

## PMO officials worry Freeland's economic messaging ineffective

Relations tense between Trudeau's office, top minister amid Liberals' slipping fortunes, sources say

**ROBERT FIFE**  
OTTAWA BUREAU CHIEF  
OTTAWA

Senior officials in Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's office are concerned that Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland has not been effective in delivering an upbeat economic message as the Liberal government struggles to reconnect with Canadians amid low approval ratings, sources say.

The relationship between Ms. Freeland, who is also Deputy Prime Minister, and the

Prime Minister's Office has become tense. She has been the most powerful minister in the government since Mr. Trudeau promoted her to the finance portfolio in August, 2020, after the resignation of Bill Morneau.

Under Mr. Trudeau, the PMO has centralized decision-making and holds a tight grip on government messaging from ministers, bureaucrats and Liberal MPs.

There is always a healthy tension between Finance and a PMO, but the finger-pointing comes after the Liberals lost the safe Toronto riding of St. Paul's in a by-election last month that was contested by

Ms. Freeland's former chief of staff Leslie Church. The loss prompted strong criticism from some Liberals for the Prime Minister to reconsider his future, shake up his cabinet and set a new policy direction for the government.

Although there are no indications the Prime Minister is planning imminently to shuffle Ms. Freeland to another portfolio, a government source said there were discussions internally about the possibility of recruiting former Bank of Canada governor Mark Carney as finance minister.

■ FREELAND, A4

## Deal could see Ottawa double spending on First Nations child welfare

**KRISTY KIRKUP** OTTAWA

The federal government is on the cusp of reaching a major agreement with First Nations organizations that could see Ottawa spend more than double what it planned two years ago, with a projected \$47.8-billion earmarked for First Nations child-welfare reforms.

The figure, if finalized, would represent a significant increase from a 2022 agreement in principle in which the federal government pledged to spend \$20-billion on long-term reform to the First Nations Child and Family Services Program.

A new draft agreement that contains the \$47.8-billion figure is the result of discussions between the Assembly of First Nations (AFN), the Chiefs of Ontario, the Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) and federal representatives.

A formal announcement has been in the works for several days but details have not been released yet.

The spending plan for reforms is the latest development in a continuing tussle with the federal government over First Nations child welfare that has involved legal battles and negotiations. In November, 2021, the government tapped former Truth and Reconciliation commissioner Murray Sinclair to help facilitate high-stakes talks on the issue.

■ AFN, A4

### CAMPUS PROTESTS



A pro-Palestinian encampment at McGill University in Montreal is removed by authorities on Wednesday. The McGill protest began in late April and was among the first in a wave that spread to schools across the country. ANDREJ IVANOV/REUTERS

## McGILL CAMP COMES DOWN

Montreal university closed for a day while private security guards and police dismantle pro-Palestinian demonstration after more than two months ■ A3

## Rare defence in spotlight as judge weighs serial killer's responsibility

**TEMUR DURRANI** WINNIPEG

In a case that lawyers and scholars believe will be studied for years to come, a superior court judge is expected to decide this week whether a man who admitted to killing four First Nations women in Winnipeg had the mental capacity required to knowingly commit first-degree murder.

The issue is not whether Jeremy Skibicki killed the women, but whether he was able to appreciate or understand that his killings were crimes. Should he be found not criminally responsible, he would be directed to court-ordered treatment in a mental-health facility instead of imprisonment.

After a weeks-long trial that began in early May, Manitoba Court of King's Bench Justice Glenn Joyal is scheduled to deliver his verdict on Thursday.

The defence team's strategy of arguing that Mr. Skibicki is not criminally responsible for his actions – commonly referred to as NCR – is very rare in Canada.

While there have been high-profile instances in recent years of people accused of murder receiving NCR verdicts – such as Matthew de Groot in Alberta, who killed five people in a stabbing spree, and Vince Li in Manitoba, who beheaded a man on a Greyhound bus – these cases remain statistical anomalies.

Figures compiled for The Globe and Mail by Statistics Canada show that, between 2000 and 2022, of 8,883,749 criminal cases prosecuted across the country, only 5,178 – just 0.06 per cent – resulted in NCR verdicts.

■ NCR, A15

## Thousands of Ontarians live more than 200 kilometres from their family doctor – and it's putting their health at risk

**KELLY GRANT**  
HEALTH REPORTER

When Linda Thomas wants to see her family doctor in person, she makes a six-hour, 540-kilometre drive from the Northern Ontario town of Elliot Lake to Brampton, the suburb of Toronto where her physician practises.

Ms. Thomas, a 78-year-old retiree, knows this is not ideal. But she can't find a doctor willing to accept new patients in Elliot Lake, just like she couldn't find one in Woodstock, the Southwestern Ontario town she moved to in 2013 before depart-

ing for Elliot Lake. Ms. Thomas has been getting by with phone appointments and occasional long commutes to her Brampton doctor for more than a decade.

"If I could find one up here in Elliott Lake, I would definitely change doctors. But at my age who knows how long you've got? By the time you find a doctor," she said, laughing, "you're dead."

Ms. Thomas is one of approximately 670,000 Ontarians who live more than 50 kilometres from their family doctor, according to new data to be released Thursday by the Ontario College of Family Physicians. She is also among the nearly 133,000 people in the province who live more than 200 kilometres from their doc-

tor, a figure that underscores the severity of the primary-care shortage in some parts of the country.

"It's very, very worrisome," said Mekalai Kumanan, president of the OCFP and a Cambridge family doctor who herself cares remotely for patients all over the province.

Dr. Kumanan said plenty of public attention has appropriately been paid to the 2.52 million people in Ontario who didn't have a family doctor as of last year. That figure is up from 1.83 million in 2020, according to data based on Ontario Health Insurance Plan records, also released Thursday by the OCFP.

■ DOCTOR, A7



**LIFE & ARTS**  
Renowned artist Alex Janvier, co-founder of the Indian Group of Seven, dies at 89

■ A12

AMBER BRACKEN/  
THE GLOBE AND MAIL

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Young patients, parents express relief, officials urge action after Russian hospital attack ■ A5

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Adrian Morrow talks about what's at stake for Canada during this year's NATO summit  
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MOMENT IN TIME

JULY 11, 1989 | FROM THE ARCHIVES



MICHAEL LEE/KINGSTON WHIG-STANDARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

## VICKI KEITH COMPLETES BUTTERFLY SWIM ACROSS THE ENGLISH CHANNEL

Vicki Keith couldn't see the jellyfish at night. At one point during her swim across the English Channel, three of the sea creatures wrapped around her body at the same time — one hitting her upper right bicep, another stinging her lower left wrist and a third wrapped underneath her leg. It took 23 hours and 33 minutes through strong currents and painful stings for the 28-year-old Winnipeg native to reach the French coast and

become the first person to swim across the Channel using only the butterfly stroke. With the ocean temperature hovering at 17 C for most of her swim, searching for the water's warm spots only brought on more jellyfish encounters. Hardly fazed, and having already crossed all five Great Lakes, she continued to conquer waterways for years to come, including the longest distance for butterfly. KAT SIENIUC (2015)

{ COLUMNISTS }

KELLY  
CRYDERMAN

OPINION



MICHAEL  
GEIST

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ROB  
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OPINION



There's unease and anger among Albertans as the Stampede is under way and temperatures rise ■ A11

The prospect of billions from a digital services tax proved too tempting to Ottawa to wait on an international plan ■ B4

Lower mortgage rates have so far been elusive, but negotiating a lower rate is the next best thing ■ B8

## Ontario cities seeking ways to fight increasingly visible rat population

SHEILA REID

Efforts are under way to combat growing rat populations in two of Ontario's largest cities, as the rodents that typically lurk underground become more visible thanks to a combination of construction and climate change.

In Toronto, the municipality's infrastructure committee recently adopted a motion asking city council to direct staff to craft an "action plan" to reduce rats in the city. The motion, put forward by Councillor Alejandra Bravo and Deputy Mayor Amber Morley, is a response to residents' concerns about a rise in visible rats in local neighbourhoods, Ms. Bravo said.

"People were talking about this in 2022 as sort of a growing problem. And then last year, last year and a half ... it's been something that's bubbling and growing," said Ms. Bravo, noting that residents of her ward have found themselves "overrun" by the rodents.

"It's a really critical quality-of-life problem when people have all of a sudden been confronted with rats coming into their home or into their business or their place of work ... a bunch of factors [have] come together to create this kind of perfect rat storm."

A sharp increase in construction in the city, owing to transit projects and housing development, has disrupted rat habitats

deep underground, driving them into open spaces where people can see them, Ms. Bravo said.

Longer stretches of warmer weather as a result of climate change have also enabled the rodent population to flourish by extending their mating periods, she said. The motion put forward by Ms. Bravo and Ms. Morley — which will go to city council for a vote later this month — also seeks to have council ask the city manager to consult other communities in North America on their approach to rat reduction.

Ottawa is exploring a form of rat birth control that is not yet legal in Canada.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Conrad Black removed from Britain's House of Lords for non-attendance

MIKE HAGER

Britain's House of Lords has removed former media magnate Conrad Black over his lack of attendance at one of the oldest institutions in the world — a membership he renounced his Canadian citizenship to attain more than two decades ago.

On Wednesday, Speaker Lord John McFall listed Lord Black of Crossharbour as one of six peers officially removed from the upper chamber the day prior, owing to non-attendance. Montreal-born Mr. Black had voted only 20 times since being appointed in 2001 to the House of Lords, after which the Canadian Senate is modelled. All those votes occurred in the first two years of his appointment.

Mr. Black did not immediately respond to an e-mailed request for comment Wednesday evening.

To accept former British prime minister Tony Blair's offer of peerage, Mr. Black had to renounce his Canadian citizenship in 2001 after a very public fight over the matter with then-Canada

prime minister Jean Chrétien. He had previously attempted to sue Mr. Chrétien for blocking him from taking the role.

Mr. Black's attendance in London was interrupted by his legal troubles in the United States. In 2007 he faced a four-month trial after being charged with multiple counts of fraud for his business practices at newspaper publisher Hollinger International Inc., which he founded in the 1960s.

Mr. Black and four other executives faced allegations of misappropriating money from the Chicago-based media company that at its peak owned hundreds of newspapers across Canada, the United States, Britain and Israel, including the National Post and British newspaper The Telegraph.

Mr. Black was found guilty in 2007 on three counts of mail fraud and one for obstruction of justice. He was originally sentenced to 6½ years in prison and spent just over 3½ years at a correctional complex in Florida before he was released as he pursued various appeals.

Those appeals largely suc-

ceeded, with his charges eventually overturned, save one charge each of fraud and obstruction. He has been living in Toronto since his release in 2012.

In 2019, Donald Trump granted a full pardon to his long-time friend and one-time business partner who has written a biography and numerous columns lauding the former U.S. president and current candidate.

Mr. Black called his pardon a vindication and complete exoneration.

"This completes the destruction of the spurious prosecution of me," he said at the time.

Last year, Mr. Black, who still writes opinion pieces for the National Post, said he had regained his Canadian citizenship. In an interview with the newspaper, Mr. Black said he fully intended to return as a sitting member of the House of Lords.

"I have been an inactive member, but I have been invited to return as an active Conservative peer and I do intend to do that," he said. "I just haven't gotten around to it, but I will. I will be relaunching my career as a legislator."



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# Canada makes submarine procurement announcement

The government also promises to send \$500-million more in military aid to Ukraine and train fighter pilots

ADRIAN MORROW WASHINGTON  
STEVEN CHASE OTTAWA

The Canadian government is rushing to make a string of defence-related announcements at this week's NATO summit in the face of criticism that Ottawa is failing to pay its fair share within the alliance.

On Wednesday, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Defence Minister Bill Blair promised to buy new submarines, send \$500-million more in military aid to Ukraine and train Ukrainian fighter pilots on F-16s, as North Atlantic Treaty Organization leaders gathered at a Washington conference centre.

In a background briefing at the summit, one Canadian official said the government would also outline a larger military spending plan on Thursday. The Globe and Mail is not identifying the official as a condition of taking part in the briefing.

Whether the announcements will be enough to mollify Canada's allies is unclear. In the case of the submarines, for instance, there is currently no price tag, no timeline on when they will be delivered and no commitment on how many will be purchased.

Canada is among the minority of NATO member countries that do not meet the alliance's spending threshold, which calls for each member to spend 2 per cent of its gross domestic product on defence. The United States has previously said Canada is the only country without a plan to get to the target.

The summit is unfolding under the spectre of a return to the White House by former U.S. president Donald Trump. He has long complained that Washington unfairly shoulders a disproportionate share of its allies' defence burden and once threatened to encourage Russia to invade NATO members who miss their spending targets.

Mr. Trump is running a close race with President Joe Biden, who is trying to fend off a revolt within his own party amid questions about his age-related mental and physical fitness.

In a news release Wednesday, Canada's Department of Defence said it has started looking into buying up to 12 new submarines capable of operating under ice in the Arctic. The announcement said Canada would issue a request for information from manufacturers later this year – a step before issuing a formal request for proposals.

Canada currently has four submarines, only one of which is operational, bought used from Britain in the 1990s.

Mr. Trudeau announced the latest tranche of Ukraine aid at a meeting with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky on the sidelines of the summit. "We are going to continue to be there, step by step," he said. Mr. Zelensky replied: "Thank you for your help."

In training Ukrainian pilots, the Canadian official said at the briefing, Canada will take over part of a program currently run by France. The pilots will use Canadian simulators and receive classroom training. Other coun-

tries will handle in-flight training because Canada does not have F-16s.

David Perry, president of the Canadian Global Affairs Institute think tank, said Canada's submarine announcement represents a minor step that formalizes a process already under way. He said the Royal Canadian Navy has been travelling abroad to visit potential suppliers for some time, to collect information for a submarine procurement program.

Mr. Perry estimated the full cost of acquiring 12 submarines would be up to \$120-billion, and that it would take up to 15 years for the first of the new submarines to be operational.

In Washington this week, U.S. officials have spoken out against the Canadian government for not doing more. NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg reinforced the importance of the spending threshold in his opening speech to the summit. "Two per cent is not the ceiling," he said. "Two per cent is now the floor for our defence spending."

Out of 32 NATO members, 23 have met the decade-old 2-per cent promise. In a defence policy update this year, Mr. Blair unveiled a plan that would result in the country reaching only 1.76 per cent by 2030. The latest NATO survey of alliance members' defence expenditures estimated that Canada would spend 1.37 per cent of its GDP on defence this year.

Ottawa's military aid to Kyiv also lags Washington's. Before the instalment announced this week, Canada had sent \$4-billion in military aid to Ukraine since 2022 and the United States US\$51.4-billion.

Mr. Perry, who is at the summit, said Canada is clearly under pressure to demonstrate to its NATO partners that it is on track to hike its defence spending. "This is an announcement being made to have something to say at a NATO summit," he said.

He said the 2-per cent target is dominating the meeting. "In literally every discussion, and dozens and dozens of times, the NATO investment pledge has come up over and over and over again."

After a meeting with a bipartisan group of U.S. senators, Mitch McConnell, the Republican leader in the U.S. Senate, jabbed Mr. Trudeau in a social-media post. "It's time for our northern ally to invest seriously in the hard power required to help preserve prosperity and security," he wrote.

Mike Johnson, the Republican Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, railed against Canada for "riding on America's coat-tails."

"They have the safety and security of being on our border and not having to worry about that. I think that's shameful," he said at a security forum happening alongside the summit.

Mr. Johnson, an ally of Mr. Trump, did not meet with Mr. Trudeau despite being invited to.

In Ottawa Wednesday, Conservative defence critic James Bezan expressed skepticism the submarine announcement was a real defence commitment because Mr. Blair failed to include it in his policy update less than 10 weeks ago.

"The Liberals said today that they plan on purchasing new submarines but they couldn't say when they will arrive or how much they will cost," Mr. Bezan said.



The pro-Palestinian encampment at McGill ended on Wednesday when dozens of police officers blocked entrances to the Montreal university. ALEXIS AUBIN/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

## McGill University clears out pro-Palestinian encampment

ERIC ANDREW-GEE MONTREAL  
JOE FRIESEN TORONTO

Private security guards cleared the pro-Palestinian encampment at McGill University on Wednesday, bringing an end to a campus protest that was among the first in a wave that spread across the country.

The McGill protest calling for the university to cut ties with Israel over its war in Gaza began on April 27 when dozens of students occupied a field on the university's downtown Montreal campus. The encampment quickly grew to be a small village of tents surrounded by fencing bearing pro-Palestinian and anti-Israel slogans and attracted counterprotesters.

Its end came early Wednesday when dozens of police officers blocked entrances to the university. Encampment participants were warned three times between 4:46 a.m. and 7:42 a.m. that they would be escorted off campus if they didn't leave of their own accord, the university said, adding that nearly all of the approximately 35 people present complied. According to Montreal police, one person was arrested after an alleged assault of a security guard.

McGill closed its campus for the day and moved classes online to accommodate the operation. A private security company, in coordination with police, cleared the site through the morning. Many campus buildings were to remain closed Thursday, McGill said.

McGill president Deep Saini said in a university-wide note that McGill will always support free expression and assembly within the bounds of the law and university policies. But he said events connected to this protest "go far beyond peaceful protest and have inhibited the respectful exchange of views and ideas that is so essential to the university."

"People linked to the camp have harassed our community members, engaged in anti-semitic intimidation, damaged and destroyed McGill property, forcefully occupied a building, clashed with police, and committed acts of assault," he added.

The police-involved dismantling of the camp at McGill represents a different outcome than at some Ontario universities, including the University of Toronto, where encampments have wound down through negotiation and court action.

More than two-dozen encampments sprang up on campuses across the country since late April, part of a broad movement across North American postsecondary schools. Protests have tried to draw attention to the Israel-Hamas war in Gaza and push administrations to divest from firms tied to the Israeli military and break ties with some Israeli universities.

A deal announced on Wednesday to dismantle an encampment at the University of Windsor included language related to greater transparency in investments and ensuring human-rights concerns are monitored in aca-

demical partnerships. Encampments at Western University, the University of Ottawa and at the University of Waterloo have ended in recent days and one at the University of Guelph appears to be winding down. In many cases a resolution was reached through a combination of negotiation and threatened court action.

Protesters at the University of Toronto reached an agreement that the university would not pursue legal action or student disciplinary charges if the protesters left before a court-imposed deadline to vacate King's College Circle last week.

McGill broke off negotiations with protesters in June after saying it was clear they were not likely to be fruitful, and after a series of protest escalations that the university said were unacceptable. McGill accused the protesters of intimidation and vandalism, notably during an occupation of the James Administration Building in early June, when riot police arrested 15 people and used tear gas to disperse the protest.

On Wednesday, Dr. Saini said McGill made the decision to dismantle the protest in close collaboration with officials from the City of Montreal and its police force. He said McGill also hired an outside firm to investigate and clear the encampment. The university later identified the security firm as Sirco, which it described as "meticulous and careful in gathering and documenting sensitive information," and said its investigation continues.

According to Dr. Saini, the company said it had found that few members of the encampment were connected to McGill. It also found significant health, safety and fire risks, including a rat infestation, and added that two drug overdoses had occurred in the past week. That information led the university administration to conclude there was an urgent need to move, according to Dr. Saini.

"This camp was not a peaceful protest. It was a heavily fortified focal point for intimidation and violence," he wrote.

Alia Hall, a 24-year-old Concordia student who took part in the encampment, vowed that protests against Israel's war in Gaza and McGill's financial ties will continue.

"I don't think today is a bad thing. It just shows their true colours," Ms. Hall said. "We will not stop. We will be on the streets until justice, until liberation, until divestment."

She cast doubt on the McGill administration's reasons for removing the encampment and disputed their statement about drug overdoses.

Guy Lapointe, a spokesperson for the Montreal fire department, confirmed that protesters denied them access to the site.

Quebec's Minister of Higher Education, Pascale Déry, expressed approval of the university's move on social media, adding that the government has said for several months that encampments have no place on university campuses.

## First Nation tells court it was not properly consulted on nuclear waste dump decision

MARIE WOOLF OTTAWA

A First Nations chief says a Supreme Court challenge to a planned nuclear waste dump could prove a test of whether Canada takes Indigenous peoples' rights to be consulted seriously.

Kebaowek First Nation, a member of the Anishinabeg Algonquin Nation, was in court Wednesday arguing for a judicial review of the decision by the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission to give the green light for a nuclear waste dump to be built at Chalk River on a forested site northwest of Ottawa in January.

Lance Haymond, chief of Kebaowek First Nation in Quebec, said at a press conference in Ottawa attended by several chiefs, the Bloc Québécois and environmentalists that the court action challenged the notion that the government could "push us aside and move forward" without properly seeking Indigenous peoples' views on such projects. He said that kind of practice needs to end in Canada.

He alleged that the nuclear safety commission did not properly consult with his community over the decision to approve the Chalk River Near Surface Disposal Facility (NSDF), and this violated the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People Act (UNDRIP) and his community's constitutionally protected rights.

Canadian Nuclear Laboratories wants to establish a storage facility for around one million cubic metres of low-level radioactive waste at its Chalk River site in Ontario, just over one kilometre from the Ottawa River.

Although CNL has said the new storage site would not pose a risk to drinking water in any location downriver, a coalition of First Nations communities from Ontario and Quebec have argued that the planned nuclear waste dump is too near the Ottawa River, which supplies drinking water to them, as well as the country's capital.

The federal government has a duty to consult and, where appropriate, accommodate Indigenous groups when it considers conduct that might adversely affect their potential or established treaty rights.

Mr. Haymond said UNDRIP requires that Indigenous peoples give their free, prior and informed consent before any project that affects their land and resources can proceed, and this had been violated.

The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission said in a statement that because the matter was before the Federal Court it would not be commenting.

"The CNSC welcomes the Federal Court's review of the Commission decision and any direction the Court may have," said Braeson Holland, a spokesperson of the commission.



In a news release Wednesday, the federal Department of Defence said it has started looking into buying up to 12 new submarines capable of operating under ice in the Arctic. ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS



[ ONTARIO ]

## A trickle effect

A person makes their way through the rain as the remnants of Hurricane Beryl hit Ottawa on Wednesday

SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Ford says he won't revisit plan to expand alcohol sales

LAURA STONE  
QUEEN'S PARK REPORTER

Ontario Premier Doug Ford says he believes a deal can be reached between the Liquor Control Board of Ontario and striking workers, but he will not revisit his government's plan to expand pre-mixed drinks into corner stores.

The union has demanded that the government back down on its plan to allow ready-to-drink cocktails, such as coolers, to be sold in convenience stores. Mr. Ford, taking questions about the six-day-old strike for the first time, said that will not happen.

"It's done. It's gone. That ship has sailed, it's halfway across Lake Ontario," Mr. Ford told reporters at Cool Beer Brewing

Company in west Toronto.

Mr. Ford said the LCBO will continue to sell premixed drinks once the expansion takes place and will remain the exclusive retailer of spirits such as vodka and gin.

"I'm going to make it very clear. We're not selling the LCBO. It's a great asset."

Grocery stores that already sell beer and wine will be able to sell ready-to-drink cocktails starting Aug. 1, and convenience stores can start selling beer, wine, cider and ready-to-drink cocktails on Sept. 5.

The Premier also said he has spoken to hundreds of front-line LCBO workers from the Ontario Public Service Employees Union who were unaware of the Crown corporation's latest offer, which

includes 7-per-cent wage increases over three years.

"We need to get back to the table. These folks don't want to be sitting out in 100-degree weather or pouring rain. They want to work," Mr. Ford said.

He said the LCBO and the union are not far apart on key issues of job security, wages and benefits. "This strike should have never, ever taken place," he said.

The union, meanwhile, said it would hold a virtual town hall Wednesday evening to review both the LCBO and the OPSEU's proposals.

Colleen MacLeod, chair of OPSEU's liquor board employees division and bargaining team, said Wednesday the fight is about "protecting good jobs in our communities and public revenues."

She said Mr. Ford's "alcohol everywhere scheme" will mean thousands of lost jobs, fewer hours for the 70 per cent of LCBO retail workers who are casual employees and hundreds of millions in dollars of lost public revenue.

"All along, we've been clear – we're ready to head back to the bargaining table immediately," Ms. MacLeod said in a statement.

"But Ford is lying about the LCBO's offer. We didn't walk away from the table – the LCBO told us not to come back unless we were willing to give up on our core demands that included job security and growing the LCBO to meet demand and improve convenience."

She added at a press conference later on Wednesday that union members do not believe

Mr. Ford's assurances that the LCBO will remain public.

The decision to expand alcohol sales – particularly of ready-to-drink beverages – is at the heart of the dispute between the government and the union representing more than 9,000 workers.

The union is urging the government to drop the expansion of premixed beverages into the private market, saying the move threatens their livelihood as a retail operation, given the growing popularity of such drinks, and puts \$2.5-billion in revenue at risk.

According to the LCBO's 2022-23 annual report, ready-to-drink (RTD) or spirits-based coolers "has been one of the fastest growing and most popular product categories in recent years."

## AFN: Child advocate calls for release of plan details

■ FROM A1

Recently, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced in a letter to AFN National Chief Cindy Woodhouse Nepinak that he will issue an apology for the harms caused by the First Nations child-welfare system. He also tasked Indigenous Services Minister Patty Hajdu and Justice Minister Arif Virani with leading discussions ahead of the apology.

Aside from the leaders who have participated in negotiations, First Nations chiefs from across Canada who have gathered for the AFN general assembly in Montreal this week have yet to see a copy of the draft agreement and are expected to vote on its contents.

First Nations child advocate Cindy Blackstock, the executive director of the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society, which did not participate in discussions on the draft agreement, said the \$47.8-billion figure is currently "just a number in the air." She called for the government to release the agreement and ensure chiefs and experts can see the fine print and compare the figure against research that has been completed.

"We measure success at the level of the child and their family," she said.

The \$47.8-billion in the draft agreement was confirmed to The Globe and Mail on Wednesday by a source with direct knowledge of its contents. The Globe is not

naming the source because they are not authorized to publicly speak about the deal at this time.

Separately, a \$23-billion final settlement agreement on compensation for First Nations children and families was approved by the Federal Court of Canada in October, bringing the total government spending plan to more than \$70-billion.

Anispiragas Piragasathan, a spokesperson for Indigenous Services Canada, said negotiations toward an agreement with First Nations parties are continuing. He said should an agreement be reached, First Nations parties will engage with members across the country and that it would represent a milestone.

Ms. Woodhouse Nepinak said this week that a special chiefs' assembly will be held in Winnipeg from Sept. 17 to Sept. 19 on child welfare and solutions for children and families. The national chief also said in a recent interview that First Nations organizations have worked to get commitments on the table, and it will be up to communities to determine next steps.

In 2007, the AFN and the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society brought a complaint about discriminatory child-welfare funding to the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal (CHRT).

In 2019, the tribunal found Ottawa had willfully and recklessly discriminated against Indigenous children who live on reserve by failing to provide funding for child and family services. It or-

dered the government to provide up to \$40,000 to each First Nations child unnecessarily taken into care on or after Jan. 1, 2006. Its orders also covered parents or grandparents and children who were denied essential services. Ottawa filed for a judicial review of the tribunal decision.

In October, 2021, the federal government said it would appeal a Federal Court decision that upheld the CHRT finding. In the same announcement, the government said it had agreed to put a pause on litigation while it negotiated outside of court.

Talks were then held between the federal government and class-action lawsuit parties, as well as the AFN, NAN, the Chiefs of Ontario and the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society. In January, 2022, two agreements in principle were announced: \$20-billion in compensation and approximately \$20-billion over five years for long-term reform.

The Caring Society has not been taking part in the recent discussions on reform. Prof. Blackstock, who teaches at McGill University's School of Social Work, said in a recent interview that her organization wanted to work with the other parties but terms could not be agreed upon and it could not be part of a process when Canada was breaching agreements to end its discriminatory conduct.

In December, 2023, her organization filed a non-compliance motion to the CHRT over the government's approach to processing claims for Jordan's Principle, a policy designed to ensure that First Nations children can access medical care and supports free from jurisdictional battles over who should pay for them.

Jordan's Principle is named after Jordan River Anderson, a five-year-old boy who had complex medical needs and died in hospital in 2005 after a lengthy battle between the federal and Manitoba governments over home-care costs.

On Wednesday, the source with direct knowledge of the draft agreement said Jordan's Principle matters will be negotiated separately from reforms on child welfare.

This week, Ms. Woodhouse Nepinak and Jennifer Kozelj, a press secretary for Ms. Hajdu, both called on Prof. Blackstock to come back to the table on child-welfare reform. Prof. Blackstock said the Caring Society wants to be at the table but the agreement in principle includes a clause that stops parties from going to the CHRT, which she sees as an important mechanism to hold the government accountable.

## Freeland: PM confident in minister, spokesperson says

■ FROM A1

Two sources say the view of some senior officials within the PMO, including chief of staff Katie Telford, is that Ms. Freeland has been ineffective in selling the government's economic policies that have come under assault from Conservative Leader Pierre Poilievre.

Other criticism includes that Ms. Freeland is not doing enough to win over members of the Liberal caucus, the sources say.

The Globe and Mail is not naming the sources who were not authorized to discuss the matter.

The Prime Minister's press secretary Anna-Clara Vaillancourt said Mr. Trudeau has full trust in his Finance Minister. "The Prime Minister, and his office, have full confidence in Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Chrystia Freeland," Ms. Vaillancourt said. "The Deputy Prime Minister has been working tirelessly to serve Canadians since she was first appointed to cabinet in 2015."

Ms. Vaillancourt lauded Ms. Freeland as the first female finance minister, who introduced \$10-a-day child care, dental care and pharmacare, and made "historic investments in housing and into building a stronger economy."

Ms. Freeland's office was not available to comment. A Liberal Party source said there is also unease in the PMO over a controversial new tax on U.S. tech giants such as Netflix, Google and Amazon.

Ms. Freeland says the tax will bring in billions in new revenue but some in the PMO are worried about the threat of U.S. countervailing duties. The Globe is not naming the source who was not authorized to discuss the internal debate over the sales tax.

For nearly a year, Mr. Trudeau and the Liberal Party have trailed the Conservatives by a substantial margin, which continued after the Prime Minister and Ms. Freeland tabled a budget in April designed to win over Canadians with a big-ticket housing program for millennials and Generation Z voters.

After the by-election loss last month, however, some Liberal Party members and MPs have called for change, including a cabinet shuffle to rejuvenate the government's agenda.

According to one source, the PMO did discuss a scenario, first reported by the Toronto Star, to replace Ms. Freeland with Mark Carney, the former governor of the Bank of Canada and Bank of England.

In that scenario, Ms. Freeland would have been offered the foreign affairs portfolio she held before becoming Finance Minister. Both sources say Ms. Telford in private conversations had high praise for Ms. Freeland as foreign affairs minister when she renegotiated the trilateral free-trade agreement with Mexico and the United States when Donald Trump was president.

Mr. Carney, considered a leadership contender should Mr. Trudeau step down, has said the April budget, which proposed \$52.9-billion in new spending, did not put an adequate focus on fostering economic growth.

In indirect criticism of Ms. Freeland's financial stewardship, Mr. Carney warned of the risks of "constant spending" and too much government subsidies, although he also congratulated the Liberals for their investments in housing and AI.

The April federal budget unveiled capital-gains tax changes that Ms. Freeland and the Prime Minister positioned as making the wealthiest Canadians pay more but have come under intense criticism. Many economists have said the tax increase will dampen investment and further hurt already weak productivity. The tax hikes have also been criticized by the innovation sector and medical associations.

Last fall, Ms. Freeland hired Andrew Bevan, who served as chief of staff and principal secretary to former Ontario premier Kathleen Wynne. One source credited Mr. Bevan for improving media outreach, noting he has helped get the Finance Minister to hold more regular news conferences.

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# 'Thank God he's alive': A mother's relief in wake of attack

Officials, families discuss aftermath of Russian missile strike on Kyiv children's hospital

JANICE DICKSON  
KATERYNA HATSENKO KYIV

Fourteen-year-old Volodymyr Shpetna lay in a hospital bed in Kyiv, hooked up to a dialysis machine. He looked off into the distance, and occasionally smiled shyly as his mother sat on the end of his bed.

On Monday, Volodymyr had been receiving his regular dialysis treatment at Okhmatdyt Children's Hospital and had just woken up when a Russian missile slammed into the building where he was being treated.

His mother, Anelina Shpetna, was at work when she learned that the hospital had been attacked. She quickly called him. "Mom, I'm alive," he said. "But I don't know what happened with the other children in this building."

He's scared "but thank God he's alive," she told The Globe and Mail in an interview on Wednesday, sitting in a hospital where her son and dozens of other children were taken after the attack.

Russia unleashed a barrage of missiles against five Ukrainian cities on Monday, including a daytime missile that crashed into Okhmatdyt Children's Hospital – the largest in Ukraine – and which treats some of the country's sickest children. Ukrainian officials said the attacks across the country killed at least 42 civilians.

Ukraine's Health Minister Viktor Liashko said Wednesday that a boy who was in the intensive care unit at the time of the attack has died, becoming the first child victim among patients there.

Ukraine has been urging its Western allies to provide it with sufficient air defence to protect itself. Monday's attack underscored Russia's disregard for Ukrainian civilians and the urgency with which Ukraine needs help.

The attack, one of the largest against Kyiv in months, came a day before NATO leaders began a three-day summit. Russia's invasion of Ukraine is one of the focuses of the meeting.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky thanked a number of Western allies on X for committing to provide his country with F-16 fighter jets.

"This is a clear signal that Russia's ability to terrorize Ukrainian people, cities and communities will continue to reduce. F-16s will also be used to bolster Ukraine's air defence," he said adding that they will help the country protect itself from Russian attacks, such as the strike on the children's hospital.

Thirty-six children were evacuated to the hospital where Volodymyr is receiving treatment, said Artem Semenc, deputy director of the medical department at the hospital, which cannot be named for security reasons. He said patients, ranging from babies to 17-year-olds, arrived with brain trauma and cuts from shards of glass.



Anelina Shpetna sits next to her 14-year-old son, Volodymyr, at a hospital in Kyiv. He was evacuated to a new hospital in the Ukrainian capital after the Russian attack on the Okhmatdyt Children's Hospital on Monday. PHOTOS BY OLGA IVASHCHENKO/THE GLOBE AND MAIL



The Okhmatdyt Children's Hospital is located in Kyiv, one of five Ukrainian cities targeted in Russia's missile attacks on Monday.

Inside the Okhmatdyt hospital, Anastasiia Rusyn, chief of the radiology diagnostic department, pointed out blood smeared on the wall outside her office from when glass cut her colleague. She had left her office, and was away from the window, moments before the attack.

She said the hospital was targeted because it is beloved and striking it would inflict so much pain. "If they want to hurt Ukrainians in the heart, they will hit here because you can see the scale of destruction and how people react," she said.

Their work continues, and some parts of Okhmatdyt are functioning. On Wednesday, Maryna Svyd, 33, and her nine-year-old son Oleksandr, were waiting to see their doctor. Ms. Svyd said that on Monday, she and Oleksandr were at the hospital where he was receiving radiation treatment. They went outside and explosions began rocking the city.

She and her son quickly got on a bus that was arranged by a foundation that supports his cancer treatment. The bus started driving away when the missile struck the hospital, causing the bus to shake.

"At that moment, we only thanked God for saving us. My son was very calm," she said. Living in Kharkiv region, she said, her son is used to explosions and had previously been operated on there under rocket fire.

In an office inside the hospital's main building, Oleg Godik, a transplant physician and pediatric surgeon, said he is hurting because his colleague Svitlana Lukianchuk, a 30-year-old nephrologist, was killed in the attack.

"We will work even harder in the memory of Svitlana," he said.

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## Russian strikes kill dozens in Ukraine

A children's hospital in Kyiv was hit after Russia launched a wave of missile strikes against cities across Ukraine on Monday.



**Kh-101:** Ukraine's Security Service says it found wreckage of Russian air-launched cruise missile at hospital site

GRAPHIC NEWS, SOURCES: AP, BBC, ISW, KYIV INDEPENDENT, REUTERS

Across the hospital grounds inside the pediatric department, Natalia Mitnichuk, 42, sat on a bed opposite her 19-year-old daughter, Yuliia. They are from Zhytomyr and, on Monday, they were on the eighth floor of the main hospital building on what seemed like an ordinary morning.

Ms. Mitnichuk said her daughter has a congenital disorder that affects her liver and has received treatment from this hospital since she was two months old. She finally had a liver transplant in June and had been recovering at the hospital.

When the air alarm sounded, Ms. Mitnichuk said, she saw people outside of the window looking at the sky. They went to the basement and minutes after making it to the shelter, there was a powerful explosion. The building was shaking and they were terrified, she said. Eventually, they went outside.

"I saw how children were taken out from under the rubble, that the building of the toxicology department, where children in serious condition were treated, was completely destroyed," she said.

"The world community must stop the terrorists. Do not be silent. Today this terror is happening in Ukraine, and tomorrow it can happen in Britain, Poland, Czech Republic. Russia will not stop only at Ukraine."

## ISRAELI MILITARY ORDERS EVACUATION OF GAZA CITY

DEIR AL-BALAH, GAZA STRIP The Israeli military urged all Palestinians to leave Gaza City and head south Wednesday, pressing ahead with a fresh offensive across the north, south and centre of the embattled territory that has killed dozens of people over the past 48 hours.

The stepped-up military activity came as U.S., Egyptian and Qatari mediators met with Israeli officials in the Qatari capital, Doha, for talks seeking a long-elusive ceasefire deal with Gaza's Hamas militant group in exchange for the release of dozens of Israeli hostages it is holding.

Israel says it is pursuing Hamas fighters that are regrouping in various parts of Gaza nine months into the war. But heavy strikes in recent days along the length of the territory also could be aimed at putting more pressure on Hamas in the ceasefire talks.

In a visit Wednesday to central Gaza, Israel's military chief, Lt.-Gen. Herzi Halevi, said forces were operating in different ways, in multiple parts of the territory "to carry out a very important mission: pressure. We will continue operating to bring home the hostages."

Israel informed people in Gaza of the evacuation order by dropping leaflets urging "all

those in Gaza City" to take two "safe routes" south to the area around the central town of Deir al-Balah. Gaza City, it said, will "remain a dangerous combat zone."

Months ago, Israel ordered residents of northern Gaza, including Gaza City, to flee south, and much of the population left earlier in the war. Large parts of Gaza City and urban areas around it have been flattened or left a shattered landscape by previous Israeli assaults.

The United Nations says about 300,000 Palestinians have remained in the hard-hit north, with the bulk of those said to be in Gaza City.

Most of Gaza's 2.3 million people are crammed into squalid tent camps in central and southern Gaza.

Israeli troops have pushed into parts of Gaza City in recent days, triggering the flight of thousands of Palestinians trying to escape shelling and air strikes. This past week, the military ordered Palestinians to evacuate from eastern and central parts of the city.

There was no immediate mass exodus from the city following Wednesday's order. Many Palestinians have concluded that there is no refuge in war-stricken Gaza.

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# Authors pull books from Giller Prize consideration

Fifteen writers ask the organizers to cut ties with partners affiliated with the Israeli military; Giller decides to retain its title sponsor

JOSH O'KANE

The Scotiabank Giller Prize said Wednesday that it would retain its title sponsor, just hours after 15 authors said they would ask their publishers not to submit their books to the prize this year in protest of that sponsorship.

A letter signed by the authors asked for prize organizers to cut ties with partners affiliated with the Israeli military and to pressure the Bank of Nova Scotia to divest a subsidiary's stake in Israeli weapons manufacturer Elbit Systems. It comes after months of pushback from the literary community since demonstrators were arrested for disrupting last November's Giller gala over the Elbit investment, including a 2,000-signature letter in support of the demonstrators.

Giller executive director Elana Rabinovitch said in a statement that the organization's decision was made after a thorough review that also included "deep consultation" with the literary sector.

"We have seen firsthand the positive impact our partnership has had on Giller Prize winners, nominees and the future generations of writers inspired by the work of the foundation," she wrote, referring to the Giller Foundation, which runs the prize. "While we appreciate the range of views that have been shared, the foundation is not a political tool."

She added that Scotiabank's sponsorship contract ends after the 2025 prize but declined to confirm whether it would renegotiate for a longer term or identify who her team spoke with in making that decision.

The Ethiopian-American novelist Dinaw Mengestu, who last week warned the award was in peril over the Elbit connection, also said late Wednesday that he would leave this year's Giller jury over its decision to stay with Scotiabank. "The foundation has shown it has no desire to even engage with the questions posed by its relationship with Scotiabank, or the impact that relationship has on writers and the prize," he said in an e-mail.



Protesters outside an Indigo store in Toronto in 2023. In a signed letter, the authors also asked prize organizers to pressure Scotiabank to divest a subsidiary's stake in Israeli weapons manufacturer Elbit Systems. CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The authors withdrawing from consideration for the prize, meanwhile, wrote that "we cannot abide our work being used to provide cover for sponsors actively investing in arms funding and Israel's ongoing genocide of Palestinians."

The Scotiabank Giller Prize is worth \$100,000 and historically has provided a massive boost to its winners' careers. Signatories to the letter include *Behind You* author Catherine Hernandez, *The Beauty of Us* author Farzana Doctor and *Wild Houses* author Colin Barrett. Five past Giller nominees have also signed the letter: André Forget, Aimee Wall, finalists Noor Naga and Shani Mootoo and winner David Bergen.

Publishing houses ultimately decide which books they will submit for Giller consideration, so some of the authors withdrawing their books this year may not have ultimately been put forward by their publishers — though at least one, Sydney Hegele's *Bird Suit*, was planned to be nominated by Invisible Publishing, its publisher Norm Nehmetallah said. There were 145 submissions for Giller consideration last year.

The letter takes a harder stand than previous pressure campaigns against the Giller in the wake of the Israel-Hamas war, which until now have focused mostly on the Scotiabank subsidiary's Elbit stake. The authors also ask the Giller Foundation to "cut ties with all funders directly invested in Israel's occupation and genocide in

Palestine."

That includes Canada's biggest bookstore operator, Indigo, which is controlled by Gerald Schwartz and Heather Reisman, the founders of the HESEG Foundation, which funds scholarships for former Israel Defence Forces soldiers. The Azrieli Foundation made the list for numerous reasons, the letter says, including its late founder's involvement with the Zionist paramilitary group Haganah.

(Amazon-owned audiobook company Audible was also on the list because of Amazon's ties to tech company Palantir, but Audible said Wednesday that its contract with the Giller Prize ended last year.)

Representatives for Indigo and the Azrieli Foundation did not respond to requests for comment Wednesday.

While most Canadian authors don't have the option of pulling their books from the country's biggest bookstore chain, Indigo, without serious harm to their careers, "we have to find spaces where we can put pressure," such as by signing this letter, Ms. Doctor said. "We have to use the leverage of our labour, our books, to opt out where we can."

Ms. Hernandez, whose previous book *Scarborough* was shortlisted for numerous literary awards and Canada Reads, said in an e-mail, "It's a shame that I even have to consider the distribution of my books because of a corporation's complicity in genocide." She added: "Do you shut the hell up

for the promise of fame or financial stability? Or do you do as I am doing now and speak up, knowing you risk your livelihood and future as an artist?"

The letter campaign was organized by CanLit Responds, a group affiliated with No Arms in the Arts, whose branches have spearheaded other recent efforts to push back against Scotiabank-sponsored events because of the bank subsidiary's stake in Elbit. They pushed back against the Hot Docs documentary film festival and canvassed potential exhibitors at this year's Contact Photography Festival; nearly a tenth of them pulled out from the latter. (Scotiabank stopped funding Contact at the end of this year's festival for unrelated reasons.)

With Gaza's health authority reporting more than 38,000 Palestinians dead since the start of the Israel-Hamas war last October, artists around the world have protested corporate sponsors of arts events with ties to the Israeli military.

Elbit manufactures products such as military drones and artillery ammunition. Scotiabank subsidiary 1832 Asset Management was its largest foreign shareholder until at least the middle of last year, but has been gradually divesting its stake, which sat at 2.5 per cent at the end of March, securities filings show.

"If the foundation is keeping Scotiabank as its partner, one can only hope and assume that it is because Scotiabank has fully divested itself of Elbit stock," Ms. Mootoo, a four-time Giller nominee, said. (Scotiabank did not respond to a comment request.)

"If Scotiabank has not fully divested, then this response from the Giller Foundation is sheer arrogance, and a display of disdain for everything that literature and the arts is about, and also a huge insult to the writers the Foundation purports to support," Ms. Mootoo continued. "They serve only themselves."

Asked about the Scotiabank pushback last week, Ms. Rabinovitch told *The Globe and Mail*: "We ask that people not construe our silence for endorsement of the status quo. Systems take time to dismantle."

In response to the sponsorship continuation, CanLit Responds organizer Jody Chan said: "Their renewed commitment to Scotiabank today proves that their eight months of silence means exactly that: a tacit endorsement of Israel's ongoing genocide in Palestine."

With a report from Brad Wheeler

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[ CALGARY STAMPEDE ]



Above left: Aleyha Poitras prepares to compete in the women's race, a single-lap horse bareback race at the Calgary Stampede on Monday. Above right: Jay Peeaychew, from Red Pheasant First Nation, stretches before he jockeys for team Poitras Relay.



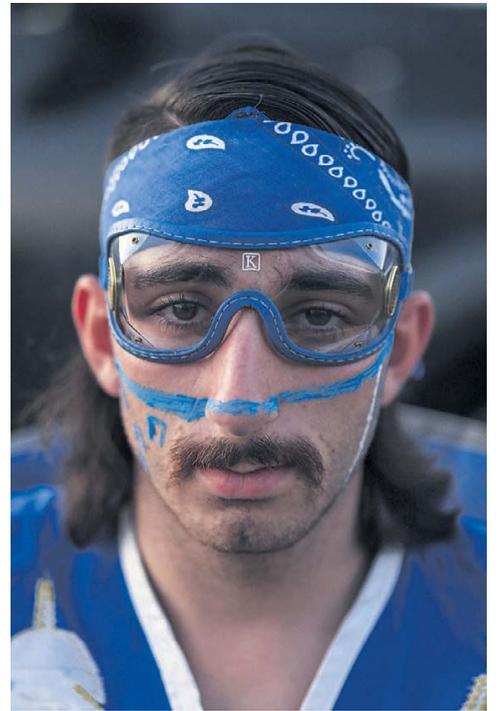
Ms. Poitras wears blue markings similar to that of her horse, in order to bring the team good luck.

# The Calgary Stampede kicks and bucks into high gear

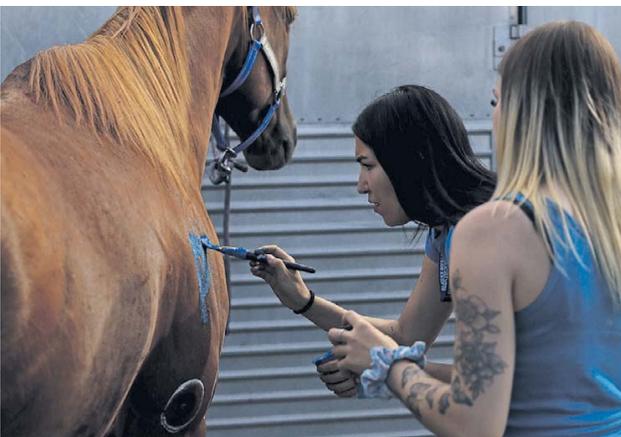
Indigenous team Poitras Relay is one of the core teams competing in the nightly events

PHOTOGRAPHY BY LEAH HENNEL

Poitras Relay, from the Saulteaux First Nation, are one of 10 teams competing nightly after the Cowboys Rangeland Derby Chuckwagon Races. The sport is a fast and frantic display of horsemanship with a long history steeped in cultural significance. Much like an Olympic relay race, except instead of a team of runners taking turns, these races feature one rider who switches between three different horses.



Mr. Peeaychew competes as a singular rider across three different horses during the event.



Charlie Nolin paints marks on the horses to bring good luck to the team.



Mr. Peeaychew competes during the Indigenous Relay Racing.

## Doctors: Pandemic-driven changes continue to affect current medical practices

FROM A1

"We haven't heard as much about the patients who do have a family physician on paper, but in reality, you have to ask, 'How likely are they to be able to access that family physician given how far away they are?'" she said.

Archana Gupta, the physician and researcher who compiled the new figures, found that patients were typically better off being near their doctors. The further away they lived, the less likely they were to be screened for cancer and the more likely they were to visit the emergency department for non-urgent health concerns.

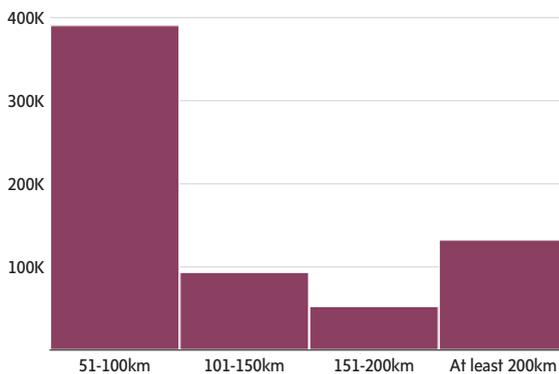
"The most stark finding was that the further individuals lived from their family doctor, the more likely they were to have no primary-care visits - not to their own doctor and not to any other doctor, either," said Dr. Gupta, a Toronto family doctor and researcher with Upstream Lab, part of the MAP Centre for Urban Health Solutions at St. Michael's Hospital.

Dr. Gupta embarked on the new research after noticing that some of her own patients asked to stay on her roster after moving to places as far away as Windsor and Ottawa. Unable to find any other Canadian studies exploring the issue, she analyzed de-identified OHIP billing records and postal-code data for doctors and patients to see how many were located more than 50 kilometres apart.

Dr. Gupta's study, which has yet to be published in a peer-re-

### Going the distance

Number of Ontarians who live in urban and suburban areas that are at least 50 kilometres from their family doctor



THE GLOBE AND MAIL, SOURCE: OCFP

viewed journal, was a snapshot covering two years of Ontario data from April 1, 2021, to March 31, 2023, meaning she can't say if the situation has worsened over time or if it's occurring outside Ontario. But anecdotally, some physicians elsewhere in Canada say they've seen the same trend.

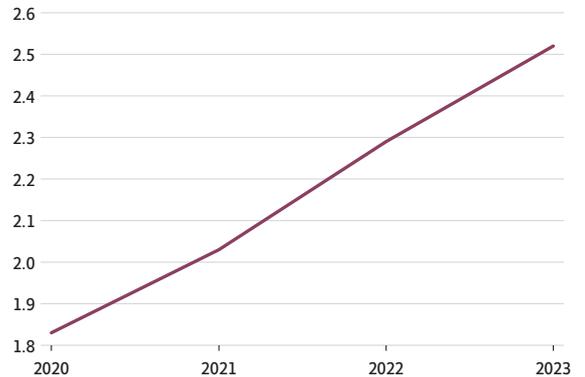
Rita McCracken, a family physician in East Vancouver and a primary-care researcher at the University of British Columbia, said that more of her patients, unable to find new doctors, are asking to remain on her roster after they move. Others move, join new practices, then call her when their new physicians retire or switch their focus to something other than cradle-to-grave primary care.

"Then they came back to me to say, 'Will you please take me back, because I'm having to wait six hours in emergency to get my re-fills. I've been trying to go to walk-in clinics, but the lineups are full by the time I get there.' They're pretty desperate."

Part of the shift reflects a pandemic-era change in medical practice, as doctors and patients alike have grown more accustomed to phone and video appointments. Dr. McCracken said long-distance doctoring, while not ideal, can suffice for patients in good health or with stable chronic illnesses. "But where things really fall apart," she said, "is if something starts to go wrong, or there's a new acute presentation."

### Numbers of Ontarians with no family doctor growing

In millions



THE GLOBE AND MAIL, SOURCE: OCFP

That's when patients who live far from their doctors turn to the emergency room as a last resort for primary care, Dr. Gupta's research found. For example, just more than 9 per cent of Ontario patients who live between 151 and 200 kilometres from their family doctors visit the ER for non-urgent reasons compared with 5.6 per cent of patients who live less than 10 kilometres from their doctor.

Cancer screening can also fall by the wayside. For example, Dr. Gupta found that just more than 60 per cent of eligible women who lived less than 10 kilometres from their doctor got a pap test to screen for cervical cancer compared with 48 per cent of women who reside more than 200 kilo-

metres away.

Similar disparities were found in screening rates for breast and colon cancer, Dr. Gupta added.

The Ontario government has been trying to tackle the family doctor shortage with a suite of initiatives, including announcing \$110-million in funding this year for 78 new and expanded inter-professional primary-care teams, as well as increasing the number of spots for family medicine residents and planning to open two new medical schools in Brampton and Vaughan in the coming years.

The province has said in the past that its figures - extrapolated from surveys - indicate about 1.3 million Ontarians are without a family doctor, fewer than the OCFP's figures.



Crews repair a major water main break in Calgary in June. The state of the infrastructure that delivers the country's water has come under scrutiny since the break, which forced consumption restrictions for a month in Alberta's largest city until service was restored last week. JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Could Calgary's water crisis happen in other cities? A Globe analysis paints a stark picture

Information on big-city water systems incomplete and inconsistent, but shows aging systems are falling behind in maintenance

OLIVER MOORE  
TU THANH HA

Nearly one-quarter of drinking water pipes in Canada's largest cities are near the end of their useful life, raising the prospect of enormous repair bills for cash-strapped local governments.

The state of the infrastructure that delivers the country's water — and the billions needed to inspect, maintain and replace it — has come under scrutiny since a major pipe broke in Calgary, forcing consumption restrictions for a month in Alberta's largest city until service was restored last week.

The Globe and Mail examined the Canada's big-city water systems and found that information about this crucial but largely invisible asset was incomplete and inconsistent. But what could be gleaned through surveying the country's 10 largest cities and analyzing data from Statistics Canada painted a stark picture of aging water systems in municipalities that are falling behind on maintaining and replacing them.

In Hamilton, two-fifths of transmission pipes, the bigger ones, are in poor or very poor condition. Winnipeg has more than twice as many water main breaks per length of pipe as the North American average.

Toronto is \$2-billion behind on the spending needed to keep its system in good shape. In Vancouver, nearly a quarter of the drinking water supply network is in poor or very poor condition.

But it is hard even to get an accurate picture of the state of Canada's water systems. Cities didn't always provide full information, and often measured and tracked things in different ways. Some water agencies are opaque in their dealings with the public.

As well, all cities have limited ability to assess accurately the condition of their pipes. In Calgary, where the city reported that all of its big pipes were in good or very good condition, the one that ruptured this spring hadn't been physically inspected in a decade.

The failure of Calgary's large-diameter pipe, known as the Bearspaw South Feedermain, brought

attention to the critical importance of a reliable supply, something developed-world residents tend to take for granted, until it's not there.

"To me, it is amazing that these systems last as long as they do and we get clear water most of the time," said Bryan Karney, a University of Toronto civil engineering professor.

While there was relatively little of the type of pipe identified in Calgary's catastrophic break last month, the water pipes serving Canada's biggest cities break thousands of times each year. Though most aren't as dramatic as Calgary's rupture, decades-old infrastructure is coming to the end of its life, putting pressure on cities to fix up old pipes, even as they build new ones to serve growing populations.

"We've got really aging infrastructure in all of our cities that is 50 to 100 years old that needs replacement — and we put it off," said Robert Haller, executive director of the Canadian Water & Wastewater Association, which advocates the federal government on behalf of municipal water agencies.

"It's almost like gambling. Each year, you roll the dice, and you hope you'll get another year out of your infrastructure. But at some point, you have to replace it. It's always cheaper to plan a replacement than to let it collapse."

The most recent Statscan data is found in a federal infrastructure survey, dating to 2020 and based on self-reporting by the country's municipalities, and presents an unsettling picture of water systems.

Nationally, the average remaining lifespan of the country's pipes is going down. Nearly one-fifth of the pipes across Canada were installed before 1970 and, according to Statscan, are reaching the end of their useful life. In nine of Canada's 10 biggest cities — Montreal is not included in the survey — the situation is worse: 23.9 per cent of pipes date to the 1960s or earlier.

The survey also asked cities about the state of their pipes, revealing a wide range of condi-



Crews clear a giant sinkhole that opened in the middle of downtown, London, Ont., in 2007 from a break in a water main. Cities have a limited ability to assess accurately the condition of water pipes. DAVE CHIDLEY/CP

tions. However, while age is relatively easy to track, the analyses behind city assessments are limited.

"They do some sampling, if you will, they might expose a section of pipe, they might even take a

core sample out of it, they might even take a section out of it, evaluate it," said Troy Vassos, a University of British Columbia adjunct professor and a technical director for Integrated Sustainability, an engineering firm.

"You can't do that for all pipe, so they make some general averaging assumptions on the rest of the pipe and the infrastructure. And from that, they come up with their ratings. But that's just an estimate."

## Water infrastructure in selected major Canadian cities

CITY	TOTAL NETWORK (KM)	CAPITAL SPENDING, PAST DECADE (\$M)	CAPITAL REQUIREMENT, NEXT DECADE (\$M)	WATERMAIN BREAKS, PAST DECADE	PCCP PIPES (%)	PCCP PIPES, PRE-1980 (%)
Toronto	6,125	\$8,579.00	\$16,276.00	8,836	0.8%	0.5%
Montreal	5,422	N/A	N/A	370	2.9%	2.4%
Calgary	5,385	\$247.40	N/A	2,271	3.5%	1.7%
Peel Region	4,765	\$1,072.00	\$1,205.00	1,698	17.3%	4.7%
Edmonton	4,258	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Ottawa*	3,366	\$403.00	\$893.00	1,804	5.1%	1.8%
Winnipeg*	2,891	\$182.87	\$143.65	4,368	4.1%	3.4%
Hamilton	2,132	\$843.35	\$1,666.00	2,957	6.1%	3.6%
Vancouver	1,488	\$190.00	\$350 to \$450	N/A	0.5%	0.0%
Metro Vancouver	520	\$1,740.00	\$2,768.00	N/A	3.6%	0.0%

\*Ottawa's past expenditure is for 2016–2020 and projected expenditure is for 2021–2030. Winnipeg's projected expenditure is for 2024–2029. THE GLOBE AND MAIL



Crews in Calgary work on water main repairs in June. University of Waterloo political scientist Daniel Henstra say people tend not to think about water infrastructure until something goes wrong. JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS



The failed Calgary pipe was 49 years into what was expected to be a 100-year lifespan. Modelling based on the pipe's age, material and operating pressures did not suggest that a physical inspection was required, according to city official François Bouchart. CITY OF CALGARY/THE CANADIAN PRESS

This appears to be what happened in Calgary, where the failed pipe was 49 years into what was expected to be a 100-year lifespan. Modelling based on the pipe's age, material and operating pressures did not suggest that a physical inspection was required, according to city official François Bouchart.

"There was no indication that the section of pipe was being stressed," he told reporters.

Physical inspections require pipes to be dug up and are costly and intrusive, although modelling does not preclude a possible failure, Prof. Karney noted.

"Most medical tests are keyed to age and lifestyle, but that doesn't mean you can't have a heart attack when you are young. Just less likely," he said.

Acoustic sensors installed this spring picked up no alarming signals, suggesting this was a sudden catastrophic failure and not a gradual degradation, Calgary officials say. "Pigging" – floating a device loaded with sensors down this pipe – was scheduled, but for the coming winter.

"How do you test it for a long period of time? You put it in place and cross your fingers," Mr. Vassos said.

"That's another reason that Calgary is of interest to everybody ... is this an indication of problems that other large cities are going to start facing?"

The scale of Canada's urban water systems is vast. Toronto, Montreal and Calgary alone have enough

pipe to stretch from one side of the country to the other and back.

Equally vast are the costs associated with this infrastructure. Toronto's overall water network is valued at \$87-billion, and industry standards call for investing 2 per cent of total value annually in the system.

Over the last decade, the city has spent \$8.6-billion on upkeep, considerably less than that 2-per-cent target. It is projecting that it will need to double its investment in the next decade.

Other cities are facing their own upkeep dilemmas. Vancouver spokesperson Fiona Hughes said that "even with steadily increasing renewal rate, the portion of pipe assets in poor condition will increase over the next 10 years before stabilizing."

In recent years, cities have become more fiscally rigorous when it comes to their water systems. This has not been painless.

Under David Miller, mayor of Toronto from 2003 to 2010, the city boosted water rates by 9 per cent annually for years in a row. Edmonton hived off water provision to a corporation, EPCOR, that makes money for the city but doesn't provide the transparency of a public agency.

Larger cities also now have asset management plans that help determine which parts of the infrastructure need to be replaced in what order. In theory, this allows looming problems to be addressed before they become crises.

But even with these changes,



Traffic begins to snarl in Toronto during a \$57-million project to replace a 100-year-old water main in 2012. Toronto's overall water network is valued at \$87-billion. MATTHEW SHERWOOD/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

the sheer scale of the money needed is beyond the reach of municipalities. Raising water rates too high becomes politically impossible, and risks making a necessity of life unaffordable.

At the same time, municipalities and provinces regularly clash over funding needs.

In Alberta, after the provincial government last month announced a \$43-billion surplus, Edmonton Mayor Amarjeet Sohi complained that this money had been accrued on the back of municipalities and that funding for infrastructure was inadequate.

Quebec Premier François Legault had to apologize this spring after responding to funding requests by saying, "I've been in politics long enough to know that mayors find it easier to go begging in Quebec City rather than tidy up their own finances."

Asked this week about support for fixing city water systems, the federal government and the governments of some of the biggest provinces pointed to recent or promised investments – money that falls well short of the identified needs.

The amount of new housing

being built also creates its own pressure. There is a limited amount of financing and labour available to split between the installation of water infrastructure in new neighbourhoods and the maintenance of such infrastructure in established areas.

Water distribution systems, along with sewers and stormwater drains, are part of the buried infrastructure of a municipality. The infrastructure is mostly visible in its absence.

But that absence can make modern city life untenable. In Britain, a foul reek from The Thames in 1858 – so vile it was dubbed the Great Stink – emptied Parliament and prompted vast new engineering works in London, then the biggest city in the world. Last month, Calgary's ruptured pipe sparked shower and laundry restrictions that brought viscerally to the foreground how much residents rely on free-flowing water.

"People don't really think about it," said Daniel Henstra, a University of Waterloo political scientist whose fields of research include governance and critical

infrastructure resilience. "You fill up a glass of water and you drink it. But until there's a big disruption like we've just seen in Calgary, when you realize both how important the service is."

As a result, water infrastructure can struggle to find political backers. Opening a new transit line makes commuters happy. Replacing a water main will make it more reliable, but it might leave residents with the sense that service remains the same.

In Calgary, crisis has had a way of focusing attention. But even before water restrictions were eased last week, there were signs the public was moving on.

University of Calgary assistant engineering professor Kerry Black was doubtful her city's water troubles would lead to a new public understanding of the importance of pipes and other infrastructure.

"What you're going to see is, as soon as that pipe's replaced, water consumption and use is going to go back to normal," she said. "And other cities aren't going to be as sensitive to it until it happens to them."

With a report from Frances Bula

**Percentage of pipes that are in poor or very poor condition**

Data self-reported by cities, 2020

	Local pipes	Transmission pipes
Ottawa	31%	22%
Vancouver	22%	17%
Toronto	12%	0%
Hamilton	11%	40%
Winnipeg	10%	11%
Peel Region	1%	3%
Edmonton	0%	0%
Calgary	0%	0%

# 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

## A 60-second history lesson for Canadians

Sixty seconds isn't very long to tell a story, particularly one as sprawling as that of Canada's first prime minister.

So, the Heritage Minute video on Sir John A. Macdonald necessarily limits itself to a critical moment in his life, the 1864 Charlottetown Conference that laid the foundation for Confederation three years later. "Gentlemen, the time for union is now. I ask you to take the dare," a jaunty Macdonald says at the end of the video, capturing the audacity that was needed to create Canada.

Not mentioned in those 60 seconds are the creation of cross-continental railways, the westward expansion of Canada, the Pacific Scandal – or his central role in creating the federal residential school system that brutalized generations of Indigenous children.

All of that is part of Macdonald's legacy. And all of that was clear in 2014, when *Historica Canada* published its Heritage Minute spot, in part because it had commissioned a poll that showed 42 per cent of respondents could not name Canada's first prime minister.

Then, in July 2021, *Historica* quietly unpublished the Heritage Minute about Macdonald (a fact that flared up online last week). What had changed?

The answer is to be found two months earlier, when the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc First Nation revealed that ground-penetrating radar had indicated the existence of 200 potential unmarked graves on the grounds of a former residential school in Kamloops.

That discovery thrust the tragedy, and crimes, of the residential school system into full public view and led to widespread repudiations of Macdonald. Statues were torn down. His name was dropped from buildings and an Ottawa freeway.

*Historica's* unpublishing was a part, if only a small part, of that effort. (The organization says it will republish the Macdonald video this fall, after three years, with added context, including new material for its Canadian Encyclopedia.)

Curiously, though, Macdonald's successors were not swept up in that wave of repudiation. Wilfrid Laurier was prime minister when the government was warned in 1907, in unmistakable terms, that tuberculosis was running rampant in residential schools, leading to high death rates among students. The Laurier administration did not act.

That was just one chapter in the tragedy and violence wreaked upon Indigenous children, over decades.

R.B. Bennett was prime minister when Ottawa gave itself the power in 1933 to strip Indigenous parents of legal guardianship over their children. In 1956, Louis St. Laurent was prime minister when the Department of Indian Affairs recommended that residential schools be closed. His administration did not act, allowing new generations to be traumatized.

It took four more decades before the last residential school closed. Eighteen prime ministers served in office while the system was in place. So why the focus on Macdonald?

Certainly part of the answer has to do with the fact that Macdonald was a loud voice for the assimilation of Indigenous people – stamping out their culture by vicious means. He promoted that cause using language that to modern ears is grotesquely racist. It's fair to say that without his efforts, residential schools would not have become a federal institution, and a national shame.

But after his death, his successors ensured that residential schools continued well into the modern era. There is more than enough culpability to go around.

Another part of the answer, for some, is the effort to portray this country as an illegitimate state occupying stolen land – the notion of a "so-called Canada." The history of Macdonald and Canada are inextricably intertwined. Obscuring Macdonald's accomplishments by focusing on his misdeeds aids in slandering Canada as a fundamentally racist entity.

Lastly, the focus on Macdonald's sins serves to unjustifiably exculpate not just the prime ministers who allowed residential schools to continue, but the rest of the country. A proper reading of history is that a succession of federal governments and generations of Canadians were, at best, indifferent to the suffering of tens of thousands of Indigenous children. They – we – did not care enough to save them.

Facing that fact is hard indeed. Far easier, then, to tear down a statue, or to delete a video.



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### MAKE THE CASE

Re "Biden touts NATO, Ukraine's resilience as allies convene in Washington" (July 10): If ever there was an argument for a strong, unified NATO, Russia has provided it with the missile strikes on Ukraine's largest children's hospital. The act demonstrates to me that Russia is unwilling to stop its horrific war against a peaceful neighbour.

As NATO members meet in Washington, they should remember why NATO was established 75 years ago. What an enviable job it has done to preserve peace in Europe, allowing for unprecedented prosperity and human development.

The war against Ukraine is the most dangerous security threat to Europe in decades. NATO countries have supported Ukrainian defence, but there should be a more durable, resolute response to extinguish Vladimir Putin's imperialistic aggression.

Ukraine should be fully supported in defending itself and the democratic values shared with NATO countries. Otherwise dictators everywhere would take chances with their own imperialistic agendas, to the detriment of global peace and security.

■ Lidia Wasyllyn Edmonton

Re "Commit to what?" (Letters, July 10): A letter-writer defends Canada's failure to live up to its NATO funding obligations on the basis of our huge land mass, small population and therefore small tax base. These very factors should underscore the vital importance of NATO membership to national security.

Without our NATO allies, there would be no way we can defend territorial sovereignty on our own, should it come under serious military threat. Due to the dismal state of our military, we can't even defend our Arctic waters without NORAD support.

We have a choice. We meet our financial and defence obligations as a NATO member, or we risk irrelevance and abandonment by our allies.

The problem is money. If the Liberal government would beef up our military and international financial contributions, we would regain international respect as an important NATO partner, rather than be singled out on the world stage as a laggard and sponger.

■ Kathryn Vogel Toronto

### NOT ABOUT AGE

Re "Concern about Biden's age is now out of his campaign's control. Can Democrats recover in time for the election?" (July 8): I wish everyone would stop talking about Joe Biden's age as the reason to ask him to step aside. We should be talking about his

frailty, perhaps both physical and mental.

I have an 81-year-old brother who hikes and rock climbs, writes computer programs, weaves, paints, draws and reads voraciously. He is sharp as a tack. My brother is not frail.

I have seen Mr. Biden walk stiffly the few metres from chair to podium. His voice sounds weak and his mind seems not particularly sharp, as evidenced by the difference between his Teleprompter speeches and ad-libs.

Mr. Biden is frail.

■ Ellen Cohen Orillia, Ont.

### PRODUCTIVITY COSTS

Re "There's rot in the economy and it's costing you better pay and investment returns" (Report on Business, July 4): If indeed the solution to Canada's productivity woes is to have businesses spend their "piles of cash" on tech, factories and equipment, then the recent increase in capital-gains tax enacted by the Trudeau government seems to be the antithesis of what is needed.

Why would business owners choose to invest heavily, only to be taxed at a higher rate upon selling their businesses?

■ Rick Naor Thornhill, Ont.

I keep reading about how Canada's productivity lags behind the United States. But I never read about the work habits prevalent in the U.S.

First, annual leave is skimpy, often two weeks when starting out in a job. Sick leave is often non-existent and employees are forced to use vacation days. Maternity and paternity leave is generally non-existent, with only a few states requiring some meagre paid leave.

Then add statistics that show Americans are often required to work on statutory holidays and weekends, and do not take all their paid holidays. Some don't have much mobility, trapped in a job by virtue of health insurance.

All this to enrich companies and shareholders. What about the burnout caused by these work habits, as well as the toll on families? I doubt any of this is calculated in productivity statistics.

■ John Towndrow Cornwall, Ont.

### READ ON

Re "Alice Munro betrayed us, and her legacy" (July 9): I would be curious to see who remains on bookshelves after the removal of morally objectionable authors and artists.

Pablo Picasso can stay, apparently, because his "masterly paintings" are "removed from his life" (an assertion that would astonish Dora Maar, the muse and

model for *The Weeping Woman*), but Alice Munro's stories "are too close to the truth" of her own life for us to separate art from artist.

So long Leo Tolstoy, who could enter into the lives of his characters precisely because they were drawn from the truth of his own life, but who treated his wife abominably. So long Albert Camus, whose novels and essays hew awfully close to the truth of his own experiences, and whose serial philandering caused his wife great suffering.

And the list goes on, interminably.

■ Bruce Baugh Kamloops, B.C.

An inability to separate Alice Munro, the conflicted wife and flawed mother, from the literary products of Alice Munro, the late Nobel laureate, illustrate to me the extent to which the cult of the author has grown perverse.

I believe Ms. Munro betrayed her daughter and herself. The outraged reader who refuses now to touch a copy of *Open Secrets* or *Dear Life*, because of what she did or didn't do with regard to her husband's inexcusable crime, is missing the chance to read these collections with heightened sensitivity.

What, after all, did we think she was writing about so disturbingly all these years?

■ Richard Cumyn Edmonton

Alice Munro's Nobel Prize should be rescinded, and a major donation made to child sexual abuse treatment organizations around the world.

In an alternate reality, she might have used her international platform and fame to help countless survivors receive much-needed help. Her silence speaks volumes, and renders her work near meaningless to me. She is now forever linked to the crimes of her husband.

Humbert Humbert of Vladimir Nabokov's *Lolita* is a fictional character; Gerald Fremlin, Ms. Munro's husband, is not. She is most famous for writing about the lives of girls and women in brilliant short stories. Perhaps the writing life allowed her to escape the terrible truths in her own.

I write this in honour of my own mother: my most fierce protectress, teacher and friend. I wish Andrea Robin Skinner healing, and respect her courage in speaking her truth to the world. The cult of Alice Munro, then, is over.

■ Aviva Cameron Toronto

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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# Here comes Kamala Harris

The vice-president's latest twist of fate has given her another shot at being considered for America's top job

LAWRENCE MARTIN

OPINION



It wasn't so long ago that United States Vice-President Kamala Harris was said to be doing so poorly in her job that Joe Biden should drop her from the Democratic ticket.

Now, of course, it is Mr. Biden who could well be discarded. And if that transpires, it's Ms. Harris, the 59-year-old Californian who spent her formative teenage years in Canada, who has the best chance of getting the nomination.

Once again, the fates have intervened to prop her up.

She ran a dismal campaign in the 2020 Democratic primaries –

so bad that she dropped out before a single vote was cast. But the shocking police murder of George Floyd made it all but mandatory that Joe Biden pick a Black American as his running mate. Ms. Harris became the choice.

Then came the strange turn of chance that saw Mr. Biden appear on the presidential debate stage in June, looking and sounding like he'd just suffered a stroke. As with her weak showing in the primaries, her poor performance as Vice-President didn't matter; unforeseen developments catapulted her.

What role will providence play next? Will it take Ms. Harris, who went to high school in Montreal, all the way to the Oval Office?

Ms. Harris spent a quarter-century as a prosecutor in California. No candidate is better suited to taking on criminals. The way the stars have aligned, if she replaces Mr. Biden as the Democratic nominee, she will be right in her element: She will face the convicted felon Donald Trump.

If Mr. Biden somehow keeps the nomination and goes on to win in November, Ms. Harris will

still be – given the extent of his 81-year-old frailties – well-positioned to take over from him at some point in that second term.

Should Mr. Biden step down, there are several other potentially strong contenders for the nomination. But she is clearly, being Vice-President, in the pole position. California Governor Gavin Newsom is eloquent, smooth, and Kennedyesque – but he's so coastal, so French laundry. The other most mentioned contender, Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer, says she's not interested in running should Mr. Biden step aside. Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo gets rave reviews but is unknown. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg, who did so well in the 2020 primaries, has all but disappeared.

Ms. Harris shares in Mr. Biden's low approval ratings but probably stands a better chance of beating Mr. Trump than he does. Her expectations are low and easy to exceed – and she is starting to surpass them. As Vice-President, she lacked clarity of purpose until – in another good

break for her – the Supreme Court solved that problem with its ruling overturning *Roe v. Wade*.

In seizing the abortion-rights issue, Ms. Harris found her footing, and the media are giving her a second, less critical look. That the Trump team is worried more about her than Mr. Biden is evident from the fact that they are not saturating the airwaves with ads featuring his debate collapse.

They'd prefer him to stay in the race, and it's no small wonder. For all her shortcomings, the much younger Ms. Harris has potentially more appeal to Black Americans, more appeal to youth, more appeal to women, more appeal to independents (as a recent CNN poll showed), and more command – she bested Mike Pence in the 2020 veep debate – of any debate stage.

The unknown is how she could hold up to the intense pressure of a presidential campaign – whether she can find the gravitas, the cutting edge, the confidence she showed as a senator cross-examining Trump appointees. It's what brought her to prominence.

They withered under her glare.

In her role as Vice-President, Mr. Biden didn't ease Ms. Harris's difficulties by giving her the next-to-impossible assignment of handling the immigration file amid a crisis at the southern border. But insiders say that Mr. Biden has come around to respecting her abilities and that, if pushed out by the party, he is prepared to signal that she should be the one to take the mantle.

Mr. Trump has started, as he did at a campaign rally in Florida on Tuesday, painting Ms. Harris as a leftist who is way off in Bernie Sanders Land. She will come under heavy bombardment from the master of malice. But I think, should she become the Democratic nominee, that she has the potential to counter him more trenchantly than did Hillary Clinton.

Given her trajectory of good fortune, she might not even need to run a stellar campaign. The fates might again intervene on her behalf. They might, at long last, deal Mr. Trump the reckoning that his rancid character so deserves.

# Prime Minister Trudeau isn't at the Stampede, but everyone else is

KELLY CRYDERMAN

OPINION



CALGARY

There is a triumphant mood in this bursting-at-the-seams Stampede city. The weather is hot, and the midway itself has never looked more jam-packed. Attendance numbers could surpass any other year, similar to the province's population numbers.

On the roads, there are Ontario and British Columbia licence plates everywhere, as interprovincial migration into Alberta continues at a blistering pace – a particularly satisfying trend given the pain of outmigration between 2016 and 2021. The economy is chugging along, led by \$80-plus oil prices, but also buoyed by the potential for growth in everything from agri-foods to AI data centres. Calgary's catastrophically broken water line is mostly fixed, to the degree that Calgarians are allowed to use a watering can in their gardens and flush again without guilt.

The Stampede parties are plentiful, including political gatherings where politicians of all stripes will share a beer or mocktail. But of course, Justin Trudeau isn't here, as he has been for every Stampede as Liberal Leader, except during the worst two years of the pandemic.

But the unpopular Prime Minister no longer has a sanctuary in the city. The city's lone Liberal MP, Calgary-Skyview's George Chahal, is now a renegade by the exceptionally mild standards of the Liberal Party, having penned the letter calling for an in-person



With politicians of all stripes attending this year's event, political strategist Stephen Carter said he's never seen a Calgary Stampede as energetic and generous as this one. JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

national caucus meeting to discuss the party's devastating by-election loss in Toronto-St. Paul's. NDP Leader Jagmeet Singh isn't here either. But it feels like every other politician – or everyone politics-adjacent – is.

Federal Conservative Leader Pierre Poilievre gave a 40-minute speech at his party's overflowing Heritage Park barbecue on Saturday evening, where he took gratuitous shots at political foes, from Calgary Mayor Jyoti Gondek to Deputy Prime Minister Chrystia Freeland. He reiterated the idea of "carbon-tax [Mark] Carney" to the appreciative home audience – a reference to the former Bank of Canada governor often touted as a potential future

Liberal leader – and noted the Prime Minister's absence at Stampede festivities.

"But don't feel offended, Calgary, that Justin Trudeau is hiding from you," Mr. Poilievre said. "He's actually hiding from his own caucus."

One of the common conversations amongst politicians is what Mr. Poilievre actually intends to do – besides axing the carbon tax, of course – should his party someday form the government. Those who work in climate and emission-reduction-related fields are worried about regulatory uncertainty. Even in oil and gas, there's some confusion about a leader who talks about how he will champion Canadian energy

but also laments the weakness of corporate Canada and its lobbyists.

In this political petting zoo, Danielle Smith appears to be everywhere all at once. The Alberta Premier breezes into up to 10 Stampede events each day, with her impressive skills in retail politics on full display. Somehow, in rooms jammed with dozens or hundreds of people, she manages one-on-one chats with a former adviser or a newcomer to the province.

Though Ms. Smith's Stampede schedule will taper down at the end of this week, she was at her first Stampede event eight days before the parade opener (like Christmas, the window for Stam-

pede – which officially runs from July 5 to 14 this year – has spread, with parties being scheduled earlier and earlier out). The province is likely three years away from an election, but the fiercest of political competitions is already on, with new Alberta NDP Leader Naneh Nenshi showing up – and attracting admirers – at several of the same Stampede parties as the Premier.

Political strategist Stephen Carter said he's never seen a Stampede as energetic and generous as this. "There's no cash bars, which has been pretty great." He describes people as happy but angry at "all the governments."

There is still great unease. The Uber drivers – many of them who have moved here in the last few months, I know this both by speaking to them and by their city navigation skills – are raking in the dollars. One I met is using vacation time from his regular job to work every day during the jackpot that is Stampede. Several have said it's more expensive to live in Alberta than they thought it would be – housing costs are going up, and it's not easy to find a steady paycheck.

The now-annual worry of high temperatures and dry conditions means wildfire risk in many parts of the province, and Western Canada, is extreme. The health care system is strained on a number of fronts. And even as Ms. Smith and others in her cabinet often tout Alberta's success in attracting people from across the country and around the world, there are growing worries about how to house, school and transport the 500 new people who arrive in the province each day. After this kind of heat, there's often a storm on the horizon.

# Will Joe Biden turn to his faith and follow in Benedict's path?

MICHAEL W. HIGGINS

OPINION

Author of the forthcoming *The Jesuit Disruptor: A Personal Portrait of Pope Francis*, and a Basilian Distinguished Fellow of Contemporary Catholic Thought at the University of Toronto's St. Michael's College

Will he or won't he?

For weeks now, Americans of all political persuasions – and non-Americans with a more-than-passing interest in the flourishing of democracy – have been speculating on whether U.S. President Joe Biden will step down from his august position in the interests of his party, following his egregiously flawed debate performance with his egregiously flawed presidential opponent, Donald Trump.

Whether Mr. Biden elects to resign as chief executive or persists in his unshakable belief that he and he alone can defeat Mr. Trump, he can find an imperfect but instructive analogue for his decision-making by looking at a

prominent figure in the religious tradition he adheres to: Pope Benedict XVI.

Mr. Biden takes his Catholic faith seriously and does not disguise his practice. He has been excoriated by many American bishops appalled by his pledge to fight the Supreme Court's *Roe v. Wade* decision overturning the country's abortion legislation, although the President took consolation when, on a visit to meet Pope Francis in 2021, the pontiff told him he was a "good Catholic."

He is not the first Catholic U.S. President to find himself embattled because of his Catholicism. But for John F. Kennedy, it wasn't some of his fellow Catholics he found himself at war with, but the Protestant majority who harboured fears that he would take his orders from Rome. He brilliantly expunged that shibboleth in a speech in September, 1960, to non-Catholic ministers in Houston just prior to his election.

I have always seen Kennedy as a cultural Catholic and Mr. Biden as a committed Catholic, so in looking east to the Tiber, Mr. Bi-

den might find a template for resignation, should he choose to go that route.

Of course, a pontifical resignation and a presidential resignation have more differences than similarities, and the institutional costs are at marked variance. But there are striking commonalities nonetheless.

While Benedict's decision was made in private, communicated in Latin at a meeting with cardinal cardinals, and totally unexpected, Mr. Biden's decision is playing out in public in the very midst of a general election without precedent, and under the relentless glare of an omnivorous media. There is no Latin to soothe the soul or confound the detractors.

When the two major Catholic political columnists at *The New York Times* – the cradle and liberal Maureen Dowd, and the convert and conservative Ross Douthat – agree that their fellow Catholic in the White House needs to go, we are looking at more than a writerly congruence.

Although the pro-remain crowd and the pro-leave crowd weigh their respective proposals

on a turbulent and shifting stage, the protagonist remains firmly stalwart and unbending. Mr. Biden has his reasons. Benedict, too, had his reasons. He discerned, after much thought and prayer, that the office of Supreme Pontiff would be better served with someone else in charge; that his energies both physical and emotional were depleted; that he had become an obstacle; that his leadership had been compromised by scandal; that he was no longer an agent of unity.

In retirement, Benedict worked out a respectful and mutually affectionate *modus vivendi* with his successor Pope Francis. His physical health actually improved and he recovered his intellectual energy, writing a steady stream of works. And although there were some keen on using him as an instrument of orthodox resistance to Francis, Benedict refused to be complicit in any act of disloyalty. Although there were occasional misjudgments, he became for Francis an *eminence grise* – or perhaps more aptly, an *eminence blanche*.

Likewise, should Mr. Biden decide to resign, he could marshal

his formidable experience, acquired wisdom, and the reservoirs of goodwill that he enjoys across the partisan spectrum to support a successor pledged to renew the country's political health.

He has a model in Benedict. Of course, unlike the pope, he has a constituency of electors (the pope is voted in only by his peers, a College of Cardinals), and millions who look to him for leadership that can bolster the crumbling structures of civility, law, and shared prosperity in a global superpower. He has a personal history of rising above adversity, upending the expectations of those who discount him, so resignation may strike him as capitulation, or even betrayal.

That's where humility plays its part. Benedict also felt the competing emotions of sorrow and disappointment – but he knew that he served the office and not the office him, that leadership sometimes requires self-abnegation, and that leaving the stage is not a failure, but an ultimate act of service.

KONRAD YAKUBUSKI will return.

# LIFE & ARTS

ARTS &amp; REVIEWS | OPINION | PUZZLES | WEATHER

## Renowned artist Alex Janvier dies at age 89

From Cold Lake First Nations in Alberta and part of Indian Group of Seven, he is considered one of Canada's greatest painters

BOB WEBER EDMONTON

One of Canada's greatest painters, who wedded Indigenous elements to the mainstream of modern art, has died.

Alex Janvier, whose thousands of works hang in private homes and public galleries across the country, was 89.

"Painting says it all for me," Janvier said in a statement in 2012. "It is the Redmantalk in colour, in North America's language. Our Creator's voice in colour."

Officials at the Assembly of First Nations annual general meeting announced the death and held a moment of silence in the artist's honour on Wednesday.

Janvier was born Feb. 28, 1935, on the Cold Lake Indian Reserve, now Cold Lake First Nations, northeast of Edmonton. His father, Harry Janvier, was the band's last hereditary chief before federal law forced election officials on the band.

One of 10 children, Alex Janvier grew up on the land, hunting, fishing and trapping, as well as farming. At the age of eight, he was sent to the Blue Quills Residential School near St. Paul, Alta.

"That kind of story does a lot of unusual things to your life," Janvier recalled. "It tears your language, culture and beliefs. They probably removed a lot of it."



Alex Janvier studied at Alberta's Provincial School of Technology and Art, now the Alberta University of the Arts, with artists such as Ilingworth Kerr and Marion Nicoll. AMBER BRACKEN/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

But at the school Janvier had access to pencils, crayons, water-colour paints and lots of paper. By the time he reached his early teens, he was under the tutelage of Carlo Altenberg, an art professor at the University of Alberta, who exposed the young Denesuline to the work of European modernists such as Vasily Kandinsky, Paul Klee and Joan Miro.

After high school, Janvier studied at Alberta's Provincial School of Technology and Art in Calgary, now the Alberta University of the Arts. He studied with prominent artists, including Ilingworth Kerr and Marion Nicoll.

In 1962, after a brief teaching stint, Janvier took up painting full time – a risky proposition for

an Indigenous artist when such work was considered of more ethnological than artistic interest. Still, Janvier was able to make a living as a painter, illustrator and occasional instructor.

Janvier married Jacqueline Wolowski in 1968. They would eventually have six children.

In 1973, with other First Nations artists Norval Morrisseau, Daphne Odjig and Jackson Beardy, he helped found the so-called Indian Group of Seven – more formally known as the Professional Native Indian Artists Incorporation – to bring their work to the mainstream.

"We had to open a lot of doors," Janvier recalled. A show in a Montreal gallery was the group's first, and others

followed.

"We finally got that rubber stamp, and other gallery owners started to open their doors."

Since then, Janvier's work has been shown in galleries across Canada, as well as in Sweden, Paris, London, New York and Los Angeles. It is widely collected, and commissioned work hangs in the National Gallery and the Royal Alberta Museum, as well as schools, commercial offices, municipal buildings and band offices from coast to coast.

His massive mosaic, Iron Foot Place, has greeted thousands of hockey fans at Edmonton's Rogers Place, home of the Edmonton Oilers of the National Hockey League.

He also designed a \$200 coin

for the Royal Canadian Mint.

Unlike many other First Nations artists of his generation, Janvier's work tends not to come directly from traditional legends and stories. He draws equally on the patterns and bright colours of traditional Denesuline beadwork and the work of painters such as Kandinsky.

But his renowned flowing lines and intricate designs are all his own.

Though generally abstract, Janvier did react to the world around him on his canvasses.

In 1988, his painting *Lubicon*, with its shocking reds, expressed his anger at how the First Nation was being treated. He completed a series about his time in the residential school, including one called *Apple Factory*. The Oka crisis in 1990 inspired him to paint *O'Kanada*.

He received numerous honorary degrees and awards, including the Order of Canada, the Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation, the Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Medal and membership in the Royal Canadian Academy of the Arts.

In 2003, Janvier and members of his family opened the Janvier Gallery in Cold Lake, not far from where he was born. Visitors could sometimes meet the artist fresh from the studio, covered in paint-splattered jeans and happy to sit and chat.

He painted into his last days, keeping his fingers nimble by assembling jigsaw puzzles at night.

"I am a free man because I can create," he wrote in 2016. "I thank the Great Spirit for my family and for being able to express myself through my paintings."

"When I die, I want to have a paintbrush in my hand."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Academics grapple with how to teach Alice Munro's work in wake of daughter's sexual assault revelations

JOE FRIESEN  
JOSH O'KANE

Academics across Canada are rethinking how to teach one of the country's most acclaimed authors in the wake of revelations that Nobel Prize winner Alice Munro had known about the sexual abuse her second husband, Gerald Fremlin, had inflicted on her daughter.

Ms. Munro has been a mainstay of English class curriculums for decades and some universities have dedicated entire courses to her work.

Her daughter Andrea Robin Skinner revealed the details of her stepfather's abuse in an undated blog post, and then in an essay in the *Toronto Star*, sending shock waves through Canada's literary and academic worlds.

"This will, without a doubt, affect the way we teach and write about Munro's work," Lorraine York, distinguished university professor at McMaster University and an expert in Canadian literature and celebrity culture, said in an e-mail.

"I now need to teach her work with this painful reckoning in mind. I see it as a responsibility to do so."

Prof. York said that since the news broke she and her colleagues have been revisiting certain passages, particularly one at the end of Ms. Munro's final book, *Dear Life*: "We say of some things that they can't be forgiven, or that we will never forgive ourselves. But we do – we do it all the time."

"I need to sit with those sentences for a long while," Prof. York said.

In her account, Ms. Skinner wrote that in 1976, when she was 9, Mr. Fremlin "climbed into my bed and sexually assaulted me." She added that her stepfather later openly discussed his sex life with her when she was a child, exposed himself to her on car rides and discussed "little girls in the neighbourhood he liked."

Though Ms. Skinner said she disclosed Mr. Fremlin's behaviour to Ms. Munro in the 1990s, the author chose to remain with Mr. Fremlin – who was convicted of indecent assault in 2005 – until his death in 2013. Ms. Munro died in May at the age of 92.

Ms. Skinner wrote that she felt "left alone" by her parents after her experience.

Prof. York said in the coming days academics and others will be asking "how to account for the way in which both Munro and Canadian literature as a field allowed for this silencing."

"People in the industry knew and deci-



The literary works of Canadian author and Nobel Prize winner Alice Munro, photographed in Victoria, B.C. in 2013, has been a mainstay of English class curriculums for decades, including some universities. CHAD HIPOLITO/THE CANADIAN PRESS

sions were made that prolonged the silence and the harm that was done. That is what we need to reckon with," Prof. York said.

Shelley Hulan, a University of Waterloo English professor who has taught Ms. Munro's work, said future classes will take on an additional complexity because people in the literary community appeared to have been aware of the abuse before it was made public. Not only will Ms. Skinner's story fit into her course instruction, she said, but it raises questions "about Canadian literary power, the CanLit canon, and Canadian literary celebrity that will demand discussion in Canadian literature classrooms."

Douglas Gibson, the former president and publisher of McClelland & Stewart, said, "As Alice's Canadian editor and publisher I was aware that Alice and Andrea were estranged for a number of years. In 2005 it became clear what the issue was, with Gerry Fremlin's full shameful role revealed, but I have nothing to add to this tragic family story, and wish the family a continued recovery."

Neil Besner, a professor emeritus of English at the University of Winnipeg, said he had no previous inkling of the situation revealed in the piece by Ms. Skinner this weekend.

He said there are two schools of thought about artists and their work: one sees the work, or the art, as separate from the life of the writer; the other sees private life as very much a part of the artist's work.

"I taught a seminar at one point devot-

ed to Munro at the University of Winnipeg, and I would do so again. Except it would be a very different kind of seminar now," Prof. Besner said.

Although he can't condone what she did, Prof. Besner said he also can't imagine not reading or teaching the work of an author who has been called Canada's Chekhov.

"She certainly understands a hell of a lot and writes about it in a way that very few people can," he said. "It's a difficult question, and I'm not about to preach to anyone about what one should do about it."

Sherrill Grace, professor emerita of literature at the University of British Columbia, said she was "absolutely floored" by the news. Almost immediately, she said, she thought it explained some things in Ms. Munro's work.

She also said she hoped it wouldn't tarnish the author's reputation and achievements, and cautioned against a rush to judgment.

"I would hope that most literary scholars would just take a step back and say, 'Wait a minute, we need more information, we need to reflect. And we need to try to understand the circumstances,'" Prof. Grace said.

As a biographer herself, Prof. Grace said she imagines another biography of Ms. Munro will emerge in time.

"I think it's a sad day. And I think that sadness is deeply embedded in some of Alice's stories, and maybe there needs to be more human compassion and understanding here."

## DEFENCE ATTORNEY DENIES ALLEGATIONS AGAINST ALEC BALDWIN AT TRIAL

SANTA FE, N.M. A defence attorney told jurors Wednesday that the shooting death of cinematographer Halyna Hutchins was an "unspeakable tragedy" but that "Alec Baldwin committed no crime; he was an actor, acting."

Baldwin's lawyer Alex Spiro emphasized in his opening statement in a Santa Fe, N.M., courtroom that Baldwin, who is on trial for involuntary manslaughter, did exactly what actors always do on the set of the film *Rust*, where Hutchins was killed in October, 2021.

"I don't have to tell you any more about this, because you've all seen gunfights in movies," Spiro said.

Special prosecutor Erlinda Ocampo Johnson said in her opening statement that before the shooting, Baldwin skipped safety checks and recklessly handled a revolver.

"The evidence will show that someone who played make believe with a real gun and violated the cardinal rules of firearm safety is the defendant, Alexander Baldwin," Ocampo Johnson said.

Spiro replied that "these cardinal rules, they're not cardinal rules on a movie set."

"On a movie set, safety has to occur before a gun is placed in an actor's hand," Spiro told the jury.

The first witness to take the stand was the first law enforcement officer to arrive at Bonanza Creek Ranch after the shooting. Video shown in the courtroom from the body camera of Nicholas LeFleur, then a Santa Fe county sheriff's deputy, captured the frantic efforts to save Hutchins, who looked unconscious as several people attended to her and gave her an oxygen mask.

Hutchins' death and the wounding of director Joel Souza nearly three years ago sent shock waves through the film industry and led to one felony charge against Baldwin, 66, that could result in up to 18 months in prison.

"It killed an amazing person," Spiro said. "It wounded another, and it changed lives forever."

ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Getting mail takes on a deeper meaning

FIRST PERSON

Unlike shooting a text or rashly typing an e-mail, the effort that goes into letters makes them special, **Olivia Savoie** writes

When I sent my friend Fred a letter last summer, he returned the gesture, mailing me a long, lined page that began with, “What was most appreciated was your handwritten note and that was delivered by mail: a sign in today’s world that the sender took time and some effort to fix the content as something special.”

Previously, I hadn’t given my affinity for letter writing much thought, but as I read his letter, it dawned on me that letter writing is something special. The act of letter writing is more laborious, intentional and painstaking than any other form of communication in our modern repertoire.

In a letter, there’s more heart involved and less hurry. Unlike shooting a text or rashly typing an e-mail, letter writing requires me to reach for my favourite pen, select stationary, dig through my desk drawer for a stamp, collect my thoughts, write in the cursive I learned in Mrs. Church’s kindergarten classroom, fill and seal an envelope and take a trip to the mailbox.

I have a protracted history with letter writing, beginning when I was eight years old. My first pen pal was Abuela, my great-grandmother in Puerto Rico. Since Abuela didn’t know a word of English, I made my early letter-writing attempts with an English-to-Spanish dictionary, pecking my way through drafting a thoughtful message. Then I’d eagerly await her reply.

As I grew older, I began sending letters to my sisters, friends from summer camp and even a friend who lived nearby: Amelia. I still have a box containing scores of letters we exchanged as teenagers – a time capsule of our adolescent rationales, personalities and dreams.

Ever since I met my husband on a Florida beach, he’s written me love letters. He’s prone to compose drawn-out pages to commemorate our every milestone – from our first date to the birth of our children – as well as “just-because” letters, which I find on my office desk or bedside table.

Today, I send letters whenever inspiration strikes.

Through my work as a biographer, I’ve



ILLUSTRATION BY CATHERINE CHAN

witnessed how poignant letters can be. In one of the tenderest letters I’ve read, Doug, then a swooning 22-year-old fiancé, wrote his bride-to-be, Mitch, stating, “Last week was just a sample of how it’s going to be after we are married. Dance a little ... walk together, enjoy each other’s company, laugh a little, cry a little, get teed off a little, and millions and millions of other wonderful things.”

Fifty-nine years later, as I read faded ink on a brittle page, I was moved by his timeless message about his hope to live out what makes a marriage worthwhile.

Although I got to know 82-year-old Doug during in-person interviews at his kitchen table, I really got to know him through reading a stack of letters he’d written to Mitch.

His unwavering devotion was evident in every old letter, just as it was evident in his devout daily visits to sit beside her in the memory care unit, despite the fact that she didn’t recognize him any more.

After I wrote Doug’s life-story book, he and I kept in touch. We lived 700 miles apart and periodically picked up the phone to talk, but more often, we wrote

letters, purely because it brought us mutual joy.

This small, simple pleasure in life – letter writing – is something I’m unwilling to give up, despite the hustle and bustle and busyness of the ever-spinning world around me.

It was something Doug was also unwilling to give up, despite struggles I knew nothing about.

Last Tuesday, when a letter arrived from Doug’s son, Bruce, my heart sank.

In this day and age, most people receive bad news by phone. But I felt the same sense of dread innumerable people throughout history have felt as I tore open an envelope, already knowing what the message would relay but holding out hope I was wrong.

When I reached the second page of Bruce’s letter, I couldn’t believe my eyes. The top line read, “In going through my dad’s things, I came across this enclosed letter he was writing to you.” Bruce went on to explain how Doug’s handwriting had become so shaky he’d resorted to typing, which was itself arduous as he had to uncomfortably strike one key at a time.

Bruce wrote, “The fact that he was returning your letter is a testament to the connection he had with you.”

The more I read, the more I cried. It was clear that he’d had to stop periodically to rest. I don’t know if minutes, hours or days elapsed between each jaunt at the keyboard, but his disjointed writing lurched rather than flowed as he offered heartfelt comments about a published story I had shared with him as well as updates on his family.

Then, abruptly, his letter ended: “I promise you will be a little surprised ...” It seems he never returned to the page.

It saddened me that I’d never know what he was going to write but then I remembered that when it comes to a letter, it’s not only the content that counts. It’s a sign in today’s world that the sender took time and effort to create something special.

Olivia Savoie lives in Lafayette, La.

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

## The Last Timbit, a Tim Hortons stage musical, lands a second life

J. KELLY NESTRUCK

Canadians across the country will get a second chance to watch an unusual new musical designed to sell double-doubles later this summer.

*The Last Timbit*, which was produced by Tim Hortons to celebrate the coffee chain’s 60th anniversary in Toronto over Canada Day weekend, will air as an 80-minute special on Crave on Aug. 12, Bell Media and Tim Hortons announced on Friday.

The original Brian Hill-directed production was filmed in front of a live audience at the Elgin Theatre during its short week-long run on stage.

“It was such a thrill to see *The Last Timbit* come to life in front of delighted audiences in Toronto and it was always our wish that we could share this special production with Canadians from coast to coast,” said Hope Bagozzi, chief marketing officer for Tim Hortons, in a press release.

The idea of creating a Tim Hortons musical was originally a marketing idea devised by a Toronto-based firm called Gut – but the involvement of Canadian stage producer Michael Rubinoff in the project lent it wider legitimacy as a piece of musical theatre.



Actors star in the Tim Hortons musical, *The Last Timbit*, in front of a live audience at Toronto’s Elgin Theatre. Bell Media and Tim Hortons will air the play, produced to celebrate the chain’s 60th anniversary, as an 80-minute special on Crave on Aug. 12.

Rubinoff, who was key to the development of the record-breaking Canadian Broadway show *Come From Away* from its conception, helped assemble a creative team that included Hill, a Canadian director and book writer

whose own musicals with his collaborator Neil Bartram have been produced across North America and on Broadway.

*The Last Timbit*’s book was written by Nick Green, the playwright behind *Casey and Diana*, which

won a Toronto Theatre Critics Award for best new play last month, while its music was written by the rising songwriters Anika and Britta Johnson.

Like the 9/11-themed, Newfoundland-set *Come From Away*,

this new musical is inspired by a true story of a group of people stranded in an unlikely location – in this case, however, it is a 2010 blizzard that snowed in a large group of Tim Hortons customers in a Sarnia, Ont., shop for 24 hours.

The Toronto production’s cast includes a who’s who of Canadian musical theatre stars – including Broadway vets Chilina Kennedy, Sara Farb, Kimberly-Ann Truong and Jake Epstein as well Barbara Fulton, who was in the original Toronto company of *Come From Away*.

*The Last Timbit* received a wide array of responses from critics in its premiere. The Globe and Mail praised the “wit and warmth” of Green’s script and suggested it could enter the Canadian musical-theatre canon with a few tweaks and “20 per cent fewer subliminal messages to buy baked goods,” while the Toronto Star panned the show, describing it as nothing more than “a 75-minute commercial advertisement masquerading as a musical.”

## Hot Docs president departs troubled arts organization a little more than a year after taking role

BARRY HERTZ

Just a little more than a year after taking on the top job at Toronto’s Hot Docs, president Marie Nelson is leaving the beleaguered arts organization, it was announced late Tuesday.

Nelson, a former senior manager at ABC News and PBS who was hired in July, 2023, after long-time Hot Docs president Chris McDonald stepped down two months earlier, has presided over a tumultuous era for the not-for-profit arts organization, which restructured its board of directors last month and shuttered its flagship Toronto cinema for the summer. “We are proud of the work Hot Docs

has accomplished with Marie at the helm and are confident that the groundwork she has laid during her tenure will assist us in realizing our full potential,” the arts organization said in an unsigned statement. “We at Hot Docs would like to express our appreciation for her invaluable contributions to the organization, and her unwavering commitment to advancing our mission.”

Seasoned production executive Janice Dawe, who has been serving as interim executive director for Hot Docs since Nelson went on personal leave in early May, will continue to lead the organization through a number of critical financial obstacles in the wake of Nelson’s departure. Alongside managing director Heidi Tao

Yang, Dawe will collaborate with Hot Docs’ current “working board” consisting of just three members – documentary filmmaker Nicholas de Pencier, Nulogy chief operating officer Kevin Wong and Pemberley Investments’ Lydia Luckevich – down from the 14 people who populated it before last month’s restructuring.

This past March, in one of her first major media campaigns as president, Nelson told The Globe and Mail that Hot Docs, which puts on North America’s biggest documentary film festival every spring, was facing “significant operational challenges.” Weeks later, filings with the Canada Revenue Agency revealed that Hot Docs had a deficit of just more than \$2-million in the period ending May, 2023.

### TODAY’S SUDOKU SOLUTION

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

### TODAY’S KENKEN SOLUTION

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15x	5	6	1	3	2	4
2-	3	2	5	4	1	6
1-	1	4	3	2	6	5
5-	6	1	4	5	3	2
1-	4	3	2	6	5	1

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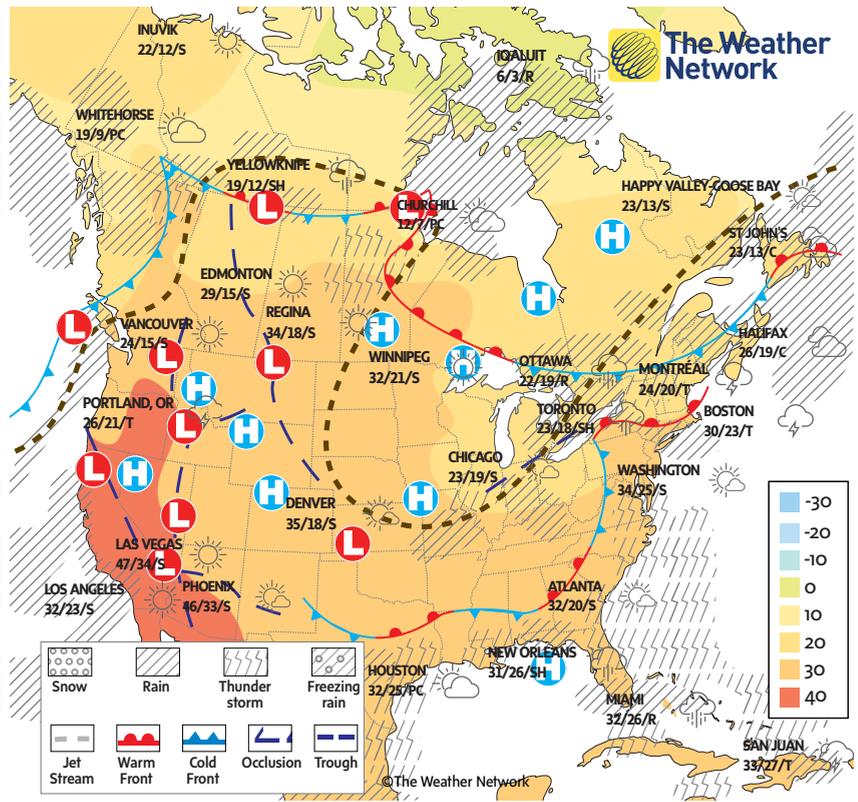
The Local Journalism Initiative (LJI) supports the creation of original civic journalism that covers the diverse needs of underserved communities across Canada.

WORLD FORECAST

Table with columns: CITY, TODAY, TOMORROW, SATURDAY. Lists cities like AMSTERDAM, ATHENS, BANGKOK, BEIJING, BERLIN, BRUSSELS, COPENHAGEN, FRANKFURT, HONG KONG, JERUSALEM, LAS VEGAS, LONDON, LOS ANGELES, MADRID, MIAMI, MOSCOW, NEW DELHI, NEW YORK, NICE, ORLANDO, PARIS, PHOENIX, ROME, SAN FRANCISCO, SEOUL, SINGAPORE, SYDNEY, TOKYO, WASHINGTON.

NATIONAL FORECAST

Table with columns: CITY, TODAY, TOMORROW, SATURDAY. Lists cities like BANFF, BARRIE, BRANDON, CALGARY, CHARLOTTETOWN, CHICOUTIMI, CHURCHILL, CORNER BROOK, CORNWALL, EDMONTON, HALIFAX, HAMILTON, HUNTSVILLE, IQALUIT, JASPER, KELOWNA, KINGSTON, LONDON, MONTRÉAL, NIAGARA FALLS, NORTH BAY, OTTAWA, PRINCE GEORGE, THUNDER BAY, THOMPSON, TORONTO, VAL-D'OR, VANCOUVER, VICTORIA, WHISTLER, WHITEHORSE, WINNIPEG, YELLOWKNIFE.



BRIDGE

BY STEVE BECKER
THURSDAY, JULY 11, 2024

NORTH

♠ J 9 5 3
♥ K J 2
♦ K 10
♣ Q J 7 4

WEST

♠ 7
♥ 9 7 6
♦ J 8 7 5 2
♣ 9 6 3 2

EAST

♠ 8 4
♥ Q 10 4 3
♦ Q 6 4
♣ A K 8 5

SOUTH

♠ A K Q 10 6 2
♥ A 8 5
♦ A 9 3
♣ 10

South dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

The bidding:

South West North East
1[S] Pass 3[S] Pass
6[S]
Opening Lead – two of clubs.

There is a lot of room for deception in bridge, as anyone who has been victimized by a cunning play can readily testify. For example, consider East's performance in this deal where he was defending against six spades. West led a club, won by East with the ace after declarer played low from dummy. East thereupon returned the five of clubs!

Had South known that East had the king also, he could have made the slam then and there by discarding a heart on the return. But, lacking X-ray vision, South ruffed the club and staked his

hopes on a heart finesse.

He naturally assumed from East's plays to the first two tricks that West had the king of clubs, in which case a heart finesse offered by far the best chance for the contract. When South attempted the finesse later on, dummy's jack lost to the queen, and he went down one.

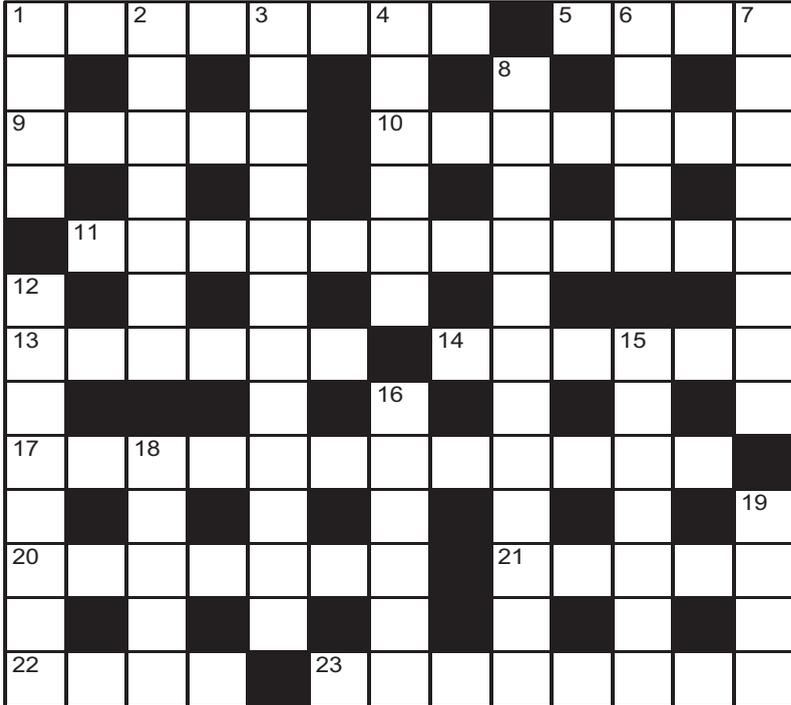
East's more normal play on the opening lead would have been to win the trick with the king. But this would have given the show away because, for practical purposes, it would have marked him with the ace. Declarer would sooner or later have been able to

trap the ace by leading dummy's queen through East to establish a parking place for his heart loser.

Even though South might have allowed for the possibility that East had the king of clubs and was false-carding when he took the ace, East's daring low-club return at trick two was the clincher. After this, there was almost no way South could go right.

East was on relatively safe ground when he returned a low club at trick two, because he knew from the deuce-of-clubs lead that West either had four clubs or one.

CHALLENGE CROSSWORD



CRYPTIC CLUES

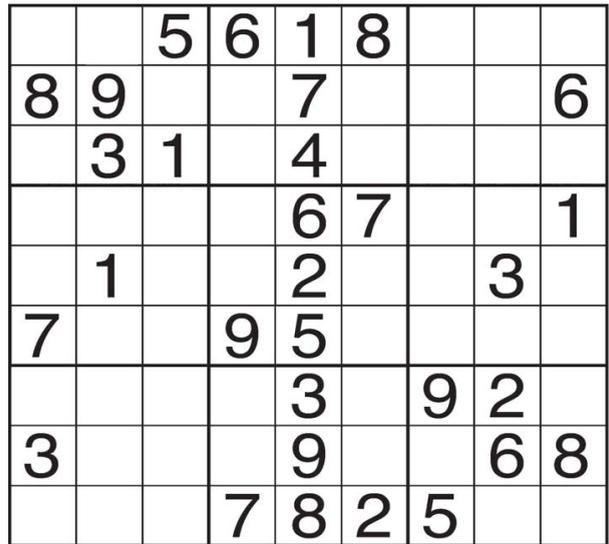
- ACROSS
1 What Boy Scouts may sing about (4,4)
5 Open with a shock (4)
9 Describing a boom in restored icons (5)
10 Intriguing arrangements? (7)
11 Confidentially there's no track of it (3,3,6)
13 Fighting together all die in confusion (6)
14 A film's been made out of it (6)
17 One gets nothing but pleasure from this job (6,2,4)
20 Aiming for a title in a dictionary (7)
21 Some under reduced circumstances went astray (5)
22 Has now moved south (4)
23 Theatre workers employed to make furniture (8)

QUICK CLUES

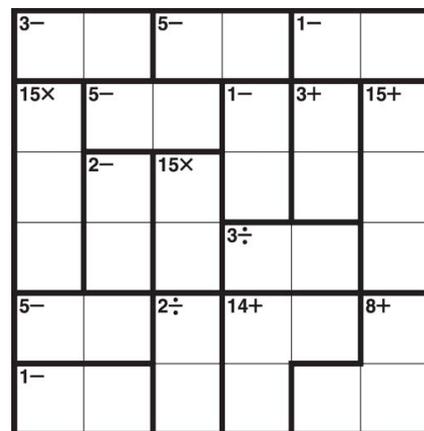
- ACROSS
1 Afflicted (8)
5 An attempt (4)
9 Spite (5)
10 A soft wool fabric (7)
11 A racing bird (6,6)
13 Elaborately decorated (6)
14 Bring down (6)
17 Idle gossip (6-6)
20 Enlarged photographically (5,2)
21 Likeness (5)
22 Catch sight of (4)
23 A failing (8)

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

- 1. Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 through 6 without repeating.
2. 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 Eightfold, 8 Ennu, 9 Seafood, 10 Beetle, 11 Pliers, 12 Two-timer, 15 Scrapped, 18 Whites, 20 Insult, 21 Crooked, 22 Niece, 23 Road sense.
DOWN: 2 Ideal, 3 Huffed, 4 Footstep, 5 Desert, 6 Any time, 7 Winepress, 11 Prescient, 13 Old World, 14 Crossed, 16 Palmer, 17 Dipole, 19 Evens.

YESTERDAY'S QUICK

ACROSS: 1 Sangfroid, 8 Epoch, 9 Come off, 10 Barter, 11 Tender, 12 Au revoir, 15 Dreadful, 18 Lounge, 20 Misery, 21 Sapling, 22 Raven, 23 Gallantry.
DOWN: 2 At one, 3 Greedy, 4 Riffraff, 5 Debate, 6 Portion, 7 Third-rate, 11 Trademark, 13 Roll call, 14 Pensive, 16 During, 17 Sullen, 19 Goner.

# NCR: Psychiatrist says serial killer showed total lack of emotion during examination

FROM A1

“For it to be used in the context of a murder charge is unusual already, but then to see this NCR defence for four charges makes this case so incredibly unprecedented that it will inevitably become the source of much legal research in the future,” said Toronto-based Anita Szigeti, who has co-authored several textbooks on Canadian mental-health law. A litigator for more than 30 years, Ms. Szigeti is one of many people in the legal sector watching Mr. Skibicki’s case closely.

According to an agreed statement of facts by both the Crown and the defence, Mr. Skibicki killed four women in 2022: a yet-to-be-identified woman whom Indigenous elders have named Mashkode Bizhiki’ikwe, meaning Buffalo Woman, on or around March 15 of that year; 39-year-old Morgan Harris on or around May 1; 26-year-old Mercedes Myran on or around May 4; and 24-year-old Rebecca Contois on or around May 15.

Over the course of the trial, the Crown argued that Mr. Skibicki preyed on his victims in a calculated manner and did not suffer from – nor has he ever been diagnosed with – any form of schizophrenia. The prosecutors presented graphic evidence, including testimonies from more than a dozen witnesses and the video of Mr. Skibicki’s confession to police, during which he admitted to killing the women, then dismembering and dumping their remains.

But the British psychiatrist who was the only witness to testify in the 37-year-old’s defence told *The Globe* that Mr. Skibicki’s severe disconnection from reality should negate his criminal responsibility.

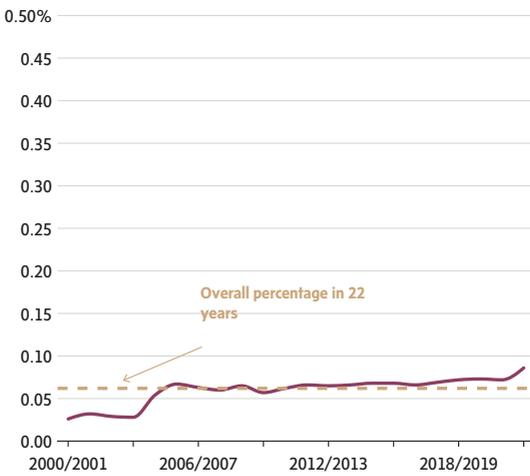
In an interview, forensic consultant Sohom Das said examining Mr. Skibicki was one of the most gruelling experiences of his medico-legal career. “He was completely detached from everything he had done,” said the doctor from the North London borough of Enfield, who was hand-picked by Mr. Skibicki’s defence



A supporter of the families of the four women killed in 2022 waves a flag outside of a court in Winnipeg during the trial of Jeremy Skibicki in May. JOHN WOODS/THE CANADIAN PRESS

### Percentage of NCR cases in Canada

In per cent, from 2000/2001 to 2021/2022



THE GLOBE AND MAIL, SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA

team from Legal Aid Manitoba and flown in for court last month.

“There was not even an ounce of emotion. He wasn’t gloating, he wasn’t happy, he wasn’t remorseful, he wasn’t regretful. Nothing,

absolutely nothing,” Dr. Das said. “He was talking to me about the horrific, horrific things he did just plainly, as if he was walking over to a local shop to buy something.” Such detachment is not always

indicative of mental illness, Dr. Das said. “Though I really believe that, in this case, it is,” he said. “This is a man with chronic paranoid schizophrenia. Of course, the Crown, however, disagrees with that.”

The defence’s entire case rested upon Dr. Das’s assessment of Mr. Skibicki – a point the psychiatrist said has weighed on him since his testimony, particularly because of his oversized role in arguing for the NCR verdict.

“I don’t think that either myself or any other psychiatrist would say it was easy to diagnose Mr. Skibicki,” said Dr. Das, who has never previously testified in a Canadian court. “My expectation, in fact, was that there might have been more psychiatric witnesses brought in, as I have seen for similar cases in the U.K. And if I’m being honest, I’m really not quite sure why that wasn’t the case here.”

Mr. Skibicki’s defence attorney Leonard Tailleu told *The Globe* this week that “more is not necessarily better” in terms of expert witnesses. He acknowledged the peculiarities of his NCR strategy, saying it is “not used very often in

homicide cases, let alone in serial homicide cases.”

He compared Mr. Skibicki’s case with other mass killings in Canada in which the psychosis of accused people manifested in relatively shorter periods of time, such that it led to singular explosive events, in turn allowing them to be found not criminally responsible for their actions. But Mr. Tailleu said this case is different because Mr. Skibicki’s homicides were spread over a lengthier period.

Crown attorney Christian Vanderhooff said he would only be able to comment at length on the case after Justice Joyal’s decision. But he pointed out that this case also highlights concerns about the timing of such a defence strategy – specifically, when the defence notifies the court about an NCR application.

The fact that Mr. Skibicki’s lawyers were able to raise the NCR issue on the eve of the trial was “somewhat unusual,” Mr. Vanderhooff explained. He said prosecutors retained a psychiatric expert to rebut Dr. Das because they didn’t want him to be the only such witness presented in court, adding that it was a “situation the defence counsel was trying to create” through a privately solicited assessment.

“And, of course, they didn’t supply us with his report until the case had actually started.”

Brandon Trask, an assistant professor of law at the University of Manitoba, is worried about a successful NCR verdict being reached in this case. “I would be concerned if I saw this become a launching pad for opposition to the NCR regime in our criminal justice system. We need more consideration for mental health, not less,” said the former Crown prosecutor in Nova Scotia and Newfoundland and Labrador, who has been involved in hundreds of criminal cases.

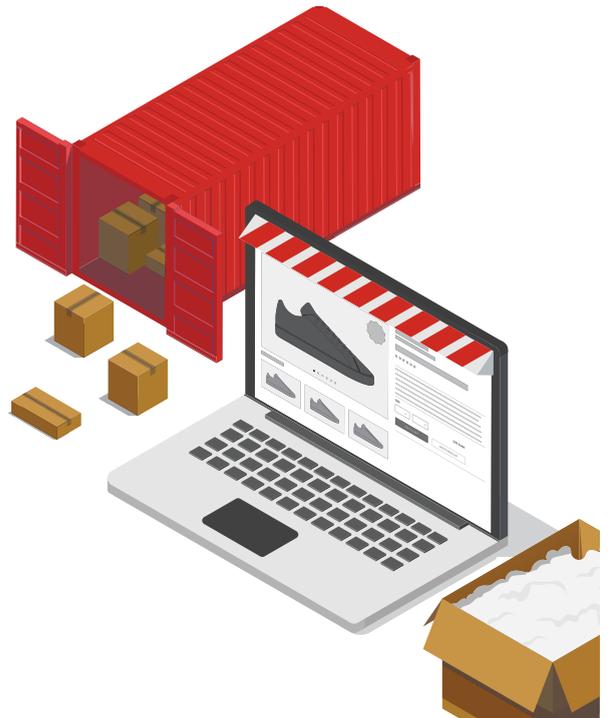
“But perhaps equally so, I would also be concerned if we saw this case become a way for other people facing murder charges to argue by default that they are NCR, too.”

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# Entering New Markets:

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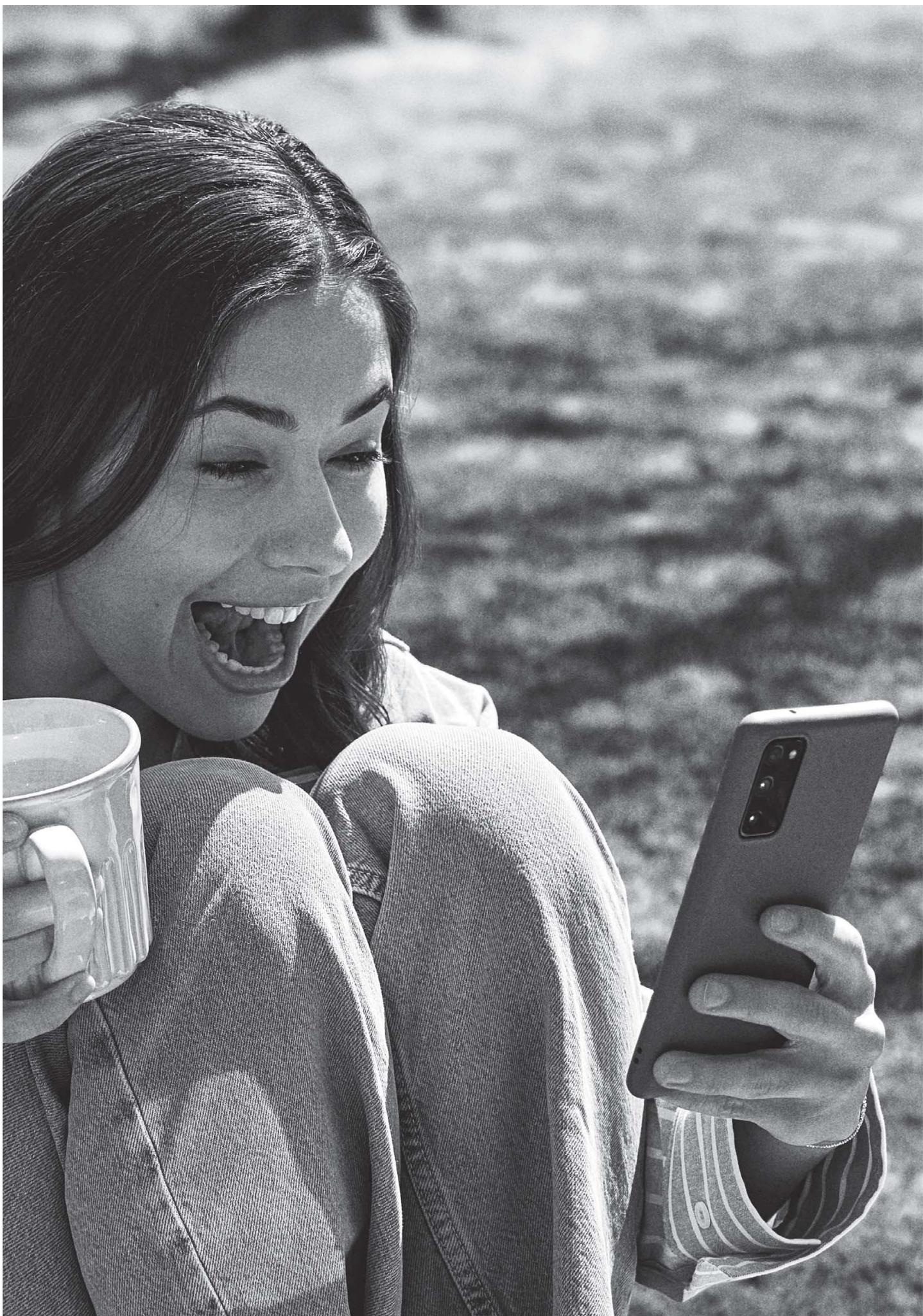


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# REPORT ON BUSINESS

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## Ontario mining claims violate Constitution, First Nation says

Grassy Narrows to launch legal challenge against province over its current staking system

**NIALL MCGEE**  
MINING REPORTER

A Northern Ontario First Nation plans to launch a legal action against the province later this week aimed at requiring the mining industry to consult with the Indigenous people before staking claims.

Ontario's free-entry system makes it easy for individuals and companies to file a claim online in return for a nominal fee.

On Friday, Grassy Narrows will hold a press conference at Queen's Park announcing that it has served the province in the Ontario Superior Court of Justice.

In its notice of application, which was

obtained by The Globe and Mail, Grassy Narrows says the current staking system violates both the government's duty to consult the Indigenous people under Section 35 of the Constitution, and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which requires free, prior and informed consent.

In addition to requiring the industry to consult the First Nation for future mining claims, Grassy Narrows is asking the court to rescind all mining claims that have already been granted. There are more than 10,000 claims that have been staked in Grassy Narrows' area – 5,000 of them since 2018, when the province moved its staking platform to an online system.

"We only find out after the claims have been granted and after Ontario has given strangers a green light to carve up the land that we cherish and rely on," Grassy Narrows Chief Rudy Turtle wrote in an e-mail to The Globe. "This old law is outdated, unconstitutional, and offensive."

Jack Fazzari, press secretary for Ontario Attorney-General Doug Downey, declined to comment.

An Anishinaabe First Nation in Northwestern Ontario, Grassy Narrows is located about 80 kilometres north of Kenora. Its traditional territory covers approximately 7,500 square kilometres within the Treaty 3 area.

■ MINING, B6

## Strathcona, federal fund to partner on carbon-capture project

**EMMA GRANEY**  
ENERGY REPORTER  
CALGARY

A Canadian oil sands company is betting big on the economics of carbon capture, entering into a \$2-billion partnership with the Canada Growth Fund in a deal that bucks the trend on how the oil sector views decarbonization.

The deal will see the Canada Growth Fund (CGF), an arm's-length public investment vehicle of the federal government, invest up to \$1-billion toward carbon capture and sequestration (CCS) infrastructure at oil sands operations belonging to **Strathcona Resources Ltd.** in Northern Alberta and Saskatchewan.

Strathcona will construct, operate and own the infrastructure, with the initial capital costs split 50/50 between the fund and the oil company.

Most oil sands companies look at CCS investments through the lens of what the carbon tax might cost down the road, Strathcona chief executive Adam Waterous told The Globe and Mail. But he has a very different view.

Canadian producers "have a moral obligation to reduce their emissions," he said, so Strathcona is making a judgment call on the average long-term value of capturing carbon.

While that value will likely fluctuate, he said Strathcona is prepared to take the risk; after all, he added, the company also has to make decisions on what oil will be worth in the future, despite a host of global economic unknowns.

■ STRATHCONA, B6

[ LOBBYING ]

## CHAMBER NAMES CEO

Former Nutrien executive Candace Laing will become the first new leader of the influential Canadian business group in 17 years ■ B3



Candace Laing will take over as head of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce on Sept. 1 from the retiring Perrin Beatty. Ms. Laing spent a decade at Nutrien, where she was chief human resources officer. DAVE CHAN/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

## Brookfield, pension funds try to sell Toronto office building – again

**RACHELLE YOUNGLAI**  
**JAMES BRADSHAW**

Two major Canadian pension funds and Brookfield Asset Management are trying to sell one of their downtown Toronto office buildings for a second time after failing to get the price they wanted in 2022, according to two sources.

The sale of the 20-storey property at 2 Queen St. E. is likely to be closely watched as it will test buyer appetite amid a multi-year downturn in the country's commercial real estate sector.

Landlords are dealing with the shift to remote working and a slower-than-expected return to the office. The situation is being exacerbated by an abundance of new office space that has come on to the market since the pandemic started.

The office tower is fully leased and includes tenants such as CI Investments, Bank of Montreal and Bechtel Canada, according to the marketing materials viewed by The Globe and Mail. The tenants are paying about a third less than the going leasing rate for similar buildings and, according to the marketing materials, this means the new owner will be able to "capture meaningful rental upside over the coming years."

Canada Pension Plan Investment Board

(CPPIB), the country's largest pension fund, owns half the building. Alberta Investment Management Corp. (AIMCo) owns 25 per cent and Brookfield Asset Management owns the rest.

The owners first put the tower on the market in the summer of 2022. At the time, the vacancy rate was rising quickly as tenants across the city were shedding space and new office skyscrapers were being completed. CPPIB and the minority co-owners could not get the price they were seeking and pulled the office building off the market, according to the sources this week. The Globe is not identifying the sources because they were not authorized to speak about the sale.

Spokespeople for CPPIB, AIMCo and Brookfield declined to comment.

The failed sale was a sign of how difficult the market has become for commercial real estate deals. Prior to the start of the pandemic, Toronto had an office vacancy rate below 4 per cent and was one of the most desirable cities in Canada for businesses to lease space. The strength of that demand attracted investors, making it relatively easy for owners to sell their buildings.

In 2019, there was \$4.5-billion in office sales across the Greater Toronto Area, according to CoStar, a Washington-based commercial real estate information provider.

■ REAL ESTATE, B6

### MANUFACTURING

Electric snowmobile maker Taiga files for CCAA ■ B2

### ENERGY

Northern Ontario town of Ignace votes to host nuclear waste site ■ B2

### GLOBE INVESTOR

Six Canadian energy stocks that could benefit from a weak dollar ■ B9

### COMPANIES

ALPHABET .....	B9
ALTUS GROUP .....	B9
BAUSCH HEALTH .....	B9
CENOVUS ENERGY .....	B9
COSTCO WHOLESALE .....	B6
MAPLE LEAF FOODS .....	B9
MEG ENERGY .....	B9

## Taxpayers' ombudsperson to investigate CRA's handling of bare trusts

**ERICA ALINI**

The Office of the Taxpayers' Ombudsperson has launched a formal investigation of how the Canada Revenue Agency handled new reporting rules around bare trusts that took effect – and were later suspended – for the 2023 tax year.

François Boileau, the ombudsperson, announced in a news release on Wednesday that his office has opened a systemic examination of the CRA's conduct after the agency largely scrapped the controversial filing requirements on March 28, the last business day before this year's April 2 cut-off date for submitting income-tax returns for trusts.

The last-minute about-face caused anger and frustration among scores of Canadians and tax advisers who had already spent considerable time and money to comply with the complex new rules.

A systemic examination can result in a high-profile censure of the CRA, with findings and recommendations published in a public report and presented to the Minister of National Revenue.

"It is not just bare trustees that have been affected by the CRA's last-minute announcement. Representatives also put in hours of work to understand the new requirements and file for their clients, only to find out that their efforts may have been for nothing," Mr. Boileau said in a statement.

■ CRA, B5

## SPORTS

■ B11-B15

**BASKETBALL** Banned NBA player Jontay Porter pleads guilty in gambling case ■ B11

**GOLF** Canada's Brooke Henderson set for most important four weeks of her year ■ B11

# Taiga Motors wins bankruptcy protection

Electric-snowmobile maker to work toward rebirth, possible formal sale after obtaining court order in Quebec

NICOLAS VAN PRAET

Canadian electric off-road vehicle maker **Taiga Motors Corp.** has won bankruptcy protection and will seek new investors to try to secure a rebirth after running out of money in its bid to scale up production.

The Montreal-based manufacturer of electric snowmobiles and personal watercraft said Wednesday that it has sought and obtained an order from the Quebec Superior Court shielding it from creditors under the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act. The court also granted Taiga an order authorizing the company to pursue a formal sale and investment solicitation process.

"The company has been actively reducing its cost structure and has been continuously seeking various alternatives to fund its operations," Taiga said in a statement.

"However, following a review and after careful consideration of all available alternatives and in consultation with legal and financial advisors, the directors of the company unanimously determined that it was in its best interests to commence the CCAA proceedings."

It's not a surprise that Taiga



**Taiga Motors Corp., which is seeking to revolutionize the powersports industry with its all-electric vehicles, lost half its market value in April after announcing an indefinite pause to production and the temporary layoff of about 70 workers.**

CHRISTINNE MUSCHI/  
THE GLOBE AND MAIL

sought credit protection. In filings accompanying a recent earnings report, the company's auditors said there was a material uncertainty about its ability to continue as a going concern.

Still, it's a significant setback for Taiga's founder and chief executive, Samuel Bruneau, who launched the company with two McGill University engineering classmates in 2015. And it provides a cautionary tale for other manufacturing startups with out-sized dreams that are struggling to make them work.

Led by Mr. Bruneau, Taiga wants to revolutionize the powersports industry with its all-electric vehicles — bringing an environmental sensibility to a sector historically hooked on loud revving engines. The company is one of Quebec's homegrown hopefuls for the EV age, but it has struggled to scale up production, experiencing numerous challenges in-

cluding what it has said was a failure by certain suppliers to deliver on contracts.

The crux of the problem is that they were unable to produce sufficient volumes to generate the required cash flows, said Louis Hébert, a professor of strategic management at the HEC Montréal business school. He added that the company has also seen significant leadership change since it went public in 2021. Last month, finance chief Eric Bussi eres would leave the manufacturer to pursue another opportunity.

"This is a company that had big ambitions. They wanted to be the Tesla of powersports," Mr. Hébert said.

"But it's not because you have a better product or better technology that you necessarily have the advantage. You also need a supply chain, capital, commercialization, a service network, a whole series of complementary elements ... And it didn't come together."

Under the bankruptcy protection process, the Quebec court approved a deal that will see Taiga have access to up to \$4.4-million in financing provided by Export Development Canada, or EDC, its biggest secured creditor. Taiga said it will draw down \$1-million from that immediately to fund its working capital and implement a restructuring.

Deloitte has been appointed as monitor. The company said it anticipates the Toronto Stock Exchange will place Taiga under a delisting review.

Public money from both the Canadian and Quebec govern-

ments is at risk in the outcome of the CCAA process. EDC had, before Wednesday's announcement, offered roughly \$20-million in loans to Taiga — at least some of which had been drawn down — while Investment Quebec held an \$18.3-million debenture in the company.

Potential buyers that could be interested in Taiga's assets, in whole or in part, include established powersports manufacturers such as Yamaha Motor Co. and Polaris Inc. Quebec snowmobile maker BRP Inc. could also kick the tires but would not be as likely a buyer because it is developing electric models in-house to maximize profitability.

In April, Taiga lost half its market value after the company announced it would pause production indefinitely and temporarily lay off about 70 workers in response to what it called a challenging "economic context" and unusually mild winter, which hurt sales of its snowmobiles.

National Bank analyst Cameron Doerksen had warned that the company would need to source significant new funds to sustain even scaled-down operations in the coming quarters and that there may be little equity value remaining for existing shareholders.

Taiga's biggest shareholder as of May was Northern Private Capital, a Toronto-based investment firm led by John Risley and Andrew Lapham. Northern led a consortium in 2019 that bought MDA, Maxar Technologies Inc.'s Canadian space and defence unit for \$1-billion.



Members of the Nationwide Samsung Electronics Union march to kick off a three-day general strike on Monday outside a Samsung factory in Hwaseong, South Korea. JUNG YEON-JE/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

## Unionized Samsung workers to go on indefinite strike in South Korea

JIN YU YOUNG  
JOHN LIU SEOUL

Unionized workers at Samsung Electronics said Wednesday that they would go on an indefinite strike, an escalation of a rare labour dispute that could disrupt the technology giant's world-leading chip business.

An estimated 6,500 workers walked off the job on Monday for a planned three-day strike over pay and working conditions. The Nationwide Samsung Electronics Union decided to extend the strike after "hearing no word" from the company, according to Lee Hyun Kuk, vice-president of the union, which represents more than 31,000 workers, or a quarter of the workforce at Samsung Electronics.

Samsung, South Korea's biggest private employer, has long been the world's largest maker of memory chips, which help computers and other electronics equipment store information. The company is also a leading manufacturer of logic chips, which make computers run, behind only Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co.

The union said it has been negotiating with Samsung since January over vacation days and wages.

"As the strike goes on, the management's blood will dry out and they will eventually come to the negotiating table on their knees," the union said in a statement.

The union said its work stoppage has slowed some Samsung operations and production. A Samsung representative said that the strike has not affected production and that the company would work to avoid disruptions in the

future. Samsung remained "committed to engaging in good-faith negotiations with the union," the representative said.

Because of the "high level of automation in the factories and the low actual need for manual labour," the impact of the strike was expected to be minimal, said Avril Wu, a senior research vice-president at TrendForce, a market-research firm.

Last week, Samsung said that it would report a larger-than-expected jump in operating profit for the second quarter, of US\$7.5-billion. The company's stock has recently set a series of multiyear highs as demand for chips to power artificial-intelligence applications has soared.

"Our research team has consulted with buyers and sellers in the memory market, and neither side is particularly concerned about this issue now," she said.

In June, Samsung workers went on the one-day strike, the first in the company's history.

Union workers are demanding a wage increase by 3.5 per cent, improved bonus policies and an extra day of paid vacation. Entry-level Samsung employees typically get more than two weeks a year of vacation, some paid and some unpaid. The union also wants Samsung to agree to compensate workers for any lost wages during the strike.

While in recent years union workers have said that they received bonuses of as much as 30 per cent, last year they got nothing. The average member earned about 80-million won last year, or around US\$60,000, before incentives, they said.

"We won't go back until all of the demands are met," Mr. Lee said.

Last week, Samsung said that it would report a larger-than-expected jump in operating profit for the second quarter, of US\$7.5-billion. The company's stock has recently set a series of multiyear highs as demand for chips to power artificial-intelligence applications has soared.

Kim Jae Won has worked in the memory-chip division at Samsung since 2019. "I understand if the company is doing poorly they can't give us our bonuses," he said. "But the fact that the executives took home huge bonuses last year, I can't understand."

Mr. Kim attended a rally of workers outside a Samsung semiconductor factory on Monday. "I felt a sense of purpose and pride that thousands of members were there," he said.

For decades, Samsung was known for its aversion to organized labour and unions have organized workers at the company only in the past several years.

Labour strikes in South Korea are not uncommon. Since February, more than 10,000 doctors walked off the job in protest of government plans to increase the number of admitted medical students. Last spring, thousands of construction workers rallied over discontent with the country's labour policies.

## Northern Ontario town of Ignace votes to host nuclear waste site

MATTHEW McCLEARN

The Township of Ignace, a community of roughly 1,200 in Northern Ontario, formally declared its willingness to host a nuclear waste disposal facility on Wednesday, ending negotiations that began more than a decade ago.

A location 40 kilometres west of the town, known as the Revell site, is one of two candidates to host an underground disposal site for radioactive spent fuel from Canada's nuclear power reactors, known as a deep geological repository. According to a hosting agreement signed in March, Ignace would receive payments totalling \$170-million over the project's 175-year duration, should its proponent, the Nuclear Waste Management Organization, select the Revell site. The facility is estimated to cost \$26-billion.

The municipality's decision represents a milestone for the NWMO, which has been searching for a site with suitable geological characteristics and other features since 2010. It selected the Revell site and another candidate, in the Municipality of South Bruce located east of Lake Huron, for detailed studies four years ago, and has said it will choose between the two by the end of this year. South Bruce has scheduled a referendum for Oct. 28 to determine whether residents are willing to have the facility.

Ignace's municipal government had previously said the repository could "advance the long-term well-being of the community" through economic growth and environmental sustainability. The government decided against holding a referendum because, it said, few residents wanted one, and a referendum also "cannot determine whether someone is informed."

The municipality instead hired a consultant, With Chela Inc., which provided a study examining residents' perspectives about the project to a "willingness ad hoc committee," which provided its recommendation to the town council on Wednesday.

Roger Dufault, co-chair of the ad hoc committee, said 640 of an estimated 1,035 eligible residents participated in a community vote conducted online and in-person in late April. Of those, 495 voted in favour of proceeding as a host community for the repository, or 77 per cent of the total. Only 133 residents, or 20.8 per cent, voted to drop out of the NWMO's process. It recommended the council pass its resolution to proceed as a host community, which the council promptly did.

In addition to the two municipalities, the NWMO also seeks hosting agreements from the Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation (for the Revell site) and the Saugeen Ojibway Nation (for South Bruce). Negotiations continue, but neither First Nation has committed to make a final decision this year.

Clayton Wetelainen, chief of Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation, said during an interview last month that his organization is striving to ensure its membership is sufficiently informed to vote this fall, but was unsure whether that could be accomplished. He also emphasized his community would not grant a binding approval of the project this year, as Ignace has just done.

"We remain optimistic that we will select a site this year and are encouraged by active discussions under way with potential host communities," NWMO spokesperson Fred Kuntz wrote in an e-mail.

Northwatch, an environmental group opposed to the Revell repository, said in a statement that other communities are closer to the Revell site than Ignace, which is situated in a different watershed, and said its municipal council lacked jurisdiction. Spent nuclear fuel would also be transported through many communities on its way to the site.

"There's no rational reason for Ignace to be making the decision, other than the fact that they've accepted money from the NWMO for 14 years," spokesperson Brennain Lloyd said.

# Laing named CEO of Canadian Chamber of Commerce

Former Nutrien executive brings well-rounded résumé to new position at business-lobby group

MARK RENDELL

The Canadian Chamber of Commerce has appointed Candace Laing as its next president and chief executive, the first new leader for the influential business group in 17 years.

Ms. Laing, a former Nutrien executive from Saskatchewan, will take over Sept. 1 from Perrin Beatty, who announced his retirement in March. The high-profile role involves lobbying the federal government on behalf of about 400 regional chambers of commerce and boards of trade, and acting as a spokesperson for Canadian business interests in Ottawa and across the country.

Ms. Laing assumes the job at a tough moment for the Canadian economy. Interest rates are high, economic growth is stagnant and business investment in machinery and equipment is muted – a dynamic that's leading to weak productivity growth, which the Bank of Canada has labelled a “break the glass” emergency.

Meanwhile, companies are dealing with tectonic shifts tied to artificial intelligence, the transition to a low-carbon energy system and rising trade protectionism, especially in the United States.

“We’re coming out of what had been a post-World War II era,” Ms. Laing said in an interview. “We need to invent new playbooks and new tools because these challenges are shifting the whole context which we’ve been used to our entire lives.”



Candace Laing, who has been on the Canadian Chamber of Commerce's board of directors since 2019, brings a background in both small and big business to the role of president and CEO. DAVE CHAN/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

Ms. Laing has a background in both small and big business. She grew up on a family farm and worked for a decade at the fertilizer giant Nutrien and its predecessor PotashCorp, where she was chief human resources officer and vice-president of sustainability and stakeholder relations.

She's been on the chamber's board of directors since 2019, and became board chair in 2022. She resigned as board chair to take on her new role.

“I'm not just one thing. I'm from a farm, I've had my own business and I've been part of this global corporate world, too. So I kind of see that full spectrum,” Ms. Laing said, adding that this reflects the diversity of the 200,000 or so businesses that make up the chamber's membership.

Her résumé differs considera-

bly from her predecessor, Mr. Beatty, a long-time federal Progressive Conservative politician from Toronto, who served as a cabinet minister in Brian Mulroney's government in the 1980s and early 1990s, and was head of the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. in the late 1990s.

Penny Wise, vice-chair of the chamber's board of directors and head of the CEO search committee, said the organization considered a range of candidates with backgrounds in business and politics, for what was “a hotly contested role.”

In the end, Ms. Laing was the “outstanding candidate,” Ms. Wise said in an interview, praising her “business smarts” and experience in both the corporate world and with the chamber.

“Even her background coming

from a farm in Saskatchewan and that understanding of the small town, the community, how you build that community,” was a positive, Ms. Wise said, given that the chamber is really a network of smaller organizations in towns and cities across the country.

In Ottawa, Ms. Laing will have to navigate shifting political tides, where an unpopular Liberal government is struggling to stay afloat and has introduced a number of measures that have rankled the business community – most recently its decision to increase the inclusion rate for taxable capital gains earned by businesses and some high-income individuals.

The Conservative Party, which is widely expected to win the next election, is often thought of as more pro-business, given its focus

on lowering taxes. However, Conservative Leader Pierre Poilievre has expressed public disdain for the Chamber of Commerce and other business-lobby groups.

In an opinion piece published in the National Post in May, Mr. Poilievre said the Chamber of Commerce, the Business Council of Canada and the Canadian Federation of Independent Business hold “pointless luncheons and meetings and write op-eds or record interviews that almost no one sees.”

“As leader of the Conservative Party of Canada, I refuse to meet the aforementioned groups. They tell me what I already know,” Mr. Poilievre wrote.

When asked about these comments, Ms. Laing responded diplomatically: “The Canadian Chamber has always worked with the elected members across all parties. We partner in policy solutions,” she said.

She said that she will continue to push the chamber's long-standing priorities: “We're always trying to reduce the burden on businesses, to make being in business easier and with less red tape, and to address supply-chain challenges.”

Canada needs “an environment, on the policy and regulatory side, that's got some stability to it, so businesses can plan and work within that,” she added.

Ms. Laing said her focus in the coming months will be travelling across the country and meeting with the chamber's regional members. She will also be settling into Ottawa, hunting for somewhere to live and looking for a new mixed-martial-arts gym in the city.

She got into MMA, a mixture of kick-boxing and jiu-jitsu, after recovering from a horse-riding accident several years ago. “People say I'm crazy, but I just love it,” she said.

## B.C., Ottawa contribute \$72.75-million to firm that 3-D prints live tissue implants

SEAN SILCOFF  
TECHNOLOGY REPORTER

The federal and B.C. governments are providing \$72.75-million to a University of British Columbia spinoff that 3-D prints live tissue implants, the latest in a string of taxpayer-funded contributions to help Vancouver's teeming life sciences sector.

Ottawa will contribute \$49-million and B.C. will kick in \$23.75-million to help fund a \$200-million project by Aspect Biosystems Ltd. that includes the building of a manufacturing plant capable of producing materials for its clinical trials and investments to further develop its technology.

“A big focus of this project is to bring everyone under one roof to maximize on the value of our team's interdisciplinary nature,” said Aspect chief executive officer Tamer Mohamed, whose company is spread out across three buildings in Vancouver. He said Aspect is looking at sites to the south and east of the city's False Creek area, where many life sciences companies are located.

Aspect uses customized 3-D printers to create synthetic tissues composed of living cells and hydrogel polymers, which can be implanted in people with impaired pancreases or livers, replacing the functions of those organs.

After proving its implants effectively treated diabetes in rodents, Aspect inked a blockbuster development deal last year with Danish metabolic drug giant Novo Nordisk AS. Novo, one of the



Aspect Biosystems chief executive officer Tamer Mohamed, left, and chief technology officer Simon Beyer are seen in Vancouver in 2021. Aspect's 3-D-printed synthetic tissues are composed of living cells and hydrogel polymers. DARRYL DYCK/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

world's largest insulin makers and the developer of weight-loss drug Wegovy and diabetes treatment Ozempic, agreed to pay US\$75-million up front to fund Aspect's research and development and take an undisclosed ownership stake.

Novo also received an exclusive global licence to use Aspect's technology to develop as many as four products to treat diabetes and/or obesity. Each program could deliver up to US\$650-million in milestone payments to Aspect, plus royalties on any eventual Novo product sales.

Mr. Mohamed acknowledged that his 100-person company faced pressure to move some or all of its operations out of Canada and said the government funding will help Aspect stay put as it

builds manufacturing capacity, which has been in chronically short supply in B.C. and Canada.

“The pressures we face are not so dissimilar to those any Canadian company faces,” he said. “There will come a point in time because you don't have the capability and infrastructure to support scale, where you will have to make those hard types of decisions.”

“This scale of a project sends a strong signal to not just Novo Nordisk but the industry at large that we're here to stay and we'll manufacture these products here.”

Brenda Bailey, B.C.'s Jobs, Economic Development and Innovation Minister, said in an interview that “B.C. has a long history of being an incubator of technology

and science for other jurisdictions. Quite frankly, we want to be an incubator of science and technology for B.C. and Canada. That's what we're trying to buy here – and we're also buying high-quality jobs.”

Aspect is one of a group of bold, up-and-coming Vancouver-area companies leading a renaissance in the region's life sciences sector and bent on establishing Canada's West Coast metropolis as a major player in the global pharmaceutical industry.

Vancouver is already Canada's fastest-growing biotech centre, with 8,000 jobs added over the past 10 years. The area is home to several other promising life sciences companies, including AbCellera Biologics Inc., Acuitas Therapeutics Inc., Xenon Pharmaceuticals Inc., Clarius Mobile Health Corp., Canary Medical Inc., Kardiium Inc. and Stemcell Technologies Canada Inc., a leading supplier of media and tools for drug developers.

But it's not lost on industry observers that Vancouver has seen past successes flounder and disappear – or that the country has never produced a major research and development pharma giant. Instead, Canada has a reputation for producing cutting-edge medical research that gets commercialized elsewhere. The country lacks the necessary infrastructure, including a shortage of wet lab space for doing drug research.

“We have the next generation of companies with Stemcell, AbCellera and Aspect, which are already global leaders in their fields. Now it's about scale,” said federal Innovation, Science and

Industry Minister François-Philippe Champagne. “Our role as government is to make sure we can help them grow exponentially. My dream is to have 100 more Shopifys in Canada, and in the life sciences sector I think we can.”

Other local companies that have received significant government funding in recent years include AbCellera, Stemcell and Precision Nanosystems. The province and Ottawa have also funded the expansion of AdMare Bioinnovations, a national biotechnology incubator headquartered at UBC. B.C. has also provided hundreds of millions of dollars to build a new research hospital at the edge of False Creek Flats, a former industrial and railway zone that is earmarked to become a life sciences centre.

## ARCHEGOS FOUNDER BILL HWANG, DEPUTY PATRICK HALLIGAN, CONVICTED AT CRIMINAL TRIAL OVER FUND'S COLLAPSE

NEW YORK Archegos Capital Management founder Sung Kook (Bill) Hwang was convicted of fraud and other charges by a jury in Manhattan federal court on Wednesday at a criminal trial in which prosecutors accused him of market manipulation ahead of the 2021 collapse of his US\$36-billion private investment firm.

The jury, which began deliberations on Tuesday, found Mr. Hwang guilty on 10 of 11 criminal counts and Patrick Halligan, his Archegos deputy and co-defendant, guilty on all three counts he faced. Mr. Hwang and Mr. Halligan sat flanked by their lawyers as the verdict was read by a soft-spoken foreperson.

U.S. District Judge Alvin Hellerstein set the sentencing for Oct. 28. Both men will remain free on bail.

The Archegos meltdown sent shock waves across Wall Street and drew regulatory scrutiny on three continents. Prosecutors have said Mr. Hwang and Mr. Halligan lied to banks to obtain billions of dollars that they used to artificially pump up the stock prices of multiple publicly traded companies. The trial began in May.

Damian Williams, the U.S. lawyer in Manhattan, said the verdict should send a clear message that his office will hold accountable people such as Mr. Hwang and Mr. Halligan “who think they can cheat the system.”

Mr. Hwang, 60, had pleaded not guilty to one count of racketeering conspiracy, three counts of fraud and seven counts of market manipulation. Mr. Hwang was acquitted on a mar-

ket manipulation charge related to a Chinese online-video company, iQIYI.

Mr. Halligan, 47, had pleaded not guilty to one count of racketeering conspiracy and two counts of fraud. Mr. Halligan was the chief financial officer at Archegos.

They now face maximum sentences of 20 years in prison on each charge for which they were convicted, though any sentence would likely be much lower and would be imposed by the judge based on a range of factors.

The trial centred on the implosion of Mr. Hwang's family office Archegos, which inflicted US\$10-billion in losses at global banks and, according to prosecutors, caused more than US\$100-billion in shareholder losses at

companies in its portfolio. Prosecutors said Mr. Hwang's actions harmed U.S. financial markets as well as ordinary investors, causing significant losses to banks, market participants and Archegos employees.

Mr. Hwang secretly amassed outsized stakes in multiple companies without actually holding their stock, according to prosecutors. Mr. Hwang lied to banks about the size of the derivative positions of Archegos in order to borrow billions of dollars that he and his deputies then used to artificially inflate the underlying stocks, prosecutors said.

Mr. Halligan was accused by prosecutors of lying to banks and enabling the criminal scheme.

REUTERS

### ELLISDON CORPORATION



DIANNE L. WATTS

EllisDon Corporation announces the appointment of a new board member, Dianne L. Watts. As a seasoned executive, respected community advocate, and former Mayor of Surrey, British Columbia, Watts will join eight fellow board members.

Dianne L. Watts brings well over 30 years of knowledge, profound management experience, and diverse expertise in politics, affordable housing, economic growth, and policy development.

Watts will join the Board of Directors as its ninth member to further support EllisDon's innovative construction practices, globally. Geoff Smith currently holds the position as Chair of the Board.

EllisDon

# OPINION & ANALYSIS

## Why did Canada act alone on a digital tax?

A new DST targeting Big Tech is a high-risk move by Ottawa, which had abandoned an international plan

MICHAEL GEIST

OPINION

Holds the Canada Research Chair in Internet and E-commerce Law at the University of Ottawa, faculty of law

The Canadian government's efforts to regulate big tech companies sometimes feels like a series of high-stakes poker matches in which the government foolishly bets that readily apparent risks can be ignored. That approach has proven costly: the plan to regulate internet streaming services is now mired in multiple legal challenges in court, while news links on Facebook and Instagram have been blocked in Canada for nearly a year in response to the Online News Act.

The latest high-risk strategy in-

volves the implementation of a digital services tax, which could lead to billions in tariff retaliation targeting some of Canada's most important economic sectors.

The DST debate dates back many years as a growing number of countries became increasingly frustrated over the perception that big tech companies such as Google or Amazon were not paying their fair share of taxes. The companies were subject to the same revenue tax obligations as anyone else but, with sizable research and development investments that are tax-deductible and significant revenues drawn from intangibles such as data and intellectual property, tax minimization strategies were particularly effective in reducing their tax obligations.

While welcoming the R&D spending, countries began to pursue a new surtax specifically targeted at digital-related revenues, including those earned from online marketplaces, digital advertising and social-media services. The resulting DSTs are essentially taxes on revenue that is already subject to tax. But they fell outside existing tax treaties that seek to limit double taxation, meaning

that the increased payments would certainly hit the bottom line of the tech companies. Or the DSTs could lead to reduced tax earnings for the tech companies' home country, most notably the United States, because less revenue from abroad flows back home.

The U.S. responded to the emergence of DSTs by threatening to impose tariffs as a retaliatory measure. For example, after France announced plans to implement a DST, the U.S. said it would establish billions in new tariffs on French products. The jousting over digital taxes ultimately led to a new international agreement at the OECD designed to establish common standards related to the taxation model. That agreement, which covers nearly 140 countries representing 90 per cent of global GDP, has not yet been implemented amid doubts that the U.S. will take the steps needed for it to take effect.

As they waited, Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland and the Canadian government became increasingly impatient with the delayed implementation of the deal. Tax revenues were not at risk given plans to retroactively

apply the OECD's DST; however, the prospect of billions in new money ultimately proved too tempting to wait. The government quietly used the Canada Day long weekend to announce that the DST was operational in Canada, with affected companies obliged to remit taxes for revenues dating back to 2022.

The announcement sparked an immediate outcry from both the business community and the U.S. government. Businesses fear the DST costs will ultimately be passed along by the tech companies, making digital advertising more expensive and rendering Canadian businesses less competitive online. But the bigger concern stems from the prospect of U.S. tariff retaliation. The U.S. Trade Representative, which leads the U.S. government on trade matters, has said it is open to using "all available tools that could result in meaningful progress toward addressing discriminatory digital-services taxes."

Much like the bet that Meta was bluffing when it said it would block news links in response to legislation that amounted to a link tax, the Canadian government is once again gambling that

the U.S. government threat is just a bluff. Yet the risk here is far greater since tariff retaliation could run into the billions of dollars and focus on high-priority sectors such as dairy, steel or lumber. It is possible that the U.S. government will limit its opposition to sabre rattling, but with a presidential election only months away, currying favour in battleground states by levying tariffs on Canadian products in support of the Wisconsin dairy industry or the Pennsylvania steel sector hardly seems unlikely.

Few would dispute that tech companies should pay their fair share. Indeed, general tax revenues are preferable to the cross-industry subsidy model that the government has relied upon to support the Canadian cultural and news lobbies. But timing also matters. Canada could have waited for the international agreement to coalesce even as the retroactive DST revenues continued to accumulate. By striking now for its pot of gold, it runs the risk of creating significant harm to the Canadian economy and solidifying the growing global perspective of a government hostile toward the tech sector.



A man digs out a stranded boat on July 2 after Hurricane Beryl passed the island of Petite Martinique, Grenada. More than 90 per cent of housing stock was wiped out in Grenada. ARTHUR DANIEL/REUTERS

## How my central bank tackled Hurricane Beryl, and why this matters

TIMOTHY N.J. ANTOINE

OPINION

Governor of the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank and member of the board of directors of the Toronto Centre, a non-governmental organization. He is also the chairman of CCRIF SPC, the first multicountry catastrophe risk pool in the world.

When Hurricane Beryl, the earliest Category 5 Atlantic storm on record, smashed through the Caribbean last week, it wrought more than death, destruction and disruption to thousands of lives and livelihoods in Grenada, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Jamaica. It once again confirmed our worst fears that warming seas would breed more ferocious storms. At the time of writing, this storm is now bringing significant flood damage to Texas after pummeling resort cities on the Mexican coast.

Unfortunately, it was also a reminder that, for central banks and financial regulators, climate change is not a matter of cultural conversation or debate; it is a real and present risk for which we must plan and respond, daily. Because climate risk is financial risk.

The broader implications involve us all, whether you live on the island of Carriacou, in my birth nation of Grenada, where more than 90 per cent of housing stock was wiped out, or in Western Canada, where smouldering wildfires survived the winter and began threatening homes and business as early as May.

That is why financial regulators and supervisors worldwide have been accelerating the adoption of climate-risk strategies by financial institutions. We recognize the threat climate change

poses to financial stability, and thereby the economic well-being of us all.

At the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank, the first step in the wake of Beryl is to provide affected member countries with liquidity (cash) to support them with the massive relief effort. Going to our core mandate, we are always concerned about the possibility of financial institutions being undermined by traumatic events: some businesses and households will now struggle to meet their obligations. Non-performing loans will rise, so banks will have to work with customers, and we will work with our financial institutions by providing guidance (a special dispensation, if you will) for them to deal with this event.

Last March, we set a climate-risk standard to guide our licensees on disclosure, stress testing and all the efforts that they must make to ensure that they properly assess climate risk – and take steps to manage that risk.

In Canada, the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions (OSFI) has similarly issued its Guideline on Climate Risk Management for financial institutions. Globally, the influential Basel Committee on Banking Supervision issued in April a series of revisions to its "Core Principles of effective banking supervision" that integrated climate risk.

One of the tools in the risk management tool kit for all countries is risk transfer through insurance. The launch of CCRIF – the Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility – in 2007 came in the aftermath of Hurricane Ivan, which devastated Grenada, Jamaica and Cayman Islands in 2004. Canada supported the establishment of CCRIF and remains a vital development partner for CCRIF, which will pay out

about US\$75-million to affected Caribbean countries in the next few days. This model has now inspired risk pools – a form of risk management in insurance – in Africa, the Pacific and Southeast Asia.

All this activity in the world of financial supervision and regulation is based on a consensus that climate risk is a threat to financial stability.

The question is: do financial institutions have sufficiently strong governance and controls to manage climate risk?

The threat is not only the physical risk such as destructive storms, floods and wildfires. Regulators and supervisors are focused just as much on "transition risks," the more complex, difficult task of forecasting costs and outcomes of mitigation and adaptation. These will, potentially, impose even greater burdens on businesses and governments.

If all you do is assess risk, but do not have the governance or financing to mitigate and adapt, then you are not moving the needle; you are merely confirming that the risks are there. Indeed, a necessary but not sufficient step. What is required is planning and financing for adaptation and resilience.

For small island developing states (SIDS), this is a daunting prospect and requires support from the international community, such as green financing. All countries, but especially large emitters, must meet their obligations under the Paris agreement.

There is an old saying, "When your neighbour's house is on fire, wet yours." Nobody is immune from climate change. There will be financial costs for every country in the world, whose prosperity depends on managing climate risks at home and abroad. Ultimately, it's one planet and we are all connected. Let us act now.

## Companies need to stop giving corporate swag that people just throw in the trash

TODD HIRSCH

OPINION



If you gave a child a birthday gift, and the next day they threw it in the garbage, you might ask some questions.

Yet companies do this all the time, and no one seems to be asking anything. In the corporate world, they are called promotional items, but for everyone on the receiving end, they're more commonly referred to as "swag." Cheap plastic trinkets, little cartoon keychains, crappy pens that don't work, T-shirts that no one needs and fridge magnets that make the kitchen look messy.

All of these freebies are creating a strain on our landfills, with some of them ending up in rivers, lakes and oceans. The irony is that most of the companies doling out swag would claim to be committed to the environment. But the millions of pounds of garbage they're handing out never gets mentioned in their ESG reporting.

It also costs a lot of money. Coresight Research, a retail and technology data insights firm, estimates employers globally spend \$242-billion a year on corporate gifting. That includes gifts to their employees as well as to clients attending conferences or trade shows.

So what happens to all of this mostly plastic stuff? It's hard to say. Corporate swag isn't exactly at the centre of scholarly research.

A commonly cited figure is that 40 per cent of all corporate gifts end up in landfills. That percentage is often attributed to a report from ING, but it appears to be derived from a 2016 ING report that wasn't really about corporate swag, but rather about Christmas gifts that end up in the garbage.

But it's not a stretch of anyone's imagination that most – if not all – of the marketing swag we collect at conferences and trade shows ends up in the landfill. If that's the destination for 40 per cent of Christmas gifts – presumably bought with intention and of higher value than corporate swag – then surely the figure for swag is higher. Almost all of it is cheap, useless and unnecessary.

Where does our collective desire for corporate swag come from? Most of us don't need another travel mug, water bottle or squishy foam stress ball, but we still grab one from the promotional table at the trade show, or eagerly pull them out of the cheap canvas tote bag (also an environmental problem) when handed one at the conference registration.

Our momentary infatuation with swag stems from our consumer-driven society, in which getting something for free tricks us into thinking it has value. However, I'd argue that the "value" we put on free stuff is emotional, not intrinsic (that is, the perceived or calculated value). If you ask someone how much they think the corporate-branded mini-Frisbee is worth, most people would probably say nothing. Yet we take it anyway.

So what's the solution?

The first is to raise awareness at the corporate level, and to ask those in charge of corporate swag to take a really hard look at the choices being made. Somebody in the company hierarchy (unlikely someone in the C-suite) has been given a budget for promotional items with corporate branding. Those people need to consider: Is this going to end up in a landfill? And if the answer is yes, then they should ask: What other choice can we make?

The second part of the solution is to offer creative alternatives to the cheap plastic and foam items, such as biodegradable or compostable items that have a more defined lifespan, and won't end up clogging a landfill or ocean. Options here include items made of plant fibre, corn starch, recycled paper or polylactic acid (PLA). The obvious downside is that these items often cost more.

Or maybe it all goes digital. A QR code at the convention show booth gets the person a \$5 coupon for a coffee. Maybe a link to an app, which is a game for kids to play. Or why not a gift code for a free movie on a streaming platform?

Third, perhaps it's time to completely rethink the purpose of promotional swag. Is it to remind the consumer of your corporate brand and to reinforce a positive image of the company? Or is it something else? Is your intent really to give a gift to that aimless passerby at the trade show? Maybe you're doing it out of habit, or because of a belief that "people like swag!"

It all comes down to something that should be simple and plain: Let's think about what we're doing. We'd all be better served if corporate swag could be reduced, or at least designed to minimize its impact on the environment. It would also help the bottom line.

[ TRAVEL ]

## A cart before the train

A Via Rail employee passes by a new passenger train in the Lumi fleet, which will service the Quebec-Windsor corridor, on Wednesday in Montreal

GRAHAM HUGHES/THE CANADIAN PRESS



# Climate-advocacy group calls out fossil-fuel support among Canadian insurers

Investors for Paris Compliance report says seven largest property and casualty insurance firms invested about \$19.5-billion in 2023

IAN BICKIS TORONTO

A shareholder advocacy group is calling out Canada's property insurers for their support of the fossil-fuel industry while also raising premiums because of climate-related disasters.

Investors for Paris Compliance says in a report out Wednesday that the seven largest Canadian property and casualty insurance companies collectively invested about \$19.5-billion in oil and gas assets last year, with almost three-quarters of that represented by Toronto-Dominion Bank, while some companies also did underwriting for the fossil-fuel industry.

At the same time, the property and casualty (P&C) insurance industry has raised home and mortgage insurance rates by 73 per cent in the 10 years leading up to 2023, or 36 per cent when adjusted for inflation, based on data from Statistics Canada.

"The P&C industry is really entrenched in a contradiction," said Kiera Taylor, senior analyst at Investors for Paris.

"While their business faces an existential threat due to climate change via higher claims and growing uninsurability, they continue to foster those risks via underwriting and investing in fossil fuels."

Premiums are rising as the frequency and severity of climate-related disasters such as wildfires and major floods grow, though other factors such as rising replacement costs are also driving up rates. P&C catastrophic losses averaged \$2.3-billion a year between 2011 and 2020, up from \$675-million a year in the previous decade, the report said.

Ms. Taylor says the industry has talked a lot about the causes of higher premiums and asked for government support, through efforts such as a national flood insurance program, but has done much less to address its own contributions.

"We've seen the industry only

talking one side of the coin on this," Ms. Taylor said.

"Insurers are part of the problem both by fostering the risks, and then passing those costs on to consumers and taxpayers."

The Insurance Bureau of Canada pushed back against some findings in the report, especially on claims that the industry is trying to shift responsibility to government with a national flood insurance program.

The industry is offering to operate a program on a not-for-profit basis to help address past land-use planning decisions, which contributed to leaving 1.5 million Canadian households at high risk of flooding, spokesman Brett Weltman said in a statement.

"The claims made within the Investors for Paris Compliance report paint an inaccurate picture of the considerations related to climate change-related risk management."

He said various insurers were making their own decisions on investments and underwriting in a competitive market, but that the industry is working with regulators on climate-disclosure requirements and the energy transition.

"The transition to a low-carbon economy must be undertaken in a thoughtful and measured way," Mr. Weltman said.

The Investors for Paris report says some industry members are much further ahead than others on climate commitments, investment exclusions and their level of engagement on pushing for climate action.

Intact Financial Corp., Desjardins Group, Co-operators Group, Definity Insurance Co. and TD have all made net-zero commitments. The companies also all have fossil-fuel exclusion policies that the report ranks as ranging from weak in TD's case to more robust for Intact and Desjardins.

But Intact still had about \$1.5-billion in fossil-fuel investments last year (which it says is down to \$742-million as of the first quarter this year), Desjardins had almost \$300-million and TD Bank Group had \$15.5-billion.

Intact said its net energy exposure represents 2 per cent of invested assets, and that it has set an interim target of a 40-per-cent reduction in the emissions intensity of its investment portfolio by 2030.

"We have a proven track record of leadership in climate adaptation and building resilient communities and we are committed to achieving net zero across our business by 2050," said spokesman David Barrett in a statement.

TD said it is taking a range of actions on climate as outlined in its transition plan, while its insurance program specifically includes discounts for electric vehicles and solar panel coverage through homeowner insurance.

It also said that the figures in the report contrast TD's whole bank operations to insurance companies with more narrow mandates, which affects the conclusions drawn.

Meanwhile Wawanesa Mutual Insurance Co. and Fairfax Financial Holdings Ltd. (which operates its Northbridge Financial Corp. subsidiary in Canada), haven't made net-zero commitments or exclusion policies, the report said. It said Fairfax also continues to be an insurer of last resort for coal operations in Asia. It underwrote an estimated \$809-million in fossil fuels and had \$1.5-billion in investments last year, the report said.

And while Fairfax is notable in Canada for its larger underwriting of fossil fuels, the report said there are also major international players operating in Canada that also backstop billions of dollars of global fossil-fuel projects such as Chubb, Lloyds, Liberty Mutual and Travelers.

Investors for Paris Compliance however says all the insurers could make stronger climate efforts, and better disclosures of their transition plans. It also called on regulators to force the industry to create and make those plans public.

The call to better help address climate change comes as the industry faces the potential for significantly higher costs ahead.

Annual severe weather claims could double from \$2.1-billion to \$5-billion over this decade, the Insurance Institute of Canada estimated in a 2020 report.

Ms. Taylor said the industry should look to factor in longer-term projections on premiums to prevent major spikes after disasters.

"The point would be to create more stability."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## CRA: Taxpayers say they spent hundreds on lawyers, accountants over new rules

■ FROM B1

The tax agency has struggled to administer new, stricter information-sharing requirements for trusts that were meant to help combat money laundering and tax dodging. Among other things, the rules established a new requirement, starting in the 2023 tax year, for Canadians to file tax returns for bare trusts, which are often informal arrangements and were previously exempt from filing.

Many people discovered that they may be deemed under common law to be trustees of a bare trust and obliged to submit the new tax returns or risk steep penalties even if they'd never intentionally set up a trust. Those affected included, in certain cases, parents who had added their names to the titles of their adult children's homes to help them qualify for mortgages, and people who had their names on elderly relatives' financial accounts.

Many taxpayers reported spending hundreds of dollars on tax accountants and lawyers to assess whether they had a bare trust and complete the complicated returns. Tax preparers also said they devoted considerable money and time to train staff on the onerous new rules.

But on March 28, the CRA announced it would no longer require returns for bare trusts for the 2023 tax year, unless the agency makes a direct request for those files.

Mr. Boileau's office said it will examine whether the CRA violated taxpayers' right to have complete, accurate, clear and timely tax information and the right to have the costs of compliance taken into account when administering tax legislation.

In a letter responding to a request by Conservative MP Adam Chambers for an investigation, Mr. Boileau had said in April that his office was conducting preliminary research into the CRA's conduct over bare trusts but hadn't yet decided whether it would proceed with a systemic examination.

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### CHINA'S CONSUMER PRICES CONTINUE TO GROW IN JUNE

BEIJING China's consumer prices grew for a fifth month in June but missed expectations, while producer price deflation persisted, with domestic demand mired on a slow recovery track despite support measures for the world's second-largest economy.

Beijing has sought to revive consumption after a stuttering as COVID-19 restrictions lifted, but concerns are lingering over more fundamental issues including a protracted housing downturn and job insecurity. That has dented consumer and industrial activity and reinforced calls for more effective policies.

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) in June rose 0.2 per cent from a year earlier, against a 0.3-per-cent uptick in May, the slowest in three months, data from the National Bureau of Statistics showed on Wednesday,

below a 0.4-per-cent increase forecast in a Reuters poll.

"The risk of deflation has not faded in China. Domestic demand remains weak," said Zhiwei Zhang, chief economist at Pinpoint Asset Management.

Food prices fell even more, despite supply disruptions caused by bad summer weather, underlining the soft demand.

Food prices slipped 2.1 per cent year-on-year, compared with a 2-per-cent decline in May. Notably, fresh vegetable prices tumbled 7.3 per cent versus a rise of 2.3 per cent in May. A decline in fresh fruit prices deepened to 8.7 per cent from 6.7 per cent in May.

CPI edged down 0.2 per cent month-on-month, versus a 0.1-per-cent drop in May and worsening from an expected 0.1-per-cent fall.

The Producer Price Index (PPI) fell 0.8 per cent in June from a year earlier, less than a 1.4-per-cent decline the previous month, and matched a forecast 0.8 per cent fall.

The fall in the PPI was the smallest in 17 months, mostly attributable to a lower base last year.

Chinese shares were subdued and the yuan slipped to nearly eight-month lows after the data. China's retailers have discounted goods from cars to coffee as they navigate through sluggish consumer spending amid a shaky economic outlook.

A slide in gasoline prices accelerated to 6 per cent in June from 5.2 per cent the previous month, while new energy vehicle prices fell 7.4 per cent against a 6.9-per-cent decline in May, NBS data showed. REUTERS

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[ ENERGY ]



## Fanning the field

Onshore wind turbines at Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm tower over a heard of sheep on Wednesday in Dungeness, England

CHRIS J RATCLIFFE/REUTERS

## Strathcona: Deal is the sixth Canada Growth Fund has made in just over a year of operation

■ FROM B1

“Our production is going to last 30 or 40 years, and we’re going to go through multiple governments in those 30 or 40 years. But the sequestration of carbon is an important goal, an important good for the community,” he said in an interview Wednesday.

The arrangement between Strathcona and CGF turns on its head how oil sands companies approach the value of carbon capture, and Mr. Waterous hopes it will make the industry more prepared to bank on CCS being a valuable commodity.

“Others will say, ‘That’s crazy, I’d never take that risk,’” he said. “We’ll see if we’re right, but that is our view of what’s going to happen over time.”

For the past few years, industry has been pursuing carbon contracts for difference (CCFDs) with Ottawa. Those contracts are essentially deals between companies and the government that guarantee a minimum value for emissions-reduction credits earned under the industrial pricing system. They would ensure that the credits serve as a reliable revenue stream, insulated from uncertainty about how credit markets will take shape, for investments in carbon capture and other decarbonization technologies.

Instead, Strathcona will repay the fund’s investment over time from cash flows generated by the CCS infrastructure. Those payments won’t be subject to any fixed amounts or minimum volume commitments, driven instead by the performance of each project.

Essentially, Strathcona will guarantee a fixed price of carbon to the partnership, which will shore up the cost to decarbonize its oil production and serve as a hedge to its annual carbon tax obligations.

Patrick Charbonneau, president and CEO of CGF Investment Management, said in an interview that the partnership is a breakthrough in Canada’s journey toward decarbonizing the oil and gas sector, which represents 31 per cent of the country’s emissions.

It’s the sixth deal CGF has made in just over a

year of operation. The fund intends for each deal to be scaled up and applied to more emitters, and the partnership with Strathcona is no different, Mr. Charbonneau said Wednesday.

“Every time we do an investment, we’re setting precedents,” he said.

“In this case, it’s a really important precedent, because we’re able to find a solution with a heavy oil producer in order for that producer to lock in the cost of reducing the carbon intensity of their production.”

Strathcona’s oil sands facilities in Lloydminster, Sask., and Cold Lake, Alta., are located near underground storage reservoirs, which means carbon dioxide can be injected directly on site. It already has permission to do that from the Saskatchewan government, and is in talks with Alberta.

Mr. Waterous said the CCS partnership will allow Strathcona to begin its final detailed engineering work, with a final investment decision likely in mid-2025. He expects the projects to start up in 2026.

Based on the engineering work that Strathcona has already done, he said the intensity of two-thirds of the company’s production emissions will be cut by up to 90 per cent. He said Strathcona hopes to eventually cover off the remaining third of production.

Discussions about the CCS investments in the oil sands have been going on for years, particularly through a group of producers called the Pathways Alliance. It aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from production to net zero by 2050, in part through a huge CCS project.

But risks associated with the costs of building and operating CCS projects, how efficient they’ll be and the future value of capturing that carbon have all stymied large investments.

“There has been, in the past, a great focus on trying to have the government guarantee the price of what sequestration going to be. The reason we’re doing it is that we believe that this is a long-term investment, and that the sequestration of carbon is a very valuable community good,” Mr. Waterous said.

“Economics and delivering a community good are inevitably joined at the hip.”

Strathcona’s oil sands facilities in Lloydminster, Sask., and Cold Lake, Alta., are located near underground storage reservoirs, which means carbon dioxide can be injected directly on site.

## Real estate: Tower’s sale could help gauge area’s value

■ FROM B1

Last year, there was \$3.1-billion. In the financial core, there were about \$600-million in office sales in 2019 and \$250-million last year.

Because there have been so few transactions, it has become difficult for buildings to be valued, but the sale of 2 Queen St. E. could help landlords gauge the value of their buildings.

“It is a quality building in downtown Toronto,” said Carl Gomez, chief economist and head of market analytics at CoStar. “This would give us a good understanding of where pricing is.”

The last significant office building deal to close in Toronto was in early 2022, when Crestpoint Real Estate Investments Ltd. bought 121 King St. W. for \$379-million. But at the time of the sale, the office tower was not

fully leased like 2 Queen St. E.

Since then, the real estate investment firm has been refurbishing the building, adding amenities like a lounge with a patio and installing a dramatic rockface in its lobby.

Almost all of Canada’s largest pension funds, including CPPIB and AIMCo, suffered sharp losses on their real estate portfolios last year. The funds saw billions of dollars shaved off their investments as high borrowing costs drove down valuations on properties, especially in the office and retail sectors. Meanwhile, investors have soured on the sector. Publicly traded real estate investments trusts such as Dream Office, Allied and Slate have all lost significant value.

Although their vacancy rates have risen, the performance of office buildings varies widely depending on their age, location and quality of their amenities.

## Mining: B.C. moved away from its free-entry system last year

■ FROM B1

If Grassy Narrows’ suit against Ontario is successful, it would set a precedent that may affect the entire province and not just the First Nation’s traditional territory.

Last year, British Columbia committed to moving away from its free-entry system for staking after two First Nations won a court case against the province. The court ordered B.C. to put in place a new system that will ensure consultation with the Indigenous people.

Currently, the Indigenous community must be consulted by mining companies in Ontario only for more advanced exploration work and mining, both of which can be extremely detrimental to the land.

While prospecting work is far less disruptive than mining, Grassy Narrows maintains that work on claims harms its traditional hunting, trapping, fishing and medicine-gathering grounds. The First Nation says that individuals or companies holding mining claims can conduct assessment work on the land, which includes building trails for heavy machinery, clearing trees and brush, digging pits and trenches and stripping the soil off the bedrock.

Industrial activity around Grassy Narrows saw about 9,000 kilograms of mercury dumped into its rivers in the 1960s and 1970s, contaminating the First Nation’s rivers and supply of fish, and leaving many of its population

suffering health effects from mercury poisoning.

“The mining act takes us in the opposite direction of reconciliation and healing, and forces more grief and conflict on my people whose burden is already too great,” Mr. Turtle said. “I will not stand for this, and I hope that the courts will see that justice is done here for Grassy Narrows and for all First Nations.”

Grassy Narrows is not the only Indigenous group in Ontario to voice objections around the prospecting system. Wapekeka, Muskrat Dam First Nation and Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug (known as KI) have also publicly raised concerns.

Wayne Moonias, a former chief of Neskanntaga First Nation in Ontario, told The Globe last year that he had been seeing an explosion in invasive prospecting on Neskanntaga’s traditional territories, with helicopters flying overhead mapping and drilling under way, calling the system flawed.

After Premier Doug Ford came to power in 2018, he named George Pirie, a former long-time mining executive, his Minister of Mines. Last year, Mr. Pirie introduced measures aimed at speeding up mine development in Ontario, including allowing companies to defer payments related to mine closings.

And on several occasions, the Premier has said he’d be willing to jump on a bulldozer himself in order to build roads into the Ring of Fire region in the province’s far north that is rich in critical-minerals deposits.

## COSTCO TO INCREASE ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES IN CANADA, U.S.

Costco Wholesale Corp. said on Wednesday it would hike annual membership fees for the first time in seven years for its U.S. and Canada customers, effective Sept. 1.

The retailer’s memberships offer a range of incentives to customers, including testing of free samples, discounts on food, gas, home insurance, travel and grocery items and an annual 2-per-cent reward on qualified purchases at its warehouses.

The annual fee, last raised in June of 2017, would increase by US\$5 to US\$65 for “gold star” and business members and to US\$130 from the earlier US\$120 for executive members, the company said.

Costco said the maximum annual 2-per-cent reward associated with executive membership will also increase to US\$1,250 from US\$1,000.

The hike will affect around 52 million members, a little more than half of them being of the executive category, the membership-only retailer said.

The company’s shares, up about 34 per cent this year, rose 2.2 per cent in extended trading.

“The market has been expecting [discussion of] a membership-fee hike for a couple years ... management historically tends to raise membership rates every 5 to 6 years,” said Michael Ashley Schulman, chief investment officer at Running Point Capital Advisors.

“This announcement will be a welcome relief to those who have been waiting for it and should provide a solid lift to revenue as well as the stock,” Mr. Schulman added.

Revenues from membership fees had increased about 7.6 per cent in the third quarter ended May 12. For fiscal 2023, membership-fee revenue accounted for 1.9 per cent of the company’s total revenue.

Separately, Costco reported on Wednesday a 7.4-per-cent increase in net sales to US\$24.48-billion for the retail month of June. REUTERS



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# How to score a solid mortgage-rate discount

Borrowers can negotiate a deal by asking the bank to match a competing rate, or to offer something better

ROB CARRICK

OPINION



The biggest flop in summer blockbusters is the housing market.

When the Bank of Canada finally began the process of cutting its trendsetting overnight rate a few weeks ago, it was expected that lower rates would filter into mortgages and improve affordability. So much for the hype.

Prices remain at elevated levels and mortgage rates have come down only marginally. If you want or need to buy now, affordability may depend on getting the best possible mortgage rate discount.

To set the scene on mortgage rates, let's go back to the June 5 move by the Bank of Canada to lower its overnight rate by 0.25 of a percentage point. This rate cut – the first drop in four years – was immediately mirrored in the cost of variable-rate mortgages, which are out of favour right now.

Buyers and people renewing mortgages prefer the certainty and immediate savings of fixed-rate mortgages, even though



ARLAWKA AUNGTON/ISTOCKPHOTO/GETTY IMAGES

they have barely moved since the recent Bank of Canada rate announcement. Victor Tran, a mortgage agent with TMG The Mortgage Group, pegs the decline at between 0.05 and 0.1 of a percentage point.

"We were expecting a little more of a drop," Mr. Tran said. "Rates are still high on the fixed- and variable-rate side. I think there needs to be more rate drops, maybe to as little as 4 per cent, to really spur a lot of activity."

At TMG, the popular three-year fixed rate was posted online at 5.09 per cent at mid-week and

the five-year fixed rate was at 4.64 per cent. Special rates advertised online by banks were as low as 5.39 per cent for three years and 5.14 per cent for five years. Five-year rates as low as 4.84 per cent were available for borrowers who put down less than 20 per cent and thus have to pay for mortgage default insurance.

Mr. Tran said special rates advertised on websites are fairly decent, but suggested borrowers try to negotiate a better deal.

"Some banks are very cautious in not offering the lowest rate upfront or publishing it," he

said. "They say, we can likely match a competing rate or offer even something better than the competitor. We just need to see the deal."

Here's what Mr. Tran said banks are looking for when considering whether to offer top discounts:

- Credit score: 700 or higher
- Size of the mortgage: The more you borrow, the better your chances of a maximum discount
- Closing date: Sooner means more discount
- Opportunity to cross-sell other bank products: Offers may apply to people who have a chequ-

ing account with the bank and possibly an additional product like a credit card.

Note that banks are prohibited under the Bank Act from coercive tied selling, where clients are pressured to buy a product or service as a condition of receiving another product or service.

Mr. Tran said three-year fixed-rate mortgages remain most popular right now – he hasn't sold a variable-rate mortgage in a few months. Five-year mortgages offer a lower rate, but you pass up the opportunity to renew any time soon at a potentially lower rate.

For lenders, five-year mortgages offer helpful stability. That's why, according to Mr. Tran, a handful of lenders who work through brokers are offering extra commissions to these agents when they sell five-year fixed mortgages.

Mr. Tran said a mortgage broker could take some of this extra commission and exchange it for a better rate discount for the client. This is called a "buy down."

The plot line in the housing market will get interesting if sales keep slipping and the number of homes for sale keeps rising. Prices could head lower, improving affordability levels that were recently described by RBC Economics as "close to the worst point ever nationwide."

Lower mortgage rates would be even more helpful for improving affordability than price declines, but so far they've been elusive. Negotiating a solid mortgage discount is the next best thing.

## Overtaxing the rich can lead to significant problems

TIM CESTNICK

OPINION



TAX MATTERS

FCPA, FCA, CPA(IL), CFP, TEP, author, co-founder and chief executive officer of Our Family Office Inc. He can be reached at [tim@ourfamilyoffice.ca](mailto:tim@ourfamilyoffice.ca)

There's no shortage of government rhetoric claiming the rich aren't paying their fair share of taxes. According to the 2024 federal budget: "The wealthy are currently able to benefit from tax advantages that middle-class Canadians and, especially, younger Canadians are rarely able to benefit from."

The types of "tax advantages" the government is referring to includes, most recently and notably, capital-gains tax rates. Taxes on capital gains have been lower than on regular income since income taxes were introduced in Canada in 1917. Our current gov-

ernment would have you believe this is ludicrous.

The government doesn't mention the risks one assumes, or the jobs one creates, when investing in businesses, equities, real estate and other assets that have the opportunity for capital growth – and also the potential for loss.

Our government believes Canadians who put their livelihoods and capital at risk to create jobs and expand our economy should receive no tax incentives that are not also available to everyone – including those who take no risks.

The problem is, if you overtax the rich, they may simply stop hanging around. I shared a parable several years ago which I'd like to revisit today.

### THE PARABLE

Each day, 10 people go to a restaurant for dinner together. The bill for all 10 comes to \$100 every day. If the bill were paid the way we pay our taxes, the first four would pay nothing; the fifth would pay

\$1; the sixth would pay \$3; the seventh \$7; the eighth \$12; the ninth \$18. The 10th man – the richest – would pay \$59. Although the 10 people didn't share the bill equally, they all seemed content enough with the arrangement – until the restaurant owner threw them a curve.

"You're all very good customers," the owner said, "so I'm going to reduce the cost of your daily meal by \$20. I'm going to charge you just \$80 in total." The 10 people seemed genuinely surprised, but quite happy about the news.

The first four people, of course, are unaffected because they weren't paying anything for their meals anyway. They'll still eat for free. The big question is how to divvy up the \$20 in savings among the remaining six in a way that's fair for each of them. They realized that \$20 divided by six is \$3.33, but if they subtract that amount from each person's share, then the fifth and sixth people would end up being paid to eat their meals. The restaurant owner suggested it would be fair to reduce each person's bill by

roughly the same percentage, and he proceeded to work out the amounts each should pay.

The results? The fifth person paid nothing, the sixth pitched in \$2, the seventh paid \$5, the eighth paid \$9, the ninth paid \$14, leaving the 10th person with a bill of \$50 instead of \$59. Outside the restaurant, the people began to compare their savings.

"I only got \$1 out of the \$20," said the sixth person, pointing to the 10th man, "and he got \$9!"

"Yeah, that's right," exclaimed the fifth person. "I only saved a dollar, too! It's not fair that he got nine times more than me!"

"That's true," shouted the seventh person. "Why should he get back \$9 when I only got \$2? The rich get all the breaks!"

"Wait a minute," yelled the first four people in unison. "We didn't get anything at all. The system exploits the poor!"

The nine outraged people surrounded the 10th and cursed at him. The next day, he didn't show up for dinner, so the nine sat down and ate without him. But when it came time to pay the bill,

they faced a problem they hadn't faced before. They were \$50 short.

### THE MORAL

It's easy to think the rich get all the tax breaks. Our government continues to claim the rich don't pay their fair share. But this government has been in power for almost a decade, so if the rich aren't paying their fair share yet, what has the government been doing all that time?

As for paying their fair share, the Fraser Institute released updated statistics last week which show that the top 20 per cent of income-earning families in Canada pay 62.7 per cent of all personal income taxes, while the bottom 20 per cent pay 0.8 per cent of personal income taxes in this country.

If you continually increase taxes on the top income-earners, making Canada a less attractive place to live, work, and create businesses – don't be surprised if they stop coming to dinner. They have plenty of places they can go.

## Rate-cut prospects could bolster U.S. stocks as investors await earnings

LEWIS KRAUSKOPF NEW YORK

The prospect of near-term interest-rate cuts is bolstering the case for investors to remain bullish after a run in U.S. stocks that may soon be tested by upcoming corporate earnings reports and growing political uncertainty.

Expectations that the Federal Reserve will kick off its long-awaited rate-cutting cycle in September remained firm on Tuesday after Fed chair Jerome Powell told Congress the U.S. is "no longer an overheated economy," suggesting the case for easing monetary policy is growing stronger.

Rate-cut bets have fluctuated sharply throughout the year and have been only one of several factors – along with strong earnings and excitement over artificial intelligence – that have helped the S&P 500 rise about 17 per cent year-to-date. Still, many investors believe increased clarity on when the Fed will begin easing monetary policy and how much it might lower rates in 2024 could provide a buffer to stocks if markets grow turbulent in coming months.

The beginning of rate cuts will signal "the Fed has the market's back," said Yung-Yu Ma, chief investment officer at BMO Wealth Management. He expects the central bank to cut rates about six times over the next year. "We



Reports from major banks on Friday could weigh on the U.S. equity market if companies fail to deliver on expectations. PETER MORGAN/AP

think that's definitely a positive factor both for the markets and the economy," he said.

Investors late on Tuesday were factoring in a more-than-70-per cent chance the Fed will cut rates in September, compared with roughly 50 per cent a month ago, according to CME FedWatch. Funds futures are pricing in about 50 basis points of easing in 2024 overall, according to LSEG data.

"The Fed is getting closer to a rate cut," said Peter Cardillo, chief market economist at Spartan Capital Securities. "I believe we'll see a rate cut in September and another one in December."

Mr. Powell told the Senate

Banking Committee that inflation had been improving in recent months and that "more good data would strengthen" the case for looser monetary policy.

One early test comes on Thursday, with the release of U.S. consumer price data for June. While the last several reports have shown that inflation is starting to cool, a stronger-than-expected number could undermine the case for easing in coming months.

On the other hand, expectations of coming monetary easing combined with easing inflation and still-resilient growth could buoy investor confidence in the face of several potential risks in

coming weeks.

Corporate earnings kick off on Friday with reports from major banks and could weigh on the richly valued U.S. equity market if companies fail to deliver on expectations. S&P 500 companies are expected to increase earnings 10.6 per cent this year and 14.5 per cent in 2025, according to LSEG IBES. Investors are also bracing for the twists and turns in the U.S. presidential election race, after President Joe Biden's shaky debate performance late last month against former president Donald Trump prompted calls for the incumbent to step aside.

Keith Lerner, co-chief investment officer at Truist Advisory Services, wrote in a recent mid-year outlook that he remains positive on U.S. stocks, although he expects markets to trade "in a choppy fashion" following a strong first half.

"U.S. economic growth is now cooling from the post-pandemic stimulus boom, but not weak," he said. Stocks have typically risen in the six- to 12-month period following the Fed's first rate cut, as long as the economy avoids recession, Truist's research showed.

Lower interest rates could also help broaden the equity rally, which has been led by a handful of megacap companies such as Nvidia Corp. Only 24 per cent of stocks in the S&P 500 outper-

formed the index in the first half, the third-narrowest six-month period since 1986, according to BofA Global Research strategists.

Matt Miskin, co-chief investment strategist at John Hancock Investment Management, said lower rates could help areas of the markets that have suffered under higher rates as big tech has soared. That includes small-cap companies, which tend to be more sensitive to interest rates because of their greater reliance on financing. The small-cap-focused Russell 2000 is up just 0.1 per cent year-to-date.

Of course, rate cuts are not always a signal of smooth sailing ahead and have often come when the Fed is forced to rapidly ease monetary policy due to a deteriorating economy.

A study by the Wells Fargo Investment Institute released last month found that the S&P 500 has fallen by an average of 20 per cent in the 250 days following the first cut of a cycle.

Stocks will likely perform well over the next six to 18 months if the Fed cuts rates due to falling inflation, the firm's strategists wrote. However, "if the Fed is forced to cut aggressively in response to a macro or market disruption, we would expect stock performance to suffer."

REUTERS

# Winners to keep winning, fuelling bubble fears

Wells Fargo strategist predicts increasing odds of another 1990s-like boom as investors are unlikely to rotate away from tech megacaps yet

SCOTT BARLOW  
MARKET STRATEGIST

The Citigroup Inc. U.S. Economic Surprise Index is heading straight south, dampening hopes for a broadening of S&P 500 performance leadership.

The current trend suggests that even if we're not in a technology bubble now, we might soon be.

The Economic Surprise Index gauges U.S. economic data releases, weighted by importance, relative to consensus forecasts.

The current reading of -45 indicates that the majority of vital data released recently have significantly undershot economist expectations, a potential sign of fading U.S. momentum.

A broadening of market leadership beyond the AI-related technology behemoths such as **Nvidia Corp.**, **Alphabet Inc.** and **Microsoft Corp.** will be, to some degree, a function of stronger economic growth. An accelerating economy means solid earnings growth becomes apparent beyond the megacaps benefitting from secular trends and global revenues.

Significant profit streams become available through smaller,

Citi Economic Surprise Index



THE GLOBE AND MAIL, SOURCE: BLOOMBERG

more attractively valued stocks as the economy strengthens. Eventually, investor assets should gravitate away from existing, expensive market leading companies to own stocks representing decent earnings growth trading at more attractive valuations.

Wells Fargo strategist Christopher Harvey added more context to current trends by noting that full-year 2024 earnings expectations for small and midcap stocks have been falling but they are rising, if marginally, for the largest stocks.

By sector, profits for technology and communications services are a growing share of total S&P 500 earnings while health care and energy are contributing less.

Mr. Harvey does not see a rotation away from the technology

megacaps until U.S. economic growth bottoms out and the Federal Reserve starts cutting interest rates.

The winners will keep winning in his estimation, increasing the odds of another 1990s-like tech bubble.

To mitigate risk, Mr. Harvey recommends a barbell approach. On one side, a 60-per-cent allocation to communications services stocks that are trading at what he considers reasonable valuations and are enjoying strong price momentum (Alphabet and Meta Platforms are in this sector although not mentioned in the research report by name).

On the other side of the barbell, a 10-per-cent weighting in utilities and a 30-per-cent position in health care stocks provide downside protection.

# Nvidia leads Nasdaq, S&P 500 to record-high closes

The Nasdaq and S&P 500 rallied to record high closes on Wednesday, fuelled by gains in Nvidia Corp. and other Wall Street heavyweights ahead of inflation data and quarterly earnings reports due this week. The S&P/TSX Composite Index also posted a solid advance.

It was the Nasdaq's seventh straight record-high close and the S&P 500's sixth straight. The S&P 500 crossed 5,600 for the first time after Federal Reserve chair Jerome Powell stoked expectations for an interest-rate cut in September.

Mr. Powell said in his second day of Congressional testimony that he was not ready to conclude that inflation was moving sustainably down to 2 per cent, although he expressed "some confidence of that."

Expectations of a 25-basis-point rate cut by September ticked up to 74 per cent from around 70 per cent on Tuesday and 45 per cent a month ago, according to CME's FedWatch.

The Philadelphia Semiconductor Index surged 2.4 per cent to a record high after contract manufacturer Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co. posted strong quarterly revenue.

"TSMC's report supported the AI narrative, so that more than anything else today is a pretty important data point," said Thomas Martin, senior portfolio manager at Global Investments in Atlanta.

Micron Technology Inc. jumped 4 per cent, Nvidia Corp. climbed 2.7 per cent and Advanced Micro Devices Inc. added 3.9 per cent.

Apple Inc. climbed 1.9 per cent to a record high, lifting its stock market value to \$3.6-trillion.

Second-quarter earnings season, which kicks off this week with major banks reporting on Friday, will test whether high-flying megacaps can justify expensive valuations and extend their strong runs.

The S&P 500 climbed 1.02 per cent to end the session at 5,633.91 points.

The Nasdaq gained 1.18 per cent to 18,647.45 points, while the Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 1.09 per cent to 39,721.36 points. The S&P 500 has now gained 18 per cent in 2024, and the Nasdaq is up 24 per cent.

All 11 S&P 500 sector indexes rose on Wednesday, led by information technology, up 1.63 per cent, followed by a 1.34-per-cent gain in materials.

The TSX closed up 307.73 points, or 1.4 per cent, at 22,350.23. Materials led sectoral gains, rising 2.2 per cent. They tracked spot gold prices, which rose amid market expectations for U.S. interest-rate cuts just around the corner.

Heavyweight energy shares rose 1.2 per cent, while the financial and consumer discretionary sectors rose 0.9 per cent and 1.2 per cent, respectively.

REUTERS, GLOBE STAFF

# Six Canadian energy stocks that could benefit from a weaker dollar

CHRISTINE ELEGADO

NUMBER CRUNCHER

Consultant at FactSet Canada

WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

Canadian energy companies with higher revenue exposure to the United States than Canada.

Energy stocks for a weak dollar

RANK	COMPANY	TICKER	RECENT CLOSE (\$)	MKT. CAP. (\$ MIL.)	DIV. YLD. (%)	YTD. TTL. RTN. (%)	1Y. TTL. RTN. (%)	U.S. GEOREV EXPOSURE (%)*	CANADA GEOREV EXPOSURE (%)*
1	Cenovus Energy Inc.	CVE-CA	26.69	49,650.2	2.7	23.0	19.3	49.7	48.1
2	MEG Energy Corp.	MEG-CA	28.88	7,822.1	0.0	22.0	28.9	78.0	22.0
3	Teck Resources Limited Class B	TECK-B-CA	66.55	34,481.5	0.8	19.3	22.8	10.5	5.2
4	Fortis Inc.	FTS-CA	53.51	26,380.4	4.4	0.3	-0.3	53.3	36.1
5	Algonquin Power & Utilities Corp.	AQN-CA	8.15	6,248.5	7.0	1.0	-16.5	80.4	6.0
6	Emera Incorporated	EMA-CA	45.43	13,020.2	6.3	-6.9	-10.4	70.2	22.8

Source: FactSet. \*All figures as of last annual report date.

lower Canadian dollar. As such, we identified Canadian energy companies that could stand to gain from a weaker Canadian dollar using FactSet's universal screening tool and applied the following parameters:

- Traded on a Canadian exchange;
- market capitalization greater than \$1-billion;
- classified in the "utilities" or "energy minerals" sectors according to FactSet;
- greater revenue exposure to the U.S. than Canada, according to FactSet's proprietary geographic revenue exposure algorithm.

■ We ranked the six remaining companies using a multifactor ranking of financial ratios: cost of goods sold as a percentage of sales, net debt to EBITDA (earn-

ings before interest, tax and depreciation), asset turnover, price to earnings and enterprise value to EBITDA. Given the high interest-rate environment, a company's ability to effectively manage and meet its variable and fixed costs is paramount. Consequently, companies with a low cost of goods sold as a percentage of sales and a low net debt to EBITDA ratio are ideal. We also consider asset turnover – a measure of a company's effectiveness in generating revenue from its assets, where a higher ratio suggests greater profitability potential with rising demand. Last, companies with lower valuation ratios, such as price earnings and enterprise value to EBITDA, are less likely to be overvalued, providing greater earnings potential for early investors.

MORE ABOUT FACTSET

FactSet is a leading global financial data and technology company. FactSet's superior suite of content, analytics and workflow services covers the entire portfolio life cycle and offers actionable insights for asset managers and investment professionals around the world.

WHAT WE FOUND

Of the six companies that passed our screen, the top two are highlighted below

**Cenovus Energy Inc.**, an oil and natural gas company, ranked first in our screen with nearly equal revenue exposure to the U.S. and Canada at 49.7 and 48.1 per cent, respectively. Cenovus also boasts the lowest PE ratio and EV/EBITDA ratio

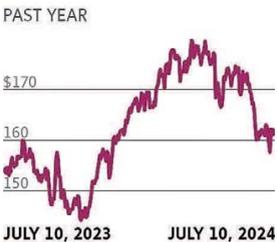
among the companies passing our criteria, at 10.3 and 4.9, respectively (not shown). In the first quarter, the company returned a total of \$436-million to shareholders in the form of share repurchases and dividends. Investors can look to next month's second-quarter earnings on Aug. 1 for further insights into the company's financial health.

**MEG Energy Corp.**, an oil producer and distributor, ranked second in our screen with 3.5 times more revenue exposure to the U.S. than in Canada at 78 per cent and 22 per cent, respectively.

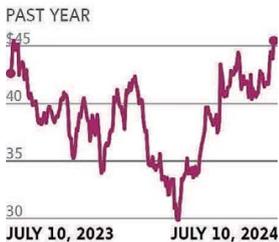
Compared with other energy companies in our screen, MEG had the second lowest valuation metrics with a PE ratio of 11.9 and an EV/EBITDA ratio of 5.3 (not shown). Last quarter, the company issued \$127-million in share repurchases. Investors can learn more about MEG's future plans in its second-quarter earnings release on July 25.

The information in this article is not investment advice. FactSet assumes no liability for any consequence relating directly or indirectly to any action or inaction taken based on the information contained above.

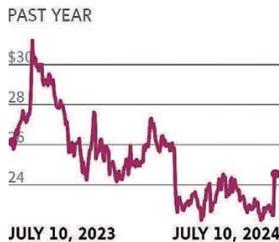
EYE ON EQUITIES DARCY KEITH



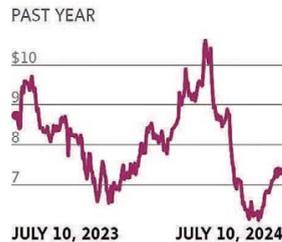
SOURCE: BARCHART  
CAN. NATIONAL RAILWAY (CNR-TSX)  
CLOSE US\$161.50, UP \$3.93



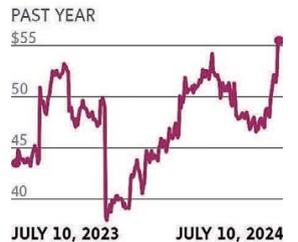
SOURCE: BARCHART  
NEWMONT (NEM-NYSE)  
CLOSE US\$45.46, UP \$1.57



SOURCE: BARCHART  
MAPLE LEAF FOODS (MFI-TSX)  
CLOSE \$24.53, UP 13¢



SOURCE: BARCHART  
BAUSCH HEALTH (BHC-NYSE)  
CLOSE US\$7.32, UP 13¢



SOURCE: BARCHART  
ALTUS GROUP (AIF-TSX)  
CLOSE \$55.46, UNCHANGED

Despite ongoing freight uncertainties, Scotiabank analyst Kankar Gupta is feeling more constructive on railways, mostly owing to attractive valuations.

He upgraded both **Canadian National Railway Co.** and **Canadian Pacific Kansas City Ltd.** to "sector outperform" ratings.

"We believe the market is already pricing in labour risk for the most part, while traffic continues to beat expectations and the rails offer solid long-term growth potential along with shareholder returns," Mr. Gupta said.

**Targets:** He raised his price target on CN by 2 per cent to \$188 and on CP by 5 per cent to \$130.

Joe Biden's debate performance has bolstered the chances of a second Trump presidency, a scenario that "could cause a parabolic shift in the gold price in 2025," said CIBC analysts led by Anita Soni.

CIBC raised its gold price forecasts for the next several years, impacting the price targets, and some ratings, on several precious metals stocks. "With rate cuts still looming, and the possibility of a very dovish U.S. President who may test the independence of the Fed, we expect that rates will fall, while inflation remains persistent, fuelled by fiscal stimulus and softer rates," it said.

**Targets:** Among the stocks getting rating upgrades to "outperform" was **Newmont Corp.**, with a new price target of US\$61.

**Maple Leaf Foods Inc.**'s decision to spin off its pork operations into a new publicly traded company should allow valuation of MFI to move higher, as it will now be solely based on the larger, higher-margin and more stable consumer packaged goods (CPG) business, said TD Cowen analyst Michael Van Aelst. "Many investors had no interest in MFI shares because of the challenges predicting hog/pork market fundamentals," Mr. Van Aelst said. This now will change, although Mr. Van Aelst does not anticipate a meaningful change in the business outlooks or his EBITDA forecasts.

**Targets:** He raised his target price to \$36 from \$31 while reaffirming a "buy" rating. The average analyst target is \$30.67.

Raymond James analysts led by Michael W. Freeman initiated coverage on **Bausch Health Cos.** with a "market perform" rating.

The analysts said Bausch's well-diversified portfolio has proven to be robust against a wide variety of market conditions and should generate solid cash flow for the next several years. That, in turn, should help Bausch pay off debt, likely aided by refinancing.

**Target:** Raymond James set a US\$8 price target. The average analyst price target is US\$9.57.

Analysts are giving some mixed but relatively positive reviews to **Altus Group Ltd.**'s sale of its Property Tax segment to Ryan LLC for \$700-million in cash.

"While we thought the business was worth more, we like the transaction overall," said Canaccord Genuity analyst Yuri Lynk, who is maintaining a "buy" rating. "Altus is now much closer to a pure-play data, analytics, and software company with its Analytics segment comprising 85 per cent of pro forma revenue."

**Target:** Mr. Lynk cut his target price to \$63 from \$66, but some other analysts raised theirs. The average target is now \$58.33, up from \$55 a month ago.

**S&P/TSX COMPOSITE INDEX**  
PAST 12 MONTHS



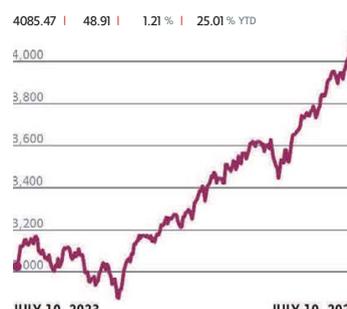
**S&P 500**  
PAST 12 MONTHS



**DOW JONES INDUSTRIAL AVERAGE**  
PAST 12 MONTHS



**S&P GLOBAL 100 INDEX**  
PAST 12 MONTHS



**TSX INDEXES AND SUB INDEXES**

	CLOSE	NET CHG	% CHG	VOL 000s	YTD %CHG
TSX COMPOSITE IND	22350.23	30773.1	1.40	242273	6.64
TSX 60 INDEX	1333.56	18.83	1.43	152084	5.43
TSX COMPLETION I	1371.76	16.91	1.25	90188	11.88
TSX SMALLCAP INDE	770.26	9.62	1.26	71957	9.72
TSX VENTURE COMP	583.26	7.69	1.34	25225	5.49
TSX CONSUMER DISC	281.88	3.44	1.24	4210	3.15
TSX CONSUMER STAP	999.50	11.63	1.18	5435	15.47
TSX ENERGY CAPPED	282.57	3.53	1.27	65477	4.59
TSX FINANCIALS CA	401.45	3.82	0.96	6477	4.59
TSX HEALTH CARE C	24.75	0.25	1.02	1486	4.34
TSX INDUSTRIALS C	455.34	8.69	1.95	10900	7.77
TSX INFORMATION T	220.20	1.43	0.65	7907	3.50
TSX MATERIALS CAP	377.67	8.83	2.39	41568	19.15
TSX REAL ESTATE C	298.73	2.07	0.70	3997	-3.47
TSX GLOBAL GOLD I	343.30	9.25	2.77	54362	20.86
TSX GLOBAL MINING	124.40	2.42	1.98	137563	10.01
TSX INCOME TRUST	197.84	3.43	1.76	4958	-4.68
TSX PREFERRED SHA	603.80	-1.69	-0.28	1285	11.73
TSX COMMUNICATION	146.82	-0.08	-0.05	9413	-14.92
TSX UTILITIES CAP	279.14	4.52	1.65	14290	-1.18

**TSX VOLUME**  
TOP 20 FOR STOCKS \$1 OR MORE

	CLOSE	NET CHG	% CHG	VOL 000s	YTD %CHG
TD TORONTO-DOMINI	76.00	-0.18	-0.24	18020	-11.24
CNO CANADIAN NATU	49.07	0.74	1.53	13501	13.05
MFC MANULIFE FIN	37.01	0.27	0.73	9354	26.40
SU SUNCOR ENERGY	51.62	0.53	1.04	7824	21.60
ENB ENBRIDGE INC	48.70	0.48	1.00	6879	2.10
CVE CENOVUS ENER	26.76	0.50	1.90	6030	21.20
BNS BANK OF NOVA	63.08	0.77	1.24	5420	-2.20
BTE BAYTEX ENERGY	4.94	0.16	3.35	4867	12.79
RY ROYAL BANK OF	150.86	1.42	0.95	4799	12.58
TRP TC ENERGY COR	52.38	1.27	2.48	4600	1.20
CM CANADIAN IMPER	66.76	0.58	0.88	4556	4.64
FCU FISSION URANI	1.33	0.06	4.72	4550	23.15
BMO BANK OF MONTR	116.19	0.88	0.76	4329	-11.38
SLF SUN LIFE FINA	67.89	0.90	1.34	4161	-1.21
K KINROSS GOLD CO	12.19	0.47	4.01	4059	51.99
HNU BETAPRO NAT G	3.35	-0.09	-2.62	3914	-49.40
AQN ALQUANTUM POW	8.34	0.15	1.83	3705	-0.24
NDL DENISON MINES	3.03	2.44	8.60	3510	30.60
BCE BCE INC	43.28	0.27	0.63	3510	-17.04
NGD NEW GOLD INC	3.27	0.20	6.51	3377	70.31

**TSX 52-WEEK HIGHS**  
STOCKS \$1 OR MORE

	CLOSE	NET CHG	% CHG	VOL 000s	YTD %CHG
AEM AGNICO EAGLE	99.79	4.06	4.24	1150	37.36
AIF ALTIUS GROUP L	55.46	0.00	0.00	181	31.61
ATZ ARITZIA INC	41.27	0.31	0.76	592	50.07
BMO-PR-E BMO NON	25.06	0.08	0.32	2	37.54
BMO-PR-E BMO PREF	25.78	0.02	0.08	4	5.66
BK-PR-A BIP INVE	25.56	0.06	0.24	2	17.14
BN-PF-A BROOKFIEL	22.55	0.02	0.09	3	8.47
BN-PF-H BROOKFIEL	24.51	-0.08	-0.33	1	19.04
CBI CDN GENERAL I	38.05	0.30	0.79	20	9.56
CGW CDN WESTERN B	45.04	0.39	0.87	282	45.90
CLS CELESTICA INC	83.71	2.94	3.64	732	115.69
CSU CONSTELLATION	4115.18	65.18	1.61	40	25.26
DOL DOLLARAMA INC	130.12	0.05	0.04	754	36.27
DCP-PR-B DUUNDE CO	22.00	0.00	0.00	15	49.99
EMA-PR-C EMERA IN	22.03	0.01	0.05	17	7.73
FH-PR-M FAIRFAX	24.21	-0.09	-0.37	2	10.30
WFN GEORGE WESTON	208.05	2.90	1.41	165	26.47
IFC INTACT FINANC	236.92	3.91	1.68	230	16.22
IFC-PR-K INTACT F	21.79	0.04	0.18	10	11.11
IFC-PR-F INTACT F	22.06	0.18	0.82	2	11.13

**TSX 52-WEEK LOWS**  
STOCKS \$1 OR MORE

	CLOSE	NET CHG	% CHG	VOL 000s	YTD %CHG
IFC-PR-I INTACT F	22.31	0.11	0.50	8	8.30
L LOBLAW CO	166.09	1.40	0.85	259	29.47
LUG LUNDIN GOLD I	22.55	0.55	2.50	261	36.34
MFC-PR-K MANULIFE	23.99	-0.09	-0.37	36	7.34
MRU METRO INC	78.87	0.37	0.47	304	14.99
NA-R NATIONAL BAN	112.35	0.31	0.28	44	8.03
NGT NEWMONT CORP	61.88	2.05	3.43	188	12.82
PVS-PR-J PARTNERS	24.00	0.05	0.21	1	6.24
PPL-PR-A PEMBINA	22.14	0.03	0.14	11	8.90
PPL-PR-B PEMBINA	24.01	-0.14	-0.58	7	6.47
RY-PR-S RBC PREF	25.20	0.05	0.20	5	11.65
RY ROYAL BANK OF	24.48	0.08	0.33	3	11.42
RY-PR-O ROYAL BAN	24.29	0.02	0.08	3	11.94
RY ROYAL BANK OF	150.86	1.42	0.95	4799	12.58
SEC SEVEST CAPIT	340.00	0.00	0.00	0	9.68
SJ STELLA JONES I	90.78	1.60	1.79	104	17.71
X TMX GROUP LTD	40.24	1.36	3.50	348	25.55
TXF TOREX GOLD RE	22.61	0.11	0.49	169	54.65
WCN WASTE CONNCT	245.16	2.32	0.96	193	23.91
WPM WHEATON PRECI	79.44	2.99	3.91	778	21.52

**TSX GAINERS**  
TOP 20 FOR STOCKS \$1 OR MORE

	CLOSE	NET CHG	% CHG	VOL 000s	YTD %CHG
GATO GATOS SILVER	18.36	2.91	18.83	36	113.24
SWP SWISS WATER D	3.83	0.55	16.77	43	37.77
END ENDEAVOUR SIL	6.30	0.89	16.45	1547	142.31
PYR PYROGENESIS C	1.10	0.15	15.79	346	155.81
ISO ISOENERGY LTD	4.25	0.42	10.97	313	15.18
URC URCANAL ROYAL	3.40	0.32	10.39	316	-4.49
GLO GLOBAL ATOMIC	2.09	0.19	10.00	789	-24.82
CCO CAMCO CORP	73.11	6.28	9.40	2544	27.97
TRZ TRANSAT AT IN	2.49	0.21	9.21	69	-33.24
NXE NEXGEN ENERGY	10.17	0.81	8.65	2547	9.71
DML DENISON MINES	3.03	0.24	8.60	3510	30.60
CRWN CROWN CAPITA	2.29	0.18	8.53	-60.31	-60.31
AAUC ALLIED GOLD	3.24	0.24	8.00	398	-7.69
HREU BETAPRO EQL	14.02	1.02	7.85	23	-4.95
LCSF TIDEWATER RE	7.90	0.56	7.63	9	-2.11
BBD-B BOMBARDIER	92.89	6.48	7.50	709	74.57
BBD-A BOMBARDIER	92.74	6.44	7.46	21	73.57
JAG JAGUAR MINING	3.20	0.22	7.38	207	81.82
MAG MAG SILVER CO	18.07	1.19	7.05	125	31.04
AYA AYA GOLD AND	15.06	0.99	7.04	395	55.10

**TSX LOSERS**  
TOP 20 FOR STOCKS \$1 OR MORE

	CLOSE	NET CHG	% CHG	VOL 000s	YTD %CHG
TBL TAIGA BUILDING	3.57	-0.38	-9.62	2	25.26
PTM PLATINUM GROU	2.29	-0.20	-8.03	54	52.67
NANO NANO ONE MAT	1.25	-0.09	-6.72	89	-48.13
GRID TANTALUS SYS	1.39	-0.09	-6.08	50	69.51
HWO HIGH ARCTIC E	1.46	-0.09	-5.81	12	32.73
MDP MEDEXUS PHARM	2.30	-0.13	-5.35	121	-8.88
URB URBANA CORP	5.22	-0.29	-5.26	10	10.13
HGD BETAPRO CDN G	3.07	-0.17	-5.25	649	-40.85
HUT HUT 8 CORP	20.73	-1.12	-5.13	880	17.25
NFI NFI GROUP INC	15.55	-0.83	-5.07	510	13.59
PWF-PR-Q POWER FI	16.20	-0.77	-4.54	10	10.20
BEK-B BECKER MILK	12.01	-0.57	-4.53	-6.39	-6.39
TH THERATECHNOLOG	2.01	-0.09	-4.29	66	-6.07
MDNA MEDICENNA TH	1.84	-0.08	-4.17	32	338.10
PGIC	6.00	-0.25	-4.00	10	10
COP-UN SPROTT PHY	12.25	-0.50	-3.92	2	-10.39
MHC-UN FLAGSHIP C	19.22	-0.78	-3.90	2	-8.13
CFX CANFOR PULP P	1.06	-0.04	-3.64	16	-41.11
NA-PR-E NATIONAL	23.42	-0.83	-3.42	5	7.48
HAI HAIVISION SYS	4.25	-0.15	-3.41	33	20.40

**TSX 52-WEEK LOWS**  
STOCKS \$1 OR MORE

	CLOSE	NET CHG	% CHG	VOL 000s	YTD %CHG
AKTA AKITA DRILL	1.28	-0.03	-2.29	25	-6.57
ALC ALGOMA CENTRA	14.15	0.04	0.28	11	-5.35
ECOR ANGLIO PACIFI	1.24	-0.01	-0.80	9	-22.98
APS APTOSE BIOSCI	1.01	0.01	1.00	13	-69.85
CRW CROWN CAP	60.00	0.00	0.00	42	-35.48
DXT DEXTERA GROU	5.23	-0.06	-1.13	61	-9.20
MPCT-UN DREAM IMP	3.30	-0.03	-0.90	9	-46.34

**TSX 52-WEEK LOWS**  
STOCKS \$1 OR MORE

	CLOSE	NET CHG	% CHG	VOL 000s	YTD %CHG
IFP INTERFOR CORP	15.37	-0.42	-2.66	145	-34.54
LEV LION ELECTRIC	1.16	-0.02	-1.69	266	-50.85
NANO NANO ONE MAT	1.25	-0.09	-6.72	89	-48.13
PRB PROB GOLD IN	1.16	-0.01	-0.85	423	-13.43
RPI-UN RICHARDS P	27.90	-0.65	-2.28	24	-19.48
COP-UN SPROTT PHY	12.25	-0.50	-3.92	2	-10.39
COP-U SPROTT PHY	9.19	-0.29	-3.06	2	-8.10

**S&P/TSX COMPOSITE INDEX STOCKS**  
LARGEST STOCKS BY MARKET CAPITALIZATION

	CLOSE	NET CHG	% CHG	VOL 000s	YTD %CHG		CLOSE	NET CHG	% CHG	VOL 000s	YTD %CHG		CLOSE	NET CHG	% CHG	VOL 000s	YTD %CHG
AAV ADVANTAGE OIL	9.93	-0.11	-1.10	924	16.41	CSH-UN CHARTWELL	13.02	-0.17	-1.29	417	11.09	KNT K92 MINING IN	8.39	0.17	2.07	372	28.88
AOI AFRICA OIL CO	2.45	0.00	0.00	202	-1.61	CHP-UN CHOICE PRO	13.20	0.09	0.69	366	-5.38	KEI KELL EXPLORAT	5.88	0.02	0.34	253	2.80
AEM AGNICO EAGLE	99.79	4.06	4.24	1150	37.36	CCA COGECO COMMUN	91.22	-0.04	-0.08	28	-13.70	KEY KEYERA CORP	37.70	-0.12	-0.32	821	17.70
AC AIR CANADA	17.32	0.17	0.99	146	-7.33	CIGI COLLIERIES INT	158.93	3.76	2.42	29	-5.17	KMF-UN KILLAM APA	17.48	-0.01	-0.06	139	-2.67
ALG ALAMOS GOLD I	23.31	0.51	2.24	390	30.81	CSU CONSTELLATION	4115.18	65.18	1.61	39	25.26	KKS KINAXIS INC	160.27	3.18	2.02	49	7.77
ASTL ASTLEAS STEEL	9.55	0.08	0.84	62	-28.20	CRU-UN CROMBIE RE	12.79	-0.04	-0.31	81	-7.32	K KINROSS GOLD CO	12.19	0.47	4.01	4059	51.99
AQN ALQUANTUM POW	8.34	0.15	1.83	305	-0.24	DFY DEFINITY FINA	45.38	0.52	1.16	43	20.88	LIF LABRADOR IRON	29.79	0.00	0.00	178	-6.61
ATD ALIMENTATION	81.66	1.92	2.41	3741	4.65	DML DENISON MINES	3.03	0.24	8.60	3510	30.60	LAU LAURENTIAN BAN	26.43	0.02	0.08	98	-5.17
AP-UN ALLIED PROP	15.72	0.01	0.06	297	-22.10	DSG DESCARTES SYS	135.83	-0.93	-0.68	85	22.01	LSPP LIGHTSPEED C	18.30	-0.50	-2.66	607	-34.22
ALA ALLIANCE LTD	30.77	0.03	0.10	1062													



## SPORTS

Musetti downs Fritz to reach Wimbledon semi-final, where he will face Djokovic ■ B13

NBA agrees to terms on new media deal, in 11-year agreement worth US\$76-billion ■ B15

[ EUROS 2024 ]



## Last-minute winner

Ollie Watkins, left, scores England's second goal in the first minute of stoppage time in the European Championship semi-final against the Netherlands in Dortmund, Germany, on Wednesday. Watkins, who came on as a substitute for English captain Harry Kane, secured the team's 2-1 victory and a place in the final against Spain ■ B14

PIROSKHA VAN DE WOUW/REUTERS

## Ex-NBA player Porter pleads guilty in case tied to gambling scandal

Former Raptor is likely to be assessed hundreds of thousands of dollars in restitution and fines

JENNIFER PELTZ NEW YORK

Former NBA player Jontay Porter admitted Wednesday that he schemed to take himself out of games for gambling's sake, pleading guilty to a federal conspiracy crime in the scandal that already got him banned from the league.

"I know what I did was wrong, unlawful, and I am deeply sorry," the former Toronto Raptors centre said as he pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit wire fraud.

Echoing findings in an NBA investigation and allegations in an ongoing prosecution of four other men, Porter acknowledged that he agreed to withdraw early from games so that co-conspirators could win bets on his performance.

He did it, he said, "to get out from under large gambling debts."

Porter, 24, is free on US\$250,000 bond while awaiting sentencing set for Dec. 18.

Prosecutors estimated his sentence at a range from just less than 3½ years in prison to a little over four years. Ultimately it will be up to a judge, who could impose anything from no time to 20 years behind bars. Porter also is likely to be assessed hundreds of thousands of dollars in restitution and fines.

He and his lawyer left court without speaking to reporters. The lawyer, Jeff Jensen, later declined by e-mail to comment beyond a statement he made last month, in which he said Porter "was in over his head due to a gambling addiction."

Porter told the court he has undergone inpatient rehab for a gambling problem and remains in therapy.

In a related case, four other

men are charged with scheming to profit off tips from an NBA player that he was going to exit two games early. They or their relatives used the knowledge to place big-winning bets that the athlete would do poorly in those games, according to a court complaint filed when they were charged in June.

The complaint against them didn't name the player. But details matched up with the NBA investigation that found that Porter gave bettors confidential information about his health, exited at least one game because of bets and wagered on NBA games in which he didn't play. He once bet against his own team, the league said.

According to the complaint, one of the four men pressed the player to clear up gambling debts by prematurely pulling out of games so that bets on him underperforming would pay off.

After tipping off some of the men, the player claimed injury or illness and withdrew from Jan. 26 and March 20 games after only minutes on the court, the complaint said.

Porter played only briefly on those dates before complaining he was hurt or sick and exiting the games. His points, rebounds and assists in both games fell below sportsbooks' expectations.

According to the complaint, some of the alleged conspirators agreed in advance to share about a quarter of any winnings from the March 20 game with the player. One gambler was on track to collect more than US\$1-million before a betting company got suspicious and stopped him from getting most of the money.

After the NBA and others began investigating, the player messaged some of the men that they "might just get hit w a rico," an apparent reference to the common acronym for a federal racketeering charge, according to the complaint against them.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Brooke Henderson of Smiths Falls, Ont., tees off on the fifth hole during a pro-am before the Amundi Evian Championship at Evian Resort Golf Club on Wednesday in France. MATTHEW LEWIS/GETTY IMAGES

## Canada's Henderson has a busy four-week stretch of golf ahead of her

JOHN CHIDLEY-HILL

Brooke Henderson is geared up for the most important four weeks of her year. The winningest professional golfer in Canadian history will tee it up in the featured group of the Amundi Evian Championship on Thursday, the fourth major of the women's season. She'll then play in the CPKC Women's Open – the Canadian national championship – at Calgary's Earl Grey Golf Club before heading back to France for the Paris Olympics, all in the span of a month.

"It's definitely a huge stretch, so it would be a great time for the game to really show up and be in a good spot," said Henderson, who last played at the Dow Championship where she tied for eighth with partner Lexi Thompson of the United States. "I feel like it's definitely trending in the right direction."

"It was a lot of fun playing with Lexi a couple weeks ago, and she is playing so well and has a lot of confidence right now. I was trying to feed off that and add some of that to my game as well."

She'll be playing alongside reigning champion Céline Boutier of France and 2021 winner Minjee Lee of Australia in the tournament's first and second rounds on Thursday and Friday. Henderson won the fourth major of the

season in 2022 and was runner-up to Boutier last year.

"I think it's going to be really fun for all of us in the group to feed off [French fans cheering for Boutier] and be in a really amazing atmosphere," said Henderson. "The show that she put on last year was incredible. Nobody was going to catch her. I tried, but I couldn't keep up."

"She's been playing some great golf and as everyone knows she's a great person as well, so I'm looking forward to seeing how she does here this week."

Savannah Grewal of Mississauga is the other Canadian in the field at the Evian. The LPGA Tour rookie said "it still feels surreal" that she's playing in her third major after turning professional in November.

"It's still crazy to me that you know, I'm out on tour now and I get to play in major championships that I grew up watching on TV," Grewal said. "I remember watching Céline Boutier win this tournament last year and now I'm here, playing the holes that I watched on TV."

"Every major I can check off it's just another unreal opportunity to get to go do what I love."

Both Henderson and Grewal remarked on the unique Evian Resort Golf Club in Evian-les-Bains, France, just by the Swiss border in the Alps.

■ HENDERSON, B15

“Every major I can check off it's just another unreal opportunity to get to go do what I love.”

BROOKE HENDERSON  
GOLFER

# Vingegaard wins Stage 11 of Tour de France with sprint

Cyclist beat his rival Pogacar in a two-man sprint after a brutal day in the mountains

LE LIORAN, FRANCE

Just three months ago, Jonas Vingegaard was lying in a hospital bed with broken ribs and a collapsed lung. On Wednesday, he beat his rival Tadej Pogacar in a two-man sprint after a brutal day in the mountains.

Pogacar, the Tour leader, kept the yellow jersey but it was the two-time defending champion who earned a psychological victory at the end of an epic battle in the Massif Central.

The pair left all their rivals in their wake and Vingegaard, after closing a big gap to Pogacar in a brutal climb, out-sprinted his rival to finish half a wheel ahead for the stage win.

"It is of course very emotional for me. Coming back from the crash," Vingegaard said, trying to hold back tears. "It means a lot. All the things I went through in the last three months, it makes you think of that."

Vingegaard was hospitalized for nearly two weeks in April following a high-speed crash in the Tour of the Basque Country.

He only resumed competitive racing at the Tour and there were many question marks about his form. His tremendous ride Wednesday showed he is more than ready to defend his title.

"I'm just happy to be here and it means so much to win a stage, especially to win it for my family. They were there supporting me the whole time," Vingegaard said.

True to his habit of attacking every time he gets the chance, Pogacar tried to move away alone



Denmark's Jonas Vingegaard, left, celebrates on Wednesday as he crosses the finish line ahead of Slovenia's Tadej Pogacar to win the 11th stage of the Tour de France. DANIEL COLE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

about 32 kilometres from the finish with a strong attack. After getting dropped, Vingegaard kept his head cool and proved to be the fastest in the next ascent to catch his rival.

Vingegaard said he thought he would not be able to bridge the gap opened by Pogacar, and was also surprised he could beat him in the sprint.

"I would never have thought this three months ago. I was only thinking about doing my own pace and then the sprint."

The pair then stayed together to gain time on Remco Evenepoel and Primoz Roglic, who crashed near the finish. Evenepoel reached the finish 25 seconds behind, with Roglic 55 seconds off the pace.

Evenepoel trails 1:06 behind

Pogacar overall, with Vingegaard in third place, 1:14 back. Roglic is fourth, 2:45 behind the race leader.

The roller coaster 211-kilometre Stage 11 featured four brutal ascents in its second half and included more than 4,000 metres of climbing.

The race started at a high pace and the peloton stayed together for some 40 kilometres before riders could break away in humid conditions. A group of 10 men rode at the front but split at the foot of the first major climb, the steep Col de Neronne.

Pogacar's Team Emirates set a fast tempo but they were caught one by one as they rode up to the Puy Mary, the hardest climb of the day.

Pogacar, a two-time Tour

champion, attacked 600 metres from that summit to drop everyone else then went all in on the downhill, showcasing his great skills in the technical descent to increase his lead and start the next climb with a lead of 35 seconds. But Vingegaard still had the final word.

"He is in top shape," Pogacar said about his rival. "He beat me really good on the line, and I did a pretty good sprint after that kind of stage. He was really strong."

Thursday's Stage 12 from Aurillac to Villeneuve-sur-Lot is mainly flat. The battle between Pogacar and Vingegaard is expected to resume this weekend when the peloton will reach bigger mountains in the Pyrenees.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## CANADIAN EMOND WINS STAGE 4 OF GIRO D'ITALIA WOMEN FOR FIRST CAREER PRO VICTORY

URBINO, ITALY Canadian Clara Emond has won Stage 4 of the Giro d'Italia Women, posting her first win as a professional rider.

The 27-year-old from Saint-Feréol-les-Neiges, Que., covered the 134 kilometres from Imola to Urbino in three hours 35 minutes 45 seconds Wednesday, finishing 17 seconds ahead of Italian Soraya Paladini.

Emond, riding for EF Education-Cannondale, was part of a five-woman breakaway group, eventually shedding her fellow riders to cross the finish line alone.

The Canadian stands 27th overall in the eight-stage 876.7-kilometre race, which runs through Sunday.

Italy's Elisa Longo Borghini, a two-time Olympic bronze medalist in the road race, leads the general classification.

Emond took over the lead in the Queen of the Mountains standings. "It's my first win ever and it's very special to achieve it here at the Giro," said Emond, in her second year as a professional racer. "It feels super-good and I am proud of all the teamwork. This will help me to achieve more confidence, I was lacking it as I didn't get any top results until now. I guess my career can change after today and I am looking forward to it."

Emond passed the bar exam and was just starting her legal career when she began to race during the pandemic while working remotely.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## MLB

### AMERICAN LEAGUE

#### EAST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	57	34	.626	—
New York	55	38	.591	3
Boston	50	40	.556	6 1/2
Tampa Bay	45	46	.495	12
Toronto	41	50	.451	16

#### CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	57	33	.633	—
Minnesota	53	40	.570	5 1/2
Kansas City	50	43	.538	8 1/2
Detroit	43	49	.467	15
Chicago	27	68	.284	32 1/2

#### WEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Seattle	50	43	.538	—
Houston	47	44	.516	2
Texas	44	48	.478	5 1/2
Los Angeles	37	54	.407	12
Oakland	34	59	.366	16

#### Wednesday

Kansas City 6, St. Louis 4, 1st game  
Chi. White Sox 3, Minnesota 1, 1st game  
Minnesota 3, Chi. White Sox 2, 2nd game  
Chicago Cubs at Baltimore  
Cleveland at Detroit  
Seattle at San Diego  
N.Y. Yankees at Tampa Bay  
Oakland at Boston  
Kansas City at St. Louis, 2nd game  
Miami at Houston  
Texas at L.A. Angels  
Toronto at San Francisco

#### Tuesday

Chicago Cubs 9, Baltimore 2  
Tampa Bay 5, N.Y. Yankees 3  
Cleveland 9, Detroit 8, 10 innings  
Boston 12, Oakland 9  
Houston 4, Miami 3  
Texas 5, L.A. Angels 4  
San Francisco 4, Toronto 3  
Seattle 8, San Diego 3  
Kansas City at St. Louis, p.p.d.  
Minnesota at Chicago White Sox, p.p.d.

#### Thursday

**All Times Eastern**  
Cleveland (Howard 1-1) at Detroit (Flaherty 5-5), 1:10 p.m.  
Toronto (Gausman 6-8) at San Francisco (Hicks 4-5), 3:45 p.m.  
Chicago Cubs (Steele 1-3) at Baltimore (Suárez 5-2), 6:35 p.m.  
N.Y. Yankees (Corles 4-7) at Tampa Bay (Baz 0-1), 6:50 p.m.  
Oakland (Medina 2-3) at Boston (Houck 7-6), 7:10 p.m.  
Miami (Mu—oz 1-3) at Houston (TBD), 8:10 p.m.  
Seattle (Castillo 7-9) at L.A. Angels (Anderson 8-8), 9:38 p.m.

#### Friday

L.A. Dodgers at Detroit, 6:40 p.m.  
Oakland at Philadelphia, 6:40 p.m.  
Cleveland at Tampa Bay, 6:50 p.m.  
N.Y. Yankees at Baltimore, 7:05 p.m.  
Kansas City at Boston, 7:10 p.m.  
Pittsburgh at Chi. White Sox, 8:10 p.m.  
Texas at Houston, 8:10 p.m.  
Seattle at L.A. Angels, 9:38 p.m.  
Toronto at Arizona, 9:40 p.m.  
Minnesota at San Francisco, 10:15 p.m.

### NATIONAL LEAGUE

#### EAST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	59	32	.648	—
Atlanta	51	39	.567	7 1/2
New York	45	45	.500	13 1/2
Washington	42	50	.457	17 1/2
Miami	32	59	.352	27

#### CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	53	39	.576	—
St. Louis	48	43	.527	4 1/2
Pittsburgh	44	47	.484	8 1/2
Cincinnati	44	48	.478	9
Chicago	43	49	.467	10

#### WEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	55	37	.598	—
San Diego	49	46	.516	7 1/2
Arizona	45	47	.489	10
San Francisco	45	47	.489	10
Colorado	32	60	.348	23

#### Wednesday

Kansas City 6, St. Louis 4, 1st game  
Chicago Cubs at Baltimore  
Seattle at San Diego  
L.A. Dodgers at Philadelphia  
Colorado at Cincinnati  
Washington at N.Y. Mets  
Kansas City at St. Louis, 2nd game  
Miami at Houston  
Pittsburgh at Milwaukee  
Atlanta at Arizona  
Toronto at San Francisco

#### Tuesday

Chicago Cubs 9, Baltimore 2  
Philadelphia 10, L.A. Dodgers 1  
N.Y. Mets 7, Washington 5  
Cincinnati 12, Colorado 6  
Houston 4, Miami 3  
Pittsburgh 12, Milwaukee 2  
San Francisco 4, Toronto 3  
Seattle 8, San Diego 3  
Atlanta 6, Arizona 2  
Kansas City at St. Louis, p.p.d.

#### Thursday

**All Times Eastern**  
Colorado (Gomber 2-5) at Cincinnati (Greene 5-4), 1:10 p.m.  
Washington (Core 6-7) at N.Y. Mets (Peterson 3-0), 1:10 p.m.  
Pittsburgh (Skene 5-0) at Milwaukee (Cvalie 2-6), 2:10 p.m.  
Toronto (Gausman 6-8) at San Francisco (Hicks 4-5), 3:45 p.m.  
L.A. Dodgers (Knack 1-2) at Philadelphia (Nola 10-4), 6:05 p.m.  
Chicago Cubs (Steele 1-3) at Baltimore (Suárez 5-2), 6:35 p.m.  
Miami (Mu—oz 1-3) at Houston (TBD), 8:10 p.m.  
Atlanta (Fried 7-4) at Arizona (Pfaadt 3-6), 9:40 p.m.

#### Friday

L.A. Dodgers at Detroit, 6:40 p.m.  
Oakland at Philadelphia, 6:40 p.m.  
Colorado at N.Y. Mets, 7:10 p.m.  
Miami at Cincinnati, 7:10 p.m.  
Pittsburgh at Chi. White Sox, 8:10 p.m.  
Washington at Milwaukee, 8:10 p.m.  
Chicago Cubs at St. Louis, 8:15 p.m.  
Atlanta at San Diego, 9:40 p.m.  
Toronto at Arizona, 9:40 p.m.  
Minnesota at San Francisco, 10:15 p.m.

## CEBL

### EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	Pct	GB
Niagara	15	10	5	.667	—
Scarborough	14	7	7	.500	2 1/2
Brampton	16	6	10	.375	4 1/2
Ottawa	14	5	9	.357	4 1/2
Montreal	14	4	10	.286	5 1/2

### WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	Pct	GB
Vancouver	14	10	4	.714	—
Edmonton	16	11	5	.688	—
Winnipeg	13	7	6	.538	2 1/2
Calgary	14	7	7	.500	3
Saskatchewan	14	5	9	.357	5

#### Wednesday

Ottawa 9-4 Brampton 7-9

#### Tuesday

Calgary 8-7 Edmonton 5-8  
Niagara 9-8 Scarborough 7-7

#### Thursday

**All Times Eastern**  
Montreal at Niagara, 7 p.m.  
Vancouver at Calgary, 9 p.m.  
Winnipeg at Saskatchewan, 9:30 p.m.

## WNBA

### EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	18	4	.818	—
Connecticut	17	5	.773	1
Chicago	9	12	.429	8 1/2
Indiana	9	14	.391	9 1/2
Atlanta	7	14	.333	10 1/2
Washington	6	17	.261	12 1/2

### WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	16	6	.727	—
Las Vegas	14	7	.667	1 1/2
Seattle	14	8	.636	2
Phoenix	12	10	.545	4
Los Angeles	5	17	.227	11 1/2
Dallas	5	18	.217	11 1/2

#### Wednesday

New York 71, Connecticut 68  
Chicago 78, Atlanta 69  
Washington 89, Indiana 84  
Las Vegas 84, Seattle 79  
Phoenix 100, Dallas 84

#### Tuesday

Minnesota 82, Los Angeles 67

#### Thursday

**All Times Eastern**  
Chicago at New York, 7 p.m.

#### Friday

Las Vegas at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.  
Phoenix at Indiana, 7:30 p.m.  
Minnesota at Seattle, 10 p.m.

## WNBA SCORING LEADERS

	GP	FG	FT	PTS
Wilson, LV	21	10.0	6.3	26.9
Copper, Phx	22	8.1	4.6	23.0
Ogunbowale, Dal	22	7.4	4.9	22.6
Lloyd, Sea	22	6.3	6.2	20.2
Collier, Minn	20	7.7	3.8	20.0
Stewart, NY	22	6.7	5.0	19.4

## EURO 2024

### SEMIFINALS

Wednesday  
England 2 Netherlands 1

### Tuesday

Spain 2 France 1

### CHAMPIONSHIP

Sunday  
All Times Eastern  
At Berlin  
Spain vs. England, 3 p.m.

## COPA AMERICA 2024

### SEMIFINALS

Wednesday  
Colombia vs. Uruguay

### Tuesday

Argentina 2 Canada 0

### THIRD PLACE

Saturday,  
All Times Eastern  
Canada vs. Colombia-Uruguay loser, 8 p.m.

## CPL

### GP W L T GF GA PT

Ottawa	13	7	2	4	43	24	25
York	13	6	5	19	19	20	20
Victoria	13	5	4	12	10	19	19
Vancouver	13	5	4	19	22	19	19
Hamilton	12	5	4	3	21	18	18
Calgary	13	3	2	8	13	11	17
Winnipeg	13	3	9	1	12	23	10
Halifax	12	2	6	4	14	17	10

### Friday

All Times Eastern  
Ottawa at Vancouver, 10 p.m.

### Saturday, July 13

York at Calgary, 4 p.m.

### Sunday, July 14

Victoria at Hamilton, 7 p.m.

## CFL

### WEEK SIX

#### EAST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	T	PF	PA	PI
Montreal	5	5	0	0	157	99	10
Toronto	4	2	2	0	117	123	4
Ottawa	4	2	2	0	84	113	4
Hamilton	5	0	5	0	124	169	0

#### WEST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	T	PF	PA	PI
Saskatchewan	4	4	0	0	128	94	8
British Columbia	5	4	1	0	147	125	8
Calgary	4	2	2	0	97	99	4
Winnipeg	5	1	4	0	99		

# Musetti downs Fritz, faces Djokovic next

The 22-year-old from Italy had never been past the third round at the All England Club

HOWARD FENDRICH LONDON

Lorenzo Musetti threw his head back and spread his arms wide to celebrate reaching his first Grand Slam semi-final at Wimbledon, then covered his face with both hands.

His 3-6, 7-6 (5), 6-2, 3-6, 6-1 victory over Taylor Fritz on Wednesday was a big deal, to be sure. After all, the 25th-seeded Musetti, a 22-year-old from Italy, never had made it past the third round at the All England Club – or past the fourth round at any major tournament – until this fortnight.

Now, though, comes a far tougher test: taking on Novak Djokovic.

“He probably knows, better than me, the surface and the stadium, for sure,” Musetti said with a chuckle, aware he’ll be making his Centre Court debut on Friday. “Jokes apart, he’s a legend everywhere, but especially here in Wimbledon.”

This will be Djokovic’s record-tying 13th semi-final at Wimbledon alone – equalling Roger Federer – and 49th Slam semi-final overall, extending a mark he already held. As Musetti pursues his first major championship, Djokovic seeks a 25th, including what would be an eighth at the All England Club.

Djokovic’s smooth trip through this year’s bracket was made even easier when the man he was supposed to play in the quarter-finals Wednesday, Alex de Minaur, pulled out with a hip injury hours before their match was scheduled to begin.

Musetti was forced to work for his spot in the final four: His 3½-hour victory over the 13th-seeded Fritz was the 37th five-setter at the All England Club this year, the most at any Grand Slam tournament.

Musetti acknowledged he didn’t get off to an ideal start, in part because of nerves. But an early break in the second set helped alter the course of the evening.

“Immediately, I changed my



Elena Rybakina of Kazakhstan plays a backhand against Elina Svitolina of Ukraine in the women’s singles quarter-final match at Wimbledon in London on Wednesday. Rybakina won 6-3, 6-2 and will face Barbora Krejčíková in a Thursday semi-final. CLIVE BRUNSKILL/GETTY IMAGES

mind. I changed my attitude,” he said. “And that probably made the difference.”

Musetti’s son, Ludovico, was born in March, and he said Wednesday that helped him re-dedicate himself to his sport and strive to no longer “throw away matches.”

“Instead of me teaching him, he’s teaching me. Having a child makes you reflect a lot,” Musetti said. “I feel more mature on the court, more mature off the court, and more mature as a player, as a father, as a person.”

Playing at a sun-swathed No. 1 Court against Fritz, an American who is one of the sport’s biggest servers but fell to 0-4 in major quarter-finals, Musetti managed to accumulate 13 break points and convert six.

With Queen Camilla, the wife of King Charles III, in the stands and joining fans in doing the wave, Musetti did far more to vary his strokes – a drop shot here, a

lob there, plenty of slices – than Fritz did.

“I just felt like it took a lot to finish the point,” Fritz said.

Djokovic had knee surgery less than a month before the start of play at the All England Club. But despite limitations on his movement, the 37-year-old Djokovic has dropped only two sets so far – facing a qualifier in the first round, a wild-card entrant in the second and only one seeded player, No. 15 Holger Rune.

Instead of going up against No. 9 de Minaur on Wednesday, Djokovic will get three full days off before meeting Musetti. The other semi-final Friday is defending champion Carlos Alcaraz against Daniil Medvedev.

Djokovic and Musetti have played each other six times previously. Djokovic has won five of those, including a five-setter at this year’s French Open that concluded after 3 a.m. It was in Djokovic’s following match in Paris

that he tore the meniscus in his right knee.

“We know each other pretty well. They’ve always been a huge fight so I expect a big, big fight. It’s going to be one of the toughest challenges on tour,” Musetti said, “but I am an ambitious guy and I like to be challenged.”

In the women’s quarter-finals Wednesday, 2022 champion Elena Rybakina grabbed nine of the last 11 games to defeat No. 21 Elina Svitolina 6-3, 6-2, and No. 31 Barbora Krejčíková eliminated No. 13 Jelena Ostapenko 6-4, 7-6 (4) in a matchup between two past champions at the French Open.

The other women’s semi-final on Thursday is No. 7 Jasmine Paolini of Italy against unseeded Donna Vekic of Croatia.

Kazakhstan’s Rybakina ended her win with her seventh ace and improved to 19-2 at Wimbledon in four appearances.

“Definitely, I have an aggressive style of game,” Rybakina said. “I

have a huge serve, so it’s a big advantage.”

Krejčíková won her first Grand Slam title on the red clay at Roland Garros in 2021, but the 28-year-old from the Czech Republic never put together a five-match winning streak on grass until now.

De Minaur’s exit is the latest due to injury in Week 2. His hip issue arose right at the end of his win against Arthur Fils on Monday.

De Minaur said he heard a crack and knew something was wrong.

He underwent medical tests Tuesday that revealed the extent of the problem but tried to practice on Wednesday morning, hoping to participate in what would have been his first Wimbledon quarter-final.

“This was the biggest match of my career,” de Minaur said, “so wanted to do anything I could to play.”

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## Roughriders, Lions face off in a battle for the top spot in the West Division

DANIEL RAINBIRD

First-year head coach Corey Mace and his undefeated Saskatchewan Roughriders will meet their toughest matchup yet this week.

Saskatchewan (4-0) visits the B.C. Lions (4-1) on Saturday night in a battle of the West Division’s top teams. The Riders are undefeated through four games for the first time since 2013, while the Lions are 2-0 at BC Place this season and have won four straight.

B.C. quarterback Vernon Adams Jr. is on fire to start the season, leading the CFL with 1,752 passing yards and 11 passing touchdowns.

The 31-year-old Adams spearheaded last week’s commanding 44-28 victory over the Hamilton Tiger-Cats with 383 passing yards, including 321 to go with four TD passes in the first half alone.

Meanwhile, Riders QB Shea Patterson gets the nod for the second start of his career with starter Trevor Harris on the six-game injured list.

The 27-year-old Patterson replaced Harris last week and threw 192 yards with one TD pass to help Saskatchewan beat the Toronto Argonauts 30-23. Patterson also rushed for 18 yards and a TD.

The Riders picked off Toronto QB Cameron Dukes four times in the win, including two interceptions by Rolan Milligan Jr., to bring their season total to a league-leading nine. Milligan was limited in practice Tuesday, but the Riders will hope to keep the ball from reaching some of B.C.’s star receivers this week.

Alexander Hollins tops the league with 573 receiving yards and Justin McInnis is third with 482. McInnis went for 147 yards against Toronto while Hollins caught 116.

Amid B.C.’s heavy reliance on Adams and passing, tailback William Stanback also leads the CFL with 311 rushing yards.

Riders receiver Shawn Bane Jr. returned to practice this week after missing the Argos game for personal reasons. Bane, who broke out with 1,104 yards receiving last year, has caught 13 passes for 211 yards to go with three touchdowns in three games.

The Riders are scoring a league-leading 32 points per game heading into the game, while B.C. sits third at 29.4. The Lions, however, are averaging 423.0 yards of net offence to top the CFL and Saskatchewan is seventh (329.8).

The Riders rank third in opponent net offence (347.8) and the Lions are fifth (353.6).

B.C. has the edge in special teams with kicker Sean Whyte a perfect 14-for-14 this year. Saskatchewan’s Brett Lauther is 9-for-11.

Saskatchewan started the season with two

road wins, but their luck may run out. With Adams on a tear and B.C. rolling, the home team gets the edge this week.  
**Pick:** B.C.

### TORONTO ARGONAUTS VERSUS MONTREAL ALOUETTES (THURSDAY NIGHT)

At Montreal, the defending-champion Alouettes (5-0) look to extend their unbeaten streak to 14 games dating back to last season, with their most recent loss a 23-20 defeat to Toronto on Sept. 15. Toronto (2-2) is looking to bounce back from consecutive losses – including a 30-20 home defeat to Montreal on June 28 – for the first time in almost two years. Chad Kelly-replacement Dukes started the season strong but has struggled passing the ball the past two weeks, going 41-for-66 with two TDs and five picks. Alouettes kicker David Cote is out while safety Marc-Antoine Dequoy is a game-time decision.  
**Pick:** Montreal.

### CALGARY STAMPEDEVERSUS WINNIPEG BLUE BOMBERS (FRIDAY NIGHT)

At Winnipeg, Blue Bombers (1-4) QB Zach Collaros is expected to start after missing last week with a thorax injury. The two-time outstanding player practised this week and will aim for his first TD pass this year for the Bombers, who secured their first win of the season 25-16 over Ottawa last week. Calgary (2-2) fumbled an 11-point fourth-quarter lead against Montreal last week. QB Jake Maier managed only 106 yards on 18-for-28 passing with one TD and an interception.  
**Pick:** Winnipeg.

### OTTAWA REDBLACKS VERSUS EDMONTON ELKS (SUNDAY NIGHT)

At Edmonton, the status of Dru Brown is uncertain for Sunday after the Redblacks (2-2) QB entered concussion protocol. The first-year starter left last Friday’s loss to Winnipeg due to a hit to the head from Bombers linebacker Redha Kramdi in the second quarter. The Elks (0-4) are well-rested coming off a bye week and looking for their win after three straight three-point defeats, losing on last-second kicks their previous two games. McLeod Bethel-Thompson and company hope to have better luck at home this week.  
**Pick:** Edmonton.

**Last week:** 3-1.  
**Overall:** 12-8.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Dabrowski, Routliffe advance to women’s doubles semis

LONDON Ottawa’s Gabriela Dabrowski and partner Erin Routliffe of New Zealand moved closer to another Grand Slam title Wednesday with a 6-4, 6-7 (5), 6-4 win over Barbora Krejčíková and Laura Siegemund in women’s doubles quarter-final action at Wimbledon.

Dabrowski and Routliffe, seeded second at the All England Club, broke to love to go up 5-4 in the third set, then finished off the match on serve.

The eighth-seeded team of Krejčíková and Siegemund had kept the match alive by saving match point to even the second-set tiebreaker at 5-5 before scoring the next two points.

Dabrowski and Routliffe, the 2023 U.S. Open champions, will face the seventh-seeded American tandem of Caroline Dolehide and Desirae Krawczyk on Friday in the semi-finals.

Dabrowski, who missed the clay-court season with an injury, and Routliffe have enjoyed a successful grass-court season, winning a tune-up tournament in Nottingham, England and advancing to the final of another in Eastbourne, England heading into Wimbledon.

Krejčíková was seeking to advance to the semi-finals in both singles and doubles competitions after defeating Jelena Ostapenko in the women’s singles quarter-finals earlier Wednesday.

### RAYS SHORTSTOP FRANCO FORMALLY CHARGED IN DOMINICAN REPUBLIC WITH SEXUALLY ABUSING GIRL

SANTO DOMINGO, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC Tampa Bay Rays shortstop Wander Franco was formally charged Tuesday with sexually abusing a 14-year-old girl in the Dominican Republic. Prosecutors charged Franco six months after a judge ordered that he be investigated in connection with sexual and psychological abuse of the girl. Nairobi Vilorio, the attorney-general’s office spokesperson, confirmed to The

### CANADA’S FERNANDEZ AMONG STAR-STUDED NATIONAL BANK OPEN FIELD

Leylah Fernandez will have plenty of competition at the National Bank Open. Tennis Canada unveiled a star-studded entry list Wednesday, which included the 21-year-old from Laval, Que., for the women’s side of the national tournament set to run Aug. 4 to 12 in Toronto.

Currently ranked No. 25 on the WTA Tour, Fernandez will be joined by world No. 1 and five-time Grand Slam champion Iga Swiatek, 2023 U.S. Open singles and 2022 NBO doubles champion Coco Gauff, and back-to-back Australian Open champion Aryna Sabalenka in field that includes all top-10 players – and 43 of 44 overall.

Bianca Andreescu of Mississauga, who won the tournament in 2019 to snap Canada’s 50-year drought, received a wild card into the main draw as she continues to work her way back from injury.

The men’s entry list will be unveiled Thursday for the Montreal portion of the event. The tournament’s official draw goes Aug. 3.

The Paris Olympics means this year’s National Bank Open will start and end a day later than usual.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Associated Press that prosecutors presented before a judge the final and formal accusation, but Vilorio declined to provide further details. The indictment also includes the girl’s mother. According to prosecutors, Franco paid the girl’s mother thousands of dollars to consent to the relationship, which lasted four months. The AP is not identifying the woman to preserve her daughter’s privacy. AP

# England bests Netherlands, earns place in Euros final after late goal by Watkins

Late-game substitution decision by English coach Southgate earned his squad a 2-1 victory

STEVE DOUGLAS  
DORTMUND, GERMANY

England reached a second straight European Championship final by beating the Netherlands 2-1 thanks to substitute Ollie Watkins's stoppage-time winner on Wednesday.

Watkins, who came on for captain Harry Kane in a bold call by coach Gareth Southgate, turned and smashed a fierce shot into the bottom corner in the first minute of added-on time.

England will play Lamine Yamal and Spain in Sunday's final in Berlin. It will be the nation's first title match on foreign soil, having won the World Cup in 1966 and lost to Italy in the Euro 2020 final — both times at Wembley Stadium.

In an open first half, Harry Kane's 18th-minute penalty cancelled out Xavi Simons's brilliant-



England's Harry Kane, centre, embraces teammate Ollie Watkins at the end of the Euros semi-final match against the Netherlands in Germany. Watkins scored the team's decisive second goal. MARTIN MEISSNER/AP

ly struck opener for the Dutch in the seventh minute.

Watkins had only made one previous appearance at Euro 2024 — as a substitute in the group game against Denmark — so it was a surprise when he was introduced by Southgate in England's biggest match so far.

The gamble paid off.

"Unbelievable — I've been wait-

ing for that moment for weeks," said Watkins, the Aston Villa striker who was the fourth top scorer in the Premier League last season. "It's taken a lot of hard work to get to where I am today. I got the opportunity and took it with both hands."

That the goal was set up by Cole Palmer, another substitute, will have pleased Southgate, too.

"I said to [Palmer], 'We're going to come on and you're going to set me up,'" Watkins said. "I knew, as soon as he got the ball, he was going to play me in. When it went in the bottom corner, it was the best feeling ever."

The sea of orange in the giant South Stand at Westfalenstadion fell silent. It housed the most vocal of the Dutch supporters who dominated the city centre before marching in their thousands to the stadium ahead of the game. Police reported three separate clashes between fans from both countries in the city.

It gave the occasion the feeling of a home match for the Dutch and England, which came from behind to advance in the last 16 and quarter-finals, was up against it even more after the 21-year-old Simons became the second youngest scorer for the Netherlands at a Euros.

The Paris Saint-Germain midfielder dispossessed Declan Rice about 40 metres out, drove forward and unleashed a shot into the far corner from outside the area.

Compared to the 16-year-old Yamal, Spain's new superstar, Si-

mons is a soccer veteran but this was another case of a young player shining on the big stage at the Euros.

Kane has had plenty of big moments at major tournaments and he had another when he slotted home a penalty after Denzel Dumfries's outstretched leg made contact with Kane's foot as the England striker attempted a shot.

Kane became the sixth player to be on three goals for the tournament.

An open first half, which saw Dumfries and England's Phil Foden hit the goal frame, made way for a tight and tense second half where chances were limited.

Bukayo Saka had a goal ruled out for a narrow offside before Kane departed for Watkins in what might rank as Southgate's best call in his eight-year England tenure.

"It's going to be unbelievably tough — a really difficult game," Kane said of the final against Spain, which is widely regarded as having played the best soccer so far in the tournament. "One more game to make history."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Forge defeats TFC in opening leg of Canadian Championship semi

HAMILTON

Toronto FC's free fall continued Wednesday as the slumping Major League Soccer side was beaten 2-1 by Canadian Premier League champion Forge FC in the opening leg of their Canadian Championship semi-final.

Béni Badibanga and Kwasi Poku scored for Forge, which led 2-0 after 14 minutes.

Substitute Prince Owusu pulled an important goal back for Toronto in the 88th minute off a goalmouth scramble following a corner.

There could have been more in five-plus minutes of frantic stoppage time but Forge keeper Chris Kalongo made a diving save to deny Lorenzo Insigne and Toronto substitute Deandre Kerr headed wide.

Toronto had lots of the ball on the night but didn't take care of it at times and showed wasteful finishing with just one shot on target in the first half. Forge could have added to the lead in the second half had it not been for Toronto goalkeeper Luka Gavran's shot-stopping and the woodwork.

The return leg at BMO Field is Aug. 21, where Toronto must dig itself out of a hole in order to advance to the final.

Pacific FC hosted the defending champion Vancouver Whitecaps in the other cup semi-final Wednesday.

Toronto (7-13-3 in MLS play) has lost seven straight in all competitions and is winless in 10 (0-8-2). It has not won since May 18 when it thumped semi-pro CS



Toronto FC midfielder Derrick Etienne jumps over Forge FC goalkeeper Christopher Kalongo during the first half of a Canadian Championship semi-final game in Hamilton on Wednesday. NICK IWANYSHYN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Saint-Laurent 8-1 in the cup quarter-final.

Badibanga's goal came from inside the Forge half after he looked up and saw Gavran off his line. That prompted the Congolese-born former Belgian youth international to launch a 60-yard shot, à la David Beckham, that soared over Gavran's head before bouncing into the Toronto goal.

Badibanga, who celebrated the highlight-reel strike with a double somersault, started the play by dispossessing Federico Bernardeschi.

It was the second freakish goal

Gavran had conceded in as many games. Atlanta forward Jamal Thiarié caught the Toronto back-up keeper napping in the 97th minute on June 29, coming from behind to pilfer the ball — as Gavran was about to boot it forward — and put it in the open goal for a 2-1 win.

Poku made it 2-0 three minutes late, backheeling the ball in at the near post after the Toronto defence was carved open by some pretty passing from Kyle Bekker, Tristan Borges and David Choïnère.

TFC should have scored first

when Bernardeschi found Insigne in space in front of goal but Insigne's shot squibbed wide. It was a sequence Insigne replayed several times on the night.

Bernardeschi, Toronto's danger man, was manhandled by Forge players all night.

It was 21 C at kickoff at Tim Hortons Field with thunderstorms in the forecast. And the skies opened at halftime.

Toronto made changes at the break, bringing on Matty Longstaff and Owusu. Kevin Long, Jahkeel Marshall-Rutty and Kerr came on later as coach John Herd-

man looked to find a way back.

Toronto and Forge have history, having met in the final of the pandemic-delayed 2020 Canadian Championship final with TFC winning in a penalty shootout.

Herdman made five changes to the starting 11 that lost 4-0 in Columbus on Saturday with Insigne, Gavran, Aimé Mabika, Deiby Flores and Kobe Franklin slotting in. Flores was suspended for the weekend contest while Insigne, nursing a knock to the ribs, came in for the final 30 minutes off the bench.

Bernardeschi, who shed his distinctive blond cornrows, wore the captain's armband.

Forge made three changes from the team that tied Vancouver FC 3-3 on Friday with Bekker, goalkeeper Chris Kalongo and defender Garven Metusala returning.

Forge had seven Canadians in its starting 11, compared to three for Toronto.

Toronto was without the injured Tyrese Spicer, Alonso Coelho and Brandon Servania. Captain Jonathan Osorio and Richie Larrea are away with Canada at Copa America.

Forge was missing injured forward Terran Campbell while Mexican fullback Daniel Parra was suspended for yellow card accumulation.

Forge (5-4-3 in league play) had won just one of its five previous outings (1-2-2) and sits fifth in the eight-team CPL, an unaccustomed perch for the four-time league champion.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Marsch sees positives in Copa campaign but acknowledges more work needs to be done

NEIL DAVIDSON

Seven games into his tenure as Canada coach, Jesse Marsch sees plenty of positives.

"Incredible strides," he summed up. "But there's still a lot to do. We're establishing things at some high levels but in order to be a real team that can hold up to the biggest moments and biggest matches, there's more work to be done. But certainly we're on a good path."

That path takes the team to Charlotte on Saturday for the Copa America third-place game against Uruguay, which was beaten 1-0 by Colombia in Wednesday night's semi-final.

The 48th-ranked Canadians are looking for a podium finish in their first Copa America appearance after losing 2-0 to top-ranked Argentina in semi-final play Tuesday at MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, N.J.

Named Canada coach on May 13, Marsch landed in the deep end with friendlies against No. 2 France and the seventh-ranked Netherlands before facing Argentina (twice), No. 40 Peru, No. 31 Chile and No. 54 Venezuela.

The Canadian men have gone 1-3-3 against that opposition, with one of those draws turning into a penalty shootout win (over Vene-

### ARGENTINA HITS BACK AFTER RAPPER DRAKE LOSES COPA AMERICA BET

Argentina took a shot at music artist Drake after the Canadian lost \$300,000 on a bet his country would beat the defending champions in Tuesday's Copa America semi-final, using rap rival Kendrick Lamar's song to send him a message.

Drake posted an image on Instagram that showed his bet would have given him a \$2.88-million payout if Canada won, but goals from Julián Álvarez and Lionel Messi moved Argentina into a fourth final in five editions.

The World Cup winners responded to Drake's post with a photo accompanied by the caption: "Not like us," the title of a 'diss' track released by Lamar in May that criticized the Canadian artist and has been streamed nearly half a billion times on Spotify.

Argentina are looking to secure a record 16th Copa America title and will play either Uruguay or Colombia in Sunday's final.

REUTERS

zuela in the Copa quarter-final).

In contrast, John Herdman's first seven games as Canada coach after taking over in January, 2018, were against No. 120 New Zealand, the 199th-ranked U.S. Virgin Islands, No. 177 Dominica, No. 133 St. Kitts and Nevis, unranked French Guiana and Martinique, and No. 18 Mexico (all rankings at the time of the matches).

Canada's current lack of clinical finishing is an issue, with just two goals in five Copa games. And March acknowledged Canada could have made life easier on itself — and allowed him to go to his bench earlier and more often — if it had scored more. "We have to do better there," he said, citing 14 "big chances missed" at the tournament.

"We have big talent and some great goal-scorers and I know we will continue to develop that. But the fact that we are getting big chances, the fact that we are still in the game, playing the way that we want to play, committing to all the things, that we want, in the end that's what will lead us to be more effective, more efficient, clearer, to have more game control — all of those things.

"So big credit after five weeks, against these opponents, for these guys to perform like this. And even though we didn't exe-

cute everything perfectly, clearly, clearly we're on a good path. Clearly."

Copa America has been gruelling in the summer heat with travel taking the Canadians from Atlanta to Kansas City, Orlando, Arlington, Tex., and East Rutherford before Saturday's finale in Charlotte. After sticking with a core group of players for the tournament, Marsch said he planned to dig into his roster for Saturday's game, noting "we clearly ran out of legs [against Argentina]."

Marsh said Luc de Fougerolles, an 18-year-old defender with England's Fulham, could make his debut Saturday.

"He's been one of the best performers in camp," the 50-year-old American said.

The Canada coach also had positive news about captain Alphonso Davies, who hobbled off the pitch in the 71st minute Tuesday after a hard Argentine challenge. An X-ray proved negative.

"Whether he'll be available for Saturday night it's too early to say," Marsch added.

The Canadian performance at the tournament has drawn attention.

Midfielder Ismaël Koné perhaps Canada's best player on Tuesday, has left England's Watford for the French top tier with Marseille. Centre backs Moise

Bombito (Colorado Rapids) and Derek Cornelius (Malmo, Sweden) have reportedly been targeted by other clubs.

Striker Jonathan David (Lille, France) continues to be linked with a number of English clubs while Davies's future with Bayern Munich remains up in the air, with reported interest from Real Madrid. Canada will also rise in the FIFA rankings.

Widening the talent pool remains an objective, with Marsch saying he planned to take in Forge FC's CPL game against visiting Pacific FC on Sunday. Young talent has to be challenged at an earlier age and developed faster, he said.

"We've got to find a way to demand more out of the young players. And when I say young, I mean like 14, 15, 16, not 24, 25, 26. We actually have the athletes in this country. We do. But we need to now develop them in a way where they understand high-level football."

Canada has lost both previous matches with Uruguay, most recently falling 2-0 in September, 2022 in Bratislava in a warm-up for the World Cup in Qatar. Uruguay won 3-1 when they met in February, 1986 at the six-team Miami Cup, a tune-up for the World Cup in Mexico.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

# NBA agrees to new 11-year, \$76-billion media-rights deal

Player salaries expected to hit \$100-million a season by mid-2030s

TIM REYNOLDS  
JOE REEDY

The NBA has agreed to terms on its new media deal, an 11-year agreement worth US\$76-billion that assures player salaries will continue rising for the foreseeable future and one that will surely change how some viewers access the game for years to come.

A person familiar with the negotiations told The Associated Press that the networks have the terms sheets, with the next step being for the league's board of governors to approve the contracts.

The person spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity Wednesday because they weren't at liberty to discuss such impending matters.

The deal, which set NBA records for both its length and total value, goes into effect for the 2025-26 season. Games will continue being aired on ESPN and ABC, and now some will be going to NBC and Amazon Prime. TNT Sports, which has been part of the league's broadcasting family since the 1980s, could be on its way out, but has five days to match one of the deals.

The five-day clock would begin once the league sends the finished contracts to TNT.

The Athletic was the first to report on the contracts.

In the short term, the deal almost certainly means the league's

salary cap will rise 10 per cent annually – the maximum allowed by the terms of the most recent Collective Bargaining Agreement between the NBA and its players. That means players like Oklahoma City's Shai Gilgeous-Alexander and Dallas' Luka Dončić could be making around US\$80-million in the 2030-31 season and raises at least some possibility that top players may be earning somewhere near US\$100-million per season by the mid-2030s.

It also clears the way for the next major item on the NBA's to-do list: expansion.

Commissioner Adam Silver was very clear on the order of his top agenda items in recent seasons, those being preserving labour peace (which was achieved with the new CBA), getting a new media deal (now essentially completed) and then and only then would the league turn its attention toward adding new franchises. Las Vegas and Seattle are typically among the cities most prominently mentioned as top expansion candidates, with others such as Montreal, Vancouver and Kansas City expected to have groups with interest as well.

As the broadcast rights packages have grown in total value over the past 25 years, so, too, have salaries because of how much that revenue stream ends up fuelling the salary cap.

From the deal that started in 1998-99 to the one now struck to begin in 2025, the total value has climbed by about 2,800 per cent. Factoring for inflation even between then and now, the value goes up about 1,400 per cent.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Henderson: Course built on mountain is 'very challenging'

FROM B11

"This course being built on a mountain, a slope, it's very challenging," said Henderson. "You never have a flat lie. You're always compensating for something and always having to think your way around, which I think is really cool and very unique to this area."

Grewal agreed. "I've definitely noticed that there's a lot more side slope lies in the fairway than what I'm used to," said Grewal, after spending the day in Switzerland. "Even hilly courses that are in the mountains in North America, they tend to be more so hilly in the sense of up and down."

PGA TOUR

Aaron Cockerill of Stony Mountain, Man., the only Canadian player on the European-base DP World Tour, will make a rare PGA Tour appearance at this week's Genesis Scottish Open. Adam Hadwin of Abbotsford, B.C., is the highest-ranked Canadian in the lead-up event to the British Open. He's 33rd on the FedEx Cup standings. Corey Conners (35th) of Listowel, Ont., Nick Taylor (43rd) of Abbotsford, and Mackenzie Hughes (51st) of Dundas, Ont., are also in the field.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Sports in brief

### HOCKEY CANADA NAMES NEW VICE-PRESIDENT OF HOCKEY DEVELOPMENT

CALGARY Hockey Canada has hired Trevor Murphy as vice-president of hockey development. The governing body said in a statement Wednesday that Murphy will be tasked with leading the development of grassroots hockey across Canada. Murphy, from Mount Pearl, N.L., was most recently on the 2025 Canada Games Host Society senior leadership team. Murphy will join Hockey Canada's senior leadership team on Monday and be based in St. John's.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

### FORMER JUNIOR PLAYERS TO APPEAL SENTENCES

QUEBEC Two former Quebec junior hockey players will appeal their prison sentences for sexually assaulting a minor at a hotel in June, 2021, during a celebration of a Victoriaville Tigres championship win. On Monday, Quebec court Judge Thomas Jacques sentenced Nicolas Daigle to 32 months in jail and Massimo Siciliano to 30 months. A lawyer for Siciliano, 21, filed a motion to have his client instead be given a suspended sentence and bail while he awaits a decision. A lawyer for Daigle, 21, says he filed a similar appeal on behalf of his client.

### BERHALTER FIRED AS U.S. MEN'S SOCCER COACH

NEW YORK Gregg Berhalter was fired as U.S. men's soccer coach on Wednesday after his team's first-round exit from the Copa America flamed doubts he was the right person to remain in charge for the 2026 World Cup, a

person familiar with the decision told The Associated Press. The person spoke on condition of anonymity Wednesday because the U.S. Soccer Federation had not yet made the announcement. Berhalter's second term as coach was cut short 10 months after he returned to the bench with high hopes and proclaimed the team's goal was "to change soccer in America forever."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### JAY HERDMAN, SON OF JOHN HERDMAN, TO PLAY FOR NEW ZEALAND AT OLYMPICS

Jay Herdman, son of Toronto FC coach John Herdman, has been chosen for New Zealand's Olympic soccer team for the Paris Games. The 19-year-old Herdman captains the Whitecaps FC 2, Vancouver's entry in the MLS Next Pro league. Herdman was born in 2004 when his father was working for New Zealand Football.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

### WHITE REPLACES LEONARD ON U.S. OLYMPIC TEAM

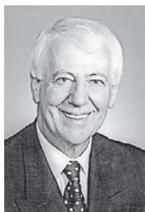
LAS VEGAS Derrick White of the NBA champion Boston Celtics has replaced the Los Angeles Clippers' Kawhi Leonard on the U.S. team for the Paris Olympics, USA Basketball said Wednesday in the first shakeup to a roster that was announced in the spring. Leonard missed 12 of the Los Angeles Clippers' final 14 games this past season with right knee inflammation, though he said in recent days that he felt fine and the knee was doing well. USA Basketball said it, along with the Clippers, made the decision on Leonard's status for Paris.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## BIRTH AND DEATH NOTICES

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### DEATHS



PETER MALCOLM BENNETT

September 1, 1934 – July 8, 2024

Our family is deeply saddened, to announce the death of Peter Bennett, at Bridgepoint Hospital, Toronto. He leaves behind his beloved wife, Fran Dempster Bennett; sons, Jay (Cindy Lorusso), Andrew (Sheryl Genser); and daughter, Wendy (Chad Mutchler); grandsons, Kingsley Bennett, Peter, Chad and Christopher Mutchler. Predeceased by daughter Sandra (2005).

Peter, the youngest of a blended family of six, was born in West Midlands, England. War was declared on Peter's fifth birthday, when Germany invaded Poland. He and his family were on holiday in North Wales, when the soldiers started closing off the beach with barbed wire, which meant they had to forgo their holiday and return home immediately. One year later, on his sixth birthday, his house was totally destroyed by an errant bomb jettisoned by a German plane that was on fire. Peter was in a nearby shelter at the time when the bomb hit, and he was buried for a short time, but the fire brigade came quickly to rescue him.

After graduating from school, he served his two years mandatory service in the Royal Air Force, and had an exciting time working in the British zone, for the foreign service in Berlin, whereby his knowledge of German was very useful. Three more years of training with M16 enabled him to remain in Berlin, but he eventually realized it was not the career he wanted so he resigned, returned to England and settled in London. He became a reinsurance broker with C.T. Bowring working with Lloyds of London. He also proudly served as chairman, of the South Kensington Young Conservatives.

Three years later he was hired by the largest American Reinsurance Broker, Guy Carpenter, and transferred to New York City. After training on Wall Street, he was sent to Toronto, to help develop their fledgling Canadian operations. Because all the reinsurance brokers were in Toronto, his job included traveling coast to coast to visit and write reinsurance policies, for the insurance clients. He welcomed this opportunity to familiarize himself with Canadian culture but soon after was literally traveling around the world to expand the international business. One of his favourite places, along with his wife, was Monte Carlo for a week, every September.

A few years later he partnered with le Blanc Eldridge Parizeau, of Montreal to become president of Canadian International Reinsurance Brokers (C.I.R.B.), and then eventually a merger of the two companies saw him become chairman of the Canadian division of le Blanc Eldridge Parizeau International Inc. (B.E.P.).

20 years later, they were bought out by AON, and Peter became deputy chairman of AON / Benfield. With his retirement in 2005, he was pleased to be appointed as a director of Odyssey Re, by Fairfax Holdings for five years.

Peter's favorite sport was tennis and he excelled, whereby he and his partner won both the air force and all service championships, in 1954. He continued playing tennis and was a formidable opponent for much of his life. Right to the very end, Peter never lost his British sense of humour!

A private burial will take place at Mount Pleasant Cemetery, and the family will be happy to receive friends afterwards for visitation and reception at their home on July 15th, from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

In memory of Peter, donations will be gratefully received by the Kidney Foundation of Canada (<https://kidney.ca/>). Condolences and memories may be sent to ([www.humphreymiles.com](http://www.humphreymiles.com)).

*Humphrey Funeral Home*  
All-Occasions-Neubrigging Chapel  
416-487-4523



ANDREW JOHN VAN VELZEN

July 3, 1961 – July 6, 2024

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Andrew van Velzen. Predeceased by his father, John; mother, Josephine (Fienny); and older brother, Robert. Andrew is survived by his sister, Audrey (John); sister-in-law, Jan; nieces, Cassandra, Samantha, and Sarah; nephew, Ryan; and his dear friend, Khalid.

Andrew grew up in Willowdale, attending Newtonbrook High, where some of his best memories were made on March Break trips to Greece, Spain, and Israel. In recent years, he found joy in walking through Willowdale, passing by his childhood homes on Northwood and Robinter Dr. At 18, Andrew joined Canada World Youth (CWY), spending time on the west coast before embarking on a nine-month journey to India. CWY fostered incredible friendships that Andrew reconnected with through social media in later years.

In the early '80s, Andrew became deeply involved in the peace movement. By day, he worked as an elevator operator in the historic Gooderham & Worts building, and by night, he was a rising young executive in the peace movement, organizing peaceful demonstrations and facing numerous arrests in both Canada and the US. His most notable arrest was for a civil disobedience action at Griffiss Air Force Base in upstate New York, where he protested against missile testing and was apprehended by heavily armed soldiers. He was willing to take many personal risks to make the world a better place.

In the early '90s, Andrew worked as a researcher for the Canadian Bureau of The LA Times, contributing to many published articles and gaining access to high profile events. It was heartbreaking for Andrew when they chose to close their Canadian Bureau. Andrew later worked for Grand & Toy, where his astounding memory could tell you the make, model, and location of every office product ever sold. His recall for details on major world events was legendary – there was no need for Chat GPT when Andrew was in the room.

A gifted writer, Andrew's talents were evident in his LA Times work and hundreds of eloquently crafted letters to editors, primarily in the Toronto Star, but also occasionally The Globe and Mail. On his CIUT radio show (U of T campus radio), Andrew interviewed many famous individuals, including the renowned American professor, Noam Chomsky. He also developed a close friendship with US historian and foreign policy critic, Gabriel Kolko, during his Toronto years.

He was a voracious reader with an incredible retention of knowledge. His passions included Hot Wheels, airplanes, space exploration, books, newspapers, architecture, politics and the moon. He was among one of the first visitors to the CN Tower in 1976, and his infatuation with it lasted a lifetime, it's only fitting that in his last year he got to enjoy the view daily from his new condo. Andrew had an extraordinary ability to make people feel special. His attention to detail, childlike wonder over new experiences, and intense curiosity forged close friendships across all walks of life. He will be missed by so many.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Canadian Cancer Society. A celebration of Andrew's life will be held at The Pilot on Cumberland St. on Thursday, July 18th, from 6 - 9 p.m.

### IN MEMORIAM

In Loving Memory



COLLEEN CARMICHAEL

July 11, 2017

"Your light shines on."

### FUNERAL SERVICES



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ABRAHAMS, Norman - 1:00 Pardes Chaim Cemetery.

THURSDAY

GREENSPAN, Bernie - 2:30 Chapel.

FRIDAY

PODOLIAK, Esther - 11:00 Mount Sinai Memorial Park.

WELLMAN, Barry - 4:00 Chapel.

SHIVA

GODEL, Raylene - 33 Chiltern Hill Road. GREENSPAN, Bernie - 784 Centre Street, 2nd Floor, Thornhill, Ontario.

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## RICHARD M. GOLDSTEIN

SCIENTIST, 97

# ASTRONOMER HELPED MAP THE COSMOS BY USING GROUND-BASED RADARS

As a graduate student, he bounced signals off Mercury and Mars using the Goldstone Solar System Radar. He later adapted his algorithms for use with aircraft and satellites, which have mapped melting glaciers and the movement of tectonic plates

MICHAEL S. ROSENWALD

Richard M. Goldstein, a trailblazer in planetary exploration who used ground-based radars to map planets with techniques that scientists now use to measure geographical changes on Earth, including melting glaciers, died June 22 at his home in La Cañada Flintridge, Calif. He was 97.

His daughter, Rabbi Lisa L. Goldstein, confirmed the death.

In the early 1960s, Dr. Goldstein was a graduate student in electrical engineering at the California Institute of Technology and working part time at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory when he proposed, as his thesis topic, trying to detect echoes from Venus using the Goldstone Solar System Radar, which had been newly developed by the space agency.

If successful, scientists would learn the distance from Earth to Venus, essentially laying the foundation to map the entire solar system. His adviser at Caltech was more than skeptical; Venus, in NASA's description, was a "cloud-swaddled" planet covered by thick gases, and previous attempts to reach the planet using other radars had produced mixed results.

"No echo, no thesis," Dr. Goldstein's adviser told him, according to *To See the Unseen: A History of Planetary Radar Astronomy* (1996) by Andrew J. Butrica, a science historian.

He proceeded anyway. On March 10, 1961, technicians pointed the new radar at Venus. Six-and-a-half minutes later, signals from Venus returned. Dr. Goldstein had proved his adviser wrong. He soon bounced signals off Mercury and Mars, as well as Saturn's rings.

The study's influence on solar-system research was immense.

"The measurements he did of the distance to Venus made it possible to do accurate navigation within the solar system," said Charles Werner, a former senior engineer at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory. "If you know one distance, it's like a ruler that allows you to calibrate everything else and to be able to navigate spacecraft in the solar system accurately."



Astronomer Richard Goldstein, seen circa 1965, used radar interferometry – the splicing together of multiple radar signals over a period of time – to map the surface of Venus. GOLDSTEIN FAMILY/NYT

The radar echoes were the celestial prelude to a long career at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory charting the previously unseen. In the late 1960s and early 1970s, Dr. Goldstein used radar interferometry – the splicing together of multiple radar signals over a period of time – to map the surface of Venus.

"High-resolution radar probes have broken through the thick clouds of Venus and for the first time distinguished features on

the planet's surface, which presents a landscape of huge, shallow craters," John Noble Wilford, a science reporter, wrote in a front-page article published in *The New York Times* on Aug. 5, 1973.

"Instead of the blurry shadings of earlier radar maps of the planet," Mr. Wilford wrote, the images detected by Dr. Goldstein revealed a dozen craters, including one that was 100 miles wide and less than a quarter of a mile deep.

Mr. Goldstein had used two radar antennas 14 miles apart to produce the images.

"This, in effect, gives us stereo reception," Dr. Goldstein said, "and enabled [us] to pinpoint each area touched on Venus. We were able to see depths better."

He later adapted his radar algorithms for use with aircraft and satellites, which have mapped melting glaciers, the movement of tectonic plates and other changes to the Earth's surface.

"From a civil earth remote-sensing perspective, he was absolutely the pioneer," said Paul A. Rosen, a project scientist at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

Richard Morris Goldstein was born April 11, 1927, in Indianapolis. His father, Samuel, was an owner of the Goldstein Brothers department store. His mother, Dorothy (Drozdowitz) Goldstein, managed the household.

After graduating from Purdue University in 1947 with a degree in electrical engineering, Dr. Goldstein joined the family business and worked in the lamp department.

"I have a record of selling the most three-way light bulbs in Indianapolis," he joked in an oral history interview with the National Radio Astronomy Observatory.

Eleven years later, Dr. Goldstein moved to California for graduate school and landed a low-level job at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, where he worked for 43 years, and retired as a senior scientist. (He finished his doctorate at the California Institute of Technology in 1963.)

"He broke every problem down into its fundamentals," Dr. Rosen said. "He went about his work quietly. He was not big on telling the world how great he was."

Dr. Goldstein married Ruth Lowenstam in 1964. He leaves her, along with their daughter, Lisa; their sons Samuel and Joshua; three grandchildren; and a great-grandson. His brother, Samuel Goldstein Jr., an astronomer, predeceased him.

During his time at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory and even after he retired, Dr. Goldstein was an enthusiastic competitor in the organization's annual invention challenge, in which participants try to solve quirky problems such as creating "a device that can put up to 10 Ping-Pong balls into a Mason jar located five metres away within the one-minute time allotment."

"I would say he probably won at least a third of the time," his daughter said. "He loved these contests. He was obsessed with figuring out the solution."

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## LIVES LIVED

MARION (MISTY) HARRISON

## Orphan. Volunteer. Nana. Grammar expert.

Born Sept. 14, 1923, in Toronto; died Feb. 27, 2024, in Dundas, Ont.; of heart failure; aged 100.

Marion Jean spent the first five years of her life in various awful orphanages in Toronto. Her life changed significantly when an older couple, Herbert and Jean Tyrrell, adopted her. Until her death, she remained grateful, almost incredulously so, that they "chose" her.

Marion's new parents provided her with many new experiences at their home in the city's north end, including horseback riding and playing tennis. As a young woman, she was often called "Miss Tyrrell" but that was shortened to "Miss T," and then to "Misty," which became her lifelong nickname.

At a time when few women went to university, Misty pursued a general arts degree at University of Toronto, continuing a lifelong interest in reading and learning. After having numerous keen suitors, the 4-foot-11 Misty was set up on a blind date with the tall, dashing Ted Harrison. They fell in love and married on her 23rd birthday at her family home.

The couple eventually settled in Hamilton and welcomed three children, Alan, Ann and Tyrrell.

Ted was the warmer parent, carrying on the spirit of the big, jovial family with whom he had grown up. Misty was stricter and never afraid to share her opinions (no matter the audience). She was still loving and involved with the kids but also needed time to herself.

Tyrrell's death in a car crash at the age of 19 rocked the family. Friends say that the family wasn't able to talk about it; it was simply too painful. They just kept going.



Marion (Misty) Harrison volunteered extensively and contributed to the CNIB, learning braille and providing meal assistance. She also volunteered with the Victorian Order of Nurses and the Hamilton Art Gallery. COURTESY OF FAMILY

Fortunately, better years followed their loss, and Misty and Ted saw Ann and Alan get married and have children. They relished grandparenthood, hosting incredible Christmases (with a tree that required a dangerously unsteady ladder for decorating), birthdays and summer barbecues.

While Misty's cooking skills may have been a tad lacking, she was the master of roast beef, which she always served with canned potatoes (possibly a nod to growing up in the Depression) and coleslaw. Dinners included impromptu grammar lessons from Nana, tales of her Labrador's\*

successes (or lack thereof) in professional retrieving competitions and a hilarious singling out of whichever grandchild had too many desserts.

Misty watched Ann die of cancer in 1997, then Alan died suddenly two years later. It would have been easy for her to give up on life at that point. But even after losing her children, Misty kept going. She continued with her extensive volunteering with the CNIB, learning braille and providing meal assistance. She also volunteered with the Victorian Order of Nurses and the Hamilton Art Gallery.

She played bridge with friends and took her grandchildren and great-grandchildren on family trips to Aruba. Even when her husband Ted died in 2013, Misty didn't have a "woe is me" attitude. She once told her family that she'd just spoken to a friend who had a broken hip, a sick wife and a flooded basement. "I just felt so awful for him," she said. "Can you imagine anyone going through so many hard things?"

At her 100th birthday in September last year, Misty was overjoyed to have visits from her family and to meet her newest great-grandchild. After that, her physical health began to decline further and her energy levels fell. She no longer wanted to keep going. The day before she died, her only concern was, "I'm just really going to miss flowers."

If Misty's life was a Shakespearean play, many might see it as a tragedy. But they would be wrong. It was a drama, full of highs and lows, characterized by strength and fortitude, complete with a cast of memorable characters and leaving a legacy that will not be forgotten. How lucky her family is to be written into those pages.

Jessica Patrick is Marion's granddaughter.