

PARIS 2024



Summer McIntosh celebrates after winning the 200-metre butterfly race in Paris. At 17, Ms. McIntosh is the first Canadian swimmer to win three individual medals at an Olympics. SIEGFRIED MODOLA/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

## McIntosh makes history with second gold medal

Swimmer sets Canadian records as Olympian mother, father and country cheer on

GRANT ROBERTSON PARIS

After Summer McIntosh stood on the podium with her second gold medal of the Paris Olympics, her parents leaned in from the stands, gave her a hug, and thanked her for playing their favourite song.

That's right — *O Canada* is practically on repeat for the McIntosh family this week.

For the second time in four days, the 17-year-old from Toronto claimed a gold medal at the Paris La Défense Arena on Thursday, and once more in thrilling fashion. Ms. McIntosh won the 200-metre butterfly by fighting off swimmers from the United States and China to touch the wall first.

It was her third trip to the podium, making

Ms. McIntosh the first Canadian swimmer to win three individual medals at an Olympics.

And after also winning the 400-metre individual medley on Monday, Ms. McIntosh is the first Canadian woman in any sport to win two individual gold medals at a single Games.

But on Thursday, of all the many events Ms. McIntosh is racing in Paris, this particular race was a family affair.

Her mother, Jill, swam the same 200-metre butterfly for Canada at the 1984 Olympics.

Mom placed ninth — her daughter shaved more than 10 seconds off her time.

■ MCINTOSH, A4

Canada's rookie swimmers get their feet wet in Paris — and offer a glimpse of Olympics to come

■ B10

**BOXING** Swift win by Algeria's Khelif deepens scrutiny over gender ■ A4

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**DECATHLON** Warner is the oldest in the field — and the favourite ■ B10

## Gershkovich, Whelan freed in massive Russian-U.S. prisoner swap

ERIC TUCKER  
DASHA LITVINOVA  
MATTHEW LEE WASHINGTON

The United States and Russia completed their biggest prisoner swap in post-Soviet history on Thursday, with Moscow releasing journalist Evan Gershkovich and fellow American Paul Whelan, along with dissidents including Vladimir Kara-Murza, in a multi-national deal that set two dozen people free, officials said.

Astonishing in scope, the trade followed years of secretive back-channel negotiations despite relations between Washington and Moscow being at their lowest point since the Cold War after Russian President Vladimir Putin's February, 2022, invasion of Ukraine.

The deal was the latest in a series of prisoner swaps negotiated between Russia and the U.S. in the past two years but the first to require significant concessions from other countries, with seven nations agreeing to give up 24 prisoners.

It was trumpeted as a "diplomatic feat" by President Joe Biden, who called the news an "incredible relief" and said the detainees' "brutal ordeal was over."

"Today is a powerful example of why it's vital to have friends in this world," he said in an address from the White House while joined by families of four — three Americans and one green card holder — who were released.

■ SWAP, A5

## B.C. officials sound alarm that landslide blocking river could give way

ANDREA WOO  
XIAO XU VANCOUVER

People along B.C.'s Fraser and Chilcotin rivers are being warned to leave the area immediately over fears that a massive landslide that has dammed the Chilcotin River could give way, sending a torrent of water and debris downstream.

Communities as far south as Hope were put on alert Thursday as emergency-management officials urged residents to prepare for a worst-case scenario.

"If this dam were to break, it is possible that dozens of evacuation orders and alerts will be issued along both rivers, and people need to be prepared," Bowinn Ma, B.C.'s Minister of Emergency Management, said at a media briefing.

"The risk to people and communities along the river is unknown at this time, but it has the potential to be significant."

Ms. Ma said the BC Wildfire Service has deployed aerial support, search-and-rescue crews have helped to evacuate people from the area and geotechnical assessments and modelling are under way. The province is also prepared to take additional measures such as deploying sandbags, sandbag machines and Tiger dams — water-filled flood-barriers — to communities as needed, she said.

Nathan Cullen, B.C. Minister of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship, said the landslide is approximately 600 to 800 metres in length, 600 metres across and 30 metres deep. The pooling water has formed a lake that is roughly eight to 10 kilometres long.

■ LANDSLIDE, A7

## Flaring Mideast tensions strain Lebanon's fragile political system

MARK MacKINNON  
SENIOR INTERNATIONAL CORRESPONDENT  
BEIRUT

THE GLOBE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Lebanon is a land of contrasts, with snow-capped mountains a short drive from sandy beaches. In good times, Sunnis, Shias, Christians and Druze live, and let each other live, as they please.

But as the Shia militia Hezbollah has

brought the country to the brink of another major conflict with neighbouring Israel, many Lebanese are once again wondering whether the contrasts are too great for the country to continue in its current form.

Concern about co-existing in a state dominated by the Iranian-backed militia has risen since the outbreak of tit-for-tat fighting across the Lebanon-Israel border 10 months ago. Tensions have spiked after a weekend rocket attack on the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights, which killed 12 Druze children, and a retaliatory Israeli air strike on the Beirut suburb of Harat Hreik,

which killed seven, including a senior Hezbollah commander.

Hezbollah, along with Iran and other Tehran-backed militias, was believed to be planning its own retaliation on Thursday, amid warnings from Israel that could lead to all-out war.

Even without such fears, a 2021 poll conducted by the Princeton University-based Arab Barometer found only 10 per cent of Lebanese were satisfied with the country's political system, which divides power up among the various religious communities.

■ LEBANON, A15



ALICIA WYNTER/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

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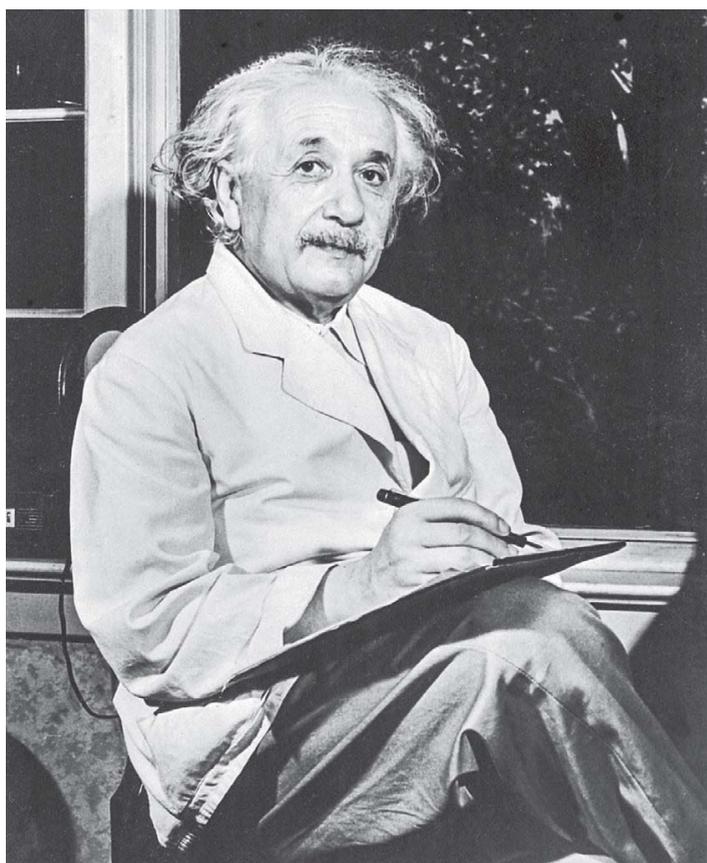
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## MOMENT IN TIME

AUG. 2, 1939 | FROM THE ARCHIVES



AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

## EINSTEIN PENS LETTER TO FRANKLIN ROOSEVELT

‘Watchfulness, and if necessary, quick action,’ Albert Einstein urged to Franklin Roosevelt. It was deep concern that brought the famous physicist to sign off on those words, imploring the U.S. president to jump-start the United States’ atomic research program. Einstein had fled Germany upon Hitler’s election. Now, he feared the Nazi Party was in the process of developing an atomic bomb. Signing a letter such as this one was out of character for Einstein: He was a pacifist, but he was worried that if

the United States did not begin its own atomic program, Nazi Germany would be the only country in possession of the weapon of mass destruction. The letter wasn’t delivered until October, 1939, because of the outbreak of the Second World War. Upon receiving it, Roosevelt told his military adviser, “This needs action.” And so, the Manhattan Project was born, eventually leading to atomic bombs dropped on Nagasaki and Hiroshima – military actions that Einstein denounced.

MEGAN MARRELLI (2017)

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OPINION



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RITA TRICHUR

OPINION



While prices have fallen, electric vehicles still create considerable sticker shock ■ B4

focus  
pause  
reconnect  
create  
share

## Remember the ice bucket challenge? A decade later, viral campaign is again fundraising for ALS

MICHAEL CASEY BOSTON

Dozens of people, including the Massachusetts Governor and several sports stars, dumped cold water on themselves at Fenway Park Thursday to mark the 10th anniversary of the ALS ice bucket challenge.

The event is part of an effort to renew interest in the viral social-media campaign that has raised money to find a cure for Lou Gehrig’s disease. Organizers said the campaign has raised US\$250-million thus far and led to an additional US\$1-billion in research funding.

“Our son’s life was one of grace, determination and purpose, that through his resilience, diligence and courage, he created a movement that is still being celebrated today for all those that have been affected by this horrific disease,” said Nancy Frates, the mother of Pete Frates, who helped popularize the challenge along with Pat Quinn. Both were diagnosed with ALS and have since died.

“Even though his human body is no longer with us, his powerful spirit is still being celebrated along with the historic movement,” she said. “You brought results. But as Pete would say, ‘We can have fun today but the job isn’t done. Let’s get back to work tomorrow.’”

Dr. Merit Cudkovicz, the director of the Sean M. Healey & AMG Center for ALS at Mass General Hospital who was also Mr. Frates’s doctor, recalled her first meeting with him and how he vowed to raise US\$1-billion for ALS research. Among the benefits there have been more drugs to treat the disease.

“It’s hard to believe that dumping a bucket of ice over your head was going to change how we think



Participants pour water on their heads on the 10th anniversary of the ALS ice bucket challenge at Boston’s Fenway Park on Thursday.

MICHAEL DWYER/ASSOCIATED PRESS

about ALS, but that simple act did more to raise awareness for ALS than any other effort, and it catalyzed amazing research advances,” she told the crowd of several hundred including ALS patients and their families. “It brought so many new scientists to the field all over the world and that’s making the difference today for people living with ALS.”

After the speakers finished, about 75 people, including several families with small children, lined up on the baseball field in front of tiny buckets. All at once, they dumped ice-cold water from tiny buckets onto their heads.

In the stands, Mike Cunningham was watching the event from his wheelchair.

Diagnosed with ALS last year, he admitted it can sometimes be hard to get out of his house. But he said he wasn’t going to miss Thursday’s event, which gave him a sense of pride, hope, courage and “thankfulness for all the kindness that people show.”

“People are good. People are

kind and they step up when people need help,” he said. “It’s easy to forget that with all the news you hear every day. You see it. You feel it, the kindness. Friends, neighbours, strangers that come out and try to help fight this awful disease.”

In 2014, Mr. Quinn saw the ice bucket challenge on the social-media feed of professional golfer Chris Kennedy, who first dared his wife’s cousin Jeanette Senerchia to take a bucket of ice water, dump it over her head, post a video on social media and ask others to do the same or to make a donation to charity. Ms. Senerchia’s husband had ALS.

Mr. Quinn and Mr. Frates helped popularize the challenge. When the two picked it up, the phenomenon exploded. Thousands of people participated in the viral trend, including celebrities, sports stars and politicians. Online videos were viewed millions of times.

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Above: Ellie Black of Team Canada competes on the balance beam during the artistic gymnastics women's all-around final on Day 6 at Bercy Arena on Thursday in Paris. EZRA SHAW/GETTY IMAGES

Below: Amy Millar takes part in the equestrian jumping team qualifier. ZOHRA BENSEMRA/REUTERS

Right: Canada's Kia Nurse, in red, and Australia's Alanna Smith go for the ball in the women's preliminary round Group B basketball match. AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES



## FIFA to decide if Canada will face further soccer sanctions, IOC says

CATHAL KELLY PARIS

The International Olympic Committee says it will not investigate past allegations of cheating by the Canada women's soccer team, despite having awarded the team its medals.

"It would be a matter for FIFA," IOC spokesperson Mark Adams said Thursday. "They have to continue their investigations and they would have to come up with sanctions."

A report by TSN suggested that Canada's pattern of spying on opponents extended to the Tokyo Olympics, against the host country. Canada tied Japan 1-1 in an opening round game.

After that report, Canadian Olympic Committee chief executive David Shoemaker cast doubt on the propriety of Canada's gold medal in Japan.

"There appears to be information that could tarnish that Olympic performance in Tokyo," he said at a news conference. "It makes me ill, it makes me sick to my stomach, to think that there could be something that calls into question ... one of my favourite Olympic moments in history."

IOC spokesperson Mr. Adams posited a hypothetical scenario in which a medal winner was retroactively disqualified by its federation.

"Then there could be a medal reallocation," he said. "But that would first and foremost be for the federation [FIFA, in this instance] to make the decision."

In its 26-page decision to impose several penalties on Canada, including docking them six points, there is a promise to continue pursuing the matter. "As a final note, the Chairperson wished to remark that this decision related **only** [bolded in original] to the drone incidents that occurred at the OFT (Olympic football tournament)," the authors of the report wrote. "As the Chairperson understands it, [Canada Soccer] is conducting its own broader investigation into spying. In this respect, the Chairperson expects [Canada Soccer] to provide FIFA with the results of said investigation in order for it to be able to assess and decide whether further action by the FIFA bodies is necessary and appropriate."

Asked about any next steps on Thursday, a FIFA spokesperson referred back to this specific clause. When asked if any country had ever voluntarily returned a medal upon discovering it had been awarded unfairly, Mr. Adams — a man who has always had an answer to hand — seemed stumped. "I can't say. I don't think so."

In a subsequent e-mail, the IOC confirmed that no Olympian has ever given a medal back.

## MLSE should act on spying

CATHAL KELLY  
OPINION



When John Herdman took over the Canadian national women's soccer program in 2011, it was in shambles.

The women had finished dead last at the World Cup that year. Canada was in the process of wasting the youth of one of the world's great players, Christine Sinclair.

Thirteen years, three Olympic medals and a lot of good press later, Mr. Herdman — who hasn't coached the team in ages — has now returned it to shambles.

If, as Canada Soccer has claimed to FIFA, the spying program "was started by one person — John Herdman," then this is on him.

He didn't fly drones in France. He didn't oversee people who did it. He didn't write e-mails asking how to corral errant staffers who refused to take part in it. But he would have created the culture in which all of that could happen.

A basic sense of fairness suggests you don't get to light a fire and then walk off as the house burns, but that's what's happening.

After a decade in the Canadian public sector, Mr. Herdman has gone into private soccer practice with Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment.

Asked about the scandal by reporters in Toronto before his name had been dropped into it, Mr. Herdman played coy. He described the news as "surprising" and "a shock." He didn't look shocked. If anything, he looked mildly amused.

"I'm highly confident that in my time as a head coach at an Olympic Games or a World Cup, we've never been involved in any of those activities," Mr. Herdman said.

One was left with the impression that Mr. Herdman was not surprised by what had happened, but that it had happened so foolishly. At an Olympics? Who's that careless? By Wednesday, his old bosses had wedged him under the wheels of FIFA's big bus, and Mr. Herdman's expansiveness had disappeared.

Now MLSE was doing the talking for him, via a canned statement: "To maintain the integrity of Canada Soccer's independent review, Toronto FC

head coach John Herdman will refrain from any further comment until the review has been completed."

I love this line about the "integrity" of investigations. It's de rigueur, and makes no sense. Why would this process depend on total secrecy? That's not for its good, but for *your* good.

Also, using that word allows you to sneak in the impression of probity where it may not belong.

Thus far, Mr. Herdman has shown little interest in defending the program he built. He also hasn't mounted much fight on behalf of his protégé, Bev Priestman.

Ms. Priestman is a professional dead woman walking. Canada Soccer didn't even bother trying to appeal her one-year suspension. What does that tell you?

Coaches are fired for far less. And while there's no need to sympathize with her — she seemed happy to let others dangle to save herself — you do feel some empathy.

Ms. Priestman's already retaught us Cardinal Richelieu's lesson — "Never write a letter, and never destroy one."

Unless someone else was also foolish enough to lay out the conspiracy in an e-mail, it's going to be easy to pin all of this on her. Easy doesn't make it right.

If this happened the way Canada Soccer claims, it wasn't her idea. She was taught to do it by her predecessor. After seven years under Mr. Herdman, the entire program and everyone in it would have been acclimated to his ideas.

If Ms. Priestman's career is functionally over, why is Mr. Herdman still working?

Obviously, Canada Soccer has no power over MLSE. But what's the country's premier sports concern's angle in this?

There is a world in which you can see this spinning out for weeks and months, even more disastrously than it has here in Paris.

What if Canada cheated in Tokyo in 2021? That's been reported by TSN. What then? How can we keep that gold medal?

What if the team cheated in the lead-up to Rio 2016, where it won bronze? Or London 2012, where it won the medal that made the Canadians famous?

You can't maintain a state of heightened alertness for more than a

short while. Who else was lazy and started writing texts and e-mails they shouldn't have? They will be found.

On the balance of probabilities, it seems likely that Mr. Herdman authored a program that could become the biggest sporting embarrassment in this country since, well, the last one.

MLSE is a part of the country, isn't it? Every chance it gets it's waving the flag. It is always droning on about how the Raptors are Canada's team. 'We the North' and so on.

If it turned out the coach of the Maple Leafs lit a fuse that threatened to explode the Canadian men's hockey team right after an Olympics, MLSE would not be issuing carefully worded statements. It would be strapping him to a rocket on the top of Scotiabank Arena and asking around for matches. No one man is worth more than MLSE's image as a Canadian institution.

Though Toronto FC is the runt of the MLSE litter, the same thinking should apply.

There should be an investigatory process. Until it is completed — and in order to spur it along — Mr. Herdman should either categorically deny that he has ever spied on opponents, or he should be suspended from his duties until it is.

MLSE — a company that makes its money in Canada from Canadians — should ensure that.

Neither Mr. Herdman nor MLSE responded to a request for comment on this column.

You may reasonably think this scandal is small beer. That everybody cheats, so why is it such a big deal when we do it? Or how bad can it be?

It's fine to think that way. But then let's dispense with the grand talk every two years about the glory of sport, and how much the Olympics expresses our national values. Let those words never escape the mouths of another politician or sports executive.

If that's the case, let's call sports what it is — a distraction from the banality of existence. No different than heavy drinking and online shopping.

If, on the other hand, you want sport to represent something meaningful, it falls to organizations like MLSE to ensure that all those whom they employ in a position of authority embody that word they love using so much — integrity.

# Boxing win deepens gender controversy

Winning Algerian boxer, who has been under scrutiny for differences of sex development, has faced critics who say she has an unfair advantage

PAUL WALDIE PARIS

It took just 46 seconds for Algeria's Imane Khelif to win her first boxing match at the Paris Olympics on Thursday and deepen the controversy surrounding her participation in the Games.

Ms. Khelif came out swinging and hit Italy's Angela Carini in the face with two quick jabs. The Italian took the first blow but then stopped briefly and walked over to her trainer. After the second shot, she abandoned the fight. Ms. Khelif threw her arms up in triumph, while Ms. Carini, 25, held back tears.

The rapid and odd end to the fight left the crowd stunned and raised more questions about Ms. Khelif, who has come under fierce scrutiny over her gender since arriving in Paris.

Ms. Khelif, 25, is a rising star of the sport. She has a 36-9 record as an amateur and a collection of medals from various international competitions. But she's also believed to be among a handful of athletes who have differences of sex development, or DSD — formerly known as intersex individuals — which in her case causes high levels of testosterone.

The sports world has struggled for years over how to deal with athletes with DSD who identify as women but naturally produce more testosterone. Critics argue they have an unfair advantage, but others say these athletes often have to meet humiliating requirements in order to compete.

The most famous case involves South African runner Caster Semenya, who has been waging a legal battle with World Athletics over regulations the federation introduced in 2018 that require athletes with DSD competing in certain events to take medication to lower their testosterone levels. The regulations have been upheld by the Court of Arbitration for Sport, but Ms. Semenya has filed a challenge at the European Court of Human Rights.

The governing bodies of cycling, swimming and rugby union have also tightened their rules concerning testosterone levels.

Ms. Khelif has not confirmed that she has DSD. But during last year's world boxing championships, she was disqualified just before the gold-medal match because her testosterone levels failed to meet the eligibility criteria. Another boxer, Taiwan's Lin Yu-ting, was also kicked out for the same reason.

Afterward, the head of the International Boxing Association (IBA) said both fighters had XY chromosomes, which are found in males. "Based on DNA tests, we identified a number of athletes who tried to trick their colleagues into posing as women," IBA president Umar Kremlev



Algeria's Imane Khelif, left, fights against Italy's Angela Carini in their preliminary boxing match at the Olympics in Paris on Thursday. After taking two blows, Ms. Carini abandoned the fight, telling reporters later it was 'too painful' to continue. PHOTOS BY SIEGFRIED MODOLA/THE GLOBE AND MAIL



Ms. Khelif, left, wins her fight against Ms. Carini, a bout that took only 46 seconds. Afterward, she said she was going for gold. 'I will fight anybody. I will fight them all,' she said.

told Russian media at the time.

Normally the International Olympic Committee (IOC) defers to a sport's governing body to determine which athletes are allowed to compete at the Olympics. But the IOC does not recognize the IBA because of longstanding concerns over the association's governance and finances. Olympic officials who organized the Paris 2024 boxing tournament took a more lenient stand and allowed Ms. Khelif and Ms. Lin to compete.

In a statement this week, the IOC said "all athletes participating in the boxing tournament of the Olympic Games Paris 2024 comply with the competition's eligibility and entry regulations, as well as all applicable medical regulations."

IOC spokesperson Mark

Adams acknowledged that the rules concerning eligibility for female athletes were complicated. "Everyone would love to have a single answer: yes, no, yes, no. But it's incredibly complex," he said.

But the differing treatment has only heightened the debate raging around Ms. Khelif and Ms. Lin, who fights her first match on Friday.

The IBA issued a statement Wednesday criticizing the IOC for using different eligibility requirements on these matters, in which IBA is not involved, raise serious questions about both competitive fairness and athletes' safety," the association said.

Ms. Carini told reporters after the match that Ms. Khelif's

punch was too hard and that she couldn't go on. "I went to the corner, I raised my hand and I said, 'Enough — it's too painful,'" she said.

She said she'd been taught to box by her father, who always told her to be a warrior in the ring. "This time I couldn't do it. I couldn't keep on fighting, so I stopped the match," she said through tears, adding that, like a warrior, she threw down her sword in surrender.

It was the second heartbreaking Olympics for Ms. Carini. Her father died the night before her first fight at the Tokyo Games, which she lost. She quit the sport but made a comeback eight months ago. "She told me: 'I want to come back. Boxing is my life,'" said her trainer, Emanuele Renzini. "Last Olympics my fa-

ther died. Today this," he recalled her saying, his voice trailing off.

Mr. Renzini said Ms. Carini had been told by several people not to fight Ms. Khelif. "Many people in Italy tried to call and tell her: 'Don't go, please. It's a man, it's dangerous for you,'" he said.

Neither he nor Ms. Carini wanted to comment on whether Ms. Khelif should have been allowed to fight. "I'm not here to judge," she said. "I simply came in the ring to fight for my dream."

Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni weighed in Thursday by challenging Ms. Khelif's participation.

"I think that athletes who have male genetic characteristics should not be admitted to women's competitions. And not because you want to discriminate against someone, but to protect the right of female athletes to be able to compete on equal terms," she said.

The Algerian had little to say after the match. "I am here for gold," she told broadcasters. "I will fight anybody. I will fight them all."

She had plenty of support in the crowd. She entered the ring to a roar of cheers, and several spectators waved Algerian flags. Algeria's Olympic Committee, the COA, has also stood by the athlete.

The "COA strongly condemns the unethical targeting and maligning of our esteemed athlete, Imane Khelif, with baseless propaganda from certain foreign media outlets," the committee said in a statement this week. "Such attacks on her personality and dignity are deeply unfair, especially as she prepares for the pinnacle of her career at the Olympics. The COA has taken all necessary measures to protect our champion."

## McIntosh: Swimmer's massive workload sets her up for multiple medal pursuit

FROM A1

Jill McIntosh was in the stands, jumping up and down as Summer headed for the finish.

"Sharing that moment with her was pretty cool," Summer said after the race.

"I know she's just so proud of me, along with the rest of my family. But just to have them here, I can't thank them enough for all their support and sacrifices."

Before the race, her family provided some private words of encouragement.

"We told her the country was behind her," her father, Greg, said. "Go do what you do."

And she did. What Ms. McIntosh does, to be exact, is swim faster than most of the world right now. And she's been doing a lot of it.

Just over an hour after winning the 200-metre butterfly, Ms. McIntosh got back in the pool in a bid to help the women's 4x200-metre relay team find the podium. It didn't work out; the squad placed fourth behind powerhouses Australia, the United States and China.

But it was another example of the massive workload Ms. McIntosh is undertaking at these Olympics in her history-making pursuit of multiple medals. She



Summer McIntosh competes in the 200-metre butterfly finals during the Paris Games on Thursday. SIEGFRIED MODOLA/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

will contend for a fourth medal on Saturday in the 200-metre individual medley and will likely find her way into another relay final. All told, she will have swum roughly three kilometres in Paris by the time the Games are over.

Perhaps the most remarkable feat she's pulled off yet is finding a way to refocus after the first gold medal Monday, then grabbing another gold in the butterfly Thursday. Between those two races were interviews, texts from her sister with a discussion about their cats at home, and a phone

call from the Prime Minister. But Ms. McIntosh said she's been doing her best to rest, relax and refocus after each medal, putting newly won hardware behind her and looking ahead.

"It's a lot more simple than probably people think behind the scenes. All I'm doing is eating and sleeping, other than when I'm swimming," she said. "Just keep it simple, try to rest my brain as much as I do my body, and that's kind of what works best for me."

Asked if she gets nervous —

because it doesn't show during the races — Ms. McIntosh said not really.

"I just get adrenaline and anticipation and I really try to feel the energy," she said.

Her mother has imparted some wisdom from her Olympic experience 40 years ago.

"I just remind Summer, most of the swimmers you're swimming against you already have faced," she said, including at other meets like the world championships and the Commonwealth Games.

"It's the same field you're competing against. But there's a lot more distractions. There's a lot more pressure, there's a lot more people in the stands, it's even just noisier," her mother said.

"You don't want to block it all out, though, because I think it's impossible. You have to embrace some of it and just say, 'okay, this is part of the Olympics, and just keep your strengths in mind, and keep focused.'"

Her coach, Brent Arckey, said they spent the past year plotting out an Olympic scenario in Sarasota, Fla., where Ms. McIntosh trains. That meant putting her through high-intensity situations and pushing her to the limit even in practice, especially after she had just returned from a meet. They wanted to emulate the re-

bound-and-race, rinse-and-repeat approach they were to attempt at the Games.

"It's something we rehearsed," Mr. Arckey said.

"Maybe you're coming off a swim meet and you're doing something fast afterwards, you have all these opportunities to get up and rehearse high-performance efforts over and over and over again," he said. "And that's just setting up a chaotic situation, teaching somebody to achieve in those situations."

Her time in the 200-metre butterfly, 2 minutes 3.03 seconds, was an Olympic record and the second-fastest time in the history of the event. American Regan Smith took silver in a time of 2:03.84, while China's Yufei Zhang claimed bronze in 2:05.09.

With a silver medal Saturday in the 400-metre freestyle, the 400-metre individual medley gold on Monday and another win Thursday, the hardest thing for Ms. McIntosh and her coach is to fight off the urge to celebrate. There is still work to do, including her next podium bid on Saturday.

Celebrating only brings distraction.

"We're trying to get to the end of this thing," Mr. Arckey said. "And then we'll be able to take the deep breath."

## Swap: Securing release of Americans held overseas tops Biden's foreign policy agenda

■ FROM A1

But the welcome news was still sure to spark concerns over the imbalance of the deal – with Russia freeing journalists, dissidents, and others convicted in a highly politicized court system in exchange for people the West regards as rightfully charged – and whether it gives foreign actors seeking leverage over the U.S. an incentive to take prisoners.

Under the deal, Russia released Mr. Gershkovich, a reporter for The Wall Street Journal who was jailed in 2023 and convicted in July of espionage charges that he and the U.S. vehemently denied and called baseless; Mr. Whelan, a Michigan corporate security executive jailed since 2018, also on espionage charges he and Washington have denied; and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty journalist Alsu Kurmasheva, a dual U.S.-Russian citizen convicted in July of spreading false information about the Russian military, accusations her family and employer have rejected.

Emma Tucker, the Journal's top editor, called it a "day of great joy" and said: "I cannot even begin to describe the happiness and relief that this news brings, and I know all of you will feel the same."

Mr. Biden placed securing the release of Americans held wrongfully overseas at the top of his foreign policy agenda for the six months before he leaves office. In his Oval Office address to the American people discussing his recent decision to drop his bid for a second term, the Democrat said, "We're also working around the clock to bring home Americans being unjustly detained all around the world."

In addition to Mr. Kara-Murza, a Kremlin critic and Pulitzer Prize-winning writer serving 25 years on charges of treason widely seen as politically motivated, the Russians released included Oleg Orlov, co-chairman of the Nobel Peace Prize-winning human rights group Memorial, and associates of the late Russian opposition leader Alexey Navalny. Five German citizens also were released, including a German national held in Belarus. Also freed was Ilya Yashin, 41, a politician who spoke out against the war in Ukraine.

The Russian side got Vadim Krasikov, who was convicted in Germany in 2021 of killing a former Chechen rebel in a Berlin park two years earlier, apparently on the orders of Moscow's security services.

Russia also received two alleged sleeper agents who were jailed in Slovenia, as well as three men charged by federal authorities in the U.S., including Roman Seleznev, a convicted computer hacker and the son of a Russian lawmaker, and Vadim Konoshchenok, a suspected Russian intelligence operative accused of providing American-made electronics and ammunition to the Russian military. Norway returned an academic arrested on suspicions of being a Russian spy, and Poland also sent back a man it detained.

Thursday's swap of 24 prisoners surpassed a deal involving 14 people that was struck in 2010. In that exchange, Washington freed 10 Russians living in the U.S. as sleepers, while Moscow deported four Russians, including Sergei Skripal, a double agent working with British intelligence. He and his daughter in 2018 were nearly killed in Britain by nerve agent poisoning blamed on Russian agents.

Speculation had mounted for weeks that a swap was near because of a confluence of unusual developments, including a startlingly quick trial and conviction for Mr. Gershkovich, which Washington regarded as a sham. He was sentenced to 16



Evan Gershkovich, from left, Alsu Kurmasheva and Paul Whelan speak on the phone with U.S. President Joe Biden on Thursday in Ankara, Turkey, after their release from Russian prison. U.S. GOVERNMENT/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

### CANADA PLAYS SMALL ROLE IN DEALING WITH THOSE INVOLVED IN SWAP

Canada played a small role in dealing with some of the people involved in Thursday's prisoner swap, particularly Canadian-born Paul Whelan, who holds multiple citizenships.

Canada's ambassador to Russia, Sarah Taylor, visited Mr. Whelan in prison, and Julie Sunday, Global Affairs' senior official for hostage affairs, held discussions with him. Canada also provided him with consular services.

The conversations with Mr. Whelan largely focused on assuring him that the United States, Canada and other Western nations were working diligently to win his release, according to a senior government official. Mr. Whelan was always "incredibly resilient and optimistic" that he would return home, the official said.

The Globe and Mail is not identifying the official who was not authorized to publicly discuss the matter.

Ms. Sunday also held regular talks with

U.S. special presidential envoy Roger Carstens on how to help secure Mr. Whelan's release as well as the sister of Mr. Whelan, the official said.

On Thursday night, the Whelan family put out a statement thanking Canadian officials, among others. "It is important to recognize the representatives of the Canadian, British, and Irish governments as well," the statement said. "Each Embassy has provided Paul with consular support – visits, co-ordination of materials for his survival, disbursement of prisoner funds, delivery of mail and hope – both in Moscow and Mordovia."

The family also said they "appreciated the subsequent advocacy by Julie Sunday and Global Affairs Canada."

The senior government official noted that dissident Vladimir Kara-Murza was granted honorary Canadian citizenship in June, placing him with some of the world's great human-rights heroes, in-

cluding Raoul Wallenberg and Nelson Mandela. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau lauded Mr. Kara-Murza's courage and dedication to democracy.

The official said that Canada has also led the way in trying to deter countries such as China and Russia from resorting to hostage diplomacy. Canada, the United States and a coalition of 76 other countries have endorsed a non-binding declaration denouncing state-sponsored arbitrary detentions of foreign nationals for political purposes.

The declaration came amid the Canadian government's efforts to free Michael Kovrig and Michael Spavor after they were imprisoned in China in 2018 on allegations of espionage. Ottawa accused Beijing of hostage diplomacy in retaliation for the detention of Huawei executive Meng Wanzhou on an extradition request by the U.S.

ROBERT FIFE

years in a maximum-security prison.

In a trial that concluded in two days in secrecy in the same week as Mr. Gershkovich's, Ms. Kurmasheva was convicted on charges of spreading false information about the Russian military that her family, employer and U.S. officials rejected.

Also, in recent days, several other figures imprisoned in Russia for speaking out against the war in Ukraine or over their work with Mr. Navalny were moved from prison to unknown locations.

Mr. Gershkovich was arrested March 29, 2023, while on a reporting trip to the Ural Mountains city of Yekaterinburg. Authorities claimed, without offering any evidence, that he was gathering secret information for the U.S. The son of Soviet

emigres who settled in New Jersey, he moved to Russia in 2017 to work for The Moscow Times newspaper before being hired by the Journal in 2022.

He had more than a dozen closed hearings over the extension of his pretrial detention or appeals for his release. He was taken to the courthouse in handcuffs and appeared in the defendants' cage, often smiling for the many cameras.

U.S. officials last year made an offer to swap Mr. Gershkovich that was rejected by Russia, and Mr. Biden's Democratic administration had not made public any possible deals since then.

Mr. Gershkovich was designated as wrongfully detained, as was Mr. Whelan, who was detained in December, 2018, after

travelling to Russia for a wedding. Mr. Whelan was convicted of espionage charges, which he and the U.S. have also said were false and trumped up, and he was serving a 16-year prison sentence.

Mr. Whelan had been excluded from prior high-profile deals involving Russia, including the April 2022 swap by Moscow of imprisoned Marine veteran Trevor Reed for Konstantin Yaroshenko, a Russian pilot convicted in a drug trafficking conspiracy. That December, the U.S. released notorious arms trafficker Viktor Bout in exchange for getting back WNBA star Brittney Griner, who had been jailed on drug charges.

ASSOCIATED PRESS with a report from Robert Fife



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23

# Proposed U.S. bill to challenge presidential immunity

Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer says there is an obligation to check the Supreme Court on its decision

MARY CLARE JALONICK  
WASHINGTON

Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer introduced legislation Thursday reaffirming that presidents do not have immunity for criminal actions, an attempt to reverse the Supreme Court's landmark decision last month.

Mr. Schumer's No Kings Act would attempt to invalidate the decision by declaring that presidents are not immune from criminal law and clarifying that Congress, not the Supreme Court, determines to whom federal criminal law is applied.

The court's conservative majority decided July 1 that presidents have broad immunity from criminal prosecution for actions taken within their official duties — a decision that threw into doubt the Justice Department's case against Republican former president Donald Trump for his efforts to overturn his 2020 election loss.

Mr. Schumer, of New York, said that Congress has an obligation and the constitutional authority to check the Supreme Court on its decision.

"Given the dangerous and consequential implications of



Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer's bill, titled the No Kings Act, which was introduced Thursday, currently has little chance of passing in the chamber unless it garners more GOP support. ROD LAMKEY/ASSOCIATED PRESS

the court's ruling, legislation would be the fastest and most efficient method to correcting the grave precedent the Trump ruling presented," he said.

The Senate bill, which has more than two dozen Democratic co-sponsors, comes after Democratic President Joe Biden called on lawmakers earlier this week to ratify a constitutional amendment limiting presidential immunity, along with establishing term limits and an enforceable

ethics code for the court's nine justices. New York Democratic Representative Joseph Morelle recently proposed a constitutional amendment in the House.

The Supreme Court's immunity decision stunned Washington and drew a sharp dissent from the court's liberal justices warning of the perils to democracy, particularly as Mr. Trump seeks a return to the White House.

Mr. Trump celebrated the decision as a "BIG WIN" on his so-

cial-media platform, and Republicans in Congress rallied around him. Without GOP support, Mr. Schumer's bill has little chance of passing in the narrowly divided chamber.

Speaking about Mr. Biden's proposal, Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell said that Mr. Biden's proposal would "shred the Constitution."

A constitutional amendment would be even more difficult to pass. Such a resolution takes a

two-thirds vote in both the House and the Senate, which is highly unlikely at this time of divided government, and ratification by three-fourths of the states. That process could take several years.

Still, Democrats see the proposals as a warning to the court and an effort that will rally their voting base ahead of the presidential election.

Vice-President Kamala Harris, who is running against Mr. Trump in the November election, said earlier this week the reforms are needed because "there is a clear crisis of confidence facing the Supreme Court."

The title of Mr. Schumer's bill harks back to Justice Sonia Sotomayor's dissent in the case, in which she said that "in every use of official power, the president is now a king above the law."

The decision "makes a mockery of the principle, foundational to our Constitution and system of government, that no man is above the law," Justice Sotomayor said.

In the ruling, Chief Justice John Roberts wrote for the majority that "our constitutional structure of separated powers, the nature of presidential power entitles a former president to absolute immunity from criminal prosecution for actions within his conclusive and preclusive constitutional authority."

But Chief Justice Roberts insisted that the president "is not above the law."

ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Father and son accused in Toronto terror plot make court appearance

COLIN FREEZE

A father and son accused of plotting an Islamic State-inspired terrorist attack appeared in court Thursday via video link, though neither was yet represented by a lawyer.

Handcuffed, wearing orange prison garb and making use of an Arabic interpreter, the two, who appeared in separate hearings, listened to the proceedings before the case was put over until

Aug. 7. A routine publication ban bars reporting of the content of the hearing.

Police have said that the arrests earlier this week foiled an imminent plot to carry out an attack in Toronto in the name of the Islamic State terrorist group. Authorities said the intended violence would have involved a machete and an axe.

Canadian citizens Ahmed Eldidi, 62, and Mostafa Eldidi, 26, face a series of charges including participating in a terrorist group, fa-

cilitating terrorist activity, conspiring to commit murder, and dangerous-weapons offences.

Police said the older suspect arrested in the case also faces a newly laid charge alleging that in 2015, he committed an aggravated assault in a foreign country "for the benefit of, at the direction of, or in association with" the Islamic State.

Neighbours of the two suspects in east Toronto have described them as part of an Egyptian family who had arrived in

Canada at some point within the past three years. Police tactical teams carried out co-ordinated arrests and raids related to the Eldidis on Sunday using a drone, a police dog and breaching equipment. The properties that were raided included the suspects' Scarborough residence and also a hotel in Richmond Hill.

On Wednesday, members of the RCMP's federal policing wing announced that they made the arrests with help from several Greater Toronto Area municipal

forces. Investigators said they did not know about the suspects or their alleged plot until about a month ago, and that it evolved to the point where it was hours away from being carried out when it was thwarted.

The Islamic State was designated as a terrorist group in Canada in 2012, back when the group's members had begun carving out a self-styled caliphate out of Syria and Iraq while its leaders urged followers to launch attacks on people in the West.

## OTTAWA TO INTRODUCE MORE MEASURES TO REDUCE TEMPORARY IMMIGRATION, FEDERAL MINISTER SAYS

Ottawa is preparing to unveil a suite of measures to clamp down on temporary immigration and has no plans to follow through right now on a broad program offering status to undocumented residents, the federal Immigration Minister told Reuters.

"The era of uncapped programs to come into this country is quickly coming to an end. This is a big shift. You can't just slam on the brakes and expect it to stop immediately," Marc Miller said in an interview with Reuters on Thursday.

Canada has long prided itself on welcoming newcomers, and the current Liberal government has overseen a dramatic increase in the influx of new residents, especially temporary ones, as many employers struggled to fill vacancies coming out of the pandemic.

But, over the past year the tide has shifted, as immigrants are being blamed for a worsening housing situation, along with an affordability crisis in the country, and critics have accused the federal government of bringing in too many people.

A Leger poll conducted in July found 60 per cent of respondents said there are too many immigrants coming to Canada.

REUTERS

## Appeals court upholds Trump's gag order, lawyers request judge recuse himself over connection to Kamala Harris

MICHAEL R. SISAK NEW YORK

Two months after his felony conviction, Donald Trump still isn't allowed to say everything he wants about his historic hush-money criminal case. After a New York appeals court upheld his gag order on Thursday, he won't be for a while.

The state's mid-level appellate court denied the Republican former president and current nominee's latest bid to lift the restrictions, swatting away a last-minute argument that he's being unfairly muzzled while Vice-President Kamala Harris, his likely Democratic opponent, pits herself as an ex-prosecutor taking on a "convicted felon."

At the same time, Mr. Trump's lawyers are again asking the trial judge, Juan M. Merchan, to step aside from the case, saying his daughter's past work as a Democratic political consultant for Ms. Harris's 2020 presidential campaign underscores questions about his ability to be impartial.

Justice Merchan rejected the defence's two prior recusal requests, last year and at the start of the trial in April, saying its concerns were "hypothetical" and based on "innuendos" and "unsupported speculation."

In a letter Thursday to Justice Merchan, Trump lawyer Todd Blanche said Ms. Harris's entry into the presidential race makes those issues "even more concrete" and said the judge has failed to address them "at a level of detail sufficient to repair the lack of public confidence in the integrity of these proceedings."

In its gag order ruling Thursday, a five-judge panel found that Justice Merchan



Former U.S. president Donald Trump appears in New York court for his hush money trial in May. A five-judge panel found that Justice Juan M. Merchan's upholding of Mr. Trump's gag order was the correct decision until his September sentencing. DAVE SANDERS/NYT

was correct in keeping some restrictions in place until Mr. Trump is sentenced because the case is still pending and his conviction doesn't constitute a change in circumstances that would warrant lifting it.

The gag order bars Mr. Trump from speaking out about members of the prosecution team, court staffers or their families, including Justice Merchan's daughter, who has been the target of Mr. Trump's wrath in the past.

In June, Justice Merchan lifted a ban on Mr. Trump publicly commenting about witnesses and jurors in the case, and he has always been free to speak directly

about the judge and Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg, an elected Democrat whose office prosecuted the case.

Mr. Trump is scheduled to be sentenced on Sept. 18, but the case and the gag order could be terminated before that if Justice Merchan grants a defence request to throw out his conviction in light of the Supreme Court's presidential immunity ruling. He said he plans to rule on Sept. 6.

Mr. Blanche and a spokesperson for the Manhattan district attorney's office declined to comment on Thursday's ruling.

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## UTAH'S NEAR-TOTAL ABORTION BAN TO REMAIN BLOCKED UNTIL LOWER COURT ASSESSES ITS CONSTITUTIONALITY

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH A near-total abortion ban will remain on hold in Utah after the state Supreme Court ruled Thursday that the law should remain blocked until a lower court can assess its constitutionality.

Democrats cheered the decision, which means that abortion will, at least for now, remain legal up to 18 weeks under another state law that has served as a fallback as abortion rights have been thrown into limbo.

The panel wrote in its opinion that the Planned Parenthood Association of Utah had legal standing to challenge the state's abortion trigger law, and that a lower

court acted within its purview when it initially blocked the ban.

Their ruling only affects whether the restrictions remain on pause amid further legal proceedings and does not decide the final outcome of abortion policy in the state. The case will now be sent back to a lower court to determine whether the law is constitutional.

The trigger law that remains on hold would prohibit abortions except in cases when the mother's life is at risk or there is a fatal fetal abnormality. A separate state law passed last year also allows abortions up to 18 weeks of pregnancy in cases of rape or incest.

Utah lawmakers passed the trigger law in 2020 to automatically ban most abortions should the U.S. Supreme Court overturn Roe v. Wade. When Roe fell in June, 2022, abortion rights advocates in Utah immediately challenged the law, and a district court judge put it on hold a few days later.

Kathryn Boyd, president and chief executive officer of the Planned Parenthood Association of Utah, celebrated the ruling Thursday and said she hopes the lower court will ultimately strike down the trigger law so they can continue serving patients without political interference.

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# Authorities begin to reopen Jasper highway

Fire is expected to worsen owing to hot, dry conditions as officials decide when resident can return

TEMUR DURRANI  
NATIONAL REPORTER

The highway that runs through Jasper National Park is being reopened for select commercial vehicles, but officials warn the wildfire that has destroyed nearly one-third of the townsite's structures will likely become more active during a stretch of hot, dry weather.

Officials are also preparing to transport seniors who were living in the town's three care homes from British Columbia back into Alberta and are working to determine when it would be feasible to allow Jasper residents into the community to check on their homes and properties.

The wildfire in Jasper, Alta., has consumed 32,500 hectares since last week, making it the largest burn in the famed alpine park in the past 100 years. And while crews have put out the flames in the townsite, the wildfire continues to burn around it.

"Weather like what we have coming — increasing temperatures, decreasing humidity and a forecast of increasing winds — are all prescriptions for fanning the flames," Jasper Mayor Richard Ireland said at a briefing in Hinton, Alta., on Thursday.

He sighed before adding: "It will happen. There will be more flames."

More than 10,000 seasonal and permanent Jasper residents have been forced to evacuate, along with roughly 15,000 visitors. Firefighters have said the flames could burn for months.



The Jasper, Alta., blaze is the largest burn in the park in the past 100 years. While crews have put out the flames in the townsite, the wildfire continues to burn around it. AMBER BRACKEN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

More than 10,000 seasonal and permanent Jasper residents have been forced to evacuate, along with roughly 15,000 visitors. Firefighters have said the flames could burn for months.

Mr. Ireland, whose own home burned down, said many Jasper residents have expressed their desire to view the damage to their properties. "It is jarring, but it is also part of the healing journey we all have to go through," he said.

"We are working on that, recognizing that there is still fire on the landscape. We can only let people return when it is safe for them, safe for the people still on the ground responding to the wildfire."

Highway 16 — a major artery that runs through Jasper and continues into British Columbia — will now be available to trucks, tractors and trailers with a registered weight above 11,794 kilograms. However, RCMP will only allow access during three time blocks: 5 a.m. to 7 a.m., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and

8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Dean MacDonald, the deputy incident commander on the wildfire, said the time restrictions for commercial vehicles were created because he does not want anyone on the roads in Jasper overnight. "We want it to be easy for firefighter personnel to move safely in and out of there," he said.

In the meantime, the Alberta government is bringing back displaced senior Jasper residents to the province again from small communities in British Columbia — such as Valemount, a village west of the national park that had initially welcomed 16,000 evacuees last week before they were moved elsewhere.

Jason Nixon, Alberta's Minister of Seniors, Community and Social Services, said any senior resident

who is not with their family will be able to return close to Jasper in Hinton. "There, they'll be receiving the same service that they would have in the Jasper area," he told reporters.

The province is expected to announce schedules for several transportation methods for seniors and other Jasper residents as early as this weekend, Mr. Nixon added.

Steven Guilbeault, who is the federal minister responsible for Parks Canada, said Jasper was saved because of the preparations made in advance of the wildfire.

"Jasper is arguably one of the best-prepared towns in the country to face the type of wildfire we've seen," he said. "It's what we've been doing in Jasper since the late nineties that has led to what is now a national plan called FireSmart, which we're replicating all across the country. Had we not done that, there would be no Jasper today."

Randy Boissonnault, federal Minister of Employment and Workforce Development, said Ottawa is fast-tracking the provision of all employment insurance claims, old-age security and child care benefits through Service Canada.

He said officials are also working to get businesses running again as soon as possible. "But with fires burning in the region, we cannot talk right now about restoring tourism," Mr. Boissonnault added.

"This fire has burned an area that is half the size of Edmonton."

Todd Loewen, Alberta's Minister of Forestry, Parks and Tourism, drove for about 30 minutes near Jasper this week and could only see burnt forest.

"There's a lot of work to do," he said.

"We are talking about something that is on a scale that is hard to imagine. It is heartbreaking," Mr. Boissonnault added.

## Landslide: Evacuation orders span 107 square kilometres along the Chilcotin River

FROM A1

Mr. Cullen said the government is working with experts and local communities "to understand if a slower release of water is imminent or possible in a natural way, or through other interventions."

The landslide occurred late Tuesday night, resulting in a blockage of the Chilcotin River near Farwell Canyon, a remote area in the central B.C. Interior. The province issued an emergency alert on Wednesday, saying sudden potential flooding and debris flow could pose a threat to human life. It directed people and boaters to immediately leave the banks of the Chilcotin River from Hanceville to the Fraser River, and from the banks of the Fraser River from the Chilcotin River to Hope.

Ms. Ma said while it appeared that the landslide had resulted in a complete blockage on Wednesday, on-site monitors reported some water seepage through the area on Thursday.

"Of course, the Chilcotin River is also fed by many other tributaries," she said. "It is possible that the water is finding its way elsewhere."

Only one injury has been reported. A man camping along the Chilcotin River with his dog awoke to the sound of the slide on Tuesday night and ran to safety as the ground moved beneath his feet, according to Central Cariboo Search and Rescue. The man was treated in hospital; his dog has not yet been located.

B.C.'s River Forecast Centre has issued a flood warning for the Chilcotin River north of the slide, meaning river levels have exceeded or will exceed the top of its banks imminently, and a flood watch downstream, meaning river levels will approach or may exceed its banks.

Evacuation orders span 107 square kilometres along the Chilcotin. The Cariboo Regional District says 60 properties are covered by the orders, including 12 homes with an estimated 13 residents.

Dwayne Tannant, a professor in the School of Engineering at the University of B.C., reviewed images of the slide on Wednesday and said water levels could rise for about a week before overtopping the dam. He said the province likely issued warnings reaching as far south as the Fraser Valley out of an abundance of caution.

"You'd probably see the water rise a little bit at Hope," he said. "I don't think it's going to be catastrophic or anything, but nobody



Communities along B.C.'s Fraser and Chilcotin rivers are being warned to leave the area over fears a landslide that dammed the Chilcotin River could give way, causing floods. ARIBOO SEARCH AND RESCUE/CP



THE GLOBE AND MAIL, SOURCE: OPENSTREETMAP

knows for sure."

Connie Chapman, executive director of the water management branch in the Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship, said the area saw landslides in 2004 and 1964, but "definitely not to the scale and scope" of this week's event.

Cariboo Regional District chair Margo Wagner said geotechnical, hydrology and engineering teams from the province are assessing the situation.

"It's hard to give a definitive timeline [but] the province now has boots on the ground actually out in the area," she said in an interview Thursday afternoon.

Ms. Wagner said the landslide comprises a mixture of sand and silt, making it vulnerable to erosion. The district is working closely with Indigenous partners,

whose involvement is crucial, given that it is salmon-spawning season and there are significant archaeological sites along the river, she added.

Williams Lake First Nation Chief Willie Sellars said his community was concerned about the impact of the slide on culturally significant sites, such as villages and burial grounds, and on the salmon run. The Big Bar landslide of 2019, north of Lillooet, trapped migrating salmon and had an impact that lasted years.

"We can only hope that our prayers will be answered and the fish are able to make it through this natural disaster," he said.

But "it's not just about the land and the fish and areas of cultural significance to our people. It's also about the mental health and wellness of our people."

## British PM announces policing plan to deal with protests after stabbings

JILL LAWLESS  
BRIAN MELLEY LONDON

British Prime Minister Keir Starmer condemned the "tiny mindless minority" behind unrest that has plagued several cities after a horrific stabbing attack at a children's dance class and vowed to put a stop to it as the 17-year-old suspect was publicly named Thursday in part to counter misinformation blamed as one cause of the fiery clashes.

Mr. Starmer said the violence was "clearly driven by far-right hatred" as he announced a plan to enable police to move between communities — just as the "gang of thugs" does. Officers will more easily be able to share intelligence and use facial recognition technology and other tools to prevent the kind of outbursts that have sent scores of police to the hospital the past two nights. "This is co-ordinated; this is deliberate," he said. "This is not a protest that has got out of hand. It is a group of individuals who are absolutely bent on violence."

The announcement came after police in several cities were pelted with bottles by crowds apparently reacting to the stabbings Monday that killed three and wounded 10.

The teen charged with murdering three girls and stabbing 10 other people made his first appearance and was named in court partly to counter misinformation about his identity that has been blamed for triggering violent protests across England.

Judge Andrew Menary said his decision to allow Axel Rudakubana to be named was exceptional given the boy's age. But he said the teen will lose his right to anonymity when he turns 18 next week and continuing to shield his identity could allow false information about his name and immigration status to metastasize.

"Continuing to prevent the full reporting has the disadvantage of allowing others to spread misinformation, in a vacuum," Justice Menary said in Liverpool Crown Court.

The attack Monday on children at a Taylor Swift-themed summer holiday dance class shocked a country where knife crime is a long-standing and vexing problem, though mass stabbings are rare. The deaths have been used by far-right activists to stoke anger at immigrants and Muslims — though the suspect is not an immigrant, and his religion has not been disclosed. Mr. Rudakubana, who police said was born in Wales, has not been charged with terrorism offences but faces three counts of murder over the deaths of Alice Dasilva Aguiar, 9, Elsie Dot Stancombe, 7, and Bebe King, 6, in the seaside town of Southport in northwest England.

He also has been charged with 10 counts of attempted murder for the eight children and two adults who were injured.

Far-right demonstrators — fuelled, in part, by online misinformation — have held several violent protests, ostensibly in response to the attack, clashing with police outside a mosque in Southport on Tuesday and causing a melee near the Prime Minister's office in London the next day.

Hundreds of protesters chanting "we want our country back" hurled beer cans and bottles near the Prime Minister's Downing Street residence in London on Wednesday evening, and launched flares at a nearby statue of wartime leader Winston Churchill. More than 100 people were arrested for offences including violent disorder and assault on an emergency worker, London's Metropolitan Police force said.

On Tuesday night, a crowd of several hundred people hurled bricks and bottles at riot police in Southport, set trash cans and vehicles on fire and looted a store, hours after a peaceful vigil for the stabbing victims.

Police said a name circulating on social media purported to be the suspect's — spread by far-right activists and accounts of murky origin purporting to be news organizations — was incorrect, as were claims he was an asylum-seeker.

ASSOCIATED PRESS



CIERRA ABDUL, 13

“Blue is one of my favourite colours but it’s also the colour of my costume for Kiddies,” said Cierra, who also danced in the juniors’ event. “The design of it, I kind of just winged it, if I’m being honest.” She felt it was important to be a part of the classes to support BGD. “Ashley is my cousin, so when I signed up for this I already knew the things we were going to do and I already knew this part was probably going to be my favourite.”

# MORE THAN A DOLL

Workshop teaches girls how to design their own Barbie inspired by Toronto’s Caribbean Carnival

SIERRA BEIN  
PHOTOS BY ALICIA WYNTER

Even after you’ve aged out of playing with dolls, there’s something special about holding a Barbie that looks like you. And if there’s anything we learned from the popularity of Greta Gerwig’s award-winning movie, it’s that no one is ever too old for Barbie.

Ahead of this weekend’s Caribbean Carnival in Toronto, seven girls aged 11 to 16 were guided through a step-by-step workshop on how to create their own carnival-themed dolls. The event, held in an east Toronto community centre, was put together by Brown Gyal Diary, or BGD, an organization that runs events and provides resources for young Caribbean women.

The first question on the girls’ minds: Is my doll going to look like me?

“You will all be getting Barbies and they will not be white,” chuckled Ashley Abdul, the founder of BGD. Once the dolls were put on the table, laughter and yelling swept the room as the girls clamoured to find the one they would take home.

“The inspiration was just being able to provide a space for young women that I never had,” says Ms. Abdul, who founded BGD four years ago. “And definitely a big part of BGD is

destigmatization.” She hopes to provide the girls with a carnival experience that’s as educational as it is fun, and that lets them explore their own culture in an accepting environment.

The workshop to build personalized carnival Barbies was just one in a series called “Carnival Canvas,” inspired by the parade and meant to introduce young girls to different creative pursuits, and help them better understand their own culture. The workshops are funded by Artreach and the Toronto Arts Council.

Ms. Abdul hopes that the events also remind the girls about the origins of Carnival, which celebrates the rebellion against enslavement.

“It’s about your freedom,” said Brampton, Ont.-based Sabrina Sooknanan, who led the workshop and who designs mas (short for masquerade) costumes. Initially she made Carnival Barbies for her friends so they could remember what they wore, but after seeing them gain popularity on social media, she started selling customized dolls so other people could have a mini version of their costume.

“There’s so many ways to be involved in the carnival space other than just putting on a costume and being on the road,” she added.

The girls shared their creations with The Globe and Mail.



Savannah Colley uses a bedazzling tool to add tiny jewels to her doll’s costume during the workshop in east Toronto this week.



GABRIELLE (GABI) PICKETT, 14

“It was very calming,” Gabi said, describing gluing gems to the doll’s costume. “It was just kind of you and your imagination.” Gabi chose a doll that had her hair texture and skin colour, and liked that designing the doll was “something different.” She was excited to be able to get to know the other girls through the program. “I haven’t had a lot of chances and opportunities to connect with my culture because most of my family is still in Trinidad or they live far, so it’s not like there’s someone I can see every day,” she said. “This is a good way to connect and meet more people.”



BRITTANY GASTON, 12

“It was great,” Brittany said about the day. “I feel like [BGD] built this so girls can connect and just express their culture, and just to feel welcome.” She did her doll’s hair up to match her own. “I was going more for a Barbie that looks like me,” she said. Brittany feels spaces like this are special, and is happy to have friends who have similar experiences growing up “Trini” – short for Trinidadian – like her. “And some of my teachers are, so they understand me more sometimes.”



AJNA DA ROS, 16

"I'm usually not a hands-on arts and craft person," Ajna said, but she has found the workshops to be a fun way to keep the community together, and keep the culture alive as well. "As a Guyanese person, we don't get very much representation in the Caribbean because we're not an island, we're mainland Caribbean," she said. "A lot of people think 'oh, you're South American.' So having people that understand that, 'hey, we're all in this together' is very nice."



STORY RAMOS-GABRIEL, 12

"I liked having the chance to make my own doll that actually looks like me," Story said. "Most of it is blue because my favourite colour is blue, and one of my favourite Kiddie costumes I had was blue." Her favourite part of the day was seeing a finished product that came directly from her imagination. She enjoys learning about her Jamaican and Trinidadian culture. "When I was little, my mom introduced me to soca and I loved it. I wanted to learn more and my mom just started signing me up for things."



Sephira Surjan adds tiny jewels to her Barbie during the workshop put on by Brown Gyal Diary.



SAVANNAH COLLEY, 11

It might go without saying, but Savannah's favourite colour is pink. "I wanted her to be extra, and stand out from all the other Barbies, so I gave her some big earrings and a nose piercing," she said. "I wanted her to be different." Savannah's favourite part of the day was being with all her friends, talking and being creative. "I feel like it's important to represent my culture," she said. Savannah has also been a carnival dancer in the juniors' event called Kiddies. "I like always seeing the costumes, and I love the feathers, that's why my girl has lots of feathers."



SEPHIRA SURJAN, 14

"I kind of did my feathers wrong, I put them straight instead of sideways," Sephira pointed out. Although she described her Barbie design as "literally all random," she was able to draw inspiration from participating in Kiddies this year. "It was my first time, it was really good. I'm used to watching it, I'm used to watching the adults." She tries to find other spaces to connect to her culture, too, like the Caribbean student association, "which is the first-ever one in my school."

# 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

## Quebec injects politics into health care

In Quebec, language is political. It was that way before the province enacted the Charter of the French Language, a.k.a. Bill 101, in 1977, and it has stayed that way in the nearly five decades since.

But through two referendums and all the fractious debates about the use of English on signs, the right to an education in English, over whether pasta can be called “pasta” in an Italian restaurant and so on, the Quebec government has never inserted overt language politics into the place where people are most vulnerable and most in need of support – the health care system.

Until now, that is.

Last month, the Quebec Health Ministry released a directive outlining the permissible exemptions to an expansion of Bill 101 that requires that all written and oral communications in any health care setting – doctor’s office, emergency room, delivery room, therapist’s couch – be in French only.

French Language Minister Jean-François Roberge insisted this week that people will still be able to receive care in English and other languages when they need it, but the mere existence of a directive that reinforces the requirement to use French only by listing a narrow range of exceptions sends a different message.

It also doesn’t help that the list is weirdly specific and focuses on episodes where a refusal to provide care in a person’s mother tongue would be inhumane – and possibly constitute medical malpractice.

They included: a father who can’t speak French who brings his gravely ill 10-year-old son to the emergency room can be asked in English for consent to treat the child in order to prevent any delay; an emergency hotline operator who gets a call from an English-speaking adolescent in a state of psychosis may answer the person in English; the Ukrainian spouse of a convalescing patient who needs a catheter can take home printed instructions on changing the catheter in their language.

Just to put these things down on paper seems at once patronizing and menacing. Why is it even necessary to state that an ER doctor may choose to get consent for a lifesaving treatment in English from a desperate, unilingual parent? Why is it even necessary to say that a hotline operator can choose to respond to a desperate caller in their language?

Those things should be done as a matter of course, as they would be in any other place. It is the responsibility of every jurisdiction in which multiple languages are spoken to do their best to provide emergency services and health care in a range of languages, to the best of their ability.

The implication in the Health Ministry’s directive is that Quebec is doing its long-time anglophone population and its growing immigrant population a reluctant favour.

The same document takes pain to remind health care workers that they can only provide immigrants with care in their language for the first six months after they arrive in Quebec. And it says English-speaking Quebecers who’ve lived their whole lives there can only deal in English with the system if they are in possession of a certificate from the Education Ministry stating they were entitled to attend English-language schools – a humiliating carding system.

Otherwise, the directive says that the health care system must work “systematically” in French, and all first contact must be made in that language. This applies to hospitals that have been granted bilingual status because they serve specific communities, such as the Jewish General Hospital and Santa Cabrini Hospital, where Italian is spoken.

There is no doubt that doctors, nurses and other front-line health workers in Quebec won’t stop for a single second to double-check which language they are permitted to use in what emergency; they will always try to do what’s best for patients, in spite of bureaucrats from the Office québécois de la langue française watching over their shoulder.

But the government doesn’t want patients’ needs coming first, no matter the risk. Its injection of language politics into the health care system could, in spite of workers’ best intentions, slow down or stall a treatment needed to save someone’s life, and result in tragedy.

That’s unacceptable. Hospitals and doctors should be left alone to decide how to care for patients, and patients have the right to expect that the language they happen to have been born speaking won’t affect their care. The only directive that should come from any government is, Do the right thing.



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### IF, THEN

Re “The Haniyeh assassination pushes Iran and Israel back to the brink of war” (Aug. 1): Dennis Horak, former Canadian chargé d’affaires in Iran, writes that the “underlying tensions between Israel and Iran ... seem intractable.” If Iran were to stop trying to destroy Israel, the problem would become tractable.

■ **Paul Socken**  
Distinguished professor emeritus,  
University of Waterloo;  
Toronto

### JUDGMENT CALL

Re “Not so fast” (Letters, Aug. 1): A letter-writer bemoans Canada’s “juristocracy,” querying how long we should “obey judges who impose their beliefs on us.” I find this insidious suggestion worrisome.

While vigorous debate on the merits and perils of the notwithstanding clause is valuable, arguments that would undermine our democratic institutions at best add nothing, and at worst – let’s not go there.

■ **Nicole Chrolavicius**  
Burlington, Ont.

### NEXT ROUND

Re “Canada loses appeal of FIFA penalty in Olympic drone spying scandal” (Online, July 31): So Minister of Sport Carla Qualtrough attempts to write down the cheating and chalk it up to nothing more than the “perception of unfair advantage.”

This is more than perception. It’s possible to support the players while simultaneously showing disgust for those involved in cheating and the organization that enabled it. More should be expected from Ms. Qualtrough.

■ **Jon Heshka**  
Associate professor, sports law,  
Thompson Rivers University;  
Kamloops

Re “Canada Soccer has a different definition of the truth than the rest of us” (Sports, Sept. 1): We have merely, as a country, discovered another Ben Johnson moment. Everybody cheats. We just got found out.

It may make practical sense for fair play to add cheating, drugs and lying as an Olympic event. The competition would be very close, apparently.

■ **M. C. H. Burgess** Surrey, B.C.

### SEARING HEAT

Re “Could Jasper change how we manage wildfires?” (July 31): I believe Banff will burn.

In the late 1980s, the Alberta town called for tenders to build affordable housing in the heavily treed Middle Springs area. The consortium I was part of proposed fire-resistant metal roofing

with stucco siding.

The winner featured cedar shake roofing with vinyl siding. We were stunned, not because we lost the bid but that the town would be so heedless of the fire danger in the selected building materials.

In the 30 years my family lived and worked in Banff, we never stopped worrying about the big one. Thanks to poor forest management and lack of planning, I believe it is not a question of if but when Banff will burn.

■ **John Seigner** Calgary

Now that forest fires have cleared vast acreage, what ever happened to Justin Trudeau’s plan to plant millions of trees?

Seems like a solution whose time has come.

■ **Chris Tworek** Calgary

### MORE LIFE

Re “The controversy behind animal sentience” (July 26): The debate around animal “sentience” (abilities to feel pleasures and pains) involves a spectrum of views. At one extreme, some believe even single-celled organisms are sentient. At the other, sadly missing from this op ed, are views that most animals are non-sentient.

Some neuroscientists believe sentience is unique to primates, for instance, and the Ontario Federation of Agriculture has proposed that farm animals lack sentience. Such positions potentially imply that fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and farm animals need no protection from welfare harms.

Currently the National Farm Animal Care Council and Canadian Council on Animal Care do somewhat protect these animals. However, whether they protect them enough, or protect all relevant species, is a continuing ethical issue.

This moral and political context is what makes the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association’s new statement on sentience so crucial for animals in Canada.

■ **Georgia Mason**  
Colonel K. L. Campbell Chair in  
Animal Welfare, University of Guelph

### JUST A NUMBER

Re “The conversation we really need about aging doesn’t involve U.S. presidential candidates” (July 25): Not only are more people living to old age (traditionally considered 65), we are also living longer in old age.

There are at least two generations over 65. Many people in their 60s and 70s have a parent or parents in their 80s, and some in their 80s have a relative over 100.

Old age can be decades long and requires planning as we live 10, 20, 30 and, for some, even 40 years in later life. There is great

diversity of capability among older people.

The conflation of aging issues and “being old” in general, with behaviours indicative of physical frailty or cognitive decline, is deeply problematic. They are not one and the same.

■ **Anne Martin-Matthews**  
OC, professor emerita of sociology,  
University of British Columbia;  
Vancouver

### CLOSER READ

Re “Let’s talk about it: How do you solve a problem like Alice Munro?” (Arts & Books, July 27): I would say the exact opposite, namely that it’s time to stop talking about Alice Munro.

As a member of the arts and literary community, it seems that she is getting a free pass when it comes to society’s standards of morality. I can only imagine that if she was any other Canadian icon, there would be loud cries to strip her of Nobel Prize and any other awards.

End of story.  
■ **Michael Gilman** Toronto

Novelist and editor Russell Smith argues that we not assume fiction provides lessons (or even should), nor be read as autobiography. As he underlines, decoding authorial intent from stories isn’t literary criticism, it’s the seeking of “meaning.”

Didactic writing, however, is mostly bad writing, and Ms. Munro was certainly known to avoid that.

■ **Robin Collins** Ottawa

### MAKE IT STOP

Re “Only hard-core Marvel fans will survive Deadpool & Wolverine’s multiverse of mind-numbing madness” (July 26): Within three minutes, I wanted it over.

I found the gratuitous but predictable and supposedly artistic violence boring and stupid. The “clever” profanity that drenches it, the same.

I’m not sure there was a plot, and there was not one nanosecond when I didn’t know it was all going to end just fine. I guess apart from rating it the worst movie I’ve ever seen, it is nonetheless deeply disconcerting that this is considered entertainment. And that it is massively successful.

It doesn’t even raise the conversation any more that movies like this feed into a culture of gun violence. The whole thing is just appalling.

■ **Nigel Smith** 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](mailto:letters@globeandmail.com)

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# No sane person could vote for Trump

The entry of Kamala Harris into the presidential race has changed it in a profound way

GARY MASON

OPINION

You really have to hand it to U.S. Republicans and their proxies – when they get labelled with something, they really know how to lean into it.

Lately, Republicans are being called anti-women and just plain weird. The anti-women tag has been getting fresh attention because of the storm caused by Donald Trump's running mate, J.D. Vance. In an interview with right-wing commentator Tucker Carlson a few years ago, which was recently unearthed, Mr. Vance derided the fact an increasing num-

ber of Americans were not having kids.

For that, he seemed to put the blame on women, referring to them as "childless cat ladies." Given the chance to backtrack or clarify, Mr. Vance did anything but, saying he only wanted people to know he didn't have anything against cats. Then there is the Republican war on abortion ...

Minnesota Governor Tim Walz, a Democrat, is the one credited for labelling Republicans "weird." Mr. Walz was largely, but not exclusively, referring to just about anything that comes out of Mr. Trump's mouth. He also could have been talking about the strange things you often hear watching Fox News.

These are folks who (mostly) worship at the altar of Mr. Trump and who believe they have the proper pulse on America, not the Democrats.

The other day, the male host of a Fox show called *The Five* was ranting about anyone who would vote for Ms. Harris just because

she is a woman.

"[The Democrats are] not the party of virtue, security – it's not the party of strength – it's definitely not the party of family," said Jesse Watters. "And to be a man and then vote for a woman just because she's a woman is either childish – that person has mommy issues – or they are just trying to be accepted by other women."

If he'd stopped there it might have been enough to simply make a few million people across America spit up the coffee in their mouths. But he couldn't. He had to go on so their heads exploded, too.

"And I heard the scientists say the other day that when a man votes for a woman, he actually transitions into a woman."

Now, that is weird.

I highlight this latest bit of Republican craziness because it underscores, I believe, just how scared and rattled the party and its supporters on Fox and elsewhere are. They are frightened of Ms. Harris and what she has done

to the U.S. presidential race.

She has changed it in a profound way. Mr. Trump and his team have seldom seemed as unnerved. The former president is not sure how to attack Ms. Harris beyond calling her names – a "lunatic," "liar," "evil," et al. In a bizarre appearance at a convention of Black journalists this week, Mr. Trump doubled down on weird, saying Ms. Harris was Indian before "she happened to turn Black. And now she wants to be known as Black." For good measure, he added that illegal migrants were pouring across the U.S. border and stealing "Black jobs."

Mr. Trump is so scared he's now talking about not debating Ms. Harris.

It has given Ms. Harris a great line on the campaign trail. "If you've got something to say, say it to my face," she extolled at a recent campaign stop.

At first, it looked like the tight window Joe Biden left Ms. Harris and the Democrats to try and win the November election would be a negative. It actually might be a

positive. The Republicans don't have a long runway to try to undermine the exciting, shiny new candidate the Democrats are now running. Her honeymoon may even last a few weeks more.

She hasn't even announced a running mate or spoken to her party's national convention. Those events will also garner fresh momentum. A running mate like, say, Arizona senator Mark Kelly, a former astronaut, would only serve to contrast the deeply flawed choice Mr. Trump made for a potential VP in Mr. Vance.

Polls are coming out seemingly every day now that show the race a dead heat. Some even put Ms. Harris ahead. Regardless, the wide lead Mr. Trump had over Mr. Biden has all but disappeared. Women, for one, seem to be coalescing around Ms. Harris in big numbers.

My guess is many men are going to be jumping on board, too, unafraid of what might happen to them biologically if they cast their vote for a woman.

## Canada should reopen its Caracas embassy to support Venezuelan democracy

BEN ROWSWELL

OPINION

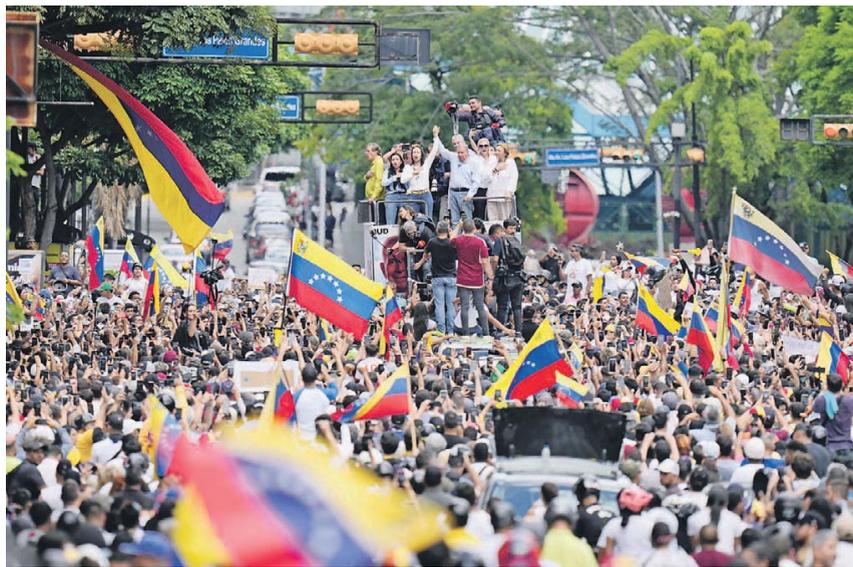
Convener of the Circle for Democratic Solidarity and Canada's ambassador to Venezuela from 2014 to 2017

In 1988, Chilean President Augusto Pinochet's hold on power seemed unassailable. After 15 years of brutal repression, political parties had been driven underground, free media suppressed, and the prisons were filled with the regime's critics. When Mr. Pinochet called a plebiscite to justify an extension in office, the main voices that called on Chileans to vote "No" belonged to non-partisan civil society organizations.

But civil society had a place to meet: the Canadian embassy. As in many countries in the Americas, our embassy was a natural gathering place for human rights activists. They would attend receptions hosted by ambassador Michel de Goumois alongside Pinochet government officials and Chileans of every political stripe. The embassy created enough space for the kinds of conversations that could only happen in person.

The countries of Canada and Chile had shared international commitments to protect our citizens' rights to political participation, among other human rights. Our diplomats were savvy enough to manage relationships with a wide diversity of political actors, both the regime officials who acknowledged these rights and the civil society actors working out how best to exercise them.

Those meetings at the Canadian embassy helped a coalition take shape which would unite civil society and convince a ma-



Opposition leader Maria Corina Machado and opposition candidate Edmundo Gonzalez ride atop a truck during a protest against official presidential election results declaring President Nicolas Maduro the winner in Caracas, Venezuela, on Tuesday. MATIAS DELACROIX/ASSOCIATED PRESS

majority of Chileans to reject an extension of the strongman's mandate. To this day, Chilean civil society leaders express gratitude to Canada for lending a room in days where there was so little space for democratic activity.

Unfortunately, in Latin America's latest struggle against dictatorship, Canada has no space to offer. In 2019, Canada closed its embassy in Caracas after the government of Nicolas Maduro stopped issuing diplomatic visas to Canadian officials.

Canada has stood by Venezuela's human rights defenders for decades. Former Ambassador Perry Calderwood initiated an annual human rights award, hosting ceremonies that drew activists of every conceivable stripe alongside president Hugo Chá-

vez's officials. During my tenure as ambassador to Venezuela, we branched out into the most deprived neighbourhoods, incorporating the concerns of the urban poor into this work. Even while operating at a distance today, Canada supports free expression online and other digital rights.

Democracy, human rights and the rule of law are values shared across the Americas. It was Canada's consistency in supporting these principles that led Latin American countries to invite Canada into the Lima Group, the collection of Venezuela's neighbours created to co-ordinate international reaction as the Maduro government transformed Venezuela into a full-blown autocracy in the late 2010s.

The Lima Group endorsed the

calls of Venezuela's elected legislature to recognize its speaker, Juan Guaidó, as interim president after the stolen election of 2018. Canada stopped issuing diplomatic visas to Mr. Maduro's diplomats as the two rival presidents jostled for power in Caracas. Mr. Maduro prevailed and consolidated power into the fully authoritarian system currently in place.

Canada's decision to recognize Mr. Guaidó had consequences. Without staff from Canada, our embassy remains closed. Caracas has joined the list of world hotspots where Canada is no longer present, including Tehran, Damascus and Kabul.

Meanwhile, human rights abuses have accelerated in each of these countries as global norms upholding the dignity of

the individual erode in the face of a resurgence of populist, nationalist and authoritarian ideologies. The surge in human suffering in these countries has generated a tidal wave of global migration.

For Canada to resume its role as a champion of human rights, we must find ways to reopen our embassies.

Granted, the rise of digital diplomacy has expanded our ability to make statements about any country on Earth. But there is no substitute for physical presence when it comes to advancing human rights and supporting democracy. Our diplomats need working relationships with those who have power and with those on whose behalf it is exercised. When present on the ground, talented diplomats can find ways to engage both and support efforts to help the former become more accountable to the latter.

Following yet another stolen election in Venezuela, the streets of Caracas are once again filling up with hundreds of thousands insisting on a return to democracy.

As Canada watches on from a distance, our government should balance a requirement to send clear messages to Venezuelans with a need to return diplomats to the field.

Five years ago, Canada took a stand on behalf of the people of Venezuela. The people lost on that occasion, as an authoritarian government managed to stay in power against their clear preferences.

But as two peoples with profound commitments to democracy, Canada's long-term relationship is as much with the people as with any government. We should send back our diplomats to resume the relationship and accompany Venezuelans on their long path back to democracy.

## The misogynists trying to turn the United States into Gilead

MARSHA LEDERMAN

OPINION

Misogyny is bad, we can all agree. When combined with power, it becomes dangerous. And it feels like it's having a moment, politically.

It felt, only a decade ago, that we were on a better path. Remember the hopefulness of 2015? When Justin Trudeau, love him or hate him, announced his first cabinet, it contained as many women as men. His reason for this gender parity was meme-worthy: "Because it's 2015."

Then came 2016 and the election of Donald Trump, Mr. Grab'em by the you-know-what. If things seemed on the decline for women then, we now find ourselves being pushed down into the mire.

Welcome to 2024, where in the U.S., abortion rights are in peril. The conservative Project 2025 openly threatened to make things worse, and Mr. Trump's pick for vice-president is a proud anti-

feminist.

Meanwhile, the chief social-media platform for political discourse is owned and controlled by a man who, suspicions were very publicly confirmed this weekend on that very site, is also a piece of work when it comes to women.

Boy oh boy. J.D. Vance was added to the Republican ticket despite comments the Ohio senator made in 2021 that the U.S. was being run by "childless cat ladies ... miserable at their own lives" who want to make the rest of country miserable too. The comment was aimed at, among others, Kamala Harris, now the presumed Democrat nominee for President.

He also accused the "childless left" of rejecting the American family, saying they did not possess a physical commitment to the future of the country.

To suggest that someone who does not have biological children does not have a stake in the future is so ludicrous that there's almost no point in explaining why. But it is also a terrible argument in light of U.S. history. Was George Washington, for instance, not con-

cerned about the country's future? After all, the country's first president didn't have any kids (that we know of).

And by the way, Ms. Harris is by all accounts (including her husband's former wife's) a loving, involved stepmother. For that, she should be lauded, not scorned.

In a scophantic interview with Megyn Kelly, Mr. Vance made jokes ("I've got nothing against cats") and ridiculous statements, calling the Democrats "anti-family and anti-child."

I'm old enough to remember when it was considered politically dangerous – or at least uncouth – to be openly misogynistic. No more. Hillary Clinton was nasty, and now Ms. Harris is childless. What's next: Accusations of witchcraft?

There is also Project 2025, the policy document drawn up by the conservative Heritage Foundation, which includes some former Trump administration officials. The foundation's director has now stepped down following outrage over its "Mandate for Leadership" – a 900-plus page blueprint that mentions abortion nearly

200 times. One example: it calls on the Trump administration to rename the USAID Office of Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE) as the USAID Office of Women, Children, and Families. Ditch the empowerment! And to remove from its gender policy all references to abortion, reproductive health and sexual and reproductive rights. The document is a road map to turn the United States into Gilead.

You may have seen discussion of Project 2025 on X, formerly Twitter. You might have also, in the past few days, seen a thread on X directly addressing its owner, Elon Musk.

Mr. Musk's former partner is the pop star Grimes, real name Claire Boucher, who is Canadian. Her mother, Sandy Garossino, is a Vancouver-based journalist who is generally private about this connection. But this weekend, she tweeted publicly at Mr. Musk, urging him to allow his children with Ms. Boucher to visit Ms. Garossino's 93-year-old mother, who is in end-of-life palliative care.

"I am alarmed to learn that the children cannot come as you are withholding them and their needed passport documents from Claire," she posted in a stunning thread.

Ms. Garossino, grandmother to three of Mr. Musk's children, wrote that she was contacting him in this way because it was the only way she can reach him to ask him to honour his agreement.

"Please Elon, I beg you. This is so painful for my mother, and concerning for the kids."

When the world's most famous tech bro, a vocal Trump supporter, behaves like this, what kind of role model does that set for all the guys who eat up his often juvenile – dare I say nasty – posts on the platform he controls?

Misogyny is nothing new, of course. But this political revival is getting old really fast.

It's enough to make you want to hunker down under the covers with a cat or two. Or emerge, roaring, as Ms. Harris has. I believe she has what it takes to put these men in their place. Perhaps send them back to the Stone Age, where they belong.

# WEEKEND WATCHING

REVIEWS | OPINION | PUZZLES | WEATHER

## Embracing the era of Colman Domingo

The great trick of *Sing Sing* is that its leading man never blows any of his amateur co-stars out of the water

BARRY HERTZ

REVIEW



### Sing Sing

CLASSIFICATION: N/A; 105 MINUTES

Directed by Greg Kwedar  
Written by Clint Bentley and Greg Kwedar  
Starring Colman Domingo, Paul Raci and Clarence (Divine Eye) Maclin

CRITIC'S PICK



Colman Domingo, left, stars in *Sing Sing*, which follows the Rehabilitation Through the Arts program at a New York correctional facility where inmates stage theatre productions for fellow prisoners.

name into the brightest of marquee spotlights for the foreseeable future. This is as big, immersive and knock-down-drag-out impressive a vehicle as any leading performer could possibly hope for. And Domingo makes an absolute five-course meal out of it.

Based on the Rehabilitation Through the Arts (RTA) program that began at New York's maximum-security Sing Sing Correctional Facility, in which inmates stage theatre productions for their fellow prisoners, the new film from Clint Bentley and Greg Kwedar is a captivating experiment in progressive docudrama. Mixing professional actors

such as Domingo alongside real-life alumni of RTA, *Sing Sing* plays with notions of authenticity in a sincere and sensitive manner, with the ultimate goal to find and highlight the aching humanity that lurks behind the coldest and harshest of physical (and metaphorical) walls.

Domingo stars as John (Divine Eye) Whitfield, a real-life RTA alum and literary buff who, while in prison, used his time to mentor younger men in the liberating art of performance and storytelling. Whitfield's latest mentee is Clarence (Divine Eye) Maclin, a real one-time inmate who here plays a younger version of himself: a cocky troublemaker whose raw

talent for the stage is often sabotaged by his fiery temper.

Together, Maclin and Domingo's Whitfield help stage a wild original musical called *Breakin' The Mummy's Code* – which features everything from ancient Egyptians to Hamlet – that the RTA group put together under the supervision of playwright Brent Buell (another real-life figure, played here by veteran character actor Paul Raci).

As they did on their 2021 film *Jockey*, Bentley and Kwedar – who trade off writing and directing duties and credits every other production – blur the borders between documentary and dramatization, injecting so much real-

world history and so many personalities into their narrative that the whole thing threatens to burst at the meta-contextual seams. Yet the pair's cautious but ambitious approach – an equal balance of grace and gratitude – helps *Sing Sing* consistently stay one step ahead of dramatic implosion.

Even the most tremendously assembled drama, though, needs a beating heart at its core. Which is where Domingo comes in, keeping the entire production pumping so fast that audiences might get emotional palpitations. The way that the actor is able to nail Whitfield down in moments so small and so large is nothing short of a magic act. Domingo's eyes at once scream bottled-up rage and undying hope.

By this point in his life, Whitfield can do little but keep his expectations and hopes for his future rock-bottom low. The man comes alive, though, every time he opens the page of a script, catches the audition of a fellow inmate or sees the potential in Divine Eye's raw talent. Domingo swims into this complicated swamp of emotions with subtle, sharp ferocity.

And yet, the great trick of *Sing Sing* is that for all of its leading man's virtuoso professionalism, the actor never blows any of his amateur co-stars out of the water. They are all of a piece, fitting together into a scrappy but lovingly assembled puzzle. Like the members of the actual RTA programs, they want nothing more than to put on a good show.

*Sing Sing* opens in select theatres Friday.

## Riotous Irish hip-hop comedy Kneecap is energetic enough to fuel a revolution

BARRY HERTZ

REVIEW

### Kneecap

CLASSIFICATION: N/A; 105 MINUTES

Written and directed by Rich Peppiatt  
Starring Naoise Ó Cairealláin, Liam Óg Ó Hannaidh and Michael Fassbender

CRITIC'S PICK



*Kneecap* is a rags-to-semi-riches success story about the rise of the controversial real-life Belfast hip-hop trio starring its actual members, Liam Óg Ó Hannaidh, from left, JJ Ó Dochartaigh and Naoise Ó Cairealláin.

Together, the three transform notebook scribbling into set-the-roof-on-fire tracks – with JJ donning a balaclava to protect his daytime identity – and gradually grab the attention of the media, and less savoury institutions.

A meta-contextual music-world biopic whose success relies upon one giant bet paying off big, the new comedy *Kneecap* is a riotous delight that will have even the most staid audiences ready to flip the bird.

When writer-director Rich Peppiatt first decided to make a fictionalized movie chronicling the rise of the controversial real-life Belfast hip-hop trio *Kneecap*, who rap in a blend of English and the endangered Irish mother tongue, the filmmaker wanted to cast the musicians as themselves. Except Peppiatt had no idea whether Naoise Ó Cairealláin, Liam Óg Ó Hannaidh and JJ Ó Dochartaigh could act. Turns out the three young men can, and then some, riffing on both their stage personas and day-to-day personal lives with the kind of slick charm that cements the lads as natural-born performers.

Shot with the zigzagging energy of an incendiary rap battle and laced with the sharp politics of a generation that's been too long disenfranchised, Peppiatt's film is both a rags-to-semi-riches success story, and a treatise on Irish geopolitics post-Troubles. Think *8 Mile* meets *Trainspotting*, shot through with a lightning bolt of don't-give-a-f\*\*k ferocity.

When we first meet Naoise and Liam, the childhood friends turned twentysomething drug dealers are barely scraping by in West Belfast. Naoise is also dealing with the emotional fallout of his father, a high-ranking Irish Republican Army militant named Arlo (Michael Fassbender, lending a big boost of star power), having abandoned the family years ago to go on the run from authorities. With several pounds' worth of chips on their shoulders and a fierce pride of their heritage – as Arlo once told his kids, "Every word of Irish spoken" – Naoise and Liam seem set on a path to absolutely nowhere.

But then through a twist of

fate – and with the unintentional aid of peelers, a.k.a. the police – Naoise hooks up with local schoolteacher JJ, an amateur DJ who is also a fierce advocate of the Irish language. Together, the three transform notebook scribbling into set-the-roof-on-fire tracks – with JJ donning a balaclava to protect his daytime identity – and gradually grab the attention of the media, and less savoury institutions.

With darts tossed at portraits of Margaret Thatcher, scenes in which Liam and his Protestant girlfriend (Jessica Reynolds) throw sectarian insults at each other as a form of foreplay, and one especially traumatizing moment of police brutality, Peppiatt's film is a blistering, provocative film that doesn't care to be polite. Which is what makes it such a propulsive breath of fresh air, as dirty, complicated and electric as the musicians it chronicles.

Crucially, Peppiatt knows how to have as much fun on the screen as his central characters do on stage. With lyrics of *Kneecap* tracks bursting onto the screen, frenetic sex scenes that are both hilarious and hot, plus one hilarious moment that feels pulled straight out of early MTV, the director's feature-film debut is a frank and inventive act of storytelling.

It also cannot be emphasized just how impressive Naoise, Liam and JJ are onscreen. So much so that it's hard to figure out where the performances stop and the real men start. The trio might be especially busy with their on-stage careers, but should *Kneecap* ever fizzle out as a troupe, each member has a bright future in the movies. But if they want to take a cue from Eminem and just stick to music, that's fine, too.

*Kneecap* opens in select theatres Friday.

## Didi proves there's no such thing as wasted youth

BARRY HERTZ

REVIEW

### Didi

CLASSIFICATION: 14A; 91 MINUTES

Written and directed by Sean Wang  
Starring Izaac Wang, Shirley Chen and Joan Chen

CRITIC'S PICK



A wonderfully uncomfortable, deeply hilarious coming-of-age movie, the new film *Didi* plays like an extended and surprisingly welcome visit to the filmmaker's childhood bedroom, if it happened to be preserved in the amber-ooze of Mountain Dew Code Red circa 2008.

That is the year – the summer, specifically – in which 13-year-old Chris, a.k.a. Didi (Izaac Wang), is trying to figure out so much of himself and his ever-changing surroundings. Living with his Taiwanese single mother Chungsing (Joan Chen), college-bound sister Vivian (Shirley Chen) and nai nai/grandmother (Chang Li Hua) in the suburbs of Fremont, Calif., Didi doesn't seem to be interested in much other than arguing with his family, skateboarding and trying to get closer to his crush, Madi (Mahaela Park).

There are awkward house parties, furtive conversations over AOL Messenger, and brief flirtations with videography, the latter coming along after Didi convinces a group of older boys that he can record their skateboarding tricks like a young Spike Jonze (who offers a quick voice cameo here as a, well, dead squirrel). But mostly, this is a film of atmosphere, vibes and character. And that is all writer-director Sean Wang, in his feature-length debut, really needs.

Very obviously mining his own youth for the material, Wang does a remarkable job of digging deep into the uglier, more cringeworthy corners of his memory, a courageous route given that so many other storytellers might instead choose to sit in the comfortable corners of sun-dappled nostalgia.

Frequently selfish and an inveterate liar – not to mention being unbearably cruel to his lonely mother over and over again – Didi can be a hard character to root for. But that's exactly why Wang's film hits as hard as it does. Didi might be a jerk, but who wasn't at his age? There is a relatability here that is both painful and poignant to recognize, and should send more than a few men, and women, in the audience straight to their mother's house to deliver some belated adolescent apologies.

As the title character, Wang offers a delicate and edgy performance. The young, relatively untested actor is a true find. He even manages to hold his own against screen veteran Chen (*The Last Emperor*, *Twin Peaks*), who plays Chungsing as if she is carrying the entire family's myriad shames and secrets on her shoulders.

Wang's ability to conjure memories and moods extends to the film's era-appropriate aesthetic. This is a movie that feels sticky, lived-in, rough around the edges, just like Didi's well-kept but dated middle-class home. The set design is also so perfect that it hurts, crammed as it is with so much early-aughts fashion and tech that it's mortifying to realize that these were the standards of the time. More than once – whether it was when Didi was trading random insults with his friends online or watching, and rewatching, the same early YouTube clips – I muttered to myself that I, too, had wasted so much of my teenage life.

Except in Wang's case, nothing was wasted. Moviegoers now have *Didi*, after all.

*Didi* opens in select theatres Friday.

Mostly, this is a film of atmosphere, vibes and character.

# The woods are calling and I must go

FIRST PERSON

Life got in the way of annual canoeing trips to Algonquin and now I'm determined to make them frequent again, **Beth Elliott** writes

Nature's call has grown louder as I've aged. In recent years, I've been lucky to answer the call, for the better part of a week. I answer it the way I learned as a child, the way my dad taught me. Starting when I was 10 years old, Dad loaded his canoe with packs, my sister and me, and we paddled into Algonquin Park's interior.

There were a number of years when I ignored Algonquin's call, or perhaps it was stifled by life. I was at grad school. I had babies, then toddlers. I just couldn't. Get. Organized. Dehydrate food. Rent a canoe. My bear spray expired five years ago. It all seemed like too much.

Eventually, my toddlers grew into children. My dad sent me the canoe outfitters' phone number. My sister reminded me Canadian Tire sold bear spray. It was still too much, even though Algonquin's call started ringing louder.

My dad and sister started taking my eldest daughter on their annual Algonquin canoe trip. My sister's kids had been canoe tripping for a few years by then.

Their photos were filled with smiles beside canoes and campfires, rapids and jumping rocks. My dad fishing and portaging with his ancient canvas pack ... my dad in his happy place.

Then it hit me ... Algonquin was my happy place, too.

I dashed to the basement to see if I still had a rain suit before I could think of excuses to continue to ignore Algonquin's call.

Bless my family, their back country prowess, their formidable organization. Since I've affirmatively answered the call, they've kept my family of four safe and sustained in the back country.

My sister, a teacher, posts her itemized Google doc and starts cooking, then dehydrating meals. Dad is a true woodsman; he can have a rope strung for the bear bag, a tarp over the kitchen and a pile of dry firewood chopped before we even have our tent poles out.

Thanks to them, I've been reunited with Algonquin's windswept red pines. I've pad-



ILLUSTRATION BY MARY KIRKPATRICK

dled silent lakes surrounded by a dozen shades of green. I've dove into cool lakes and emerged fresh, my worries washed clean. My mind has had hours to wander. I've felt fuller, calmer, stiller.

With my family's skills and my husband's brawn (his nickname is "the mule"), it was relatively easy to answer Algonquin's call for several years. Then, "the mule" popped his Achilles tendon.

A string of doubts about the summer canoe trip cascaded through my mind. Could I drive my daughters, alone, to Algonquin's remote north boundary to meet my dad and stepmom? Could I steer the canoe? Could I carry the canoe?

I had driven across Canada, alone, in my 20s, well before Google maps. I was pretty sure I could stern if we kept to smaller lakes that were less likely to become windswept. But I feared carrying a canoe like I had feared childbirth. Plus, flipping it onto my shoulders seemed impossible for someone of my size and strength.

But Algonquin called. And I needed to answer. I hearkened to the fearless independence of my younger self and called Dad. "If we shorten the route and I find a

lightweight canoe, the girls and I are coming."

YouTube provided the needed reinforcement that I was not too short, old or unfit to rocket a canoe from the ground to my shoulders. My sister coached me on technique (and it's all technique). I chanted my new mantra "commit to the flip" daily.

On our departure day, my husband checked the ropes holding the canoe on the car and waved us off. I told myself that wasn't a worried look in his eyes.

We met my dad and stepmom at the designated park office 10 minutes ahead of schedule.

I unloaded the canoe from my tall SUV using the 'short person' method my brother-in-law taught me and set it down on the lakeshore without a scratch. We loaded in our packs, our pup, ourselves and pushed off on a calm, late-August day.

The lake sparkled. I mostly steered us straight. I couldn't contain myself and broke into *My Paddle's Keen and Bright* within minutes. My daughters groaned, then joined in.

It was a relaxing, cool trip, with toques and gloves in the morning and afternoons

warm enough for swimming from our private beach. The girls caught minnows and while my eldest fished with Poppa the rest of us played (a lot of) Hearts. And I committed to the flip. Seamlessly, although not effortlessly.

I acknowledge that trip as the pilgrimage it was. A pilgrimage that got me a few steps closer to knowing that I can answer Algonquin's call. A pilgrimage back to my adventurous younger self who isn't extinct, just out of practice.

Committing to the flip was one step, but I knew there were many more. I prodded for details about my dad's new dehydrated meatloaf dinner. I started paying attention to when he used a bowline knot and how he fit bulging packs into his canoe.

My dad and sister are already planning next summer's canoe route. I'm planning what's up next for me. Likely tarp lessons. And trying out that meatloaf recipe.

Beth Elliott lives in Ottawa.

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).

## In the shadow of the multiplex, microcinemas are booming

ERIC VEILLETTE

Mike Wood remembers the first time that he walked into a microcinema. Raised in the east-end Toronto neighbourhood of Cabbagetown, the cinephile and film programmer first visited Cine-Cycle as a teenager. Operating since 1991 by projectionist and film collector Martin Heath, the former coachhouse behind 401 Richmond has long operated as a bicycle repair shop during the day, and a cinema at night.

"I was blown away by the hybrid use of the space, how it could morph into a cinema," Wood recalls. "And for the attendees, it was like a Venn diagram of multiple converging fandoms."

These days, Wood attends four to five public film screenings a week, many taking place at traditional cinemas such as the Revue Cinema or the Paradise Theatre in Toronto's west end. But many of the screenings he attends take place at non-traditional spaces such as the sci-fi bar See-Scape, CineCycle, which hosts the long-running Trash Palace series, Market Video in Kensington Market, or Eyesore Cinema, a video rental store with a screening room large enough to seat 40 guests.

"The ongoing assault on the city's arts culture makes non-traditional screening spaces more important than ever," says Wood, citing the recent funding, organizational and legal challenges faced by such organizations as Hot Docs, the Revue, and the Toronto Outdoor Picture Show.

"Eyesore has become a hub of Toronto's DIY film community," adds Wood, noting the programming offered by the Eyesore Cinema Screening Collective, which features several off-beat film series and many fests run by external renters.

"It feels like a clubhouse," says Eyesore programmer Adam Thorn, who runs the annual Terrible Fest, a celebration of what he calls "backyard films, things you won't see unless you come to the festival."

At Eyesore, Alison Lang programs *Tender Prey*, a series dedicated to showcasing erotic thrillers of the 1980s and 90s. "Loving movies is such an incredible spectrum," she says. "You can



Toronto locals attend a screening of *Tomcat: Dangerous Desires* at Eyesore in June. The *Tender Prey* series, programmed by Alison Lang, is dedicated to erotic thrillers of the 1980s and 90s. MIKE WOOD

love high art, but you can also love the sleaziest of the sleaze, and you'll have people there with you for both."

You can visit Eyesore to see Fritz Lang's *M*, but you can also find yourself within a group collectively laughing and cringing at the recently screened Richard Greco vehicle *Tomcat: Dangerous Desires*, where the former *21 Jump Street* star plays a genetically-modified sexy cat man.

"It was a full house," Lang says. "The other sellout I've had was *Skyscraper*, starring Anna Nicole Smith."

Originally from Halifax, Lang began projecting films on a giant white sheet in her old coastal backyard because a neighbour was convalescing and unable to leave the house.

"We started showing movies to entertain him. We called it the Walk-In Cinema, and in typical Halifax fashion, it became fun and lawless."

Wood says there's a sense of anarchy visible in a microcinema's programming, which faces different challenges to traditional cinemas that must guarantee a certain bottom line to meet payroll and other overhead costs. "They're not trying to maximize ticket revenue. It allows the programming team to take bigger

swings."

"If I was doing *Tender Prey* in a regular cinema, I'd feel so much pressure to get butts in seats," adds Lang. "Ninety per cent of the screenings here are pay-what-you-can. If only three people show up, I'm still having a wonderful time."

Lizzie Violet, who along with her husband Zoltan DuLac, programs Killer-B Cinema at the Junction bar See-Scape, agrees with Lang. "We try to cover our costs, but we're doing this because we love this community and the people who want to see a film together."

Killer-B Cinema tries to screen films that have fallen in the public domain or are copyright-free, which Violet says "can sometimes be challenging." Lang says Eyesore's programmers license films through a non-theatrical distributor, for which they pay an annual fee. "I try to have a wide variety of options, because many of the films I want to screen at *Tender Prey* are somewhat forgotten, never had a DVD release, or simply aren't available in the distributor's catalogue."

Although some microcinemas like CineCycle boast 35-mm and 16-mm projectors, Eyesore's screening room is equipped with a digital video projector, capable

of handling videocassette and disc formats such as DVD and Blu-ray. "Those who come here are not format purists. They know they might be getting the worst-looking rip of all-time. Sometimes, the crummier it looks, the better," says Lang, who adds that she personally does not own a Blu-ray player. "It has been the subject of much mockery."

The microcinema scene is also modular, adds Wood. "It can shift from one venue to another. Pack up your boxes of Super 8 reels, your projectors and seats and set up shop in a new space. It's almost like a caravan."

These spaces have a direct lineage to the earliest days of movie-going. The first 19th-century projection houses in Toronto were in fact pop-ups in empty storefronts along Yonge Street, lined with wooden planks for seating as a projector whirred at the back of the room, flickering short loops of nitrate film. The first actual film projection in Toronto history took place in a tent at the 1896 Exhibition.

Traditional cinemas typically book films far in advance, but smaller microcinemas can be more nimble, says Scott Miller Berry, managing director of the *Rendezvous with Madness* Film

Festival, and one of the co-ordinators of re:assemblage collective, a screening group currently presenting films at the Bathurst Cultural Centre and 401 Richmond. "Sometimes we've picked films with less than a week's notice, but groups like ours have tapped into an audience of people who are willing to move quickly."

In this ever-evolving movie-going landscape, Thorn encourages people to bring their ideas to Eyesore's collective. "If you're weird or socially awkward, or have something to say, we welcome you. Weird wacky taste? You will find some of your people here. It's a safe, inclusive space to do that."

Or you can create your own space.

"I saw a hand-made flyer for a surprise Super 8 screening some time ago, which naturally piqued my attention," says Wood. Turns out that local filmmaker Rennie Taylor had rented out Wychwood Barns in order to show their short Super 8 films. "The venue only seated 12," adds Wood. "It was so packed that the program had to be run multiple times."

Special to The Globe and Mail

### TODAY'S SUDOKU SOLUTION

2	6	3	5	9	1	4	7	8
7	4	8	2	6	3	1	5	9
9	5	1	4	8	7	2	6	3
6	7	4	8	3	5	9	2	1
8	1	2	6	7	9	5	3	4
5	3	9	1	4	2	6	8	7
1	2	7	3	5	4	8	9	6
3	8	5	9	1	6	7	4	2
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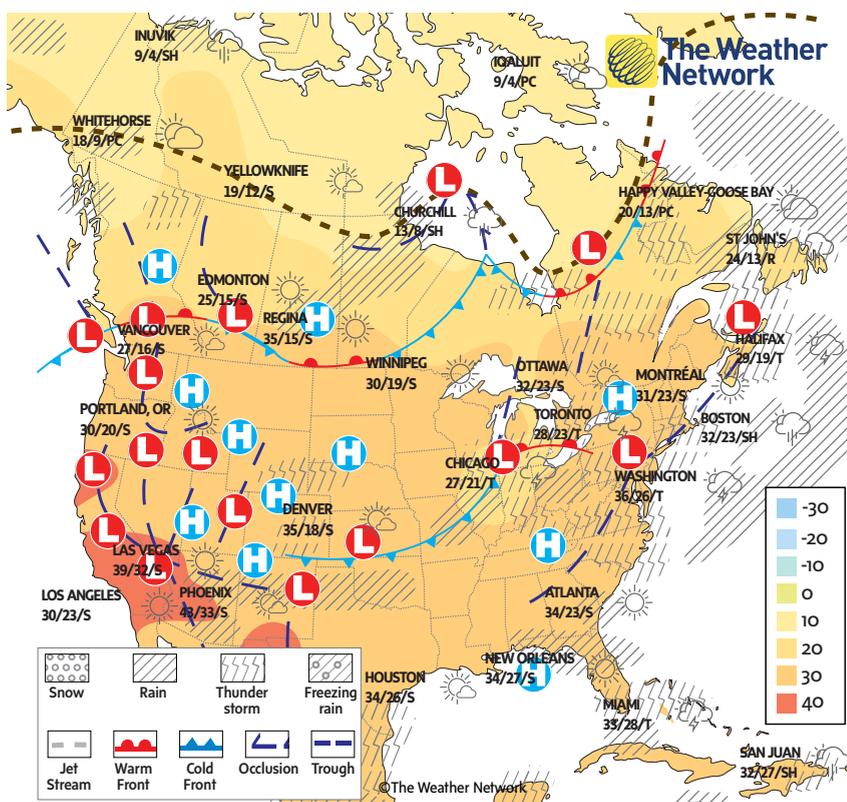
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**WORLD FORECAST**

	TODAY	TOMORROW	SUNDAY
AMSTERDAM	25/17 S	23/16 SH	22/15 PC
ATHENS	36/25 S	36/26 S	36/26 S
BANGKOK	31/26 R	30/26 T	32/26 C
BEIJING	33/24 T	31/25 R	32/25 C
BERLIN	20/15 R	26/17 S	22/14 R
BRUSSELS	26/14 SH	23/15 SH	22/13 C
COPENHAGEN	21/14 C	22/17 PC	22/15 PC
FRANKFURT	25/15 SH	25/16 SH	23/15 SH
HONG KONG	30/28 T	30/28 SH	31/28 SH
JERUSALEM	32/20 S	31/18 S	31/21 S
LAS VEGAS	39/32 S	42/33 S	44/33 S
LONDON	28/17 S	24/15 SH	23/16 PC
LOS ANGELES	30/23 S	31/23 S	32/23 S
MADRID	34/22 S	36/23 S	38/24 T
MIAMI	33/28 T	32/27 T	31/28 T
MOSCOW	22/14 SH	23/14 SH	23/14 SH
NEW DELHI	34/27 T	33/28 SH	33/27 SH
NEW YORK	31/24 PC	29/24 T	28/23 T
NICE	30/25 S	30/25 S	30/25 S
ORLANDO	34/25 SH	34/26 T	33/25 SH
PARIS	27/15 SH	26/18 PC	25/16 C
PHOENIX	43/32 S	45/34 S	46/33 S
ROME	36/24 S	36/24 SH	35/24 SH
SAN FRANCISCO	17/13 C	16/13 PC	16/13 PC
SEOUL	32/26 T	33/26 T	34/27 SH
SINGAPORE	30/25 T	29/26 T	29/27 T
SYDNEY	16/8 SH	18/7 S	17/9 PC
TOKYO	34/26 S	33/27 SH	33/25 SH
WASHINGTON	36/26 T	34/25 T	33/24 T

**NATIONAL FORECAST**

	TODAY	TOMORROW	SUNDAY
BANFF	29/14 T	27/13 T	23/12 T
BARRIE	30/20 PC	28/18 PC	27/17 S
BRANDON	30/17 S	23/12 PC	23/13 S
CALGARY	28/16 S	28/15 T	24/14 T
CHARLOTTETOWN	27/20 SH	28/21 S	26/20 T
CHICOUTIMI	29/19 S	27/18 T	25/14 T
CORNER BROOK	23/14 R	27/18 S	26/20 SH
CORNWALL	31/22 S	29/20 PC	29/19 T
EDMONTON	25/15 S	26/14 SH	25/13 S
HALIFAX	29/19 T	27/19 S	25/19 T
HAMILTON	28/21 T	29/19 T	30/18 SH
HUNTSVILLE	31/20 PC	29/18 PC	27/16 SH
IQALUIT	9/4 C	8/5 PC	8/5 SH
JASPER	30/13 S	29/10 S	25/9 T
KELOWNA	34/20 S	36/19 S	34/18 SH
KINGSTON	29/23 PC	27/21 PC	27/20 T
LONDON	28/21 T	29/19 PC	29/18 SH
MONTREAL	31/23 S	29/21 PC	28/19 T
NIAGARA FALLS	28/22 T	28/21 T	29/20 SH
NORTH BAY	29/20 PC	30/18 PC	28/14 PC
OTTAWA	32/23 S	30/20 T	28/17 T
PRINCE GEORGE	24/10 S	28/11 S	28/12 S
PETERBOROUGH	31/21 PC	29/19 PC	30/17 SH
QUÉBEC	30/21 T	29/20 T	28/18 T
REGINA	35/15 S	25/14 PC	26/15 T
SASKATOON	28/12 SH	24/13 PC	25/13 PC
SAULT STE MARIE	29/17 S	26/18 S	24/15 S
SAINT JOHN	25/17 PC	23/18 SH	23/18 T
SEPTÎLES	20/15 S	20/16 PC	21/15 SH
ST JOHN'S	24/13 R	22/15 S	23/18 SH
SUDBURY	31/19 PC	31/18 T	26/15 PC
THUNDER BAY	31/17 S	26/14 SH	24/12 S
THOMPSON	20/12 SH	19/10 S	22/12 S
TORONTO	28/23 T	28/21 PC	29/20 SH
VAL-D'OR	30/19 T	28/16 S	22/12 SH
VANCOUVER	27/16 S	26/17 T	25/18 S
VICTORIA	24/15 S	24/15 S	21/15 S
WHISTLER	32/17 S	32/16 S	31/16 S
WHITEHORSE	18/9 PC	22/10 S	23/11 S
WINNIPEG	30/19 S	25/14 S	24/15 S
YELLOWKNIFE	19/12 S	20/11 SH	15/10 C



**LEGEND**

Daytime high, overnight low, and conditions

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

**BRIDGE**

BY STEVE BECKER  
FRIDAY, AUGUST 2, 2024

1. You are declarer with the West hand at Three No-trump, North having opened the bidding with one club. North leads the king of spades, which you duck, the queen of spades, which you also duck, and then the jack, taken by your ace. South played the 3-5-7 of spades, in that order, as the suit was led. How would you continue?

**West**  
♠ A 9 4  
♥ K Q 7 2  
♦ A Q  
♣ A Q J 10

**East**  
♠ 8 6 2  
♥ A 6 4  
♦ J 10 9 5 3  
♣ 5 4

2. You are declarer with the West hand at Six Hearts, and North leads the queen of diamonds. How would you proceed?

**West**  
♠ 7 3  
♥ K Q J 5  
♦ A K 8 2  
♣ Q 5 2

**East**  
♠ A K Q 6 5  
♥ A 10 3  
♦ 6 4  
♣ A 8 3

1. This is one of those gratifying situations where you are certain to make the contract no matter

how the adverse cards are divided – provided you play correctly. The proper play is to lead the queen of diamonds at trick four. If the queen loses to the king, you have nine tricks consisting of one spade, three hearts, four diamonds and one club. If the queen holds the trick, you then switch your attention to clubs, forcing out the king, after which you have nine tricks consisting of one spade, three hearts, two diamonds and three clubs. If you started instead by cashing the ace of diamonds before leading the queen, you could

lose five tricks if the opponents allowed the queen to win and you later lost a club to the king. You could likewise go down if you started by playing the A-Q of clubs. Only the queen-of-diamonds lead at trick four renders the contract foolproof. 2. Whether you make six depends partly on how the opposing cards are divided and partly on how you elect to play the hand. All kinds of insuperable difficulties may arise if you choose to cash the A-K of diamonds and ruff a diamond. This might appear to be the best way to start the play, but actually it

is not. The line of play most likely to succeed is really quite simple: Win the diamond lead, play a spade and follow low from dummy! Win the diamond return (no other return makes any difference), ruff a diamond with the 10 of hearts and draw trump. This sequence of plays will make the contract if the spades and trumps are divided normally (either 3-3 or 4-2), yielding 12 tricks consisting of four spades, four hearts, two diamonds, a club and a diamond ruff in dummy.

**CHALLENGE CROSSWORD**

1		2		3		4		5		6		7
8				9								
10								11		12		
13				14				15				16
								17				
18								19		20		
21			22							23		
24										25		

**CRYPTIC CLUES**

- ACROSS**
- He may be said to have got the message (5)
  - In fact a wild enthusiast (7)
  - A Roman quartet retracing a Roman road (3)
  - If results go astray, efforts may well be (9)
  - Intend to appear in torn clothing (7)
  - A wild shot but a fine musketeer (5)
  - There's a change in the Old Testament (6)
  - A new bride's bits and pieces (6)
  - The code is a little bit abbreviated (5)
  - Old instrument for making wine nevertheless (7)
  - Her husband is likely to be much overrated (9)
  - Shorten an encyclopaedia entry (3)
  - Ran round a tree like lightning (7)
  - She makes two points about Western democracy (5)
- DOWN**
- Parson by the lake daydreaming (7)
  - At one time he fought in spectacles (9)
  - Loot includes stock (5)
  - Inadequate number leave the faculty (6)
  - Chemical container sent up with speed (7)
  - One may start driving here (3)
  - Expenses legally incurred (5)
  - She'll bear unusual wild flowers (9)
  - It clears the vision but obscures the judgment (7)
  - Determined to attack (3,4)
  - Isolated area of land is redeveloped (6)
  - Tom's back with a stipulation for a logo (5)
  - Names grounds for development at a hearing (5)
  - Fresh air and water (3)

**QUICK CLUES**

- ACROSS**
- A human offspring (5)
  - Inspection (4-3)
  - Monotonous routine (3)
  - Be intelligible (4,5)
  - Exceed allotted time (7)
  - Irritable (5)
  - Tremble with cold (6)
  - Superficial attractive appearance (6)
  - Russian alcoholic spirit (5)
  - To level a weapon (4,3)
  - Cause of grievance (4,5)
  - Demeanour (3)
  - Make larger (7)
  - Be contingent (5)
- DOWN**
- Eager to learn (7)
  - About to happen (2,3,4)
  - To dissent (5)
  - Predilection (6)
  - Watch carefully (7)
  - Offence against propriety (3)
  - Poem in lament (5)
  - On the other hand (4,5)
  - Instance (7)
  - Compunction (7)
  - Precisely defined (6)
  - View through an avenue (5)
  - Two-masted sailing boat (5)
  - Manipulate dishonestly (3)

**SUDOKU**

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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

**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.

12X		6+	3÷		4-
2÷	2÷			11+	
		9+	6X		4
11+					
2÷	6+	2÷		7+	2÷
			11+		

**KENKEN**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

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

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

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**YESTERDAY'S CRYPTIC**

ACROSS: 1 Contradict, 8 Fiery, 9 Mae West, 10 Raiders, 11 Opera, 12 Tags on, 14 Stupor, 17 Llama, 19 Polygon, 21 Station, 22 Ankle, 23 Minelaying.  
DOWN: 2 Opening, 3 Thyme, 4 Almost, 5 Iceboat, 6 Theme, 7 St Lawrence, 8 First class, 13 Ovation, 15 Pigskin, 16 Spinal, 18 Alarm, 20 Leafy.

**YESTERDAY'S QUICK**

ACROSS: 1 Jerry-built, 8 Clang, 9 Fashion, 10 Thistle, 11 Pitch, 12 Canopy, 14 Editor, 17 Amber, 19 Ego trip, 21 Leaning, 22 Class, 23 Hit the roof.  
DOWN: 2 Evasion, 3 Right, 4 Buffet, 5 Inspired, 6 Taint, 7 On the ropes, 8 Cat's cradle, 13 Persist, 15 Tornado, 16 Length, 18 Brush, 20 Occur.

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

8/2

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# Evacuation planning under way for Canadians in Lebanon

Though Ottawa won't commit to rescuing the individuals if war breaks out

STEVEN CHASE  
SENIOR PARLIAMENTARY REPORTER  
OTTAWA

The Canadian government won't commit to rescuing Canadians in Lebanon if war breaks out but evacuation planning is nevertheless under way.

Foreign Affairs Minister Mélanie Joly has for months urged Canadian citizens to leave Lebanon amid escalating violence between Israel and Lebanese militant group Hezbollah. Canada designates Hezbollah as a terrorist group.

An Israeli strike Tuesday on Beirut's Dahiyeh suburb killed Hezbollah's top military commander, an Iranian military adviser and five civilians. Coupled with the killing in Tehran hours later of Ismail Haniyeh, the head of Palestinian armed group Hamas, the strike has risked sending the entire region into a violent tailspin. The Canadian government considers Hamas a terrorist group.

But Ms. Joly's office Thursday wouldn't guarantee that Canada would launch efforts to rescue citizens who chose to remain in Lebanon if the conflict expands to the point where commercial flights end.

Former chief of the defence staff General Wayne Eyre said in June, however, that contingency evacuation plans have been drafted to extract Canadians from Lebanon if needed. He told CBC News at the time that any efforts would rely on co-ordination with allies.

Canada and its allies have in the years since the 2006 evacuation from Lebanon discussed future extraction plans, likely by sea, that would rely on Cyprus as a hub for such efforts.

National Defence Department spokesman Alexandre Tétreault said Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) are in Cyprus right now.

"In support of Global Affairs Canada, CAF personnel are currently assisting the Canadian embassy in Lebanon with contingency planning," Mr. Tétreault said in a statement.

"In addition, as part of prudent planning and preparedness, the CAF has established an Operational Liaison and Reconnaissance Team of approximately 30 people in Cyprus and other key locations as needed to partner closely with GAC and local authorities. The CAF is well connected in the region and is working closely with our allies and partners to maintain awareness of upcoming threats that may result in requests to support Canadians and Canadian interests."

Nearly 22,000 Canadians have registered their presence in Lebanon with the Department of Global Affairs, according to spokeswoman Charlotte MacLeod.

That doesn't capture the full Canadian population as many do not register, the government said. A Global Affairs web page on Canada-Lebanon relations estimates 40,000 to 75,000 Canadian citizens live there.

Isabella Orozco-Madison, press secretary for Ms. Joly, could not say how many Canadians had left Lebanon in recent weeks, saying the department does not track that data.

She would not say whether Canada would commit to extracting Canadians from Lebanon in the event of a conflict.

Canada however has stepped in to evacuate its citizens from Israel, Sudan and Afghanistan in recent years. Canadian government policy is to transport citizens to a nearby hub from which they are financially responsible for making their way back to Canada.

Ms. MacLeod of Global Affairs urged Canadians to leave Lebanon now. "Canadians in Lebanon should leave now by commercial means if they can do so safely," she said in a statement. "Canada is not currently offering assisted departures or evacuations for Canadians in Lebanon and there is never a guarantee the Canadian government will evacuate Canadians in a crisis situation."

National Defence's Mr. Tétreault warned the situation in Lebanon is volatile and unpredictable because of events in Israel and the West Bank, while violence between Hezbollah and Israel escalates. "There are violent clashes along the border with Israel, including daily rocket and missile fire as well as air strikes," he said in a statement.

While Canada isn't guaranteeing it will rescue citizens from Lebanon, a post on Global Affairs' Lebanon travel advisory web page lays out the rules that would be followed if an extraction operation took place.

"In the event of an evacuation, government of Canada assisted departures will only be available to Canadian citizens and permanent residents in Lebanon, as well as their accompanying spouse and dependent children," the department says. "All travellers will require valid travel documents for their assisted departure."

With a report from Reuters

## HEAD OF HAMAS MILITARY WING, DEIF, KILLED IN STRIKE ON GAZA LAST MONTH, ISRAEL SAYS

CAIRO/JERUSALEM The head of Hamas' military wing, Mohammed Deif, was killed in an Israeli air strike in Gaza last month, the Israeli military said on Thursday, a day after the group's political leader was assassinated in Tehran.

Mr. Deif is believed to have been one of the masterminds of Hamas' Oct. 7 attack on southern Israel which triggered the Gaza war.

"The IDF [Israel Defence Forces] announces that on July 13th, 2024, IDF fighter jets struck in the area of Khan Younis, and following an intelligence assessment, it can be confirmed that Mohammed Deif was eliminated in the strike," the military said.

Hamas neither confirmed nor denied the killing of Mr. Deif, but one official, Ezzat Rashaq, said any word on deaths of its leaders was its responsibility alone.

"Unless either of them [the Hamas political and military leadership] announces it, no news published in the media or by any other parties can be confirmed," Mr. Rashaq said.

The Israeli announcement came as crowds gathered in the Iranian capital for the funeral procession of Hamas' leader Ismail Haniyeh.

The latest killings have raised concern of a further escalation in hostilities in the Middle East. REUTERS



Diners enjoy dinner outside a restaurant on the waterfront in Batroun, Lebanon, on Saturday. Lebanon has an estimated population of 5.5 million, not including an estimated 1.5 million Syrian refugees and 500,000 Palestinians. It hasn't conducted a census since 1932. PHOTOS BY OLIVER MARSDEN/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

## Lebanon: Fighting in the south is widening the sectarian rift in a country already so divided

■ FROM A1

The 1990 Taif Agreement that ended the country's 15-year civil war – fought largely along sectarian lines – stipulates that the president should be a Maronite Christian, the prime minister a Sunni Muslim and the speaker of parliament a Shia Muslim.

That system has collapsed in recent years because of Hezbollah's rising power. The country has been without a president for the past 21 months because Hezbollah has refused to consider anyone but its chosen candidate, Suleiman Frangieh, a Christian aligned with Bashar al-Assad's regime in Syria. Lebanon's parliament has gathered 12 times to try and elect a president, only to have Hezbollah and its allies walk out each time, denying quorum.

"They want a president who will do whatever they want them to do," said Camille Dory Chamoun, the leader of the National Liberal Party, a small Christian faction.

Mr. Chamoun, whose grandfather was president in the 1950s – a time when Christians were dominant and Muslims complained about the unequal distribution of power – is a leading proponent of the idea of recreating Lebanon as a federal state, keeping its current borders, but with separate, Switzerland-style cantons for each of the major faith groups, so that each can live by their own laws in their own regions.

"After all that we have endured from Hezbollah, a lot of Lebanese are asking for total separation – which is not viable, in my opinion. We prefer a federal system that will keep Lebanon united but that will give autonomy to every confession to run their lives accordingly," Mr. Chamoun said in an interview at the NLP's Beirut headquarters this week.

Lebanon is already a divided country in many ways. On Saturday night – as tensions rose in the south of the country after the tragedy in the Golan Heights – nightclubs and restaurants in the Christian party town of Batroun, north of Beirut, were busy as patrons paid no attention to the growing violence 150 kilometres away.

"Lebanese, by nature, don't watch the news too much unless something really dire is happening," Mike Mubarak, the 32-year-old owner of the Bird Haus rooftop bar, said as he directed a table of 16 tequila shots to a group of new arrivals. He had to shout to be heard over the house music.

After the air strike on Harat Hreik, a predominantly Shia suburb on the southern edge of Beirut, some directed almost as much anger at Lebanon's other sects as they did at Israel. "What I hate is that some Lebanese people don't even care that we're in



Mike Mubarak welcomes guests to his rooftop bar, Bird Haus, in the centre of Batroun in Lebanon. He says, 'Lebanese, by nature, don't watch the news too much unless something really dire is happening.'

danger. In Batroun, they don't know or care," said Jawad Fneich, a 16-year-old working in a corner store around the corner from the building hit by Tuesday's air strike.

The fighting in south Lebanon is widening that sectarian divide. Israel has frequently targeted the Hezbollah stronghold of Khiam, and the village of Kfarkela, a Shia village flush against the disputed border. The streets of the latter were deserted and lined with rubble from buildings hit by Israeli fire when The Globe drove through last Friday on a patrol with United Nations peacekeepers.

The road from Khiam to Kfarkela passes through the unscathed Christian town of Qlayaa, where children were that day playing and laughing outside the local St. George's Church.

Life appeared almost normal despite the regular artillery and air strikes on Khiam, six kilometres to the east, and Kfarkela, six kilometres to the south.

"Nobody can say it is safe, but we hope it will stay like this," said Father Antonious Farah, a 40-year-old priest. He smiled and gave no answer when asked why he thought Israel was firing at the villages around Qlayaa, but not his community.

The fighting that began on Oct. 8, when Hezbollah began launching rockets and drones at Israel in what it says was an act of "solidarity" with Hamas, has killed 388 Hezbollah fighters, according to the group, and more than 100 Lebanese civilians. Israel says 21 soldiers and 25 civilians have been killed on its side of the border.

The *Constitution of the Federal Republic of Lebanon*, which the NLP published last year – just before Hezbollah entered the conflict – reveals how complex dividing Lebanon along religious lines would be.

The areas defined as Christian on the proposed constitution's

map are mostly north of Beirut, but also scattered in the largely Shia south. Similarly, there are predominantly Sunni regions both north and south of the capital, while the eastern Bekaa Valley is a hodgepodge of Shia, Sunni and Druze villages.

Beirut, which saw the worst battles of the civil war, is just as difficult to divide now as it was then. Mr. Chamoun is proposing the capital be split into Paris-style arrondissements, although with different levels of taxation – and thus services – from one area to the next. The plan would almost certainly expand the existing chasm between Lebanon's rich and poor.

Many Lebanese Christians are worried about the country's shifting demographics, after millions of Maronites left the country during and since the civil war, while the country's Shia population has continued to grow. The demographic question is so charged that Lebanon – which has an estimated population of 5.5 million, not including an estimated 1.5 million Syrian refugees and 500,000 Palestinians – hasn't conducted a census since 1932, when Christians made up 53 per cent of the population. The current level is believed to be closer to 30 per cent.

Marwan Hamadeh, a senior political figure in the country's Druze community, said the idea of breaking Lebanon into cantons didn't work in 1990 and won't work now. "If it was feasible, it would have already been achieved at the end of the civil war. At the time, the country was already divided," he said in an interview.

Mr. Hamadeh, who survived a 2004 assassination attempt that he blames on Hezbollah, said the country needed new leadership to help it break out of its sectarian silos.

"It's very difficult, but we need to elect a president that looks a little bit like the old Lebanon but who creates a new Lebanon."

## HEZBOLLAH LEADER SAYS WAR WITH ISRAEL HAS ENTERED A 'NEW PHASE'

BEIRUT Hezbollah's leader warned Thursday that the conflict with Israel has entered a "new phase," as he addressed mourners at the funeral of a commander from the group who was killed by an Israeli air strike this week in Beirut.

Meanwhile in Tehran, Iran's supreme leader prayed over the body of Hamas' political leader, who was killed in a presumed Israeli assassination.

The back-to-back killings have increased fears of an escalation into a wider war, leaving the region waiting to see how Iran and ally Hezbollah will respond. Iran has vowed retaliation against Israel for the strike that

killed Hamas' Ismail Haniyeh on Wednesday in the Iranian capital of Tehran.

Israel has not claimed responsibility for Mr. Haniyeh's assassination, but comments by Israeli military spokesman Rear Admiral Daniel Hagari stopped short of an outright denial.

"There was no additional air strike, not a missile and not an Israeli drone, in the entire Middle East that night," he said Thursday, fuelling speculation that Israel could have used other means to kill Mr. Haniyeh.

Israel did confirm it carried out the strike Tuesday in Beirut that killed Hezbollah commander Fouad Shukur, along with an

Iranian military adviser and at least five civilians. Israel said Mr. Shukur was behind a rocket attack days earlier that hit a soccer field in the Israeli-held Golan Heights, killing 12 children. Hezbollah denied being behind that strike, a denial that Nasrallah reiterated.

In a speech via video link to mourners gathered with Mr. Shukur's coffin in an auditorium in a Beirut suburb, Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah said, "We have entered a new phase that is different from the previous period."

Mr. Haniyeh's remains are to be transferred to Qatar for burial Friday. ASSOCIATED PRESS



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# REPORT ON BUSINESS

OTTAWA/QUEBEC EDITION ■ FRIDAY, AUGUST 2, 2024 ■ GLOBEANDMAIL.COM

<b>S&amp;P/TSX</b> 22,723.21 -387.60	<b>DOW</b> 40,347.97 -494.82	<b>S&amp;P 500</b> 5,446.68 -75.62	<b>NASDAQ</b> 17,194.15 -405.25	<b>DOLLAR</b> 72.22/1.3846 -0.19/+0.0037	<b>GOLD (oz.)</b> US\$2,480.80 +7.80	<b>OIL (WTI)</b> US\$76.31 -1.60	<b>GCAN (10-YR)</b> 3.10% -0.05
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## Six-month proxy battle at Gildan cost clothing maker \$76.8-million

NICOLAS VAN PRAET MONTREAL

The nasty proxy fight that plunged **Gildan Activewear Inc.** into turmoil for nearly half a year and ended with the return of chief executive Glenn Chamandy cost the company US\$76.8-million, delivering a US\$33-million windfall for lawyers and other advisers in exchange for their expertise. The CEO calls it an “abusive” waste of money.

The Canadian maker of T-shirts and fleece on Thursday published a financial accounting of the battle that climaxed this past spring between Gildan’s former board of directors and rebel shareholders led by U.S. investment firm Browning West.

It lays bare the millions that were spent on lawyers, strategic advisers and consultants of all kinds as well as severance for departed executives in what the company believes is one of the most costly proxy fights in history.

“It was an abusive amount of money being spent,” Mr. Chamandy said in an interview with The Globe and Mail after the company’s second-quarter earnings report, his first since he was reinstated as CEO in late May. “For a small company like Gildan, it just doesn’t make a lot of sense.”

Mr. Chamandy said the cost is a direct result of a former board that used aggressive tactics, launching three lawsuits against Browning West and agreeing to generous payouts for executives who are now no longer with the company.

■ GILDAN, B6

## Lightspeed pledges higher subscription growth after upbeat quarter

SEAN SILCOFF  
TECHNOLOGY REPORTER

**Lightspeed Commerce Inc.** is pledging to sharply increase its subdued pace of customer and subscription growth in the second half of its fiscal year after delivering better-than-expected first-quarter results driven by pushing clients to use its financial service products.

The Montreal-based point-of-sale software company’s stock dipped 1.2 per cent on a bad day for stocks over all. That reflects Lightspeed’s ongoing challenge of attempting to steadily improve its bottom-line performance while recapturing the more buoyant top-line revenue growth of its past. That has been a challenging juggling act for many software companies since tech markets crashed in 2021.

“There are a number of things the market wants to see, and I think we’ve executed really well on some of the early priorities,” chief executive officer Dax Dasilva said in an interview. “The last thing is software and location growth. That’s the pipeline we’re building and where we will deliver in the second half.”

Revenue in the quarter ended June 30 was US\$266.1-million, up 27 per cent year-over-year on stronger-than-expected contributions from its payments business.

That was ahead of the company’s prediction in May that it would book US\$255-million to US\$260-million of revenue.

■ LIGHTSPEED, B6

{ RETAIL }



People shelter from the sun while walking in the Ginza shopping area of Tokyo in June. Some tourists, especially from China, are holding off on buying designer goods at home and splurging in Japan. YUICHI YAMAZAKI/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

## LUXURY ON THE CHEAP

A weak yen is luring Asian tourists to Japan, where they’re snapping up high-end goods at lower prices – and squeezing the bottom lines of LVMH and others ■ B5

## Oil sands producers hold off environmental reports after Ottawa’s new anti-greenwashing rules

EMMA GRANNEY  
ENERGY REPORTER  
CALGARY

Oil sands companies are holding back on issuing environmental reports to shareholders as they deal with the fallout from federal legislation intended to ban greenwashing.

**Cenovus Energy Inc.** and **Canadian Natural Resources Ltd.** (CNRL) both released second-quarter financial results on Thursday. But the usual environmental, social and governance reports were absent for both companies, which they attributed to significant uncertainty around Bill C-59.

The contentious legislation, which received royal assent in June, changes the Competition Act to stamp out false or exaggerated environmental claims. It led several Canadian oil companies and lobby groups to add disclaimers to their websites and social-media feeds, which Energy Minister Jonathan Wilkinson labelled a “gross overreaction.”

Jeff Lawson, the acting chief sustainability officer for Cenovus, called the new rules a “distraction” for the Calgary-based company.

He told an investor call Thursday morning that the legislation has resulted in a tremendous amount of work “for an incredible number of people who are just trying

to do the right thing.”

He added that it has caused much vexation within Cenovus, which is keen to speak publicly about its environmental goals and actions.

“You get these curveballs thrown at you, and the best thing you can do is try to work through it and not get too frustrated,” Mr. Lawson said.

“There’s a lot of consternation around uncertainty in the wording of the legislation, which is why people have pulled back on disclosure.”

The new rules have also stifled crucial conversations, said Jon McKenzie, the company’s chief executive officer.

■ OIL, B6

## Canada is about to lose more than 100,000 farming jobs. Why that’s great economic news

TONY KELLER

OPINION

In the spring of 1891, enumerators for the decennial census fanned out across the country, going door to door to count the population of the Dominion of Canada. They asked about things such as age, religion and education. They inquired as to who could read and write. And they asked where people worked.

The No. 1 job in Canada in 1891: “Farmer.” More than 408,000 people said that farming was their sole or primary form of employment. The second most common job: “Farmer’s son.” There were 240,768 of those. There were also 76,839 “Farm labourers,” and more than 9,000 workers in

other agricultural jobs.

At the time, Canada had just 4.8 million people.

I flipped through the 1891 census the other day, and found that roughly a third of the enumerated labour force, much of it under the age of 15, worked in agriculture. And that was almost certainly an undercount, because while farmers’ sons were classed as workers, hundreds of thousands of daughters and wives mostly were not.

Farming was so central to life in 1891 that the census was the responsibility of the Department of Agriculture.

Fast forward more than a century. Today, just 247,000 people are employed on a Canadian farm or in a nursery or greenhouse. That’s barely more than 1 per cent of the labour force.

Generation after generation, the share of Canadians doing farm work has steadily shrunk, while the volume and value of agricultural output has grown. This miracle is called economic productivity. If Canada plays its cards right, the future will bring more of the same.

A new report this week from the Conference Board of Canada says that a large share of Canadian farm jobs, or 104,000 positions, could be automated out of existence in the next decade. The same goes for 56,000 jobs in food and beverage manufacturing.

Is this bad news? No, it’s great news. More than a century of steadily declining agricultural employment is a big part of how Canada became one of the world’s wealthiest countries.

■ KELLER, B4

DECODER

Changes to capital-gains taxation to bring in \$17.4-billion over five years, Parliamentary Budget Officer says ■ B2

PERSONAL FINANCE

HELOCs are getting cheaper, but some alternatives may still be better ■ B7

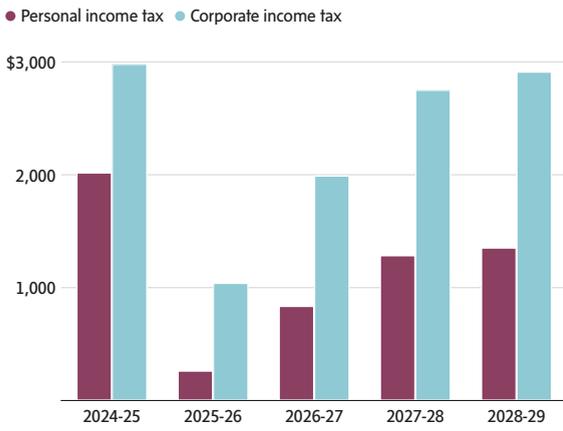
COMPANIES

APPLE .....	B2
AMAZON.COM .....	B2
BCE .....	B3
BOYD GROUP SERVICES .....	B8
CANADA GOOSE HOLDINGS .....	B5
DOMINION ENERGY .....	B8
INTEL .....	B3

## DECODER

## Changes to capital-gains taxation to bring in \$17.4-billion over five years, according to estimates from the Parliamentary Budget Officer

**Estimated increase in tax revenues from capital gains changes**  
In millions of dollars, by fiscal year



THE GLOBE AND MAIL, SOURCE: PARLIAMENTARY BUDGET OFFICER

The Parliamentary Budget Officer estimates that changes to the taxation of capital gains will generate \$17.4-billion in revenue over five years – \$2-billion less than the federal government signalled in the spring.

In a report published Thursday, the PBO said that corporations would account for roughly two-thirds – or \$11.7-billion – of the increase in tax revenues over the five-year span, with the remainder coming from individuals.

In its April budget, the federal government announced that it was raising the capital-gains inclusion rate to two-thirds from 50 per cent for corporations and trusts, and for individuals on the portion of gains above \$250,000 in a given year. The policy went into effect on June 25.

Capital gains are realized from the sale of properties, stocks and other assets for more than the purchase price. (The sale of a primary residence is exempt from capital-gains taxation in Canada, so these changes pertain to cottages and investment properties.)

“We have assumed a certain degree of responsiveness from taxpayers that reduces the realization of capital gains in the next few years,” said Govindadeva Bernier, director of budgetary analysis at the PBO, in an e-mail.

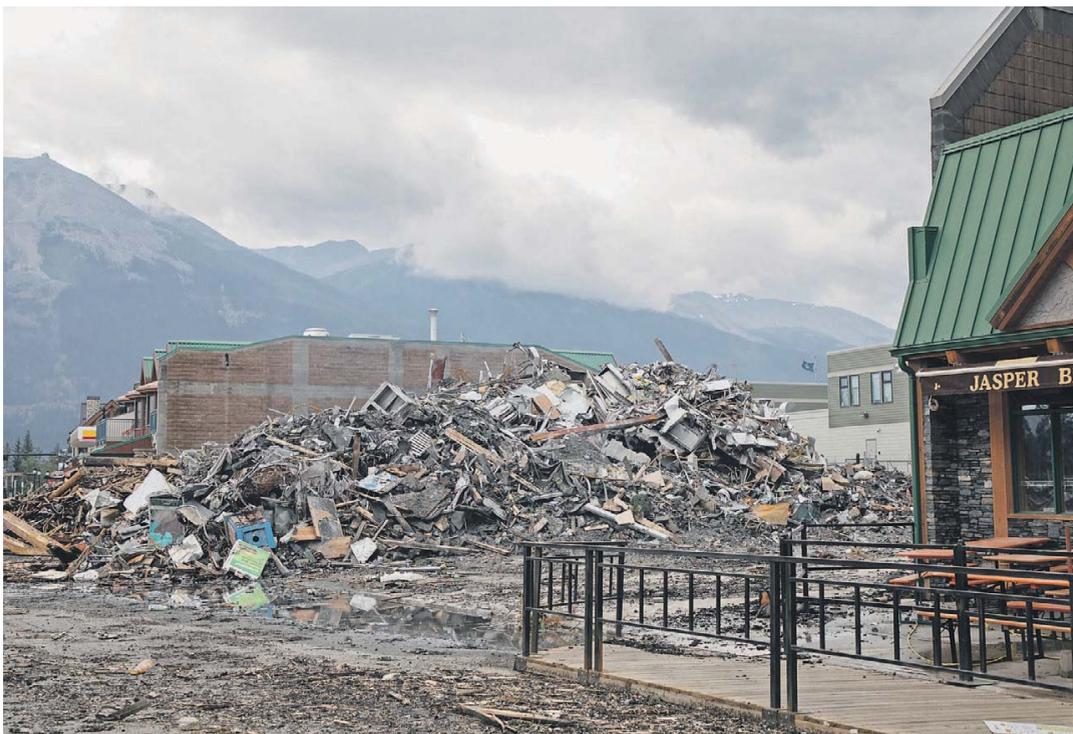
He said people could defer the sale of assets, “maybe in the hope of an eventual reduction in the inclusion rate.” People may scale back purchases of assets that could generate capital gains in the next few years, while others may spread those gains over several years to remain under the \$250,000 threshold.

Still, the PBO report says there is “uncertainty” in making these calculations: “Capital gains are more volatile than other types of income, which makes them difficult to predict, as they are influenced by numerous factors such as market conditions, economic cycles, and changes in tax policy.”

The changes to the capital-gains inclusion rate have sparked a rigorous debate. Technology leaders have been outspoken critics of the move, saying it will discourage investment and entrepreneurship.

The federal government has said the changes would affect a small share of people and help to fund its policies to boost home construction.

The PBO calculations assume that some corporations and individuals sold capital assets during the 10-week window between the announcement of the higher inclusion rate and it taking effect. This helps to explain why the estimated increase in tax revenues is higher this fiscal year than in the following four years. **MATT LUNDY**



Demolished structures litter downtown Jasper, Alta., last week. The wildfire is said to have destroyed 30 per cent of the town and caused estimated damage of \$700-million, making it one of the most expensive fires in recent years. **AMBER BRACKEN/THE CANADIAN PRESS**

## APPLE REVENUE RETURNS TO GROWTH AS IPHONE SALES TOP EXPECTATIONS

Apple Inc. on Thursday forecast steady growth after its third-quarter iPhone sales topped Wall Street targets, even as overall results in China disappointed.

Shares of the company rose 1 per cent in extended trading.

Apple said revenue in its fiscal fourth quarter would grow at a level similar to the 4.9-per-cent increase it posted in the April-June period.

Its sales totalled US\$85.78-billion in the three months ended June 29, beating the average analyst estimate of US\$84.53-billion, according to LSEG data. Its revenue had declined in the first three months of the year.

Sales of iPhones fell 0.9 per cent to US\$39.3-billion, a smaller decline than the 2.2-per-cent drop analysts expected, as demand picked up ahead of the launch of artificial-intelligence features.

Chief financial officer Luca Maestri told Reuters in an interview that the iPhone results were better than he had expected three months ago.

Still, China – Apple’s third-largest market – remained a drag as sales there declined 6.5 per cent. While that was an improvement from the 8.1-per-cent decline in the previous quarter, it was wider than expectations for a drop of 2.4 per cent, according to Visible Alpha.

Mr. Maestri said China sales fell less than 3 per cent, excluding the effects of foreign exchange.

Apple has taken to discounting its iPhones in China to compete with the much cheaper alternative smartphones offered by local competitors such as Huawei. The company in May offered discounts of up to 2,300 yuan (\$440) on selected models. **REUTERS**

## AMAZON PROJECTS QUARTERLY REVENUE BELOW ESTIMATES

Amazon.com Inc. forecast current-quarter sales below estimates, and shares fell after hours even though second-quarter profit and cloud-computing sales beat Wall Street estimates.

Amazon’s chief financial officer Brian Olsavsky said in a call with reporters that consumers were being more cautious with their spending. “They are looking for deals,” he said, noting that lower priced products were selling briskly.

Amazon’s focus on successes in its AWS cloud computing did not cheer investors who sent shares of the Seattle-based company down 5 per cent in extended trading.

Amazon shares had gained 23 per cent this year through the regular close on Thursday. Amazon’s cloud business, Amazon Web Services (AWS), reported a 19-per-cent increase in revenue to US\$26.3-billion for the second quarter, surpassing market estimates. **REUTERS**

# How business owners can navigate damage and interruptions from wildfires

Experts advise co-operation with insurance providers, seeking help from the CRA, keeping in touch with banks

ESTELLA REN

Alberta business owners facing losses from wildfire damage can get help navigating the crisis to ensure they can limit the drain on cash flows and support their employees, experts say.

To mitigate the damage and pave the way for future rebuilding, business owners need to be resourceful in co-operating with insurance providers, seeking help from the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) and contacting their banks for accommodation.

Anne Marie Thomas, director of consumer and industry relations at the Insurance Bureau of Canada, was in Nova Scotia last year helping insurance companies when the province was hit by its largest wildfire in the past century.

“You just see people at the very lowest point in their lives. It’s terrible for the people. They lost everything,” she said.

The Jasper, Alta., wildfire has destroyed 30 per cent of the townsites and caused estimated damage of \$700-million, making it one of the most expensive fires in recent years.

To get the right help immediately, Ms. Thomas advises each business owner to contact their insurance company first and provide as much information as they can, whether it is a list of destroyed properties or any receipts for the damaged items, so the insurer can open a claim and send an adjuster to assess the damage.

Just like home insurance, all business insurance in Canada covers damage caused by wildfires, she said. The majority of businesses may have also purchased business interruption insurance that replaces business income lost in a disaster such as a wildfire, covering wages, rent and other expenses.

While some Jasper business owners

among the 10,000 evacuated residents may not know the extent of damage to their properties yet, insurance providers should be able to start the groundwork and even assess the damage by sending a drone or reaching out to emergency teams, she added.

After the damage is assessed, an insurance adjuster will communicate with trade workers to repair a property if it is damaged or destroyed. If the business owner is a renter, they will be paid for damaged property in a building at replacement cost or cash value, depending on the insurance policy.

“The worst part about this is that it just takes time to get a claim settled and to get people back to where they were before the incident occurred. It’s unfortunate that we have to be patient,” Ms. Thomas said.

Beyond making insurance claims, business owners affected by wildfires should also apply for tax remittance relief from the CRA, which can waive penalties and interest costs if businesses can’t pay their taxes because of extraordinary events, said Jocelyn Rhindress, a senior manager of business resources at the Canadian Federation of Independent Businesses (CFIB).

The CRA provided special tax relief to communities affected by wildfires in British Columbia and the Northwest Territories in August, 2023, removing penalties and interest for late filing of all T2 and GST/HST returns and waiving interest charged on instalments and balances.

While the same relief hasn’t been announced for Jasper, Ms. Rhindress said the CFIB will recommend governments offer some tax-relief measures, such as deferring federal tax payments, reducing property taxes and providing business continuity grants, to support businesses until they get back on their feet.

Daryl Ching, the founder of Vistance Capital Advisory, also encourages business

owners to contact their banks to ask for deferrals if they have a term loan, line of credit or personal mortgage.

His firm provides accounting, capital raising and financial management services to small and medium-sized companies. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Mr. Ching found banks were sympathetic to these requests, since they didn’t want to see businesses go into bankruptcy.

“The recurring theme is defer, defer, defer, stop the cash bleeds. Make sure that you’re not paying money out of your bank account during a period where there’s no revenue coming in,” Mr. Ching said.

He advised businesses to go through their monthly expenses line by line to stop cash outflow, including suspending or cancelling purchased services, if possible, and furloughing as many employees as possible.

Employers should also provide records of employment to staff so they can apply for employment insurance, which pays up to 55 per cent of their average insurable weekly earnings. Eligible employees need 420 to 700 hours of insurable employment in the qualifying period.

As important as reducing expenditures, Mr. Ching said businesses should look into ways to generate alternative or temporary revenue, such as offering virtual services.

Above all, Mr. Ching’s last piece of advice is to be transparent.

While business owners may find themselves in panic as they can’t make payments, Mr. Ching emphasized it’s important to not hide away from people but be pro-active and keep banks and vendors in the loop.

“If you’ve been talking to your vendors, your customers and you’ve been transparent through the whole process, it’s a much easier transition coming back,” he said. “Because as soon as your office has everything prepared, you’re back at work and you’re back in full force.”

““

The recurring theme is defer, defer, defer, stop the cash bleeds. Make sure that you’re not paying money out of your bank account during a period where there’s no revenue coming in.

**DARYL CHING**  
FOUNDER OF VISTANCE  
CAPITAL ADVISORY

# BoE votes to cut rates from 16-year high

Governor Andrew Bailey says the central bank will move cautiously in addressing inflation

DAVID MILLIKEN  
ANDY BRUCE  
SUBAN ABDULLA LONDON

The Bank of England cut interest rates from a 16-year high on Thursday after a tight vote by its policy makers who were split over whether inflation pressures had eased sufficiently.

Governor Andrew Bailey led the 5-4 decision to reduce rates by a quarter-point to 5 per cent and he said the BoE would move cautiously going forward.

It was the central bank's first cut since March, 2020, at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, giving Britain's new government a boost as it seeks to speed up the pace of economic growth.

But Mr. Bailey stressed the BoE was not committing to a series of quick reductions in borrowing costs.

"We need to make sure inflation stays low, and be careful not to cut interest rates too quickly or by too much," he said in a statement.

Most economists polled by Reuters had expected a cut while financial markets had seen just over a 60-per-cent chance.

Sterling slipped to its lowest against the U.S. dollar since early July and bond yields also fell slightly after the BoE's announcement with the yield on 10-year gilts touching its lowest since March.

Mr. Bailey insisted the BoE would take its decisions on rates "from meeting to meeting," but investors were betting on another rate cut this year with the chance of a move at its next



A pedestrian looks in the window of a Noble Estates agency in London on Thursday, the same day the Bank of England reduced interest rates to 5 per cent, its first cut since COVID-19. HENRY NICHOLLS/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

meeting in September seen as a roughly 55-per-cent probability.

"The Bank of England is staying tight-lipped on when it expects to cut rates again," ING economist James Smith said. "But we think better news on services inflation and wage growth can unlock one, or more likely two rate cuts by year-end."

Borrowing costs had been on hold for almost a full year – the longest period they have been left unchanged at the peak of a BoE tightening cycle since 2001.

In June, the BoE's monetary policy committee (MPC) voted 7-2 to keep rates on hold. Minutes of the August meeting showed the decision to cut them was "finely balanced" for some members.

None of the policy makers

whose votes changed the balance – Mr. Bailey and Deputy Governors Sarah Breenen and new MPC member Clare Lombardelli – had spoken publicly about monetary policy since June.

Speaking opportunities had been limited by the July 4 election, which brought the Labour Party to power.

The BoE said policy makers had been briefed on this week's announcements of big public-sector pay increases and on fiscal policy, but their impact would only be incorporated into the BoE's forecasts after the Oct. 30 budget.

Finance Minister Rachel Reeves welcomed the rate cut but said millions of families still faced higher mortgage rates. She reiterated her plan to "fix the

foundations of our economy after years of low growth."

British consumer price inflation returned to the BoE's 2-per-cent target in May and stayed there in June, down from a 41-year high of 11.1 per cent struck in October, 2022.

This leaves British inflation lower than in the euro zone – where the European Central Bank cut rates in June – and the United States, where on Wednesday the Federal Reserve opened the door to a September cut.

The BoE expects headline inflation to rise to 2.75 per cent in the final quarter of 2024 as the effect of steep falls in energy prices fades, before returning to its 2-per-cent target in early 2026 and later sinking below.

The long time lags for interest

rates to affect inflation mean the BoE is more focused on what it sees as medium-term drivers of inflation: services prices, wage growth and tightness in the labour market.

The BoE linked June's strong services inflation to "volatile components" and regulated prices that were influenced by high headline CPI earlier in the year.

Wage growth at nearly 6 per cent is almost double the rate the BoE views as consistent with 2-per-cent inflation but is slowing in line with the central bank's expectations.

The BoE now thinks Britain's economy will expand by around 1.25 per cent this year, up from a previous forecast of 0.5 per cent, after stronger-than-expected growth earlier this year.

Based on International Monetary Fund forecasts, that would be stronger growth than in France, Italy and Germany. Surveys of businesses published earlier on Thursday suggested growth in Britain last month was stronger than in much of the euro zone and Asia.

The BoE said unemployment will rise slightly, reducing upward pressure on inflation. However, it acknowledged the risk that price pressures might prove more persistent and keep inflation above target for longer than its main forecast.

Next month, the BoE must decide whether it continues the annual 100 billion-pound (\$176.7-billion) pace of reductions in its bond holdings.

The BoE repeated its view that these sales had a limited impact on the gilt market and said the high level of interest rates would allow it to fine-tune monetary conditions if it proved greater in future.

REUTERS

## TC Energy eyes data centres as growth opportunity

AMANDA STEPHENSON CALGARY

TC Energy Corp. is eyeing the rapid proliferation of data centres in North America as a business opportunity.

The Calgary-based pipeline company said Thursday it is uniquely poised to capitalize on the rapid expansion of electricity-hungry data centres, which are being built by companies like Microsoft, Google and Amazon to power the AI revolution.

Executive vice-president and chief operating officer Stan Chapman told analysts on a conference call that of the more than 300 data centres currently under construction or proposed in the U.S., more than 60 per cent are located within 80 kilometres of TC Energy's existing natural-gas pipeline system.

"We're seeing a shift in site preferences [for data centres] from regions where big telecom infrastructure is in place to regions where energy and supply infrastructure is in place," Mr. Chapman said, adding a growing number of data-centre operators are interested in building and owning their own on-site power-generating capacity to address their high electricity needs.

There is great potential for these operators to tie into TC Energy's natural-gas pipeline system, not just in the U.S. but also in Mexico and Canada, he said.

"Our best-in-class footprint doesn't limit the opportunity set just to the U.S.," Mr. Chapman added.

"In Canada, there's around 300 data-centre operations

today. We could see that [power demand] load increasing by one to two gigawatts before the end of the decade."

TC Energy, which reported a net income of \$963-million in the second quarter, up from \$250-million in the same quarter last year, is bullish about the future of natural gas.

Demand for the commodity is expected to grow, said chief executive François Poirier, thanks to the growth of the liquefied natural gas (LNG) industry across North America, as well as increased power demands to support wide-scale electrification, coal-fired retirements and emerging energy needs.

"Never have I seen such strong prospects for North American natural-gas demand growth," Mr. Poirier said. "We are seeing natural-gas demand reach record highs and this is expected to grow by nearly 40 billion cubic feet per day by 2035."

Earlier this week, TC Energy announced it has struck a deal to sell a minority stake in its Western Canadian NGTL and Foothills natural-gas transmission network to a consortium of Indigenous communities for \$1-billion.

Inclusive of debt, the deal has a total enterprise value of \$1.65-billion, making it Canada's largest-ever Indigenous equity ownership agreement.

TC Energy has been seeking to sell off assets to help pay down its debt, and Mr. Poirier said Thursday additional deals could be announced soon.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## BCE sees profit boost after wave of job cuts

CHRISTOPHER REYNOLDS

BCE Inc. boosted its profit despite a dip in revenue last quarter as the telecom giant began to feel the financial effect of thousands of job cuts from earlier this year.

Earnings attributable to shareholders jumped 63 per cent year-over-year to \$537-million in the company's second quarter.

The higher profit stemmed from lower expenses, including lighter buying obligations and severance and acquisition costs, the company said.

Revenues in the quarter ended June 30 slipped 1 per cent from the same period a year earlier to \$6.01-billion. Chief executive Mirko Bibic attributed the decrease to cheap offers at rival mobile and internet providers that drove down prices and lured away customers as well as the closing of 107 outlets of The Source – 39 per cent of the electronics retailer's locations.

"On wireless and on pricing, we are facing the most intense competitive pressure in the history of our industry in Canada," he told analysts on a conference call Thursday.

"While consolidated top-line growth continued to be impacted by sustained competitive pricing pressures and expected revenue loss from The Source, we remain laser-focused on profitable margin-accretive subscriber growth and driving costs out of the organization."

In February, BCE announced that 4,800 jobs "at all levels of the company" would be cut in a staff reduction of about 9 per cent. The layoffs came as part of a restructuring that axed multiple television newscasts, including at CTV and BNN Bloomberg.

The company also sold 45 Bell Media-owned regional radio stations across the country.

The move drew widespread backlash, including from Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, who specifically called the 440 scrapped media positions at the company a "garbage decision." Frustration over the cuts spilled over at the company's annual general meeting in May, as investors and employees questioned executives on their compensation during a period of belt-tightening for staff.

However, the decision seemed to bear financial fruit.

Analyst Jérôme Dubreuil of Desjardins called BCE's financial results "slightly positive," as

better margins offset lower revenues.

"BCE's restructuring plan is becoming more apparent," he said in a note to investors.

"We believe telecom value creation will have to come from tight cost control in the future given the challenged top line, and we are encouraged by BCE's progress in this regard."

BCE added 78,500 net postpaid mobile subscribers in the quarter, down about 30 per cent compared with the year before.

The company said its monthly churn rate – a key metric measuring subscribers who cancelled their service – hit 1.18 per cent, up from 0.94 per cent a year earlier.

The higher customer turnover among net postpaid mobile subscribers came as the company dealt with "greater competitive market activity" and a flurry of wireless deals from rivals, he said.

"The churn does remain elevated and it's clearly not at a level that I'm satisfied with, but it's down sequentially from Q1," the CEO said.

Average revenue per wireless phone user fell 1.9 per cent year-over-year to \$58.04 in the second quarter.

The company added nearly 24,000 net new retail internet subscribers, its second-best result for the second quarter since 2007.

"Notably, 41 per cent of our new internet customers this quarter subscribed to a service bundle with wireless, which should help ... improve retention," Mr. Bibic said.

He also stressed Bell Media's continuing transition from a traditional broadcaster to a "digital media and content leader."

Last quarter, the subsidiary generated a 35-per-cent year-over-year increase in digital advertising revenue, including via streaming service Crave, which launched ad-infused subscriptions last summer and through a new TikTok advertising partnership.

Overall, adjusted earnings slipped to 78 cents a share from 79 cents a share last year, in line with analysts' expectations, according to financial markets firm LSEG Data & Analytics.

The company affirmed its financial forecast for the year, but warned it plans a "significant reduction" in capital expenditures on its fibre-optic broadband network and on highly regulated businesses as a direct result of federal policies.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## INTEL FORECASTS THIRD-QUARTER REVENUE BELOW ESTIMATES, PLEDGES TO CUT WORK FORCE BY 15%

Intel Corp. said on Thursday it would cut more than 15 per cent of its work force and suspend its dividend starting in the fourth quarter as the chip maker pursues a turnaround centred around its loss-making manufacturing business.

Shares of the Santa Clara, Calif.-based company slumped 20 per cent in extended trade, setting it up to lose more than US\$24-billion in stock-market value.

The stock had closed down 7 per cent on Thursday, in tandem with U.S. chip stocks plummeting after a conservative forecast

from Arm Holdings on Wednesday.

A majority of the job cuts will be completed by the end of 2024, Intel said. The company's head count was 124,800 at the end of 2023.

"I need less people at headquarters, more people in the field, supporting customers," chief executive Pat Gelsinger said in an interview.

The company also set out plans to cut operating expenses and reduce capital expenditure of more than US\$10-billion in 2025.

Much of Wall Street's focus

has centred around the heavy investments and huge costs incurred by Intel as it builds-out its manufacturing capacity in a bid to compete against Taiwan's TSMC.

Intel's lagging position in the market for AI chips has also sent its shares down more than 40 per cent so far this year, as investors temper their expectations for the company's growth in the booming market.

"A \$10-billion cost-reduction plan shows that management is willing to take strong and drastic measures to right the ship and fix problems. But we are all

asking, 'is it enough' and is it a bit of a late reaction considering that CEO Gelsinger has been at the helm for over three years?" said Michael Schulman, chief investment officer of Running Point Capital.

As part of its cost-reduction plan, Intel expects capital expenditures in 2024 to be between US\$25-billion and US\$27-billion and is targeting gross capital expenditures between US\$20-billion and US\$23-billion for 2025.

Intel had recorded capital expenditures of US\$25.8-billion in 2023, compared with US\$24.8-

billion in 2022.

In February last year, it had set out to provide annual cost savings between US\$8-billion and US\$10-billion by 2025.

Intel also forecast third-quarter revenue below estimates as it grapples with a pullback in spending on traditional data centre chips and increased competition in the personal computer market.

It expects revenue to be between US\$12.5-billion and US\$13.5-billion for the quarter, compared with analysts' average estimate of US\$14.35-billion, according to LSEG data. REUTERS

# OPINION & ANALYSIS

## A Loblaw boycott doesn't seem so 'misguided'

The bread-fixing scheme serves as a reminder for the merits of a boycott over escalating prices

TIMOTHY DEWHIRST

OPINION

Professor and senior research fellow in marketing and public policy at the Gordon S. Lang School of Business and Economics at the University of Guelph

Led by Emily Johnson and her Reddit page, Loblaws is Out of Control, several Canadian consumers this past spring called for a boycott of the grocery chain and its affiliated stores during the entire month of May. The move stemmed from widespread frustration about escalating prices and accusations that major grocers have unnecessarily profited from inflation.

In response to the boycott, Loblaw Cos. Ltd. chair Galen Weston commented that it was "misguided criticism." But last week, we learned that Loblaw and its parent company, George Weston Ltd., agreed to a milestone \$500-million class-action lawsuit settlement for its role in price-fixing and overcharging consumers for bread products. (Mr. Weston also serves as George Weston's chair and chief executive officer.)

In the public's mind, the settlement resurrects a scandal that Mr. Weston must have hoped would be long forgotten. And it lends credence to the idea that Ms. Johnson choosing Loblaw as the brand of focus for expressing legitimate consumer discontent was not



Loblaw chair Galen Weston called a boycott 'misguided,' but last week, the public learned Loblaw agreed to a \$500-million class-action lawsuit settlement for its role in price-fixing. SAMMY KOGAN/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

misguided, after all.

In general, boycotts and brand avoidance initiatives are commonly emboldened by circumstances where certain companies are perceived to have betrayed the public trust and engaged in egregious acts. Such consumer protests are characterized by signalling efforts to the company in question about what is regarded as appropriate conduct and influencing changes in decision-making.

Why Loblaw specifically? Loblaw operates within an oligopoly, and the company is clearly the market leader. A company's market dominance frequently repre-

sents a key factor that prompts boycotting.

Has the boycott proven to be effective? It's questionable how much it did hurt the company's bottom line, but that's not the only definition of success. Consider the fact that Loblaw's president and chief executive officer, Per Bank, met with Ms. Johnson in person to hear her concerns firsthand.

One topic of conversation was a grocery code of conduct that aims to reduce the power large grocers hold over suppliers, which observers say has an impact on price. Another matter was the challenges that shoppers with tight bud-

gets face when promotions point to the necessity of buying multiple items to get a better price. After initial balking, Loblaw signed the code of conduct in July, and it had said it would end the practice of bulk promotions.

The boycott has also demonstrated that competition in the Canadian grocery sector is insufficient. Sometimes, boycotts and the derogation of companies can be driven by the desire to support an underdog. The Loblaw boycott prompted many consumers to question where they should alternatively turn to do their grocery shopping, but in many instances, their options were limited.

Reflecting continuous consolidation, the concentrated market power of food retailers in Canada has become striking. Just a few food retailers dominate the industry. Loblaw oversee many supermarket chains in Canada, including Zehrs, No Frills, Maxi, Valu-mart, Your Independent Grocer, Real Canadian Superstore, Provigo and Fortinos.

Significant competitors to Loblaw include Walmart and Empire, the parent company of Sobey's, with additional subsidiaries including Safeway, IGA, FreshCo, Foodland and Farm Boy. But neither name conjures an underdog status.

It's important to remember the implications of such concentration: these grocers will always prioritize their shareholders over consumers and take advantage if market power is allowed to grow unchecked. The alleged bread-fixing scheme by Loblaw and its fellow grocers is easily among the most egregious abuses of their position.

In terms of the focus on Loblaw, identifying an apparent adversary is a fundamental component of social movements. In this instance, a particular company is likely to be identified, as shunning the entire industry is impractical, given that we cannot do without food.

So Mr. Weston has become the poster boy for consumers' wrath concerning rising food prices. It didn't help that he, as a billionaire tycoon, was previously the face and voice of low and affordable prices for Loblaw's No Name products.

Ultimately, the news of Loblaw's settlement serves as a necessary reminder of the merits of Ms. Johnson's boycott.

## It's a good thing that EVs haven't caught on yet – they're inflationary

RITA TRICHUR

OPINION



Consumer demand for electric vehicles is falling. That's not necessarily a bad thing.

Don't get me wrong, the climate crisis is real. But we should be relieved that electric vehicles, or EVs, haven't gained traction with the masses just yet.

Although EV prices have tumbled from their previous highs, they still create sticker shock for ordinary people. Those big-budget prices coupled with costly charges for insurance, repairs and maintenance suggest that Canada's EV mandate risks stoking inflation at exactly the wrong time.

Canada, like many other countries, is planning to phase out the sale of cars, light trucks and SUVs with internal combustion engines. The federal government's goal is to implement a ban on the sale of those vehicles starting in 2035, except for hybrid vehicles.

Recent industry developments, though, are proving the folly of EV mandates.

Ford Motor Co., which initially planned to produce EVs at its Oakville, Ont., plant, will now use the facility to produce its gas-powered Super Duty pickup trucks instead. In doing so, the company pointed to consumer preferences.

"Super Duty is a vital tool for businesses and people around the world and, even with our Kentucky truck plant and Ohio assembly plant running flat out, we can't meet the demand," Jim Farley, Ford's chief executive officer, stated at the time.

Rival General Motors Co. is retreating from its previous target of producing one million EVs in North America by the end of next year. GM is also postponing its plans to open an EV truck factory in Michigan.

So much for U.S. President Joe Biden's declaration back in 2021 that GM CEO Mary Barra had "electrified the entire automobile industry." But I digress.

The slowdown in EV sales is also affecting ancillary companies.

Belgium-based Umicore is pausing construction on a \$2.8-billion battery-materials manufacturing plant in Loyalist, Ont.

Swedish battery maker Northvolt AB created market confusion about the timeline for its planned Montreal factory after announcing a strategic review in July.

Car rental companies Hertz and Sixt, meanwhile, are weeding out EVs from their respective fleets citing factors such

as the higher cost of repairs and lower resale values.

"The elevated costs associated with EVs persisted," Hertz chief executive Stephen Scherr said in January. "Efforts to wrestle it down proved to be more challenging."

The outcome of this year's U.S. presidential election could prove to be another wildcard for EV pricing.

Donald Trump, the Republican presidential nominee, recently vowed to "end the electric-vehicle mandate on day one" – of his presidency if he wins the Oval Office in November.

Under the Biden administration, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency imposed stricter tailpipe pollution limits that put pressure on auto manufacturers to boost EV sales.

Mr. Trump, though, could do more than just scrap those requirements. There is worry that he could also pull the plug on EV tax credits and subsidies provided by Mr. Biden's signature Inflation Reduction Act.

Moreover, Mr. Trump's proposal to slap a 10-per cent tariff on all imported goods, no matter the country of origin, could potentially hike the price of foreign-made EVs.

These gathering headwinds should prompt the Canadian government to hit pause on its plans to phase out gas-powered cars. Ottawa's itinerary to implement a ban is simply too aggressive.

This is not the time to push cash-strapped consumers to adopt costlier cars. Inflation may be easing but ordinary people are still coping with a cost of living crisis.

Recent interest-rate cuts by the Bank of Canada have only provided limited relief to homeowners with variable-rate mortgages. What's more, a large swath of mortgages are coming up for renewal at higher interest rates by the end of 2026.

Debt-laden Canadians have increasingly opted for longer-term auto loans in recent years to lower their monthly payments. Six-, seven- and eight-year auto loans have become the norm even though they inflate overall borrowing costs and significantly increase negative equity risks.

Given the relatively high price of EVs, longer amortizations on auto loans would most certainly leave consumers deeper in hock.

Sure, the cost of EVs could eventually fall. There's industry buzz that new technologies, such as solid-state batteries, could be game changers for affordability.

But until EV prices come down to earth, our legislators have a responsibility to see past the hype.

There's an inconvenient truth about electric cars: They're inflationary.



In 1891, farming was Canada's No. 1 profession, compared with just 1 per cent of the work force today, even as modern farmers produce more crops. JEFF MCINTOSH/CP

## Keller: Growth comes from learning to do more with less labour

FROM B1

Sustaining that trend in the years to come – through new machines, technology and processes, so that workers tomorrow produce more than today – is how we reach higher productivity and higher living standards.

It's all about figuring out how to do more with fewer workers. That's where economic growth and higher living standards come from.

In 2012, the daughter of an Alberta farmer wrote about the remarkable productivity of her family's farm.

"My dad farms 3,200 acres of his own, and rents another 2,400 – all told, a territory seven times the size of Central Park," then-journalist Chrystia Freeland wrote. "Last year, he produced 3,900 tonnes of wheat, 2,500 tonnes of canola, and 1,400 tonnes of barley. (That's enough to produce 13 million loaves of bread, 1.2 million liters of vegetable oil, and 40,000 barrels of beer.)"

All that from just three workers – her dad and two hired hands – plus a few friends helping out a couple of weeks a year, during seeding and harvest.

Back in 1891, it would have called for a large (and mostly poorly paid) work force. Progress since then has been remarkable, spurred by massive investments in labour-saving farming equipment and technology. The Conference Board study predicts more of the same.

All of which should be a reminder that labour shortages and rising wages have economic benefits. Yes, benefits. They are the mother of business innovation and investment, because they force businesses to chase ever greater labour productivity. Particularly when it comes to low-wage jobs, a tight labour market and upward pressure on pay should be the goal of government policy.

However, Canadian businesses in re-

cent years persuaded Ottawa that, no matter the state of the economy or the level of unemployment, they can't fill hundreds of thousands of low-wage jobs. But these alleged labour shortages are mostly just businesses facing the pressure to compete for workers by raising wages.

Those pressures have been alleviated by allowing businesses to recruit an effectively unlimited number of temporary foreign workers, at the lowest legal wage, or less. Absent that low-wage release valve, businesses would have to innovate and invest more in new technologies to use less labour, and get more out of each hour of (increasingly expensive) labour.

That's how we raise productivity. That's how we grow the economy.

The year after Confederation, Canada's farmers grew 22 million bushels of wheat. In 1891, when a third of the labour force was on the farm, the harvest was 61 million bushels. In 1905, the year Alberta and Saskatchewan became provinces, it was 107 million bushels.

Two years later, Sir Charles Edward Saunders began testing a new variety of wheat, developed by cross-breeding Red Fife with fast-growing Hard Red Calcutta from India. The new variety, Marquis, was ideal for Canada's short summer. In 1911, Canadian farmers harvested more than 200 million bushels of wheat. In 1915, the figure was nearly 400 million.

Over the following century, as the farm labour force fell, farm output rose. The 1940 wheat crop was 540 million bushels. A new peak of 702 million bushels was hit in 1952. The year before the Centennial, the harvest was 827 million bushels.

And in 2023, not a record year, Canada's ever-shrinking number of farmers produced 32 million tonnes of wheat – nearly 1.2 billion bushels.



Chinese tourist Zhang Lei poses with a recent purchase in the Ginza shopping district of Tokyo last week. Japan saw a record 3.1 million foreign visitors in June. DAVID DOLAN/REUTERS

## Japan tourists' splurge creates headache for luxury brands

The yen's sell-off has sparked an unprecedented visitor boom, drawing savvy shoppers from Asia and elsewhere

DAVID DOLAN

Tourists are flocking to Japan to scoop up high-end clothes and handbags at a discount thanks to the weak yen currency. Luxury goods companies like Louis Vuitton parent LVMH would rather they stayed home and shopped.

The yen's sell-off – it hit a 38-year low against the dollar last month before recovering ground – has sparked an unprecedented tourist boom, drawing savvy shoppers from Asia and elsewhere.

Global luxury brands aren't cheering, because their goods, ranging from designer sneakers to whisky, now tend to be cheaper in dollar terms in Japan than elsewhere, denting profits.

Some tourists, especially those from China, are holding off on buying designer goods at home and splurging in Japan. The yen's volatility means companies can't easily hike prices to accurately reflect the currency, leaving them stuck with lower margins in Japan – at least while the yen stays weak.

Zhang Lei, a 29-year-old DJ from China, was visiting Japan for the first time but said he already wanted to come again.

"It's cheaper," said Mr. Zhang, who carried two Louis Vuitton shopping bags and one from sportswear brand Onitsuka Tiger on a recent Saturday in Tokyo's high-end Ginza district.

Nearby, some 15 people queued up to enter the Louis Vuitton boutique, fanning themselves in the sweltering heat.

Mr. Zhang said his purchases so far included shoes and a bag. He planned to pick up a watch next, he said, pointing to his wrist as he repeated "Rolex."

The trend has taken French luxury giant

LVMH, which also owns Dior and Fendi, by surprise.

"We really have a big shift of business from Asia into Japan," chief financial officer Jean-Jacques Guiony told a recent earnings call. It was having a "deflationary" impact on LVMH's China business as customers held off on shopping at home, putting significant pressure on margins, he said.

He also mentioned the difficulty posed by currency volatility, as currencies can undo moves "pretty quickly." That was put in sharp relief this week as the yen surged after the Bank of Japan raised interest rates on Wednesday.

Louis Vuitton's popular Alma BB handbag goes for 14,800 yuan in China, the equivalent of US\$2,050. In Japan it sells for 279,400 yen, or US\$1,875. Last month, it would have been available for as low as US\$1,175 when the yen was at its weakest.

The yen would have to strengthen to around 136 to the dollar to put the bag's Japanese price at parity with China. The currency was at 149.30 on Thursday, not far off its strongest in 4½ months.

Chinese tourists were also helping fuel Japanese sales of luxury spirits, drinks maker Rémy Cointreau said.

Japan generated strong sales growth, boosted by tourism and the weak yen, Rémy Cointreau chief financial officer Luca Marotta said on the company's first-quarter sales call.

Swiss luxury group Richemont, which owns the Cartier brand, saw Japan sales increase almost 60 per cent in the first quarter, helped by tourists, it said.

"Shopping, shopping, shopping," said Fumiko Annisa, who was visiting from Indonesia, about her itinerary.

"High-end brands are cheap here," she said. "We are going to buy Dior, but we are going to Chanel first."

Japan had a record 3.1 million foreign visitors in June, official data showed last month, putting it on track to beat an annual record of almost 32 million foreign arrivals set in 2019.

REUTERS

## Canada Goose CEO sees eyewear and luggage as 'natural extensions' for brand

TARA DESCHAMPS

When Dani Reiss took over his family's business, Canada Goose Holdings Inc., in 2001, it had a reputation for clothing made for those needing to brave the coldest of colds.

More than two decades later, the Toronto-based company has evolved into a luxury powerhouse selling everything from sneakers to windwear.

Next on Mr. Reiss's radar? Eyewear and luggage.

"Those sorts of things are natural extensions and at the right time in the right place, we'll dip our foot into those," the chief executive told The Canadian Press on Thursday.

While Mr. Reiss said the company doesn't have anything planned for the categories yet, his remarks offer a window into the possible future of the Canadian-brand-turned-status-symbol he helms.

Though Canada Goose's popularity remains strong, the retail industry at large is battling several headwinds that have pushed some companies like Nordstrom to decamp the country completely and others like Indigo Books & Music Inc., Mountain Equipment Co. and Wayfair to shed staff.

Canada Goose has not been unscathed. It laid off 17 per cent of its global corporate work force in March to put the company "in a better position for scaling."

"This is sad news for me to share because we have individuals leaving the organization today who were instrumental in making Canada Goose the business it is today, and I am personally grateful to each and every one of them," read a LinkedIn note the day of the layoff from Mr. Reiss, whose grandfather Sam Tick started the company then known as Metro Sportswear Ltd. in 1957.

The layoff news came after Canada Goose saw a slower start to its busy season – winter – as it took temperatures and snow longer to fall in many of its key markets.

That coincided with high inflation and interest rates that have made consumers less willing to drop cash on big-ticket items, which the company is known for.

Its parkas often exceed the \$1,500 mark and a quick scan of its website shows toques priced at \$250 and puffer boots going for \$695.

While many Canada Goose customers skew more affluent, Mr. Reiss acknowledges its consumer base is not unaffected

by the current economic headwinds.

"Today we're in a time where there are macro pressures on consumers," he said.

Yet Mr. Reiss is optimistic. "Whatever pressures may exist, I think that the strength of our brand and the size of our brand relative to the market ... are greater drivers of our growth than any headwinds," he said.

His remarks, however, came the same day as Canada Goose reported a net loss of \$74-million in its first quarter, compared with a net loss a year earlier of \$85-million.

Those results for the period ended June 30 amounted to a net loss attributable to shareholders of 80 cents a diluted share compared with 78 cents a year before.

The company's revenue totalled \$88.1-million over the quarter compared with \$84.8-million a year prior.

The numbers pushed Canada Goose's share price down 4 per cent, or 69 cents, to \$15.24 in mid-morning trading on Thursday, but Mr. Reiss characterized the quarter as "really solid" and was particularly enthusiastic about the strength he feels Asia holds.

Canada Goose moved into the market six years ago and its presence there has steadily grown ever since. Its website shows it has 18 stores in Mainland China, two in Hong Kong and one each in Macau and Taipei.

"I think it's going really well. We've built a strong following in China, [but] I think we have a long way to go," Mr. Reiss said. "We're relatively small in a very large market."

But even that small toehold carries a lot of importance. The company's most recent earnings showed it recorded the same amount of revenue – \$21.9-million – in its home market of Canada and Greater China in its first quarter.

While the Canadian revenue was a dip from \$23.5-million a year prior, the Greater China revenue was up from \$19.5-million a year before.

"In Asia, we have so much white space," Mr. Reiss said.

But that doesn't mean there's no more potential at home, much of it just lies in Canada Goose's newest product categories and innovations in its sports, foot, knit and wind wear.

"That's the growth part of our business," Mr. Reiss said.

"Our classic products continue to grow but not as fast as our new products and that's really important."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Developer coalition asks Ontario for tax breaks to pass on to homebuyers

LIAM CASEY  
ALLISON JONES

A coalition of Ontario developers has written to three levels of government to ask for a reduction in taxes on new housing, saying it will pass on those savings dollar for dollar to homebuyers.

The new group, called the Coalition Against New-Home Taxes, or CANT, is composed of 18 developers who collectively plan to build 100,000 new housing units over the next 10 years.

The coalition wants to see federal and provincial governments remove the harmonized sales tax on all new housing, as they have done for rental housing construction. It would also like the province and the City of Toronto to eliminate the land-transfer tax on new construction homes.

The coalition would also like to see municipalities reduce development charges to 2009 rates, adjusted for inflation.

"We came to the realization that something's got to change and we started thinking about creative ways to bring government to the table to have an honest conversation and find solutions together," Matt Young, president of Republic Developments who is spearheading the coalition, said in an interview.

"And so we felt that one way to do that would be to sign a pledge that says for every dollar of taxes cut, this group of developers would cut their prices dollar for dollar to ensure that savings are passed on to homebuyers."

The group includes Alterra, Harlo Capital and Stafford Developments, among others.

In 2009, taxes accounted for about 12 per cent of the cost of an average condominium in Toronto, the group said. Now, taxes account for about 29 per cent for the same home. Development charges alone are up 1,200 per cent over the past 15 years, they say.

"Now because of higher interest rates, the system has broken," the coalition said in its letter sent Wednesday to the federal government, the province and the City of Toronto.

"For years, all levels of government have raised revenue off the growing cost of housing. If left uncorrected, high taxes on new homes will put further strain on housing supply in the coming years."

The letter warns of job losses in the home construction industry and a hurting economy should nothing change.

"To solve the affordability crisis today, your governments must take bold action to make homes cheaper to build and cheaper to buy," the coalition said.

"We will accept any accountability measures the government wants to implement in order to ensure that savings get passed on to Canadians and homebuyers," Mr. Young said.

His company, which is building or planning to build numerous condominiums in Toronto, has seen a marked slowdown in sales beginning last fall.

"Housing is unviable today," he said. "You can't sell it low enough to get sales and still make money and if you can't make money or can't meet a certain margin, banks won't finance your projects, which means all projects for the most part are pretty much stalled."

Ottawa and Ontario have taken numerous legislative steps to try to kick-start the construction of badly needed housing projects. A combination of soaring home prices over the past decade – especially during the pandemic – and a steep increase in interest rates has stalled many projects.

Municipalities across Ontario are not sold on the proposal from the developer group if it means reducing development charges. The province passed a law in 2022 that cut development charges developers had to pay municipalities for infrastructure such as roads, sewers and water.

The Association of Municipalities of Ontario estimated the changes would leave municipalities with a \$10-billion hole over 10 years. The province later walked many of those changes back, but the association says they still represent a \$2-billion hole over the same time frame.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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### DIVIDENDS

#### Dividends



Notice is hereby given that the following dividends have been declared. All amounts shown are in Canadian dollars unless otherwise specified.

Issuer	Issue	Record Date	Payable Date	Rate
Enbridge Inc.	Common	Aug. 15, 2024	Sept. 1, 2024	\$0.915
Enbridge Inc.	Pref. Series A	Aug. 15, 2024	Sept. 1, 2024	\$0.34375
Enbridge Inc.	Pref. Series B	Aug. 15, 2024	Sept. 1, 2024	\$0.32513
Enbridge Inc.	Pref. Series D	Aug. 15, 2024	Sept. 1, 2024	\$0.33825
Enbridge Inc.	Pref. Series F	Aug. 15, 2024	Sept. 1, 2024	\$0.34613
Enbridge Inc.	Pref. Series G	Aug. 15, 2024	Sept. 1, 2024	\$0.46817
Enbridge Inc.	Pref. Series H	Aug. 15, 2024	Sept. 1, 2024	\$0.382
Enbridge Inc.	Pref. Series I	Aug. 15, 2024	Sept. 1, 2024	\$0.44366
Enbridge Inc.	Pref. Series L	Aug. 15, 2024	Sept. 1, 2024	\$0.36612 US
Enbridge Inc.	Pref. Series N	Aug. 15, 2024	Sept. 1, 2024	\$0.4185
Enbridge Inc.	Pref. Series P	Aug. 15, 2024	Sept. 1, 2024	\$0.36988
Enbridge Inc.	Pref. Series R	Aug. 15, 2024	Sept. 1, 2024	\$0.39463
Enbridge Inc.	Pref. Series 1	Aug. 15, 2024	Sept. 1, 2024	\$0.41898 US
Enbridge Inc.	Pref. Series 3	Aug. 15, 2024	Sept. 1, 2024	\$0.23356
Enbridge Inc.	Pref. Series 5	Aug. 15, 2024	Sept. 1, 2024	\$0.41769 US
Enbridge Inc.	Pref. Series 7	Aug. 15, 2024	Sept. 1, 2024	\$0.37425
Enbridge Inc.	Pref. Series 9	Aug. 15, 2024	Sept. 1, 2024	\$0.25606
Enbridge Inc.	Pref. Series 11	Aug. 15, 2024	Sept. 1, 2024	\$0.24613
Enbridge Inc.	Pref. Series 13	Aug. 15, 2024	Sept. 1, 2024	\$0.19019
Enbridge Inc.	Pref. Series 15	Aug. 15, 2024	Sept. 1, 2024	\$0.18644
Enbridge Inc.	Pref. Series 19	Aug. 15, 2025	Sept. 1, 2024	\$0.38825

### LEGALS

#### TAKE NOTICE LANCE FELKER

There are two proceeding in the Nova Scotia Supreme Court Family Division is to be heard on August 2nd, 2024 at 4:15 PM

This proceeding may have personal implications for yourself.

If you do not attend the court will make an order in your absence.

If you wish to participate contact the Sydney Courthouse at 902-563-3550. If you are not able to attend the court appearance in person, you may attend by calling 1-866-862-7608 and entering conference ID 4629137#.

### NOTICE OF RECORD DATE

#### Notice of Record Date Sleep Country Canada Holdings Inc.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Directors of Sleep Country Canada Holdings Inc. has fixed the close of business on August 9, 2024 as the record date for determining Sleep Country shareholders entitled to notice of and to vote at, the special meeting of Sleep Country shareholders, which will be held on September 18, 2024.

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[ BRITISH COLUMBIA ]

## Come sail with me

Canadian Coastal first mate Sarah Kowallik sails in Howe Sound, B.C., on Thursday. The company operates between April and mid-September, offering sailing tours

TJANA MARTIN/ THE GLOBE AND MAIL

## Lightspeed: Improved performance result of payment processing push

■ FROM B1

Adjusted earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization were US\$10.2-million, ahead of the US\$7-million Lightspeed had forecast. It had an adjusted EBITDA loss of US\$7-million in the same period last year. (Adjusted EBITDA considers such factors as share-based compensation and is not a recognized accounting standard, but is a metric analysts follow closely). It was the company's fourth straight quarter of positive adjusted EBITDA. Lightspeed posted a net loss of US\$35-million, after losing US\$48.7-million a year earlier.

Looking ahead, Lightspeed forecast Thursday revenue of US\$270-million to US\$275-million and US\$12-million in adjusted EBITDA in the second quarter.

The company maintained its 20-per-cent-plus revenue growth forecast for the year and upped its adjusted EBITDA forecast for the period to US\$45-million-plus, up from US\$40-million-plus.

Much of Lightspeed's improved performance was owing to its push to convert customers – retailers, restaurants, hospitality providers and golf-course operators – to use its payments processing product, while charging fees to those who don't. The share of clients on payments reached 36 per cent, up from 19 per cent five quarters ago. Lightspeed forecasts that will surpass 40 per cent this year.

The increased payments adoption, plus a 388-per-cent year-over-year revenue gain in its nascent customer cash-advance business, resulted in average revenue of US\$502 a customer in the first quarter, up from US\$383 a year earlier. But gross transaction volumes processed by clients only increased by 1 per cent to US\$23.6-billion, as sales per existing client declined.

Lightspeed reported continued weakness in areas investors are monitoring before embracing the stock. Its performance challenges resulted in the departure of CEO Jean Paul Chauvet in February and the return of Mr. Dasilva, the founder, who put an increased focus on operational efficiency, starting with a 10-per-cent staff cut in April.

Subscription revenue expanded by just 6 per cent to US\$83.3-million.

The number of larger customer locations generating more than US\$500,000 and US\$1-million in gross transaction volumes each increased by 4 per cent. Those segments are important for Lightspeed as it has shifted its strategy to serving relatively larger clients while shedding customers with less than US\$200,000 in volumes. It was the seventh straight quarter of smaller growth in the two segments.

Lightspeed executives outlined a series of initiatives on a conference call with analysts that they said would lift software sales growth to between 10 per cent and 15 per cent by year's end. That includes increasing prices, investing more in outbound sales efforts and by moving sales efforts away from payments adoption to driving software revenue.

"We think better software growth will be needed in order for the stock to work – but believe Lightspeed can achieve its goal of accelerating this" in the second half, BMO Capital Markets analyst Thanos Moschopoulos said in a note.

One of Lightspeed's challenges is that it has been hard for investors to follow since going public in 2019, thanks to a string of acquisitions, an overhaul of its flagship digital platforms and its shift to focusing on larger customers. The departure of smaller customers has been a drag on subscription revenue and the company was slower to cut costs than other tech companies during the downturn.

The recent focus on payments at the expense of selling subscriptions has also made it challenging to assess longer-term prospects. Mr. Chauvet also raised the spectre in February of Lightspeed starting to acquire companies again, talk that Mr. Dasilva quickly shot down after becoming CEO after it was poorly received by the market. "I understand that struggle for investors" in getting a handle on the company, Mr. Dasilva said.

Mr. Dasilva has also mused about taking Lightspeed private, a path other devalued Canadian public tech companies have followed. He said Thursday the board "is always reviewing our strategic options" but said his preference is to continue to "tell the story as a public company."

## Gildan: New board includes Chamandy, seven directors nominated by Browning West

■ FROM B1

The board could have avoided the entire saga by communicating its thoughts on his leadership to investors instead of surprising them with a dismissal they opposed, he said.

Gildan's former directors ousted Mr. Chamandy last December over what they said was his refusal to comply with a succession plan to which he had agreed. Directors later blasted him for his work ethic and lack of ideas, and said they tried to reach a compromise with him right up until the announcement of his termination.

But they then failed to convince investors there was a good reason to show him the door. A rebellion swelled up soon after, with nine dissident investors holding an estimated 35 per cent of Gildan's stock calling for Mr. Chamandy to be reinstated. The battle came to a sudden conclusion when Gildan's entire board of directors and then CEO Vince Tyra, hired to replace Mr. Chamandy, quit. The resignations happened after shareholder votes cast ahead of the company's annual meeting in May were counted and the board realized it had no path to victory.

A new board now oversees Gildan and includes seven directors nominated by Browning West in addition to Mr. Chamandy. They're implementing a refocused strategy for the company that will shift manufacturing of socks and other fashion basics to newly-built facilities in Bangladesh while boosting share buybacks. The clothing maker on Thursday announced a normal course issuer bid to repurchase up to 10 per cent of the company's public float over the coming year.

The breakdown of the one-time costs incurred by the company in relation to the proxy fight include a US\$15.3-million cash payout to Mr. Tyra, who was in the CEO job just over four months, and a US\$9.1-million payout to Arun Bajaj, former executive vice-president and chief of human resources and legal affairs. Mr. Chamandy was fighting for a hefty severance payment, a fight he's now dropped, but the company is awarding him US\$8.9-million in back pay related to his reinstatement.

Gildan also tallied US\$7.4-million in incremental costs tied to the previous board and a refreshed board with new directors, announced in April. And there's another US\$3-million for a sales review process that was subsequently abandoned.

As part of the legal and advisory fees, the new board is reimbursing Browning West for the costs it racked up in waging



**Gildan Activewear Inc. CEO Glenn Chamandy said it is justified for the company's new board to be reimbursing Browning West for the costs it racked up in waging its dissident campaign.**  
CHRISTINNE MUSCHI/  
THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Gildan also tallied US\$7.4-million in incremental costs tied to the previous board and a refreshed board with new directors, announced in April. And there's another US\$3-million for a sales review process that was subsequently abandoned.**

its dissident campaign, which total US\$9.4-million. Mr. Chamandy said the move is justified because it largely amounts to the firm defending itself against attacks by the former board, which he said sought to entrench itself and therefore spent more than twice what Browning West spent on such fees.

That's one view. Another is that the original board believed it was acting in good faith and in the best interest of the corporation when they removed the CEO, said Catherine McCall, CEO of the Canadian Coalition for Good Governance. The board would then naturally move to

bolster that position.

"I wouldn't think that you should fold if you firmly believe in the rightness of what you're doing just because somebody comes along and challenges that," Ms. McCall said.

To put Gildan's US\$76.8-million proxy contest bill in perspective, Walt Disney Co. won a high-profile proxy battle earlier this year with activist investor Nelson Peltz that could cost the two sides US\$70-million by the time the dust settles. The Wall Street Journal reported in February. Disney is several times the size of Gildan as measured by revenue and market capitalization. A separate shareholder battle by Mr. Peltz at Procter & Gamble Co. in 2017 cost an estimated US\$60-million, the priciest ever at the time, the newspaper said.

Gildan's expenses for the fight and its related leadership changes ate up US\$57.2-million during the company's second quarter alone. That's equal to almost all of Gildan's US\$58.4-million in net earnings for the period.

"It's a bit mind-blowing, but there's no war without cost," said François Dauphin, CEO of the Montreal-based Institute for Governance of Private and Public Organizations, adding the sum should have been expected given the intensity and length of the proxy fight.

"It was a confrontation of two visions for the future of the company," Mr. Dauphin said. "And the jury is still out. We will see in a few years whether that cost was prohibitive or whether it was a good investment."

Browning West has said a combination of operational improvements at Gildan, share buybacks and an improved executive compensation scheme could nearly double the company's stock price to US\$60 by the end of next year and propel it to US\$100 within five years.

The shares closed at US\$41.29 Thursday on the New York Stock Exchange and \$57.26 in Toronto.

## Oil: Competition Bureau consults with fossil-fuel sector on anti-greenwashing rules

■ FROM B1

"In Canada, we need to have robust discussion on energy policy, because it's such an important part of our economic fabric of this country," he said Thursday, adding that he hopes clarity around the rules "happens sooner rather than later."

Scott Stauth, president of CNRL, called the new rules "concerning," and said they prevent the company speaking with shareholders and others about its environmental objectives.

"We want to be able to communicate with them, but we

need a structure where we understand exactly what the standards reporting is expected to be. And right now, we don't know what that is," Mr. Stauth said in an interview Thursday.

"Until we understand standards that we are expected to be held to, it's very, very difficult – if not impossible – for us to make any comments on our forward-looking ESG targets."

The Competition Bureau's consultation with the fossil-fuel sector about the new rules has already begun.

That process is slated to last until September, and Mr. Lawson

said he expects clarity on the legislation in the fall.

Cenovus's 2023 environmental, social and governance report was originally scheduled to be published at the end of June.

But the significant uncertainty created by the Competition Act changes means the company will instead issue an interim corporate social responsibility report in late August, which will address safety, Indigenous reconciliation, inclusion, diversity and governance.

In a news release about its second-quarter financial results Thursday, CNRL said "we regret

that we are unable to provide an environment and climate update at this time" because of the new rules.

"This legislation does not change our commitment to the environment and to ensuring safe, reliable operations, only the way in which we are publicly communicating these aspects of our business. As we receive additional guidance, we intend to resume environmental and climate-related disclosure," it said.

Mr. Wilkinson told The Globe and Mail recently that what is being asked of the oil and gas

sector under the changes "is no different than what's being asked of the pharmaceutical sector, which is you just have to have a basis for the claims that you make."

Environmentalists have lauded the measure, saying it will help protect consumers by injecting reality into green claims as Canadian regulators drag their feet implementing mandatory climate-related disclosures.

The Alberta government has loudly protested against the new rule, labelling it "draconian" and "authoritarian."

# GLOBE INVESTOR

## HELOCs are getting cheaper, but these alternatives may still be better

Home equity lines of credit are just one option among several homeowners may want to consider, experts say

ERICA ALINI

Decades of low borrowing costs established home equity lines of credit, or HELOCs, as Canadians' top choice for financing anything from kitchen facelifts to third-floor additions.

But as rates started climbing in early 2022, many homeowners were quick to trim back on their use of these variable-rate revolving loans that allow for interest-only payments. Today, 57 per cent of those credit lines in Canada carry a balance, down from 67 per cent before the pandemic, according to data from Equifax.

Now, with interest rates declining, lines of credit are once again becoming less expensive. But with borrowing costs still elevated, HELOCs haven't quite regained their status as the obvious option for major home repairs and renos. Instead, they are just one financing option among several that homeowners may want to consider, mortgage experts say.

It's easy to see why the prospect of tapping a home equity line right now still gives some borrowers pause. The most competitive HELOC rate advertised on financial-literacy site Wow.ca as of Aug. 1 was 6.85 per cent. For a balance of \$50,000, that works out to \$285 a month in interest payments alone.

By comparison, the lowest variable rate for refinancing a



GETTY IMAGES

mortgage is currently 5.7 per cent, according to Wow.ca.

"HELOCs are typically a prime plus something, with a variable mortgage rate, typically what we see is a prime minus something," said Tuli Parubets, a mortgage agent with Mortgage Scout.

(The prime rate is the benchmark lenders use for floating-rate loans such as variable-rate mortgages and lines of credit. It usually goes up or down after movements of the Bank of Canada's key interest rate.)

The perennial advantage of HELOCs, on the other hand, is flexibility, said Francis Hinojosa, a mortgage broker and chief executive at Tribe Financial Group. A HELOC works similarly to a credit card: You only borrow what you need, when you need it. And as you repay what you owe, you free

up room to take funds out again.

That feature makes HELOCs ideally suited to financing complex renovations, which come with high chances of cost overruns and delays, Ms. Hinojosa said. On the flip side, it also means that, if your home-improvement project comes in under budget, you're not stuck having borrowed too much money.

Another advantage is you can pay off your line of credit at any point without penalties. Although borrowers should also keep in mind that lenders can lower the credit limit on a HELOC or demand repayment at any time.

Still, a HELOC also comes in handy when the start of the renovation is still months away, Ms. Parubets said. Opening a line of credit means you've secured

financing but won't have to begin borrowing until the work is under way.

But if your home improvement is urgent – for example, you need to waterproof the basement before the next major rainstorm – or if a HELOC rate just seems to high, getting creative with your mortgage may be the way to go.

Still, a straightforward refinancing process – in which you break your current mortgage to borrow an additional amount through a new loan – can be unappealing for many reasons right now. You'll face prepayment penalties, which can be particularly steep if you have a fixed-rate mortgage.

And if you're in the lucky position of having secured a low fixed rate at the height of the pandemic that won't come up for renewal

for another several months, you might be understandably loath to let go of it sooner than you need.

To many homeowners in this scenario, Ms. Parubets suggests a blended mortgage, which involves combining your existing rate with a new rate. The rate you'll pay is somewhere between the two, and you won't have to worry about penalties.

"Blended rates are saving the behind of Canadians," Ms. Parubets said, adding that the option has become very popular among her clients.

But borrowing against your home usually isn't an option if you have less than 20-per-cent equity in it. If you're buying a home with a smaller down payment and the property is in urgent need of work, you might want to consider what's known as a "purchase plus improvements" mortgage, Ms. Hinojosa said.

These loans allow home buyers to borrow an additional amount – usually up to a few tens of thousands of dollars or a small percentage of the home price – for renovations. The extra funding is usually based on the expected increase in home value of the property once the work is done. And the money can only be used for agreed-upon home improvements, with firm quotes from qualified contractors.

The best choice ultimately comes down to the math and the borrowers' circumstances, Ms. Hinojosa said.

But regardless of where interest rates are, if you opt for a HELOC, you must have a plan to repay it, Ms. Parubets said.

"If you're going to carry a balance and it's on a never-never plan, you need to take a pause and you need to rethink your finances."

## Dentalcorp forgives loans to executives, but shareholders shouldn't forget

DAVID MILSTEAD

OPINION



Executives owning a lot of stock in the company? Good! Company lending money to said executives to buy that stock? Not good. Company making the loan, then forgiving it? The worst.

Which brings us to Dentalcorp, the roll-up of teeth doctors that trades on the Toronto Stock Exchange.

Graham Rosenberg, an accountant with a history of "consolidation-based strategies," as his company bio says, started the company in 2011 to buy up Canadian dental practices. You likely know the pitch: Acquire small players in a fragmented industry and achieve economies of scale, blah blah blah. The historically low interest rates of a few years ago made the story even better, as acquisition capital was cheap. The company went public in May, 2021, at \$14 a share.

In its private-company years, prior to the IPO, Dentalcorp introduced a management loan program. The participating managers "subscribed" for company shares and delivered a promissory note – no cash – to the company in exchange for the stock. The executives owed no interest on

the debt.

What we know about this program comes from Dentalcorp's public-company disclosures, which say the company created the plan "to more appropriately incentivize" the participants "to advance the interests of the company." (I asked Dentalcorp a number of questions about the loans and their forgiveness, as well as some more philosophical queries. The company declined to answer, saying the existing disclosures were adequate.)

By the time of the 2021 IPO, according to the disclosures, there were three top executives who still owed the company for their shares. Then-president Guy Amini and chief financial officer Nate Tchaplina owned about 1.25 million shares apiece and each owed \$12.8-million to Dentalcorp. And Mr. Rosenberg, who owned 8.11 million shares, owed \$52.3-million to the company.

The loans were due on the fifth anniversary of the IPO, which will fall in 2026. But there was a neat provision in the agreement: If Dentalcorp stock reached \$28 for any 45-day period before the loan matured – twice the IPO price – the company would forgive half of what the executives owed.

It takes a compound annual return of just under 15 per cent for a stock to double in five years, so you can argue Dentalcorp shareholders would benefit from this

backdoor compensation program. If it happened in a long-term bull market, however, there's no guarantee the shareholders would be greatly outperforming the broader indices.

That's largely an academic discussion, because there doesn't seem to be much chance Dentalcorp will hit that target. After advancing to a high of \$18.68 in November, 2021, the shares sunk as interest rates rose. A year later, in November, 2022, Dentalcorp traded as low as \$5.65. Today the shares are sitting at \$7.99.

The outlook for forgiveness wasn't brilliant for the Dentalcorp. Three that day in 2022. Students of executive compensation, or regular readers of my column, can probably figure out what came next.

On March 31, 2023, Dentalcorp restructured the loans to Mr. Amini and Mr. Tchaplina. In a complicated transaction, Dentalcorp transferred the loans to companies owned by the executives. In exchange, the executives' companies each issued \$12.8-million in "preferred shares" to Dentalcorp.

The preferred shares came with a redemption feature with which the executives' companies could essentially cancel them and Dentalcorp would receive "nominal consideration." (This is a fancy way of saying "practically nothing.")

The executives' companies

could redeem half of the preferred shares, \$6.4-million worth, on the second anniversary of their issuance. They could redeem another quarter on the third anniversary and the final quarter on the fourth. Bottom line: After four years, the executives owed Dentalcorp nothing.

In essence, they converted the loan-forgiveness conditions from performance-based to time-based. Even if the executives left – which Mr. Amini did earlier this year – they'd get some degree of forgiveness. (And Dentalcorp later disclosed it gave Mr. Amini more forgiveness – \$9.6-million – than the original terms called for.)

Mr. Rosenberg did not participate in this restructuring, but he now has his turn. The company announced in June that the CEO will soon engage in a similar, but even more complicated, loans-for-preferred-shares transaction.

The company says that, like the others, Mr. Rosenberg can redeem \$12.8-million of preferred shares for "nominal consideration." He will, however, possibly have to pay the company full value for the remaining \$39.5-million in preferred shares. (This is complicated too: He can give the company one of his shares of Dentalcorp common stock to redeem a preferred share, so if Dentalcorp is below \$10.65 a share, he actually gets a discount on much of the redemption.)

For governance types, there is an upside to the deal: Mr. Rosenberg has agreed to sunset his Dentalcorp multiple-voting shares by 2028, rather than 2041. It is always good when all shareholders have equal voting rights, so bravo.

But frankly, Mr. Rosenberg never should have had multiple-voting rights in the first place. There's nothing so extraordinary about the Dentalcorp roll-up business plan that his "founder's vision" needed to be protected from the short-term vagaries of the market. Indeed, investors' current verdict on the value of Dentalcorp seems quite appropriate.

As for the loan forgiveness? It's a governance failure that might have been prevented in a one-vote, one-share ownership scenario. Or, at least, shareholders might have been able to register disapproval more clearly: Mr. Rosenberg owns 4.9 per cent of Dentalcorp but has nearly 34 per cent of the votes. If you back out the shares voted by Mr. Rosenberg and his institutional-investing partners who have agreed to support him, nearly 25 per cent of Dentalcorp shareholders withheld their votes from him in this spring's director election.

Now that Mr. Rosenberg has received forgiveness for some of his Dentalcorp loans, he should ask forgiveness from Dentalcorp shareholders for his stewardship of the company.

## Stocks and bond yields slump as data reignite slowdown worries

North American stocks kicked off August sharply lower after a round of economic data on Thursday spurred concerns the U.S. economy may be slowing faster than anticipated while the Federal Reserve maintains a restrictive monetary policy. Benchmark U.S. Treasury yields fell the most this year.

Wall Street initially opened higher, buoyed in part by gains in Meta Platforms after its quarterly results topped expectations and the Facebook parent issued an upbeat outlook for the third quarter. Its shares closed 5.87 per cent higher as the biggest boost to the S&P 500.

Early gains, however, evaporated after data showed a measure of U.S. manufacturing

activity from the Institute for Supply Management (ISM) dropped to an eight-month low in July at 46.8, signifying contraction.

Other data showed the number of Americans filing new applications for unemployment benefits increased to an 11-month high last week, suggesting some softening in the labour market.

"It raises a genuine fear that the Fed is behind on cutting rates," Lou Basenese, president and chief market strategist at MDB Capital in New York. "Few investors have confidence in the Fed sticking the proverbial soft landing and now the data is starting to support those concerns."

In afternoon trading, the benchmark U.S. 10-year yield sank 12 basis points to 3.985 per cent, on track for its largest daily fall since mid-December and at six-month lows. On the front end of the curve, the two-year yield, which reflects interest-rate expectations, was down 15.1 basis points at 4.173 per cent.

Canadian bond yields were also lower, though not to the same degree.

Nevertheless, money markets are also bracing for a sluggish economy in Canada. On Thursday, implied probabilities in swaps markets were pricing in nearly 100-per-cent odds that the Bank of Canada will cut interest rates again at its next policy meeting on Sept. 4. That's up

from about 70-per-cent odds just a week ago.

The Bank of Canada has so far cut interest rates this year by 50 basis points to 4.5 per cent, and markets are now priced for between two to three more cuts to come this year.

On Friday, investors will eye the U.S. government payrolls report for any signs of further weakness in the labour market.

The S&P/TSX Composite Index ended down 1.7 per cent, its biggest daily decline since Feb. 13. On Wednesday, the index posted a record closing high as the Fed signaled it could begin cutting interest rates in September.

The TSX technology sector fell 3.4 per cent and financials ended 1.6 per cent lower.

Energy was down nearly 3 per cent as the price of oil settled 2.1 per cent lower at US\$76.31 a barrel. Gold and copper prices also fell, with the materials group falling nearly 2 per cent lower.

Real estate and utility sectors, which stand to benefit from lower interest rates, both rose modestly.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average fell 1.21 per cent, S&P 500 lost 1.37 per cent and the Nasdaq Composite lost 2.3 per cent.

After the closing bell, Amazon shares lost 4.4 per cent following its quarterly results and outlook. Apple stock was slightly higher in postmarket trading after overall beating Street expectations.

REUTERS, GLOBE STAFF

# Four mistakes mortgage shoppers can avoid

It can be tough to navigate a rapidly evolving marketplace

**PENELOPE GRAHAM**

Director of content at Ratehub.ca

After two years of historically high interest rates, the cost of borrowing is finally trending lower in Canada. Our central bank has cut rates and, with more reductions expected, bond yields are falling back to year-ago levels, leading lenders to chop their fixed-rate offerings.

But it can be tough for mortgage shoppers to navigate a rapidly evolving marketplace. Here are a few common stumbles to avoid when seeking out the best mortgage.



ISTOCK

## NOT GETTING A PREAPPROVAL

When kicking off their home search, many buyers think the first step is to check out open houses and call a real estate agent or two. But entering the market without a mortgage preapproval is going in blind.

This is a commitment from a mortgage provider that lays out the maximum amount you can borrow, at a particular rate. With this information in hand, homebuyers can narrow their search, knowing exactly how much they can afford, and what they'll be committing to paying each month on their mortgage.

A preapproval also secures a specific rate for between 90 to 120 days; this protects you in case interest rates rise during this time frame. If they drop, your lender will simply qualify you at the lower rate. In competitive real estate markets, most sellers won't even entertain an offer from a buyer without a preapproval in hand – that is, an

offer conditional on getting financing approval. Preapproval is a crucial first step that sets buyers up for success.

## TAKING THE FIRST RATE OFFERED BY YOUR BANK

Would you buy a new appliance or tires for your car without shopping around for the best features and price? Your mortgage should be no different.

Canada's banking landscape is unique in its homogeneity – our Big Six banks have immense brand recognition and trust among borrowers, but they won't always offer you the best deal. It's in the best interest (no pun intended) for mortgage shoppers to compare mortgage rates offered from all types of lenders, including credit unions and smaller specialty lenders, to find their lowest possible rate.

Here's where using a mort-

gage broker comes in handy, as they can conduct this search on your behalf, for free. Keep in mind that all brokers are not connected to all banks; it's also worth noting that you can go online to get the most competitive rates as well. And if you still want to go with the bank you have other accounts with, being armed with the knowledge of what you could get elsewhere is important leverage – they may match it.

## IMMEDIATELY SIGNING YOUR RENEWAL LETTER

If you're coming up for a mortgage renewal – as nearly half of Canadian mortgage holders will be over the next two years – it may seem tempting to just stick with your existing lender and be done with it. Banks know borrowers want simplicity here, and they make the process as easy as

possible by sending you a renewal letter at least 21 days before your term is up. Sign on the dotted line and you'll be all set – except it might do you a great disservice.

The first reason is that lenders are less likely to offer competitive renewal rates to existing customers – they save those for new clients. That's why it's a great idea to give your broker a call early – you can start the renewal process up to 120 days before your term expires – to compare your options. Think of your mortgage renewal like clearing an Etch-A-Sketch; you can start from scratch with a new rate, term, or even pay it off entirely without incurring a penalty. It's a good time to re-examine what mortgage product best suits your needs.

One important caveat is that borrowers without mortgage insurance – those who've paid

more than 20 per cent down – will be required to qualify with a new stress test if they switch to a new lender at renewal. (Those with insured mortgages are not, assuming their original mortgage size and amortization remains the same.) Don't let this scare you off – the savings from a lower mortgage rate will save you literally thousands of dollars over the course of your term.

## LOCKING INTO A LONGER FIXED RATE

Fixed mortgage rates are by far the preferred mortgage choice among Canadians – accounting for 69 per cent of all mortgages this year. Borrowers like knowing their payments won't change, even during periods of market volatility.

But locking in can be a hindrance when interest rates are trending lower, which they currently are. And since the Bank of Canada is expected to cut rates further in the coming months, and bond yields pull fixed rate options lower, no one wants to stay stuck at an elevated rate for the long-term.

This is why shorter fixed terms have boomed in popularity over the past year, especially among renewing borrowers. According to Canada Mortgage and Housing Corp.'s 2024 Mortgage Consumer Survey, the number of renewers who picked a three-year term rose to 24 per cent from just 18 per cent in 2023. Meanwhile, those who chose a five-year term dropped to 43 per cent, from 53 per cent the year prior.

Going with an even shorter term – such as a two-year fixed – provides even greater flexibility to make a change to your mortgage sooner, preferably when the Bank of Canada hits the bottom of its hiking cycle.

Special to The Globe and Mail

# These nuclear power players deliver reliable dividends

**SCOTT CLAYTON**

## NUMBER CRUNCHER

MBA, senior analyst for TSI Network and associate editor of TSI Dividend Advisor

## WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

Sustainable dividends from nuclear power players ready to gain from the U.S. embrace of clean energy.

## THE SCREEN

U.S. President Joe Biden recently signed legislation to speed up the adoption of advanced nuclear reactors. The ADVANCE Act will streamline approvals for a new generation of reactors, which seek to lower the risk associated with this form of sustainable energy. The legislation also gives the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission more funding to oversee the expected growth in new projects.

Our analysts at TSI Network continue to see an uncertain outlook for the nuclear industry after the 2011 Fukushima disaster in Japan. But Russia's invasion of Ukraine – and Europe's move away from Russian natural gas – has renewed global interest in nuclear power. It's also a carbon-emis-

## Nuclear power players with reliable dividends

RANKING*	COMPANY	TICKER	DIV. SUSTAIN. RATING	POINTS	DIV. YLD. (%)	MKT. CAP. (\$ MIL.)**	TY TTL. RTN. (%)	RECENT PRICE (\$)**
1	Dominion Energy Inc.	D-N	Above Average	9	5.0	44,568.0	-0.8	53.46
2	Duke Energy Corp.	DUK-N	Above Average	9	3.8	84,817.2	16.5	109.27
3	NextEra Energy Inc.	NEE-N	Above Average	9	2.7	152,611.3	5.2	76.39
4	Constellation Energy Corp.	CEG-Q	Above Average	9	0.7	53,177.0	99.1	189.80
5	Calian Group Ltd.	CGYT	Above Average	8	2.0	656.6	-10.3	56.20
6	BWX Technologies Inc.	BWXT-N	Above Average	8	1.0	8,939.4	44.8	99.49
7	Cameco Corp.	CCO-T	Above Average	8	0.2	26,660.0	39.2	62.84

Source: Dividend Advisor. \*Ranking is determined by TSI Dividend Sustainability Score. Where overall points are the same, analysts considered P/E, dividend yield and industry outlook to decide final placements. \*\*Share price and market cap are in native currency

sions-free form of energy.

Our search focused on top U.S. and Canadian firms tied to nuclear power deployment and poised to gain from industry trends. We then applied our TSI Dividend Sustainability Rating System, which awards points to a stock based on key factors:

- one point for five years of continuous dividend payments – two points for more than five;
- two points if the company has raised the payment in the past five years;
- one point for management's commitment to dividends;
- one point for operating in non-cyclical industries;
- one point for limited exposure to foreign currency rates and freedom from political interference;
- two points for a strong bal-

ance sheet, including manageable debt and adequate cash; ■ two points for a long-term record of positive earnings and cash flow to cover dividends; ■ one point if the company is an industry leader.

Companies with 10 to 12 points have the most secure dividends or the highest sustainability. Those with seven to nine points have above-average sustainability; four to six points, average sustainability; and one to three points, below-average sustainability.

## MORE ABOUT TSI NETWORK

TSI Network is the online home of the Successful Investor Inc., the group of widely followed Canadian investment newsletters by editor and publisher Pat McKeough. They include our award-

winning flagship newsletter, The Successful Investor, and the TSI Dividend Advisor. TSI Network is also affiliated with Successful Investor Wealth Management.

## WHAT WE FOUND

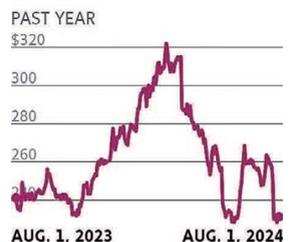
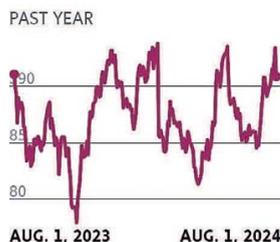
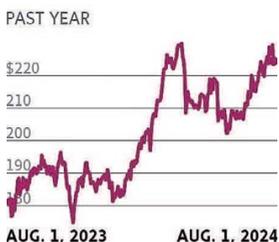
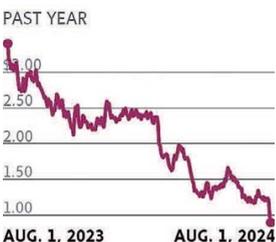
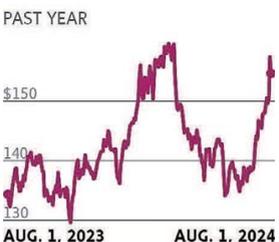
Our TSI Dividend Sustainability Rating System generated seven stocks:

**Cameco Corp.**, headquartered in Saskatoon, is one of the world's largest producers of uranium. Last year it also bought 49 per cent of Westinghouse Electric Company for US\$2.1-billion. That firm services about half of the world's nuclear power reactors. Ottawa's **Calian Group Ltd.** provides its own array of specialty services to Canadian private- and public-sector clients; that includes nuclear industry clients

fighting their way through regulatory requirements and licensing strategies. Calian also offers nuclear waste management and plant decommissioning solutions. **BWX Technologies Inc.**, headquartered in Virginia, is a leading maker and supplier of nuclear components, reactors and fuel to the U.S. government and the private sector. It provides medical radioisotopes and more.

Meanwhile, here are some power producers primed to benefit from renewed interest in nuclear power: **NextEra Energy Inc.**, based in Florida, is a holding company for Florida Power & Light Co. It gets about a fifth of its power from nuclear plants in Florida, New Hampshire and Wisconsin. Like the other power generators below, it's well positioned to expand its business. **Constellation Energy Corp.**, headquartered in Baltimore, operates the largest fleet of nuclear plants in the U.S., with its 21 reactors generating 65 per cent of its output. **Duke Energy Corp.**, based in North Carolina, is one of the largest energy producers in the U.S. It generates about 30 per cent of its electricity from 11 nuclear facilities at six sites in North Carolina and South Carolina. Finally, Virginia-based **Dominion Energy Inc.** gets about 40 per cent of its power generation from its four nuclear plants.

## EYE ON EQUITIES DAVID LEEDER



After **CGI Inc.** reported in-line third-quarter results and expressed caution on the pace of its recovery on Wednesday, Desjardins Securities analyst Jerome Dubreuil warned a recent rally has brought its shares "close to being fairly valued as it approaches key resistance levels."

**Target:** While he reduced his forecast for both 2024 and 2025, the analyst raised his target price for CGI shares to \$172 from \$166 with a "buy" rating. Consensus is \$164.77.

While its second-quarter results were "soft" and backlog challenges persist, National Bank Financial analyst Rupert Merer thinks **Lion Electric Co.** is "doing what it can in a challenging liquidity position."

**Target:** Reiterating his "underperform" recommendation, Mr. Merer trimmed his target to 80 cents from \$1 to reflect a drop in his projections based on the report and a weaker outlook for sales for the remainder of the year. Consensus is 82 cents.

While **WSP Global Inc.** delivered a "solid" quarter, "reaffirming a healthy growth and margin outlook," ATB Capital Markets analyst Chris Murray is remaining neutral on its shares, pointing to prevailing valuations and given challenging conditions for larger accretive M&A.

**Target:** Maintaining his "sector perform" recommendation, Mr. Murray raised his target to \$235 from \$225. Consensus is \$247.42.

Scotia Capital analyst Meny Grauman has low expectations for second-quarter earnings in the Canadian life insurance industry even though he still sees "lots of macro tailwinds." "Broadly speaking, we continue to take a conservative approach to the quarter's core EPS numbers," he said.

**Target:** He raised his target for **IA Financial Corp.** to \$100 from \$98 with a "sector outperform" recommendation. Consensus is \$102.25.

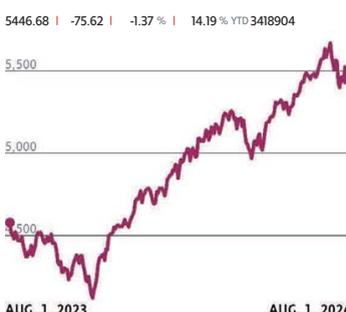
Ahead of the Aug. 8 release of **Boyd Group Services Inc.**'s second-quarter results, Stifel analyst Daryl Young thinks the focus is "squarely" on the outlook for collision claims and margins for the remainder of the fiscal year. "Our sense is that the industry is going through a post-COVID normalization related to insurance costs, used car pricing, and total write-offs," he added.

**Target:** His target slid to \$295 from \$305 with a "buy" rating. Consensus is \$299.08.

**S&P/TSX COMPOSITE INDEX**  
PAST 12 MONTHS



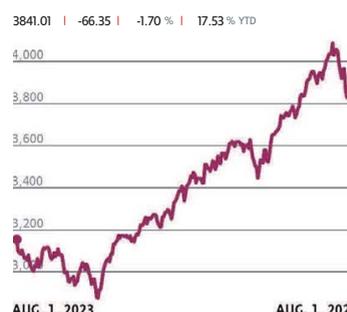
**S&P 500**  
PAST 12 MONTHS



**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	22723.21	-387.60	-1.68	253145	8.42
TSX 60 INDEX	1358.11	-22.84	-1.65	130093	7.37
TSX COMPLETION I	1384.99	-24.98	-1.77	123051	12.96
TSX SMALLCAP INDE	780.38	-16.85	-2.11	93212	11.16
TSX VENTURE COMPO	572.64	-9.94	-1.71	19062	3.57
TSX CONSUMER DISC	289.26	-1.73	-0.59	4419	5.86
TSX ENERGY STAP	1022.23	-12.05	-1.17	3489	18.09
TSX ENERGY CAPPED	281.71	-8.55	-2.95	66416	16.38
TSX FINANCIALS CA	411.86	-6.80	-1.62	44120	7.31
TSX HEALTH CARE C	25.12	0.04	0.16	2700	5.90
TSX INDUSTRIALS C	454.77	-8.05	-1.74	14961	7.64
TSX INFORMATION T	217.64	-7.62	-3.38	15214	2.30
TSX MATERIALS CAP	382.07	-7.75	-1.99	46912	20.54
TSX REAL ESTATE C	323.75	1.89	0.59	6671	4.62
TSX GLOBAL GOLD I	358.53	-2.23	-0.62	58747	26.37
TSX GLOBAL MINING	119.82	-2.97	-2.42	182075	6.15
TSX INCOME TRUST	207.60	-0.48	-0.23	7516	0.02
TSX PREFERRED SHA	611.39	1.39	0.23	1809	13.13
TSX COMMUNICATION	160.29	1.01	0.63	9115	-7.11
TSX UTILITIES CAP	294.21	-0.19	-0.06	16237	4.16

**TSX VOLUME**  
TOP 20 FOR STOCKS \$1 OR MORE

	CLOSE	NET CHG	% CHG	VOL 000s	YTD %CHG
ENB ENBRIDGE INC	52.15	0.48	0.93	11600	9.33
HNU BETAPRO NAT G	2.35	-0.16	-6.37	9428	-64.50
SU SUNOR ENERGY	53.44	-1.70	-3.08	9043	25.89
MFC MANULIFE FIN	35.62	-1.16	-3.15	8736	21.65
CNO CANADIAN ENER	26.17	-1.65	-5.93	7943	18.52
CVQ GENOVUS ENER	48.48	-0.54	-1.10	6547	11.69
BTE BAYTEX ENERGY	4.87	-0.26	-5.07	6258	11.19
BMO BANK OF MONTR	114.69	-1.76	-1.51	6047	-12.52
RY ROYAL BANK OF	152.37	-1.91	-1.24	5982	13.71
XIU ISHARES S&P T	34.46	-0.57	-1.63	5245	7.62
SHOP SHOPIFY INC	80.64	-3.92	-4.64	4452	-21.83
BTF BITFARMS LTD	3.44	-0.17	-4.71	4219	-10.65
VRN VEREN INC	10.24	-0.54	-5.01	4166	-14.45
TD TORONTO-DOMINI	80.57	-0.96	-1.18	4136	-5.90
DML DENISON MINES	2.42	-0.30	-11.03	4090	4.31
AC AIR CANADA	15.46	-0.45	-2.83	3835	-17.28
BCE INC	47.07	0.50	1.07	3793	-9.78
T TELUS CORP	22.68	0.39	1.75	3588	-3.82
GWO GREAT-WEST LI	41.32	-0.15	-0.36	3512	-5.79
K KINROSS GOLD CO	12.71	0.16	1.27	3511	58.48

**TSX 52-WEEK HIGHS**  
STOCKS \$1 OR MORE

	CLOSE	NET CHG	% CHG	VOL 000s	YTD %CHG
AGI AGNICO EAGLE	105.59	-0.94	-0.88	953	45.34
AEM ALAMAS GOLD I	24.08	0.55	2.34	719	35.13
ALA ALTAGAS LTD	33.66	0.74	2.25	1100	20.99
ACO-X ATCO LTD CL	43.40	0.57	1.33	218	12.23
BIP-PR-E BROOKFIE	23.51	-0.19	-0.80	2	15.36
CGI CDN GENERAL I	39.09	-1.41	-3.48	2	12.55
CM-PRS CIBC PREF	24.85	-0.04	-0.16	59	15.58
CU CANADIAN UTILI	32.84	0.51	1.58	880	2.98
CIGI COLLIERIES INT	194.23	8.16	4.39	135	15.89
ELF-PR-H E - L FI	22.65	0.08	0.35	2	10.54
ELF E-L FINANCIAL	1265.90	35.90	2.92	20.77	
ELD ELORADO GOLD	23.23	-0.18	-0.77	358	35.06
ENB-PR-A ENBRIDGE	22.16	-0.23	-1.03	2	10.30
FTS FORTIS INC	57.90	0.18	0.31	2024	6.22
GN-PR-A GEORGE WE	23.80	0.13	0.55	8	9.53
GLF GFL ENVIRONME	55.60	2.03	3.79	451	21.64
GIL GILDAN ACTIVE	57.26	1.04	1.85	418	30.30
GWO-PR-L GREATWE	23.39	0.46	2.01	2	9.30
KEY KEYERA CORP	38.82	-0.13	-0.33	701	21.20
LUG LUNDIN GOLD I	23.74	-0.16	-0.67	188	43.53

**TSX 52-WEEK LOWS**  
STOCKS \$1 OR MORE

	CLOSE	NET CHG	% CHG	VOL 000s	YTD %CHG
MFC-PR-K MANULIFE	24.20	-0.14	-0.58	3	8.28
MFC-PR-L MANULIFE	22.59	0.49	2.22	62	19.40
NA-PR-W NATIONAL	22.79	0.00	0.00	1	29.12
NA-PR-E NATIONAL	24.55	0.07	0.29	4	12.67
NGT NEWMONT CORP	68.76	1.00	1.48	229	25.36
NVEI NUVEI CORP	45.85	0.23	0.50	131	31.72
PPL PEMBINA PIPEL	53.36	-0.15	-0.28	1612	16.97
PPL-PF-A PEMBINA	23.70	0.09	0.38	1	16.01
PPL-PR-K PEMBINA	22.76	0.08	0.35	22	22.23
PPL-PF-E PEMBINA	24.67	0.02	0.08	5	18.49
POW-PR-A POWER CO	22.62	-0.01	-0.04	1	9.81
PWF-PR-R POWER FI	22.24	0.17	0.77	9	8.81
MNT-UN ROYAL CANAD	25.35	0.64	2.59	22.58	
MNT ROYAL CANADIA	35.29	0.20	0.57	20	30.70
PHYS SPROTT PHYSI	26.32	0.11	0.42	41	24.80
STN STANTEC INC	121.37	-0.11	-0.09	208	14.09
TRP TC ENERGY COR	59.71	1.09	1.86	3014	15.36
TD-PF-I TD BANK P	25.86	-0.06	-0.23	9	4.91
X TMX GROUP LTD	41.38	-0.58	-1.38	317	29.11
UNC UNITED CORP L	121.76	-0.44	-0.36	9.39	

**TSX GAINERS**  
TOP 20 FOR STOCKS \$1 OR MORE

	CLOSE	NET CHG	% CHG	VOL 000s	YTD %CHG
XAU GOLDMONEY INC	8.44	0.93	12.38	77	8.07
NFI NFI GROUP INC	19.08	1.93	11.25	1155	39.37
WLD WILDBRAIN LT	1.46	0.13	9.77	99	33.94
TA TRANSALTA CORP	11.29	0.89	8.56	2611	2.45
HUV BETAPRO SP500	8.91	0.70	8.53	349	-19.37
ASTL ASTLOM STEEL	13.08	0.92	7.57	204	-1.65
MDNA MEDICENNA TH	2.28	0.15	6.74	231	442.86
HND BETAPRO NAT G	108.96	6.64	6.49	234	29.99
YCM COMMERCE SPT	2.40	0.14	6.19	1	42.01
GOC GENESIS L&P	3.58	0.20	5.92	47	55.65
HED BETAPRO S&P T	4.03	0.21	5.50	37	-29.42
CMG COMPUTER MODE	14.57	0.71	5.12	135	43.83
BN-PF-A BROOKFIE	22.24	1.07	5.05	3	6.97
HQD BETAPRO NASDA	12.96	0.62	5.02	1301	-18.85
RUBY-U RBC US BAN	15.80	0.73	4.84	16.01	
FORA VERTICALSCOP	8.28	0.38	4.81	269	76.92
HQD-U BETAPRO NAS	9.37	0.42	4.69	-23.01	
BITI-U BETAPRO INT	3.60	0.16	4.65	3	-40.40
CIGI COLLIERIES INT	194.23	8.16	4.39	135	15.89
CVE-PR-B CENOVUS	19.55	0.82	4.38	1	31.47

**TSX LOSERS**  
TOP 20 FOR STOCKS \$1 OR MORE

	CLOSE	NET CHG	% CHG	VOL 000s	YTD %CHG
EDR ENDEAVOUR SIL	5.04	-1.18	-23.87	1991	93.85
GLXY GALAXY DIGIT	14.11	-2.47	-14.90	1503	36.59
AG FIRST MAJESTIC	7.40	-1.14	-13.25	2134	-27.17
NXE NEXGEN ENERGY	8.10	-1.10	-11.96	2669	-12.62
SSRM SSR MINING I	6.79	-0.87	-12.36	1088	-52.25
TVA-B TVA GROUP I	1.11	-0.14	-11.20	8	-17.78
DML DENISON MINES	2.42	-0.30	-11.03	4090	4.31
WEED CANOPY GROWT	9.39	-1.16	-11.00	1978	38.91
PXT PAREX RESOURC	18.51	-2.20	-10.62	2455	-25.81
PMET PATRIOT BATT	4.27	-0.48	-10.11	178	-57.00
LAAC LITHIUM AMER	3.75	-0.42	-10.07	281	-55.09
ISO ISOENERGY LTD	3.25	-0.35	-9.72	120	-11.92
PNC-A POSTMEDIA N	1.40	-0.15	-9.68	1	-6.67
CCO CAMECO CORP	56.91	-5.93	-9.44	2547	-0.39
URC URANIUM ROYAL	3.04	-0.31	-9.25	259	-14.61
KXS KINAXIS INC	154.55	-15.31	-9.01	191	3.93
EFR ENERGY FUELS	7.20	-0.71	-9.88	509	-24.21
IVN IVANHOE MINES	16.54	-1.51	-8.37	2439	28.72
FU FISSION URANI	1.07	-0.09	-7.76	1819	-9.93
PRL TRPEL HOLDIN	26.76	-2.11	-7.31	204	106.32

**TSX 52-WEEK LOWS**  
STOCKS \$1 OR MORE

	CLOSE	NET CHG	% CHG	VOL 000s	YTD %CHG
AC AIR CANADA	15.46	-0.45	-2.83	3835	-17.28
ATS ATS CORP	40.18	-1.31	-3.16	327	-29.64
BR BIG ROCK BREWE	1.13	-0.01	-0.88	-	-25.66
CAE CAE INC	23.66	-1.46	-5.81	780	-17.27
COO COVEO SOLLITIO	6.30	-0.24	-3.67	117	-34.38
AG FIRST MAJESTIC	7.40	-1.14	-13.35	2134	-27.17
CVN FRANKLIN CONS					

**TSX 52-WEEK LOWS**  
STOCKS \$1 OR MORE

	CLOSE	NET CHG	% CHG	VOL 000s	YTD %CHG
GLO GLOBAL ATOMIC	1.26	-0.04	-3.08	772	-54.68
LAAC LITHIUM AMER	3.75	-0.42	-10.07	281	-55.09
SPACV MERCER PAR	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
NANO NANO ONE MAT	1.10	-0.05	-4.35	146	-54.36
NOA NORTH AMERICA	25.76	-1.86	-6.73	430	-6.84
PXT PAREX RESOURC	18.51	-2.20	-10.62	2455	-25.81
TRZ TRANSAT AT IN	2.15	-0.07	-3.15	105	-42.36

**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	9.55	-0.08	-0.83	632	11.96	CSH-UN CHARTWELL	13.65	-0.05	-0.36	399	16.47	KNT K92 MINING IN	7.88	-0.02	-0.25	512	21.04
AOI AFRICA OIL CO	2.30	-0.06	-2.54	252	7.63	CHP-JN CHOICE PRO	13.85	-0.01	-0.07	416	-0.72	KEL KEYL EXPLORAT	5.81	-0.24	-3.97	333	1.57
AEM AGNICO EAGLE	105.59	-0.94	-0.88	953	45.34	CCA COGECO COMMUN	64.12	0.82	1.30	64	8.04	KEY KEYERA CORP	38.82	-0.13	-0.33	701	21.20
AC AIR CANADA	15.46	-0.45	-2.83	3835	-17.28	CIGI COLLIERIES INT	194.23	8.16	4.39	135	15.89	KM-KUN KILLAM APA	18.65	0.12	0.65	22	3.84
AGI ALAMOS GOLD I	24.08	0.55	2.34	719	35.13	CRU CONSTITELLION	4179.53	176.76	4.06	51	27.22	KXS KINAXIS INC	154.55	-15.31	-9.01	191	3.93
ASTL ASTLOM STEEL	13.08	0.92	7.57	204	-1.65	CSU UNICROMBIE RE	13.69	0.05	0.37	240	-0.80	KIR KINROSS GOLD CO	12.71	0.16	1.27	3511	58.48
ALQ ALQUONQIN POW	8.58	-0.04	-0.46	1488	2.63	DFY DEFINITY FINA	47.12	-0.90	-1.87	60	25.52	L LB LABRADOR IRON	30.63	-0.05	-0.16	95	-3.98
ATD ALIMENTATION	82.60	-2.51	-2.95	1041	5.86	DML DENISON MINES	2.42	-0.30	-11.03	4090	4.31	LB LAURENTIAN BAN	25.98	-0.76	-2.84	259	-6.78
ALP-UN ALLIED PROP	16.33	-0.22	-1.33	918	-19.08	DSG DESCARTES SYS	138.16	-2.26	-1.61	84	24.10	LSP LIGHTSPEED C	18.28	-0.21	-1.14	1474	-34.29
ALA ALUMINA LTD	33.66	0.74	2.25	1100	20.99	DOL											



# SPORTS

Auger-Aliassime into semi-finals, writes Rachel Brady ■ B12

Murray ends his tennis career after loss in doubles quarter-finals ■ B13

{ PARIS 2024 }



Canada's uniformed swimmers, from left, Emma O'Croinin, Ella Jansen, Julie Brousseau and Mary-Sophie Harvey (in the pool) react after their heat in the women's 4x200-metre freestyle relay in Nanterre, France on Thursday. O'Croinin, Jansen and Brousseau all made their Olympic debuts, while Harvey was the veteran on the team. Summer McIntosh, not pictured, swam as part of the relay team in the final, where Canada finished fourth. MATTHIAS SCHRADER/ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Canada's rookie swimmers at Paris offer a glimpse of future Olympics success

The country has leaned heavily on veteran talent in recent years, but has brought a contingent of 16 rookies to France – and many are off to a strong start

GRANT ROBERTSON PARIS

When the women's freestyle-relay team walked out onto the pool deck at the Paris Olympics for the 4x200 preliminary heats on Thursday, the Canadian squad had a bold new look.

Of the four swimmers racing, three of them were getting their first taste of an Olympics.

Julie Brousseau, Ella Jansen and Emma O'Croinin are all Summer Games debutantes in Paris, and are part of a contingent of 16 rookies Canada has brought to these Summer Games.

In a program that has leaned heavily on veteran talent in recent years, this new relay squad was a glimpse of the future, as Swimming Canada looks ahead to the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics.

Other than Jansen, who raced the 400-metre individual medley on Monday, Brousseau and O'Croinin were diving into Olympic water for the first time.

"It's superexciting, supernew environment," said O'Croinin, 21, who is from Edmonton.

"There's so many fans in the crowd, which is superexciting and also a little overwhelming maybe. But it's definitely so cool to be a part of it."

Brousseau did her best to shake off the nerves that come with competing on the sport's biggest stage.

"I feel like at the end of the day, it's just a pool. We've been used to swimming in ones in Toronto and all over the world, so you've just got to treat it like that," said Brousseau, 18, from Ottawa.

As far as pools go, there may not be a better one than this for Canada's rookie swimmers to get their feet wet. The Paris La Défense Arena, a rugby

and concert stadium that's been converted to hold swimming events for nine days, is a big-time venue; with more than 13,000 spectators for swimming, it is far louder and more intimidating than most meets.

"Definitely the biggest crowd I think I can say we've all competed in front of," Jansen said.

"It's crazy how loud prelims is. I feel like prelims is just as loud as finals. And so it's really cool. It's also kind of scary, for sure."

That environment is what Swimming Canada hopes will help prepare its up-and-coming swimmers for a future Games, similar to the experience Summer McIntosh had when she made the Tokyo team three years ago at the age of 14, and narrowly missed the podium.

The rookies are off to a strong start. The relay team, swimming with veteran Mary-Sophie Harvey as the fourth member, turned in the seventh

fastest time in the preliminary race, which pushed Canada through to the final.

But it was Montreal's Ilya Kharun, 19, who put in a command performance in his first Olympics on Wednesday night, winning a bronze medal in the 200-metre butterfly.

"There's really no words. I'm just really, really happy to be in this moment," Kharun said afterward.

Not only was it his first Olympic medal, it was the first medal the men's program had won since the 2012 London Olympics.

The men's team went into Paris coveting a breakthrough, after watching the women win 12 medals over the past two Summer Games, led by young stars such as Penny Oleksiak, who won four medals as a 16-year-old in Rio, and McIntosh, 17, who is contending for multiple podiums in France.

■ ROOKIES, B14

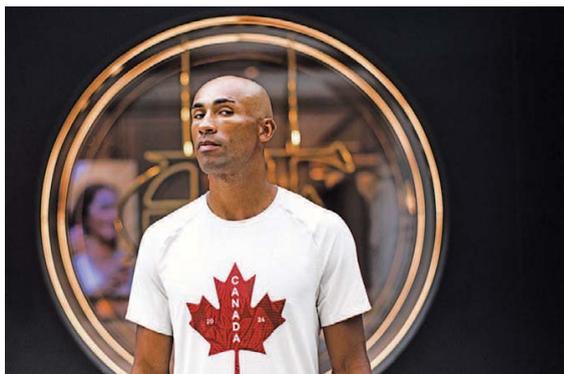
## Warner is the oldest in the field – and ready to wow at the Olympics again

RACHEL BRADY

The last time most Canadians watched Damian Warner, it was the Tokyo Olympics in 2021, and he was making his case as the world's best athlete.

The decathlete from London, Ont., led all competitors from start to finish with a record-setting performance in the gruelling 10-event athletics competition. It was contested over two days in blistering August temperatures, in a stadium with no fans to applaud the accomplishments.

Warner scored 9,018 points – eclipsing 9,000 is very rare in decathlon – and won gold in Tokyo, setting an Olympic record in one



Canadian decathlete Damian Warner will be looking to defend the gold medal he won in Tokyo. He also won a bronze medal in Rio in 2016. COLE BURSTON/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

of the oldest events at the Games, and arguably its most difficult – competing at shot put, pole vault, high jump, javelin, discus, and long jump, plus four running races. Recognizing his feat, Team Canada chose him as flag bearer. He led compatriots wearing masks and Canadian jean jackets in closing out an Olympics full of emotional performances and pandemic restrictions.

Now at 34, Warner is competing in his fourth Summer Games in Paris, starting Friday. He has improved with each Olympics – fifth at London 2012, bronze in Rio 2016, before gold in Tokyo. His performance in the long jump was so good it would have earned him bronze if he'd competed in that individual event. He's in TV

commercial, on grocery store billboards and on Cheerios boxes. So does he feel pressure to repeat as Olympic gold medalist?

"Only the pressure that I put on myself. It's important to me and something that I believe that I can do," he said. "But I'm not attuned to any outside pressure."

He is the favourite in Paris. Canada was supposed to have a formidable one-two punch in the decathlon, with Warner and Pierce LePage, countrymen and the world's two best. Warner is Olympic champion, but LePage won the world championship last year in Budapest, Hungary, with 8,909 points, second highest in the history of the worlds, while Warner finished second.

■ WARNER, B15

# Biles adds to legacy with gymnastics gold

American star shakes off mistake in uneven bars to edge out Brazilian Andrade at the top in the all-around final

WILL GRAVES PARIS

Simone Biles huddled with Sunisa Lee. She looked to her husband Jonathan Owens in the stands. Lost in the moment. And maybe a touch frantic.

The American gymnastics star knew she was trailing Brazil's Rebeca Andrade and Algeria's Kayliah Nemour through two rotations during the Olympic all-around final Thursday.

After a sloppy uneven bars that included a mistake Biles can never remember making in competition, she sat in a chair, closed her eyes, ignored the sea of cameras around her and attempted to refocus.

She and Lee tried to do the math. How bad was it? They weren't sure. It had been a long time since it was this tight.

Biles checked with Owens, who reassured Biles that she was fine, even though she was in third. His wife of 15 months might not have believed him in the moment.

"I've just never been so stressed before," Biles said.

Maybe because she hadn't been pushed – not in a long time anyway – the way Andrade pushed inside an electric Bercy Arena.

Yet the jitters eventually faded. The 27-year-old who is redefining what a gymnast can do and how long she can do it went to work.

One stoic beam routine and one floor exercise that is unlike anything ever done in her sport later, Biles found herself accepting a gold medal from IOC president Thomas Bach for a second time, this time with Lee standing next to her with a bronze.

Canadian Ellie Black, of Halifax, finished in sixth spot with a total of 54.799 points, while teammate Ava Stewart, of Bowmanville, Ont., was 19th with 51.632.

Eight years ago in Rio de Janeiro, Biles was a teenage prodigy. Now, she's an icon. One who remains peerless even when she's not perfect.

Biles now has nine Olympic medals, six of them gold. And while she says she doesn't keep track of these things, she sort of does. The GOAT necklace she rocked in the aftermath isn't a coincidence, even if she main-



American Simone Biles competes on the uneven bars on Thursday during the Olympics artistic gymnastics all-around finals in Paris's Bercy Arena. While she made a mistake in her routine, she responded with solid performances on the balance beam and the floor exercise. NATACHA PISARENKO/AP

tains she's just "Simone Biles from Spring, Texas, that loves to flip."

Maybe, but she's also the third woman to become a two-time Olympic champion, joining Larisa Latynina of the Soviet Union in 1956 and 1960 and Vera Caslavskaya of Czechoslovakia in 1964 and 1968. Oh, and the oldest to finish atop the all-around podium since then 30-year-old Maria Gorokhovskaya of the Soviet Union won the first-ever Olympic all-around in Melbourne in 1952.

The sport then is not what it is now. The days of "little girls in pretty boxes" are long gone. Biles has fuelled that transformation one performance at a time. There's a reason stars such as the U.S. men's basketball team and model Kendall Jenner flocked to watch her Thursday.

When Biles tried to downplay her impact, Lee corrected her.

"Honestly Simone, I think a lot of it has to do with you," Lee said.

Even if her 39th world or Olympic medal didn't come as easily as most of the 38 before it.

She misjudged a transition on uneven bars, the weakest of her four events, letting go of the upper bar too soon and forcing her to reach for a larger-than-expect-

gap. While she didn't fall – Biles muscled her way back into the routine – it blunted her momentum and led to major deductions that left her behind Andrade through two rotations.

The deficit didn't last. Biles responded with a largely wobble-free 14.566 on the balance beam, the highest of the night among the 24 finalists, while Andrade was forced to do a major balance check during her slightly easier set that dropped her down to second heading into floor exercise, Biles's signature event.

Andrade, the silver medalist behind Lee in 2021, needed the best floor set of her life to catch Biles. It didn't quite happen. Andrade stepped out of bounds at one point, a minor problem but enough to create plenty of wiggle room for Biles.

"I don't want to compete with Rebeca no more," Biles said. "I'm tired. Like, she's way too close. I've never had an athlete that close."

Biles incorporated music from pop icons Taylor Swift and Beyoncé into her current routine, a 75-second set that began with the opening bars of Swift's hit *Ready For It?* and featured the hardest tumbling done by a

woman in the history of the sport.

When she was done – sealing gold that served as a redemption of sorts three years after pulling out of multiple finals in Tokyo to focus on her mental health – Biles sprinted to hug Lee just off the podium and blew kisses to the cameras that have become fixtures wherever she goes under the Olympic rings.

After the final score was announced, Biles and Lee – both Olympic champions – bolted onto the floor, waving an American flag.

Lee, the Tokyo winner with Biles sidelined, is the first to win gold in all-around one Games then earn another medal in the next since Comaneci in 1976 and '80. She did it despite spending much of the past 15 months dealing with multiple kidney diseases that left her return to the Games very much in doubt.

"I just wanted to prove to myself that I could do it because I didn't think that I could," Lee said.

While there may be more medals on the way – Biles is in three event finals later in the Games – the all-around puts her into the conversation as perhaps the greatest American Olympian ever.

Yet she's also far more than that.

She's a vocal advocate for survivors of sexual abuse and the importance of proper mental health. She met virtually with her therapist before the Americans won gold in the team final on Tuesday. They kept their regular Thursday appointment too.

Biles relied on the internal work she's done over the years after that rocky bars routine. She sat with her legs crossed on a chair in her blue sequined leotard and joked she was "praying to every single God out there."

In reality, she was trying to re-centre herself. And then she moved on. It's what she does.

Biles has said repeatedly over the past three years that what happened in Tokyo is a part of her past, not her present, and if critics have a problem with it, that's their issue, not hers.

She's moved on to bigger things. Such as setting a standard that may never be reached. In her gymnastics for sure, and maybe others too. When trying to count the number of active Olympians who have stood atop their sport for 11 years and counting, no math is required.

There is only one.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Canada loses out on bronze in women's team foil against Japan

PAUL WALDIE PARIS

On Sunday, Eleanor Harvey became the first Canadian to win a medal in fencing at the Olympics. On Thursday, she tried to become the first Canadian to win two but fell just short.

Harvey and her teammates – Yunjia Zhang, 16, Sabrina Fang, 19, and Jessica Guo, who is also 19 – lost the bronze bout in women's foil team to Japan 33-32 at the Grand Palais.

Harvey, 29, made Canadian history by winning bronze in the individual foil event last Sunday.

She led the team on Thursday and was the only Canadian to win two relays. In the dying seconds of the bout, with Canada down by one point, Harvey tried a final lunge against Yuka Ueno but couldn't score a hit.

"There's no time to really prepare an action," she said of her final push. "You just have to go for it and hope for the

best."

Losing by such a close margin felt bittersweet, she added. "Fencing on the podium strip at the Olympics, and I got to do it twice in this tournament, which is really cool. You can't win them all. Japan's a strong team."

She's at least 10 years older than her teammates and far more experienced, but she didn't feel any extra pressure.

"I didn't feel pressure because we always talked before the bout, just saying that we win as a team, we lose as a team. There's no blame and that's supertoxic for a team."

The teenagers around her are also a sign of the talent that Canada has started to develop in the sport. "They're really good," she said of her teammates. "And they're just going to keep getting stronger. And I think I will, too."

She added: "I'm hoping that all of us stick around for the next while, especially after such a good experience together here."



Canadian Eleanor Harvey, left, competes against Sera Azuma of Japan during the Olympic women's foil team bronze-medal match on Thursday at Grand Palais in Paris. She was the only Canadian to win two relays. MAYE-E WONG/REUTERS



Wyatt Sanford of Canada, left, celebrates his 4-1 victory against Uzbekistan's Ruslan Abdullaev in the Olympic men's 63.5-kilogram boxing quarter-final on Thursday in Villepinte, France. SIEGFRIED MODOLA/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

## Canadian Sanford advances to men's boxing semi-finals

PARIS

Canada is poised to break its decades-long drought in Olympic boxing medals as Wyatt Sanford advances to the semi-finals of the men's 63.5-kilogram category in Paris.

Sanford, of Kennetcook, N.S., defeated Uzbekistan's Ruslan Abdullaev in the quarter-finals on Thursday at North Paris Arena.

There are two bronze medals in boxing, meaning those who make it to Sunday's semi-finals are guaranteed a spot on the podium.

Abdullaev took a closely contested first round versus Sanford before the top-seeded Canadian made a strong comeback to narrowly win the second round and tie up the match on points.

Sanford secured the third round, ultimately winning the match with a score of 4-1.

Canada has not won an Olympic box-

ing medal since David Defiagbon's heavyweight silver in Atlanta in 1996, and has not won the gold in boxing since the Seoul Games in 1988.

"Finally, after 28 years, we will be bringing a medal from boxing back home. Kennetcook wants the gold and I want to give it to them," said Sanford in a Boxing Canada press release.

"We knew that my opponent would come throwing multiple shots with combinations. Once we figured that we had to cut off his jab with my right hook, he was not throwing as much as he was early on in the fight."

Sanford started strong in his Olympic debut with a dominant victory over Bulgaria's Radoslav Rosenov in the round of 16 on Monday.

He will face the winner of the quarter-finals between Hungary's Richard Kovacs and France's Sofiane Oumiha on Sunday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Auger-Aliassime through to men's singles final four

RACHEL BRADY PARIS

Félix Auger-Aliassime is going somewhere no Canadian singles player has been in a modern Olympic Games – into the final four.

By upsetting two top-10 seeds in as many days, the 23-year-old Montrealer has earned a semi-final showdown with Spanish superstar Carlos Alcaraz in Paris on Friday. That's when the last four men will play to solidify their spots in the gold- and bronze-medal matches.

The Canadian charges into the semis on the strength of two impressive wins in the punishing heat at Roland Garros.

Auger-Aliassime, seeded No. 13 in the Olympic singles draw, beat No. 6 Casper Ruud of Norway on Thursday 6-4, 6-7 (8), 6-3.

It came just one day after the Canadian upset fourth-seeded

Daniil Medvedev 6-3, 7-6 (5) – his first over the former world No. 1 after the two had met seven times previously.

Auger-Aliassime has a shot at two medals in Paris. Less than an hour after beating Ruud on Thursday afternoon, he and Ottawa's Gabriela Dabrowski lost their semi-final match to Czechia's Tomas Machac and Katerina Siniakova. 6-3, 6-3. The Canadian duo will play for bronze on Friday.

Auger-Aliassime is already having Canada's best Olympic showing in tennis singles since the sport returned to the Olympic program at Seoul 1988.

"It's great, but it's not over yet," said Auger-Aliassime, rushing from his singles match to play mixed doubles with less than an hour's rest. "It's been a long week, a lot of matches. So I've got to stay calm. I've got to try to rest in between the matches and, and just

give everything every point until the end."

Over five days in Paris, he has played eight matches – four singles, three mixed-doubles matches and one men's doubles match with Milos Raonic. Dabrowski has played five matches, including two in women's doubles with Leylah Fernandez.

Canada's lone Olympic tennis medal is a gold in men's doubles, won by Daniel Nestor and Sébastien Lareau at Sydney 2000. Nestor came close again at Rio 2016, when he and Vasek Pospisil lost the bronze-medal match.

Canada has sent tennis players to every Olympic Games since the sport was reinstated into the program in 1988. The sport was in the first modern Games in Athens 1896, but discontinued after Paris 1924.

For 32-year-old Dabrowski, this is her third Olympics. Her previous best finish was ninth.

This is the second Olympic experience for Auger-Aliassime. He lost the opening round in Tokyo three years ago, in both men's singles, and mixed doubles with Dabrowski.

They will play for bronze in mixed doubles on Friday against Wesley Koolhof and Demi Schuurs of the Netherlands.

Auger-Aliassime was dealing with cramps in the mixed-doubles semi, and was disappointed they lost the match. He wants Dabrowski to get a medal.

"It would be well-deserved for her," he said. "I need to recover and see how I can push one more time and try to get that bronze medal. I think it would be amazing for me, but I want to do it for Gabby."

Auger-Aliassime's singles latest win, against Ruud, was a tough one, under the roof at Suzanne-Lenglen. The Canadian had silenced the crowd when he

cruised in the first set, but the noise swelled as Ruud charged back in the second, and slogged through point-for-point to win a tiebreak.

Both men escaped the heat for a toilet break before the third. Refreshed by an ice towel, the Montrealer got an early break in the final set, seized the momentum and then finished the job.

The other men's semi-final will pit No. 1-seeded Novak Djokovic of against Italy's Lorenzo Musetti (11).

Winners of those two semis will play for gold; the losers will play for bronze.

Auger-Aliassime has a 3-3 record against Alcaraz, the No. 2 seed in Paris. The 21-year-old Spaniard is fresh off his victory at Wimbledon last month. He won the previous Grand Slam, too – his maiden French Open title in June, looking unbeatable on the clay at Roland Garros.

## FIVE THINGS TO WATCH AT THE GAMES ON FRIDAY

### WARNER IN ACTION

Defending Olympic decathlon gold medalist Damian Warner, the first Canadian to earn the honorary title of World's Greatest Athlete, will seek to defend his title as the competition gets under way. Warner will compete in the 100-metre, long jump, shot put, high jump and 400-metre events on Friday. Also in athletics, Ethan Katzberg takes part in the qualification round of men's hammer throw. Katzberg made history at the 2023 world championships when he became the first Canadian to win a world title in hammer throw.

### LONG DISTANCE

Mohammed Ahmed will represent Canada in the men's 10,000-metre final – a competition where he finished sixth place, Canada's best Olympic result in that event since 1912, at the Tokyo Games. Ahmed made history at those Olympics where he won silver in the 5000-metre, marking Canada's first Olympic medal in a long-distance track event.

### IN THE POOL

Canadian medalists Summer McIntosh and Ilya Kharun will look to make another splash in Paris. McIntosh, who has already won medley gold, butterfly gold and freestyle silver, is set to swim in the women's 200-metre individual medley heats, while Kharun, who claimed bronze in the men's 200-metre butterfly, will compete in the 100-metre butterfly heats.

### RICHARDSON'S DEBUT

Sha'Carri Richardson missed the Tokyo Games because of a positive marijuana test at the 2021 U.S. Olympic trials. She will debut as the favourite in the women's 100 metres in a first-round heat. Richardson is the reigning world champion in the event, and her 10.71-second sprint at the U.S. trials in June made her the fastest woman in the world this year. Richardson will face tough competition from three-time Olympic gold medalist Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce of Jamaica.

### BIG TEST IN BASKETBALL

Canada looks to stay undefeated when it plays its final group stage game in men's basketball against Spain. Canada sits atop Group A at 2-0 and has already qualified for the quarter-finals. Canada defeated No. 2-ranked Spain at last year's FIBA World Cup.

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## MLB

### AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	65	45	.591	—
New York	65	45	.591	—
Boston	57	50	.533	6½
Tampa Bay	55	53	.509	9
Toronto	50	59	.459	14½
CENTRAL DIVISION				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	66	42	.611	—
Kansas City	61	49	.555	6
Minnesota	59	48	.551	6½
Detroit	52	58	.473	15
Chicago	27	84	.243	40½
WEST DIVISION				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	56	52	.519	—
Seattle	57	53	.518	—
Texas	52	57	.477	4½
Los Angeles	47	61	.435	9
Oakland	45	65	.409	12

### THURSDAY

Kansas City 7, Detroit 1  
Cleveland 10, Baltimore 3  
Colorado at L.A. Angels

### Wednesday

Miami 6, Tampa Bay 2  
N.Y. Yankees 6, Philadelphia 5  
Baltimore 10, Toronto 4  
Minnesota 8, N.Y. Mets 3  
Kansas City 10, Chicago White Sox 3  
St. Louis 10, Texas 1  
Houston 3, Seattle 2, 10 innings  
Boston 5, Pittsburgh 4  
San Francisco 1, Oakland 0  
Colorado 2, L.A. Angels 1

### Friday

**All Times Eastern**  
Kansas City (Ragans 7-7) at Detroit (Skubal 12-3), 6:40 p.m.  
Toronto (Gausman 9-8) at N.Y. Yankees (Stroman 7-5), 7:05 p.m.  
Baltimore (Kremer 4-7) at Cleveland (Cantillo 0-0), 7:10 p.m.  
Boston (Crawford 6-8) at Texas (Ureña 3-5), 8:05 p.m.  
Chicago White Sox (Martin 0-0) at Minnesota (Ryan 6-7), 8:10 p.m.  
Tampa Bay (Baz 0-1) at Houston (Kikuchi 4-9), 8:10 p.m.  
N.Y. Mets (Blackburn 4-2) at L.A. Angels (Anderson 8-9), 9:38 p.m.  
L.A. Dodgers (Stone 9-4) at Oakland (Estes 4-4), 9:40 p.m.  
Philadelphia (Phillips 3-0) at Seattle (Woo 4-1), 9:40 p.m.

### Saturday

Toronto at N.Y. Yankees, 1:05 p.m.  
Kansas City at Detroit, 6:10 p.m.  
Boston at Texas, 7:05 p.m.  
Chicago White Sox at Minnesota, 7:10 p.m.  
Baltimore at Cleveland, 7:15 p.m.  
Tampa Bay at Houston, 7:15 p.m.  
L.A. Dodgers at Oakland, 9:07 p.m.  
N.Y. Mets at L.A. Angels, 9:38 p.m.  
Philadelphia at Seattle, 9:40 p.m.

### NATIONAL LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	65	43	.602	—
Atlanta	58	49	.542	6½
New York	57	51	.528	8
Washington	49	60	.450	16½
Miami	40	68	.370	25
WEST DIVISION				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	61	47	.565	—
St. Louis	56	52	.519	5
Pittsburgh	55	53	.509	6
Cincinnati	52	56	.481	9
Chicago	52	58	.473	10
WEST DIVISION				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	63	46	.578	—
San Diego	59	51	.536	4½
Arizona	58	51	.532	5
San Francisco	54	56	.491	9½
Colorado	39	70	.358	24

### THURSDAY

Miami at Atlanta  
St. Louis at Chicago Cubs  
Colorado at L.A. Angels

### Wednesday

Miami 6, Tampa Bay 2  
N.Y. Yankees 6, Philadelphia 5  
Minnesota 8, N.Y. Mets 3  
St. Louis 10, Texas 1  
Atlanta 6, Milwaukee 2  
Arizona 5, Washington 4  
Chicago Cubs 13, Cincinnati 4  
Houston 5, Pittsburgh 4  
San Diego 8, L.A. Dodgers 1  
San Francisco 1, Oakland 0  
Colorado 2, L.A. Angels 1

### Friday

**All Times Eastern**  
St. Louis (Fedde 7-4) at Chicago Cubs (Assad 5-3), 2:20 p.m.  
Arizona (Pfaadt 5-6) at Pittsburgh (Ortiz 5-2), 6:40 p.m.  
Milwaukee (Montas 4-8) at Washington (Irvin 8-8), 6:45 p.m.  
San Francisco (Harrison 6-4) at Cincinnati (Abbot 9-7), 7:10 p.m.  
Miami (TBD) at Atlanta (Schwellenbach 4-5), 7:20 p.m.  
N.Y. Mets (Blackburn 4-2) at L.A. Angels (Anderson 8-9), 9:38 p.m.  
Colorado (TBD) at San Diego (Vásquez 3-6), 9:40 p.m.  
L.A. Dodgers (Stone 9-4) at Oakland (Estes 4-4), 9:40 p.m.  
Philadelphia (Phillips 3-0) at Seattle (Woo 4-1), 9:40 p.m.

### Saturday

St. Louis at Chicago Cubs, 2:20 p.m.  
Milwaukee at Washington, 4:05 p.m.  
Arizona at Pittsburgh, 6:40 p.m.  
San Francisco at Cincinnati, 7:15 p.m.  
Miami at Atlanta, 7:20 p.m.  
Colorado at San Diego, 8:40 p.m.  
L.A. Dodgers at Oakland, 9:07 p.m.  
N.Y. Mets at L.A. Angels, 9:38 p.m.  
Philadelphia at Seattle, 9:40 p.m.

## 2024 MLS-LIGA MX LEAGUES CUP

(Note: Games do not count in standings)

GROUP STAGE	
Thursday	
Queretaro (Liga MX) vs. Cincinnati Atlas (Liga MX) vs. Salt Lake City Chicago vs. Toluca (Liga MX) Colorado vs. Portland	

Wednesday	
	GP W L T PF PA Pts
Charlotte 0 Cruz Azul (Liga MX) 0 (Charlotte wins 4-2 on penalties)	7 5 2 0 195 152 12
D.C. 3 Santos Laguna (Liga MX) 0	7 5 2 0 183 158 10
Juarez (Liga MX) 2 Dallas 0	7 3 4 0 165 197 6
Mazatlan (Liga MX) 2 Nashville 0	8 2 6 0 163 186 4
Tigres (Liga MX) 2 Puebla (Liga MX) 1	7 0 7 0 175 216 0
L.A. Galaxy 2 San Jose 1	

Saturday	
	GP W L T PF PA Pts
Charlotte 0 Cruz Azul (Liga MX) 0	7 5 2 0 195 152 12
D.C. 3 Santos Laguna (Liga MX) 0	7 5 2 0 183 158 10
Juarez (Liga MX) 2 Dallas 0	7 3 4 0 165 197 6
Mazatlan (Liga MX) 2 Nashville 0	8 2 6 0 163 186 4
Tigres (Liga MX) 2 Puebla (Liga MX) 1	7 0 7 0 175 216 0
L.A. Galaxy 2 San Jose 1	

Sunday	
	GP W L T PF PA Pts
San Luis (Liga MX) vs. Orlando, 8 p.m.	
Toronto vs. Pachuca (Liga MX), 8 p.m.	
Cruz Azul (Liga MX) vs. Philadelphia, 8 p.m.	
Juarez (Liga MX) vs. St. Louis, 9 p.m.	
L.A. Galaxy vs. Chivas (Liga MX), 10:30 p.m.	

### CPL

	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
Ottawa	16	8	3	5	29	19	29
York	16	8	5	3	26	22	27
Hamilton	15	7	4	4	27	20	25
Calgary	15	4	9	16	14	21	14
Vancouver	16	5	6	5	20	27	20
Victoria	15	6	4	5	13	15	19
Winnipeg	16	6	10	2	18	28	14
Halifax	14	3	7	4	17	21	13

Friday	
	GP W L T PF PA Pts
York at Victoria, 10 p.m.	

Saturday	
	GP W L T PF PA Pts
Calgary at Ottawa, 7 p.m.	

Sunday	
	GP W L T PF PA Pts
Hamilton at Winnipeg, 3 p.m.	

### WNBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	21	4	.840	—
Connecticut	18	6	.750	2½
Indiana	11	15	.423	10½
Chicago	10	14	.417	10½
Atlanta	7	17	.292	13½
Washington	6	19	.240	15

WESTERN CONFERENCE				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	17	8	.680	—
Seattle	17	8	.680	—
Las Vegas	16	8	.667	½
Phoenix	13	12	.520	4
Los Angeles	6	18	.250	10½
Dallas	6	19	.240	11

### OLYMPIC BREAK

REGULAR SEASON RESUMES ON THURSDAY, AUG. 15

## CFL

### WEEK NINE

EAST DIVISION										
	GP	W	L	T	PF	PA	Pts			
Montreal	7	6	1	0	195	152	12			
Ottawa	7	5	2	0	174	167	10			
Toronto	7	4	3	0	194	182	8			
Hamilton	7	2	5	0	195	221	4			

WEST DIVISION										
	GP	W	L	T	PF	PA	Pts			
British Columbia	7	5	2	0	206	170	10			
Saskatchewan	7	5	2	0	183	158	10			
Calgary	7	3	4	0	165	197	6			
Winnipeg	8	2	6	0	163	186	4			
Edmonton	7	0	7	0	175	216	0			

**Bye:** Ottawa  
**Thursday**  
British Columbia at Winnipeg

**Friday**  
**All Times Eastern**  
Montreal at Hamilton, 7:30 p.m.

**Saturday**  
Edmonton at Saskatchewan, 7 p.m.

**Sunday**  
Toronto at Calgary, 7 p.m.

### CEBL

**PLAYOFFS**

**CONFERENCE PLAY-INS**  
**Friday**  
East — Ottawa (3) at Scarborough (2), 7 p.m.  
West — Winnipeg (4) at Calgary (3), 9:30 p.m.

**CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS**  
**Sunday**  
East — Ottawa/Scarborough Winner at Niagara (1), 5:30 p.m.  
West — Winnipeg/Calgary Winner at Edmonton, 8 p.m.

**CHAMPIONSHIP WEEKEND**  
**At Montreal**  
**Friday, Aug. 9**  
**CONFERENCE FINALS**  
West — Vancouver (1) vs. Semifinal Winner, 5:30 p.m.  
East — Montreal (host) vs. Semifinal Winner, 8 p.m.

**CEBL CHAMPIONSHIP**  
**Sunday, Aug. 11**  
East vs. West Winners, 6 p.m.

### NFL PRESEASON

**Thursday**  
At Canton, Ohio  
Houston vs Chicago

**Thursday, Aug. 8**  
**All Times Eastern**  
Carolina at New England, 7 p.m.  
Detroit at N.Y. Giants, 7 p.m.

**Friday, Aug. 9**  
Atlanta at Miami, 7 p.m.  
Houston at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m.  
Philadelphia at Baltimore, 7:30 p.m.

## ATP/WTA WORLD TOUR

### CITI OPEN

**At Washington**  
**Thursday**  
**MEN'S SINGLES — ROUND OF 16**  
Denis Shapovalov, Richmond Hill, Ont., def. Miomir Kecmanovic (12), Serbia, 4-6, 6-4, 6-2.  
Flavio Cobolli (10), Italy, def. Alejandro Davidovich Fokina (8), Spain, 1-6, 7-6 (0), 7-6 (7).  
Alex Michelsen (15), United States, def. Seonchang Hong, South Korea, 6-3, 6-3.  
Jordan Thompson (7), Australia, def. Giovanni Mpetshi Perricard (9), France, 7-5, 6-4.  
Sebastian Korda (4), United States, def. Thanasi Kokkinakis, Australia, 6-7 (1), 7-5, 3-2, ret.  
Ben Shelton (2), United States, def. Brandon Nakashima (13), United States, 7-6 (5), 7-6 (4).  
Frances Tiafoe (5), United States, def. Aleksandar Kovacevic, United States, 7-6 (3), 4-6, 6-3.

# Canada at the Games

## WOMEN'S EIGHTS TEAM QUALIFIES FOR FINAL

Canada's defending-champion women's eight rowing team has qualified for Saturday's finals after finishing second in Thursday's repechage. The Canadians finished with a time of 6 minutes 4.81 seconds, slightly behind the American team that finished less than a second earlier. Australia and Italy finished third and fourth respectively in the repechage and have also qualified for the finals, joining Britain and Romania who won their heats on Monday. The Canadians are in Paris as the defending gold medalists in the event after winning at the Tokyo Olympics in 2021.

## AUSTRALIA BEATS CANADA IN WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Sami Whitcomb had 19 points as Australia downed Canada 70-65 in women's Olympic basketball in Lille, France, on Thursday. Bridget Carleton led Canada with 19 points and eight rebounds, while Kia Nurse added 12 points. The result dims Canada's chances of making it through to the knockout round, with the country falling to 0-2 in pool play with one game left against Nigeria on Sunday. The top eight teams from the combined ranking will move on to the quarter-finals, set to begin on Wednesday. In other games on Thursday, the United States beat Belgium 87-74 to clinch a quarter-final berth and Germany and France both advanced to the quarter-finals with wins over Japan and Nigeria, respectively.

## DUNFEE SPEEDWALKS TO FIFTH PLACE

Evan Dunfee left it all at the finish line. The Richmond, B.C., athlete speedwalked his way to fifth place in the 20-kilometre men's race walk on the opening day of athletics on Thursday at the Paris Olympics, falling short of the historic bronze-medal performance he achieved in Tokyo. After the race, a visibly exhausted Dunfee congratulated his fellow athletes before sinking into a crouch in a corner, pouring sweat and taking deep breaths. As he leaned on a metal barricade for support, he told reporters he'd given it his all. Dunfee finished the race in a time of 1:19:16, 21 seconds behind the gold-medal winner, Brian Daniel Pintado of Ecuador. Pintado won in a time of 1:18:55, followed by Caio Bonfim of Brazil and Alvaro Martin of Spain.

## SHADY ELNAHAS ELIMINATED IN MEN'S JUDO

When he got out of bed in the Olympic village in Paris on Thursday, Canadian judoka Shady Elnahas felt something was off. Unable to shake off his uneasiness, the 26-year-old from Toronto saw his quest for a medal cut short in his first bout of the day. Elnahas, who is originally from Alexandria, Egypt, was defeated by a waza-ari from Switzerland's Daniel Eich in the under-100-kilogram category round of 16 after 34 seconds of sudden-death overtime. The only Canadian still competing is Ana Laura Portuondo Isasi, of La Prairie, Que., in the over-78-kilogram category on Friday. Canada will also compete in the mixed-team event on Saturday.

## WOMEN BOUNCE BACK WITH WIN OVER FRANCE IN 3X3 BASKETBALL

Canada bounced back from a loss to Germany with a win over France in the Olympic women's 3x3 basketball tournament Thursday. Katherine Plouffe had four points and six rebounds, twin sister Michelle Plouffe had three points and five rebounds and Paige Crozon pitched in four points in a 13-9 win over France as Canada improved to 3-1 in pool play. Earlier, the Canadians dropped a 19-15 decision to Germany for their first loss. Canada will next face the United States and Spain on Friday.

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## Around the Games

### MATSUYAMA IN THE LEAD AT GOLF TOURNAMENT

SAINT-QUENTIN-EN-YVELINES, FRANCE Victor Perez of France repeatedly pumped his fist over his head before the opening tee shot Thursday, celebrating the start of Olympic golf before a large and raucous home crowd. And then Hideki Matsuyama quietly went about his business for an eight-under 63 and a two-shot lead at Le Golf National. Right behind was a familiar figure — Xander Schauffele, 10 days removed from his British Open title and playing as though he hasn't missed a beat. The surprise was outside the ropes — nearly 20,000 spectators in stifling heat, traipsing across rough terrain and seeing unusually low scoring from overnight rain that softened the course. Joaquin Niemann of Chile, Emiliano Grillo of Argentina and Tom Kim of South Korea were at 66, with Masters champion and tournament favorite Scottie Scheffler at 67. Corey Connors, of Listowel, Ont., opened with a 68, two strokes better than fellow Canadian Nick Taylor of Abbotsford, B.C.

### U.S. HOOPS TEAM WATCHES SIMONE WIN YET ANOTHER GOLD MEDAL

True to their word, the U.S. Olympic men's basketball team showed up to see Simone Biles at the Paris Games. And she didn't disappoint. Several members of the Olympic squad — Stephen Curry, Kevin Durant, Devin Booker, Tyrese Haliburton and Jrue Holiday among them — were in Paris on Thursday night to watch the women's all-around competition, where Biles was the featured attraction. They had seats a few rows up from the floor, most of them with their phones or cameras out all night to watch Biles make history with her sixth career Olympic gold and Sunisa Lee capturing the bronze. Whenever Biles or Lee — the all-around champion at the Tokyo Games three years ago — completed a rotation, the U.S. basketball team had a reaction. Curry often punched the air in celebration, and when it was over, the entire group was on its feet cheering as wildly as they could. And when Biles showed off her pendant of a goat — or GOAT, a nod to her status as the Greatest Of All Time — Curry simply screamed. The U.S. men play again Saturday.

### PARIS PROVING A BOON TO NBC

Less than a week into the Paris Olympics, NBC Universal executives are climbing atop the medal stand. The event has been a significant success for the company broadcasting and streaming it in the United States. NBC has already set a record for advertising revenue, viewership is up significantly and its biggest fear — that people would tune out NBC's prime-time telecast because they could watch events live during the day — hasn't materialized. It's a relief to NBC, after the Beijing Winter Games in 2022 and COVID-delayed Summer Games in Tokyo in 2021 were comparative duds. The company said it has taken in more than US\$1.25-billion in advertising revenue, its best-ever for an Olympics.

### ANDY MURRAY HEADS INTO RETIREMENT

Tears welled in Andy Murray's eyes as he walked alone onto the court to wave goodbye to professional tennis, his career over after a loss in the Paris Olympics doubles quarter-finals in Paris on Thursday night. The 37-year-old Murray had said the 2024 Summer Games would be his last event, and he and partner Dan Evans were beaten by the American duo of Taylor Fritz and Tommy Paul 6-2, 6-4 at Court Suzanne Lenglen. "Obviously, I was emotional, because it's the last time I will play a competitive match, said Murray, a three-time Grand Slam champion and the only player in tennis history with two Summer Games singles golds Murray won Wimbledon twice and the U.S. Open once, along with his Olympic golds from London in 2012 and Rio de Janeiro in 2016. His first Wimbledon championship, in 2013, made Murray the first man from Britain to win that trophy in 77 years. He also won the title at the All England Club in 2016 and the U.S. Open in 2012. When his Olympic match ended, there was a standing ovation from the crowd. Evans applauded, too, as did Fritz and Paul.

### LACK OF WIND FORCES SCUTTLES SAILING

The first medal races for sailing at the Paris Olympics were postponed on Thursday in Marseille, France, because of a lack of wind, leaving athletes broiling in the heat on the water for more than two hours before sending them back to the marina in Marseille. Both the men's and women's skiffs — powerful, bird-like two-person boats — were scheduled to hold their finals, but they were called off after 5 p.m. local time. The men's team from Spain and the women's team from France were in the lead after 12 regattas since Sunday, but no team started the day with a clear grasp on the podium. Instead of a thrilling neck-and-neck competition among the top sailors, the men started the regattas twice before the wind dropped so low that the races were scrapped officials. The women were out on the water too, but their race didn't even start.

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## ATHLETICS

### MEN

#### 20KM RACE WALK

- Brian Daniel Pintado, Ecuador, 1:18:55.
- Caio Bonfim, Brazil, 1:19:09.
- Alvaro Martin, Spain, 1:19:11.
- Massimo Stano, Italy, 1:19:12.
- Evan Dunfee, Canada, 1:19:16.**

### WOMEN

#### 20KM RACE WALK

- Yang Jiayu, China, 1:25:54.
- Maria Perez, Spain, 1:26:19.
- Jemima Montag, Australia, 1:26:25.
- Lorena Arenas, Colombia, 1:27:03.
- Alegna Gonzalez, Mexico, 1:27:14.

## BASKETBALL

### MEN

#### Friday, August 2

- Japan vs Brazil 5 a.m.  
Australia vs Greece 7:30 a.m.  
Canada vs Spain 11:15 a.m.  
France vs Germany 3 p.m.

### WOMEN

#### Thursday, August 1

- Germany 75, Japan 64  
Australia 70, Canada 65  
France 75, Nigeria 54  
United States 87, Belgium 74  
**NEXT TEAM CANADA GAME**  
Sunday, August 4 vs Nigeria 7:30 a.m.

### 3 ON 3

### MEN

#### Thursday, August 1

- Serbia 21, Netherlands 19  
Latvia 22, China 8  
Lithuania 21, Poland 12  
Netherlands 20, France 13  
Lithuania 20, United States 18  
Poland 22, China 17  
Serbia vs France  
United States vs Latvia

### WOMEN

#### Thursday, August 1

- Australia 21, China 15  
Germany 19, Canada 15  
France 15, Azerbaijan 10  
Australia 17, United States 15  
China 14, Spain 11  
Germany 12, Azerbaijan 8  
Spain vs United States  
**Canada 13, France 9**

## BEACH VOLLEYBALL

### MEN

#### Thursday, August 1

- Germany 2, Australia 1 (21-16, 18-21, 17-19)  
Qatar 2, Austria 0 (21-14, 21-18)  
Cuba 2, Morocco 0 (21-14, 21-11)  
United States 2, Brazil 0 (21-17, 14-21, 15-8)  
Italy 2, Sweden 0 (24-22, 21-17)  
Poland 2, France 0 (21-15, 21-18)  
**NEXT TEAM CANADA GAME**  
Friday, August 2 vs. Austria 5 a.m.

### WOMEN

#### Thursday, August 1

- Spain 2, Egypt 0 (21-18, 21-14)  
Australia 2, **Canada 0** (21-10, 21-16)

## WHAT CANADA DID

### THURSDAY

#### (distances in metres)

#### ARCHERY

**Women** — Virginie Chenier, Laval, Que., was eliminated with a loss in the round-of-32 against Rezza Octavia of Indonesia, 6-2.

#### ATHLETICS

**Men's 20-kilometre race walk** — Evan Dunfee, Richmond, B.C., finished fifth in the event in a time of one hour, 19 minutes and 16 seconds.

#### BASKETBALL

**Women** — Bridget Carleton, Chatham, Ont., scored 10 points as Canada (0-2) lost 70-65 to Australia.

#### BASKETBALL (3-ON-3)

**Women** — Canada (3-1) lost to Germany, 19-15, and defeated France, 13-9, in the day's group-stage games.

#### BEACH VOLLEYBALL

**Women** — Heather Bansley, Waterdown, Ont., and Sophie Bukovec, Toronto, lost their preliminary-phase match to Merialie Arfacho de Solar and Taliqna Clancy of Australia, 2/0 (21-10, 21-16).

#### BOXING

**Men's 63.5-kilogram class** — Wyatt Sanford, Kennetcook, N.S., won his quarterfinals bout over Russian Abdullaev, Uzbekistan, 4-1, and is guaranteed

to leave Paris with a medal as those who lose in the semifinals are awarded a bronze, but he is aiming higher.

#### CYCLING

**Women's BMX** — Molly Simpson, Red Deer, Alta., ranked fourth in the quarter-finals with seven points and advanced to the semifinal round.

#### EQUESTRIAN

**Team Jumping** — Canada (Eryn Ballard, Tottenham, Ont., aboard Nikka vd Bisschop; Mario Deslauriers, Venise-en-Quebec City (Emerson); and Amy Millar, Perth, Ont. (Truman) finished the day's qualifying in 14th place with a score of 32.

#### FENCING

**Women's foil (team)** — Canada (Jessica Guo and Yunjia Zhang, both Toronto; and Eleanor Harvey, Hamilton) lost in the bronze-medal match to Japan, 33-32.

#### GOLF

**Men** — Corey Connors shot a three-under par 68 and sits in a tie for 15th after the opening round; Nick Taylor, Abbotsford, B.C., had a 70 and is in a tie for 29th.

#### GYMNASTICS

**Women's all-around** — Ellie Black, Halifax, finished sixth-overall with a score of 54.799; and Ava Stewart, Bowmansville, Ont., was 19th (51.632).

#### JUDO

**Men's 100-kilogram class** — Shady El-

nahas, Toronto, lost in the round-of-16 to Daniel Eich, Switzerland, by Waza-ari, Ura-nae.

#### ROWING

**Women's eight (with cox)** — Canada (Abby Dent; Kenora, Ont.; Caleigh Filmer, Victoria; Kasia Gruchalla-Wesierski, Calgary; Kristen Kit, St. Catharines, Ont.; Maya Meschkuleit, Mississauga, Ont.; Sydney Payne, Toronto; Jessica Sevik, Strathmore, Alta.; Kristina Walker, Wolfe Island, Ont.; and Avalon Wastneys, Campbell River, B.C.) finished second in their repechage heat (6:04.81) to earn a berth in the final as they attempt to defend their gold-medal in Tokyo.

#### SAILING

**ILCA 6** — Sarah Douglas, Toronto, was 23rd in the opening race of the competition, but did not advance.

#### SHOOTING

**Women's 50-metre rifle (three positions)** — Shannon Westlake, Keswick, Ont., placed 32nd in qualifying with a score of 567 including 16 inside the 10-ring, but did not advance.

#### SWIMMING

**Women's 200 backstroke** — Kylie Masse, Lasalle, Ont., was fifth in the semifinals (2:07.92) to earn a berth in the final; Regan Rathwell, Ashton, Ont., was 22nd overall in qualifying (2:12.21)

— did not advance.

**Women's 200 butterfly** — Summer McIntosh, Toronto, won her second gold medal of these Games, setting Olympic and Canadian records (2:03.03).

**Women's 4x200 freestyle relay** — Canada (Mary-Sophie Harvey, Trois-Rivières, Que.; Ella Jansen, Burlington, Ont.; Summer McIntosh; and Julie Brousseau, Ottawa) finished fourth in the final (7:46.05) — 3.71 behind the bronze-medalists from China. Emma O'Coinin of Edmonton had raced in the qualifier and was replaced by McIntosh.

**Men's 50 freestyle** — Josh Liendo, Toronto, placed ninth in the semifinals (21.69) to earn a reserve spot — if one of the top eight drop out, he'll race in the final.

#### Men's 200 individual medley

— Finlay Knox, Okotoks, Alta., was eighth in the semifinals (1:57.76) to clinch the last berth in the finals.

#### TENNIS

**Men's singles** — Felix Auger-Aliassime, Montreal, won his quarterfinal match over Casper Rudd, Norway, 6-4, 6-7 (10), 6-3. His semifinal opponent will be Carlos Alcaraz of Spain.

#### Mixed doubles

— Gabriela Dabrowski, Ottawa, and Auger-Aliassime lost in the semifinals to Katerina Siniakova and Tomas Machac of Czechia, 6-3, 6-3. They will play the Netherlands for the bronze medal.

### 4 X 200M FREESTYLE RELAY

- FINAL**  
1. Australia (M. O'Callaghan, 26:95; L.Pal-lister, 2:20.15; B. Throssel, 4:15.64; A. Titmus, 6:11.13), 7:38.08.  
2. United States (C. Weinstein, 27:25; P. Madden, 2:21.83; K. Leddecky, 4:17.12; E. Gemmell, 6:11.59), 7:40.86.  
3. China (Y. Junxuan, 27:09; L. Bingjie, 2:21.05; G. Chutong, 4:16.33; L. Yaxin, 6:13.54), 7:42.34.  
4. **Canada (Mary-Sophie Harvey, 28:00; Ella Jansen, 2:22.86; Summer McIntosh, 4:19.63; Julie Brousseau, 6:15.23), 7:46.05.**

## TENNIS

### MEN

#### SINGLES — QUARTERFINALS

- Carlos Alcaraz (2), Spain, def. Tommy Paul (9), United States, 6-3, 7-6 (7).  
Lorenzo Musetti (11), Italy, def. Alexander Zverev (3), Germany, 7-5, 7-5.  
**Felix Auger-Aliassime (13), Canada, def.** Casper Ruud (6), Norway, 6-4, 6-7 (8), 6-3.  
Novak Djokovic (1), Serbia, def. Stefanos Tsitsipas (8), Greece, 6-3, 7-6 (3).

### WOMEN

#### SINGLES — SEMIFINALS

- Zheng Qinwen (6), China, def. Iga Swiatek (1), Poland, 6-2, 7-5.

### MIXED DOUBLES

#### SEMIFINALS

- Zhang Zhizhen and Wang Xinyu, China, def. Demi Schuurs and Wesley Koolhof, Netherlands, 2-6, 6-4, 10-4.  
Katerina Siniakova and Tomas Machac, Czechia, def. **Gabriela Dabrowski and Felix Auger-Aliassime, Canada, 6-3, 6-3.**

## VOLLEYBALL

### MEN

#### NEXT TEAM CANADA GAME

Saturday, August 3 vs. Serbia 3 p.m.

## WATER POLO

### WOMEN

#### NEXT TEAM CANADA GAME

- Friday, August 2 vs. Australia 8 a.m.  
Sunday, August 4 vs Netherlands 12:30

## MEDAL TABLE

### 90 OF 329 TOTAL EVENTS

	G	S	B	Tot
United States	9	15	13	37
France	8	11	8	27
China	11	7	6	24
Britain	6	7	7	20
Australia	8	6	4	18
Japan	8	3	5	16
Italy	5	7	4	16
South Korea	6	3	3	12
<b>Canada</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>
Germany	2	2	2	6
Netherlands	2	2	2	6
Brazil	0	3	3	6
New Zealand	2	2	1	5
Romania	2	1	1	4

RESULTS AS OF THURSDAY, AUGUST 1, 9 P.M.

## CANOE/KAYAK

### MEN

#### KAYAK SINGLE SEMIFINAL

- Joseph Clarke, Britain, 89.51 (F).
- Noah Hegge, Germany, 91.24 (F).
- Titouan Castryck, France, 91.56 (F).

#### FINAL

- Giovanni de Gennaro, Italy, 88.22.
- Titouan Castryck, France, 88.42.
- Pau Echaniz, Spain, 88.87.

## FENCING

### WOMEN

#### FOIL TEAM FINALS

**Bronze medal match** Japan (Karin Miyawachi 0-0-1; Sera Azuma 0-2-1; Yuka Ueno 1-1-1; Komaki Kikuchi 2-0), def. **Canada (Yunjia Zhang 0-2-1; Eleanor Harvey 2-0-1; Jessica Zi Jia Guo 1-1-1), 33-32, 71-48.**

#### GOLD MEDAL MATCH

United States (Jacqueline Dubrovich 0-1; Lauren Scroggs 1-2; Lee Kiefer 2-1; Maia Mei Weintraub 2-0), def. Italy (Martina Favaretto 0-2; Alice Volpi 3-0; Arianna Errigo 1-2; Francesca Palumbo 0-1), 45-39, 66:00.

## GOLF

### MEN

#### Thursday

<b>At Guyancourt, France</b>	
<b>Yardage:</b> 7,174; <b>Par:</b> 71	
<b>FIRST ROUND</b>	
Hideki Matsuyama, Japan	31-32—63
Xander Schauffele, U.S.	31-34—65
Emiliano Grillo, Argentina	34-32—66
Tom Kim, South Korea	32-34—66
Joaquin Niemann, Chile	32-34—66

Tommy Fleetwood, England 34-33—67

Also

Corey Connors, Canada 34-34—68

Nick Taylor, Canada 36-34—70

## GYMNASTICS

### WOMEN

#### ALL-AROUND FINAL VAULT

- Simone Biles, United States, 15.766.
- Qiu Qiyuan, China, 14.500.
- Elisabeth Black, Canada, 14.100.**
- Also
- 16. Ava Stewart, Canada, 13.333.**
- UNEVEN BARS**
- Kaylia Nemour, Algeria, 15.533.
- Sunisa Lee, United States, 14.866.
- Alice D'Amato, Italy, 14.800.
- Also
- 8. Elisabeth Black, Canada, 14.066.**
- 20. Ava Stewart, Canada, 12.633.**

#### BALANCE BEAM

- Simone Biles, United States, 14.566.
- Rebeca Andrade, Brazil, 14.500.
- Flavia Saraiva, Brazil, 14.266.
- Also
- 14. Ava Stewart, Canada, 13.166.**
- 17. Elisabeth Black, Canada**



[ TEAM CANADA ]

## Celebrating victory

Bronze-medalist synchronized divers Rylan Wiens and Nathan Zsombor-Murray of Canada, left and right, and American silver medalist Kassidy Cook, centre, do backflips onstage at Champions Park in Paris on Thursday

ARTURO HOLMES/GETTY IMAGES

## Rookies: New members of swim team are learning from veterans

■ FROM B10

"It means a lot," Kharun said. "I'm really happy that I got to this moment and I can't wait to keep showing people what I can do, because I know there's more to work on."

The Canadian program needs a pipeline of young swimmers to continue the success they've enjoyed at recent Olympics.

Brousseau said the senior members of the team, such as captains Kylie Masse and Harvey, have helped ease their entry into the Games.

"They've been superwelcoming to all of us and kind of showing us how to do it and go around the pool and manage the environment," Brousseau said.

"It's definitely really inspiring seeing people like that and it makes you realize, you know, I can do this too."

Elaine Tanner, who won three Olympic medals for Canada in women's swimming as a 17-year-old at the 1968 Games, said the sport has changed a lot since then, and young swimmers have more support available.



My advice to any of the competitors at the Olympics today is to enjoy the process and trust in your training.

ELAINE TANNER  
CANADIAN OLYMPIAN

"The huge difference however is our swimmers today are so much better prepared for the mental challenges of competition than I ever was," Tanner said.

"There were no sports psychologists or support staff to prepare us, and women were not allowed scholarships to college back then. We literally went by the seat of our pants, while blazing new trails for others to follow."

Tanner, who at 5-foot-3 had the nickname Mighty Mouse for her feats in the pool, won two silvers and a bronze in Mexico, and has left a legacy showing world-class swimmers can emerge from Canada.

"We have learned so much from those days and I am so proud of how far we have travelled along that road since then," Tanner said.

Tanner, 73, has been watching Canada's crop of young swimmers race from her home in British Columbia, and said she is proud of how they've fared.

"My advice to any of the competitors at the Olympics today is to enjoy the process and trust in your training," she said.

"I know some will go home disappointed and some full of triumph and satisfaction in their performances. But here is the point: No matter what the outcomes are, take the experience and use it as the alchemy for even greater things ahead."



Julie Brousseau of Team Canada competes in the Olympic women's 4x200-metre relay final on Thursday at Paris La Défense Arena. She was told earlier in the day that she would swim the anchor leg, a high-pressure role, in just her second Olympic race. CHRISTINNE MUSCHI/CP

# Canadian women place fourth in 4x200-metre freestyle relay

Young team disappointed after narrowly missing the podium but also 'extremely proud'

GRANT ROBERTSON PARIS

The world is finding out Summer McIntosh moves fast inside the pool – and out.

After winning a gold medal at the Paris Olympics on Thursday night, McIntosh had just over an hour before she joined her teammates on deck for the 4x200-metre freestyle relay.

In the intervening moments she had just enough time to: debrief her gold-medal swim in the 200-metre butterfly with her coach, change into her Team Canada podium track suit, accept the gold medal in front of 13,000 or so screaming spectators, sing *O Canada*, hug her mom, sister and dad, take a victory parade around the pool deck waving to the crowd, jump in the cool-down pool, get a massage to keep her muscles from cramping, mentally reset for the coming relay, change into her walk-out attire – with her racing suit still on underneath – and join her teammates in the ready room.

Then it was back in the water. Another day at the office for Canada's busiest swimmer.

The relay team – Mary-Sophie Harvey, first-time Olympians Ella Jansen and Julie Brousseau, and McIntosh fresh from her gold-medal swim – only narrowly missed the podium.

Australia won gold in 7 minutes 38.08 seconds, the United States claimed silver in 7:40.86, and China took bronze in 7:42.34.

Canada placed fourth in a time of 7:46.05 seconds.

"Going into tonight, I knew it would be a big night," McIntosh said after the race.

"Over all I think we're all pretty disappointed with that result. But at the same time, I think we're all extremely proud of each other. Because two of them, that was their first Olympic final and they're just a little bit older than me," McIntosh said.

At 17, McIntosh is swimming in her second Olympics, while Brousseau and Jansen are both competing in their first at 18. Harvey was the oldest on the relay squad at 24.

"We're all so young, along with Mary being so experienced but also still in her early 20s," McIntosh said. "I think it was a cool moment to share with all of them and we all have such great career paths in front of us and this is only the beginning."

McIntosh, who swam the third of four legs, joined the squad for the final in a push to get Canada on the podium.

Brousseau was informed earlier in the day she'd be swimming the anchor posi-

tion in the final, a huge nod and a high-pressure role in just her second Olympic race. Her first took place about 10 hours earlier, during the preliminary heats.

"After prelims they told me. I was a little bit shocked but definitely excited," Brousseau said.

"I definitely felt the pressure at the end, especially knowing that they had all done their best and I just had to get in there and do my best, but over all I'm just really excited with the opportunity to race."

Jansen said she also felt the nerves in the loud and rowdy Paris La Défense Arena.

"I think the main thing was trying not to get overwhelmed. So kind of walking out, trying to put a big smile on my face even though that wasn't really how I was feeling, there definitely was a lot of nerves going into that," Jansen said.

"But I'm superproud of us, Julie especially. She was going off that block with the loudest crowd I'd ever heard. That was definitely really scary and she handled it really well."

For McIntosh, it was the second relay she swam in Paris, after a fourth-place finish in the 4x100 freestyle relay on Saturday, an event she competed in less than an hour after winning a silver medal in the 400-metre freestyle.

McIntosh has now won three medals at the Paris Olympics, including two golds and a silver.

### AMERICAN LEDECKY WINS RECORD 13TH MEDAL WITH SILVER IN WOMEN'S 4X200 FREESTYLE RELAY

PARIS It wasn't the medal Katie Ledecky would've preferred.

Still, it was good enough for the record books.

On a night when Canadian phenom Summer McIntosh romped to another victory and Kate Douglass claimed a gold for the Americans, Ledecky collected the 13th medal of her stellar career to become the most decorated woman in swimming history Thursday.

Ledecky and three American teammates took silver in the 4x200-metre freestyle relay, trailing an Australian

squad led by individual gold medalists Mollie O'Callaghan and Ariarne Titmus.

"There's always pressure, but I think we were just going out there to do the best we could and win a medal and whatever records come with that medal will come and that's what happened," said Erin Gemmell, who took the anchor leg after Ledecky went third.

In her next-to-last event of these games, Ledecky surpassed the mark she shared with fellow Americans Dara Torres, Natalie Coughlin and Jenny Thompson. The 27-year-old now has

eight golds, four silvers and one bronze over four Olympics, with every intention of swimming on to Los Angeles in 2028.

Douglass put the United States on the top of the podium in the 200 breaststroke, a race that essentially served as a changing of the guard.

No other American woman has more Olympic medals than Ledecky. Only four athletes rank higher on the overall list, which is led by Michael Phelps with 28.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Warner: Being a decathlete isn't glamorous

■ FROM B10

The two were expected to jockey for gold in Paris.

But LePage isn't competing in Paris. The 28-year-old from Whitby, Ont., pulled out of with a back injury, announcing it on Instagram on July 17. LePage said he had suffered a herniated disc in April and needs surgery on his back.

LePage tried until the last minute, testing himself in events but found, "there was no power, nothing was really going on." He said he made the tough decision to withdraw rather than risk further injury, to miss Paris and focus on getting healthy to defend his world title next year.

"The last couple of months have been pretty draining, to say the least," LePage said in the Instagram video. "It's really tough to see your dream kind of slip away."

LePage had finished fifth at the Tokyo Olympics in 2021, then was runner-up at the 2022 worlds before winning in 2023. But LePage had not competed in a full decathlon since. He missed the Canadian Olympic trials in late June.

The decathlon competition got another jolt on Thursday when world record holder Kevin Mayer of France, 32, was ruled out of the event because of a thigh injury. The two-time Olympic silver medalist picked up the injury as he fell heavily during the 110-metre hurdles leg of a triathlon at the Paris Diamond League earlier this month.

While LePage is not in Paris, Warner said the rise of his fellow Canadian helped motivate him, too.

"His success has kind of made me be like 'okay, let's keep doing this,'" Warner said of LePage. "My drive to succeed in the sport is higher than it's ever been, and I probably owe a lot of that to Pierce and his emergence in the sport."

The two decathletes know each other well, but they don't train together. LePage trains mostly at Toronto's York University. Warner has always remained in London, Ont., training at Western University with Gar Leyshon and Dennis Nielsen, the same high-school teachers who noticed his athletic potential, supported the kid being raised by a single mother, and got him started in basketball, football and track and field.

That loyalty infused his training for Tokyo during the pandemic. With sports facilities closed, the same coaches and his community in London gave materials, equipment and muscle to help turn an aged hockey arena into a makeshift temporary training facility for Warner. They fashioned

an ad hoc track and pits so he could practise his events, bringing in planks of wood, sand and gym mats. Many of the distances weren't right inside that rink, so he'd sprint and finish into a crash mat. He trained in that improvisational way, while many of his competitors around the world prepared for the Olympics as usual, without COVID-19 restrictions.

"Our workload was way less than normal, and at the time, I was thinking 'this is not going to be enough to achieve our dreams.' But we went and scored higher than we've ever scored, and we won the gold medal," Warner said. "So I had to look back and say maybe these ideas that I had in my head were wrong, all this training that I thought I needed to do."

While his training for Paris has been more conventional, back at Western's track, his 2021 experience changed how his team designs his workload.

"I'm 34 years old now, I'm the oldest athlete in the field, and I can't do as much as someone that's 19 or 20," Warner said. "So what are the important things that I need to do so that I can stay healthy but also have enough fitness to perform well? We try to do as little as possible, and I think that we learned that in 2021."

Warner and partner Jen Cotton have a three-year-old son, Theo, and await another baby due this fall. While Warner used to train six days a week for more than four hours at a time, now he trains five days a week, for two or three hours.

Warner doesn't focus on hitting any particular score in Paris. He has a special calculator on his phone that computes decathlon points for each event, based on the time or distance achieved. He used to obsess over projecting how many total points he would need to win a competition, and then fixate on achieving that number as he progressed in the events.

But from experience, he's learned that calculating a points total to chase is a faulty goal. Every decathlon has different weather and conditions, and you can't control your competitors' performances. One day it might take 8,800 points to win. On another, 8,700 might suffice. He now limits his use of the calculator.

"You're trying to chase a ghost at that point," Warner said. "You just need to go out there, take it all in, and compete against the competitors that are there on that day."

Getting all the equipment to the track and in place for each event is dizzying. On five of his past six trips to competitions, his bags have been lost, with all his equipment and the 10 different

pairs of shoes he uses during events.

The sprint calls for light spikes, he said, while the shoes he wears for shot put have no spikes at all. For javelin, he needs a strong, bulky shoe. And don't get him started on flying overseas with the pole-vault poles – an item many airlines quickly decline.

"It's one of the more unglamorous parts about being a decathlete," Warner said. "Lugging around all the equipment that you need."

The Olympic decathlon begins at 10 a.m. on Friday with the 100-metre event, the first of five events that day, with five more on Day 2, concluding with the 1,500-metre race late on Saturday night. Warner has learned over years of meets that if he tries to remain mentally dialled into the competition for every hour of that two-day period, he will exhaust himself.

While he used to be very serious throughout, now he's more conversational with his competitors and coaches between events. After the first day of competition, he tries to eat as much food as he can handle, and then relaxes in his room, often tuning out over some episodes of *The Office* before sleeping in preparation to resume the decathlon the next morning.

Just as in Tokyo, heat is an issue in Paris. Warner seems unbothered by the idea of sprinting, throwing and jumping in sizzling temperatures. He turns it into a positive.

"I prefer when it's really hot, because I feel like being an old man I don't have to warm up as much," Warner said with a laugh. "I've competed in really cold weather, really hot weather, rainy weather, so I'm prepared for anything."

Because decathlons are so gruelling, just finishing is a source of pride, and the decathletes and coaches often share a lengthy time together at the end, hugging and congratulating each other.

"If somebody beats me, I'll shake their hand," Warner said. "And if not, then I'll stand on top of the podium."

He thinks it's a shame that he accepts the medal on the podium by himself, that he's alone for that belting-out-the-anthem moment, when he knows the contribution of his four coaches – Leyshon, Nielsen, Vickie Croley and Dave Collins – plus his sport psychologist, agent, training partners and his family.

"I don't want to be the centre of attention. I don't want to be the person that gets all the praise," Warner said. "While I get the medal, I feel like that medal should be shared with a lot of different people, because they worked just as hard as I did."

### NEW YANKEE CHISHOLM JR. SPARKS TEAM AHEAD OF SERIES VERSUS JAYS

Since walking into the visitors' dugout at Boston's Fenway Park on Sunday, Jazz Chisholm Jr. has created a memorable first impression for the New York Yankees.

After homering four times for his new team, Chisholm makes his home debut Friday night when the Yankees play host to the Toronto Blue Jays and attempt to run their winning

streak to six games.

Chisholm was acquired Saturday from the Miami Marlins for three prospects and debuted in centre field for Sunday's 8-2 win over the Boston Red Sox.

Chisholm is 7-for-19 (.368) with the Yankees after hitting .249 in 101 games with the Marlins this season.

The Yankees will play 15 straight games against teams

below .500, and the Blue Jays are coming off dropping three of four at Baltimore.

Toronto's revised lineup will face Marcus Stroman (7-5, 3.64 ERA), who is 0-2 with a 5.64 ERA in his past five outings. The Blue Jays are slated to start Kevin Gausman (9-8, 4.44), who is 3-0 with a 3.57 ERA in his past three outings.

REUTERS

## Sports in brief

### ALCARAZ WITHDRAWS FROM CANADIAN MASTERS WITH 'FATIGUE'

Reigning French Open and Wimbledon champion Carlos Alcaraz has withdrawn from next week's Canadian Masters in Montreal owing to fatigue, Tennis Canada said on Thursday. The 21-year-old Spanish world No. 3 is still in contention in the men's singles tournament at the Paris Olympics where he and Rafael Nadal lost in the quarter-finals of the doubles competition. "It has been a very long season for me and due to the accumulation of matches and fatigue, I will not be able to play in Montreal this year," four-times Grand Slam winner Alcaraz said in a Tennis Canada statement. Alcaraz ran his winning streak at the place to 11 matches, getting past Tommy Paul of the U.S. 6-3, 7-6 (7) at Court Philippe Chatrier at the Olympics on Thursday. Earlier this week Novak Djokovic withdrew from the Canadian Masters, which serves as a tune-up event to the U.S. Open. Djokovic beat Stefanos Tsitsipas 6-3, 7-6 (3) on Thursday to reach the Summer Games' semi-finals for the fourth time.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

### YORK UNITED MANAGER SAYS SPYING IN SOCCER IS NOT FOR HIM

Benjamin Mora's coaching career has taken him from his native Mexico to Malaysia and now Canada, with the Canadian Premier League's York United FC. As such, the drone spying scandal at the Paris Olympics surrounding the Canadian women's team does not come as a surprise to him. "What is spying?" Mora asked. "I mean, strategy in war, all over the world, has always been knowing what your opponent is going to do to you, knowing their shape, knowing who they are going to line up. In many, many countries that I've been in and I've watched football – I'm talking about Malaysia, I'm talking about Southeast Asia, Indonesia, Thailand – I've seen things, of course, I've seen situations like this." Mora said it's not his kind of behaviour. "I don't do that. I don't like it because I don't need it," said the York coach.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

### ALS QB ALEXANDER TO MAKE FIRST CFL START

HAMILTON Davis Alexander will make his first CFL start Friday night when the Montreal Alouettes visit the Hamilton Tiger-Cats. Alexander was listed atop Montreal's quarterback depth chart Thursday, ahead of veteran Caleb Evans and first-year player James Morgan. The Portland State product replaced Evans in last week's 20-16 win over Saskatchewan, completing 15-of-18 passes for 178 yards and two touchdowns in rallying Montreal (6-1) to the victory. Evans got the start ahead of incumbent Cody Fajardo, who had been placed on the six-game injury list with a hamstring ailment. Fajardo came off six-game injured list and resumed practising with Montreal this week but won't dress Friday. Montreal's defence, under veteran co-ordinator Noel Thorpe, has been stellar. It leads the CFL in several categories, including fewest offensive points allowed (18.9 per game), net offence (317.3 yards), passing yards (223.1), passing TDs (four) and 30-plus yard completions (three).

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## BIRTH AND DEATH NOTICES

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### DEATHS



DIETER (BILL) MENZEL  
January 4, 1929 – July 29, 2024

Having survived his beloved wife Oivi by almost 50 years, and all his immediate family, Dieter (Bill) enjoyed his last look of the Toronto skyline from his home at Avoca and passed away peacefully on July 29, 2024. He leaves many dear friends and family around the world. His wit, knowledge and enthusiasm will be missed by all who knew him. Although dealing with some health issues, Dieter was present and engaged right to the end.

Dieter's beloved wife Oivi passed away almost 50 years to the day and they had no children; Dieter was very close to his wife's family and surrounded himself with many friends – his chosen family. His enjoyment of good times and resilience through bad times, forged a man who was compassionate, cared about the world around him and lived every day to the fullest.

Dieter led an exciting and varied life. Born in Germany in 1929, he spent his adolescence in the ruins of World War II Germany before emigrating to Canada where he sought and found love and personal success in his adopted land. He rose to prominence in his business career with Shell Oil, then turned his energies to working for conservation with the World Wildlife Fund and the Nature Conservancy of Canada. He leaves the Menzel Centennial Provincial Nature Reserve of over 2 square kilometers in Eastern Ontario in memory of Oivi.

He graduated with a Bachelor of Commerce from Concordia University where he won a scholarship and Dean's mention. He obtained the Chartered Accountant designation in Ontario and served as Executive-in-Residence at York University. He contributed his extensive knowledge to the boards of Shell Canada, BioShell, the Bank of New York, Canada, Elan Energy, Lasmer Resources and the Executive Committee of World Wildlife Fund Canada.

Dieter will be missed greatly by his family, Via Rosen, Henrik Rosen, Tomas Rosen, Oivi-Marika Jacobsson, Paaro Ustav, Peter and Jill Sorra, Hillar Sorra, Thomas Settler, Christiane Settler, Angela Lindner, Arno Lindner, nephew Wolfgang Grabs, and close friends Anne McKenzie, Maureen Taylor, Rob and Kate Taylor, Kirstan Carthew, Barbara Carthew, Juliette Woodruff, Marlene Montiero, the Viaus, Bob and Marnie Taylor and the Beauregards.

Special thanks to Bradley Kerfoot, who aided his travels to the beloved sunshine of Marco Island and, most especially, Sarka Osecka who was his primary caregiver and steadfast friend, enabling him to live in his own home where he was happiest.

Dieter's visitation will be held at St. Peter's Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church on Saturday, August 3rd at 10:00 a.m. The funeral will follow at 11:00 a.m. A private reception will follow at his home. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the World Wildlife Fund or Nature Conservancy – 2 causes very close to Dieter's heart. Condolences may be forwarded through www.humphreymiles.com.

### FUNERAL SERVICES



Benjamin's  
Park  
Memorial  
Chapel



Through the generations...  
a sacred trust

THURSDAY

BATORI, Drora - 12:30 Chapel.  
RUCH, Kathryn - 2:30 Chapel.

FRIDAY

BERMAN, Annette - 10:30 Chapel.

SUNDAY

MARMER, Jack - 12:30 Chapel.

SHIVA

MELMAN, Neil - 509 Melrose Avenue.  
COOPER, Dr. Jerry - 65 Spring Garden Ave., #111.

LEWIS, Morry - 10 Torredale Avenue.  
ROEBUCK, Hillel - 65 Skymark Drive, #1205.

BATORI, Drora - 77 Ridgevale Drive.  
RUCH, Kathryn - Please see www.benjamins.ca.

UNVEILING SUNDAY

TUCSON, AZ

Gary, Leslie - 9:00 am.  
Gary, Rosalie - 9:00 am.

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**BERNICE JOHNSON REAGON**

MUSICIAN, SCHOLAR, 81

# SINGER USED HER VOICE TO HELP PROPEL THE U.S. CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

After joining the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee she became an original member of its Freedom Singers and a musical activist who later went on to become a history professor

TRAVIS LOLLER NASHVILLE

**B**ernice Johnson Reagon, a musician and scholar who used her rich, powerful contralto voice in the service of the American Civil Rights Movement and human rights struggles around the world, has died at the age of 81.

Ms. Reagon was probably best known as the founder of the internationally renowned African American female a cappella group Sweet Honey in the Rock, which she led from 1973 until her retirement in 2004. The Grammy-nominated group's mission has been to educate and empower as well as entertain. They perform songs from a wide range of genres that include spirituals, children's songs, blues and jazz. Some of their original compositions honour American civil rights leaders and international freedom movements such as the struggle against apartheid in South Africa.

"She was incredible," said Tammy Kernodle, a distinguished professor of music at Miami University who specializes in African American music. She described Ms. Reagon as someone "whose divine energy and intellect and talent all intersect in such a way to initiate change in the atmosphere."

Ms. Reagon's daughter confirmed on social media that her mother died on July 16.

Ms. Reagon's musical activism began in the early 1960s when she served as a field secretary for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee and became an original member of its Freedom Singers, according to an obituary posted on social media by her daughter, musician Toshi Reagon. The group reunited and was joined by Toshi Reagon to perform for then-president Barack Obama in 2010 as part of a White House performance series that was also broadcast nationwide on public television.

Born in Dougherty County outside of Albany, Ga., in 1942, Ms. Reagon attended music workshops in the early 1960s at Tennessee's Highlander Folk School, a training ground for activists. At an anniversary gathering in 2007,



Bernice Johnson Reagon performs at Damrosch Park in New York in 2008. Ms. Reagon founded the a cappella group Sweet Honey in the Rock. The Grammy-nominated group performed a wide range of genres including spirituals, children's songs, blues and jazz. HIROYUKI ITO/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Ms. Reagon explained how the school helped her see her musical heritage as something special.

"From the time I was born, we were always singing," Ms. Reagon said. "When you're inside a culture and, quote, 'doing what comes naturally to you,' you don't pay attention to it. ... I think my work as a cultural scholar, singer and composer would be completely different if I had not had someone draw my attention to the people who use songs to stay alive, or to keep themselves together, or to lift up the energy in a movement."

While a student at Albany State College, Ms. Reagon was jailed for attending a civil rights demonstration and expelled. She later graduated from Spellman College. She formed Sweet Honey in the Rock while a graduate student of history at Howard University and vocal director of the D.C. Black Repertory Company.

Ms. Reagon recorded her first

solo album, *Folk Songs: The South*, with Folkways Records in 1965. In 1966 she became a founding member of the Atlanta-based Harabebe Singers.

Ms. Reagon began working with the Smithsonian Institution in 1969, when she was invited to develop and curate a 1970 festival program, *Black Music Through the Languages of the New World*, according to the Smithsonian. She went on to curate the African Diaspora Program and to found and direct the Program in Black American Culture at the National Museum of American History, where she was later a curator emeritus. She produced and performed on numerous Smithsonian Folkways Recordings.

For a decade, beginning in 1993, Ms. Reagon served as distinguished professor in history at American University in Washington, later becoming a professor emerita.

We assume that music was always a part of civil rights activism, Ms. Kernodle said, but it was people like Ms. Reagon who made music "part of the strategy of non-violent resistance. ... They took those songs, they took those practices from inside the church to the streets and the jail cells. And they universalized those songs."

"What she also did that was very important was that she historicized how that music functioned in the civil rights movement," Ms. Kernodle added. "Her dissertation was one of the first real studies of civil rights music."

Ms. Reagon received two George F. Peabody Awards, including for her work as principal scholar, conceptual producer and host of the Smithsonian Institution and National Public Radio series *Wade in the Water: African American Sacred Music Traditions*.

She was also the recipient of the Charles E. Frankel Prize, Presidential Medal, for outstanding contributions to public understanding of the humanities, a MacArthur Fellows Program award, and the Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change Trumpet of Conscience Award.

ASSOCIATED PRESS



Elizabeth Catlett, left, then-Washington mayor Sharon Pratt Dixon and Ms. Reagon chat during the reception at the Candace awards in 1991 in New York. CHRYSZYNA CZAJKOWSKY/ASSOCIATED PRESS

**BOB JONES**

HOCKEY COACH, 54

## Former Senators assistant remembered for 'true joy for life,' commitment to players

OTTAWA

**F**ormer Ottawa Senators assistant coach Bob Jones has died following a battle with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis — the disease commonly known as ALS. He was 54.

Both the Senators and the NHL Coaches' Association confirmed the Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., native's death. The NHLCA said Mr. Jones died on July 26.

Mr. Jones revealed in January, 2023, he had been diagnosed with ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig's disease, the previous month.

The Senators said in a statement Mr. Jones became a vocal advocate for ALS research awareness after his diagnosis. He continued his work with the organization through the end of last season and into the 2023-24 campaign.

"For both our current players and for the members of our staff who had the privilege of working with Bob, his loss brings considerable sorrow," Senators owner Michael Anzlauer said in offering the organization's condolences.

"Bob will be fondly remembered for having a true joy for life and for his determined commitment to routinely help better individual players and all hockey organizations for which he worked."

ALS is a progressive nervous system disease that affects cells in the brain and spinal cord, causing a loss of muscle control. It's often called Lou Gehrig's disease, after the Hall of Fame baseball player who was diagnosed in



Bob Jones

1939.

Calgary Flames assistant general manager Chris Snow died last fall at the age of 42 after being diagnosed with the disease in January, 2020.

Mr. Jones was hired by Ottawa in July, 2019, as a member of former head coach D.J. Smith's staff.

He joined the club following a long career at other levels, including an Ontario Hockey League tenure that spanned more than 20 seasons.

As an associate coach with the Windsor Spitfires, Mr. Jones helped the team win the OHL championship in both 2008-09 and 2009-10.

Mr. Jones leaves his wife, Paige, and their children, Blake and Brianna.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

**LYLE STEWART**

POLITICIAN, 73

## Former Saskatchewan cabinet minister praised for his dedication

REGINA

**F**ormer Saskatchewan Party legislature member Lyle Stewart has died.

Premier Scott Moe confirmed that Stewart died at 73 after a battle with cancer.

"Lyle was a man of few words, which is unusual for a politician, but you always knew where he stood," Mr. Moe said on social media.

"His quiet strength and dedication to the people he served were an example to all of us who served with him."

Mr. Stewart was first elected in 1999 and represented the ridings of Thunder Creek and Lumsden-Morse, a rural constituency covering an area stretching from Swift Current to Regina.

He served in cabinet as minister of agriculture and minister of enterprise and innovation. He was also briefly interim leader of the Saskatchewan Party in 2004 when it was in opposition.

Mr. Stewart was stripped of his legislative secretary duties after inviting notorious killer Colin Thatcher to the throne speech in 2022. He later called the decision to invite Mr. Thatcher "an error

in judgment."

Mr. Stewart had served as the executive assistant to Mr. Thatcher, who was an energy minister under former Conservative premier Grant Devine, before Mr. Thatcher resigned and was convicted of first-degree murder.

Mr. Thatcher's ex-wife, JoAnn Wilson, was found beaten and shot to death in the garage of her Regina home in 1983.

Conservative MP Fraser Tolmie, who represents the Saskatchewan riding of Moose Jaw-Lake Centre-Lanigan, paid tribute to Mr. Stewart.

"Lyle represented the people of his riding passionately for nearly 24 years," Mr. Tolmie said in a Facebook post.

"Saskatchewan politics will not be the same without him."

Mr. Stewart resigned in March, 2023, because of his health, saying at the time he had been living with prostate cancer for a number of years but his condition had worsened.

He previously beat cancer in 2014, but stepped down from cabinet four years later when the disease returned.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

REAL ESTATE 

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{ HOME OF THE WEEK }

FROM 'BEWARE OF FALLING ROCKS'  
TO HERITAGE HOME

Abandoned for decades and dismissed as a 'ruin,' historic mill near Kingston was transformed into an icon for the community of Tamworth ■ H6

At 46 Concession Rd. S, in Tamworth, Ont., sits this house that was built out of a former grist mill. BILLY-JACK KIMMERLY

## Stronger fall season seen breaking housing market lethargy

CAROLYN IRELAND

NEXT MOVE



The malaise hanging over the Toronto-area real estate market appears set to linger into August, but signs are pointing to renewed vigour in the fall, according to one industry veteran.

Sales have been lethargic in recent weeks, and even the Bank of Canada's recent move to cut its benchmark interest rate to 4.5 per cent from 4.75 per cent doesn't appear to be the catalyst needed to rejuvenate prospective buyers.

John Lusink, president of Right at Home Realty and Property.ca, says the rate cut of 25 basis points is unlikely to provide more than a small psychological boost for buyers. He had been

hoping for a more hefty cut of 50 basis points.

"I think that would have really helped move things a little faster."

Mr. Lusink notes that rates for fixed-term mortgages make it difficult for many people to qualify for financing, and bankers have become extremely miserly when it comes to handing out approvals.

"It has to translate into favourable mortgage rates and terms, and banks and lenders wanting to put out money," he says.

"There are an awful lot of people that just aren't being qualified at the moment."

Posted rates for mortgages with a popular three-year term, for example, were recently hovering around 6.99 per cent.

Mr. Lusink is optimistic that the market will pick up in the fall — especially if the central bank

[An interest rate cut] has to translate into favourable mortgage rates and terms, and banks and lenders wanting to put out money. There are an awful lot of people that just aren't being qualified at the moment.

JOHN LUSINK  
PRESIDENT OF RIGHT AT  
HOME REALTY AND PROPERTY.CA

lowers its key rate again at the next scheduled meeting of the policy-setting committee on Sept. 4.

Bank of Canada Governor Tiff Macklem did sound more dovish at the July confab, telling reporters it is "reasonable" to expect additional rate cuts this year.

Olivia Cross, North America economist at Capital Economics, says the shift in tone indicates that policy makers are becoming almost as concerned by the prospect of the rate of inflation falling below their target of 2 per cent as coming in above.

She is forecasting the central bank will cut the policy rate at each remaining meeting this year.

Some aspiring home buyers appear to be holding out until they see the lower rates Bay Street is predicting become a reality.

There's also something of a

stalemate going on: Buyers believe stubborn sellers will eventually have to cave on prices and sellers say they will pull their listings or lease the property if they can't get the price they're aiming for.

In the meantime, Mr. Lusink says, inventory at Right at Home and Property.ca offices throughout Ontario has been inching up each week during July, though the pace of the increases has slowed.

Currently, supply at the firm sits 44 per cent higher than it did at this time last year.

Mr. Lusink expects more listings will trickle in during August as some homeowners fret that supply will only continue to rise in September.

"They say, 'I'd like to get in on the market now before we are competing with even more people.'"

■ IRELAND, H4



## LEGISLATION

Restrictions on vacation rentals have forced B.C. resort owners to adapt and cities to seek exemptions

■ H2



## BRITISH COLUMBIA

Residents, housing advocates frustrated with the definition of 'affordable' in publicly funded development

■ H3



## THE LISTING

Condo residents in Toronto file claim against developer and the city after structural issues and flooding

■ H4



The Predator Ridge Resort in Vernon, B.C., incorporates dwellings that were built as short-term vacation properties, including units in a hotel-like building called The Lodge. The province's restrictions on short-term vacation rentals would have eliminated the possibility of using the 145 units – out of 900 on the property – as vacation rentals. PEREGRINE COTTAGES

## Some B.C. companies try to adapt to new restrictions on vacation rentals

Some tourist destinations feared losing a key component of local industry

FRANCES BULA

When British Columbia said last October that it was going to bring in some of the toughest restrictions on short-term vacation rentals in North America, the owners of a prominent Okanagan resort complex had a moment of panic.

The Predator Ridge Resort, built on a former ranch near Vernon, opened in 1991 building condos and houses that were aimed at sales to permanent residents. Nine years later, it started including short-term vacation destinations, some of them large homes, some cottages, some units in a hotel-like building called The Lodge.

The City of Vernon had enacted a special zoning for the property that included these short-term rentals as a permitted use.

But it looked as if the new provincial legislation wouldn't allow for that, eliminating the possibility of using the 145 units – out of 900 on the property – as vacation rentals.

"We were caught in the middle of booking for the summer" says Brad Pelletier, senior vice-president for resort owner Wesbild Okanagan, noting that a million dollars worth of bookings were on the line when suddenly everything was wobbling.

Local politicians, including the mayor and the NDP MLA for the area, Harwinder Sandhu, were also alarmed at the thought of talking out a major component of the local tourism industry. The Okanagan region had already seen noticeable declines in visitors after several summers where large forest fires either resulted in evacuations or large areas blanketed with haze.

However, after emergency meetings that Ms. Sandhu helped organize with provincial housing-ministry staff before the regulations went into effect May 1, both local politicians and Predator Ridge management were able to make the case that the resort was an "unintended target," says Mr. Pelletier.

In the end, the legislation was tweaked in order to keep Predator Ridge and others like it – not many, but a handful scattered around the province – able to continue functioning as is. They had to follow certain rules. All bookings and cleaning had to be done through the central resort and the units needed to maintain some kind of front desk and staff.

Now the Predator Ridge model is one that other cities and companies are interested in, as both groups try to figure out how to navigate the new tourism world



B.C.'s legislation was tweaked so that Predator Ridge and others were able to function as is, with some new rules, such as needing some kind of front desk and staff. GORD WYLIE/PREDATOR RIDGE GOLD RESORT

where building new full-service hotels is less attractive for investors.

As Mr. Pelletier notes, "the economics of stand-alone hotels are so difficult these days." And hotels themselves have become less attractive to many travellers participating in the current global tourism explosion, especially for those wanting a more home-like experience or enough room for large groups.

And so short-term rentals – frequently financed one investor unit at a time – have become vital amenities in many cities where tourism is central to the economy. At the same time, they have often been a destructive force, meaning the loss of potential housing for locals while putting small hotels in places never designed for them.

Vernon Mayor Victor Cumming says that he thinks his city has found the balance needed to get the benefits and avoid the negatives. It comes thanks to the special resort zoning the city created combined with B.C.'s new rules designed to keep vacation rentals out of regular residential zones.

The province's system doesn't allow any rentals for less than three months, which is different from the 30-day minimum in most other jurisdictions trying to regulate them. The new regime also requires registration with a provincial site, making the rules some of the strictest in the U.S. and Canada, according to platforms like Airbnb.

Mr. Cumming said the proliferation of short-term rentals in residential subdivisions had turned into a serious issue, despite Vernon seeing itself partially as a resort town.

"There was a large number of homes that were being purchased by outside investors and

then used commercially. It was a nightmare. Multiple families would stay. The owners would not be around and shenanigans would happen any day of the week. The neighbours were not getting sleep," Mr. Cumming said.

The city tried fining owners for noise violations or other infractions but, said Mr. Cumming, "they just treated the fines as the cost of doing business." On top of that, the owners were paying only residential taxes, not commercial taxes as the rentals in resort areas were doing.

But Vernon does want some accommodation for vacationers beyond hotels.

Besides Predator Ridge, the city has a few other housing complexes that also exist in special resort-oriented zones, buildings like Vita Resorts, a mix of short- and long-term residents, or The Strand Lakeside.

Mr. Cumming said that people living at those projects year-round don't complain about the vacationers because they knew it was the arrangement from the start – and often they like the mix and chance to meet new people.

"They say 'I know what I've got. That's the social chemistry of the property I purchased,'" he said.

Mr. Cumming said he feels like Vernon is benefiting now because it got smart a long time ago about how tourism was changing.

"The province recognized we're ahead 30 years on this."

At least one other city nearby looks at the Vernon situation with some envy.

Nearby Penticton, in the heart of Okanagan wine country, tried to get a partial exemption from the province's vacation-rental rules as well. But since it didn't

have any resort zones already designated, the city was turned down.

Mayor Julius Bloomfield said that's going to be hard on the area.

"We're not a dedicated tourist resort like some others in B.C., but we are a tourist town," he said.

(B.C. has designated 14 cities as resort towns and said that group is exempt from the new vacation-rental rules. Some, such as Tofino and Osoyoos, have chosen to opt into the provincial registry system and regulations anyway.)

"I'm concerned there won't be enough accommodation to the style tourists now want and demand. It's obvious some tourists don't want a hotel room."

Mr. Bloomfield was dismayed when one builder halted his plans for a vacation-rental project as a result of the B.C. changes. Now he's hopeful about a new application to convert a former motel into vacation rentals. That's legal since the property is already zoned commercial.

He is hopeful a model will develop to accommodate the desire for apartment-like vacation rentals. Some 113 kilometres away, Mr. Cumming thinks that model will be like Vernon's.

"I think we'll see, in the next 36 months, the development of that type of product. Predator Ridge was just ahead of it."

As it has turned out in B.C., a few other places were also ahead of the game. Near Comox, another popular vacation spot on Vancouver Island, a resort called the Beach House at Saratoga has also been permitted to keep operating its short-term vacation rentals under the provincial rules. Like Predator Ridge, that resort also benefited from special resort zoning. Its rules require that owners be out of their units and

have them available for rent six months of the year.

The development has proven popular both summer and winter with a ski hill nearby and the ocean almost next door, says Robert Cracknell, a managing partner at Iris Properties, which manages the Beach House units.

Before the provincial rule changes, that company was managing about 120 units, including the Beach House ones, for short-term rentals.

Mr. Cracknell acknowledged it's been a struggle to adapt the single units that area owned here and there throughout various cities by investors. There are few workarounds for those to allow them to be operated the way they were previously.

Instead, his company is pursuing ways to develop a market for the minimum 90-day rentals.

The strategy is to find organizations who need to put up staff or temporary workers on a regular basis – film companies, providers of private travel nurses, short-term contractors – and get that company or institution to rent a unit long-term so that it can be rotated to workers as needed.

Mr. Cracknell said a lot of investors are looking for other new ways to serve that short-term rental market but they're struggling because they'd need a commercial property in a desirable location.

Some are exploring the opportunities still available under the provincial legislation.

It allows people to rent out laneway homes and basement suites anywhere in the province, as long as the city itself doesn't have any rules prohibiting it. (Vancouver does not allow that type of vacation rental, saying only principal residences can be rented out, either when the owner is out of town or is willing to rent a bedroom inside their home while they're living there.)

He believes that, as the sector evolves, more professional management will also help the general public become more accepting of short-term rentals. His company has started using various kinds of technologies – one is a noise-monitoring device installed right in rental units – to ensure that vacation properties don't become disruptive to others.

But, as he looks at how everything is evolving across Canada and the U.S. as everyone adapts to the new tourism, the demand for short-term rentals is not going to go away. He regularly talks to city mayors and tourism boards that are anxious to get more of it for their tourism-driven economies.

And he sees the Predator Ridge or Beach House model as among the most promising.

"Cities should zone for it. That would be huge," said Mr. Cracknell.

# Confusion abounds over high rents at publicly funded Kitsilano building

Definition of 'affordable' used by BC Housing is being debated by some area residents

KERRY GOLD

OPINION

VANCOUVER



Three years ago, the B.C. government announced they'd partner with a private developer to bring a new apartment building to Kitsilano, in response to the affordability crisis.

"New affordable rental homes" were on the way, said the news release, which would replace a church at the corner of West 2nd Avenue and Larch Street.

Taxpayers subsidized 54 of the units in the building with a low-interest-rate \$31.8-million construction loan made available through the province.

It was part of the province's HousingHub program – recently rolled into another program called BC Builds – requiring that 80 per cent of the building is devoted to middle-income households. According to the HousingHub scheme, developers must use their cost savings to keep rents in check.

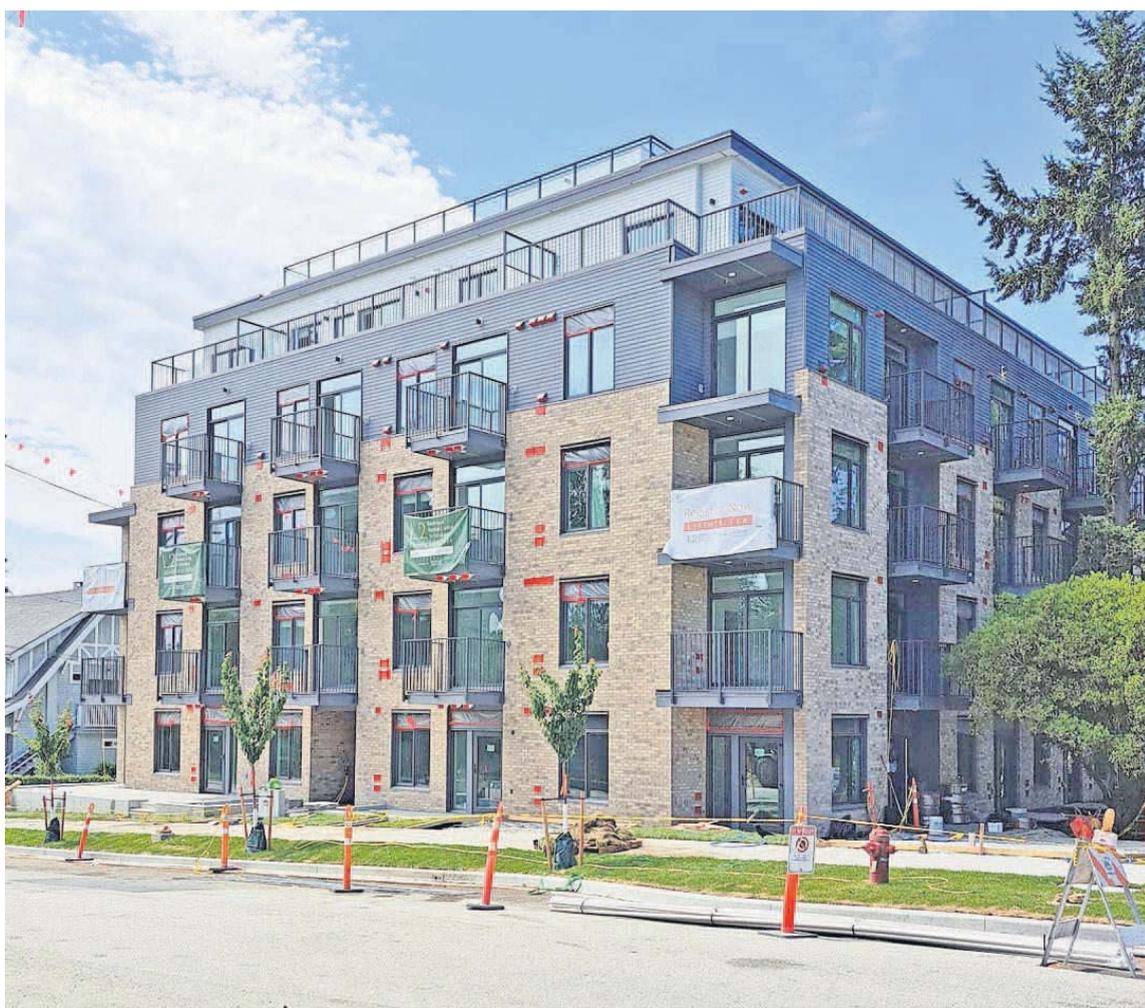
But as the 68-unit building at 1807 Larch St. project nears completion, set for September occupancy, there is confusion about the definition of "affordable."

The units are, in fact, at the high end of the current market rate, according to the recent rental rates on the building website. The 393-square-foot studios are being rented on a one-year lease at \$2,650 to \$2,750 monthly. A 517-square-foot unit rents for \$3,275. A 589-square-foot, two-bedroom unit on the top floor with a large patio is available at \$4,200 a month. There are 840-square-foot, two-bedrooms with two bathrooms renting at \$4,300 monthly. For 10 years, the rents can't go above market rate.

HousingHub is aimed at middle-income earners, or those households who bring in an average annual gross income of up to \$191,910. That is based on a calculation by BC Housing on the 75th percentile of all household incomes in the province. Studios and one-bedroom units are for households without children with an income up to \$131,950, and the two- and three-bedrooms are for those with children who earn up to \$191,910.

There is \$2-billion in financing allotted for thousands of new homes for middle-income families, according to BC Housing.

From the get-go, the Larch Street redevelopment was controversial with neighbours. Judy Osburn, an area resident who lives near the new development, said there was a popular daycare in the basement of the former church's community space.



The rental project at 1807 Larch St., in Vancouver's Kitsilano neighbourhood, was pitched as 'new affordable rental homes' by the province. The units are at the high end of the market, however, with a 393-square-foot studio going for between \$2,650 to \$2,750 a month. SAL ROBINSON

"But when this announcement came out, I thought, 'okay, that's not a bad thing if we are going to have 80 per cent for middle-income affordable rentals,'" she said.

And then she recently looked up the rents and saw they far exceed existing rents in the area. "I don't know what planet they are on that calls that middle-income," she said.

Another area neighbour, Sal Robinson, is also confused about how the province arrived at the numbers.

"Maybe I'm out of touch, but \$191,000 to me is not really middle-income," she said.

Michael Pistrin, vice-president of development for BC Housing, cleared up the confusion. The allowable household incomes have increased since the first announcement, when they were only \$99,000.

Also, the main goal is supply. "The HousingHub program is a supply-based program. It's not an affordability program," he said. "The whole intent of the HousingHub was just to build more housing. And it was intended to be market [rate] rental housing," he says.

It's in a separate category from BC Housing programs aimed at

lower incomes, which are also being built across the province, he said.

"It's not supposed to be below market at all. It's supposed to be 'at market' for the most part. In some cases, we can leverage – through the low-cost financing that we're able to provide during construction – we can leverage that to force the builder to reduce the rents to slightly below market in some cases, for a percentage of the units.

"But that's on a case-by-case basis ... for the most part it was just intended to put market supply out there."

The developer for the building, called L2, is Jameson Developments. A year ago, B.C. Housing Minister Ravi Kahlon announced that the province would also partner with Jameson on a 258-unit, 28-storey tower at 2528 Birch St., at the old Denny's restaurant site on Broadway.

Again, it was a HousingHub project, with \$165-million available to the developer in low-interest financing. The city of Vancouver waived the development cost levy waivers in exchange for committing 20 per cent of the building to below-market housing. The city used its own calculation to determine

"moderate incomes," separate from the province's methods.

At 1807 Larch St., 14 units will qualify for moderate incomes. To apply for those units, the applicant must directly e-mail the property management company. By the end of the summer, there will be a public website that lists buildings nearing occupancy that will provide contact information, according to city staff.

The city's aim is below market, which is decidedly different from the province's goal.

At 1807 Larch St., the goal is in part to keep the units from being converted to luxury rentals.

"And then we put that 10-year covenant in place that then holds those rents," Mr. Pistrin says.

"What types of renters can actually afford these new units?" asks Andy Yan, director of Simon Fraser University's City Program. "Aren't they the ones already serviced by the marketplace?"

The other issue is that the province's definition of middle-income includes homeowners, which skews the income data. The median renter household income is \$66,500, while the median household income for homeowners is \$106,000, according to the census data. The city of Vancouver acknowledged this

gap in a below-market rental housing report a year ago.

To achieve affordable rental, the province should start by defining middle-income households using median incomes only, which would put rent at around \$1,662, not accounting for household size, Prof. Yan says.

As well, if taxpayers are subsidizing construction in the name of supply, then the province could have demanded a share of the equity in return, the way a private lender would, he says.

"Why are taxpayers subsidizing market-rate development, and are they getting value for their money?"

Mr. Kahlon, explained the government's approach in response to an inquiry from The Globe.

"BC Builds is designed to increase the supply of rental housing for middle-income households. It does this by reducing development costs and timelines in exchange for securing rental affordability at prescribed levels for a period of 10-35 years. The purpose of this program is to generate immediate benefits for renters rather than see financial return on investment for government."

## Buyers make strong offer after losing out in previous bids

DONE DEAL

1215 Kensington Place,  
Port Coquitlam, B.C.  
CITADEL HEIGHTS

Asking price: \$1,649,900 (April 8)  
Selling price: \$1.740-million (April 16)  
Days on the market: 8  
Taxes: \$5,435.31 (2023)  
Buyer's agent: Dennis Sepulveda, Re/Max Crest Realty

**WHAT THEY GOT** This house was built in 1988 and sits on a 5,660-square-foot lot in the Citadel Heights neighbourhood, in a cul-de-sac.

The large, 3,700-square-foot home has five bedrooms, four bathrooms, two fireplaces, and six parking spaces. Although the house is dated, the staged house presented as bright and spacious. The new owners plan to do a renovation.

**THE ACTION** Listing agent Dennis Sepulveda's buyers had put an offer on a home that had been on the market for more than 100 days and lost out to another offer. Then they lost out on two more homes that also went into multiple offers and sold far above asking.

The buyers had five kids, so they needed a spacious home.



"My buyers did the right thing and did all their due diligence, including paying for a home inspection, before the offer date," Mr. Sepulveda said.

"We were then able to submit an aggressive, over-asking offer with no subjects. Even with all that, [the sellers] received six offers, and we were very close to the next best offer.

"What helped tip the scale in our favour was that we included a personalized letter with our offer. Selling a home can be an emotional decision, so including a letter can sometimes help your chances of getting accepted, even if you don't have the highest price.

"In the end, the seller was happy that the home went to a lovely family, and my buyers were very grateful and relieved to have secured a home before prices went up even further."

**THE AGENT'S TAKE** The house sold just before sales dropped off.

"The spring market started with a bang, and buyers came out en masse," Mr. Sepulveda said.

"I'm getting a sense that there is a lot of fear regarding rising inflation, and many buyers are waiting for interest rates to come down more."

The sale completed July 31.

— KERRY GOLD



# Floods, mechanical failures greet new condo residents

Lawsuit filed against developer and the City of Toronto says deficiencies and plan deviations not disclosed

SHANE DINGMAN  
REAL ESTATE REPORTER

## THE LISTING

A Toronto condominium developer that moved in residents before it obtained occupancy permits is facing new calls for accountability over alleged construction deficiencies.

Residents of the 11-storey building at 859 The Queensway have reported flooding on the top floors and the ground floors, water spraying through an electrified exit sign, as well as failing mechanical systems such as air conditioning and automated garage doors.

"The AC broke down multiple times - I lost count after the fifth time - and one time it was down for a whole weekend, which was during a heat wave, obviously with a newborn they are at higher risk," said Melanie Lima-Roberto, whose child isn't yet a year old. Some of the owners are on a group chat that fills with new issues every week. "One gentleman on the 11th floor, he had a crazy flood that ruined his dry-wall and his washroom," she said.

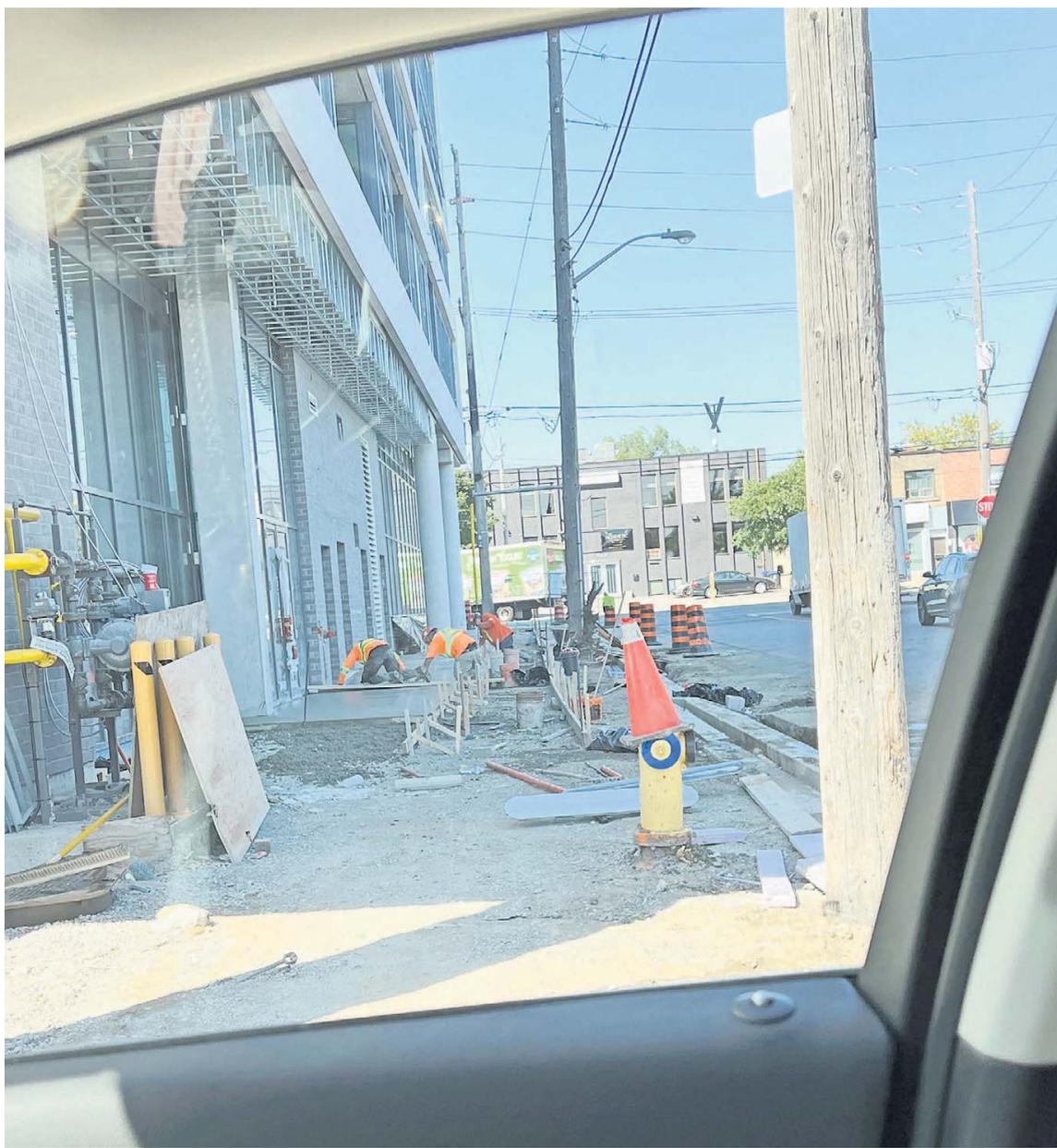
First Avenue Properties and Latch Development, who partnered on the development of 859 The Queensway, were already facing demands for rebates based on city permitting issues related to the transition from builder to individual buyers.

When condominiums are nearing completion developers can begin charging preconstruction buyers what are known as occupancy fees, which can be thousands of dollars per month. In order to charge those fees, the builder must first obtain permits from municipal planning authorities affirming that a building is fit to live in.

In May, The Globe and Mail published a story detailing how First Avenue began signing occupancy agreements with 859 The Queensway buyers in September, 2023, almost a week before it had obtained the necessary permits from the City of Toronto.

One of those residents, Ms. Lima-Roberto, was living in her unit as of Sept. 29, 2023, but documents obtained by The Globe show that 859 West Condos Inc. did not get the permits necessary to legally enter into occupancy agreements with buyers until Oct. 4.

In May, owners were informed that the Home Construction Regulatory Authority had opened an investigation into First Avenue's handling of all the units in the



Tiina Walker says she took this photo of the building at 859 The Queensway in Toronto on Sept. 15, 2023, shortly before residents began moving in. Occupants of the building say the air conditioning has been down at least five times, including once for a whole weekend. TIINA WALKER

building given the issues reported in The Globe.

Since then, the building has been officially registered, preconstruction buyers have completed their transactions and a new board has been elected by owners to run the building's corporation, known as TSSC 3049.

But the water and structural issues at Ms. Lima-Roberto's building echo those alleged in a legal claim filed by the corporation for another recently completed First Avenue building.

In 2020, a mid-rise building known as The Bennett on Bayview (3237 Bayview Ave.) was completed and registered by First Avenue and Latch. In January, 2024, the new corporation responsible for running the

building, TSSC 2775, filed a claim for \$2.5-million and alleged the builders failed to adhere to Ontario Building Code standards and that it shirked responsibility to correct faults under the New Home Warranties Act. They also allege a number of construction deficiencies and deviations from permits and architectural plans were not disclosed to buyers ahead of that building's registration.

None of the allegations have been proven in court, and First Avenue did not respond to requests for comment.

The claim filed by Richard K. MacGregor of Miller Thomson, alleges, for instance, that the mechanical penthouse on the building was not waterproofed as was

outlined in the architectural drawings: "Bare concrete walls have been left exposed, and have cracks due to shrinkage. The cracks now allow water penetration on windy days, and because no waterproofing was installed, constant cleanup and potential water ingress damage has been incurred."

The condo included the City of Toronto as a defendant in the claims as "a result of failures by the City of Toronto to identify building code deficiencies prior to closure of building permits and/or occupancies." Among the issues city inspectors should have caught, according to the complaint, is that contrary to city regulations the parking garage was left completely unpainted. "Every

ceiling, wall and column shall be painted white from 60 centimetres above floor level," the complaint reads. "None of the above were complied with by the declarant, nor did the City of Toronto require this work to be completed before closing permits."

The parking garage at 859 Queensway was also left unpainted, according to Ms. Lima-Roberto and confirmed by pictures shared with The Globe.

"A lot of the stuff is similar, it gets you thinking where is this building going to be in five years?" said Ms. Lima-Roberto. "My husband said, 'We're the little man and they are wealthy, so they don't really care.' It's hard to fight against them."

## Ireland: Weak resale condo market is dragging down prices in some areas, agent says

### FROM H1

Sales have been bumping along at their lowest level since the early 2000s, Mr. Lusink points out, and he advises potential sellers who seek his advice that they are better off waiting for the fall if they don't have a pressing need to sell.

"If you don't have to be on the market in the summer months, don't be."

Mr. Lusink says analysis of his own firm's data shows that the average price has dipped about 2 per cent so far in 2024.

That follows an 8-per-cent drop in 2023.

He believes prices could slip another 3 per cent to 5 per cent,

but he doesn't anticipate a more severe correction than that.

Mr. Lusink also points out that the weak performance of the resale condo segment has dragged down the average price but in some brackets and neighbourhoods, prices are holding steady.

A house in the family-friendly Toronto neighbourhood of Moore Park, for example, will have no problem selling if the asking price is around the \$3-million mark or below.

In the suburbs, where supply is more abundant, homeowners need to be priced to sell.

"Depending on the market you're in, it's either balanced or a buyer's market."

Mr. Lusink recommends that sellers who are wondering whether a price reduction is a good strategy sit down with their listing agent and go over what's happening not only at a macro level - but also a micro level drilled right down to their own street.

Sellers need to grasp that prices have decreased, he adds.

Mr. Lusink says rentals make up about 49 per cent of the firm's transactions at the moment compared with 35 per cent to 37 per cent in more typical years.

And while Mr. Lusink is anticipating an improvement in sales, he remains concerned about consumer sentiment and the broader economic picture, including the

weakening labour market in Ontario.

Economist Rebekah Young, a vice-president at Bank of Nova Scotia, says Canadians are grappling with a sense of discontent about almost everything these days.

"Pessimism pervades issues spanning the economy, government and society," says Ms. Young in a note to clients. "Life satisfaction has taken a toll."

She points to inflation, interest rates and housing costs as some of the main economic preoccupations.

But Ms. Young cautions that it's not clear today's downbeat attitude is warranted. With consumers feeling gloomy and

business leaders reporting an uncertain outlook, Ms. Young says a sentiment check is in order - otherwise the pessimism can become self-fulfilling.

The economist points to the many forecasters who had been heralding a recession for more than two years only to back away from that call as economic activity eclipsed expectations.

Risks still lurk, Ms. Young adds, but she points out that real disposable income sits above 2019 levels for working-age Canadians across all income brackets.

And while real estate markets have cooled, she reminds homeowners that the average home price still sits about 33 per cent above prepandemic levels.



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# Bluffs home buyer cuts deal to stave off relisting

48 Chine Dr., Toronto  
CLIFFCREST

Asking price: \$1,699,900 (June, 2024)  
Selling price: \$1,775,000 (June, 2024)  
Previous selling price: \$735,000 (April, 2015)  
Taxes: \$5,373 (2023)  
Days on the market: Eight  
Listing agents: Jenelle Cameron and Lesli Pearson, Re/Max Hallmark Realty Ltd.

THE ACTION Agent Jenelle Cameron listed this three-bedroom house shortly after another house on the same cul-de-sac near Chine Drive Public School on the Scarborough Bluffs. She hoped visitors from that property, which sold for \$1.15-million, might stop by hers, too – and better yet, pay upward of \$1.7-million for a larger space on the ravine.

“The day we went on the market, they took offers, so I thought it would benefit us because the more people you can bring to the neighbourhood the better, even if it is competition,” Ms. Cameron said. “A lot of people interested in the property knew the neighbourhood and were waiting for a property to come up on that street, and the property itself was so beautiful.”

Their first offer, with some finessing, evolved into a \$1.775-million deal. “We were going to relist the property the next day for higher, so before we did that, we talked with the buyer’s agent to let them know,” Ms. Cameron said.



“Compared to other stuff I’ve had, you have to reduce, reduce, reduce, and no one’s offering, so I was happy to be able to sell it.”

WHAT THEY GOT This 1½-storey house with a private driveway is

on a 50- by 215-foot lot.

■ Since 2015, the roof and mechanics were replaced, and the kitchen and two full bathrooms were renovated.

■ There is an office and a dining area, plus two entertaining areas



with fireplaces. The one in the basement also has access to a new wraparound deck and hot tub.

THE AGENT’S TAKE “This was basically an old farmhouse, 100 years old, and was piecemeal with a lot

of different components to it, like it has a walkout basement,” Ms. Cameron said.

“It has two bedrooms upstairs and one on the main floor, which is different as well.”  
– SYDNIA YU

## House near Don Mills Road sells for \$242,000 over asking

106 Loganberry Cres., Toronto  
HILLCREST VILLAGE

Asking price: \$1,038,000 (July, 2024)  
Selling price: \$1,280,000 (July, 2024)  
Previous selling price: \$640,000 (September, 2014)  
Taxes: \$4,692 (2024)  
Days on the market: Eight  
Listing agent: Bill Thom, Re/Max Realtron Realty Inc.

THE ACTION A week after Canada Day, this three-storey house near Seneca Polytechnic’s Newnham Campus was listed at an asking price of \$1,038,000 and drew more than two dozen visitors. On the day set for reviewing offers, two bids were lodged, with one going \$242,000 over the asking price.

“There were not a lot of this



type of property at this price,” agent Bill Thom said.

WHAT THEY GOT The two architects who owned this 45-year-old house had worked to renovate it since 2014, adding a new roof and garage door and upgrading the mechanics. They also remodelled two bathrooms and the eat-in kitchen with quartz and ceramic finishes.

■ There is a dining area on the second floor and an entertaining area on the main level with a gas fireplace, vaulted ceilings and sliding doors to a new deck overlooking the 30- by 150-foot grounds.

■ The third floor has three bedrooms, the largest of which has a walk-in closet and access to a semi-private bathroom.

THE AGENT’S TAKE “Both owners are architects, so they certainly upgraded the place very tastefully,” Mr. Thom said.

“Everything had clean lines and was functional. Like the kitchen backsplash; they used much bigger tile than the typical mosaic or small tiles, so it’s cleaner and easier to maintain.”

Tall trees at the back of the home screen it from the clamour of Don Valley Road.

“It has easy access to the subway, and down Don Mills [Road] you can get to Fairview Mall,” Mr. Thom said.

“More importantly, it’s in a good school zone for public school, middle school and high school, and even French Immersion in the area.”  
– SYDNIA YU

## Pickering home bordering green space attracts five bidders

741 Craighurst Crt.,  
Pickering, Ont.

PICKERING

Asking price: \$999,999 (May, 2024)  
Selling price: \$1,150,500 (May, 2024)  
Previous selling price: \$220,520 (July, 2001)  
Taxes: \$5,536 (2023)  
Days on the market: Seven  
Listing agents: Carol Lorne and Brayden Irwin, Royal LePage Real Estate Services Ltd., Johnston and Daniel Division

THE ACTION This semi-detached house was given a price under \$1-million and a short deadline to make offers in hopes of seducing multiple buyers, a strategy adopted by many sellers in the north end of Pickering, about 40 kilometres east of Toronto.



Out of 15 visitors, five made offers, including the eventual buyer, who topped the field at \$1,150,500.

“We didn’t get as many showings as we were anticipating, but we ended up getting good interest, offer-wise, which is all that

matters,” agent Brayden Irwin said.

“The owners did some really nice renovations to the property,” he said. “As far as the buyers that were looking were concerned, that added a lot of value to the property and made it more desirable than the one for sale down the street.”

WHAT THEY GOT On the south side of a cul-de-sac, green space runs behind two-storey houses similar to this 23-year-old model with a built-in garage and 1,987 square feet of living space. The finished basement adds another 900 square feet.

■ On the main floor, one of two entertaining areas has a gas fireplace, and the dining area has sliding doors to a deck and

stone patio on the 30- by 92-foot lot.

■ There are three updated bathrooms and laundry facilities near the four bedrooms upstairs. The kitchen has full height cabinetry, an island and stainless-steel appliances.

THE AGENT’S TAKE “All the [houses] on that side of the street back onto a protected area,” Mr. Irwin said.

“In the primary bedroom, French [balcony] doors open up, so you could be laying in bed and look out into the trees. It made you feel like you could be at a cottage. It’s very peaceful.

“You could open up the back gate and hop onto a trail in the woods.”  
– SYDNIA YU

## Seller of Hogg’s Hollow unit slides on price to close a deal before capital-gains tax hike

3600 Yonge St., No. 933, Toronto  
BEDFORD PARK – NORTOWN

Asking price: \$2,680,000 (March, 2024)  
Previous asking price: \$2,795,000 (January, 2024)  
Selling price: \$2.4-million (June, 2024)  
Previous selling price: \$739,252 (November, 2000)  
Taxes: \$13,838 (2023)  
Days on the market: 86  
Property days on market: 136  
Listing agents: Andre Kutyan and Robert Greenberg, Harvey Kalles Real Estate Ltd.

THE ACTION In a 24-year-old building near the Rosedale and Don Valley golf courses, this 3,167-square-foot unit was listed for roughly four months last year, starting at \$3.198-million and eventually dropping to \$2.895-million.

This year, another agent tried to entice buyers with lower prices of \$2.795-million and, two months later, \$2.68-million.

“Whoever purchases this, I’d assume, would spend six-figures to renovate it, so the big draw is the space when you look at



the value per square foot,” agent Andre Kutyan said.

“A lot of buyers were empty nesters, so they were a little older and may not have had the appetite to do renovations.”

When an offer came in at \$2.4-million, the seller pressed for a closing date weeks later in return.

“Because this was in a corporation name and subject to capital-gains tax, it

was beneficial for the seller to close quickly before the new capital-gains rates came into effect at the end of June,” Mr. Kutyan said.

“Instead of trying to negotiate more on the price, we negotiated on a quick closing because they would have lost the difference anyways if it took longer to sell.”

WHAT THEY GOT This two-bedroom-plus-den suite has four bathrooms, a laundry room and an enclosed kitchen, plus two entertaining areas, both with gas fireplaces, and one with a balcony.

■ The unit includes two lockers and three parking spots. Monthly fees of \$3,311 pay for water, cable, concierge and amenities such as squash courts and a pool.

THE AGENT’S TAKE “There are not many options for high-end or luxury buildings like this,” Mr. Kutyan said.

“The building is on Yonge Street, but we’re facing west to the ravine at the back, so it’s quiet and the vistas are quite beautiful four seasons of the year.”  
– SYDNIA YU



The interior of the home at 46 Concession Rd. S. in Tamworth, Ont., was built with salvaged wood for the post and beam construction. While the house is based off an old mill, it has modern comforts such as heated floors and air conditioning. PHOTOS BY BILLY-JACK KIMMERLY

# Renovated historic mill is part of town's heritage

Careful work took what was once thought of as rubble and turned it a modern, comfortable home

CAROLYN IRELAND

46 Concession Rd. S.  
TAMWORTH, ONT.

Asking Price: \$2.45-million  
Taxes: \$5,607.76 (2024)  
Lot Size: 1.5 acres  
Agents: Michael Hamnett and Jeff Porter,  
Chestnut Park Real Estate Ltd.

In the 1840s, an influx of Irish immigrants fled famine in their own country and began a new life in the rocky landscape north of Kingston.

Many of the new arrivals found work cutting timber in the Beaver Lake area, where a settler named Calvin Wheeler built mills for sawing logs and grinding grain on the banks of the rushing Salmon River. The small community was known as Wheeler's Mills for a time before the name was changed to Tamworth with the arrival of mail delivery in 1848.

In the early 2000s, Toronto-based Janet Wright and Terry Godsall purchased a simple prefabricated home next to the river in Tamworth as a weekend retreat.

For years, the couple paid little attention to the abandoned limestone structure crumbling away on the property.

The relic was the former grist mill, which had been severely damaged by fire in 1960. Ms. Wright heard some chatter that

the blaze may have been caused by arson, but she couldn't find many details about the mill's history or when it fell into disuse.

"Any map you looked at didn't name it – it just said 'ruin,'" Ms. Wright recalls.

Occasionally, observers would stop for a look at the rubble. One of those passersby was a local builder who found Mr. Godsall working outside and asked if he was thinking of doing anything with the heap.

"All we had done was put up signs saying 'beware of falling rocks' – that was the sum total of our involvement," Ms. Wright says with a laugh.

Mr. Godsall, who died earlier this year, was an engineer.

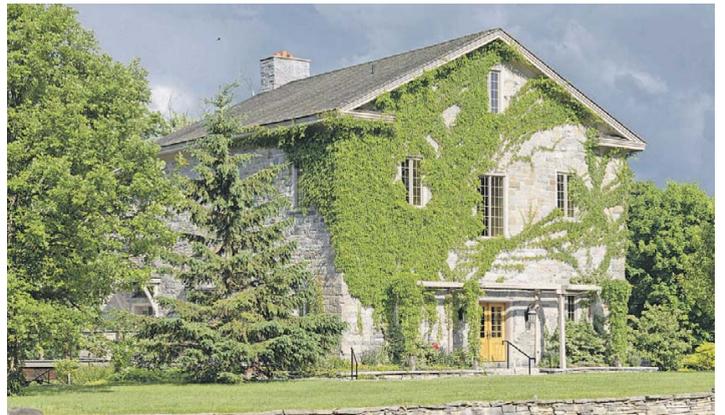
Ms. Wright says it didn't take much to spark his interest when the builder talked about the restoration work he had done on other heritage properties in the area. The builder and Mr. Godsall began planning, and, in 2004, work began on the project that would take seven years to complete.

## THE MILL TODAY

Looking back, Ms. Wright says she didn't grasp quite how much she and Mr. Godsall were taking on.

"Philosophically and environmentally, I was all for it," Ms. Wright says. "I didn't know how much it would ultimately cost.

The couple were both ardent conservationists, and they decided early on that



they would not rush the process or compromise on materials.

"It was a real passion project," she says. "You're not building something new – you're trying to reclaim something old."

Nothing of the interior remained, so Mr. Godsall spent vast amounts of time tracking down salvaged wood for the post and beam construction.

Some of the fir beams came from a Toronto Mercedes-Benz dealership torn down to make way for the city's subway, she says, while another batch came from a vintage airport hangar in Ottawa.

The wood supplements a modern structural steel skeleton that supports a modern 2½-storey residence with two bedrooms plus a loft.

While Mr. Godsall undertook most of the planning, Ms. Wright wanted to ensure that the home was welcoming and easy to maintain for family, guests and the couple's two Bernese mountain dogs. The floors are all heated and the building has air conditioning.

"It's an old stone mill but you have modern comforts," Ms. Wright says. "When you walk in the front door, it doesn't feel like anything other than a home."

Much of daily living takes place on the second level, where the great room has a large stone fireplace, soaring ceiling and

clerestory windows to bring in light.

The kitchen, which runs along one side of the room, has a stone-clad island and breakfast bar. Next to the kitchen, a dining area has French doors opening to a balcony, and a den tucked into one corner of the great room provides a cozy spot for reading.

The second level also holds the primary suite. The bedroom, with a beamed ceiling and built-in bookshelves, has French doors opening to a balcony above the river.

The semi-ensuite bathroom has a soaker tub with views of the treetops.

At one end of the great room, an open wood staircase leads up to a loft, which is currently used as a third bedroom with an ensuite bathroom.

Ms. Wright says the open plan is designed for relaxed entertaining. The couple's sons were mostly out on their own and living in far-flung locations by the time the project was finished, so they have taken turns visiting.

A main-floor bedroom has bunk beds for the grandchildren.

The main floor also provides a large living space with a stone fireplace. Ms. Wright says the room could serve as a bedroom, home office, studio or event space. An elevator makes it easy to carry groceries and luggage to the second floor.

There's also a basement that houses mechanicals, storage space and the original footprint of the mill's operation.

As a committed environmentalist, Mr. Godsall became increasingly intrigued by the prospect of using modern-day engineering to harness the river's power once again.

The wheel he designed and patented is still in place, Ms. Wright says, but the building does not use hydropower – instead, it is hooked into the electrical grid and there's a backup generator. The power wheel would operate more efficiently with the improved turbines available today, she adds.

In 2011, the project was complete and the couple moved in. The lot, with the prefab cottage, was severed and sold.

Throughout the restoration, many residents of Tamworth were curious about the couple's plans for the mill, Ms. Wright says.

Today, the mill is used as a motif on the town's signs and website.

"This is part of the heritage of Tamworth," she says. "I want people to feel that way about it."

## THE BEST FEATURE

The mill is surrounded by a verdant landscape of mature trees, gardens, stone walls and the sounds of water flowing along the Salmon River.

At times, the local conservation authority tames the flow, which provides a gentle ride for kayakers and canoeists, Ms. Wright says. At other times, the water runs freely.

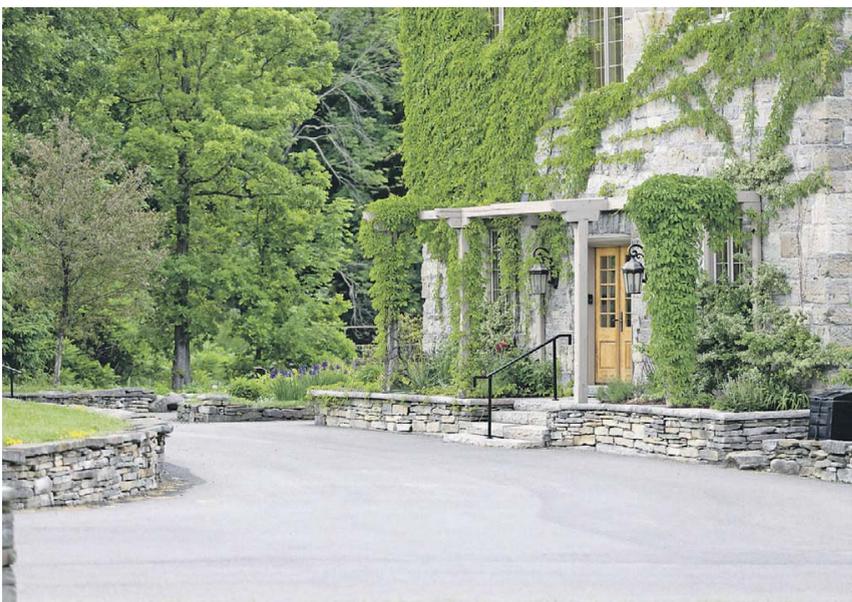
"Sometimes the river is absolutely roaring."



The surrounding landscape is full of mature trees and gardens and near the flowing waters of the Salmon River.



The house's primary bedroom has a beamed ceiling, built-in bookshelves and French doors that open to a balcony. The semi-ensuite bathroom has a soaker tub that provides a view of the property's treetops. PHOTOS BY BILLY-JACK KIMMERLY



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