of international law. The main goal is to scare the local population and drive them out of the city.

Similar double-tap attacks were carried out this year in Odesa and Zaporizhzhia, where rescuers have also been killed and injured. Ukraine's emergency service says 91 of its rescuers have been killed and 352 others injured since the start of the full-scale invasion in February, 2022.





Left: Residents of Kharkiv walk down a street in April as smoke rises above the trees in the distance.

Middle: Ukrainian emergency workers fight a fire in November, 2023. Officials say 91 responders have been killed across Ukraine since the war began.

Right: Turgut Abbasov, left, works in a fire station in North Saltivka, where its windows are protected against possible shelling.



Above: Employees of Ukraine's emergency service work at the site of a Russian air strike in a residential area of Kharkiv on April 7.

Far left: Yevhen Vasylenko, spokesperson for Kharkiv's emergency service, says given the repeated strikes on responders, 'we can conclude that the enemy strikes us deliberately.'

Left: A Kharkiv resident holds her dog after a Russian guided aerial bomb attack struck the yard of her house on her birthday, April 7.

# EDITORIAL

ANDREW SAUNDERS  
PRESIDENT AND CEO

DAVID WALMSLEY  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The subject who is truly loyal to the chief magistrate will neither advise nor submit to arbitrary measures - Junius

## Conservatives, common sense and the courts

Conservative Leader Pierre Poilievre raised a lot of eyebrows, not to mention the hopes of his base, when he said last week that he would invoke the Constitution's notwithstanding clause if that's what it took to ensure that the only way a convicted mass murderer ever left prison was "in a box."

Mr. Poilievre's common-sense tough-guy persona is old hat in conservative politics. What's new and worrisome is his threat to gut the Charter of Rights and Freedoms in the name of right-wing virtue-signalling.

You don't need to use the nuclear option to fix the criminal justice system. There are far more pressing reforms that don't involve the suspension of basic rights that the Conservative Leader could be proposing if he wanted to be seen as serious about the issue.

The most obvious one is ending the endemic shortage of federally appointed judges in courts across the land. In February, a Federal Court justice blasted the Trudeau government for violating its constitutional duty to appoint judges, and said it needed to fill 75 vacancies in a timely fashion.

Last year, the chief justice of the Supreme Court of Canada, Richard Wagner, raised the same issue, saying the vacancies have "a significant impact on the administration of justice, the functioning of our courts, and access to justice for the public."

The vacancies crisis, which dates back to the Harper government, has been made more critical by a 2016 SCOC ruling that says cases involving even the most serious and violent criminal must get to trial within 30 months or be thrown out.

A muscular and, not to be coy, common-sense proposal from Mr. Poilievre would be a vow to undo the negligence of the Trudeau government and fill those vacancies in the first year of a Conservative government, or even in the first 100 days. That would do more to ensure the rights of victims and the accused than any tough but empty talk about convicted killers leaving prison feet-first.

Mr. Poilievre linked his intention to use the notwithstanding clause to the case of the man who murdered six worshippers in a Quebec City mosque in 2017. Alexandre Bissonnette was sentenced to serve six life sentences concurrently rather than consecutively, which means he is eligible for parole after serving 25 years instead of 150 years.

The Supreme Court has ruled that a life sentence with no chance of parole, even for the worst killers, is cruel and unusual punishment. A Conservative government would presumably use the notwithstanding clause to pass a sentencing law in defiance of that ruling.

But there is a vanishingly small possibility that Mr. Bissonnette, or any other mass murderer, would ever be granted parole. Punishment is still part of Canada's justice system. There is no logic to gutting the protections in the Charter in order to produce an outcome that is virtually guaranteed in any event - unless you are merely posturing for your base.

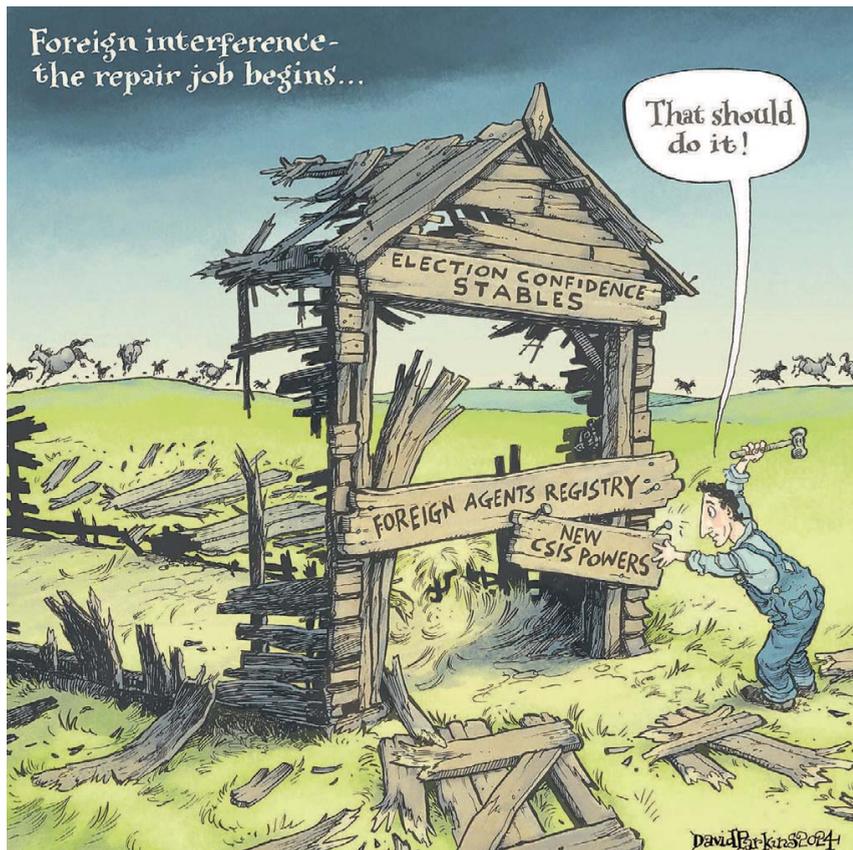
The other major federal issue involving the criminal justice system is bail reform. Mr. Poilievre last year vowed a Conservative government would bring in a law to deny bail to repeat violent offenders - a move that also risks being at odds with the Supreme Court.

There is no question that the need to keep the public safe is a central aspect of the justice system, and that it is shocking when a person out on bail commits a violent crime. But that is an infinitesimally small occurrence compared to the daily parade of thousands of legally innocent people held behind bars by an overcautious bail regime. It's a system that disproportionately harms the poor and marginalized, and contributes to Canada's clogged courts.

The role of the federal government is to find the right balance. Resorting to the notwithstanding clause might look tough, but it would do nothing to address the system's biggest imperfection - that so many Canadians who have never been convicted of a crime are being held in dangerous remand centres waiting for court dates that are increasingly hard to come by.

Mr. Poilievre would avoid the hard work of finding that fine balance by bludgeoning the justice system with the notwithstanding clause.

He's doing nothing more than virtue-signalling, when protecting the presumption of innocence and other basic rights and freedoms in the face of the vast power of government ought to be a common-sense concern for a Conservative Party leader.



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### DID WE LEARN NOTHING?

Re "The unlearned lessons of the pandemic" (Editorial, May 4): The absence of any public inquiry into the handling of the COVID-19 pandemic is a troubling sign. As recently as 2003, 44 Ontario deaths from the SARS pandemic sufficed to launch the comprehensive Campbell Commission, which conducted a deep review of how that pandemic was overcome and produced a solid blueprint for what was needed to better prepare for the next one.

Yet now, despite many of the nearly 60,000 COVID-related Canadian deaths having been avoidable, there has been a near-total absence of both accountability and interest in averting the next such disaster.

What has changed over the past two decades is the overwhelming concentration of power into the offices of the Prime Minister and premiers, which are staffed by unelected, unaccountable political operatives whose primary focus is their leaders' reelection narratives. From that perspective, public inquiries with power to require testimony under oath are anathema.

■ Ron Hartling Kingston

### PENSION NOMADS

Re "We need a fresh consensus on the Canada Pension Plan" (Report on Business, May 7): The column states that Albertans were responsible for 14 per cent of the CPP's contributions while collecting 10 per cent of the benefits. When these calculations are made, they leave out an important fact. My husband and I lived in Alberta for 40 of our prime earning years. We paid into the CPP from Alberta, but are receiving payments in British Columbia.

Any fresh consensus should consider whether our CPP payments should come from an Alberta pension plan, or whether our contributions should be considered to have come from B.C. The number of Albertans living in B.C. in retirement is considerable. The number of people who came from the East Coast to work in the oil industry will be more complicated to deal with, since their numbers fluctuated with the price of oil.

Alberta has a younger population, but that is because many of the older people have left the province. We need to be included in any future calculations.

■ Isabel Gibbins Vancouver

### CAPITAL GAINS KVETCHING

Re "For entrepreneurs, staying in Canada comes at a cost" (Report on Business, May 6): Allen Lau is the latest venture capitalist to

bemoan the increased capital gains inclusion rate. All I can do is cry me a river.

Mr. Lau states: "Just 5.3 per cent of Canadian founders believe Canada is the best place to grow a company." I guess those founders don't care about the generally lower tech-sector salaries in Canada compared with the United States, or that medical insurance for their employees is vastly lower thanks to the public medical system, or various other Canadian advantages such as an educated work force.

He then writes that the majority of investments in fast-growing Canadian companies come from outside of Canada. Isn't that a good thing? It means we're successful at attracting outside investment, which seems to belie his thesis.

Mr. Lau says that his almost billion-dollar company had a relatively minuscule payroll. Isn't that a bad thing? It means that the vast majority of the value of the company is being siphoned off at the low capital gains tax rate; how is this fair to Canada? Why should wealth created from equity be taxed less than wealth created by workers?

In 2000, the capital gains inclusion rate was lowered to 50 per cent from 75 per cent. I don't recall a vast increase in productivity around then. Rather, I recall the tech bubble bursting.

■ Dianne Skoll Ottawa

A lot of ink has been used lately on the capital gains inclusion rate change, proposed by the current Liberal government. A few points:

In the mid-1990s, the Conservative Mulroney government changed the inclusion rate to 75 per cent. In 2000, the Liberal Martin government changed the rate back to 50 per cent.

Now, in 2024, the Liberal Trudeau government proposes changing the inclusion rate to 66 per cent. And of course the opposition is screaming.

Holders of second properties are screaming. Small-business owners, doctors and dentists, who hold securities in their small-business companies (who have a very low income tax rate), are screaming.

Maybe the Conservatives should insist that the rate be reset to the policy of Brian Mulroney, a 75-per-cent inclusion rate.

I have been an accountant since 1980. On the day before every federal budget, there was panic-selling of securities of my clients, under the possibility that the tax break on capital gains would end, and make them 100-per-cent included. As it stands, even if it goes up to a 66-per-cent inclusion rate, there is still a break. Enjoy it while it lasts.

■ Craig Cherie CA (retired); Toronto

Re "How much money is too much?" (Report on Business, May 4): Finally, an article on the capital gains tax changes I could agree with.

As someone negatively affected in two ways by the recent budget's taxation changes, I have been dismayed by the belly-aching of my fellow well-off Canadians. I have been a life-long entrepreneur, building a global business and selling to my employees using an employee ownership trust years ago. Like most true entrepreneurs, my motivation and my satisfaction were never once affected by how I was taxed. With society's multiple crises, the lifeboats are in the water, people. It's time for those of us with strong arms to do the rowing, and help look after the common good rather than being focused only on our own.

■ Doug Miller Annan, Ont.

### ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM

Re "No Sex Ed, Please" Letters, May 7): A letter-writer mentions the dismal "1950s sex education scene in schools." At Humber-side Collegiate in Toronto in the mid-1950s, the mysteries of reproduction were to be revealed during classes in physical education - for boys only. What happened with the girls, I'm not quite sure.

In the event, our teacher had prepared for the initial lesson by drawing a larger-than-life depiction of the male genitalia on the blackboard. No sooner had we taken our seats than one boy threw up his hand and laughingly said, "Sir, why is there a drawing of an elephant's trunk on the board?"

With that, amid howls of laughter, gleeful shouts and general pandemonium, the teacher, a dignified man who always wore a blue suit, quickly erased the board. Thus ended my first - and last - class in sex education.

■ Lorne Hicks Keswick, Ont.

### FALSE IDOLS

Re "Playing the victim card, the Leafs look very mortal on locker clean-out day" (Sports, May 7): During the Maple Leafs' end-of-season press conference, Mitch Marnier remarked that Toronto players are "looked upon kind of as gods." Apparently they are the type you pray to and nothing happens.

■ Jonathan Taylor Lethbridge, Alta.

Letters to the Editor should be exclusive to The Globe and Mail. Include name, address and daytime phone number. Keep letters under 150 words. Letters may be edited for length and clarity. E-mail: letters@globeandmail.com

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# OPINION

## Poilievre to business: Time to suck up to me

The Conservative Leader is effectively demanding they enlist on his side and provide him with political cover

ANDREW COYNE

OPINION



Ever since the Liberals unveiled their surprise increase in the capital-gains tax in last month's budget, the question on everyone's lips has been: What will Pierre Poilievre say about it?

Well, maybe not on everyone's lips. But certainly on some people's. Conservatives, for instance. After all, conservatives are supposed to be against taxes and tax hikes, of all kinds. And leaders of the Opposition are supposed to oppose.

Surely the Conservative Leader would have to take the bait. Otherwise he would have to explain

to his followers why he had once again failed to oppose the governing Liberals on a major question of economic policy – as he had failed to do on subsidies for electric-vehicle batteries, for example, or on the ban on replacement workers.

Well, the days have just flown by, and at last we have our answer. Intriguingly, it's: "What are you asking me for?" Only instead of a craven abdication of leadership, the talented Mr. Poilievre has managed to turn it into a boast, even a philosophical credo.

In a striking piece in last Friday's National Post, Mr. Poilievre acknowledges that, indeed, investors and business leaders have been pressing him to lead the charge on the capital-gains issue. Why, they've fairly been "blowing up my phone."

They yelp: "What are you going to do about this?"

My answer: "No. What are you going to do about it?"

Whoa. Who saw that plot twist coming? But there's a point to it. Business, he complains, has been too content to roll over in the face

of Liberal "attacks" on investment and entrepreneurship. "Gutless executives" prefer to "suck up" to the Liberals, relying on their "useless and overpaid lobbyists" rather than taking their case directly to the voters.

Got a beef, then, with the Liberals? You're on your own. Why should I sell your beat?

This represents an evolution in the populist, anti-corporate pose Mr. Poilievre has been trying to strike of late. Read quickly, it might even look like Mr. Poilievre is giving business a bit of tough love, urging them to show greater self-reliance, less dependence on government.

And it's true: Business has been all too willing to cozy up to the Natural Governing Party over the years, accepting destructive and intrusive government regulations as the price of government handouts. Any leader that put a stop to this sordid exchange would earn the thanks of a grateful nation.

But if that was what Mr. Poilievre meant he could have said so. He might have said:

Don't bother coming to a

Conservative government for handouts, because we won't give you any.

And don't waste your time lobbying a Conservative government, either. We're going to do what's right for Canada, whether business likes it or not.

So: You mind your business, and I'll mind mine. I'll stay out of business, and you stay out of politics.

But that is not what he says in the piece, is it? He doesn't say he will stop giving handouts to business. And far from telling businesses to stay out of politics, he's effectively demanding they enlist on his side.

On the one hand, he warns that he won't take up any of their policy proposals unless business has already sold the public on it:

[Business] will get nothing from me unless they convince the people first ... When they start telling me about your ideas on the doorstep in Windsor, St. John's, Trois-Rivières, and Port Alberni, then I'll think about enacting it.

On the other hand, on those policies he does take up, he wants business to provide him with political cover:

If I do pursue your policy, I expect

that you will continue to advocate for it with those same Canadians in those same neighbourhoods until the policy is fully implemented.

As campaign messages go, it's pretty nifty: I won't lift a finger for you if it involves the slightest political risk to me. But I expect you to carry water for me, for as long as it takes.

It's not that he wants business to stop sucking up to the Liberals, in other words, so much as that he wants them to start sucking up to the Conservatives: preparing public opinion for policies he can then adopt in safety, and campaigning for them – and by implication him – until they have been adopted.

Notice the language, too. I, me, my. "If I pursue your policy." "I expect." "Start telling me."

I get it: He's on a roll. He obliterated his rivals in the leadership race. He's 20 points ahead in the polls. Not only does he not owe business any favours, but he's in a position to start issuing demands.

But I can't be the only one left with the impression that it all seems to have rather gone to his head.

## We are in a new space race – this time, with China

MICHAEL BYERS  
AARON BOLEY

OPINION

Michael Byers and Aaron Boley are the authors of *Who Owns Outer Space? International Law, Astrophysics, and the Sustainable Development of Space*, which is shortlisted for the Donner Prize. They are professors of law and astrophysics, respectively, at the University of British Columbia.

Chang'e, the Chinese moon goddess, has lent her name to China's lunar exploration program.

Under this divine nomenclature, a new space race is underway: Artemis, the Greek moon goddess, is the namesake of the U.S.-led lunar program, of which Canada is a part.

Tidal forces long ago synchronized the moon's rotation and orbital periods, creating a side that always faces Earth (the near side), and one that always faces away. Last week, China launched a spacecraft, Chang'e 6, to that elusive far side.

A lander will descend to the surface to collect samples. The material will then be sent to Earth through a carefully choreographed sequence involving an ascent-module spacecraft, orbiter and re-entry capsule.

Samples could help scientists understand why the near and far sides of the moon are so different from each other. They could also provide insight into the moon's magma ocean during its early evolution and its history of asteroid impacts, and they could even provide clues about Earth's history, since the Earth and the moon constitute a single celestial system.

The mostly scientific character



The Chang'e 6 lunar probe and the Long March-5 Y8 carrier rocket combination sit atop the launch pad at the Wenchang Space Launch Site in Hainan province, China on Friday. EDUARDO BAPTISTA/REUTERS

of Chang'e 6 is confirmed by the fact that France, Italy, Sweden and the European Space Agency all have instruments on board.

However, China is also interested in the extraction of lunar resources for human habitation, manufacturing, energy and rocket fuel. Accessing resources such as water-based ice will be necessary if China is to fulfill its plan for establishing a lunar research station in the 2030s.

The Artemis program, too, is aimed at both science and lunar development.

In 2025, Canadian Jeremy Hansen will fly around the moon on the Artemis II spacecraft. A follow-up mission with a crewed descent to the surface is planned

between 2027 and 2028.

Private companies are building robotic landers and rovers to conduct scientific observations and engage in prospecting, with funding from NASA and the Canadian Space Agency. A lunar space station is planned, complete with a Canadian-made robotic arm.

Yet this new space race is not a conflict. Rival countries can both compete and co-operate, as demonstrated during the Cold War.

In 1967, the U.S. and the Soviet Union led the negotiation of the Outer Space Treaty, which bans the acquisition of territory in space. The Apollo 11 mission planted a U.S. flag, but did not claim the moon for the United States. The Soviet Union, likewise,

refrained from claiming the moon when it landed robotic spacecraft there.

In 1975, the Apollo-Soyuz Project saw American and Soviet astronauts and cosmonauts spend a friendly day together in space. When the Cold War ended, the U.S. invited Russia to join the International Space Station as a full partner, which it remains to this day.

China is not the Soviet Union. But nor are current tensions between China and Western countries comparable to the nuclear brinkmanship of the Cold War.

From our vantage point in Vancouver, we see dozens of ships waiting to take Canadian

products and resources to China, evidence of a strong trading relationship.

But Western countries do need to be vigilant.

Last week, a federal commission of inquiry found that China has meddled in the last two Canadian elections. In the South China Sea and Taiwan Strait, Chinese ships and aircraft threaten American and Canadian naval vessels exercising their freedom of navigation in international waters. And China, like other countries, uses satellites to support military operations.

Yet so far, there is no evidence that China plans to militarize the moon.

In contrast, the U.S. military, through its Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, has projects under way that could easily be seen as steps toward militarization. Continuing with them could cause China to follow suit.

A space race is fine. An arms race is not, and the U.S. and other Western countries must work to avoid one.

They should also seek to improve communications with China and other spacefaring countries, and share scientific data, operational knowledge and situational awareness about the moon.

We can even imagine a joint Chang'e-Artemis mission – a meeting of moon goddesses, modelled on the Apollo-Soyuz Project.

One possible mission is a radio telescope on the far side, where the moon acts as a giant shield from Earth's radio emissions. Such a telescope would enable astronomical observations that are otherwise impossible.

It would also be a powerful reminder of our common humanity, living on this pale blue dot in the infinity of space.

## The Charter's override function must be off-limits when it comes to criminal justice

LISA KERR

OPINION

Associate professor at Queen's University's Faculty of Law

The rights of people accused of crimes are the beating heart of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Important cases about religious rights and free expression grab headlines, but criminal matters raise, by far, the most common Charter issues in our courts.

The right to reasonable bail, the presumption of innocence, the rules for police searches and surveillance, the ban on cruel and unusual punishment – these rules are meant to guarantee a fair process and outcomes we can trust. Every modern constitutional democracy protects a similar set of rights, because the power of the state to investigate, prosecute and punish is an extraordinary intrusion into individual lives.

Now, Conservative Leader Pierre Poilievre is promising a

different system if his party is elected – a return to criminal law unconstrained by Charter rights. His proposal is to start with sentencing. If his policies defy the Charter's prohibition on cruel and unusual punishment, Mr. Poilievre has a plan. "We will make them constitutional, using whatever tools the Constitution allows me to use to make them constitutional," he said last week to the Canadian Police Association. "I think you know exactly what I mean." A Conservative spokesperson confirmed that he was referring to using Section 33, the notwithstanding clause, which has never been invoked by any federal government.

While many would wish the notwithstanding clause away – how can a Charter that "guarantees" rights and freedoms also grant the power to override many of those same rights? – the truth is that it isn't going anywhere. In limited circumstances, Section 33 may function as a legitimate political check on judicial authority, enabling Canada to avoid some of the downsides of the American

constitutional system of unquestionable judicial power. We should continue to debate the rules and norms for its invocation.

And it is difficult to imagine a more inappropriate use of the notwithstanding clause than in the criminal-justice realm. The bedrock Charter rights of criminal law are the rights of an unpopular and often vulnerable minority, facing extraordinary consequences, with no political power or influence. No one should be in favour of discarding constitutional limits in this area. The results may well be permanent, too, as future politicians will find it hard to come back from this dangerous experiment.

Consider the case of Umar Zameer, who was acquitted of all charges, including first-degree murder, in the death of a Toronto police officer, as just one recent, powerful illustration of why these rights matter. Mistakes can be made, especially in the face of a tragedy that begs for answers. Prosecutors can react and overcharge. Police do not always keep accurate notes, and they do not

always provide accurate recollections in their sworn testimony. Politicians can criticize decisions before they even know the facts.

There was no criminal act nor even negligence in how Mr. Zameer responded when people in civilian clothing stopped his vehicle, which was carrying his young child and his pregnant spouse. Yet he faced the most serious penalty in Canadian law. Prosecutors would have kept him in custody for years pending trial. All that stood between Mr. Zameer and his family losing years of their life together was an independent judiciary, defence counsel and the Charter.

Mr. Poilievre may be willing to suspend Charter rights here too, if needed, for his vision of bail reform.

Mr. Poilievre prefers to focus on the case of Alexandre Bissonnette, who is already serving a sentence of life imprisonment for killing six worshippers at a Quebec City mosque. Mr. Poilievre is offended because the Supreme Court of Canada unanimously directed that Mr. Bissonnette

should have a review by the Parole Board 25 years down the road. Of course, many prisoners are held in custody in Canada well past their parole eligibility dates and until the end of their natural lives. The Parole Board is focused entirely on public safety, and pays close attention to the harm inflicted by an offence and the impact on victims. The use of the notwithstanding clause to stack life sentences to infinity would add nothing to public safety.

For a decade, Stephen Harper's government amended the criminal law in ways courts found unconstitutional. The public cost of litigating those reforms was extraordinary, and almost none of the policies remain. Mr. Poilievre knows that history. His idea now is that he will be the one to decide what rights Canadians have. We must tell him that the criminal justice system is off-limits – and that government cannot insist that Canadians obey the criminal law, while suspending the legal rules of criminal justice for itself.

GARY MASON will return.

# LIFE & ARTS

TRAVEL | OPINION | PUZZLES | WEATHER

## On safari in Kenya, I grieved my mother's death

In the African bush, big cats and baby rhinos helped me get over her loss while connecting to nature

ANNA HAINES

I'd been on safari before, but my experience was clouded by the early stages of grief.

After my mom's sudden death in 2015, I was eager to flee Toronto, where my new identity as a bereaved daughter was reflected back at me with every familiar encounter. My mom had once chased a romantic interest to South Africa, so I embarked on a low-budget safari in the country's Kruger National Park, trying to follow in her footsteps. My clearest memories from that trip are the restless nights spent tossing and turning in my sleeping bag.

Determined to try again, and to better remember the wildlife this time, I set off on a luxury safari tour in Kenya last March, for what would've been my mom's 64th birthday. I soon discovered staying in my comfort zone would only get me so far in the bush. It would take shedding my ego to really connect with nature, and by extension, myself. In doing that, I found myself finally able to experience the grief I had suppressed after losing my mother. And once I let my mom in, I began to see her everywhere.

Roughly 54 million people live in Kenya and nearly five million in Nairobi, so you can imagine my surprise when I spotted a zebra within 10 minutes of leaving the airport. But we had already crossed into Nairobi National Park, a protected area around which the capital city has grown since the park was established in 1946. Noticing my slacked jaw and wide eyes, my driver told me this was just the beginning.

Micato, my safari outfitter, took me to several environments with distinctive flora, fauna and culture to give me a full understanding of the East African country.

The morning after I arrived, we flew to Tsavo National Park, the country's largest natural park, where three hippos greeted us. The thrill was tinged with sadness when I learned the animals were so close to us because they needed to drink from the pond on the camp's property owing to drought. The dry conditions meant we spotted more wildlife on game drives. Giraffes that would normally be camouflaged behind leafy trees stood out against bare branches. On night drives, we turned our attention to the sky, a black canvas painted with the silky Milky Way and more stars than I had ever seen.



The author pets a baby rhino at the 58,000-acre Ol Jogi Conservancy. ANNA HAINES/THE GLOBE AND MAIL



Watch for lions napping in Kenya's Tsavo National Park. CLAIRE GREEN

After one day in the bush, I felt immersed in nature, but not enough to shake the city person out of me yet. When the electricity shut off at 11 p.m., as the camp did every day to preserve energy, I couldn't access my phone's nighttime meditation app without the WiFi required to download it. Without my usual white noise soundtrack to drown out my thoughts, I lay wide awake, anxiously listening to rustling in

the nearby trees and a roar from the water, which I later found out were the nocturnal sounds of an elephant and hippo, respectively. The fact that the authentic sounds of nature kept me from sleeping showed me just how badly I needed to disconnect.

The next day we flew to a camp in the Olderkesi Conservancy, a lush forest compared with Tsavo National Park's dry and barren landscape. I soaked

in a bathtub constructed out of tent canvas on the deck of one of the camp's tent accommodations, staring out at the verdant rolling hills of the famous Maasai Mara nature preserve. I needed to relax and fall asleep early for a 3 a.m. wake-up call and a sunrise hot air balloon ride. I inherited a strong dislike for mornings from my mom, but the safari was starting to open me up and this opportunity seemed too good to miss.

While there wasn't much of a sunrise that foggy morning, the hot air balloon ride provided a new perspective of the Maasai Mara from the sky, leaving me in awe of the game reserve's seemingly never-ending horizon. The views were soon forgotten on the drive to our bush breakfast, when we spotted a leopard eating the intestines of a fresh kill, trailed by two hyenas scavenging for scraps.

My own animal instincts came alive with two more cat sightings that morning – a cheetah rolling in the tall grass and two lions napping in the shade of a bush. Sitting frozen in our safari vehicle 10 feet away from the sleeping lions, I felt completely powerless.

On our way back to camp, my

tour group paused for 30 minutes to observe a herd of elephants.

The peace and contentment of the special moment made me wonder if my mom experienced anything like this when she was in South Africa. I wished I could call her to ask.

That night at our happy hour campfire, we watched Maasai tribe dancers jump to impressive heights in a dance called adumu. They gestured for us to join their circle and the exhilaration from the day propelled me from my seat.

I danced off beat as we circled the roaring fire holding hands, embracing the rare feeling of not caring how I looked.

That night alone in my room, I let memories of my mom and my grief come. I cried, realizing how I'd buried her loss for so long out of fear that letting her in would flood me with emotions. But out here in the bush, stripped of the distractions I relied on back home, that changed.

At the animal orphanage I visited the next day, a rescued cheetah, Moran, began purring as I pet her, following instructions from the orphanage attendant guiding me on a private tour. "Every time you pet a purring cat, think of me," Mom had scribbled on a napkin that I found shortly after her death. My eyes welled with tears as I reached through the fence and gently stroked the majestic cat.

On our last night, we were treated to another Maasai adumu performance around the fire after dinner. When one of the dancers grabbed my hand and pulled me into the circle, I wasn't nervous.

I stomped my feet and heaved with the sweaty bodies around me, surrendering to the syncopated rhythm. My mom, who was partly paralyzed, would have struggled to do this. I let myself shake and feel, for her, and for me.

### IF YOU GO

Founded by native Kenyans Felix and Jane Pinto nearly 60 years ago, Micato Safaris offers custom itineraries in eight African countries and in India.

Prices start at US \$13,550 for a 10-day group safari. Meals, drinks, gratuities and domestic flights are included.

Special to The Globe and Mail

This writer was a guest of Micato. The company did not review or approve this article.

## Fire Weather author John Vaillant wins political-writing prize

IAN BAILEY

John Vaillant has won the \$25,000 Shaughnessy Cohen Prize for Political Writing for his book *Fire Weather: The Making of a Beast*.

The award for the book on the 2016 Fort McMurray, Alta., forest fire was to be announced Tuesday night at the Politics and the Pen fundraising event in Ottawa.

"Like a blazing inferno that commands our attention and awe, we cannot look away from *Fire Weather*," said a citation by the jury that selected the Knopf Canada book as the best among five finalist titles.

"This is a deeply compelling, skilfully crafted story packed with information but completely free of ponderous lecturing. It is terrifying in its honest, textured description of what we have wrought in the name of progress, what we stand to lose, and where we might find the possibility of hope."

Vaillant lives in Vancouver. His previous non-fiction books include *The Golden Spruce* and *The Tiger*.

He is also the author of a novel, *The Jaguar's Children*.

*Fire Weather* has already received a number of other honours including being picked as one of The New York Times top 10 books of 2023. This week,

Vaillant was a finalist in the general non-fiction category of the Pulitzer Prize.

The jury for the Shaughnessy Cohen award consisted of past prize winner Joanna Chiu, honoured in 2022 for her book *China Unbound: A New World Disorder*, as well as past prize finalist Dale Eisler, nominated in 2023 for his book *Saskatchewan's Political and Economic Transformation*.

Former Ontario premier Kathleen Wynne was also on the panel.

Fire Weather has already received a number of other honours including being picked as one of The New York Times top 10 books of 2023. This week, Vaillant was a finalist in the general non-fiction category of the Pulitzer Prize.

The prize, named for the late Windsor, Ont., MP and sponsored by Canadian National Railway Co., honours a book of literary non-fiction that captures a political subject of relevance to Canadian readers and has the potential to shape or influence thinking on Canadian political life.

The other finalists, who receive \$2,500, were:

■ *Not Here: Why American Democracy is Eroding and How Canada Can Protect Itself*. By Rob Goodman, published by Simon & Schuster Canada.

■ *Indictment: The Criminal Justice System on Trial*. By Benjamin Perrin, published by Aevo UTP.

■ *Canada: Beyond Grudges, Grievances and Disunity*. By Donald Savoie, published by McGill-Queen's University Press.

■ *The Age of Insecurity: Coming Together as Things Fall Apart*. By Astra Taylor, published by House of Anansi Press.

## Writers Guild of Canada averts strike, pending member vote

JOSH O'KANE

The Writers Guild of Canada has reached an agreement with Canadian screen producers that will avoid a countrywide strike if its 2,500 English screenwriters choose to ratify the deal.

Union members overwhelmingly voted to authorize a strike late last month in a push for pay boosts and greater staffing minimums, as well as protections against generative artificial intelligence models that could circumvent their creative work. Though the group did not strike immediately, its members planned to use the result to affirm their bargaining position. It was the first strike authorization in the union's 33-year history.

The English-language screenwriters union and the Canadian Media Producers Association did not share details on the end of their negotiations, except to say in a joint statement issued early Tuesday that they had reached an agreement in principle. The three-year agreement must now be ratified by both parties. It was not clear when screenwriters would vote on the new details or when they would be made public.

The union, which represents writers, story editors and story consultants, has been negotiating with the producers since before their most recent Independent Production Agreement expired at the end of December. "We feel the new agreement includes important protections for Canadian screenwriters and balances the concerns of our producer partners," Victoria Shen, the union's execu-

tive director, said the joint press release.

Sean Porter, the CMPA's vice-president of national industrial relations, added that the agreement "values the important alliance that exists between Canadian screenwriters and independent producers." After the strike vote result was announced in April, Writers Guild president Alex Levine said that members' priorities in negotiations were boosted compensation from producers, particularly for animation writers' upfront script fees; increased minimum staffing on shows, particularly once they are in production; and protections for creative work against AI.

Pay and AI were at the heart of last year's Hollywood labour disputes, which included a months-long strike by the Writers Guild of America. Creatives across the film sector have been seeking protections for genuine human expression in the face of rapidly maturing generative AI services – which, in the screenwriting world, could be used by producers to augment some or all of the creative process, including the creation of drafts.

Canada's screenwriters also must live with the might of the sector's American hegemony. In a filing with the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission last year, the guild warned that the country needs to find ways to protect and fairly finance Canadian storytelling – particularly in an era when the broadcaster licence fees that fund domestic programming face a "stark decline." In the past five years, the guild said in 2023, its members saw their aggregate earnings decline by about 22 per cent when adjusted for inflation.

# My stepdaughter has taught me so much

FIRST PERSON

Her unwavering belief in the power of love has inspired me to embrace my own magic and share it with the world, **Erin Horrocks-Pope** writes

This week, readers share stories about the sadness and sweetness of mothers and mothering.

Our journey together began unexpectedly one fateful morning when her father, a man I had been seeing for several months, fell ill with a vicious 24-hour stomach bug.

Instead of adhering to my planned departure from their home before the children woke up, I found myself stepping into the role of caregiver for three young children, aged 6, 4 and 1, whom I'd only previously met in passing. His daughter was 6, and this event became a defining moment that forged an unbreakable bond between us.

Her tender heart and perceptive nature shone through while we stood at the kitchen table at the end of that very long day. Standing in silence, dicing vegetables, and tearing apart a roasted chicken for my "get well soon soup," she expressed her desire for me to marry her father. To me, this revealed her deep understanding of human emotions.

She was separating chicken meat from bone and dropping the bones into a bowl. With hands covered in chicken grease, she softly told me she could tell that her father had been sad since separating from her mother and having the family split between two households. This tore at my heart, knowing the brave face her father had been putting on for his three children as they all navigated this new shift in their family.

"You're making him happy again, and Daddy is the best when he's happy," she said innocently before exiting the kitchen to watch cartoons in the den with her brothers, leaving me in the kitchen with a mangled chicken and a deeper understanding of the path I was venturing onto.

Her words brought out how my own happiness had come back since meeting her father, and as the months progressed, our new family unit merged, and we all moved in together. And through it all, the wisdom she held beyond her years continued to astonish me.

On her seventh birthday as we sat at our dining room table, I asked her a question.

"Chicken," I said, using a term of affection

coined from our first day spent together, "What did you love most about the past year?"

Without hesitation, she replied, "Making magic happen."

She explained that her magic had brought us together. That her magic and wishes for her father and me to fall in love and for us to be a family had come true.

Through her innocent eyes, I began to see the world in a new light – where simple acts of kindness, compassion and hope wielded a power far greater than I had ever imagined.

Her words lingered in my mind. Through her, I began to understand the true essence of magic – not spells or potions, but the life-changing power of true acts of love and kindness.

Even at 7, my stepdaughter had an incredible ability to spread love and joy, with a warmth and kindness that touched everyone. Last summer, a week after I had given birth to her new sister, my stepdaughter orchestrated an extravagant, if pretend, wedding for me and her father. She made sure my parents were coming

and told them to bring flowers from their front garden. She picked out my dress, made a playlist on her phone and took on the role of officiant herself. She used skipping ropes to create an aisle, not for me to walk down but for her dad and me to meet halfway because "that's better than one person doing all the work." There was even a homemade ring.

Standing in soft grass on my painfully swollen postpartum feet, looking at her father, laughing his beautiful laugh that shines through his eyes while his eldest child performed our impromptu ceremony under the trees, I understood that the truest magic lies in the bonds we forge and the love we share.

This February, on my stepdaughter's eighth birthday, she again shared her thoughts on the nature of magic and love. "I think that our magic comes from our love," she said. "The more love you have and show people, the more magic grows inside you to use again for loving more and making more people feel love."

In my stepdaughter, I have been blessed to find a mentor, guiding me on a

journey of self-discovery and enlightenment. Her unwavering belief in the power of love has inspired me to embrace my own magic and share it with the world.

My stepdaughter's insights into the nature of love and magic have left an extraordinary mark on my soul. I am excited to see how her magic will continue to unfold as she further develops into adolescence and womanhood. As we continue to navigate the ups and downs of life together, I am filled with gratitude for the lessons this sweet and insightful child have taught me about the infinite possibilities within each of us.

With her by my side, I walk through life with a newfound sense of purpose and gratitude, knowing that our love has the power to change lives and shape destinies.

This little girl, beautiful inside and out, has taught me so much.

Erin Horrocks-Pope lives in Toronto.

First Person is a daily personal piece submitted by readers. Have a story to tell? See our guidelines at [tgam.ca/essayguide](https://tgam.ca/essayguide).



ILLUSTRATION BY JULIANA NEUFELD

## Unusual documentary explores tough life and rich mind of homeless man

KATE TAYLOR

Hoping to make a film about homelessness, Melanie Shatzky and Brian Cassidy had been volunteering at a Montreal shelter for months when they ran into Lloyd.

Identified only by his first name to protect his identity, Lloyd became the subject of *A Man Imagined*, the new documentary from the couple, who specialize in artistic approaches to difficult subjects. (*The Patron Saints*, their prescient 2011 film, was shot inside a nursing home.) Produced by the National Film Board of Canada, it will make its North American premiere at the Doxa festival in Vancouver Wednesday after a world premiere in Rotterdam.

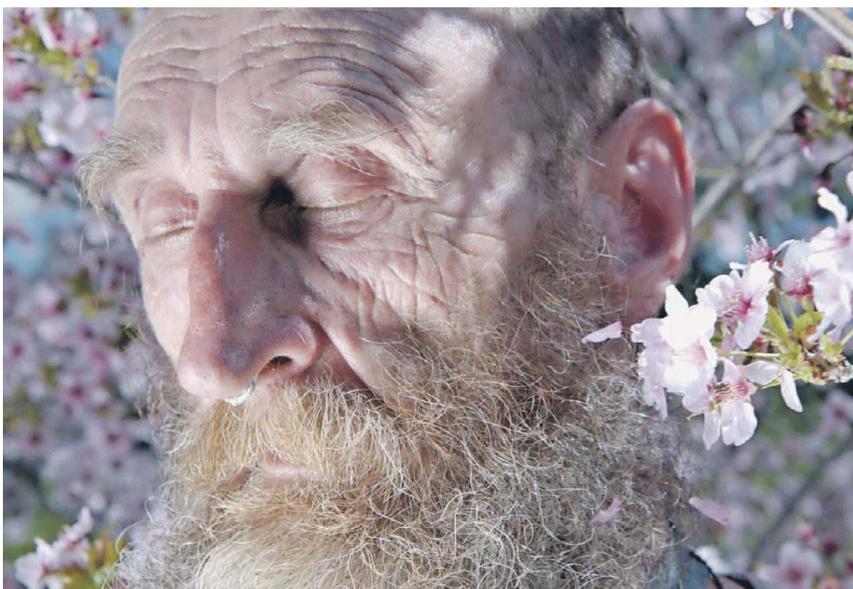
"We thought we would make a panoramic about people experiencing homelessness. We met a lot of really interesting people," Shatzky said. "But at the year mark, we met Lloyd."

"He had a real aura and a presence about him that was totally captivating to us," Cassidy said. "Lloyd approached us and showed great interest in the process. It became clear to us that as much as we wanted to make something with this man, he also had this desire to be seen, to participate."

"And to create," Shatzky adds.

*A Man Imagined* is more a portrait of one person's life and way of being rather than a narrative documentary. In an unusual collaboration that lasted 2½ years, the filmmakers shot both interviews and agreed-upon scenes, following Lloyd's life on the streets and his occasional retreat to the shelter where they met him. The film shows him sleeping rough in a doorway on a winter night and attempting to survive by selling discarded objects – a coffee maker, a plastic pony – to passersby. In one scene he trudges between parked cars and trucks offering an incongruous pair of pink curtains to the drivers.

But the film also evokes Lloyd's sensitivities. "He's a very kind and gentle person who is very curious about the details of the world



A screen capture of *A Man Imagined*, a documentary by Melanie Shatzky and Brian Cassidy, who collaborate with Lloyd, is about a homeless man with a connection to creativity and nature.



In an unusual collaboration that lasted 2½ years, the filmmakers shot both interviews and agreed-upon scenes, following Lloyd's life on the streets and his occasional retreat to the shelter where they met him.

around him," Shatzky said. "He notices everything. He is very creative – he picks up all kinds of things from the ground and will string together outfits based on what he has collected."

To capture their subject's potent observation of his surroundings and connection to the natural

world, Shatzky and Cassidy included scenes in nature, in particular with animals, where intense lighting and sound create an effect that is almost surreal.

"Melanie and I are visual artists and our interest in cinema-making goes beyond journalistic storytelling. We look for people in

our films, protagonists that have something that is very striking in their aspect," Cassidy adds. "I think what we're looking for in a way is a certain bare essence, a person's – without sounding too lofty – a person's soul."

Lloyd speaks often about his childhood on a farm, and tells a story about rescuing kittens from a sack in which they were about to be drowned. Otherwise, his past is rather mysterious.

"We're not holding any cards that we don't show," Cassidy adds, pointing to a scene where he and Shatzky ask Lloyd questions about his past as all the information they have.

He is identified as schizophrenic although he always appears lucid on camera. Now in late middle age, he recounts an odd story about his youth: He says his parents were murdered when he was young by a friend who wanted to give Lloyd his freedom.

"Believe that he believes it. It is his reality. His reality is different from most people's reality," Shatzky said. "There is some unknowable trauma about his child-

hood, some kind of separation with his parents that he can't reconcile, a rupture of sorts."

However, the film does not dwell on Lloyd's sorrows: He talks at one point about buying a pipe, but Shatzky and Cassidy do not explore his addictions, concentrating instead on his street smarts. The filmmakers paid Lloyd as they would an actor: "Enough that he was valued, but not enough where he would get into trouble," Shatzky said.

They remain in regular touch – "He's part of our extended family," Cassidy said – and are optimistic that he can continue living his own way.

"It seems like his life is filled with chaos and intense risk, which, to some degree, it is. But he's also a very careful and calculating person," Cassidy said. "We certainly didn't pity him while we were making the movie and he doesn't pity himself."

Doxa continues in Vancouver until Sunday.

### TODAY'S SUDOKU SOLUTION

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

### TODAY'S KENKEN SOLUTION

7+	13+	2	5	3±	24x
1	3	2	5	6	4
11+	3-	1	3	2	6
4	5	1	3	2	6
2	6	4	1	3	5
5-	1	5	2	4	3
180x	3±	3	2	6	4
3	2	6	4	5	1
5	4	3	6	1	2

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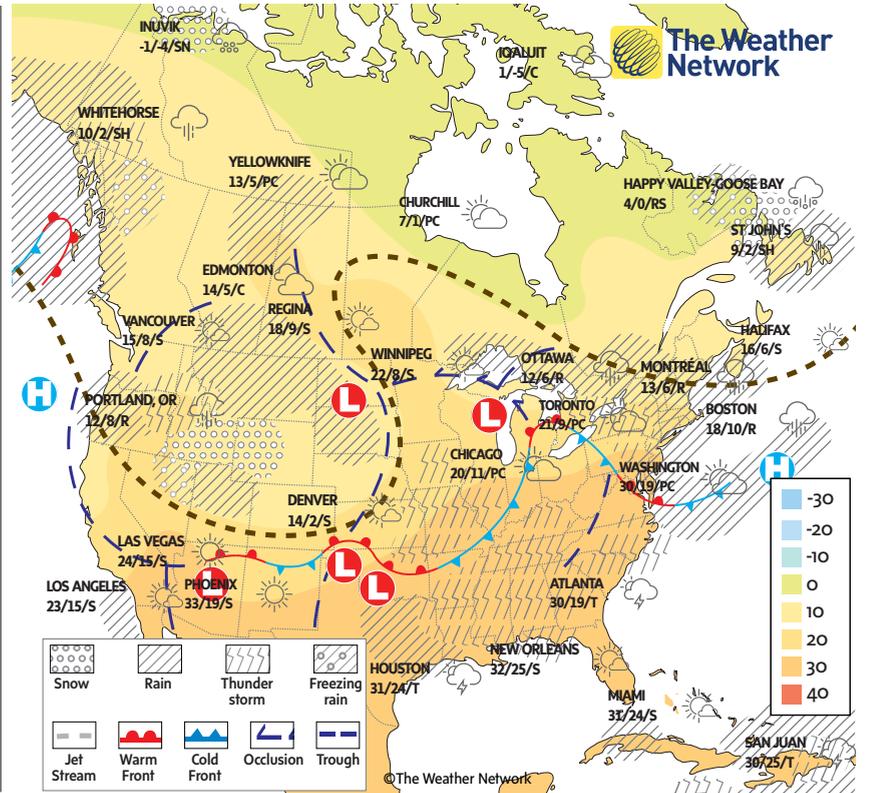
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**WORLD FORECAST**

	TODAY	TOMORROW	FRIDAY
AMSTERDAM	16/7 SH	19/9 S	21/11 S
ATHENS	24/18 PC	21/15 C	20/12 C
BANGKOK	35/29 T	33/27 T	33/28 T
BEIJING	30/17 S	31/20 PC	28/18 SH
BERLIN	18/6 PC	20/11 PC	20/11 PC
BRUSSELS	15/8 SH	18/9 C	21/11 PC
COPENHAGEN	13/8 PC	14/11 C	14/10 C
FRANKFURT	15/8 C	19/8 S	20/9 PC
HONG KONG	27/24 C	25/23 C	25/25 SH
JERUSALEM	23/17 S	30/21 S	33/17 PC
LAS VEGAS	24/15 S	27/17 S	29/19 S
LONDON	20/11 S	22/12 S	23/12 PC
LOS ANGELES	23/15 S	23/15 S	23/15 S
MADRID	24/12 PC	26/15 PC	27/15 S
MIAMI	31/24 S	32/24 S	33/24 S
MOSCOW	6/2 SH	5/0 SH	10/5 S
NEW DELHI	41/27 S	41/28 S	42/28 S
NEW YORK	26/12 T	21/10 R	14/8 SH
NICE	19/14 S	22/15 S	21/16 S
ORLANDO	35/23 S	36/23 S	34/23 T
PARIS	19/8 S	20/10 PC	22/11 S
PHOENIX	33/19 S	32/20 S	34/21 S
ROME	23/14 SH	26/13 SH	26/13 SH
SAN FRANCISCO	19/13 S	23/12 S	18/11 S
SEOUL	21/10 S	21/11 S	22/13 PC
SINGAPORE	29/27 T	30/27 T	29/26 T
SYDNEY	20/15 SH	19/15 SH	19/15 SH
TOKYO	20/11 SH	16/11 PC	21/15 S
WASHINGTON	30/19 PC	24/16 SH	21/13 SH

**NATIONAL FORECAST**

	TODAY	TOMORROW	FRIDAY
BANFF	11/-1 C	14/0 S	14/2 S
BARRIE	18/6 T	12/8 R	12/6 PC
BRANDON	19/5 PC	22/9 S	17/5 SH
CALGARY	12/1 C	18/3 S	22/7 S
CHARLOTTETOWN	9/4 S	9/0 SH	10/4 PC
CHICOUTIMI	12/2 PC	14/3 PC	14/2 S
CHURCHILL	7/1 PC	9/1 SH	3/2 RS
CORNER BROOK	9/1 SH	8/0 PC	11/3 PC
CORNWALL	12/7 R	15/9 SH	11/6 R
EDMONTON	14/5 C	18/2 S	24/13 S
HALIFAX	16/6 S	10/5 R	8/6 R
HAMILTON	23/8 S	11/9 R	12/5 SH
HUNTSVILLE	14/4 R	14/8 SH	14/5 PC
IQALUIT	1/5 C	1/8 C	-1/8 C
JASPER	13/-1 S	17/0 S	17/2 S
KELOWNA	20/6 S	23/7 S	25/9 S
KINGSTON	17/8 T	14/10 R	11/6 R
LONDON	23/8 S	15/9 R	14/5 SH
MONTREAL	13/6 R	15/9 PC	11/6 R
NIAGARA FALLS	21/10 T	13/9 R	12/7 SH
NORTH BAY	10/4 R	14/6 PC	14/5 S
OTTAWA	12/6 R	16/8 PC	12/6 SH
PRINCE GEORGE	17/3 PC	20/5 S	24/8 S
PETERBOROUGH	18/7 T	13/9 R	12/6 SH
QUÉBEC	13/5 R	13/7 PC	12/6 PC
REGINA	18/9 S	19/7 S	18/7 S
SASKATOON	20/10 S	19/7 S	20/12 S
SAULT STE MARIE	14/6 R	14/6 PC	13/5 S
SAINT JOHN	12/7 S	12/5 R	9/5 R
SEPTÎLES	7/2 PC	6/1 S	6/3 S
ST. JOHN'S	9/2 SH	5/2 PC	5/1 PC
SUDBURY	11/4 R	14/6 PC	16/4 S
THUNDER BAY	16/3 PC	13/3 S	14/5 S
THOMPSON	15/5 S	17/5 SH	15/6 PC
TORONTO	21/9 PC	12/10 R	12/6 SH
VAL-D'OR	12/4 PC	14/3 PC	15/4 S
VANCOUVER	15/8 S	21/11 S	22/11 S
VICTORIA	17/9 S	22/11 S	15/12 S
WHISTLER	16/5 S	21/9 S	22/10 S
WHITEHORSE	10/2 SH	9/3 R	7/3 RS
WINNIPEG	22/8 S	22/10 S	17/4 SH
YELLOWKNIFE	13/5 PC	16/4 S	15/4 PC



**LEGEND**  
 Daytime high, overnight low, and conditions

C CLOUDY	RS RAIN/SNOW
FG FOG	S SUN
FR FREEZING RAIN	SN SNOW
HZ HAZE	SF SNOW FLURRIES
NA NOT AVAILABLE	SH SHOWERS
PC PARTLY CLOUDY	T THUNDERSTORMS
R RAIN	W WINDY

**BRIDGE**  
 BY STEVE BECKER  
 WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 2024

South dealer.  
 North-South vulnerable.

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1[H]	Pass	1[S]	Pass
2[D]	Pass	4 NT	Pass
5[H]	Pass	5 NT	Pass
6[D]	Pass	7[D]	

Opening Lead – queen of clubs.

**NORTH**  
 ♠ A Q 9 7 4  
 ♥ K 10  
 ♦ K Q 8 5  
 ♣ A 6

**WEST**  
 ♠ J 8 3  
 ♥ 6 5 3  
 ♦ 3  
 ♣ Q J 10 8 7 2

**EAST**  
 ♠ K 10 5 2  
 ♥ 8 7 4  
 ♦ 10 9 6 2  
 ♣ 4 3

**SOUTH**  
 ♠ 6  
 ♥ A Q J 9 2  
 ♦ A J 7 4  
 ♣ K 9 5

A blind spot can occur at any time and to anyone during the play of a hand. The victim is often unaware of his transgression until it is later pointed out by someone (usually a spluttering partner), and he is then at a loss to explain why he did what he did.

That is what happened to South on this deal, where a blind spot cost him a cold grand slam. West led the queen of clubs, taken by dummy's ace. With 12 sure tricks in view, South planned to score a 13th by ruffing a club in dummy after drawing the opposing trumps.

Accordingly, he cashed the A-K of trump, but when West showed out at trick three, South was forced to put his plan to draw trump on hold. Instead, he led a club to the king and ruffed his third club with dummy's eight. East overruffed, and the slam was kaput.

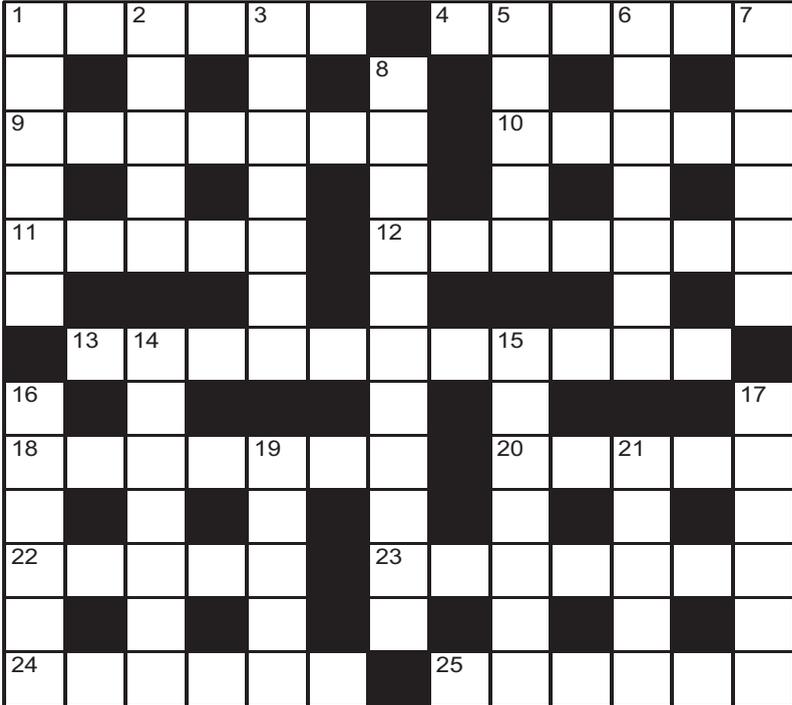
South was undeniably unlucky to find the trumps divided 4-1 and the clubs 6-2, but North pointed out a simple line of play that was virtually foolproof. It would fail only if East was void in either hearts or spades, and thus offered a far better chance of success than playing three

rounds of clubs without East ruffing.

North pointed out that at trick four, after cashing the A-K of trump, South should have played dummy's ace of spades and ruffed a spade with the seven. South would next cash the jack of diamonds, cross to dummy's king of hearts and draw East's last trump with the queen, discarding his losing club. South could then claim the rest with the high hearts in his hand.

Poor South had to agree with his partner's analysis and was left to wonder where he was when the lights went out.

**CHALLENGE CROSSWORD**



**CRYPTIC CLUES**

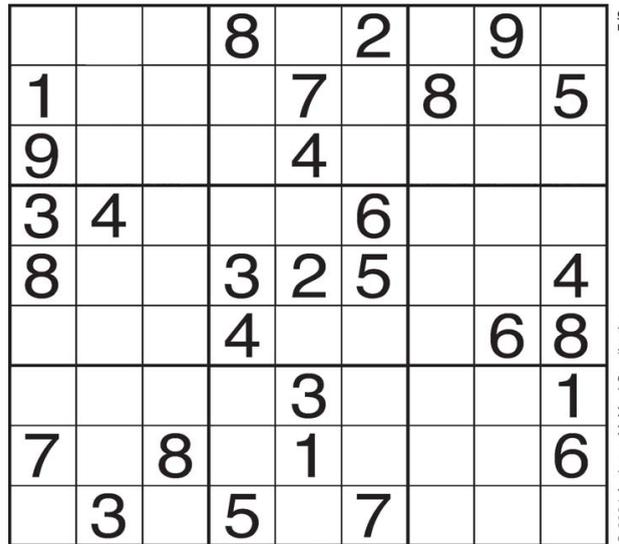
- ACROSS**
- Intently study for every purpose (6)
  - One paw may be raised in self-defence (6)
  - A returned high ball is hard to stop (7)
  - Prize for one part of the hospital (5)
  - Designed as Manet reproduction (5)
  - He comes in for ill-treatment (7)
  - Cautiously asking why the plumbing is wrong (8,3)
  - He gets a call for an audience (7)
  - Young swimmer in wild revel (5)
  - Diana is out to become a nymph (5)
  - Expulsion got us in trouble (7)
  - Ex-star perhaps seen in crowd scenes (6)
  - Article getting serious towards the end (6)
- DOWN**
- Afterthought on charity recorded in hymns (6)
  - Spanish wine jar I smashed when empty (5)
  - A cheese with high standing? (7)
  - Lift up a broken axle on old car model (5)
  - French dish with water that's flat (7)
  - Lack of clothes may be seen as untidy (6)
  - Innocent youngster who is cruelly treated (8,3)
  - I'd eat no differently though trying to slim (2,1,4)
  - Tentative answers may be written in pencil (7)
  - Uncertain opportunity (6)
  - Dress I put on about spring (6)
  - Land part in 'Diamond Lil' (5)
  - Something wicked about 'Nothing to declare'? (5)

**QUICK CLUES**

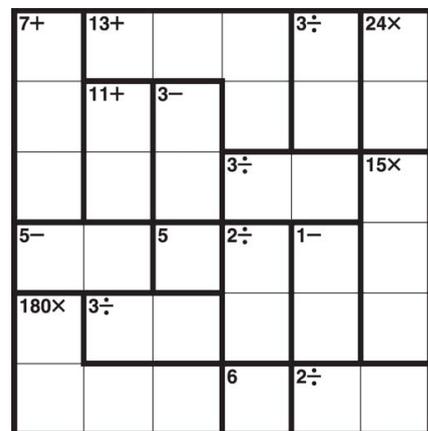
- ACROSS**
- Grassy treeless Eurasian plain (6)
  - Distorted (6)
  - Uncouth (7)
  - Trite (5)
  - Proficient (5)
  - On the way (2,5)
  - Function with great success (2,5,4)
  - Earthshaking (7)
  - Insurgent (5)
  - The Hunter constellation (5)
  - Inferior in quality (2,1,4)
  - Cheap showy brilliance (6)
  - Nothing but (6)
- DOWN**
- Underground passage (6)
  - Inspire (5)
  - Indication (7)
  - Honey-yellow colour (5)
  - A flightless seabird (7)
  - Sweet-sounding (6)
  - Chief support in emergency (5,6)
  - Estimation (7)
  - Relevant (7)
  - Accompany as guard (6)
  - Point-blank (6)
  - Grind into small pieces (5)
  - Financially ruined (5)

**SUDOKU**

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★☆☆



**INSTRUCTIONS** Fill in the grid so that each row of nine squares, each column of nine and each section of nine (three squares by three) contains the numbers 1 through 9 in any order. There is only one solution to each puzzle.



**KENKEN**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 through 6 without repeating.
- The numbers within the heavily outlined boxes, called cages, must combine using the given operation (in any order) to produce the target numbers in the top-left corners.

Freebies: Fill in 3 single-box cages with the numbers in the top-left corner.

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**YESTERDAY'S CRYPTIC**

ACROSS: 1 Snooker, 5 Sisal, 8 Infant prodigy, 9 Grasp, 10 Inkwell, 11 Hiding, 12 Eighty, 15 In depth, 17 Pasta, 19 Press one's suit, 20 Noses, 21 Dresser.  
 DOWN: 1 Sling, 2 Offhandedness, 3 Kingpin, 4 Repair, 5 Stock, 6 Spikes his guns, 7 Loyalty, 11 Hairpin, 13 Impasse, 14 Whined, 16 Posts, 18 Actor.

**YESTERDAY'S QUICK**

ACROSS: 1 Ruffian, 5 Storm, 8 Pain in the neck, 9 Least, 10 Venison, 11 Adduce, 12 Uranus, 15 Sequoia, 17 Faint, 19 At a standstill, 20 Elect, 21 Relieve.  
 DOWN: 1 Repel, 2 Fair and square, 3 Idiotic, 4 Native, 5 Sheen, 6 Oversensitive, 7 Makings, 11 Assuage, 13 Refusal, 14 Banner, 16 Octet, 18 Tulle.

Solutions to today's Sudoku and Kenken can be found in the Life & Arts content area of the A section. Crossword solutions will be with tomorrow's puzzles.

# Biden condemns antisemitism at remembrance ceremony

President speaks amid increased concerns sparked by university campus protests against Israel's war on Gaza

DAVID SHRIBMAN

ANALYSIS

U.S. President Joe Biden condemned what he called “a ferocious surge of antisemitism in America and around the world,” and said that an upswing in such incidents is “absolutely despicable and it must stop.”

He made his remarks on Tuesday at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum’s annual Days of Remembrance ceremony, which every president has addressed since the museum opened in Washington 31 years ago. This time, the President’s words were infused with an unusual poignancy. He was speaking after months of renewed concern about antisemitism, particularly on university campuses, where students have protested, camped on lawns and occupied buildings in opposition to Israel’s war in the Gaza Strip.

“I am calling on all Americans to stand united against antisemitism and hate in all its forms,” said Mr. Biden, whose three children all married into Jewish families. He addressed Jewish Americans directly, saying, “I see your fear and your heart.”

“You are not alone,” he added. “You belong. You always have and always will.”

Mr. Biden said he had taken his grandchildren to tour the remains of the Nazi concentration camp at Dachau, Germany. He spoke of a hatred that “continues to live deep in the hearts of too many people in the world,” and condemned the Oct. 7 Hamas attack on Israel, which sparked the war.

A day before Mr. Biden’s remarks, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Conservative Party Leader Pierre Poilievre, appear-



U.S. President Joe Biden holds a photograph of Holocaust victims at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum’s annual Days of Remembrance ceremony in Washington on Tuesday. EVELYN HOCKSTEIN/REUTERS

In co-ordination with Mr. Biden’s speech on Tuesday, his administration released guidelines for how educational institutions should define antisemitic discrimination and other hate speech that could lead to federal prosecutions

ing at a similar event in Ottawa, spoke out against antisemitism in Canada. The leaders made the remarks the same day B’nai Brith Canada, a Jewish human-rights organization, released a report saying that the number of antisemitic incidents in Canada had reached a record high in 2023, with more than twice as many episodes as the group recorded in 2022.

“These kinds of speeches in Ottawa and Washington are meaningful, they are validating and they provide an opportunity to set out initiatives to address the situation we are confronted with today,” Shimon Koffler Fogel, the chief executive officer of the Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs, the advocacy group for Jewish federations across Canada, said in an interview. “These speeches do more than bring a degree of comfort. They bring some reassurance to the Jewish community that is under such pressure today.”

The group is supporting Ontario’s Bill 166, which would give the province oversight of post-secondary institutions’ anti-racism policies. The proposed legislation has sparked concern

among some educators about political interference.

A year ago, Mr. Biden created the National Strategy to Counter Antisemitism. During his Holocaust-remembrance speech, the President said the new agency is now “mobilizing the full force of the federal government to protect Jewish communities.”

In co-ordination with Mr. Biden’s speech on Tuesday, his administration released guidelines for how educational institutions should define antisemitic discrimination and other hate speech that could lead to federal prosecutions.

The President made his speech less than a week after the U.S. House of Representatives, by a 320-91 vote, approved an antisemitism bill that soon will go before the Senate. The measure would require the federal Department of Education, for the purposes of enforcing anti-discrimination laws, to employ the definition of antisemitism crafted by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance. This is a standard used in half the American states that some civil libertarians nonetheless consider a breach of freedom of expression,

and that others have said unfairly conflates criticism of Israel with hatred of Jewish people.

The American Jewish Committee said in its 2023 report on antisemitism that nearly 63 per cent of American Jews had told a survey that the status of Jews in the U.S. had grown less secure over the past year. Three out of four American Jews said the Hamas attacks made them feel less safe at home, and about half said fear of antisemitism had prompted them to alter their behaviour.

The problem seems most acute on university campuses. A quarter of current or recent Jewish college students said they felt uncomfortable or unsafe at campus events, according to a leading advocacy group for Jews and Israel. A quarter also said they had avoided wearing or carrying identifying religious objects.

Mr. Biden said there is “no place on any campus” for antisemitic rhetoric or acts.

There is political advantage for Mr. Biden in saying these things. He took 68 per cent of the Jewish vote in 2020, and Jews have supported the Democratic nominee in every election in the past 100 years – sometimes, as in 1940 and 1944 for Franklin Delano Roosevelt, and in 1964 for Lyndon Johnson, at levels at or beyond 90 per cent.

Some Democrats believe such remarks enhance Mr. Biden’s profile as the November election approaches.

“In this election, when it comes down to the swing voters who are still undecided – maybe a very small percentage – a president who consistently does his best to demonstrate moral leadership will benefit,” said Steven Grossman, a former chairman of the Democratic National Committee and a former president of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, the leading pro-Israel lobby group. “These kinds of speeches, this kind of rhetoric, the moral clarity in trying to turn language into positive action, makes a difference.”

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# WOMEN ARE SACRED

HALF OF ALL  
CANADIAN WOMEN  
HAVE EXPERIENCED  
PHYSICAL OR  
SEXUAL VIOLENCE



MOOSE HIDE  
CAMPAIGN  
CAMPAGNE  
MOOSE HIDE

## MOOSE HIDE CAMPAIGN DAY TAKE ACTION ◆ MAY 16, 2024

### Stand against gender-based violence in Canada

Started along Canada's infamous Highway of Tears, the Moose Hide Campaign is an Indigenous-led grassroots movement of men, boys and all Canadians, who are standing up against gender-based violence.

A cornerstone of the campaign is wearing the moose hide pin, which commits you to honour, respect, and protect the women and children in your life. Wearing one moose hide pin sparks five conversations about reconciliation and gender-based violence.

You can help end violence against women and children. Join us on May 16 as we bring Canadians together from coast, to coast, to coast – continuing our collective journey of reconciliation to create a country free of violence for all.

Together, let's take action to end violence toward women and children and create a culture of love, respect and healthy masculinity. Everyone is invited to participate.

*Register at:*

**MOOSEHIDECAMPAIGN.CA**

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MOOSE HIDE



# REPORT ON BUSINESS

OTTAWA/QUEBEC EDITION ■ WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 2024 ■ GLOBEANDMAIL.COM

 <b>S&amp;P/TSX</b> 22,290.62 +31.15	 <b>DOW</b> 38,884.26 +31.99	 <b>S&amp;P 500</b> 5,187.70 +6.96	 <b>NASDAQ</b> 16,332.56 -16.69	 <b>DOLLAR</b> 72.97/1.3705 -0.24/+0.0044	 <b>GOLD (oz.)</b> US\$2,324.20 -7.00	 <b>OIL (WTI)</b> US\$78.38 -0.10	 <b>GCAN (10-YR)</b> 3.58% -0.03
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## Ottawa urges more support for riskier businesses

Crown corporations such as BDC, EDC get mandate to free up capital for more uncertain ventures

**CHRIS HANNAY**  
INDEPENDENT BUSINESS REPORTER

Ottawa is directing Crown corporations that finance small and medium-sized businesses to increase their risk appetite to get more dollars flowing to Canadian companies.

The new direction, mentioned in last month's federal budget, is being worked out between the Department of Finance and three Crown corporations: the Business Development Bank of Canada (BDC), Export Development Canada (EDC) and Farm Credit Canada.

The budget includes an amended capital and dividend policy framework that di-

rects the Crown corporations to target their solvency rating at a lower level than before (to A from AA), and not to benchmark their finances against those of private banks. The goal is to free up funds that could then be used to support more and potentially riskier businesses.

It is part of the federal government's plan to use what policy tools it has at its disposal to attract more investment into the economy, along with such measures as the highly publicized efforts to encourage the country's major pension funds to invest in more Canadian projects.

BDC and EDC have played increasingly active roles in recent years in providing loans and investments to small and medium-sized businesses. According to data

provided by EDC, it made \$18-million in direct investments and \$198-million in fund investments in 2013. That total amount had nearly tripled a decade later, with EDC making \$320-million in direct investments and \$265-million in fund investments in 2023.

"They are very important players," said Kim Furlong, chief executive officer of the Canadian Venture Capital and Private Equity Association.

Those investments have already paid rewards to the Crown corporations. BDC's venture-capital division, for example, generated \$902-million in net income in the 2021 fiscal year and \$988-million in 2022, according to financial statements.

■ CORPORATIONS, B5

## Hudson's Bay says it will close its store in downtown Regina in 2025

**SUSAN KRASHINSKY ROBERTSON**  
RETAILING REPORTER

Hudson's Bay Co. plans to close its store in downtown Regina next year after 55 years in the city, the latest in a series of cuts as the department store chain copes with pressure on its business.

The announcement of the closing follows dozens of job cuts disclosed last week, part of an effort at "right-sizing" the business, according to Hudson's Bay. The shutdown of the Regina store, which is located in the Cornwall Centre shopping mall, will mean a further 60 job losses, spokesperson Tiffany Bourre wrote in a statement.

"HBC continually evaluates its real estate portfolio and looks at opportunities to optimize holdings," Ms. Bourre wrote. "Through normal course of business, Hudson's Bay has made the decision not to renew the lease for the Hudson's Bay store at Cornwall Centre in Regina. With the lease expiring, the Hudson's Bay store will close to the public in April 2025."

The closing will leave Canada's oldest retailer with just one store in Saskatchewan, in Saskatoon, as well as its online store.

"We thank our customers in Regina for their patronage and hope to continue serving the community," Ms. Bourre wrote.

Retailers such as Hudson's Bay that sell non-essential products have been struggling to attract shoppers, as months of inflation and higher interest rates have led many consumers to cut back on spending.

■ HBC, B5

[ TECHNOLOGY ]

## CEO EMERGES FROM CLOUD WITH AI VOW

Chuck Robbins admits Cisco missed first wave of cloud computing revolution, but now he says his company is ready to leverage artificial intelligence ■ B3



After cutting about 4,200 jobs and making a big cybersecurity acquisition, Cisco Systems CEO Chuck Robbins says he anticipates AI-driven dividends ahead. CHRISTOPHER KATSAROV/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

## Airports represent opportunity for pension funds as domestic investment set to soar

**KONRAD YAKBUSKI**

OPINION

Canada's biggest pension funds have pushed back hard against calls from business leaders and politicians alike to invest more of their assets in the domestic economy. Yet, there is at least one sector in which they would be thrilled to stash more of future pensioners' cash without arm-twisting or coercion - the country's capital-starved airports.

Most of the Maple 8, as Canada's eight largest pension funds are collectively known, have been investing in foreign airports for years, capitalizing on a global boom in air travel that - after being halted during the COVID-19 pandemic - has resumed with no end in sight. Despite the huge carbon footprint of big jets, more people than ever are choosing to fly.

The International Air Transport Association, the trade group for 320 airlines, last week reported that global demand (measured in revenue passenger kilometres) was up 13.8 per cent in March over the same month in 2023. According to IATA's projections, some 4.7 billion people are expected to fly in 2024, surpassing the

prepandemic record of 4.5 billion in 2019.

Canadian airports have seen passenger traffic rebound sharply since the pandemic and need to invest massively to maintain and expand infrastructure to keep pace with demand. But as non-share capital corporations that operate under long-term leases from the federal government, the country's main airport authorities cannot sell stock to raise capital. That has left them too dependent on debt financing and dreaded "airport improvement fees" to fund infrastructure upgrades and much-needed digital investments to improve service.

That could soon change. In last month's federal budget, Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland specifically singled out airports as a possible candidate for pension-fund investment that a new working group led by former Bank of Canada governor Stephen Poloz has been mandated to explore.

Transport Canada is expected to issue a policy statement this summer that is to clarify how pension funds could invest in airports "under the current governance model."

"We're looking for more flexibility so we can grow faster," Canadian Airports Council president Monette Pasher said.

■ YAKBUSKI, B4

BANKING

TD CEO tells staff he's 'deeply disappointed' by AML failings ■ B2

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Major carriers cause no harm as fibre-network wholesalers: CRTIC ■ B5

GLOBE INVESTOR

Investors have time to plan for June 25 capital-gains change ■ B8

### COMPANIES

AKITA DRILLING .....	B9
APPLE .....	B3
CANADIAN TIRE .....	B9
GEORGE WESTON .....	B5
HÉROUX-DEVTEK .....	B9
MEG ENERGY .....	B6
5N PLUS .....	B9
THEISIS GOLD .....	B9
WALT DISNEY .....	B2

## Suncor posts second-highest annual output, touts clean safety record

**EMMA GRANEY**  
ENERGY REPORTER

Suncor Energy Inc. reported its second-highest level of production ever and a record-high dividend per share last year after several years of lacklustre performance that had made it a target for activist shareholders in 2022.

The energy giant produced an average of 746,000 barrels a day in 2023, chief executive Rich Kruger told shareholders at the company's annual meeting on Tuesday. Suncor's bitumen upgraders also processed a record amount, reaching a 92-per-cent utilization rate and hitting 99 per cent in the second half of 2023.

Suncor's safety record has also improved markedly. Mr. Kruger said 2023 was the safest year in the company's history, with no deaths, or life-threatening or life-altering injuries of any kind.

Two years ago, activist hedge fund Elliott Investment Management LP launched a campaign to oust several directors at the Calgary-based producer and explore a sale of its Petro-Canada gas station chain. Suncor's share price had underperformed rivals since 2020, and Elliott wanted then-CEO Mark Little to be removed from the helm.

Elliott also took issue with Suncor's safety record, pointing to the fact 12 employees and contractors had died working at Suncor sites since 2014. Mr. Little resigned in July, 2022, one day after another fatality at one of the company's oil sands facilities.

■ SUNCOR, B4

## SPORTS

■ B11-B15

**HOCKEY** Oilers and Canucks set to revisit playoff rivalry after three-decade wait ■ B11

**FOOTBALL** The CFL has suspended Argos quarterback Chad Kelly for at least nine games ■ B11

# TD CEO says money-laundering failings being fixed

**Bharat Masrani and other top leaders discuss with staff what the bank is doing to address concerns**

**STEFANIE MAROTTA**  
BANKING REPORTER

**Toronto-Dominion Bank's** chief executive officer Bharat Masrani and top leaders have done a tour of employee meetings with executives to ease concerns stemming from a lengthy probe by U.S. regulators and law enforcement agencies into weaknesses in the lender's anti-money-laundering processes.

Reports that surfaced last week provided the first glimpse into TD's anti-money-laundering gaps. The investigations by U.S. officials are tied to a US\$653-million money-laundering and drug-trafficking operation, providing a

long-awaited look into the issues that derailed TD's major acquisition of Tennessee-based First Horizon Corp. last year.

In response to the news, Mr. Masrani and his executive team – including U.S. head Leo Salom, TD Securities head Riaz Ahmed, Canadian business banking head Barbara Hooper, wealth and insurance head Tim Wiggan and Canadian personal banking head Raymond Chun – embarked on a round of calls with the most senior leaders in their businesses, according to a source.

The Globe and Mail is not naming the source because they were not authorized to speak publicly about the matter.

The bank is facing monetary and non-monetary penalties as a result of a U.S. investigation, and analysts and investors have pointed to concerns around the bank's growth prospects and its succession plans.

TD's senior executive team spoke to employees about the work the bank is doing to reme-

diate its anti-money-laundering practices, and reassure their teams that they are working to resolve the matter, the source said.

"We will continue our discussions with all the U.S. authorities and the Department of Justice in the United States, and I'm hoping that we can resolve this as soon as possible," Mr. Masrani said during a town hall meeting with employees, according to a transcript viewed by The Globe. "We're looking at a global resolution. But in the meantime, it is critical that we hold our heads high."

In an internal memo to employees, Mr. Masrani said TD is overhauling its anti-money-laundering program by hiring new leaders and hundreds of employees, redesigning controls, building new processes, deploying new technology and implementing improved training. The bank has also invested more than half a billion dollars in remediating its anti-money-laundering program.

"We did not meet our expectations or our regulatory

obligations to monitor, detect, report and respond to suspicious activity. As a result, criminals broke through our defences and used the bank to launder money," Mr. Masrani said in the memo viewed by The Globe.

"This is absolutely unacceptable. While our systems stopped a lot of activity, I am deeply disappointed there were serious instances where we failed to stop these criminals. It goes against our values and everything we believe."

Early last week, TD said it is setting aside US\$450-million to cover penalties stemming from an investigation, but added the provision does not reflect the final amount of the potential monetary penalties or any non-monetary penalties.

Later in the week, news emerged that the lead defendant in the money-laundering and drug-trafficking operation, Da Ying Sze, who goes by David, pleaded guilty in 2022 to laundering hundreds of millions of

dollars in cash, "consisting of narcotics and other illicit proceeds, utilizing a variety of financial institutions and methods," the U.S. Department of Justice wrote in a summary of its investigation.

Law enforcement agencies said in a criminal complaint that they tracked Mr. Sze to multiple branches of a single financial institution, referred to as "FI-1." That institution is TD, a source told The Globe earlier. The Globe is not naming the source because they were not authorized to speak publicly about the matter.

"This story, in particular, raised a lot of concerns because it linked the TD name to the illicit drug trade," Mr. Salom said in an internal memo to employees.

"That is not a headline any institution would want, and for TD it is truly sobering. The DOJ and regulatory investigations are ongoing, and I am therefore limited by law in what I can discuss. However, I can assure you we are co-operating and working hard to resolve these matters."

## TikTok sues United States to block law that could ban the social-media platform

**HALELUYA HADERO**  
**MICHELLE CHAPMAN**  
**BARBARA ORTUTAY** WASHINGTON

TikTok and its Chinese parent company ByteDance Ltd. are suing the U.S. over a law that would ban the popular video-sharing app unless it's sold to another company, arguing that it vaguely paints it as a threat to national security to get around the First Amendment.

The widely expected lawsuit filed on Tuesday may be setting up what will likely be a protracted legal fight over TikTok's future in the United States – and could end up before the Supreme Court. If TikTok loses, it says it will be forced to shut down next year.

The popular social-video company says that the law, which President Joe Biden signed as part of a larger US\$95-billion foreign-aid package, is so "obviously unconstitutional" that the sponsors of the measure are trying to portray it not as a ban, but as a regulation of TikTok's ownership.

It's the first time the U.S. government has singled out a social-media company with a potential

ban, which free-speech advocates note is more common in repressive regimes such as Iran or China.

"Congress has taken the unprecedented step of expressly singling out and banning TikTok: a vibrant online forum for protected speech and expression used by 170 million Americans to create, share, and view videos over the Internet," ByteDance said in its suit, filed in a federal appeals court in Washington. "For the first time in history, Congress has enacted a law that subjects a single, named speech platform to a permanent, nationwide ban, and bars every American from participating in a unique online community with more than 1 billion people worldwide."

The law requires TikTok's parent, ByteDance, to sell the platform within nine months. If a sale is already in progress, the company will get another three months to complete the deal. ByteDance has said it "doesn't have any plan to sell TikTok." But even if it wanted to divest, the company would have to get a blessing from Beijing. According to the lawsuit, the Chinese government has "made clear" that it would not permit ByteDance to divest the recommendation engine that is "key to the success of TikTok in the United States."

TikTok and ByteDance argued in the lawsuit that it isn't being given a choice. "The 'qualified divestiture' demanded by the Act to allow TikTok to continue operating in the United States is simply not possible: not commercially, not technologically, not legally," they said.

"There is no question: the Act will force a shutdown of TikTok by January 19, 2025," the lawsuit says.

The lawsuit argues that it would be impossible for ByteDance to divest its U.S. TikTok platform as a separate entity from the rest of TikTok, which has one billion users worldwide – most of them outside of the United States. A U.S.-only TikTok, the suit says, would operate as an island that's detached from the rest of the world.

TikTok also paints divestment as a technological impossibility, since the law requires all of TikTok's millions of lines of software code to be wrested from ByteDance so that there is no "operational relationship" between the Chinese company and the new U.S. app.

"Specifically, to comply with the law's divestiture requirement, that code base would have to be moved to a large, alternative team of engineers – a team that does not exist and would have no understanding of the complex code necessary to run the platform," the lawsuit says.

The parties argued that they should be protected by the First Amendment's guarantee of freedom of expression. They are seeking a declaratory judgment that the act violates the Constitution; an order enjoining Attorney-General Merrick Garland from enforcing the act and any further relief the court may deem appropriate.

The Justice Department declined to comment on the suit Tuesday. White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre also declined to engage on questions about why Mr. Biden continues to use TikTok for his political activities, deferring to the campaign.



Chinese President Xi Jinping, centre left, his wife Peng Liyuan, French President Emmanuel Macron, centre right, and his wife Brigitte pose with traditional dancers during a visit to France's southwestern Pyrenees region on Tuesday. AURELIEN MORISSARD/POOL/REUTERS

## No major concessions offered on trade, foreign policy as China's Xi leaves France

**ELIZABETH PINEAU**  
**BART BIESEMANS**  
**INGRID MELANDER** TARBES, FRANCE

Chinese President Xi Jinping left France on Tuesday after a two-day trip during which he offered no major concessions on trade or foreign policy, even as French President Emmanuel Macron pressed him on market access and Ukraine.

Mr. Macron and his wife Brigitte waved goodbye to Mr. Xi and his wife Peng Liyuan at the airport in France's southwestern Pyrenees region, after taking them to lunch in the mountains after a day of talks and state pomp in Paris on Monday.

A source close to the French presidency said the trip allowed for "friendly and very frank talks" that let Mr. Macron pass on messages on Ukraine and would allow for more open talks in the future.

Mr. Macron has a history of trying to establish personal relationships outside of protocol in not always successful attempts to obtain more from other leaders.

After watching traditional dancers perform under the snowy peaks, the two presidential couples ate locally grown ham, lamb, cheese and blueberry pie.

Mr. Macron gave Mr. Xi a woolen blanket made in the Pyrenees, a Tour de France cycling jersey and Armagnac from the nearby southwestern region – a brandy at risk of Chinese trade sanctions.

Mr. Macron pressed Mr. Xi throughout his visit to reduce the trade imbalance, with better access for European firms in China and fewer subsidies for Chinese exporters, and to weigh on Russian President Vladimir Putin on Ukraine.

Mr. Xi said he would welcome more high-level talks on trade frictions but denied there was a Chinese "overcapacity problem," casting doubts on what progress can be achieved.

French and Chinese companies concluded some agreements on Monday ranging from energy, finance and transport, but most were

agreements to co-operate or renewed commitments to work together.

"Xi was consistent in signalling goodwill to [his] French interlocutors but did not come with tangible concessions on the issues that matter the most," said Mathieu Duchâtel of the Institut Montaigne think tank.

In a sign of some progress on agriculture, China will allow imports of pig origin protein feed as well as pork offal from France with immediate effect. French pork producers said the offal deal should boost pork exports by 10 per cent.

However, European hopes of an Airbus plane order to coincide with Mr. Xi's visit appear to have been dashed, with the two sides agreeing only to expand co-operation.

A European diplomat said Mr. Xi was the "winner" of the visit, having "cemented his image as the 'ruler of the world' where Westerners are begging him to solve European problems in Ukraine."

Hosuk Lee-Makiyama, director of the Brussels-based ECIPE think tank, said the visit was possibly less about making concrete progress on trade than creating some policy space they might need if Donald Trump returns to the White House after November's U.S. election.

Mr. Macron has embraced, hugged, winked at or slapped counterparts on the back. He did not chance this with Mr. Xi.

The two couples travelled on separate flights from Paris and took separate cars to the mountains, where thick fog meant they missed out on the view.

Mr. Xi's Pyrenees invite nevertheless had echoes of Mr. Trump joining Mr. Macron in 2017 to watch the Bastille Day parade, and Russian President Vladimir Putin's 2019 trip to the French President's Bregancon fortress summer retreat in southeast France.

The EU's 27 members ran a goods trade deficit of €292-billion (\$431-billion) with China in 2023, according to Eurostat data, down from a €397-billion (\$586-billion) deficit a year earlier but still the second-highest-ever level.

REUTERS

## DISNEY'S STREAMING ENTERTAINMENT PROFIT OFFSET BY WEAKER TV BUSINESS

LOS ANGELES **Walt Disney Co.'s** surprise profit in its streaming entertainment division was eclipsed by a drop in its traditional TV business and weaker box office, sending its stock tumbling 10 per cent, on track for its deepest one-day drop in 17 months.

Like other media companies, Disney has been trying to adapt to consumer migration from cable television to streaming entertainment, and had promised Wall Street that its streaming operation would become profitable by September.

The division has been losing money since Disney+ debuted in 2019 in a major push by the company to compete with Netflix.

However, revenue from the traditional television business declined 8 per cent to

US\$2.77-billion and operating profit fell 22 per cent from a year ago.

That decline reflected lower ad revenue and the impact of Disney's new TV distribution deal with Charter Communications, as the second-largest cable TV and broadband company dropped eight of Disney's cable networks.

The direct-to-consumer entertainment division, which includes the Disney+ and Hulu streaming services, reported operating income of US\$47-million for the January-March period, compared with a loss of US\$587-million a year earlier.

But the combined streaming business with ESPN+ lost US\$18-million. The division had lost US\$659-million in the prior year. REUTERS

### EMPIRE LIFE



**PETER LEVITT**

The Board of Directors of The Empire Life Insurance Company (Empire Life) is pleased to announce the election of Peter Levitt to the Company's Board of Directors.

Mr. Levitt has more than 40 years of experience in the financial services sector as an executive, consultant, and board member. He has managed teams in North America, Europe, Asia, and the Caribbean. He currently serves on the Boards of E-L Financial Corporation Limited and Home Trust, and the Advisory Board of Global Economics Group.

His knowledge and expertise in finance, risk management, treasury and technology coupled with his extensive management experience make him a strong addition to the Empire Life Board.

Empire Life is a proud Canadian company that offers individual and group life and health insurance, investment and retirement products.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Cisco is well-equipped to take on AI market, CEO says

Company is betting on the technology to propel its software offerings and compete in cybersecurity market

IRENE GALEA

**C**isco Systems Inc. chief executive officer Chuck Robbins says the company missed a major opportunity to expand 10 years ago as cloud computing took off. But he insists it won't make that mistake again with artificial intelligence.

The networking equipment maker was a pioneer during the early expansion of the internet, but was late to invest in infrastructure underpinning the cloud. But the CEO, who joined the company in 1997 and took the helm in 2015, said the company is not going to miss another opportunity.

"With artificial intelligence, we're not in that position. We're very well equipped," Mr. Robbins said in an interview with The Globe and Mail in Toronto Tuesday.

Like many technology companies, Cisco is betting on AI to propel its software offerings and compete in an increasingly hot cybersecurity market as the networking leader faces more com-



Cisco is investing in what CEO Chuck Robbins foresees will be a 'decade-long run with AI.' CHRISTOPHER KATSAROV/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

petition in cloud computing.

The shift to software is also part of a wider goal of creating a more stable revenue model, in contrast with the more inconsistent pattern of network equipment sales. Software products can be rolled out faster and give the company revenue that is "more predictable, and a little less stressful," Mr. Robbins said. So far, the company earns 50 per cent of its revenue from recurring sources.

AI products currently represent a small fraction of the com-

pany's total business, but Mr. Robbins sees that changing quickly.

Cisco is investing in what Mr. Robbins foresees will be a "decade-long run with AI." The company has built a pipeline of about US\$3-billion of orders for AI products, he told analysts in February.

To position itself for a greater focus on AI, Cisco has shed employees and made the largest acquisition in its history to boost its software offerings.

Last quarter, the company laid

off 5 per cent of its work force – about 4,200 employees and forecast a US\$800-million severance charge that would likely appear in its fiscal third-quarter results, which it will report May 14.

Cisco paid US\$28-billion in cash to acquire Splunk, a cybersecurity analytics platform that uses generative AI, to pad out its cybersecurity offerings. The deal closed in March.

"Did we buy them just for growth? I would say no, it's an incredibly strategic fit first. But they will help us with growth," Mr. Robbins said. He expects the acquisition to be accretive to the company's cash flow in Year 1 and its earnings-per-share in Year 2.

The San Jose, Calif.-based company, with a US\$190-billion market cap, employs about 2,200 people in Canada.

William Kerwin, an equity analyst at Morningstar, said the acquisition of Splunk will help boost the company's cybersecurity business, which he said has been "underperforming" in recent years. The investments in AI could help it win customers in the public cloud space, where it has been losing market share to competitors such as Arista Networks, he said.

But he's doubtful those expansions will warrant a higher valuation for now. For that to happen, "we'd have to see a marked improvement in Cisco's

ability to compete in public cloud and AI environments and market share gains, which we don't expect," he said.

In the meantime, the company remains a stable leader in enterprise networks and data centres, growing in the low single-digit range and generating good profits, he said. "While those markets are slower growth, they aren't going anywhere."

In the near term, however, the half of Cisco's income stream which comes from non-recurring sales is experiencing what Mr. Kerwin called a COVID-19 hangover.

During the pandemic, enterprises bought networking equipment to support their employees' shift to remote work, and many are now still digesting excess inventory. This has led to a drop in revenue over the past few quarters, and analysts expect further contraction in those to come.

In its last earnings the company cut its annual revenue estimates for this year, from a maximum of US\$55-billion to a maximum of US\$52.5-billion. Mr. Robbins told analysts last quarter the company expects the inventory issues to work themselves out over the next year.

The cut in expectations was also a response to an overall weaker economic climate, and weak demand from telecommunications and cable operators.

## Apple unveils AI-focused chip in iPad Pro upgrade

STEPHEN NELLIS

**Apple Inc.** unveiled its latest iPad Pro on Tuesday with a new chip for artificial-intelligence computing as it rushes to catch up with its Big Tech rivals in a race to dominate the emerging technology.

Debuting its latest chip in a tablet rather than its Mac laptops is unusual for Apple, and suggests it is eager to give app makers a head start creating AI-related software

ahead of its annual software developer conference next month, analysts said.

The announcements did little to move Apple's stock, which was last up about 0.5 per cent after gaining as much as 1.8 per cent earlier in the day.

While Microsoft Corp. and Alphabet Inc. have dived headlong into AI and seen their stocks surge to record highs, Apple's shares have fallen 5 per cent in the year to date as it struggles with weak iPhone demand, and as investors wait for it to show how it will

leverage AI technology.

Apple said the iPad Pro – its highest-priced model – will have upgraded displays and start at US\$1,000 for an 11-inch (27.9-cm) model and US\$1,300 for a 13-inch (33-cm) model. It will come with an M4 chip with a larger "neural engine," part of the chip designed for the kind of computing required by AI features such as generating text or images.

Apple chips have featured a neural engine since 2017, but rivals such as Intel

Corp. and Qualcomm Inc. tout competitive technologies, which they refer to as neural processing units for personal computers.

Apple also introduced new models of its mid-priced iPad Air, which will now come in a larger 13-inch screen size at US\$800, as well as the 11-inch size it previously came in for US\$600. Those tablets come with Apple's M2 chip, which came to market in Apple's MacBooks in 2022.

REUTERS

## Do you collect a disability-related benefit administered by Veterans Affairs Canada? A class action settlement may affect you. Please read this notice carefully.

On 17 January 2024 the Federal Court approved a settlement in a certified class action involving alleged underpayment of certain disability pension benefits administered by Veterans Affairs Canada ("VAC") payable to members or former members of the Canadian Armed Forces ("CAF") and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police ("RCMP") and their spouses, common-law partners, survivors, other related individuals, and estates (the "Settlement").

If you received any of the disability-related benefits listed in this notice at any time between 2003 and 2023, you may be entitled to compensation under the Settlement. As the executor, estate trustee, administrator, or family member of a deceased class member who collected VAC-administered disability benefits, you may also be able to claim on behalf of the estate.

If you are entitled to compensation under the Settlement and you have an active payment arrangement with VAC, such as direct deposit, you do not need to do anything to receive payment.

If you are claiming on behalf of a deceased veteran of the CAF or RCMP, including as the executor, trustee, administrator of an estate, or a family member, you must submit a Claim Form to KPMG Inc., the administrator responsible for handling claims available at:

**KPMG Inc.**  
C/O Disability Pension Class Action Claims Administrator  
600 boul. de Maisonneuve West, Suite 1500  
Montréal, Québec  
H3A 0A3

Online: <https://veteranspensionsettlement.kpmg.ca/>  
E-mail: [veteranspension@kpmg.ca](mailto:veteranspension@kpmg.ca)

For assistance with submitting a Claim Form, please contact the Administrator's dedicated call center at 1-833-839-0648, available Monday to Friday, 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM (Eastern Time).

The deadline to submit a claim is **19 March 2025**. All eligible claimants are entitled to receive legal assistance free of charge from Class Counsel for purposes relating to implementing the Settlement, including preparing and/or submitting a claim to the Administrator.

You may also contact Class Counsel for more information or for assistance with filing a claim, by sending an email to [info@vetspensionerror.ca](mailto:info@vetspensionerror.ca), or calling toll-free at 1-866-545-9920. To see the full text of the Final Settlement Agreement, please visit <https://vetspensionerror.ca/court-documents/>.

### WHO IS INCLUDED?

The Settlement covers members and former members of the CAF and the RCMP and their spouses, common-law partners, dependents, survivors, orphans, and any other individuals, including eligible estates of all such persons, who received—at any time between 2003 and 2023—disability benefits based on annual adjustments of the basic pension under s. 75 of the *Pension Act* (the "Class Members").

The terms of the Settlement are binding on Class Members. The Settlement includes releases of claims asserted in the certified Class Action.

### WHAT BENEFITS ARE AFFECTED?

The Settlement affects prescribed annual adjustments of the following benefits (the "Affected Benefits"):

- *Pension Act* pension for disability;
- *Pension Act* pension for death;
- *Pension Act* attendance allowance;
- *Pension Act* allowance for wear and tear of clothing or for specially made apparel;
- *Pension Act* exceptional incapacity allowance;
- *Civilian War-related Benefits Act* war pensions and allowances for salt water fishers, overseas headquarters staff, air raid precautions works, and injury for remedial treatment of various persons and voluntary aid detachment (World War II);
- *Flying Accidents Compensation Regulations* flying accidents compensation;
- RCMP Disability Benefits awarded in accordance with the *Pension Act*;
- *Veterans Well-being Act* clothing allowance.

### WHAT DOES THE SETTLEMENT PROVIDE?

The Settlement provides direct compensation to Class Members who receive (or have previously received) any of the Affected Benefits listed above, since 1 January 2003. Class Members will receive a single payment of about 2% of all Affected Benefits they have received since 1 January 2003. The total amount of compensation paid by Canada to the Class could be as much as \$817,300,000.

This is only a summary of the benefits available under the Settlement. The full text of the Final Settlement Agreement ("FSA") is available online at <https://vetspensionerror.ca/court-documents/>. You should review the entire FSA in order to determine your entitlement and any steps you may need to take to access compensation.

### HOW AM I PAID?

Eligible Class Members who are currently collecting VAC-administered disability benefits or pensions will receive a Settlement payment automatically through the same payment method they currently use to collect benefits, including by direct deposit.

Class Members who received Affected Benefits between 2003 and 2023 but who do not have a current payment arrangement with VAC will be required to make a claim with the Claims Administrator. This includes all Class Members who are deceased, and where an executor, estate trustee, administrator of an estate, or a family member is making a claim on behalf of that Class Member.

However, if a deceased Class Member has a survivor who is in receipt of VAC benefits and has a current payment arrangement, that survivor will automatically receive the deceased Class Member's entitlement without the need to make a claim with the Claims Administrator.

### HOW DO I MAKE A CLAIM?

If you do not have an active payment arrangement with VAC, you must submit a claim form with the Administrator.

You must submit a completed and signed Claim Form to the Administrator within the Claim Period. You are encouraged to use the Claim Form submission link available online at <https://veteranspensionsettlement.kpmg.ca/>. You may, however, submit your Claim Form to the Administrator using one of the following three methods:

1. online at <https://veteranspensionsettlement.kpmg.ca/>;
2. by e-mail to [veteranspension@kpmg.ca](mailto:veteranspension@kpmg.ca); or
3. by mail to:

**KPMG Inc.**  
C/O Disability Pension Class Action Claims Administrator  
600 boul. de Maisonneuve West, Suite 1500  
Montréal, Québec  
H3A 0A3

You may download a copy of the Claim Form available online at: <https://veteranspensionsettlement.kpmg.ca/download/Claim-Form.pdf>.

If submitting electronically, the Administrator must receive your completed and signed Claim Form no later than 19 March 2025. If submitting by mail, your completed and signed Claim Form must be postmarked no later than 19 March 2025.

For assistance with submitting a Claim Form, please contact the Administrator's dedicated call center at 1-833-839-0648, available Monday to Friday, 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM (Eastern Time).

Please read and follow the instructions on the Claim Form. Class Counsel are also available, free of charge, to answer your questions and assist you with preparing your claim form.

The deadline to file a claim is 19 March 2025.

### AM I RESPONSIBLE FOR LEGAL FEES?

You are not responsible for payment of legal fees. The Federal Court has approved Class Counsel's fees (including HST) and disbursements to be automatically calculated and deducted from the Settlement amount you are entitled to receive before the payment is issued.

The Federal Court approved payments to Class Counsel equal to approximately 17% of each payment made under the Settlement for legal fees, disbursements, and HST. The FSA contains additional details about Class Counsel fees, available online at <https://vetspensionerror.ca/court-documents/>.

Class Counsel are available to assist Class Members through the claims process free of charge.

### FURTHER INFORMATION?

For further information or to get help with your claim, contact Class Counsel by phone, email, or online:

Visit: <https://vetspensionerror.ca/>

Call: 1-866-545-9920

Email: [info@vetspensionerror.ca](mailto:info@vetspensionerror.ca)

### DO YOU KNOW ANY OTHER RECIPIENTS OF A VAC DISABILITY PENSION?

Please share this information with them.

# The evolving complexity of tax law can put AI to good use

Technology is well-suited to help navigate and provide insight into legislation

ABDI AIDID  
BENJAMIN ALARIE

OPINION

Abdi Aidid and Benjamin Alarie are the authors of *The Legal Singularity: How Artificial Intelligence Can Make Law Radically Better*, which is shortlisted for the Donner Prize. Both are professors at the University of Toronto Faculty of Law.

The recent proposal to increase the capital-gains inclusion rate to 66.7 per cent from 50 per cent has ignited discussions among taxpayers and professionals, highlighting the increasingly intricate nature of tax law. This change, targeting corporations, trusts and individuals with substantial capital gains, is just one example of the complex adjustments that often accompany fiscal policy updates.

To understand the scale and impact of such changes, it helps to reflect on past adjustments. In 2001, Bill C-22 altered the landscape by reducing the inclusion rate from 75 per cent to 50 per cent. This legislative shift required recalibration of numerous tax provisions, from the treatment of bad debts to capital cost allowances for depreciable properties. Each adjustment had to be legislated to ensure consistent application across all relevant areas of the Income Tax Act, a task that demanded considerable expertise and precision.

Fast-forward to today, and the landscape has grown even more complex. The proposed increase in the inclusion rate is not merely a percentage change but a fundamental shift in how capital gains are taxed, affecting a wide array of tax planning and compliance processes. This complexity presents both a challenge and an opportunity to rethink how we interact with tax law.

Enter artificial intelligence. For all the talk about how AI promises to change our lives, tax happens to be one of the areas in which it is provably well-suited. As we discuss in our book, *The Legal Singularity: How Artificial Intelligence Can Make Law Radically Better*, AI is increasingly capable of solving complex legal problems and assisting with informed law making and adaptive regulatory oversight. AI tools already help tax professionals do everything from model tax scenarios, predict outcomes of tax strategies, offer tailored tax guidance – in plain English! – and even forecast how courts will rule in tax disputes. AI can do this with a high degree of accuracy because of its capacity to ingest and analyze vast amounts of tax and legislative data.

AI becomes crucial in scenarios where tax laws are revised, as it can swiftly adapt to new regulations and provide updated insights and strategies without the lag that typically accompanies human analysis. For taxpayers and professionals, this means more reliable and efficient compliance strategies, optimized financial planning and a better understanding of the tax implications of their decisions.

Moreover, AI can help in modelling the potential outcomes of tax law changes before they are fully enacted. By simulating various scenarios, AI can provide policy makers with a clearer picture of the potential economic impacts of their proposals, helping to refine laws in ways that maximize their benefits and minimize unintended consequences.

As with many emerging technologies, AI is a double-edged sword: Sophisticated taxpayers, equipped with AI tools, could potentially exploit loopholes and ambiguities in tax legislation at unprecedented speeds and scales. The very technology that promises to simplify tax compliance could also accelerate the pace at which tax-avoidance schemes are developed and executed. Policy makers and tax authorities must stay ahead of the curve, using AI themselves to detect and counteract these schemes, ensuring that the tax system remains fair and equitable for all participants. More than just enhanced vigilance, this should also mean creating adaptive regulatory frameworks that can move at the speed of technology.

As we look to the future, the integration of AI in tax law is not just a possibility; it is a necessity. The tax systems of tomorrow will undoubtedly be even more complex, reflecting and responding to an increasingly intricate global economic landscape. AI offers a pathway to not only manage this complexity but to harness it, ensuring that tax systems are efficient, equitable and responsive to the needs of all stakeholders.

As we grapple with the complexities introduced by change, AI will play a pivotal role in shaping the future of tax law. By transforming how we understand, interpret, and apply tax regulations, AI will help ensure that our tax systems remain robust, fair and capable of meeting the challenges of the modern world.

## BP'S QUARTERLY PROFIT SLIDES BY 40 PER CENT AS REFINERY OUTAGE OFFSETS HIGHER OUTPUT

BP PLC's first-quarter earnings plunged by 40 per cent to US\$2.7-billion, missing forecasts after lower energy prices and a U.S. refinery outage offset increased oil and gas production.

The London-based company held its dividend at 7.27 US cents a share and maintained the rate of its share buyback program at US\$1.75-billion over the next three months, similar to the previous quarter.

Profit fell 5 per cent short of analyst forecasts, denting efforts by chief executive Murray Auchincloss to steady the company after a bruising period that followed the abrupt resignation of predecessor Bernard Looney in September.

Mr. Auchincloss, who was head of finances under Mr. Looney, has vowed to simplify BP's operations and cut costs in the face of investor doubts over plans to reduce the company's focus on oil and gas and expand a low-carbon business.

BP on Tuesday introduced a target to deliver cash cost savings of at least US\$2-billion by the end of 2026 relative to 2023.

Shares in the company were down 1.9 per cent Tuesday afternoon, compared with a 0.5-per-cent drop for the European energy index.

REUTERS



The Greater Toronto Airports Authority has announced plans to modernize Pearson airport, which saw 45 million passengers in 2023 and expects 65 million by the early 2030s. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Yakabuski: High user fees charged by Canadian airports have hindered their competitiveness

FROM B1

"We view our [governance] model as having worked very well for Canadians and we want to look at ways we can tweak it."

Just how far Ottawa is prepared to go to open up airports to outside investors remains to be seen. In 2017, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's government explored privatizing Canada's biggest airport authorities but backed off the plan in the face of opposition from the airports themselves and polls showing little public support for privatization. Critics said Ottawa missed an opportunity to raise billions of dollars and put airports on a more solid long-term financial footing.

Canada's airports took on \$3.2-billion in debt during the pandemic as revenues plummeted. Ottawa stepped up with \$570-million to help airports cover their most urgent capital needs during that period. But that was a small fraction of the US\$40-billion in pandemic funding that Washington provided to U.S. airports, most of which are government-owned. Major U.S. airports, including New York's once-dowdy LaGuardia, have completed glamorous upgrades in recent years.

So far, Ottawa appears unwilling to allow pension funds to take equity stakes in airports themselves, since that would require abandoning the current non-profit governance model. However, it is considering allowing pension funds to take ownership

stakes in future airport facilities, such as new terminals and parking garages. Such an arrangement would give airports access to pension capital for new construction without having to increase their debt load.

That may not go far enough for Canadian pension funds, however. Based on their experiences abroad, most would prefer outright privatization, enabling them to take ownership stakes in airport authorities themselves.

So far, Ottawa appears unwilling to allow pension funds to take equity stakes in airports themselves, since that would require abandoning the current non-profit governance model.

That would give them a bigger say in how the airports are operated, including how they raise and manage revenues.

As it stands, Canada's airport authorities have an unfettered ability to raise user fees. That has left airlines that operate here paying among the world's highest landing and gate fees, and passengers dinged with ever-escalating airport improvement fees. Such high fees have hurt Canadian airports' competitiveness.

Opponents of privatization warn that such fees would rise further if Canada's airports became profit-driven corporations,

as equity owners sought to extract dividends. But evidence from Europe, where many major airports are privately owned, suggests otherwise. Discount airlines have flourished in Europe in large part because of Europe's lower airport fees.

Meanwhile, here in Canada, our airports have been falling behind.

"Toronto Pearson has been meeting passenger needs by deploying extraordinary resources to many of its aged assets and facilities, which is not a sustainable solution with passenger traffic levels expected to grow," the Greater Toronto Airports Authority said last month in announcing a multibillion-dollar plan to modernize Canada's largest airport, which saw 45 million passengers in 2023 and is expecting 65 million by the early 2030s.

Aéroports de Montréal, which operates Trudeau airport, has also unveiled a major plan, set to cost as much as \$4-billion, to upgrade infrastructure and reduce congestion at Canada's third biggest airport, which handled 21 million passengers last year.

"We are engaged in a race. We have four years to be able to welcome four million more people than today," ADM chief executive officer Yves Beauchamp said last month. "New financial tools will be necessary."

Given the massive capital requirements facing Canada's airports, this is not the time for timid or half-baked measures from the federal government. Ottawa needs to think big.

## Suncor: Shareholders reject pair of proposals on company's climate-change response

FROM B1

Mr. Kruger took the reins of Suncor last April, lured out of retirement as the former head of Imperial Oil Ltd., and the company has undergone a significant overhaul under his watch.

"My priority since joining Suncor in April, 2023, can best be summarized by three words: Clarify, simplify and focus," Mr. Kruger said Tuesday.

Mr. Kruger has said Suncor would focus on safety, reliability and profitability. That has included eliminating around 1,500 jobs not aligned with Suncor's priorities which he said will save the company \$450-million per year. Suncor also sold its assets in the North Sea and its renewable power business for a combined \$1.8-billion, and purchased its remaining interests in the Fort Hills oil sands mine in Northern Alberta for \$2.2-billion.

Suncor chief financial officer Kris Smith said the company returned \$5-billion to shareholders through dividends and share repurchases in 2023.

Its quarterly dividend rose to a

record high of 54.5 cents per share last year.

Elliott has backed off since the departure of Mr. Little, seemingly placated by the changes at the company. But Suncor continues to be the target of activist investors, who made their voices known at Tuesday's annual meeting.

Two shareholder proposals were put to the vote, coming from opposite perspectives on the response to climate change.

The first, submitted by Invest-Now Inc. on behalf of shareholder Gina Pappano, called on the company to end its commitment to bring its greenhouse emissions to net zero by 2050.

Ms. Pappano told the meeting that Suncor's net-zero pledge is a "costly and economically ruinous crusade" that is "based on dogma and ideology." It is not legally mandated nor will it increase shareholder value, she argued, so Suncor has an economic and moral obligation to drop the target.

The board and management responded that the company is committed to decarbonizing its business and being part of the en-

ergy transition. The proposal was almost unanimously rejected, with close to 99 per cent of shareholders voting against it.

The second proposal urged Suncor to be more transparent in its reporting of how climate change will affect its bottom line. It was submitted by the Salal Foundation, a non-profit which was represented by Investors for Paris Compliance – a group that has pledged to hold Canadian publicly traded companies accountable to their net-zero promises.

IPC director of corporate engagement Duncan Kenyon told the meeting that Suncor is subject to significant risks with respect to disruptions to the market caused by climate change, but has been found wanting on its climate reporting in a study from investor-led group Climate Action 100+.

"This proposal is not a request for Suncor to do something extra, but rather a request for it to live up to the emerging financial reporting standards," Mr. Kenyon said.

That resolution also failed, with 88 per cent of shareholders voting against.

## BALLARD POWER SYSTEMS' FIRST-QUARTER LOSS GROWS FROM PREVIOUS YEAR, WITH REVENUE UP 9 PER CENT

Ballard Power Systems Inc. saw its first-quarter loss deepen compared to a year ago as its revenue rose 9 per cent.

The Vancouver-based fuel cell maker, which keeps its books in U.S. dollars, says its loss from continuing operations amounted to US\$41.1-million or 14 cents US a share for the quarter ended March 31.

The result compared with a loss of US\$32.4-million or 11 cents US a share in the same quarter last year.

Revenue totalled US\$14.5-million, up from US\$13.2-million in the first quarter of 2023.

Ballard says its heavy-duty mobility revenue totalled US\$10.6-million, up from US\$8.6-million a year ago as

strength in its bus business was offset by weaker revenue in its rail and marine business.

Stationary revenue of US\$3.7-million was up from US\$2.5-million in the same quarter last year, while emerging and other markets revenue totalled US\$200,000, down from US\$2.1-million a year ago.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

# CRTC denies request for decision to stop large carriers from using rival networks

Regulator says appeal 'failed to provide sufficient evidence of irreparable harm'

SAMMY HUDES

The Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) has denied a request by Bell Canada and some independent internet providers for an expedited decision that would prevent large carriers from using rivals' fibre networks to offer their services to customers.

The regulator said the request, filed in March, "failed to provide sufficient evidence of irreparable harm."

CRTC secretary-general Marc Morin delivered the response in a Friday letter to the coalition, which also includes TekSavvy, Eastlink, Cogeco Communications and the Competitive Network Operators of Canada.

The companies had argued that granting Canada's Big Three internet carriers, including Bell itself, access to one another's fibre networks would threaten the viability of independent internet service providers.

"However, they do not offer sufficient evidence to support these statements," Mr. Morin wrote.

Last November, the CRTC issued an interim ruling that required Bell parent company BCE Inc. and Telus Corp. to provide competitors with access to their fibre networks in Ontario

and Quebec within six months. That means independent telecoms could pay to use those networks to provide fibre service to their customers.

That decision was meant to stimulate competition for internet services in Canada's two largest provinces, where the CRTC said internet competition has suffered most in recent years.

The rules took effect Tuesday, but they only apply temporarily, as the regulator is in the midst of a broader review looking into internet competition.

It has said its consultation, which included a five-day hearing in February, could potentially make those temporary rules permanent and applicable to other provinces under a national wholesale framework.

Mr. Morin said the regulator expects to deliver a final decision on wholesale fibre access by the end of this summer.

"Implementation of the temporary mandate ... will result in increased competitive choice for Canadians," Mr. Morin said.

"This benefit to the public outweighs any potential harm identified by the applicants that could result during the short timeframe until the commission makes its final decision."

Bell has been vehemently against the CRTC's interim decision, seeking to have it quashed since it was made.

It has previously accused the CRTC of "predetermined" outcomes related to its internet review, saying the commission's current direction lowers Bell's incentive to continue building out

Allowing incumbents to resell on each other's networks will permanently distort Canada's internet market in large carriers' favour and will come at the expense of smaller internet providers.

JACQUELINE MICHELIS  
BELL SPOKESPERSON

its fibre network.

It responded to the interim ruling by cutting \$1.1-billion in network spending plans by 2025. It also partly blamed the regulator's initial decision when it announced it would slash 9 per cent of its work force earlier this year.

In February, the Federal Court of Appeal rejected Bell's request for a stay of the interim decision but said it would hear the company's appeal. Bell is also awaiting a decision from the federal cabinet, which it asked to review the regulator's move.

During the CRTC's hearing three months ago, Bell executives proposed multiple conditions, should the CRTC expand the wholesale internet regime, to help mitigate the potential negative effects it would face.

That included restricting the eligibility of national wireless carriers - Bell, Rogers Communications Inc. and Telus - to sell internet over fibre networks built by their rivals.

Bell representatives argued that without such restrictions, larger players would increasingly rely on each other's existing networks rather than investing to expand their own. Although it would theoretically benefit from such an arrangement, the company joined the smaller players in arguing against it.

"Allowing incumbents to resell on each other's networks will permanently distort Canada's internet market in large carriers' favour and will come at the expense of smaller internet providers," Bell spokesperson Jacqueline Michelis said in a statement

on Tuesday. "We hope the CRTC's final decision this summer will create incentives for Bell to continue investing in network expansion that will connect more Canadians to high-speed fibre internet wherever they live."

Noting the "diverging views on this issue," Mr. Morin declined to rule on the issue of wholesale access eligibility "in isolation." He said in his letter last week it would be "inappropriate" to do so when that point "is so closely intertwined with other issues" in the continuing consultation.

"The commission reiterates its previous statement that the access established through the temporary mandate may differ from the final decision," Mr. Morin stated.

"Therefore, any provider that plans to use the temporary mandate should assess the risks of doing so."

CNOC president and chair Paul Andersen said the CRTC's response goes against its stated intent for its wholesale review, which "was to ensure that independent internet service providers can compete with large carriers."

"By declining this request and allowing large carriers to resell on each other's networks and bundle wireless services, Canadians will actually see less competition for high-speed internet services," he said in a statement.

Some independent internet companies have emphasized the importance of wholesale access to their operations.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## HBC: Company plans to shut down its Burlington location in Ontario early next year

FROM B1

Hudson's Bay also fell behind in paying its bills to suppliers last year, leading some to put product deliveries on hold. In November, the retailer's parent company HBC LP completed US\$340-million worth of real estate transactions in the United States and Canada. The company said at the time that the cash would help to fund its retail operations.

Hudson's Bay had already been cutting costs, laying off hundreds of people in corporate roles in 2023. During a round of cuts last May, Ms. Bourre said that macroeconomic pressures had persisted longer than company executives had hoped.

And those pressures continue, with demand recently stagnating for some retailers. Statistics Canada reported that core retail sales - excluding gas stations, fuel sales and motor vehicle and parts dealers - were flat in February. While general merchandise stores and health and personal care retailers saw a modest increase in sales, other stores selling furniture, electronics, appliances, clothing, shoes, jewellery and luggage all experienced declines.

The Regina store will be the sixth location Hudson's Bay has slated for closing since executive chairman Richard Baker took the company private in 2020. The retailer currently operates 82 stores across Canada. It has previously closed flagship locations in Edmonton and Winnipeg, as well as one of its two stores in downtown Toronto. The



Hudson Bay's Regina store, seen on Tuesday, will be the sixth location the retailer has slated to close since executive chairman Richard Baker took the company private in 2020. The retailer currently operates 82 stores across the country. MICHAEL BELL/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

company also plans to shut down its location in Burlington, Ont., early next year.

"While we recognize the long-standing relationship this iconic brand has held within the shopping centre, as we look to the

future of Cornwall Centre and the downtown revitalization plans, we are confident about the opportunities this brings for our customers and the community,"

Margaret Cooper, a spokesperson for the mall landlord Cushman &

Wakefield, wrote in a statement. Ms. Cooper did not respond to questions on Tuesday about the mall's plans to fill the space.

Hudson's Bay has also previously announced plans to "modernize" other stores. In

some locations that has meant shrinking the square footage devoted to the department store and converting those areas for other uses such as office space, other retail shops or residential units.

## Corporations: Export Development Canada has helped companies scale, venture capitalist says

FROM B1

"During the pandemic, valuations were through the roof," BDC CEO Isabelle Hudon said in an interview.

But there's also risk. As BDC's VC arm rode the tech-investment wave on the way up, it fell with it on the way down, generating losses of \$638-million for the year ended March 31, 2023, and a further \$165-million loss for the following nine months.

EDC and BDC are both structured as self-financing corporations wholly owned by the government, and they pay back a portion of their profits to it. For example, BDC sent the government a dividend payment of \$337-million last year.

Mairead Lavery, CEO of EDC, said that while the details of the policy are still being worked out, she understands that the federal government will expect lower dividend payments from the Crown corporations in the future, and they will direct more funds instead back to Canadian businesses.

The budget contains additional direction to EDC, including that it should

prioritize programs that get Canadian businesses to find clients in countries with which Canada has free-trade agreements.

"Government has played its role in constructing and establishing free-trade agreements," Ms. Lavery said in an interview. "It's then about getting Canadian exporters to use the free-trade agreements."

John Ruffolo, managing partner of Maverix Private Equity, said EDC has helped companies scale, which has been a perennial problem for Canada's small and medium-sized businesses.

"They [EDC] make very significant co-investments in a thoughtful and timely manner that is very conducive to the future growth of innovation in this country," he said.

Ms. Furlong said some parts of the budget were working at cross-purposes to the government's aim of encouraging entrepreneurs.

The budget pledged \$200-million

through the Venture Capital Catalyst Initiative to entrepreneurs in underrepresented groups, which Ms. Furlong said could have been distributed more broadly. "\$200-million is actually too much, at this point in time, to deploy in those groups," she said.

And tech industry leaders have criticized the increase in the capital-gains tax in the budget because it discourages entrepreneurs from building companies in Canada.

But, Ms. Furlong said, she welcomed more talk from the government and Crown corporations about taking chances on new companies.

"This entire asset class is about risk taking and Canada's future economy is about these transformative companies," she said. "When you think about what will generate jobs and wealth for future Canadians, this is it."

With reports from Irene Galea and Sean Silcoff

## GEORGE WESTON RAISES DIVIDEND, REPORTS FIRST-QUARTER PROFIT FELL

George Weston Ltd. raised its quarterly dividend as it reported its first-quarter profit fell compared to a year ago as it was hit by one-time charges related to its large stake in Choice Properties Real Estate Investment Trust.

The company, which also holds a majority interest in Loblaw Cos. Ltd., says it will now pay a quarterly dividend of 82 cents a share, up from 71.3 cents a share. The increased payment to shareholders came as George Weston says its profit attributable to common shareholders totalled \$236-million or \$1.73 a diluted share for the quarter ended March 23.

The result was down from a profit of \$426-million or \$3.01 a diluted share in the same quarter last year.

Revenue for the quarter totalled \$13.74-billion, up from \$13.13-billion a year earlier.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Trans Mountain expansion will boost Canadian oil prices 'for years,' MEG Energy executive says

Extension gives Canada's oil shippers access to another 590,000 barrels a day of pipeline capacity and opens up new markets

AMANDA STEPHENSON CALGARY

The recently completed Trans Mountain pipeline expansion will boost Canadian oil prices for "years" to come, an executive with oil sands producer MEG Energy Corp. said Tuesday.

"It is great for industry and Canada to have that tremendous asset available," said MEG's vice-president of marketing Erik Alson during a conference call with analysts to discuss the company's first-quarter earnings.

Canadian heavy oil has historically sold at a discount to lighter U.S. crude, in part owing to differences in product quality and transportation costs, but also because of a lack of pipeline export capacity that has limited market access for Canadian oil.

At times, that discount has been severe. Rising oil sands production and limited pipeline space in the fall of 2018 caused Canada's heavy oil benchmark price, known as Western Canada Select, to sell at nearly US\$50 per barrel below the U.S. benchmark West Texas Intermediate. The government of Alberta ended up curtailing oil production in the province for a time to address the problem.

A similar problem occurred in 2012-13, prompting then-Alberta premier Alison Redford to blame what she called the "bi-



The Westridge Marine Terminal, part of the Trans Mountain pipeline expansion project in Burnaby, B.C., is pictured last month. CHRIS HELGREN/REUTERS

tumen bubble" for a massive shortfall in government revenues.

A 2020 study by IHS Markit estimated that insufficient pipeline export capacity resulted in US\$14-billion in lost value to Canada between 2015 and 2019.

But the Trans Mountain pipeline expansion is expected to change things. The expansion, which marked its official opening last week, gives Canadian oil shippers access to an additional 590,000 barrels a day of pipeline capacity and opens up new markets for oil sands product in Asia and along the U.S. Pacific Coast.

MEG is one of the main beneficiaries of

the Trans Mountain expansion, with 20,000 barrels a day of contracted capacity on the pipeline.

Prices for Canadian heavy oil increased, and the WCS-WTI differential narrowed, in April in anticipation of the start-up of the pipeline expansion and Mr. Alson said Tuesday he expects that to be a long-term trend.

"With this critical infrastructure now complete, we anticipate light-heavy differentials will remain narrow for years," he said.

Oil sands companies have had years to ramp up their production in advance of

Trans Mountain coming online, since the pipeline expansion was first proposed a dozen years ago and took more than four years to construct. Many analysts have suggested that the pipeline will quickly be filled, something Mr. Alson acknowledged.

"As an industry, we have a history of filling available egress, and I think that will happen again over time," he said.

"There are various estimates as to when that could occur. We've seen [projections] as recent as two years, others within five or six. Our thinking is closer to the outer end of that time frame."

Mr. Alson said he does not expect another oil pipeline to be built in Canada. But he said a potential future expansion of Enbridge Inc.'s Mainline pipeline network, which has been expanded many times in its 75-year history, could offer some relief to oil shippers once Trans Mountain is full.

He said there may also be ways to enhance the efficiency, or "de-bottleneck" other existing pipelines without starting from scratch with new construction.

MEG Energy Corp. said it earned \$98-million in its first quarter, up from \$81-million during the same quarter last year.

The Calgary-based company's revenues totalled \$1.4-billion, down from \$1.5-billion a year earlier.

Diluted earnings per share were 36 cents, up from 28 cents.

Bitumen production averaged about 104,000 barrels a day during the period ended March 31.

Former chief operating officer Darlene Gates stepped into the chief executive role at MEG on May 1, replacing outgoing CEO Derek Evans.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## CALGARY-BASED TALLHASSEE EXPLORATION FINED FOR VIOLATING METHANE RULES

CALGARY The Alberta Energy Regulator has fined a Calgary-based junior oil and gas producer for failing to meet its fugitive emission and methane reporting requirements.

The regulator says it began investigating Tallahassee Explo-

ration Inc. in 2022 and has determined the company broke Alberta's methane emission rules on two counts, with both violations occurring in 2021.

The AER also says Tallahassee provided false or misleading information by resubmitting

information from the 2020 reporting period and representing it as data from the 2021 reporting period.

The company has been ordered to pay a \$191,885 fine.

Methane is a potent greenhouse gas and is the second-

largest cause of global warming, after carbon dioxide. It is the main component in natural gas and is also a byproduct of oil drilling.

Fugitive emissions is a term that refers to the unintentional or unwanted release of harmful

gases into the atmosphere as a result of oil and gas drilling activity.

Canada has set a target of reducing oil and gas methane emissions by at least 75 per cent from 2012 levels by 2030.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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### LEGALS

Court File No. CV-24-00718993-00CL  
ONTARIO  
SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE  
COMMERCIAL LIST

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES' CREDITORS ARRANGEMENT ACT, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, AS AMENDED

AND IN THE MATTER OF A PLAN OF COMPROMISE OR ARRANGEMENT OF TED BAKER CANADA INC., TED BAKER LIMITED, OSL FASHION SERVICES CANADA INC. AND OSL FASHION SERVICES, INC. (collectively, the "Applicants")

TAKE NOTICE THAT the Applicants commenced proceedings under the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act ("CCAA") and were granted an order (the "Initial Order") of the Ontario Superior Court of Justice (Commercial List) (the "Court") on April 24, 2024.

The Initial Order, among other things, imposed a stay of proceedings in favour of the Applicants against any actions by the creditors of the Applicants, and appointed Alvarez & Marsal Canada Inc. as the Monitor of the business and financial affairs of the Applicants.

The Applicants commenced ancillary proceedings on April 24, 2024 in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of New York under Chapter 15 of the United States Bankruptcy Code, 11 U.S.C. 101-1330, as amended, seeking, among other things, recognition of the CCAA proceedings as foreign main proceedings and to give effect to the Initial Order in the United States.

As required by section 23(1)(a)(i) of the CCAA, notice is hereby given that a copy of the Initial Order has been posted on the Monitor's website at: [www.alvarezandmarsal.com/TBRetail](http://www.alvarezandmarsal.com/TBRetail). The Monitor will post additional relevant information and documentation related to these proceedings on the Monitor's website as they become available. For further information, contact the Monitor directly at:

Alvarez & Marsal Canada Inc.  
200 Bay Street, Suite 3501  
Toronto ON M5J 2J1  
Attention: TB Retail Monitor  
1-833-591-1289  
Email: [TBRetail@alvarezandmarsal.com](mailto:TBRetail@alvarezandmarsal.com)

### Notification by public notice

(articles 136 and 137 C.c.p.)

Notice is hereby given to l'Association de la recherche pour l'arthrite (Arthritis Research Association) to take delivery at the office of the Superior court in the district of Montreal situated at 1, rue Notre-Dame Est in Montreal, province of Quebec, within thirty (30) days in order to receive the originating application left there in your name.

Notice is hereby given to l'Association de la recherche pour l'arthrite (Arthritis Research Association) to go to the court room 2.16 of the Palais de justice de Montreal situated at 1, rue Notre-Dame Est in Montreal, province of Quebec, on Monday June 17, 2024, as of 9h in the morning, date of the presentation of the originating application to probate a will made in the presence of witnesses and appoint the liquidators. Failing that, the plaintiffs will be authorized to proceed on this date upon their request.

This notice is published under an order rendered on April 18, 2024 by the Superior court's judge Robert Castiglio in the case number 500-14-066287-244.

It will not be published again, unless required by the circumstances.

Quebec City, May 1, 2024

BRODEUR PRÉMONT LAVOIE  
(Me Alexandre Brousseau)  
Lawyers for the plaintiffs

### DIVIDENDS

#### NOTICE OF DIVIDENDS

# BCE

On May 1, 2024, the Board of Directors of BCE Inc. declared the following dividends, payable to holders of its shares at the close of business on the record dates indicated:

Dividend No.	Amount	Record Date	Payment Date <sup>(1)</sup>
163	\$0.9975	June 14, 2024	July 15, 2024
<b>Per Cumulative Redeemable First Preferred Share</b>			
• Series R 95	\$0.188625	July 31, 2024	September 1, 2024
• Series S 291	Floating	May 31, 2024	June 12, 2024
• Series S 292	Floating	June 28, 2024	July 12, 2024
• Series S 293	Floating	July 31, 2024	August 12, 2024
• Series T 71	\$0.311875	June 28, 2024	August 1, 2024
• Series Y 277	Floating	May 31, 2024	June 12, 2024
• Series Y 278	Floating	June 28, 2024	July 12, 2024
• Series Y 279	Floating	July 31, 2024	August 12, 2024
• Series Z 87	\$0.334125	July 31, 2024	September 1, 2024
• Series AA 90	\$0.30875	July 31, 2024	September 1, 2024
• Series AB 201	Floating	May 31, 2024	June 12, 2024
• Series AB 202	Floating	June 28, 2024	July 12, 2024
• Series AB 203	Floating	July 31, 2024	August 12, 2024
• Series AC 86	\$0.3175	July 31, 2024	September 1, 2024
• Series AD 195	Floating	May 31, 2024	June 12, 2024
• Series AD 196	Floating	June 28, 2024	July 12, 2024
• Series AD 197	Floating	July 31, 2024	August 12, 2024
• Series AE 209	Floating	May 31, 2024	June 12, 2024
• Series AE 210	Floating	June 28, 2024	July 12, 2024
• Series AE 211	Floating	July 31, 2024	August 12, 2024
• Series AF 71	\$0.2415625	June 28, 2024	August 1, 2024
• Series AG 71	\$0.210625	June 28, 2024	August 1, 2024
• Series AH 209	Floating	May 31, 2024	June 12, 2024
• Series AH 210	Floating	June 28, 2024	July 12, 2024
• Series AH 211	Floating	July 31, 2024	August 12, 2024
• Series AI 71	\$0.211875	June 28, 2024	August 1, 2024
• Series AJ 154	Floating	May 31, 2024	June 12, 2024
• Series AJ 155	Floating	June 28, 2024	July 12, 2024
• Series AJ 156	Floating	July 31, 2024	August 12, 2024
• Series AK 52	\$0.206625	May 31, 2024	June 30, 2024
• Series AL 30	\$0.42764	May 31, 2024	June 30, 2024
• Series AM 39	\$0.1836875	May 31, 2024	June 30, 2024
• Series AN 33	\$0.44073	May 31, 2024	June 30, 2024
• Series AQ 39	\$0.408625	May 31, 2024	June 30, 2024

(1) If payment date is not a business day, then payment will be made on the next succeeding business day

Dividends paid by BCE to Canadian residents are eligible dividends for Canadian income tax purposes.

Martin Cossette  
Senior Vice President, Corporate Strategy & Corporate Secretary, BCE Inc.

### NOTICE TO ALL THE HOLDERS OF COMMON SHARES OF RECORD ON MAY 23, 2024

On May 1, 2024, Gildan Activewear Inc. (the "Corporation") announced that its Board of Directors declared a dividend of USD \$0.205 per common share (Canadian dollar equivalent for Canadian registered shareholders) on all outstanding common shares of the Corporation. Such dividend will be paid on June 17, 2024, rateably and proportionately to the holders of record on May 23, 2024.

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# Sports

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# BHP says Anglo's South African assets must go, sources report

The Australian miner was rebuffed by its smaller rival after a \$39-billion takeover bid

MELANIE BURTON  
SCOTT MURDOCH  
LEWIS JACKSON



A worker attends to machinery at a smelter plant at Anglo American Platinum's Unki mine in Shurugwi, Zimbabwe, in 2019. Anglo is being targeted for a takeover by larger rival BHP. PHILIMON BULAWAYO/REUTERS

BHP Group Ltd.'s plan to divest the South African assets of its target Anglo American PLC are key to the strategy behind the proposed takeover and is expected to be a part of any revised offer, investors briefed on the miner's thinking said.

The "Big Australian" was rebuffed by its smaller rival on April 26 after submitting a 39-billion-Australian-dollar (\$35.3-billion) takeover proposal, in a plan seen as complex because it required Anglo to offload its shares in Kumba Iron Ore and Anglo American Platinum Ltd. (Amplats) to Anglo American's shareholders before any deal took place.

Anglo American owns 78.6 per cent of Amplats and 69.7 per cent of Kumba.

South Africa's government is scrutinizing the proposed deal. In comments to the Financial Times, the country's Mining Minister, Gwede Mantashe, said he was wary of BHP's proposal as the country's previous experience with BHP was "not positive."

But BHP sees advantages for South Africa in a distribution of the Kumba and Amplats shares, as it would boost the free float in those two companies, fulfilling a goal of the country's regulator, one fund manager that holds BHP shares said.

It would also trigger index-linked buying and put the assets in the hands of natural holders in South Africa, a second fund manager said.

"BHP have spent a lot of time

looking at all the flow back implications and I'm confident they are all over it," one of the fund managers said.

BHP declined to comment, but referred Reuters to its May 2 statement that said the structure of its takeover proposal, including the proposed distribution of Anglo's shares in Amplats and Kumba to its shareholders, reflects the priorities for BHP's portfolio and opportunity for synergies.

The Melbourne-based mining company and its advisers have met with BHP investors over the past few days seeking feedback on the future of any deal, five sources with direct knowledge of the matter said.

The sources could not be named because of the confidential nature of the discussions.

BHP's investors have been supportive of the takeover but warned the company not to pay above the odds to secure control of Anglo, two of the sources said. Analysts, too, support a sweetened bid, based on long term prices of copper.

Macquarie analysts on Tuesday said BHP may be able to justify a 30-per-cent to 45-per-cent

control premium partly owing to cost efficiencies and higher copper prices, which would imply an Anglo share price of £27-£30 (\$46-\$51) a share. The rejected BHP bid valued Anglo at £25.08 (\$43.06) a share.

Anglo American declined to comment, referring Reuters to its April 26 statement rejecting BHP's proposal.

BHP has been encouraged by at least one shareholder to consider keeping Anglo's stakes in Amplats and Kumba instead of exiting the South African assets.

A fully combined BHP and Anglo could look to sell those assets once the deal is completed, which would reduce the complexity and execution risk of the transaction, the person said.

Selling them at a later stage was unlikely to be taken up by BHP, said the first investor. "And so the premium has to be more."

Under the initial plan, BHP stumped up an all-stock proposal that was considered a 31-per-cent premium to Anglo's closing price on April 23.

BHP has until May 22 to lodge a formal bid for Anglo.

REUTERS

# U.S. safety investigators seek answers from Tesla in Autopilot recall probe

DAVID SHEPARDSON WASHINGTON

U.S. auto safety investigators are seeking detailed answers and documents from Tesla Inc. in a probe into the automaker's December recall of more than two million vehicles to install new Autopilot safeguards.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) said last month it was investigating after receiving reports of 20 crashes involving vehicles that had the Autopilot software updates installed under Tesla's recall. The agency's letter said it had identified "several concerns" regarding the recall.

Tesla said in December its largest-ever recall covering 2.03 million U.S. vehicles – or nearly all of its vehicles on U.S. roads – was to better ensure drivers pay attention when using its advanced driver-assistance system.

The NHTSA recall investigation covers models Y, X, S, 3 and Cybertruck vehicles in the U.S. equipped with Autopilot produced between the 2012 and 2024 model years.

Tesla, which did not immediately respond to a request for comment, has said repeatedly that Autopilot does not make vehicles self-driving and is intended for use with a fully attentive driver who is prepared to take over and has hands on the steering wheel.

NHTSA said it had sent Tesla an information request letter, which was made public on Tuesday, seeking details of the recall and documents by July 1.

NHTSA wants comparative data from Tesla on the performance of vehicles after receiving the recall including the number of hands on wheel warnings issued. The agency said it had concerns after those 20 crashes as well as results from preliminary NHTSA tests of updated vehicles following Tesla's five-part recall remedy.

One issue under investigation is Tesla's recall allows drivers to set how they activate Autopilot by either allowing a single-pull or double-pull of the drive stalk. NHTSA's letter said the single-pull activation of Autopilot "is not the default setting on vehicles that received the remedy in the field" and testing "showed it was possible to make this change while driving."

Tesla has also made additional updates to reduce crashes including high-speed captive turn-lane collisions that are not part of the recall.

NHTSA said it "will assess the timing and driving factors behind these updates, their impacts on subject vehicle field performance, and Tesla's basis for not including them."

Last month, NHTSA said it found evidence that "Tesla's weak driver engagement system was not appropriate for Autopilot's permissive operating capabilities."

NHTSA said during its Autopilot safety probe launched in August, 2021, that it had identified at least 13 Tesla crashes involving at least one death and many more involving serious injuries in which "foreseeable driver misuse of the system played an apparent role."

REUTERS

REGISTRATION CLOSES MAY 24

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# Clean-energy ETFs post positive returns

Funds tied to oil and gas output lost roughly 5% over the past month

GAVIN MAGUIRE LITTLETON, COLO.

After a rough couple of years, exchange-traded funds (ETFs) tied to clean-energy generation and distribution are starting to outperform investor vehicles centred on oil and gas exploration and production.

Since the start of 2022, most major ETFs tied to renewable energy generation have lost between 20 per cent and 70 per cent of their value as rising interest rates, supply chain disruptions and a slowdown in clean-energy installations cut consumer demand and hit the earnings and stock prices of clean-energy companies.

Over the same period, cuts to crude oil output by major producer groups have helped lift earnings for oil and gas producers, which in turn boosted the returns of ETFs tied to that space by more than 50 per cent.

However, over the past month an array of ETFs dedicated to key aspects of the energy transition – from renewable energy generation to smart grid management



An array of ETFs dedicated to key aspects of the energy transition have all posted positive returns.

RONNY HARTMANN/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

and uranium extraction – have all posted positive returns just as a major ETF tied to oil and gas output lost roughly 5 per cent.

Several factors could derail this relative recovery in clean-energy momentum, including a worsening in Middle East conflict and higher-for-longer interest rates in

the United States.

But if a peace deal is reached between Israel and Palestinian militant group Hamas in Gaza and interest rates trend lower in key consumer markets, further pressure on oil and gas prices could materialize just as the affordability of renewable genera-

tion equipment improves.

That in turn could potentially accelerate the recent divergence in ETF returns and support clean-energy investing trends while undermining the appeal of fossil fuels.

Over the past five years or so, investment vehicles tied to clean

energy have endured a roller-coaster ride.

Appetite for exposure to renewables soared from early 2020 through to the start of 2021 as several major economies adopted supportive policies designed to accelerate the energy transition away from fossil fuels and stimulate the development of industries and expertise in the clean-energy arena.

The iShares Global Clean Energy ETF (ICLN-Q) characterized the broad flow of investor interest in clean power during that period, with prices rising by around 180 per cent from January, 2020, to January, 2021.

Over that same period, investor interest in traditional energy developers dwindled amid a broad pushback against fossil fuels, exacerbated by the global downturn in fuel use during COVID-19 lockdowns.

The S&P oil & gas exploration and production ETF (XOP-A), one of the largest ETFs tracking fossil fuel output, slumped by over 60 per cent through the opening four months of 2020, and finished out the year still nursing more than 40-per-cent losses despite recovering mobility and business activity in several economies.

REUTERS

## There's room for good financial planning before the capital-gains tax change

BENJAMIN FELIX

OPINION

Portfolio manager and head of research at PwL Capital. He co-hosts the *Rational Reminder* podcast and has a YouTube channel. He is a CFP professional and a CFA charterholder.

The federal budget's proposed increase to the capital-gains inclusion rate, effective June 25, raises the question of whether investors should sell taxable assets before the new rate kicks in. Currently, 50 per cent of capital gains are included in taxable income. Under the budget proposal, that inclusion rate would increase to 66.7 per cent in some cases.

While it may make sense for some people to sell their taxable assets before June 25, the answer is far from simple.

### WHAT'S CHANGED?

By increasing the proportion of a realized capital gain that is included in taxable income, the 2024 budget proposal would result in the top capital-gains tax rate for individuals in Ontario increasing to 35.69 per cent from 26.77 per cent.

While the capital-gains inclusion rate (and by extension the tax rate on capital gains) is set to increase, the first \$250,000 of gains earned by an individual will be taxed based on the current inclusion rate of 50 per cent. Corporations – which are where many small business owners and professionals do their investing – are getting hit harder. They will pay tax based on the new higher inclusion rate on their first dollar of capital gains.

Corporate taxation in Canada is complex, but by my calculations a capital gain realized in a corporation in Ontario will ultimately leave a shareholder in that province taxed at a total rate of 38.62 per cent on a realized capital gain, compared with the current 28.97 per cent.

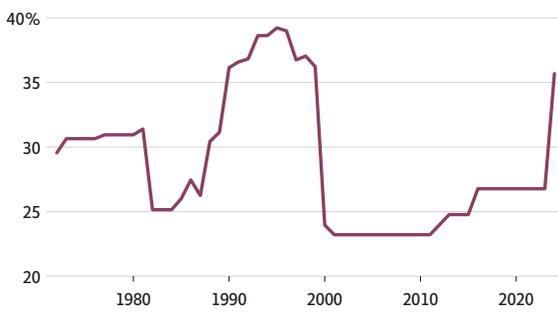
### WHAT SHOULD PEOPLE DO?

The big financial-planning question is whether people should sell taxable assets before June 25 while they still have access to the 50-per-cent inclusion rate, with no cap.

Let's think about an example where an individual at the top marginal tax rate in Ontario has a \$1,000,000 capital gain. That asset sale would result in a tax bill of about \$268,000 on the capital gain prior to June 25; after that date the tax would be about \$335,000.

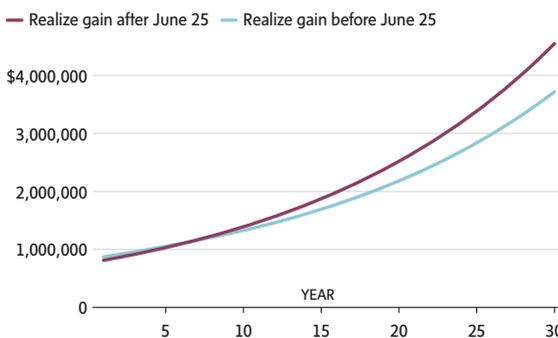
That's a big difference, but it's still not obvious that everyone should be selling their taxable as-

### Top capital gains inclusion rate in Ontario



THE GLOBE AND MAIL, SOURCE: PwL CAPITAL. DATA SOURCES: EMMANUEL SAEZ & MICHAEL R. VEALL, 2003. "THE EVOLUTION OF HIGH INCOMES IN CANADA, 1920-2000," QUANTITATIVE STUDIES IN ECONOMICS AND POPULATION RESEARCH REPORTS 382, MCMASTER UNIVERSITY.; GOVERNMENT OF CANADA.

### After-tax assets for top marginal tax bracket, by scenario



THE GLOBE AND MAIL, SOURCE: AUTHOR'S CALCULATIONS BASED ON DATA FROM PwL CAPITAL

sets before June 25. Selling now, while resulting in a lower tax bill today, also means you pay that tax bill soon, as opposed to some point in the future.

### A LONGER-TERM VIEW

Continuing with this example (and assuming it's a portfolio of equities), realizing the gain before June 25 is more advantageous. But over longer time horizons, by deferring the tax – even with the higher future inclusion rate – the investor comes out ahead.

For smaller capital gains, many individuals will be unaffected by the changes owing to the \$250,000 limit, but those selling or otherwise disposing of larger assets (such as cottages, rental properties and some investment portfolios) will likely be affected.

### A POTENTIAL TAX TRAP

An important consideration before selling any assets is the Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT). The Canadian tax system runs two parallel calculations. One is the regular taxation framework that most people are familiar with. The other is the AMT, which is applied by the CRA to ensure that those on high incomes pay a minimum amount of tax no matter what deductions or credits they have. If the tax owing calculated

under the AMT is higher than that which would be owing under the regular system, you pay the AMT.

The important point to take away is that at the 50-per-cent inclusion rate, large capital gains will often trigger AMT, particularly for people with lower sources of other income. The inclusion rate is 100 per cent for the 2024 AMT calculation.

Some of that AMT may be recoverable as the AMT can be carried forward for up to seven years and used to offset future taxes, but a taxpayer with no other sources of income may not be able to recover any of it. By effectively increasing the tax rate on the initial capital gain, this can change the math on whether it makes sense to realize capital gains now or to defer them.

### TAKEAWAYS

The proposed changes to the capital-gains inclusion rate will not affect individual investors with capital gains under \$250,000. All others need to take careful stock of their specific situation.

In some cases, it may be better to sell assets before June 25, but for long-term investors, unless they were planning on liquidating for some other reason, deferring unrealized capital gains often still makes sense. For large capital gains and low sources of other income, AMT will be a major consideration in this decision.

## U.S. small-cap stocks struggle as elevated interest rates take a toll

DAVID RANDALL NEW YORK

The prospect of interest rates remaining elevated as the U.S. Federal Reserve battles inflation is further clouding the outlook for shares of smaller U.S. companies, which have lagged broader markets this year.

Small-cap stocks surged at the end of 2023, as expectations grew that the Fed was done raising interest rates and would soon begin easing monetary policy. That would be a welcome change for smaller companies, which rely more heavily on debt financing and consumer spending.

But stubbornly strong inflation has eroded prospects of rate cuts this year, and small-cap stocks have suffered as a result. The Russell 2000 is up about 3 per cent year-to-date, far less than the S&P 500's nearly 10-per-cent gain. Earnings are also expected to be shaky, giving investors little reason to shift allocations from larger companies and other, less risky parts of their portfolios.

"Investors are skeptical right now about small-cap stocks because of higher rates and stickier inflation, and they need greater clarity that the Fed will be cutting rates this year before moving in," said Michael Arone, chief investment strategist for State Street's SPDR Business, who has been buying small caps in anticipation of rate cuts later in the year.

The case for smaller stocks may have improved over the past few days. U.S. employment data on Friday showed that jobs growth, while still relatively robust, slowed last month, easing fears that rates will remain elevated for the rest of the year. The Russell 2000 was up about 1 per cent on the day.

Last Wednesday, Fed chairman Jerome Powell said he still believed rates were heading lower this year, despite stubborn inflation.

Futures markets on Friday showed investors pricing in around 45 basis points of interest-rate cuts this year, from less than 30 priced in earlier this week. That remained far lower than the 150 points they had priced in January.

Stronger-than-expected earnings in coming weeks could help allay investor concerns. Over all, the Russell 2000 is expected to post earning growth of -8.4 per cent over the most recent quarter, compared with a 10.2-per-cent earnings growth rate for the S&P 500, according to LSEG data. At the same, the Russell 2000 is trading at a forward price to earnings ratio of 22 compared with a 20 times earnings multiple for the S&P 500, making small caps more expensive.

"The earnings pickup we expected has just not been there," said David Lefkowitz, head of U.S. equities at UBS Global Wealth Management, who has been overweight small caps since December. "I still think the preference for small makes sense, but it depends on your rate view."

Among the notable small-cap companies reporting in the week ahead are nutrition company Belling Brands, gambling company Light & Wonder and oil and natural gas company Permian Resources.

Larger caps reporting next week include Walt Disney, Wynn Resorts and Akamai Technologies, as U.S. corporate earnings season continues.

Despite the encouraging developments of the past few days, few believe the path to rate cuts is clear.

Jill Carey Hall, equity & quant strategist at Bofa Global Research, said investors buying small caps should focus on companies positioned to withstand an extended Fed pause, including those with higher percentages of fixed debt and comparatively low leverage.

"It's too soon to price in more rate cuts," said Timothy Chubb, chief investment officer at Girard. "One number doesn't make a trend. Over all, the Fed is getting the evidence it needs."

REUTERS

The case for smaller stocks may have improved over the past few days. U.S. employment data on Friday showed that jobs growth, while still relatively robust, slowed last month, easing fears that rates will remain elevated for the rest of the year. The Russell 2000 was up about 1 per cent on the day.



As costs have jumped exponentially, some Canadians might be feeling shame that they weren't able to save enough over the past few months and are internalizing that emotion, says Kalee Boisvert, a financial adviser at Raymond James Ltd. THE CANADIAN PRESS

## S&P 500 and TSX extend winning streaks despite Disney drag

The S&P 500, Dow Jones Industrial Average and S&P/TSX Composite Index clung onto gains to close higher on Tuesday, extending recent winning streaks fuelled by renewed expectations that the U.S. Federal Reserve will cut interest rates this year.

The advances pushed the S&P 500 to a fourth straight higher close, and its best winning run since March. It was the fifth straight gain for both the Dow and TSX.

The benchmark U.S. performances came despite Walt Disney slumping 9.5 per cent as a surprise profit in its streaming entertainment division was eclipsed by a drop in its traditional TV business and weaker box office.

Despite Disney's drag, for much of the day the three main U.S. stock indexes had traded at their highest intraday levels in more than three weeks, extending gains after a weaker-than-expected labour market report last week fuelled bets that the U.S. central bank will cut rates.

"I think the market is in this little holding pattern until the big data comes next week," said Garrett Melson, portfolio strategist at Natixis Investment Manager Solutions, referring to the Producer Price Index (PPI) due on May 14, and the Consumer Price Index (CPI) scheduled for May 15.

Generally, the Fed and policy makers have been consistent in their message in recent weeks that rate cuts will come but the central bank is going to be cautious in implementing them. That message was repeated on Monday by Federal Reserve Bank of New York president John Williams and Richmond Federal Reserve president Thomas Barkin.

This meant, on a day lacking major data announcements, markets shrugged off comments from Minneapolis Federal Reserve president Neel Kashkari that the Fed may need to hold rates steady for the remainder of the year owing to stalled inflation and housing market strength.

Over all, Friday's U.S. payrolls data and better-than-expected earnings reports have helped soothe investor jitters around sticky inflation and a robust economy that have kept the rates elevated.

Traders are anticipating rate cuts of 46 basis points from the Fed by the end of 2024, according to LSEG's interest-rate probabilities app, with the first pivot to rate cut seen in September and another in December. They were expecting only one cut before the labour report last week.

Money markets are currently pricing in about 65-per-cent odds that the Bank of Canada will pivot to lowering interest rates next month, a move that is likely to arrive ahead of the Fed because of recent weakness in the domestic economy.

The TSX ended up 31.15 points at 22,290.62. It was the highest closing level for the index in four weeks, when it posted a record high of 22,361.78.

The S&P 500 gained 0.13 per cent, while the Nasdaq lost 0.10 per cent. The Dow rose 0.08 per cent.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

REUTERS, GLOBE STAFF

# How to overcome guilt about not saving enough

In a December study, half of the respondents said their mental and emotional well-being was affected by finances

RITIKA DUBEY

“The whole world has completely shifted, so of course money behaviours are going to shift.”

CHANTEL CHAPMAN  
CEO AND CO-FOUNDER,  
TRAUMA OF MONEY

As the higher cost of living continues to squeeze household budgets, many Canadians find they have even less left over at the end of every month to squirrel away for the future.

Some might be feeling shame that they weren't able to save enough over the past few months and are internalizing that emotion, Kalee Boisvert, a financial adviser at Raymond James Ltd., said in an interview.

"I would say it's more so people feeling guilty that they're not saving enough, that they wish they could do more," Ms. Boisvert said.

"I'm hearing this from a lot of people, so, recognize that we're going through a really tough season."

While the cost of mortgage payments, rent, consumer debt - essentially everyday life - has jumped exponentially over the past few years, many household incomes did not keep pace - slowly chipping away at monthly savings quotas.

People often feel their inability to save enough is their personal responsibility, but the affordability crisis is happening externally, said Chantel Chapman, chief executive officer and co-founder of Trauma of Money.

"If there are affordability issues, we need to ask, 'Whose shame is this,' or 'Whose guilt is this?'" Ms. Chapman said.

Most of the household income could be going toward paying bills on time, maintaining a roof over their head and putting food on the table, she said. There may not be enough after that to put

into savings.

"Those feelings of guilt - we need to question them," she said.

She added people don't have control over external factors such as an economic slowdown, mass layoffs, high rental costs and interest rates.

A December Coast Capital study showed more than a third of Canadians felt financial shame and half of survey respondents said their mental and emotional well-being was affected by the finances.

But there's a way to break the guilt cycle, Ms. Chapman said.

It starts with noticing the narrative. Pointing out what a person might be telling themselves - "I'm stupid and bad with money because I'm not saving [but] everyone else is saving," she said - and realizing its effect on the nervous system.

The effects can be skin becoming flushed or throat constricted, Ms. Chapman explained. Once her clients start to notice the correlation between the narrative and the bodily response, she asks them to identify who the guilt belongs to - is it internal or external?

This helps regulate the nervous system, Ms. Chapman said, and makes room for practical steps such as reviewing budgets, adjusting priorities around spending or simply talking about it with a friend.

Depersonalizing guilt is the last step to breaking the cycle, Ms. Chapman said, especially for those who think it is entirely on them for not saving enough.

"We [need to] zoom out of ourselves," she said.

"The whole world has completely shifted, so of course money behaviours are going to shift," Ms. Chapman said.

Ms. Boisvert said many workers who maintained their jobs during the pandemic were able to save huge portions of money during pandemic-related restrictions. As normalcy returned, so did the spending - travelling,

dining out, going into the office, among others.

"There's an element of comparison to what they were able to put away a couple of years ago," she said. "Now, they're feeling like it set a higher watermark for them."

Comparison with others also plays a role in savings guilt, said Jessica Moorhouse, a money expert and host of the *More Money* podcast. While comparisons aren't new, social media has made it worse, she added.

"The comparison game has shifted and now we just feel like, 'There's no way I can possibly keep up with anything,'" she said.

And that guilt is often present across ages no matter how frugal people have been, Ms. Moorhouse said.

For young people, the guilt is that they're not saving enough for a down payment on a home. People who have started families feel guilty for not saving enough for their kids. Those with retirement on the horizon have been feeling guilty for not meeting the savings goal they had in mind.

While being frugal or cutting back on expenses could help, there are other ways to increase savings.

Ms. Boisvert said people should take advantage of employee benefits and matching plans for extra savings and focus on long-term goals.

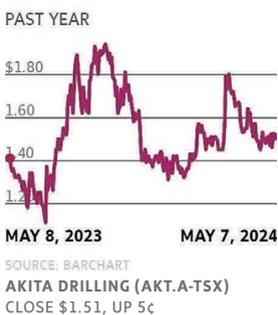
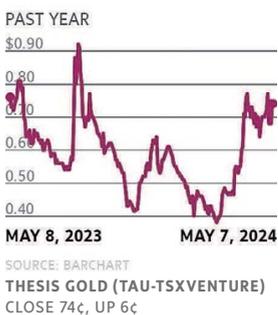
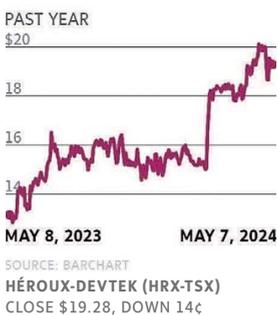
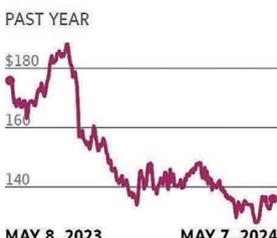
"This could be for a season. This might not last forever," she said, suggesting to track progress on long-term goals.

Getting creative and diversifying income streams can help boost your savings.

Ms. Moorhouse suggested getting a second job on the weekends, starting a side hustle or even changing jobs to increase your salary.

"I tell people to spend less and earn more," she said. "That is the thing that works."

### EYE ON EQUITIES DAVID LEEDER



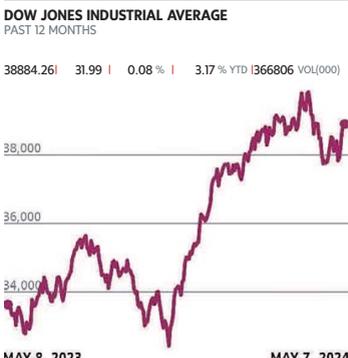
Desjardins Securities analyst Chris Li is expecting another challenging quarter for **Canadian Tire Corp. Ltd.** when it releases its first-quarter financial results on Thursday. "We believe 1Q is expected to be another tough quarter, reflecting cautious consumer discretionary spending, limited dealer inventory replenishment, and higher net impairment losses and funding costs for Financial Services," he said. **Target:** Mr. Li reiterated a "buy" recommendation and \$160 target. Consensus is \$152.90.

After a "strong" first quarter, **5N Plus Inc.** continues to possess multiple tailwinds, according to National Bank Financial analyst Rupert Merer. "With deglobalization of manufacturing, VNP is well positioned as a strategic material supplier," he said. **Target:** Believing VNP "still looks attractive to peers on a multiple basis," Mr. Merer raised his target to \$6.50 from \$6 based on its impressive performance and growing backlog, reiterating an "outperform" recommendation. Consensus is \$6.06.

With aerospace and defence stocks "on fire," Desjardins Securities analyst Benoit Poirier thinks **Héroux-Devtek Inc.** "still has more room to run" ahead of the release of its fourth-quarter results on May 22. "In our view, the Street's numbers are appropriately calibrated and we would be buyers ahead of the quarter despite the 27.8-per-cent year-to-date run-up in the stock," he said. **Target:** He kept his "buy" recommendation and \$26 target. Consensus is \$24.50.

With Canadian gold projects continuing to be in demand, Raymond James analyst Craig Stanley thinks **Thesis Gold Inc.** could draw the attention of larger peers as it continues to develop its Lawyers-Ranch Project in north central British Columbia. "We believe Thesis could garner interest from gold producers looking to initiate or expand their presence in Canada," he said. **Target:** He initiated coverage with an "outperform" rating and \$2 target. Consensus is \$2.08.

ATB Capital Markets analyst Tim Monachello thinks the outlook for **Akita Drilling Ltd.**'s second half of the fiscal 2024 has "significantly improved." "We believe Akita's outlook and visibility in Canada and the U.S. suggests that H2/24 should be stronger year-over-year and gaining momentum into 2025," he said. **Target:** Mr. Monachello hiked his target for Akita shares to \$3.75 from \$2.70, maintaining an "outperform" recommendation. Consensus is \$2.70.



### TSX INDEXES AND SUB INDEXES

	CLOSE	NET CHG	% CHG	VOL 000s	YTD %CHG
TSX COMPOSITE IND	22290.62	31.15	0.14	190099	6.36
TSX 60 INDEX	1336.36	2.06	0.15	11887	5.66
TSX COMPLETION I	1341.26	1.05	0.08	7821	9.39
TSX SMALLCAP INDE	762.29	-0.70	-0.09	64479	8.58
TSX VENTURE COMPO	593.24	3.14	0.53	28914	7.30
TSX CONSUMER DISC	279.23	-0.18	-0.06	3216	2.18
TSX CONSUMER STAP	916.71	-4.58	-0.50	3469	5.90
TSX ENERGY CAPPD	295.95	1.32	0.45	36687	22.26
TSX FINANCIALS CA	395.40	-0.20	-0.05	44687	3.02
TSX HEALTH CARE C	24.94	-0.33	-1.31	2822	5.14
TSX INDUSTRIALS C	453.86	-0.90	-0.20	12333	7.42
TSX REAL ESTATE C	296.07	-2.21	-0.74	5340	-4.33
TSX GLOBAL GOLD I	317.13	0.40	0.13	41000	11.79
TSX GLOBAL MINING	121.01	0.82	0.68	11862	7.23
TSX INCOME TRUST	199.20	-1.88	-0.93	5740	-4.03
TSX PREFERRED SHA	599.13	0.17	0.03	7004	10.87
TSX COMMUNICATION	156.03	0.00	0.00	5946	-9.58
TSX UTILITIES CAP	279.97	-0.14	-0.05	9692	-0.89

### TSX VOLUME

TOP 20 FOR STOCKS \$1 OR MORE

	CLOSE	NET CHG	% CHG	VOL 000s	YTD %CHG
ENB ENBRIDGE INC	50.58	0.44	0.88	18787	6.04
TD TORONTO-DOMINI	75.97	0.84	1.12	9913	-11.27
MFC MANULIFE FIN	33.27	-0.15	-0.45	7629	13.63
RY ROYAL BANK OF	138.65	-0.49	-0.35	7241	3.47
SU SUNCOR ENERGY	53.44	0.31	0.58	5244	25.89
BTE BAYTEX ENERGY	5.07	-0.03	-0.59	5030	15.75
CVE CENOVUS ENERG	28.28	0.00	0.00	4387	28.08
CXB CALIBRE MININ	2.09	0.05	2.45	3677	53.68
TOU TOURMALINE OI	67.15	0.24	0.36	3588	12.69
BMU BANK OF MONTR	126.32	-0.86	-0.68	3506	-3.65
AC AIR CANADA	18.53	-0.30	-1.59	3400	-0.86
NOV NOVA ENERGY	64.69	-0.13	-0.20	3380	0.29
WED CANOPY GROWT	12.98	-0.33	-2.48	3243	92.01
SHOP SHOPIFY INC	105.75	0.07	0.07	3191	2.51
RY-RY-RBC FIRST	24.98	0.04	0.16	3137	30.10
BB BLACKBERRY LTD	3.95	-0.16	-3.89	2853	-15.96
HOU BETAPRO NAT G	4.24	0.05	1.11	2839	-35.95
BCE BCE INC	45.91	0.05	0.11	2570	-12.00
XIU IISHARES S&P T	33.90	0.04	0.12	2556	5.87
ATH ATHABASCA OIL	4.81	0.00	0.00	2551	15.35

### TSX 52-WEEK HIGHS

STOCKS \$1 OR MORE

	CLOSE	NET CHG	% CHG	VOL 000s	YTD %CHG
BCE-PR-F BCE IST	17.54	0.14	0.80	12	9.97
BMO-PR-E BMO PREF	25.48	0.18	0.71	26	4.43
BBD-B BOMBARDIER	73.56	0.00	0.00	445	38.24
BN BROOKFIELD COR	60.03	0.33	0.55	1298	12.94
BN-PR-Z BROOKFIEL	21.10	0.20	0.96	7	13.93
BN-PF-H BROOKFIEL	23.70	0.05	0.21	1	15.10
BN-PF-J BROOKFIEL	22.80	0.47	2.10	1	17.04
BN-PF-K BROOKFIEL	22.25	0.35	1.60	19	11.03
BN-PR-A BROOKFIE	20.88	0.02	0.10	43	22.75
BNRE BROOKFIELD R	60.23	0.59	0.99	30	13.64
BNRE-A BROOKFIELD	59.90	0.55	0.93	5	12.59
ENB-PR-C ENBRIDG	133.41	0.77	0.58	65	19.83
DOL DOLLARAMA INC	118.76	0.90	0.76	351	24.37
ENB-PR-E ENBRIDG	21.10	0.00	0.00	2	2.18
EQB-PR-C EQUITABL	24.95	0.00	0.00	1	6.35
FH-FAIRFAX	17.53	0.08	0.46	3	16.71
FFH-PR-M FAIRFAX	24.28	0.08	0.33	4	10.62
FFH-PR-D FAIRFAX	22.78	0.08	0.35	3	13.05
FFH-PR-H FAIRFAX	18.90	0.25	1.34	9	6.18
FFH-PR-J FAIRFAX	19.75	0.10	0.51	2	7.34

### TSX 52-WEEK LOWS

STOCKS \$1 OR MORE

	CLOSE	NET CHG	% CHG	VOL 000s	YTD %CHG
FIS-PR-M FORTIS I	20.08	0.05	0.25	8	14.48
WN GEORGE WESTON	187.33	-1.50	-0.79	107	13.88
GSY GOEASY LTD	184.53	-0.10	-0.05	34	16.75
GIGC GUARDIAN INV	20.41	0.02	0.10		
IFC-PR-A INTACT F	19.58	-0.02	-0.10	2	11.89
MFC-PR-P MANULIFE	18.50	0.50	2.78	17	8.83
MFC-PR-K MANULIFE	23.50	0.15	0.64	5	5.15
MFC-PR-L MANULIFE	22.50	0.09	0.40	4	18.92
NA-PR-E NATIONAL	24.23	0.23	0.96	30	11.20
PVS-PR-I PARTNERS	24.26	0.06	0.25	1	3.19
PVS-PR-F PARTNERS	24.95	0.00	0.00	2	1.01
PVS-PR-I PARTNERS	24.47	0.07	0.29	2	0.41
PPL-PR-G PEMBINA	49.45	0.41	0.84	1799	8.40
PPL-PR-G PEMBINA	20.36	0.05	0.25	1	19.69
PRMW PRIMO WATER	27.63	0.45	1.66	144	38.43
TD-PF-J TD BANK P	24.44	0.09	0.37	19	7.86
TVK TARRANTVEST	74.01	0.11	0.15	25	67.25
TRI THOMSON REUTE	229.08	0.67	0.29	186	18.25
TRP-PR-G TRANSCAN	19.20	-0.05	-0.26	3	17.65
TRP-PR-E TRANSCAN	18.26	0.14	0.77	72	21.01

### TSX GAINERS

TOP 20 FOR STOCKS \$1 OR MORE

	CLOSE	NET CHG	% CHG	VOL 000s	YTD %CHG
MDNA MEDICENNA TH	2.82	0.38	15.57	163	571.43
PMET PATRIOT BATT	8.08	0.77	10.53	156	38.63
REAL REAL MATTERS	5.46	0.51	10.30	189	-33.33
IFA IFABRIC CORP	1.29	0.10	8.40	2	16.22
VNP SN PLUS INC	5.15	0.37	7.74	426	36.24
CLML-U CI GLOBAL	28.35	2.00	7.59	11	36.10
AZEZ AETERNA ZENT	11.49	0.79	7.38	11	7.77
TVA-B TVA GROUP I	1.51	0.09	6.34	11	8.85
CHPS-U GX SEMICON	27.25	1.58	6.16	16	26.25
NOVC NOVA CANNABI	1.40	0.07	5.26	13	57.30
GTE GRAN TIERRA E	12.69	0.56	4.62	148	70.56
PAY PAYFARE INC	6.95	0.30	4.51	249	11.92
SOY SUNOPTA INC	7.90	0.32	4.22	7.07	9.27
FFG FIRAN TECHNOL	5.22	0.21	4.19	23	22.82
QQQT-B EVOLVE NAS	28.27	1.13	4.16	19	19.99
FORA VERTICALSCOP	8.54	0.34	4.15	5	82.48
GLO GLOBAL ATOMIC	2.33	0.09	4.02	824	-16.19
CGG-A GUARDIAN CA	45.50	1.74	3.98	4	2.80
PRU PERSEUS MININ	2.10	0.08	3.96	46	25.75
CINV CI GLOBAL AL	21.53	0.81	3.91	17	59.91

### TSX LOSERS

TOP 20 FOR STOCKS \$1 OR MORE

	CLOSE	NET CHG	% CHG	VOL 000s	YTD %CHG
CRRX CARERX CORP	2.12	-0.20	-8.62	62	31.68
SOIL SATURN OIL A	2.44	-0.21	-7.92	1853	10.91
TGO TEGO INC	1.76	-0.15	-7.85	12	15.79
PPL-PF-B PEMBINA	21.80	-1.80	-7.63	12	-5.22
DCA DUNDÉE CORP	1.30	-0.10	-7.14	20	41.30
MARI MARIMACA COP	3.59	-0.27	-6.99	12	4.66
ENGR ENGLANG PACIF	1.47	-0.11	-6.96	12	-8.70
HUT HUT 8 CORP	11.26	-0.84	-6.94	737	-36.31
CDR CONDOR ENERGI	1.82	-0.13	-6.67	3	32.85
SBI SERABI GOLD P	1.10	-0.07	-5.98	21	59.42
AIDX HEALWELL AI	1.47	-0.08	-5.16	354	96.00
TSND TERRASCEND C	2.25	-0.12	-5.06	242	2.27
CURA CURALEAF HOL	7.31	-0.37	-4.82	349	32.67
DHT-UN DRI HEALTH	16.95	-0.78	-4.66	77	27.80
GRID TANTALUS SYS	1.74	-0.08	-4.40	23	112.20
ADEN ADENTRA INC	41.52	-1.86	-4.29	87	29.87
LGO LARGO RESOURC	2.25	-0.10	-4.26	53	-26.23
BIFB BITFARMS LTD	2.53	-0.11	-4.17	1312	-34.29
DND DYE & DURHAM	14.23	-0.61	-4.11	317	-0.91
CKI CLARKE INC	20.26	-0.84	-3.98	1	41.88

### TSX 52-WEEK LOWS

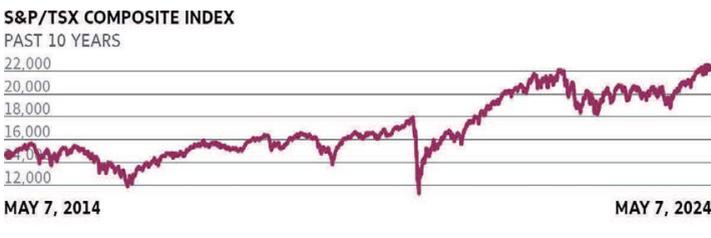
STOCKS \$1 OR MORE

	CLOSE	NET CHG	% CHG	VOL 000s	YTD %CHG
CIACI CI GLOBAL AR	2.08	0.00	0.00		

### TSX 52-WEEK LOWS

STOCKS \$1 OR MORE

	CLOSE	NET CHG	% CHG	VOL 000s	YTD %CHG
XTD TDB SPLIT COR	2.48	0.07	2.90	19	-18.69



### S&P/TSX COMPOSITE INDEX STOCKS

LARGEST STOCKS BY MARKET CAPITALIZATION

	CLOSE	NET CHG	% CHG	VOL 000s	YTD %CHG
AAV ADVANTAGE OIL	11.09	0.14	1.28	184	30.01
AOI AFRICA OIL CO	2.45	-0.03	-1.21	189	-1.61
AEM AEGNICO EAGLE	90.44	0.05	0.06	854	24.49
AC AIR CANADA	18.53	-0.30	-1.59	3400	-0.86
AGI ALAMOS GOLD I	20.99	0.12	0.57	474	17.79
ASTL ALGOMA STEEL	10.74	0.15	1.42	40	-19.25
AQN ALQUIN POW	9.08	-0.07	-0.77	1452	8.61
ATD ALIMENTATION	7.42	-0.53	-7.10	1018	-4.24
ALP ALLIED PROP	17.02	-0.33	-1.90	785	-15.66
ALA-UN LANTAD	30.10	-0.10	-0.33	850	-5.20
AIF ALTUS GROUP L	49.17	0.10	0.20	70	16.68
ARX ARC RESOURCES	25.40	-0.05	-0.20	1136	29.13
ART ARIZIA INC	37.89	-0.13	-0.34	353	37.78
ACO-X ATCO LTD CL	39.10	0.84	2.20	280	1.11
ATH ATHABASCA OIL	4.81	0.00	0.00	2551	15.35
ATS ATS CORP	45.23	0.54	1.21	118	-20.80
BTO B2GOLD CORP	3.52	0.04	1.15	2511	-15.99
BCE BCE INC	45.91	0.05	0.11	2570	-12.00
BDGI BADGER INFRA	44.45	-0.93	-2.05	49	9.19
BLD BALLAROW POWER	3.86	-0.01	-0.26	2010	-21.38
BMO BANK OF MONTR	126.32	-0.86	-0.68	3506	-3.65
BNS BANK OF NOVA	64.69	-0.13	-0.20	3380	0.29
ABX BARRICK GOLD	22.99	0.20	0.88	1886	-3.97
BHC BAUSCH HEALTH	10.20	-0.07	-0.68	318	-4.05
BTE BAYTEX ENERGY	5.07	-0.03	-0.59	5030	15.75
BIR BIRCHCLIFF EN	5.84	0.01	0.17	738	1.04
BB BLACKBERRY LTD	3.95	-0.16	-3.89	2853	-15.96
BEI-UN BOARDWALK	73.10	0.76	1.05	91	2.47
BBB-B BOMBARDIER	73.56	0.00	0.00	445	38.24
BLX BOREALX INC	29.60	-0.32	-1.07	253	-12.11
BYD BOYD GROUP SE	266.17	-2.08	-0.78	37	-4.42
BAM BROOKFIELD AS	54.61	0.00	0.00	518	2.61
BBU-UN BROOKFIELD	26.00	0.13	0.50	35	-4.94
ABM BROOKFIELD COR	60.03	0.33	0.55	1298	12.94
ABP-UN BROOKFIELD	41.10	-0.23	-0.56	356	-1.58
BBP-UN BROOKFIELD	36.12	-0.28	-0.77	206	3.76
DOO BRP INC	94.12	-0.09	-0.10	85	-0.74
CAW-UN CDN APARTM	44.92	-0.37	-0.82	287	-7.95
CBR-UN WESTERN B	27.18	0.05	0.18	897	-11.95
GIBA-CI GROUP I	141.49	-0.28	-0.20	199	-3.22
CIX CI FINANCIAL	16.75	0.05	0.30	196	12.72
CRT-UN CT REAL ES	13.52	-0.			

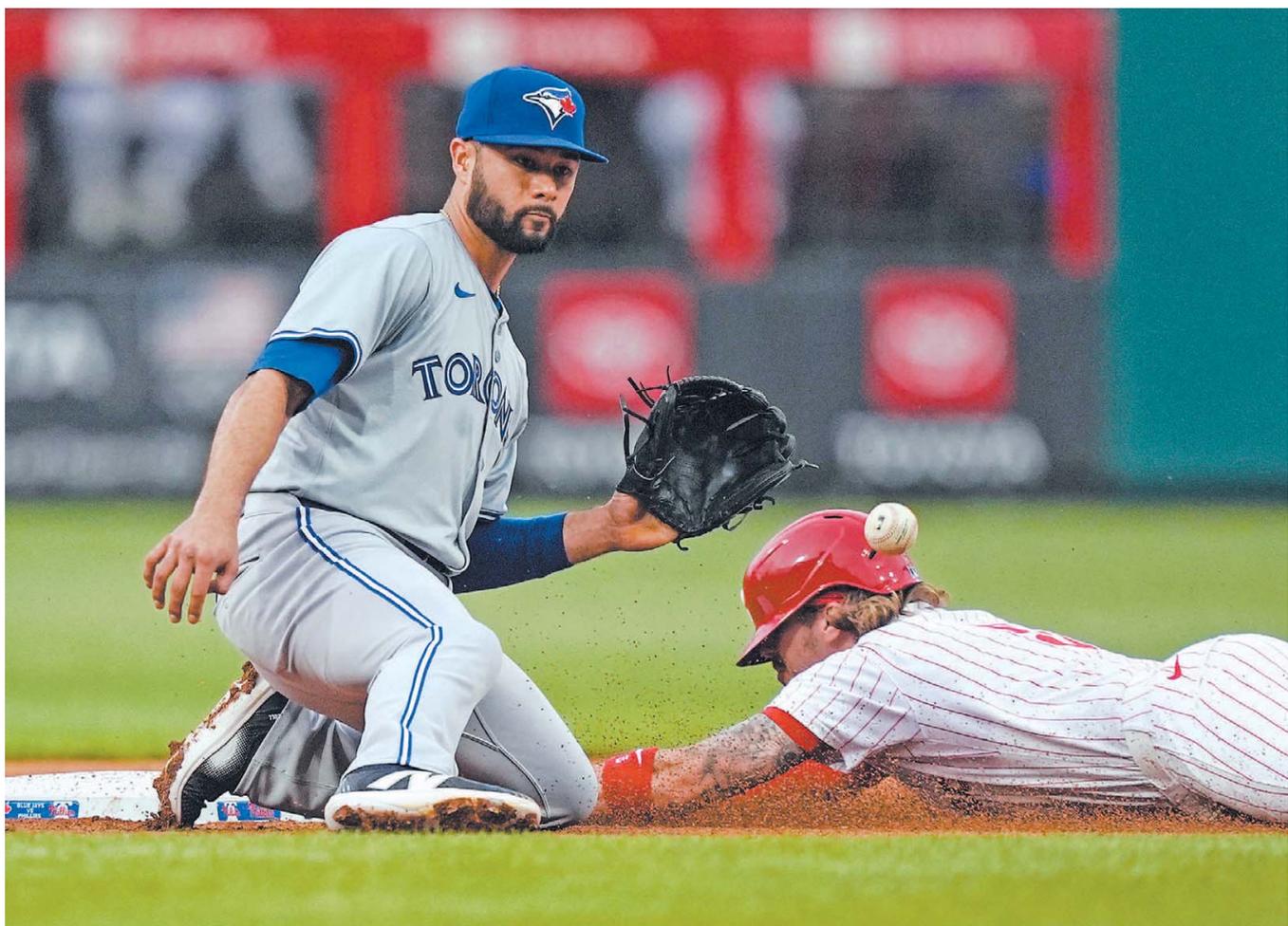


# SPORTS

Toronto looks to build on hard-won confidence in PWHL playoff opener against Minnesota ■ B13

Borussia Dortmund tops PSG in semi-final to end Mbappé's title bid in Champions League ■ B14

[ BLUE JAYS VS. PHILLIES ]



## Jays say uncle

Phillies second baseman Bryson Stott steals second past his Blue Jays counterpart, Isiah Kiner-Falefa, during the second inning of Tuesday night's game at Citizens Bank Park in Philadelphia. Toronto fell 10-1 in the opener of the two-game series. Read more about the game on ■ B12

MATT SLOCUM/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Canucks look to Silovs to slow high-powered Oilers

DAVID EBNER VANCOUVER

One team has – likely – a rookie goaltender in net. The other has an underwhelming postseason reputation and the best Canadian player of his generation at the helm.

Connor McDavid wasn't born the last time the Edmonton Oilers and Vancouver Canucks faced each other in the playoffs, back in 1992. There is no historic postseason rivalry between the two squads in the all-Canadian second-round series that begins Wednesday night in Vancouver.

For McDavid, however, getting past the Canucks is a must-not-fail test in a storied hockey career that remains absent of any playoff glory. The Canucks, meanwhile, are half-lucky to be here. Their unexpected success – winning their division for the first time in 11 years – has morphed into a doubly unexpected success after the team got through the first round with few goals and a strong showing from Arturs Silovs, a 23-year-old third-stringer who shut out the Nashville Predators in a series-clinching win that marked his 12th NHL game.

With Edmonton widely pre-

dicted to win the series, much of the talk around the short-handed Canucks on Tuesday in Vancouver was their underdog status.

Canucks defenceman Nikita Zadorov was sanguine. "Why would we feel like underdogs?" he said. He then gave a nod towards Silovs. "He gives us confidence."

The young Latvian goaltender wasn't in the locker room after practice Tuesday, slipping away without a small fusillade of questions from reporters. He also hadn't officially been named the starter for Game 1 but appeared to be the probable pick on the ice during practice. In the first round, Silovs won two, lost one and recorded a stellar .938 save percentage. It is perhaps no fluke. While he has few NHL games played, he's already delivered under pressure. A year ago, Silovs led Latvia to its first world championship medal – a bronze – and won tournament MVP.

Teammates and coaches describe a sort of Zen of youth that Silovs displays. The moment may seem weighty but he's not lured into overthinking it.

"I don't think he's thinking too much," Canucks coach Rick Tocchet said.

■ CANADA, B13



Canucks head coach Rick Tocchet, centre, checks Nikita Zadorov in front of goalie Arturs Silovs as Ian Cole trails behind during Tuesday's practice in Vancouver. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Argos' Kelly suspended at least nine games for violating gender-based violence policy

The CFL suspended Toronto Argonauts quarterback Chad Kelly for at least nine regular-season games Tuesday after its investigation into a lawsuit filed by a former strength-and-conditioning coach against both the player and club.

According to the CFL, Kelly is also suspended for Toronto's two preseason games for violating its gender-based violence policy. Kelly must undergo confidential assessments by an independent expert and attend mandatory counselling sessions conducted by a gender-based violence expert.

Both the counselling sessions and assessments must be satisfactorily completed before the CFL will consider Kelly's reinstatement, the league added in a statement. Otherwise, it reserves the right to modify his discipline.

Kelly, 30, was the CFL's outstanding player last season after leading Toronto to a league-best and franchise-record 16-2 record. But the Argos' season ended with a 38-17 home loss to eventual Grey Cup champion Montreal in the East Division final.

There was no announcement regarding any penalties or sanctions against the Argos. But the league added the club's conduct in this matter, as laid out by the investigators, will be reviewed with the club.

Kelly wasn't immediately available for comment. Neither the Argos nor the CFL Players' Association offered responses either.

The CFL's decision to launch its investigation came after the complainant filed a statement of claim with the Ontario Superior Court of Justice alleging a pattern of harassment by Kelly, beginning with unwanted romantic advances and escalating into instances of threatening language.

The coach said the Argos did not act when told of Kelly's behaviour and claims assistant general manager John Murphy said she "opened a can of worms that didn't need to be opened."

CFL commissioner Randy Ambrosie said the league's investigation revealed definite violations of its gender-based violence policy.

"It was important that we performed our due diligence to properly review this matter from all points of view," Ambrosie said in a statement. "That in-depth investigation found that Mr. Kelly unequivocally violated the CFL's gender-based violence policy."

"Mr. Kelly's suspension is the direct result of his behaviour. The addition of mandatory

counselling focuses on his need for self-reflection and understanding of his actions. He must take full advantage of this."

The complainant said she was informed in January her contract with the club would not be renewed. The complainant had joined the franchise in 2018 and said her contract had previously been continually renewed.

The complainant is seeking \$80,000 from Kelly and a total of \$85,714 from the Argos. The Canadian Press does not publish the names of alleged victims of harassment or sexual assault unless granted permission.

TSN also reported the complainant is also seeking \$10,000 worth of punitive damages.

The broadcaster also said Kelly recently filed his defence in the lawsuit and denied making "any romantic or sexual overtures" toward the plaintiff, including workplace sexual harassment.

Kelly stated the complainant "advanced these spurious claims against him purely to draw the attention of the media to what was otherwise a very routine termination situation."

In their defence filing, the Argos claimed they had "no knowledge" of any behaviour from Kelly that violated the CFL's gender-based violence policy or breached the Ontario Human Rights Code. The team also claimed its conduct with the plaintiff was "all times fair, reasonable, lawful and undertaken

in good faith."

Kelly, a native of Buffalo, signed a three-year, \$1.85-million extension with Toronto last season that made him the league's highest-paid player. This off-season, though, Kelly restructured his contract with the team.

The CFL's announcement comes with CFL rookie camps slated to open Wednesday. It's unclear if Kelly will be in attendance at the Argos' camp, which is being held at the University of Guelph.

With Kelly starting 16 of Toronto's 18-regular-season games in 2023, first-year backups Cameron Dukes and Bryan Scott both played sparingly.

Dukes made two starts, completing 63-of-96 passes for 760 yards with two touchdowns and three interceptions while rushing 35 times for 126 yards and eight TDs.

Scott didn't complete any of the four passes he attempted last season.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Last-place Jays whiffing on expectations

With a growing list of pitcher injuries and a scuffling offence, Toronto is falling behind early in the always-strong AL East

GREGORY STRONG

The Toronto Blue Jays started the 2024 regular season aiming for bigger things after crashing out in the wild-card series last fall. The campaign has not gone as planned so far. At 16-19 entering Tuesday's game at Philadelphia, the Blue Jays were in last place in the American League East and a growing list of pitcher injuries has dimmed hopes for a quick turnaround. Here's a look at five storylines as Canada's lone big-league team approaches the season's one-quarter mark (all statistics as of Tuesday afternoon).

## RELIEF NEEDED

Reliever Yimi García was in dominating form over the first month of the season but a sore back has forced him to watch the action from the bullpen of late.

With fellow high-leverage option Chad Green (shoulder) and long reliever Bowen Francis (forearm) on the injured list, Blue Jays manager John Schneider has had limited relief options in recent days.

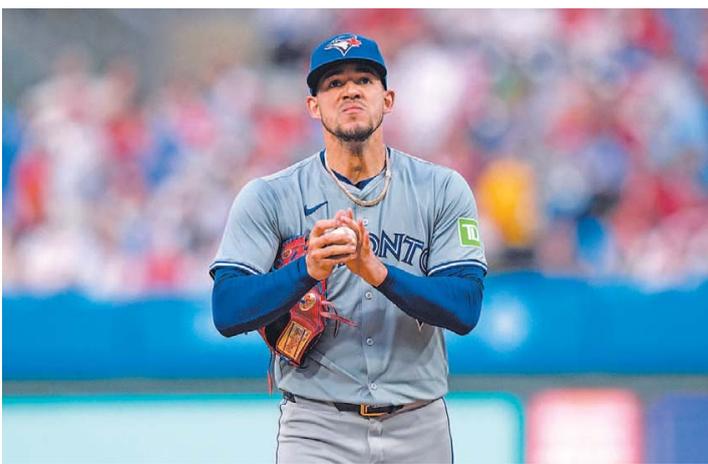
Starter Yariel Rodríguez (back) is also on the IL, dealing another blow to a pitching staff that has yet to find its footing.

Relievers Erik Swanson, Tim Mayza and Génesis Cabrera have been largely ineffective, putting added strain on a bullpen that has the worst earned-run average in the major leagues at 5.31.

## QUIET BATS

The Blue Jays made changes in the off-season to try to get their offence going, chief among them was giving bench coach Don Mattingly the additional title of offensive co-ordinator. His early efforts have yet to bear fruit.

Toronto was in the bottom third among the 30 MLB teams in several offensive cate-



Blue Jays pitcher José Berríos reacts after giving up a two-run home run to the Phillies' Cody Clemens during Tuesday night's game in Philadelphia. Berríos had been solid for the Jays in 2024, posting a 1.44 ERA through his seven starts before Tuesday. MATT SLOCUM/AP

gories, including batting average (.226), homers (30), slugging percentage (.362) and hits (255).

## SCUFFLING STARS

The big names in Toronto's batting order – with the exception of cleanup hitter Justin Turner – have simply not delivered at the plate so far this season.

The offensive statistics for slugger Vladimir Guerrero Jr., usual spark plug Bo Bichette and leadoff man George Springer are well down from previous years.

Bichette, in particular, is really having difficulty getting on track. A career .294 hitter, he's batting just .195 with one homer and an OPS (on-base plus slugging) of .530.

## MORE OF THE SAME

Right-hander Alek Manoah made his big-league season debut over the weekend and looked much like the pitcher who couldn't find his consistency in 2023.

Manoah appeared primed to be an ace for the Blue Jays in 2022 when he was a finalist for the American League Cy Young

Award before falling off last year.

Manoah dealt with a shoulder issue at spring training and built up with Triple-A Buffalo before getting a start with the Jays on Sunday in an 11-8 loss to Washington.

Manoah allowed six earned runs and four walks over the four-inning appearance. He had six strikeouts.

## BRIGHT LIGHTS

There are some reasons for optimism despite the Blue Jays' early struggles.

In addition to Turner's solid play, right-hander José Berríos posted a 1.44 ERA over seven starts, outfielder Daulton Varsho has shown some pop at the plate (six homers, 16 RBIs) and utilityman Davis Schneider (.270 average, 12 RBIs) looks like more than just a flash in the pan.

Even though it's still early, the AL East looks as if it will be tough once again this year.

At 25.9 per cent, the Blue Jays have the fifth-worst odds of making the postseason among AL teams, per FanGraphs.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## HARPER HITS GRAND SLAM AS PHILLIES ROUT BLUE JAYS

PHILADELPHIA Bryce Harper hit a grand slam, Cristopher Sánchez pitched seven strong innings and the red-hot Philadelphia Phillies routed the Toronto Blue Jays 10-1 on Tuesday night.

Kody Clemens homered, tripled and drove in four runs for the Phillies, who have won seven straight games, 11 in a row at home and 18 of 21 overall. Philadelphia is leading baseball with 26 victories.

Danny Jansen and Alejandro Kirk each doubled for Toronto. The Jays have lost six of seven.

Harper, who had three hits, chased José Berríos (4-3) with a bases-loaded drive to right with two outs in the fourth on a 2-0, 84 mph curveball to give the two-time NL MVP home runs in three consecutive contests.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## SANCHEZ AGREES TO TERMS ON MINOR-LEAGUE DEAL WITH TORONTO: SOURCE

TORONTO The Toronto Blue Jays have agreed to terms on a minor-league deal with right-hander Aaron Sanchez, a source confirmed Tuesday.

Sanchez made his big-league debut with the Blue Jays in 2014 and spent parts of six seasons with the team. He later made a handful of appearances for four different clubs, including the Houston Astros, San Francisco Giants, Minnesota Twins and Washington Nationals.

Sportsnet's Jamie Campbell first reported the deal.

Sanchez, a 31-year-old native of Barstow, Calif., has a career record of 38-38 with a 4.16 earned-run average over 174 games. He last pitched in the big leagues for Minnesota in 2022.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## NHL PLAYOFFS

### DIVISIONAL FINALS

(Best-of-7)  
All Times Eastern

### EASTERN CONFERENCE

#### ATLANTIC DIVISION

**FLORIDA (1) VS. BOSTON (2)**  
(Boston leads series 1-0)

**Monday**  
Boston 5 Florida 1

**Wednesday**  
Boston at Florida, 7:30 p.m.

**Friday**  
Florida at Boston, 7 p.m.

**Sunday, May 12**  
Florida at Boston, 6:30 p.m.

#### METROPOLITAN DIVISION

**N.Y. RANGERS (1) VS. CAROLINA (2)**  
(N.Y. Rangers lead series 1-0)

**Tuesday**  
Carolina at N.Y. Rangers

**Thursday**  
N.Y. Rangers at Carolina, 7 p.m.

**Saturday**  
N.Y. Rangers at Carolina, 7 p.m.

**Monday, May 13**  
x-Carolina at N.Y. Rangers, TBA

### WESTERN CONFERENCE

#### CENTRAL DIVISION

**DALLAS (1) VS. COLORADO (3)**

**Tuesday**  
Colorado at Dallas

**Thursday**  
Colorado at Dallas, 9:30 p.m.

**Saturday**  
Dallas at Colorado, 10 p.m.

**Monday, May 13**  
Dallas at Colorado, TBD

#### PACIFIC DIVISION

**VANCOUVER (1) VS. EDMONTON (2)**

**Wednesday**  
Edmonton at Vancouver, 10 p.m.

**Friday**  
Edmonton at Vancouver, 10 p.m.

**Sunday, May 12**  
Vancouver at Edmonton, 9:30 p.m.

**Tuesday, May 14**  
Vancouver at Edmonton, TBA

x — played only if necessary

## WHL PLAYOFFS

### CONFERENCE FINALS

(Best-of-7)

**EASTERN CONFERENCE**

**SASKATOON (1) VS. MOOSE JAW (2)**  
(Series tied 3-3)

**Tuesday**  
Moose Jaw at Saskatoon

**Sunday**  
Moose Jaw 4 Saskatoon 3 (OT)

### WESTERN CONFERENCE

**PRINCE GEORGE (1) VS. PORTLAND (2)**  
(Portland wins series 4-2)

**Monday**  
Portland 2 Prince George 1 (2OT)

**Tuesday**  
x-Portland at Prince George, 10 p.m.

x — played only if necessary

## OHL PLAYOFFS

**BOBBY ORR TROPHY**

**OSHAWA (1) VS. NORTH BAY (2)**  
(Oshawa wins series 4-3)

**Monday**  
Oshawa 6 North Bay 1

**Wednesday**  
Oshawa at North Bay, 7 p.m.

**Friday**  
North Bay at Oshawa, 7 p.m.

**Sunday, May 12**  
Oshawa at North Bay, 7 p.m.

**Monday, May 13**  
North Bay at Oshawa, 7 p.m.

**Wednesday, May 15**  
Oshawa at North Bay, 7 p.m.

**Friday, May 17**  
North Bay at Oshawa, 7 p.m.

**Sunday, May 19**  
Oshawa at North Bay, 7 p.m.

**Monday, May 20**  
North Bay at Oshawa, 7 p.m.

**Wednesday, May 22**  
Oshawa at North Bay, 7 p.m.

**Friday, May 24**  
North Bay at Oshawa, 7 p.m.

**Sunday, May 26**  
Oshawa at North Bay, 7 p.m.

**Monday, May 27**  
North Bay at Oshawa, 7 p.m.

**Wednesday, May 29**  
Oshawa at North Bay, 7 p.m.

**Friday, May 31**  
North Bay at Oshawa, 7 p.m.

**Sunday, June 2**  
Oshawa at North Bay, 7 p.m.

**Monday, June 3**  
North Bay at Oshawa, 7 p.m.

**Wednesday, June 5**  
Oshawa at North Bay, 7 p.m.

**Friday, June 7**  
North Bay at Oshawa, 7 p.m.

**Sunday, June 9**  
Oshawa at North Bay, 7 p.m.

**Monday, June 10**  
North Bay at Oshawa, 7 p.m.

**Wednesday, June 12**  
Oshawa at North Bay, 7 p.m.

**Friday, June 14**  
North Bay at Oshawa, 7 p.m.

**Sunday, June 16**  
Oshawa at North Bay, 7 p.m.

**Monday, June 17**  
North Bay at Oshawa, 7 p.m.

**Wednesday, June 19**  
Oshawa at North Bay, 7 p.m.

**Friday, June 21**  
North Bay at Oshawa, 7 p.m.

**Sunday, June 23**  
Oshawa at North Bay, 7 p.m.

**Monday, June 24**  
North Bay at Oshawa, 7 p.m.

**Wednesday, June 26**  
Oshawa at North Bay, 7 p.m.

**Friday, June 28**  
North Bay at Oshawa, 7 p.m.

**Sunday, June 30**  
Oshawa at North Bay, 7 p.m.

**Monday, July 1**  
North Bay at Oshawa, 7 p.m.

**Wednesday, July 3**  
Oshawa at North Bay, 7 p.m.

**Friday, July 5**  
North Bay at Oshawa, 7 p.m.

**Sunday, July 7**  
Oshawa at North Bay, 7 p.m.

**Monday, July 8**  
North Bay at Oshawa, 7 p.m.

**Wednesday, July 10**  
Oshawa at North Bay, 7 p.m.

**Friday, July 12**  
North Bay at Oshawa, 7 p.m.

**Sunday, July 14**  
Oshawa at North Bay, 7 p.m.

**Monday, July 15**  
North Bay at Oshawa, 7 p.m.

**Wednesday, July 17**  
Oshawa at North Bay, 7 p.m.

**Friday, July 19**  
North Bay at Oshawa, 7 p.m.

## NBA PLAYOFFS

### CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS

(Best-of-7) — All Times Eastern

#### EASTERN CONFERENCE

**BOSTON (1) VS. CLEVELAND (4)**  
(Boston leads series 3-0)

**Tuesday**  
Boston 120 Cleveland 95

**Thursday**  
Cleveland at Boston, 7 p.m.

**Monday, May 13**  
Boston 121 Cleveland 95

**Wednesday, May 15**  
Cleveland at Boston, 7 p.m.

**Friday, May 17**  
Boston 122 Cleveland 96

**Sunday, May 19**  
Cleveland at Boston, 7 p.m.

**Monday, May 20**  
Boston 123 Cleveland 97

**Wednesday, May 22**  
Cleveland at Boston, 7 p.m.

**Friday, May 24**  
Boston 124 Cleveland 98

**Sunday, May 26**  
Cleveland at Boston, 7 p.m.

**Monday, May 27**  
Boston 125 Cleveland 99

**Wednesday, May 29**  
Cleveland at Boston, 7 p.m.

**Friday, May 31**  
Boston 126 Cleveland 100

**Sunday, June 2**  
Cleveland at Boston, 7 p.m.

**Monday, June 3**  
Boston 127 Cleveland 101

**Wednesday, June 5**  
Cleveland at Boston, 7 p.m.

**Friday, June 7**  
Boston 128 Cleveland 102

**Sunday, June 9**  
Cleveland at Boston, 7 p.m.

**Monday, June 10**  
Boston 129 Cleveland 103

**Wednesday, June 12**  
Cleveland at Boston, 7 p.m.

**Friday, June 14**  
Boston 130 Cleveland 104

**Sunday, June 16**  
Cleveland at Boston, 7 p.m.

**Monday, June 17**  
Boston 131 Cleveland 105

**Wednesday, June 19**  
Cleveland at Boston, 7 p.m.

**Friday, June 21**  
Boston 132 Cleveland 106

**Sunday, June 23**  
Cleveland at Boston, 7 p.m.

**Monday, June 24**  
Boston 133 Cleveland 107

**Wednesday, June 26**  
Cleveland at Boston, 7 p.m.

**Friday, June 28**  
Boston 134 Cleveland 108

**Sunday, June 30**  
Cleveland at Boston, 7 p.m.

**Monday, July 1**  
Boston 135 Cleveland 109

**Wednesday, July 3**  
Cleveland at Boston, 7 p.m.

**Friday, July 5**  
Boston 136 Cleveland 110

**Sunday, July 7**  
Cleveland at Boston, 7 p.m.

**Monday, July 8**  
Boston 137 Cleveland 111

**Wednesday, July 10**  
Cleveland at Boston, 7 p.m.

**Friday, July 12**  
Boston 138 Cleveland 112

**Sunday, July 14**  
Cleveland at Boston, 7 p.m.

**Monday, July 15**  
Boston 139 Cleveland 113

**Wednesday, July 17**  
Cleveland at Boston, 7 p.m.

**Friday, July 19**  
Boston 140 Cleveland 114

**Sunday, July 21**  
Cleveland at Boston, 7 p.m.

## MLB

### AMERICAN LEAGUE

#### EAST DIVISION

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	23	11	.676	—
New York	23	13	.639	1
Boston	19	16	.543	4½
Tampa Bay	18	18	.500	6
Toronto	16	19	.457	7½

#### CENTRAL DIVISION

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	23	13	.639	—
Minnesota	20	14	.588	2
Kansas City	21	15	.583	2
Detroit	19	17	.528	4
Chicago	8	27	.229	14½

#### WEST DIVISION

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Texas	21	16	.568	—
Seattle	19	16	.543	1
Oakland	17	20	.459	4
Houston	12	22	.353	7½
Los Angeles	12	23	.343	8

**Tuesday**  
Texas 15, Oakland 8  
Detroit 11, Cleveland 7  
L.A. Angels at Pittsburgh  
Toronto at Philadelphia  
Baltimore at Washington  
Chicago White Sox at Tampa Bay  
Houston at N.Y. Yankees  
Boston at Atlanta  
Milwaukee at Kansas City  
Seattle at Minnesota

### NATIONAL LEAGUE

#### EAST DIVISION

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	25	11	.694	—
Atlanta	20	12	.625	3
Washington	17	17	.500	7
New York	17	18	.486	7½
Miami	10	27	.270	15½

#### CENTRAL DIVISION

# PWHL Toronto banking on its experience with adversity for playoffs

League's top seed ready for a fresh start as postseason gets under way on Wednesday against chosen-opponent Minnesota

ABDULHAMID IBRAHIM TORONTO

A new season has dawned on Toronto's Professional Women's Hockey League team, but it's one without need for a new approach.

Top-seeded Toronto opens the PWHL playoffs against visiting Minnesota on Wednesday at Coca-Cola Coliseum. Toronto went 2-1-0-1 against Minnesota in the regular season, most recently posting a 4-1 win last Wednesday.

"It's a whole new season, we're starting fresh," Toronto head coach Troy Ryan said on Sunday after his team's 5-2 win over Ottawa in the regular-season finale. "The one thing that I think this group has been good at is, they've kind of approached it all year this way.

"We dealt with a lot of adversity at the start of the year, which I think is something that's going to benefit this group. It's benefited us all throughout the year because we knew how terrible it felt early in the year to have the games that we had.

"So I think we've kind of made up for the bad start, so we've played some playoff hockey to get out of that earlier in the year. So I think it's going to bode well for us moving forward."

Finishing first allowed Toronto to select its semi-final opponent between third-place Boston and fourth-place Minnesota, a rule introduced by the PWHL earlier in the season.

Toronto selected Minnesota on Monday night with general manager Gina Kingsbury calling it a "very difficult decision as you can imagine with the parity in the league all year long."

Minnesota head coach Ken Klee said in a Zoom availability Monday that there wasn't added motivation for being selected instead of Boston.

"I don't think so. For me, it's as easy as who has the toughest travel," he said. "We've had the toughest travel the entire year, it's been no secret. Any team, I think, they would agree with that fact.

"If I was them, I would say, 'Who has the furthest to come and has the toughest travel to get here?' Obviously we just played them, so, to me, that's who I expected."

Toronto opened the season going 1-0-0-4, far below expectations with a team boasting the talent it does. However, the team rebounded by winning 12 of its next 13 games, which included a run of 11 straight wins.

The team closed the final six-game stretch of the season winning four straight games after back-to-back losses to Ottawa and Boston in the games right before and after the league's international break.

"I think we've earned a lot of confidence," star forward Sarah Nurse said Sunday night. "Being able to play all these teams throughout the season, everybody's different so it's harder to play against certain teams than it is against others – not harder but different.

"So I think we've shown that we can play against every single team in the league and have some success. Going into playoffs, we want to continue to have that confidence, knowing that it's not going to be easy but understanding that we've been here before.

"And I think we're playing playoff hockey right now. We talked about it before the game [Sunday], the switch is on. We don't have to switch the switch on in the playoffs."

Toronto enters the postseason with the league's best penalty kill (91.8 per cent) and fourth-best power play (15.7 per cent). Meanwhile, Minnesota has the worst penalty kill (67.2 per cent) and is fifth on the power play (8.2 per cent).

It's an area Toronto has exploited, going 4-for-10 on the power play against Minnesota, with its one loss in the season series being the only game it didn't score on the advantage. On the other hand, Toronto has held Minnesota scoreless on nine power plays across their four meetings.

Toronto also led the league in goals (69) and fewest goals allowed (50) across the 24-game schedule.

Despite its level of success since its sluggish start, Toronto isn't putting added pressure on itself.

"I think perceived pressure maybe," Ryan said. "I think from our group, there's no extra pressure. We want to win a championship, we're going to do whatever we can to win a championship.

"We expect whoever we play, whether it's in the first round or the second round, we expect to get the team's best. The pressure we put on ourselves is just to do whatever we can to win a championship."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Toronto opened the PWHL season by going 1-0-0-4 in its first five games before rebounding to win 12 of its next 13, a run which included a streak of 11 straight wins, on its way to the top of the standings. SAMMY KOGAN/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

[ HURRICANES VS. RANGERS ]



## High stakes in the Big Apple

New York Rangers left winger Artemi Panarin collides with Carolina Hurricanes centre Sebastian Aho during Game 2 of their second-round playoff series on Tuesday night at Madison Square Garden. Read the game story at [GLOBESPORTS.COM](https://www.globesports.com)

JULIA NIKHINSON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Sens bring in Travis Green as coach

OTTAWA

The Ottawa Senators are turning to Travis Green to end a seven-year playoff drought.

The NHL club announced Tuesday that it has hired Green as the club's new head coach and signed him to a four-year contract.

Green takes over from interim head coach Jacques Martin, who coached the team after D.J. Smith was fired on Dec. 18. Martin, who previously coached the club from 1996-2004, is staying on as an adviser.

"After speaking to several highly qualified candidates, it became clear that Travis is the right fit to lead our group," Senators president of hockey operations and

general manager Steve Staios said in a release.

"As we've routinely stated, developing a winning culture is paramount to our aspiration of achieving sustained success. Travis has a burning desire to win, is passionate about teaching and holds his players to a very high standard."

The Senators said the timing of a news conference to introduce Green was yet to be determined.

Ottawa last made the playoffs in 2016-17, when they made a surprise run before losing to Pittsburgh in seven games in the Eastern Conference final.

The multiyear deal for Green shows the club believes he can turn its fortunes around.

Green, a 53-year-old from Cas-

tleger, B.C., coached in the Vancouver Canucks' system from 2013 to 2021, including four-plus seasons as head coach at the NHL level.

The Canucks posted a 141-159-35 record under Green and made the playoffs once, when they advanced to the second round of the 2019-20 postseason before losing to Vegas in seven games.

He was fired 25 games into the 2021-22 season along with general manager Jim Benning with the Canucks sitting at 8-15-2.

Most recently, Green posted an 8-12-1 record as interim head coach of the New Jersey Devils last season after Lindy Ruff was fired on March 4.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Canada: Canucks-Oilers series could spark rivalry

■ FROM B11

More top-tier goaltending from Silovs is necessary if Vancouver is going to keep up with Edmonton. And while there's no historically memorable Canucks-Oilers rivalry, the series should be an intense one from the start.

"There's only eight teams left," Tocchet said. "Edmonton's in our way, and we're in their way. That's a rivalry today. You can't take this for granted. This might not happen again for some guys."

One player who has been here before is McDavid. He had another spectacular regular season – including 100 assists – and is already front-runner for playoff MVP, with a goal and 11 assists in five first-round games. But in his ninth NHL season he has yet to win deep in the playoffs. Edmonton has a 25-25 record in nine playoff series (five won, four lost) since McDavid was drafted in 2015. The closest he's gotten Edmonton to the Stanley Cup final was in 2022, when the Oilers were swept by the Avalanche in the third round and Colorado went on to lift the Cup.

Edmonton's offensive might, led by McDavid, and the Oilers' potent power play – scoring nearly half the time in the first round against Los Angeles – was a looming problem asked about repeatedly of the Canucks on Tuesday after they practised at Rogers Arena.

"We'd be doing ourselves a disservice if we were scared of them,"

veteran Vancouver defencemen Ian Cole said. "We have all the confidence in ourselves to pull this thing out."

The Canucks may look like underdogs but they are not an accidental ragtag squad that somehow showed up in the second round. Before the season, few thought Vancouver would amount to much but the team upended those expectations with a surge of early wins. Success piled up and it led to a flurry of NHL awards finalists: Quinn Hughes on defence, Tocchet behind the bench and injured starting goaltender Thatcher Demko in the crease.

The series could have the makings of the start of a rivalry, if only because it will be the prime focus of hockey attention for the next two weeks in Canada. This could be the first of more to come, with the Canucks entering a window of

contention, led by young players such as Hughes and Elias Pettersson. The Oilers haven't yet delivered in the playoffs but have made relatively consistent pushes.

For two Oilers, Wednesday is a homecoming. Ryan Nugent-Hopkins and Evander Kane both grew up in the Vancouver area. Asked after Oilers practice in Edmonton if any friends would be cheering against him, Nugent-Hopkins smiled. "None of my close friends, I don't think. I hope not," he said, chuckling.

To Kane, an all-Canadian playoff contest immediately stokes an atmosphere of rivalry.

"Any time two Canadian teams get together, especially in the playoffs, there's that little extra," Kane said. "It's a fun arena to be in, as a fan. I'm sure they'll be as hostile as ever, with a big Canadian matchup."

### McDAVID, MacKINNON, KUCHEROV NAMED HART FINALISTS

Edmonton Oilers captain Connor McDavid was named a finalist for this year's Hart Trophy on Tuesday as he seeks to win the NHL's most valuable player award for a second straight season.

Colorado Avalanche centre Nathan MacKinnon and Tampa Bay Lightning right-wing Nikita

Kucherov are the other finalists as voted by members of the Professional Hockey Writers Association.

McDavid, who won his third Hart Trophy last season, finished third in league scoring with 132 points (32 goals, 100 assists) in 76 games.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

### SHARKS' GRIER SAYS HE'LL LIKELY TAKE CELEBRINI NO. 1 AFTER WINNING NHL DRAFT LOTTERY

Mike Grier was so elated over winning the NHL draft lottery on Tuesday night, the San Jose Sharks general manager dispensed with tradition by coming out and stating exactly who he expects to select with the No. 1 pick: Boston University centre Macklin Celebrini.

Where past GMs in Grier's position have kept their choice under wraps until they step to the podium on draft day, Macklin's abilities and ties to San Jose were too much to keep it a secret for a Sharks team looking ahead to a brighter future.

"I think so, yeah," Grier said when asked if he anticipates using the top pick on the 17-year-old forward, college hockey's youngest Hobey Baker Memorial Award winner and NHL Scouting Bureau's top-ranked prospect. "It's a big moment for the organization and the fans here to have the opportunity to draft someone like Macklin."

The Chicago Blackhawks retained the No. 2 selection, followed by the Anaheim Ducks. The NHL's newest market, Utah, stayed put at No. 6.

Salt Lake City landed an NHL franchise with the relocation of the Arizona Coyotes last month.

The Montreal Canadiens are in the No. 5 slot, while the Ottawa Senators have the No. 7 pick and the Calgary Flames are at No. 9.

The league on Tuesday also announced what has been in the works for some time: the draft will be held at the Sphere in Las Vegas June 28 and 29. It'll be the first event televised at the venue.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Dortmund reaches Champions League final

Defender Hummels heads the German team to a 1-0 victory at Paris Saint-Germain

JEROME PUGMIRE PARIS

London's calling, but not for Kylian Mbappé.

When Borussia Dortmund's players rushed over to their fans wearing yellow "London 24" T-shirts and joined in the celebrations after knocking out Paris Saint-Germain to reach the Champions League final on Tuesday, Mbappé had long left the field.

Wembley Stadium on June 1 is the final stop on Dortmund's quest for the Champions League trophy, by which time Mbappé will have played his last game for PSG having failed to win the trophy the club's cash-rich Qatari owners so crave.

Central defender Mats Hummels headed Dortmund into the final as the German team won 1-0 at PSG.

Moments after Warren Zaire-Emery missed an open goal for PSG, Hummels rose unchallenged to head in Julian Brandt's corner from the left in the 50th minute.

Dortmund advances 2-0 on aggregate and largely contained Mbappé, who is leaving at the end of the season.

PSG exerted late pressure. Goalkeeper Gregor Kobel palmed away Mbappé's low shot, then pushed Mbappé's deflected close-range effort onto the crossbar with a superb one-handed save. The Parc des Princes crowd groaned when midfielder Vitinha's thumping 25-metre strike rattled the woodwork.

Coach Edin Terzić's team will play either record 14-time



Paris Saint-Germain's Kylian Mbappé, right, challenges Dortmund's Mats Hummels during the Champions League semi-final at the Parc des Princes stadium in Paris on Tuesday. FRANCK FIFE/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

champion Real Madrid or six-time winner Bayern Munich on June 1 at Wembley Stadium. Madrid and Bayern drew 2-2 in the first leg and play on Wednesday.

"Extremely proud. I'm very happy," Terzić said. "We beat a team like PSG two times and we again kept a clean sheet. We started really well and kept them away from the goal."

Dortmund is on course for its second Champions League trophy after winning in 1997 and a third European trophy, having won the now defunct UEFA Cup Winners' Cup in 1966. Dortmund also reached the Champions League final in 2013, losing to Bayern.

"Indescribable. After more than 10 years, I am in the final with Borussia again," said Marco

Reus, Dortmund's veteran midfielder who is leaving the team after this season. "How we won the game, no one will ask tomorrow. Shots against the post won't matter tomorrow."

For PSG, it's another season ending without raising the trophy its cash-rich Qatari owners have chased after by spending huge amounts on star players such as Zlatan Ibrahimovic, Neymar, Lionel Messi and Mbappé. PSG lost its only Champions League final in 2020 to Bayern.

"Efficiency, that's what we were missing," PSG captain Marquinhos said. "We should have defended better. They scored from a corner and a counterattack [in the first leg]. We created more chances but they won both games."

As Dortmund's players cele-

brated, Mbappé looked dejected as he trudged for the last time in a Champions League game wearing a PSG jersey. He is widely expected to join Madrid.

Moments before Dortmund's goal, Zaire-Emery somehow hit the post from two metres out after Gonçalo Ramos flicked on Mbappé's cross from the left.

On Hummels's goal, PSG goalkeeper Gianluigi Donnarumma again did not move off his line to claim the ball, having not done so when Barcelona scored on a corner from the left in the first leg of the quarter-finals.

Coach Luis Enrique's players seemed nervous, playing cautiously and defending too deeply in the first half, allowing Dortmund to settle into a comfortable rhythm.

Mbappé was ineffective in attack when PSG lost the first leg and, despite their speed, Mbappé and Ousmane Dembélé struggled to find space behind a well-organized Dortmund defence with midfielder Emre Can offering good protection.

It took 30 minutes before Mbappé and Zaire-Emery freed Dembélé on the right of the penalty area, but he failed to hit the target.

Speedy left winger Karim Adeyemi did so for Dortmund five minutes later when a rapid counterattack exposed PSG's defence, but Donnarumma rescued PSG with a fine low save.

Hummels's goal at least woke up PSG's attack, but Ramos missed the target when well-placed either side of a stinging shot from left back Nuno Mendes hitting the left post.

Dembélé then cut inside Hummels, who was perhaps fortunate not to concede a penalty midway through the second half. Referee Daniele Orsato awarded a free kick.

PSG president Nasser Al-Khelaifi pointed to the amount of times PSG hit the post or crossbar over both legs.

But in reality PSG again fell short, despite boasting one of the world's best players in Mbappé.

PSG only qualified for the knockout stage in the last round of group games, losing at Newcastle and AC Milan and finishing second behind Dortmund. Overall, PSG lost five games in the competition.

Mbappé's last home game for PSG – which has already clinched the French league title – will be Sunday against Toulouse, and his last game for the club is on May 25 in the French Cup final against Lyon.

In Lille and not London.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Forge FC forward Beni Badibanga, right, battles for the ball with CF Montreal defender George Campbell on Tuesday during Canadian Championship soccer action in Hamilton. NICK IWANYSHYN/CP

## CF Montreal earns draw at Forge FC in Canadian Championship play

HAMILTON

Substitute Bryce Duke's 52nd-minute goal gave CF Montreal a 1-1 draw – and a valuable away goal – in the opening leg of its Canadian Championship quarter-final with Forge FC on Tuesday.

David Choinière, whose younger brother Mathieu started for Montreal, opened the scoring in the 31st minute for the Canadian Premier League champion, which had perhaps the best of the first half but seemed to lose its way after Duke's equalizer.

Forge's inaugural "School Day Match" was an 11 a.m. local start, drawing more than 10,000 students on a sunny 16 C day at Tim Hortons Field.

The return leg is May 22 at Stade Saputo with the series winner facing either Toronto FC or Ligue1 Quebec champion CS Saint-Laurent in the semi-final. In the event of an aggregate tie, the team with the most away goals wins.

The defending champion Vancouver Whitecaps played at Cavalry FC in Tuesday's other quarter-final.

On Wednesday, it's Pacific FC at Atletico Ottawa and Toronto at CS Saint-Laurent.

The morning kickoff in Hamilton was originally slated to be a league outing against Halifax Wanderers FC, the 500 match in CPL history. But the cup took over the calendar slot.

The CPL will now mark the milestone 500th game Friday when York United FC hosts Valour FC.

Attendance was announced at 14,923, second only to the 17,611 that saw Forge play in the league's first-ever match, on April 27, 2019. The Hamilton side averaged 5,484 per home game last season.

It marked the fourth year in a row that Forge and Montreal have clashed in cup play with the MLS side winning all three meetings: 8-7 in a penalty shootout in the 2021 semi-final, 3-0 in the 2022 quarter-final and 2-0 in the 2023 semi-final.

Vancouver and 2023 runner-up Montreal had byes in the first round of the 14-team cup tournament while Cavalry and Forge eliminated fellow CPL opposition in Vancouver FC and York United FC, respectively.

The Canadian Championship winner hosts the Voyageurs Cup and qualifies for the CONCACAF Champion's Cup, the confederation's elite men's club competition. Montreal coach Laurent Courtois made seven changes to the starting lineup that lost 4-1 at Nashville SC on Saturday.

Montreal (3-4-3 in MLS play) has played eight of its 10 league games to date away from home. It has won the Canadian Championship five times.

Defender Joel Waterman, a former CPL player with Cavalry FC, captained Montreal with Samuel Piette on the bench.

Forge coach Bobby Smyrniotis, whose team is unbeaten in the league at 3-0-0, went with the same lineup that dispatched visiting York United FC 3-1 in preliminary-round cup play May 1.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Underdog CS Saint-Laurent looks to continue cup run against Toronto FC

NEIL DAVIDSON

When CS Saint-Laurent players ran onto the field to celebrate their upset win over the CPL's Halifax Wanderers FC, Rocco Placentino couldn't join them.

The Saint-Laurent sporting director was overcome by emotion on the sidelines at Wanderers Ground.

Mamadou Kané converted the decisive spot kick in the 5-3 penalty shootout win May 2 that moved the Ligue1 Quebec champion into Wednesday's quarter-final first leg of the Telus Canadian Championship against Toronto FC.

For Placentino, who has been with semi-pro Saint-Laurent since 2012, the milestone win was the result of years of hard work. But it also touched his heart, evoking memories of a "dear friend" gone far too soon.

Kané was wearing No. 7, the number associated with Jason Di Tullio, an assistant coach and former player with CF Montreal, who died of cancer in July, 2022, at the age of 38.

"It was meant to be where the last shooter had to wear No. 7. And it's a kid that really plays with 'la grinta' [Italian for grit or fighting spirit]," said Placentino, who won the 2008 Canadian Championship with Montreal.

"Mamadou scored and my mind was saying 'Run to the corner where everyone went to celebrate.' But I was frozen. For a minute I couldn't move. I was just so overwhelmed with positive vibes that my body went into a bit of a freeze mode. I just had to soak it in and process it a bit. I know Jason was definitely there to help us out."

Di Tullio was all about la grinta, summing it up in one seven-word phrase: "How bad do you really want it?"

Toronto coach John Herdman was impressed by what he saw in Saint-Laurent's win in Halifax. "This is a team that will cause problems," he said.

TFC had little problem dispatching League 1 Ontario's Simcoe County Rovers 5-0 in the preliminary round. But Herdman said he is treating this cup game like a midweek MLS match. "I'll travel with the strongest squad I have available," he said.

"You may see Bernardeschi in this game," he added, referencing Italian star Federico Bernardeschi who did not see action against Simcoe.

The designated player ended a lengthy scoring drought with two goals and an assist in Saturday's 3-1 win over FC Dallas.

CF Montreal drew 1-1 at Forge FC on Tuesday in the first of the two-legged quarter-finals. The defending champion Vancouver Whitecaps played at Cavalry FC later Tuesday.

Atletico Ottawa hosts Pacific FC in the other quarter-final Wednesday.

Placentino expects a crowd between 4,500 and 6,000 at the 7,500-capacity Complex sportif Claude-Robillard. Saint-Laurent normally draws around 600 to 700.

He says Wednesday's gate should cover the costs of the Halifax trip and the return leg in Toronto.

While some at Saint-Laurent get "minimal pay," Placentino says most players only receive game bonuses. "They all work, they all go to school. At the end of the day they do this to

### CANADIAN FORWARD AKINOLA, TORONTO FC MUTUALLY AGREE TO TERMINATE CONTRACT

Canadian forward Ayo Akinola, who turned heads with a breakout performance for Toronto FC at the MLS is Back Tournament in 2020, has left his hometown club after agreeing to a mutual termination of his contract.

The 24-year-old scored 18 goals in 96 appearances across all competitions since joining the MLS club in December, 2017, as a homegrown player. Nine of those goals came in league play in 2020.

Akinola has been a forgotten figure of late at TFC, playing just 82 minutes off the bench across five league appearances this season.

Toronto lent Akinola to the San Jose Earthquakes last July for the remainder of the 2023 campaign.

"We want to thank Ayo for his contributions to our club dating back to his days in our academy," Toronto GM Jason Hernandez said in a five-paragraph statement. "We all wish him the best in the next chapter of his career."

Akinola scored five goals in the MLS is Back Tournament in Orlando, behind only LAF's Diego Rossi in the competition's scoring race. He had a hat trick against CF Montreal at the tournament, becoming the third-youngest MLS player to manage the feat.

The native of Brampton, Ont., underwent surgery in August, 2021, to repair an anterior cruciate ligament injured on international duty with Canada at the Gold Cup. Making his first start and second appearance for Canada since switching allegiance from the U.S., Akinola was forced off the field after his right knee appeared to twist in a challenge with James Sands.

Akinola, who has won four caps for Canada, earned US\$771,875 last season. His contract ran through this season with an option for 2025.

The mutual contact termination provides TFC with an open roster slot and some salary-cap relief.

The two parties essentially come to a financial agreement with the agreed-upon amount counting against the salary cap in 2024, Akinola signed his existing contract with the club in January, 2022, as part of the league's new under-22 initiative.

"We have seen glimpses the last two seasons of just how impactful Ayo can be and it's exciting to think of what's still to come for him as a TFC player," Toronto president Bill Manning said in announcing the deal.

At the time Akinola had 14 goals in 46 appearances across all competitions.

Akinola made his MLS debut against Minnesota United on July 5, 2018, and scored his first MLS goal on March 17, 2019, against New England Revolution. THE CANADIAN PRESS

keep that little window of opportunity open for themselves," he added.

"This is like going to *American Idol* and singing in front of the world" he added. "They're just playing soccer in front of Canada."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

{ CAVALIERS VS. CELTICS }



## Not on Holiday

Jrue Holiday, right, of the Boston Celtics shoots over Sam Merrill of the Cleveland Cavaliers on Tuesday during Game 1 of their second-round playoff series at TD Garden. The Celtics won 120-95. Read the game story at [GLOBESPORTS.COM](#)

MADDIE MEYER/GETTY IMAGES

## WNBA to begin full-time charter flights this season, commissioner says

NEW YORK

The wait for full-time charter flights for WNBA teams finally is over with commissioner Cathy Engelbert announcing the league's plans to start the program this season.

"We intend to fund a full-time charter for this season," Engelbert said Tuesday in a meeting with sports editors.

She said the league will launch the program "as soon as we can get planes in places."

Engelbert said the program will cost the league around US\$25-million per year for the next two seasons. The WNBA already had announced at its draft last month plans to once again pay for charter flights for the entire playoffs as well as for back-to-back games during the upcoming season that require air travel.

The league's schedule features

more back-to-back sets this season with the WNBA taking a long break for the Olympics in late July and early August. The league spent US\$4-million on charters in 2023.

Engelbert said before the WNBA draft that the league needs to be in the right financial position to charter planes.

The WNBA is attracting more attention than ever thanks to rookies like Caitlin Clark, who helped the NCAA reach its best viewership in history for women's basketball, with nearly 19 million fans watching the title game, along with Angel Reese who went to the Met Gala on Monday night and Cameron Brink.

Clark attracted attention walking through the airport with her new Indiana Fever teammates for a preseason game with the Dallas Wings last week. That exhibition sold out with fans lined up eager to get inside.

WNBA teams also have been moving games against Clark and Indiana to bigger arenas due to increased demand.

Flights have been an issue for the WNBA that only increased last year with the league working with Brittney Griner and the Phoenix Mercury.

They had to go commercial air, and the All-Star centre who had been detained in Russia for nearly 10 months was harassed by what the WNBA called a "provocateur."

The league hadn't allowed teams to use charter flights except for when they have back-to-back games.

Many teams had been using public charter airline JSX. Those flights were allowed by the WNBA with certain protocols in place, including that teams fly on the 30-seat planes using preset routes and times.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Sports in brief

### CANADA BLANKS HUNGARY IN WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP PRETOURNAMENT GAME

BUDAPEST, HUNGARY Jordan Binnington made 21 saves and Dylan Guenther had a goal and an assist as Canada beat Hungary 4-0 Tuesday in a pre-tournament game before the world men's hockey championship. Colton Parayko, Bowen Byram and Owen Power also scored for the defending world champions, who outshot the hosts 66-21. Connor Bedard and Andrew Mangiapane added two assists each. Canada opens its world championship title defence Saturday against Britain in Prague. THE CANADIAN PRESS

### CELEBRINI, FANTILLI OUT FOR CANADA AT WORLD HOCKEY CHAMPIONSHIP

BUDAPEST, HUNGARY Teen forwards Macklin Celebrini and Adam Fantilli have decided to return to North America ahead of the start of the world men's hockey championship. Hockey Canada announced Tuesday. Hockey Canada says Celebrini planned to attend Tuesday night's NHL draft lottery. The 17-year-old is projected as the first overall pick in this year's NHL draft. Fantilli, 19, is electing to focus on next season with the Columbus Blue Jackets after his rookie campaign was cut short after 49 games due to a calf laceration. He was part of Canada's championship-winning team last year. Forwards Pierre-Luc Dubois, Brandon Hagel and Nick Paul were added to the team. THE CANADIAN PRESS

### ST. LOUIS BLUES REMOVE INTERIM TAG, NAME BANNISTER FULL-TIME COACH

Drew Bannister is returning as coach of the St. Louis Blues after getting the interim tag removed from his title and being named Tuesday to the full-time role. He signed a

two-year contract that gives him the chance to oversee a bit of organizational retooling but also show he can get the most out of a roster stocked with veteran talent. The expectation is still for the Blues to contend for a playoff spot in the Western Conference with Bannister in charge. Bannister, 50, replaced Craig Berube when the 2019 Stanley Cup-winning coach was fired in December. The Blues went 30-19-5 after Bannister took over and finished six points out of a playoff spot. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### FERNANDEZ MAKES EARLY EXIT AT ITALIAN OPEN WITH 6-4, 6-1 LOSS TO BOGDAN

ROME Canada's Leylah Fernandez made an early exit from the Italian Open on Tuesday with a 6-4, 6-1 first-round loss to Romanian veteran Ana Bogdan. The 21-year-old from Laval, Que., struggled with her serve. She won 56.1 per cent of first serve points and was broken five times on eight changes. Bogdan saved five of six breaks and won 56.1 per cent of total points to wrap up the match in one hour 42 minutes. Fernandez's career record in the main draw of the WTA 1000 clay court event fell to 1-3. Fernandez, ranked 34th in the world, has an 8-10 record this season. THE CANADIAN PRESS

### MURRAY FINED \$100,000 FOR TOSSING OBJECTS ONTO COURT DURING NUGGETS' LOSS TO TIMBERWOLVES

DENVER Denver Nuggets guard Jamal Murray was fined US\$100,000 by the NBA but avoided a suspension for "throwing multiple objects in the direction of a game official during live play," the league announced Tuesday. Murray tossed a towel and a heat pack onto the court late in the sec-

ond quarter of Denver's 108-80 loss to Minnesota that gave the Timberwolves a 2-0 lead in the Western Conference semi-final series that shifts to Minneapolis this weekend. The Nuggets were frustrated by the officiating as they fell behind by 28 points shortly before halftime. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### GOBERT WINS RECORD-TYING FOURTH DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Rudy Gobert, the Minnesota centre, was announced Tuesday night as the NBA's Defensive Player of the Year for a record-tying fourth time - joining Basketball Hall of Fame inductees Dikembe Mutombo and Ben Wallace. Victor Wembanyama, the San Antonio rookie centre, announced Monday as the league's Rookie of the Year, was second in the voting and fell one spot short of being the first player to win the DPOY trophy in Year 1 of his NBA career. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### PGA CHAMPIONSHIP INVITES SEVEN LIV PLAYERS TO GET TOP 100 IN THE WORLD

The PGA Championship officially has Tiger Woods in a field released Tuesday that includes invitations to seven players from Saudi-funded LIV Golf, giving the major the entire top 100 in the world ranking at Valhalla next week. The PGA of America strives to have the top 100 in the world to maintain its reputation for having the strongest field of the four majors, although it is not part of the criteria. Instead, the PGA uses a catch-all category of "special invitations." The group of LIV players includes Patrick Reed, whose tie for 12th in the Masters moved him inside the top 100. He is at No. 92, and the invitation keeps alive his streak of playing every major since the 2014 Masters. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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### DEATHS



#### ALAINE BARRETT BAINES

Alaine Baines passed away peacefully, age 96, at a time of her choosing on May 5, 2024, in Manotick, ON, with her eldest children by her side. Alaine leaves four children, Ian (Nancy) of Kingston, Jan (Glen) of Manotick, Ross (Barbara) of Welland, and Marc (Anne-Marie) of Mission Viejo, CA. She was thrilled to be "Grammie" to eight grandchildren and cherished her twelve great-grandchildren. She was predeceased in 2018 by her husband of 68 years, Dr. W. Douglas Baines, Professor Emeritus of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Toronto. Alaine was a longtime active member of the Canadian Federation of University Women.

Born in Peekskill, NY, to Arthur and Charlotte Barrett, Alaine grew up surrounded by an extended family in Peekskill before attending Berkeley Secretarial College in NYC shortly following WWII. After two years of work in NYC, she enrolled in St. Lawrence College in Canton, NY, moving from there to attend the Iowa Writers Workshop in Iowa City, where she met and married Doug. She always loved to write and was a member of the Lorne Park Writers for forty years. In addition, she loved being an integral part of the Clarkson French Group for many years.

Alaine and Doug started their life together in Vancouver, then moved to Ottawa to follow his career with the National Research Council. Three children were born during their time in Vancouver and Ottawa. A professor position at the U of T moved the young family to Mississauga, where Marc was born. They enjoyed a life of travel and entertaining friends and family for more than sixty years, with a year spent in each of Cambridge, England and Grenoble, France. In 2018, they moved to Manotick to be close to daughter, Jan. Alaine remained an active reader and writer throughout her life, taking pleasure in sharing her written exposés with friends and family. Alaine and Doug placed a high value on education and were very generous in their support of younger generations.

The family thanks the wonderful staff at Manotick Place for their care and support during the last six years of Alaine's life. At Alaine's request, there will be no formal funeral. A private family celebration of life will be held later in the year.

### DEATHS

#### EILEEN REEVE CURRIER (NÉE GORMAN) April 12th, 2024

Eileen Reeve Currier (née Gorman) passed away peacefully on April 12, 2024, age 97, at the Arlington Care Home in Cambridge. Predeceased by her beloved husband, Bob. Mother of Patty (Jaan), Judy (Neil) and Janet (Richard); much loved grandmummy of Christine, Michael, Peter, Matthew, Alex and Dillon; proud great-grandmother of Hannah, Ollie, Molly and Arthur; and predeceased by her loving sister, Patsie. Funeral service at Little St. Mary's, Cambridge, on May 20th, at 2pm. The service will be live-streamed on the Little St. Mary's Cambridge YouTube channel and will be available online for a period of a month. Donations, if desired for Arthur Rank Hospice Charity may be made online to [www.arhc.org.uk/donate/](http://www.arhc.org.uk/donate/)

### FUNERAL SERVICES



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**TUESDAY**  
FREDLAND, Evelyn - Family Service.  
GORENKOFF, Erin - 10:30 Pardes Shalom Cemetery.  
MANDELKER, Maria - 11:00 Holy Blossom Memorial Park.  
CLAIRMAN, Renee - 11:30 Mount Sinai Memorial Park.  
ERLICHMAN, Eugene - 12:30 Chapel.  
PIUTI, Rachel - 1:00 Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park.  
SAS, Valerie - 3:30 Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park.

**WEDNESDAY**  
BERMACK-ROTH, Charlotte - 1:00 Pardes Shalom Cemetery.

**SHIVA**  
SALSBERG, Rick - 1 Carnwath Crescent.  
KELLEN, David - 3 Humewood Drive.  
FREDLAND, Evelyn - Family Shiva.  
ERLICHMAN, Eugene - 46 Ridelle Avenue.  
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## Report on Business

## DICK RUTAN

PILOT, 85

## VETERAN WAS PART OF TEAM BEHIND HISTORIC ROUND-THE-WORLD FLIGHT

Along with co-pilot Jeana Yeager, he completed one of the greatest milestones in aviation history

NICK PERRY MEREDITH, N.H.

Burt Rutan was alarmed to see the plane he had designed was so loaded with fuel that the wing tips started dragging along the ground as it taxied down the runway. He grabbed the radio to warn the pilot, his older brother Dick Rutan. But Dick never heard the message.

Nine days and three minutes later, Dick, along with co-pilot Jeana Yeager, completed one of the greatest milestones in aviation history: the first round-the-world flight with no stops or refuelling.

A decorated Vietnam War pilot, Dick Rutan died Friday evening at a hospital in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, with Burt and other loved ones by his side. He was 85. His friend Bill Whittle said he died on his own terms when he decided against enduring a second night on oxygen after suffering a severe lung infection.

"He played an airplane like someone plays a grand piano," said Burt Rutan of his brother, who was often described as having a velvet arm because of his smooth flying style.

Burt Rutan said he had always loved designing airplanes and became fascinated with the idea of a craft that could go clear around the world. His brother was equally passionate about flying. The project took six years.

There was plenty to worry Burt during testing of the light graphite plane, Voyager. There were mechanical failures, any one of which would have been disastrous over a distant ocean. When fully laden, the plane couldn't handle turbulence. And then there was the question of how the



Dick Rutan stands with Jeana Yeager at Mojave Airport in 1985 where the light graphite plane Voyager was built. A Vietnam War veteran, Mr. Rutan received the Silver Star and Purple Heart. PAUL HARRIS/GETTY IMAGES

pilots could endure such a long flight on so little sleep. But Burt said his brother had an optimism about him that made them all believe.

"Dick never doubted whether my design would actually make it around, with still some gas in the tank," Burt Rutan said.

Voyager left from Edwards Air Force Base in California just after 8 a.m. on Dec. 14, 1986. Mr. Rutan said with all that fuel, the wings had only inches of clearance. Dick couldn't see when they started dragging on the runway. But at the moment Burt called on the radio, co-pilot Yeager gave a speed report, drowning out the message.

"And then, the velvet arm real-

ly came in," Burt Rutan said. "And he very slowly brought the stick back and the wings bent way up, some 30 feet at the wingtips, and it lifted off very smoothly."

They arrived back to a hero's welcome as thousands gathered to witness the landing. Both Rutan brothers and Yeager were each awarded a Presidential Citizens Medal by then-president Ronald Reagan, who described her a local official in Thailand at first "refused to believe some cockamamie story" about a plane flying around the world on a single tank of gas.

"We had the freedom to pursue a dream, and that's important," Dick Rutan said at the ceremony.

"And we should never forget, and those that guard our freedoms, that we should hang on to them very tenaciously and be very careful about some do-gooder that thinks that our safety is more important than our freedom. Because freedom is awful difficult to obtain, and it's even more difficult to regain it once it's lost."

Richard Glenn Rutan was born in Loma Linda, Calif. He joined the U.S. Air Force as a teenager and flew more than 300 combat missions during the Vietnam War.

He was part of an elite group that would loiter over enemy anti-aircraft positions for hours at a time. The missions had the call sign "Misty," and Dick was known

as "Misty Four-Zero." Among the many awards Dick received were the Silver Star and the Purple Heart.

He survived having to eject twice from planes, once when his F-100 Super Sabre was hit by enemy fire over Vietnam, and a second time when he was stationed in England and the same type of plane had a mechanical failure. He retired from the Air Force with the rank of lieutenant colonel and went on to work as a test pilot.

Burt Rutan said his brother was always having adventures, like the time he got stranded at the North Pole for a couple of days when the Russian biplane he was in landed and then sank through the ice.

Dick Rutan set another record in 2005 when he flew about 16 kilometres in a rocket-powered plane launched from the ground in Mojave, Calif. It was also the first time U.S. mail had been carried by such a plane.

Greg Morris, the president of Scaled Composites, a company founded by Burt Rutan, said he first met Dick when he was about seven and over the years always found him generous and welcoming.

"Bigger than life, in every sense of the word," Mr. Morris said, listing off Mr. Rutan's legacy in the Vietnam War, testing planes and on the Voyager flight. "Any one of those contributions would make a legend in aviation. All of them together, in one person, is just inconceivable."

Dick Rutan leaves his wife of 25 years Kris Rutan; daughters Holly Hogan and Jill Hoffman; and grandchildren Jack, Sean, Noelle and Haley.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

## JEANNIE EPPER

FILM AND TELEVISION PERFORMER, 83

## Stuntwoman was behind some of the biggest stars of the 1970s, 80s and beyond

ANDREW DALTON LOS ANGELES

Jeannie Epper, a groundbreaking performer who did stunts for many of the most important women of film and television action of the 1970s and 80s, including star Lynda Carter on TV's *Wonder Woman*, has died. She was 83.

Ms. Epper died of natural causes Sunday at her home in Simi Valley, Calif., family spokesperson Amanda Micheli told the Associated Press.

Considered one of the greatest at her craft - Entertainment Weekly in 2007 called her "the greatest stuntwoman who ever lived" - Ms. Epper came from a family dynasty of stunt performers that included both her parents, John and Frances Epper. Her 70-year career as a stuntwoman and stunt co-ordinator began when she was 9.

"It's all I really know, outside of being a mom or a grandma," Epper said in a 2004 documentary, *Double Dare*, directed by Ms. Micheli.

Her siblings, Tony, Margo, Gary, Andy and Stephanie, all also worked in stunts. Steven Spielberg called them "The Flying Wallendas of Film," according to The Hollywood Reporter, which first reported Ms. Epper's death.

Her children Eurlyne, Richard and Kurtis, and her grandson Christopher followed her into the stunt business.

She found it difficult to get much stunt work as a woman early on but saw a major surge in opportunity as women got more action-oriented roles in the late 1970s.

Her breakthrough role - and the one she would always be most associated with - was on *Wonder Woman*. Ms. Epper crashed through windows, kicked down doors and deflected bullets while doubling Ms. Carter on the series that ran for three seasons from 1976 to 1979 on ABC and CBS.



Jeannie Epper, seen at the 2007 Taurus World Stunt Awards in California, was the first woman to receive a lifetime achievement honour from the organization. CHARLEY GALLAY/GETTY IMAGES

In the same era, she doubled Lindsay Wagner on *Bionic Woman* and Kate Jackson on the original *Charlie's Angels*.

In the 1980s, Ms. Epper took a famous tumble down a mudslide for Kathleen Turner in *Romancing the Stone* and fought for Linda Evans in her tangles with Joan Collins on TV's *Dynasty*.

Ms. Epper also appeared in more highbrow fare, doing the stunt driving for Shirley Maclaine when she threw Jack Nicholson from a Corvette in the 1984 best picture Oscar winner *Terms of Endearment*.

And she was a constant presence on films directed or produced by Mr. Spielberg, including 1977's *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, 1982's *Polyester* and 2002's

*Minority Report*.

"She certainly qualifies to be one of the great stunt co-ordinators," Mr. Spielberg said in *Double Dare*. More recently, her work appeared in *The Fast and the Furious: Tokyo Drift*, *Kill Bill: Vol. 2* and *The Amazing Spider-Man 2*.

In 2007, she became the first woman to receive a lifetime achievement award at the Taurus World Stunt Awards.

She was the last survivor among her stunt-performer siblings. Son Kurtis also died before her.

Those she leaves include husband Tim, kids Eurlyne and Richard, five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

## CÉSAR LUIS MENOTTI

ATHLETE, 85

## Charismatic coach led Argentina to World Cup glory

DÉBORA REY VICENTE L. PANETTA BUENOS AIRES

César Luis Menotti, the charismatic coach who led Argentina to its first World Cup title in 1978, has died, the Argentine Football Association said Sunday. He was 85.

"Goodbye, dear Flaco!" the association's statement added, using Mr. Menotti's nickname which means "the thin one." The association did not give a cause of death. Local media reports said Mr. Menotti was admitted to a clinic in March with severe anemia. He reportedly underwent surgery for phlebitis in April and subsequently returned home.

Passion and a sharp ability to explain tactics were Mr. Menotti's hallmarks as a trainer, and he was considered one of Argentina's most emblematic and influential coaches.

Mr. Menotti was a political activist and an affiliate member of the Argentine Communist Party, a boxing fan and an admirer of the works of Latin American writers Mario Benedetti, Gabriel García Márquez, Jorge Luis Borges, Mario Sábato and Joan Manuel Serrat, among others.

He launched his career as a player for Rosario Central (1960-1963 and 1967), then went to Racing Club (1964) and Boca Juniors (1965-1966), all Argentine clubs. Mr. Menotti played for the New York Generals in the United States (1967), followed by Brazil's Santos (1968) and Italy's Juventus (1969-1970).

At Santos, he played alongside Pelé, whom he never hesitated to qualify as the best player among legends.

Mr. Menotti coached Argentina's national team between 1974 and 1983. He was convinced the side did not get the recognition it deserved for winning the 1978 World Cup because the country was ruled by a military junta.

In his later years, Mr. Menotti said he didn't fear death. "It's the only thing I'm sure of. I don't know anyone who hasn't died at some point," he said in 2014.

ASSOCIATED PRESS



César Luis Menotti coached Argentina's national team between 1974 and 1983. GUILLERMO ARIAS/ASSOCIATED PRESS